

REGION 7
GENERAL BOARD MEETING
JULY 27, 2011
DE PERE, WI

The meeting was called to order by Joan Lahr, President, at 6:05 p.m.

The invocation was given by June Ryan.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Allan Towles.

The secretary was asked to call the roll.

REGION 7 OFFICERS

President	Joan Lahr	Present
1st Vice President	Linda Agre	Present
2nd Vice President	Vacant	
Treasurer	Pete Yanke	Present
Secretary	Carol Witzke	Present
Past President	Don Rogers	Present

REGION 7 UNIT OFFICERS

Minnesota Unit	Jim Costello	Present
ND Peace Garden Unit	Vern Zink	Present
Wisconsin Unit	John Sellers	Present

The Secretary advised the President that a quorum was present.

INTRODUCTIONS:

June Ryan, International Treasurer, and husband Paul

Jerry Larson, Past International President, and First Lady Joan

Region 7 Past Presidents: Jack Bailey and First Lady Arlene, Vern Schultz and First Lady Leola, Past Region First Lady Annette Hooker, John Tetzlaff and First Lady Bobbi, Pearl Adams-Kyle and spouse Dean, Don Rogers and First Lady Terrol

Region 7 Past Treasurers: Harry Ramler and wife Sharon, Bob Miller and wife Margaret Ann

The 2010 minutes were approved as previously posted.

Treasurer Pete Yanke reported that the appropriate IRS forms have been filed. There was a beginning balance on January 1 of \$12,681.81. After receipts and disbursements, there is a current checkbook balance of \$20,366.89, but it does not include the expenses of *this* rally. There were no corrections to the report which will be filed for audit.

Joan thanked Linda Agre for volunteering to lead the Region as First Vice President, but we are still in critical need of a Second VP.

REPORTS:

DU QUOIN INTERNATIONAL RALLY: Joan Lahr reported that there were a total of 539 units attending (the Rally had been based on 725 units), with 16 units (36 people at the luncheon) from Region 7. Report on the Delegates Meeting: There was a lot of conversation about the proposed Revised Constitution, but the end result was that now anyone can run for an International Office, not just those proposed by the Nominating Committee. John Stumpf, from Region 6, was elected as Third Vice President. Prior to the Delegates Meeting, International President Norm Beu withdrew his motion to introduce the proposed Revised Constitution. The motion will be re-introduced at the 2012 Delegates Meeting. Proposed Revised By-Laws will be released to the membership soon so that members can discuss the revisions as a complete package. There will be a round table discussion tomorrow to solicit opinions. Other highlights of the meeting included: 1) There was very little support for replacing the Delegates Meeting with a member caucus; revised constitution most likely will be amended accordingly; 2) An amendment was introduced at the IBT meeting relating to Lifetime Members retaining their membership if they replace their Airstream manufactured recreational vehicle with a Class A motor home manufactured by a division of Thor Industries, Inc.; 3) Permission to nominate persons who have previously held a Region Office, but they may not serve consecutively; 4) To acquire cost savings in printing and postage, a motion was approved to eliminate the December *Blue Beret* and to change the format of the Directory, more in the style of the magazine. It was disappointing that there was no Publications contest this year.

CORRESPONDENCE: There was no correspondence.

COMMUNITY SERVICE: Annette Hooker reported that there will be a White Elephant Auction held after the American Legion dinner to support the Wounded Warriors Project.

CONTRIBUTING EDITOR: Joan Lahr thanked all those (Linda, Bob Manak, John Sellers, Pete Yanke, Ray Nickel, and Cathy Ruebel) who have contributed articles for the *Blue Beret* in the past year.

MENTORING: Sharon Ramler reported on the Check-list which is now available for Units to use in mentoring new members. Membership Chairs can “match-up” new members with existing members using various criteria, all with a view to making the new member feel more comfortable to help with retention. The Check-list is available on the Region Website.

NEWSLETTER EDITOR & WEBMASTER: Bob Manak reported that the Newsletters (the previous 10) are available for downloading. Also on the website are a list of Region Officers and Chairs, the Mentoring Check-list, minutes from the last few years of Region Meetings, information for the Region Rally, links to Unit websites in Region 7, and links to Region 7 event photos. Anyone with pictures to share, please e-mail to Bob. He is also always looking for material for the Newsletter.

NOMINATING: Don Rogers reported that we desperately need people to step up to volunteer to become officers, or the Region will dissolve on its own.

PARLIAMENTARIAN: Judy Nickel read the rules under which business would be conducted using Robert’s Rules of Order, Newly Revised.

PARKING: Mike Lahr reported 47 units on site.

MEMBERSHIP: Gail Harrower reported that as of June, 2010 membership was 6,448. This year it is down to 5,991, a decrease of 7%. Region 7 decreased 18% with Wisconsin seeing the greatest decrease -- 28%. International goal for 2012 is to increase membership by 200, or 2 members per unit. She then presented membership stars to those who have been members for at least 5, 10, 15, 20, 30, and 35 years.

MERIT AWARDS: Joan presented Merit Awards. Region 7 again had 100% participation in the Unit Merit Awards.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: Linda Agre asked for approval for the 2012 Region 7 Rally to be held at Spicer, MN for the period of August 7th through the 13th. Approval is necessary for insurance purposes. Don Rogers moved and Pete Yanke seconded the motion to accept the Rally site and dates. Motion carried.

Vern Zink, on behalf of the ND Peace Garden Unit, presented a proposal to reinstate a monument that Wally Byam had originally installed at the International Peace Garden, but has since disintegrated/disappeared. It was entitled "Hands of Peace." There has been considerable research done on this former monument, and its potential replacement. As the period 2012 through 2016 is being recognized as the 200th Anniversary of peace between the US and Canada, this would be an appropriate time to restore this monument at the International Peace Garden. Therefore, Vern moved that the Wally Byam Caravan Club International (WBCCI) with monetary contributions and donations restore/replace with an enhanced replica of the original monument installed at the International Peace Gardens on the US/Canadian border. Seconded by Don Rogers. Jerry Larson added more insight. Motion carried. The motion will be taken to the January IBT meeting as presented. At the present time, there is no financial impact of this motion. Until it is actually approved, there will be no commitment of funds, although the Region is strongly behind it.

Joan moved to reimburse the Region 7 First Vice President for mileage and the rally fee to attend the Mid-Winter IBT meeting. Don Rogers seconded. Motion carried.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Bring NFL trivia contest sheets to breakfast tomorrow. Golf will also be rescheduled for tomorrow.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Carol Witzke
Secretary