

Mid-America Orchid Congress

Spring Business Meeting

Indianapolis, Indiana

April 14, 2012

President Aileen Garrison called the meeting to order at 9:04 a.m. In keeping with her spirit of having fun, she opened the meeting with a humorous story. She thanked the Central Indiana Orchid Society for allowing our meeting to be in conjunction with their show and sale. She announced an unscheduled Judges Forum to be held immediately after the business meeting to be given by Lois Cinert titled, "It Used to be Easy", on judging Phragmipediums. Aileen welcomed visitors and introduced new Secretary, Susan Wilson, and asked for roll call.

Secretary's Report

Roll Call:

The following societies were represented:

Alabama Orchid Society

Ann Arbor Orchid Society

Atlanta Orchid Society

Batavia Orchid Society

Blue Grass Orchid Society

Central Kentucky Orchid Society

Eastern Iowa Orchid Society

Greater Cincinnati Orchid Society

Greater Lansing Orchid Society

Greater Omaha Orchid Society

Greater Pensacola Orchid Society

Gulf Coast Orchid Society

Heart of Dixie Orchid Society

Illinois Orchid Society

Illowa Orchid Society

Kentucky Orchid Society

Memphis Orchid Society

Miami Valley Orchid Society

Michiana Orchid Society

Michigan Orchid Society

Northeast Alabama Orchid Society

Orchid Growers Guild of Madison

Orchid Society of Greater Kansas City

Orchid Society of Minnesota

Orchid Society of the Ozarks

Peoria Orchid Society

South Metro Orchid Society

West Shore Orchid Society of N. Ohio

Windsor Orchid Society

The following societies were not represented:

Blackhawk Orchid Society

Central Indiana Orchid Society

Central Missouri Orchid Society

Central Ontario Orchid Society

Central Ohio Orchid Society

Essex County (Ontario) Orchid Society

Lincoln Orchid Society

London Orchid Society

Northeastern Wisconsin Orchid Society

Northwestern Michigan Orchid Society

Grand Valley Orchid Society

Greater Akron Orchid Society

Greater Cleveland Orchid Society

Greater Toledo Orchid Society

Kingwood Orchid Society

Little Egypt Orchid Society

Paris (KY) Orchid Society

Prairie State Orchid Society

Sioux Falls Orchid Society

Saginaw Valley Orchid Society

Orchid Society of Greater St. Louis
Orchid Society of Middle Tennessee
Orchid Society of Minnesota
Orchid Society of the Royal Botanic Gardens
Paducah Orchid Society

Smokey Mountain Orchid Society
Southern Mississippi Orchid Society
Springfield (MO) Orchid Society
Three Rivers Orchid Society
Wisconsin Orchid Society

Susan Wilson asked for any corrections or visitors to be added to the roll. She asked for any corrections to the minutes from the Milwaukee September 2011 meeting that had been emailed earlier (hard copies available at meeting). There being none, the motion to approve the minutes as written was passed.

Treasurer's Report - Alexa Noel reported we are in the black as of 12/31/2011, with a balance of \$75,853.05. Year-to-date 2012 income is \$5,234.12 and expenses thus far of \$1,475.67 for a net income of \$3,758.45, giving us a total as of 4/11/12 of \$79,620.75. She noted that expenses for this show have not been paid. A question from the floor was what percentage of those funds is unrestricted to which she replied 55%.

The Treasure's report was accepted. (See attached report.)

Membership Report –Alexa Noel reported that 2011 ended with 57 of the 59 affiliated societies paying dues. She thanked Mary Beth Mansour and Doris Asher for their hard work in collecting those dues. So far for 2012 29 societies have paid their dues.

The Membership report was accepted.

Committee Reports

Affiliated Societies – Mary Bethy Mansour reported that the committee met on Friday, April 13, 2012 at the Embassy Suites Downtown, Indianapolis, Indiana. In attendance were: Doris Asher, Roberta Ginavan, Jim Newsome & Mary Beth Mansour. Joining the committee as guests were experienced web-masters Brian Spittler & Lynn O'Shaughnessey.

The committee confirmed the topic COMMUNICATIONS: NEWSLETTERS, WEB-SITES & SOCIAL MEDIA to be discussed at the Sunday, April 15, 2012, breakfast.

Since the MAOC Constitution states a society failing to pay dues for 2 years will be considered inactive with no voting rights. Paris (KY) Orchid Society will no longer be considered an active MAOC member.

The Affiliated Societies Committee will:

³⁵/₁₇ Report the activities of this MAOC meeting in the The Mid-American

³⁵/₁₇ Follow-up to collect 2012 MAOC dues

³⁵/₁₇ Submit the following documents for the MAOC web-site:

Reasons a society should belong to MAOC

Reasons to attend an MAOC meeting

List of topics discussed at the Affiliated Societies Breakfast with a link to the specific The Mid-American in which the topic was discussed

The Affiliated Societies Breakfast was held on Sunday, April 15, 2012. Forty persons were in attendance. The topic COMMUNICATIONS: NEWSLETTERS, WEB-SITES & SOCIAL MEDIA generated an interesting discussion highlights will be reported in the next The Mid-American.

