

“Outgoing Board” – 10:05 AM Meeting

Mark Legassie, Corporate Chairperson welcomes all of the Board Representatives and chapter officers and delegates to this the 25th Annual Great Outdoors Conference at Lake Skinner. He mentions this is the first time he has had the opportunity to help lead a conference and requests our help. He recognizes Dar Bjork who was Corporate “Chair” many times (per the plaques) and who now is a member of the Palm Springs chapter.

First action item request per Mark...”OC/LB chapter needs to prepare a list of their members.” (Our program is “my mail list” and is not compatible with newer data base programs.) Further discussion to-follow between Curt & Mark to see what can be done until we convert to a better program.

(No Secretary’s report available at this time, report tabled until next meeting.)

Items discussed include: Directing chapter webmasters to send their changes to Roger Vorst. All Board Reps should have a current “membership” listing for their chapter.

Open-“Action” item...all chapters are to be listed on the quarterly newsletter.

Cost per chapter of “Reg-On-Line is \$ 10.00 per event plus a processing fee.

Action item: “Trademark” renewals for Great Outdoors underway. Three to be renewed expired in 1992. Trademarks only last ten years Our “logos” have been submitted and are going through the registration process. Roger Gray updated the status of our logos—first “GO” logo submitted is the original outline of a sun with mountains (all one color).

Rainbow logo is being prepared for submission. Note the addition of small details does not void any recently registered GO trademarked logos as long as they are current chapters. It costs \$ 70.00 for individual chapters to register their own GO logos.

Financial Report by Roger Gray:

Corporate finances are off by \$ 1000.00, the new “quarterly” newsletter is the primary reason for the cost overrun. (Printing and mailing expenses.) He also mentioned an “Annual Conference” reminder...all chapter financial records must be current at the time of conference or that chapter loses it’s voting rights, if not in “good standing”

(That requirement was waived for this conference but will be enforced in the future.)

“Wilderness Ed” was a “wash for this year-no new expense or profit since it wasn’t offered this year. It is hoped that the two new “jamborees” will contribute some extra profit. First “quarterly” newsletter added \$ 517.00 in expenses to this year’s budget.

Corporate income is down slightly, as is revenue from the Orange County/Long Beach chapter. \$ 60.00 tax filing fee (since Roger has refined it to an easy process). May have to pay a CPA to file for us next year at an estimated cost of \$ 300.00.

We need to get a new “signature” card for the bank, it needs to be updated every two years. Current membership is approximately 869 members at the time of Conference.

“Budget 2004/2005” -- new budget to be presented by the outgoing board. Per Mark: “We’ve prepared an aggressive new budget to reflect our two new “jamborees”. We will be offering “Wilderness Ed” this year and we are fortunate to have Danny* returning to help lead that event.” *(Danny Sternstein)

To help offset new expenses are new income sources such as t-shirt sales. We anticipate a cost of \$ 7.50 each with a resale of \$ 15.00 each. There is a big change that needs the help of all the chapters...we need to waive the chapter reimbursement of \$ 200.00 for their participation in outreach event(s) such as the festivals. This request is for one year only...we also will have a 50/50 drawing. To offset the loss of this subsidy for the chapters...the profit from the two new Jamborees will be divided by the number of people attending from each chapter on a percentage basis.” (If the chapters help make it work, they will benefit as much as anyone.)

Quarterly “all-chapter” newsletter is slated for a cost of \$ 600.00 per quarter..\$ 2361.00 for the coming year.

The “sign-ups” for the Jamborees (& Membership) have to be “chapter”-driven. We will “link” a ‘Corporate’ –‘join-on-line” page with the individual chapter’s website listed.

Motion: “We agree to waive the reimbursement of \$ 200.00 per chapter for one year to finance the two “Jamborees” we intend to offer this year.” Motion made by Mark and seconded by DJ of Ventura/Santa Barbara chapter-passed unanimously by all board reps.

Webmaster report. “Calendar looks great, lots of trips listed. Be sure to keep Roger Vorst updated of any trip changes or cancellations,. Our dues are paid for the year and we should have a listing of e-mail addresses for each: Chapter President, Board Rep, Committee Chair and our Chairperson for e-mail convenience.

Archives report: “We need our Board Reps to help recruit volunteers from their chapter” (Anyone can “chair” a committee).

Archives report: (cont'd) We really need a “committee chair” for Archives or we will lose the history of our organization. (GO-Palm Springs) Craig mentions he has things for GO Archives that were donated by Monty Wilcoxon (formerly of the LA chapter). Craig adds we shouldn't discount our history. Mark mentions he will be using stories and old articles from our archives for our new “quarterlies.”

Awards report: Per Roger Gray – “Only outgoing officers receive plaques”. “We are all set for tonight's awards ceremony.”

Wilderness Ed. Report: We are all set for March & April. We may offer a Camping 101 course for first-time campers if there is enough interest in addition to Wilderness Ed. Danny is looking forward to our next group but he needs volunteers to help teach.

Annual Conference Report: “We are here, we made it.” A good job, well done was the consensus. Thanks to the Los Angeles chapter for hosting our 25th Annual Great Outdoors conference.

Outings Committee: “Committee Chairpersons are needed for day events and big events like our upcoming Jamborees”-per Mark Legassie. It might be best for volunteers to sign-up on different registration forms. Mark indicated he is “getting good feedback and a lot of interest in the Winter Jamboree @ Anza Borrego.” Black Mountain is the location for our Summer Jamboree. Also considering day events like a cruise sponsored by our Ventura/Santa Barbara chapter. Made we should also consider a Spring bar-b-que or picnic?...(location to be determined.)

Publicity & outreach: We will rely on a network of publicity efforts and try press releases going to gay publications that are supportive to us.

Nominations for Chairperson of the Fall Jamboree: Brian-S/B chapter accepts the nomination for Chairperson of the Fall Jamboree.

Final nominations for the new GO Board are as follows: Mark Legassie –Nominated by Marty, (LA Chapter) for GO Corporate Chairperson—seconded by DJ (Santa Barbara Chapter). Mark Legassie accepts the nomination.

Craig Courtright, as Treasurer: Nominated by Roger Gray (Palm Springs Chapter) seconded by Mark Acosta (Orange County/Long Beach chapter.) Craig accepts the nomination.

Mario Voce as Secretary: Nominated by Mark Legassie (Los Angeles Chapter) seconded by Craig Courtwright (Palm Springs Chapter). Mario accepts the nomination.

All the nominated officers are accepted by unanimous vote. Per Mark Legassie “our next meeting is slated for December 4th, 2004—the first Saturday in December. We will try to make it a teleconference meeting to save time and travel expense.”

(Meeting ends promptly at 11:00 AM)