

**Minutes of the NDSA 2009 Winter Meeting
January 15—17, 2009
Manchester Grand Hyatt Hotel
San Diego, California**

Participants:

NDSA Board:

Executive Committee:

Bill Kreps (Chairman), Paul Scagliarini, (Immediate Past Chairman), Tom Loosbrock (NDAA Liaison)

Regional Directors:

Dick Riegel, Frank Whitton, Bob Johnston, Jim Crowe, Bob Meuleman, Jack Fremeau, Jim Gibbons, Emil Herkert, Mike Squyres, Lary Leach, John Hoffman, and Bob Drajem

NDAA Board:

Holly Colman, NDAA President-Elect joined the NDSA Board for Dinner Jan. 15th, 2009

Former NDSA Board Members:

Jim Barry (Past Chairman), and John Hargrove

UND Alumni Office:

Melonie Rhodes, attending, and Tom Monaghan (attending by teleconferencing from Notre Dame)

Thursday Evening January 15, 2009

Informal gathering in the Hotel followed by Dinner. Special Guest... Holly Colman'86, NDAA Board President Elect.

Friday, January 16, 2009

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Bill Kreps at 8:30 am.

The Board was led in Prayer by Board member John Hoffman.

In his opening remarks, Bill Kreps welcomed new Board Members: Jim Crowe '70 Region 5, and Bob Meuleman '61 Region 6.

Election of NDSA Board Vice Chairman: The resignation of the current Vice Chair Phil Roehrig for health considerations was accepted by the Board with regret. To replace Phil, an election for Vice Chair for the remainder of the current term which began July 1, 2008 was held. Of the five Directors eligible, two Directors chose to run. A vote was held by secret ballot: Jim Gibbons received a majority of the votes cast, and was congratulated as our Vice Chair, beginning immediately, and Chairman-Elect.

Review of Ongoing Initiatives:

Hospital Program...Emil Herkert: The Board discussed the need to expand the number of care givers, the operation of the 800#, and the need for a quality control program to assure the proper operation and continued success of this very important program. The publication of the 800# and the distribution of the program's E-Mail address were discussed in detail.

Scholarship Program...Frank Whitton: The program is ready to go and solicitation of monies to fund the scholarship has already begun. Letters from the University will be sent to prospective donors in 30/40 days. As soon as the initial \$100,000 has been funded, the NDSA scholarship for the “**children of military personnel that were killed or disabled**” will be in full Operation.

Pace and “Bat for the Cure”...Paul Scagliarini: Notre Dame Alumni through the Clubs has teamed up with “Bat for the Cure”, a non profit organization to promote Prostrate Cancer Awareness at Minor League Baseball Games. Domers attended 25 games in the 2008 season, and distributed prostate cancer awareness materials provided by “Bat for the Cure” to those attending the games. The program will be expanded in 2009 and “Bat for the Cure” is happy with their association with NDSA in promoting this important initiative. Locally the Clubs and Notre Dame have received much recognition because of their participation.

The existing PACE initiative may be expanded to include Breast Cancer in cooperation with Notre Dame's ABC (About Breast Cancer) program. Paul will continue to manage the Bat for the Cure Program. A presentation at the 2009 Reunion was discussed. Hopefully our activities will save lives!

Diocesan Support Program...Emil Herkert: Presently 25 Clubs are involved in the program. A discussion on expanding the program to include Parishes, Schools, Seminaries, and Catholic Charities took place. The Board was made aware of the “Mission to Serve Brochure” available from the Business School at ND.

Priority of Initiatives...Emil Herkert: Director's, who had not already responded, were asked to complete a survey by March 1, 2009, regarding Club activity on the various NDSA Initiatives in their Region. The Club's required annual report to the Alumni Association may include some of the information asked for in the survey. A discussion followed.

Progress Review-2008-2009 NDSA Goals and Plans...Chairman, Bill Kreps:

Key Items:

- Analyze and review each Initiative
- Expand Diocesan Support Program
- Assign a Coordinator for each Initiative
- Work with the Alumni Office in support of the Hospital Initiative
- A Volunteer Program started in 2007/2008 within NDSA involving Pete Campbell and George Harvey to be expanded to keep more former Directors involved in Board activities
- Streamline the internal reporting process avoiding duplication
- Use “success stories” from Club reports
- Improve the Budget process and Board give back to ND of meeting expenses
- Include Board member “tool box” with forms on the Senior Web-Site

The Board discussed in detail many of the above points after Bill Krep’s Presentation.

Future Meeting Schedule:

Senate Meeting will be April 22nd to 25th with the NDSA meeting held in conjunction with the Senate Meeting. The NDSA Board will join the Senate Meeting at various times and NDSA Board members will make a presentation at each of their Regional Meetings at their break-out sessions.

The Fall Meeting was discussed, and it will center around the traditional Senior Game. Considerable discussion focused on moving the meeting date to another game weekend, since the Nevada game falls on the Labor Day weekend. The Board voted to hold the Nevada game weekend, and move the start date up to a Wednesday evening dinner preceding the game. Melonie Rhodes would get us in the Ivy Court for Wednesday and Thursday at a rate of about \$80.00 per night, and advise the (much higher) rate for rooms available on Friday and Saturday for those interested.

The Board also discussed other Senior Activities that would involve an NDSA sponsored event, probably at Legends, for Club Senior Alumni Coordinators, in conjunction with the usual luncheon for all seniors attending the Nevada game.

The Board also voiced unanimous approval of continuing the productive NDSA Tent near the Eck Center at all home games, excluding the late November game. Bill Kreps will contact Mike Pinter and John Studebaker to confirm and encourage their continued involvement in this important undertaking.