The topic for the Fall 2012 Affiliated Societies Breakfast was selected: SECURITY & INSURANCE. The Affiliated Societies report was accepted.

Annual Meeting – Beth Martin called members attention to the front table where brochures for up-coming meetings were available, and encouraged everyone to pick them up for their societies. She thanked the Central Indiana Orchid Society for welcoming us to Indianapolis to meet in conjunction with their spring orchid show. Unfortunately many local members are involved with their show and unable to attend our meetings as much as we would like. She also welcomed input to make the meetings better. She also thanked Mike Hinshaw from Central Indiana Orchid Society, Doris Asher, Tim Brooks, Alexa Noel, and Brian Spitler for their help in organizing and conducting this Congress meeting.

The next meeting of the Mid-America Orchid Congress will be hosted by the Orchid Society of Greater Kansas City, and will be held October 26-28, 2012, in Independence, MO. Mark and Joy Prout are the show chairs and Mark will be presenting a program about that show later in this meeting. At the MAOC business meeting last fall in Milwaukee, the Annual Meeting Committee was authorized, on behalf of the MAOC, to accept invitations from affiliated societies to host MAOC meetings in 2013. She reported that the following invitations have been accepted from; 1) The Heart of Dixie Orchid Society to host the Mid- American Orchid Congress Spring 2013 meeting in Huntsville, AL, and from 2) The Greater Cincinnati Orchid Society and the Miami Valley Orchid Society to co-host the meeting in Fall 2013 in Fall 2013, with the location to be determined.

The following future MAOC meetings have been approved by the Congress;

Fall 2012	Independence, MO	October 26-28	Orchid Society of Greater Kansas City
Spring 2013	Huntsville, AL	April 5-7	The Heart of Dixie Orchid Society
Fall 2013	TBA	TBA	Greater Cincinnati Orchid Society and Miami Valley Orchid Society
Spring 2014	Bloomington, MN	April 29-May 4	Orchid Society of Minnesota

In addition, the Greater Cincinnati and Miami Valley Orchid Societies have extended an invitation to co-host our meeting in Spring 2016, with the date and location to be determined.

The committee recommends that the MAOC accept this invitation.

Beth announced the addition of Tim Brooks to the Annual Meeting Committee.

We are ready to assist any societies interested in hosting a Mid-America meeting. Please contact Beth Martin at 913-248-8669 or bethdougmkc@kc.rr.com for more information.

The Annual Meeting report was accepted.

AOS Liaison – Doris Asher noted that it is a historic time for AOS due to relocation from Delray Beach to Coral Gables' Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden in Florida. Doris reported that since we met in Milwaukee last September, there was one members' meeting of the American Orchid Society -- on October 26 – 30, 2011, in San Antonio, TX, hosted by the Alamo Orchid Society.

At that time, these Mid-America judges were **promoted from Probationary to Accredited**:

Nathan Bell (Mid-America)

Lois Cinert (Chicago)
Marian Morton (Great Lakes)
Michael Tremblay (Toronto)

These Mid-America judges were **promoted from Students to Probationary:**

Nile Dusdieker (Chicago)
Dennis Seffernick (Great Lakes)

One Mid-America person became a **student in the Judging system:**

Hideka Kobayashi (Cincinnati)

One Mid-America judge changed to **Senior Judge:**

Mary Roberts (accredited) (Atlanta)

These Mid-America judges **requested leaves of absence:**

Paul Batz (student) (Toronto) – six months beginning July, 2011
Bill Cadman (student) (Great Lakes) – one year beginning November, 2010

With regret, the **deaths** of the following judges were noted:

Dr David Brown (Emeritus, Mid-America)
Bob Lewis (Accredited, Chicago)

Current **Center Chairs** in Mid-America:

Atlanta – Aileen Garrison
Chicago – James Spatzek
Cincinnati – Janice Yates
Great Lakes – Joseph Peterson
Mid-America – Joe Lankton
Toronto – Terry Kennedy
Toronto – Montreal – Andre Levesque

Some developments in the AOS, which may be of interest to you:

1. On its website on Monday, April 09, 2012, was this notice: “While we are in the process of getting settled at Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden, we are temporarily without telephone service during our transition. Please address all inquiries to theaos@aos.org. Thank you for your patience.”
2. The sale of the property to the Slomin Foundation, supporting those with Autism Spectrum Disorder, was completed on November 20, 2011. The AOS orchid collection was moved to temporary growing space in mid-December managed by a major donor to the Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden. Fairchild is now in the process of cataloging these plants and will soon begin their move to permanent locations within the Garden. In late March, the furniture was moved from the old location to the new offices at the Fairchild and the staff began the process of settling in. Due to the commuting distance, a number of AOS employees will not be going to Fairchild requiring the remaining staff to manage the operations.
3. During this interim transition, members may experience delays with regard to requests of the staff and it is recommended that contact be through the general email address TheAOS@aos.org or through the appropriate committee email addresses.
4. Staff will do their best to keep delays to a minimum. More information about the move and transition will be forthcoming in future issues of Orchids magazine or via the AOS

website.