After open discussion, a motion was made by Emil Herkert that the Winter Meeting for January 2010 be held off campus, in a warmer climate than Notre Dame (as the current meeting is). The motion was defeated by a vote of four in favor and ten against. Therefore the 2010 Winter Meeting will be held on campus as voted on at the Fall 2008 Meeting. Melonie Rhodes will contact the Morris Inn to secure reservations.

Break:

The Board Meeting proceeded with a working lunch at which time each Committee Chairman held Committee Meetings with the members of their respective Committees.

Committee Reports: (Complete reports are available on the NDSA Web-Site)

- Classes...Jim Gibbons
- Clubs...Lary Leach
- NDAA Senior Alumni Director...Tom Loosbrock
- God, Country & Notre Dame...Frank Whitton
- Alumni Network...Emil Herkert

New Business & Discussions: Bill Kreps...Chair & Discussion Leader

Key items of discussion:

- Various topics from the Committee Reports
- History of hits on The Senior Web-Site
- Keeping in touch with former Directors
- What Clubs want and expect from the NDSA Board and their Regional Director
- Board accommodations and plans for the Senate Meeting

The Board appreciated Melonie Rhodes and Tom Monaghan's contribution to the meeting and our various discussions.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned until 8:30am Saturday, January 17, 2009.

Dinner followed in the Hotel Restaurant.

Saturday January 17, 2009

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Bill Kreps at 8:30am. Following the opening Prayer offered by Jack Freneau, the special Committee Reports were presented.

Committee/Special Reports:

- Communication (focus: External Communications)...Bob Drajem
- Internal Activities (focus: Internal Communications)...Mike Squyres

The Chair appointed a Task Force comprised of Mike Squyres (leader), Lary Leach, and Jim Gibbons to prepare a directive concerning the reports needed to be filed by Regional Directors, and present it to the Executive Committee.

(Complete reports are available on the NDSA Web-Site)

A discussion followed the above Committee Reports: Several key points were reviewed:

- The manning of the NDSA tent on football weekends, the pass outs, and notifying senior game attendees of the Senior Hospitality Tent
- Use of Notre Dame Magazine to notify classes of NDSA Activities and Initiatives
- NDSA involvement in the 2009 Reunion
- Paul Scagliarini agreed to contact ND regarding the key points reviewed. Paul will follow up on the 2009 reunion and a possible article on PACE in the Alumni Association Newsletter and/or the Notre Dame Magazine.
- Board openings in various Regions and filling the positions before the Senate meeting
- Computerizing our new and revised Class Contact List on the Senior Web-Site for easy access
- Amend current NDSA reporting to avoid repetition
- Time allotted to NDSA at the Regional Meetings during the Spring Senate Meeting

Budget Review:...Mike Squyres

The budget report was presented and approved on its new format showing a positive balance. A discussion followed on our fund raising revenues and the manner in which they can be disbursed. The Board discussed the benefits and procedure for Board members who wish to donate back to ND their meeting and travel expenses.

Presentation:

Jim Barry, past NDSA Board Chairman, made a special presentation on behalf of the NDSA Board to Tom Loosbrock, who serves on both the NDAA & NDSA Boards, acknowledging his special contribution to NDSA over the years, including serving as Chairman.

Following a brief break, the meeting continued with an open forum:

Abbreviated description of subjects discussed:

- Fall meeting dates, accommodations, agenda etc. Melonie Rhodes to assist in arrangements and planning
- Rug raffle success and use of NDSA tent in 2009
- Ways to evaluate Hospital Program (John Hoffman)
- Ways to measure the Senior Alumni Coordinator performance (Melonie Rhodes)
- Include former Board members at Senate Meeting instead of Winter Meeting (Jim Barry) ... (Executive Committee to take this under advisement and arrive at a decision)

The Board expressed special appreciation to Frank Whitton who hosted the NDSA Winter Meeting, and tended to all the accommodations and arrangements. Also special thanks to Pete Litrenta, ND '64 of Coronado, who was the driving force in obtaining our meeting headquarters at the Manchester Grand Hyatt Hotel, a first class facility, at very attractive rates. Also to Melonie Rhodes from the Alumni office who attended the meeting and supported our efforts. Special thanks were expressed to Tom Monaghan for his guidance and input during the Meeting. While Tom was not present in person he was there via teleconferencing from Notre Dame. Thanks were also expressed to former NDSA Board Chairman Jim Barry for attending and his contribution to the success of our meeting. Thanks also to former Director John Hargrove for attending and his contributions.

The formal meeting was adjourned at 11:00 am and was followed by a visit, with spouses, to the Military Hospital for lunch with Hospital Staff Members, and some of the Wounded Troops from Iraq and Afghanistan who are being treated at the Hospital. The lunch was sponsored by NDSA and gave us an opportunity to express our appreciation for all our men and women in uniform do to insure our freedom. ND (Irish) caps were given to the attendees and were appreciated by all.

Following the Hospital luncheon the Board was treated to a special tour of the Ronald Reagan Air Craft Carrier (the world's largest ship) which was in port at San Diego for servicing. It was an unforgettable experience, and a joy to see the "Gipper" honored in the ship's museum. .A special thanks to Frank Whitton for making the arrangements for the tour and all the necessary security clearances, and to the San Diego Notre Dame Club that provided the transportation to and from the Hospital and the Ship.

A Mass was celebrated for the Board at 6:00 pm in the Hotel with Fr. Kelly Presiding. Prayers were offered during Mass for Pete Litrenta (see earlier) who could not be with us.

A final adjournment after Mass and return home!

Respectfully submitted,

Jim Gibbons
Vice Chairman, NDSA Board