5. The new AOS mailing address is: The American Orchid Society at Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden, 10901 Old Cutler Road, Coral Gables, FL 33156.
6. AOS will publish its third Orchids magazine supplement to be sent with the August issue, this one on the genus *Cycnoches*, written by George Carr. It is a thorough and well-researched paper written by an expert on this genus of orchids that are becoming increasingly popular. Watch for that.
7. The American Orchid Society has its next meeting two weeks from now, April 25-29, 2012, in Wichita, KS, hosted by the Kansas Orchid Society. At that time, we will elect officers for 2013: nominees are as follows: Sandy Svoboda, President; Tim Brooks and Fred Missbach, Vice Presidents; Jean Hollebone, Secretary; Karen McBride, Treasurer; Max Thompson, Assistant Treasurer. In addition, the following people are nominated for trustees for three-year terms ending in 2015: Jeanne Buchanan, Norman Fang, Mario Ferrusi, Ron Giles, John Ingram, and Frank Smith.
8. I plan to attend and am looking forward to learning the latest on the Society's historic move to the Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden.

Doris noted the passing of a colleague and friend, Al Gugeler, in September. He was an active member of the West Shore Orchid Society and AOS and his contributions will be noted at the upcoming AOS meeting in Wichita. There were questions from the floor regarding location of the AOS library and dispensation of funds from the Delray Beach sale. Doris stated the library has been stored at the University of FL for now, but didn't know any of the details about the funds but she anticipated a report at the upcoming meeting in Wichita. A member also noted the passing of well-known orchidist/author Carl Withner as well.

Aileen congratulated the judges present on their recent elevations.

The AOS Liaison report was accepted.

Audit – Judith Rapacz reported that she, Hermann Pigors, and Mark van der Woerd constitute the committee. She and Hermann audited the checkbooks, deposits and bank statements and found everything in correct balance. They expressed appreciation to Jan Yates for a meticulous transfer of records to Alexa Noel and a great job by Alexa.

The Audit report was accepted.

Aileen noted that the reason Judith mentioned the committee members was because she found that several committees were short of the required number of members according to the bylaws and asked each committee to remedy this as soon as possible.

Awards – Christine Chowning reported the following award results for this meeting:

The Delbert Lowell Jacks Award for Best Specimen – *Angraecum germinyianum* 'High Jack', CCM/AOS, owned by Jim Lurton, Lexington, KY

The Henry C. Holmes Award for Best Oncidium Alliance – *Miltoniopsis* Lady Snow 'Paper Doll', AM/AOS, owned by Geraldine Powell of The Orchid Gallery, Signal Mt., TN

The F L Stevenson Award for Best Pleurothallid Alliance – *Masdevallia veitchiana* 'Betty',

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AM/AOS, owned by Geraldine Powell of The Orchid Gallery, Signal Mt., TN

The Fox Valley Award for Best Cypripedium Alliance – *Paphiopedilum* Addicted Phillip ‘Rehab’, AM/AOS, owned by Stephen Helbling, Cincinnati, OH

The Mid-America Trophy for Best Exhibit by an Affiliated Society, awarded Spring and Fall – Greater Cincinnati Orchid Society

The Awards report was accepted.

Budget – Jan Yates reported that Alexa Noel was a committee member and a third was to-be-announced at the Fall meeting. She noted that the 2011 budget had ended better than projected due to the collection of dues by Mary Beth, Doris, and Alexa. Jan said the figures were better for writing projections due to the working model introduced by Doug Martin when opting to host a meeting. This included the host receiving half of the auction proceeds and if the host only wanted to put the show-side together the MAOC could put the business meeting-side together enabling us to have two meetings per year instead of one.

The Budget report was accepted.

Communication – Doris Asher reported the Editor of The Mid-American distributed one issue (October 2011) since we met in Milwaukee in September. She thanked everyone who contributed information, articles, photos, and computer expertise to that issue. As has become the norm, she was able to include the Secretary’s draft minutes from the Milwaukee Business Meeting, thus saving duplication of work. In addition, in early February 2012, she did another mailing which was the invitation and registration form for this Indianapolis meeting. Throughout the seven-month period, she fielded several inquiries from members of our affiliated societies, answering some and referring some to appropriate Congress leaders.

The cost of the October The Mid-American and special February mailing was minimal -- \$10.00 for copying and postage to send paper copies to individuals lacking email. Her mailing list consists of more than 632 records, although I did not send a copy to all 632. Copies go to the chairs of Mid-America judging centers and at least two people from each affiliated society, preferably the president and the Mid-America representative. Another favorite contact is the editor of the society’s newsletter if I know who that is. I send copies to everyone attending the business meeting at the previous Congress. In all cases, I urge recipients to share the newsletter and the information in it as widely as possible throughout their society. In addition, each issue is posted on the Congress’ website:

www.midamericanorchids.org.

For all mailings in paper, I enclose a plea for an email address and for each issue I gain a few additional email addresses, which will curtail even further the expense of photocopying and postage for future issues. I expect to prepare an issue immediately after this meeting in Indianapolis in which we report on what has happened here and advertise upcoming meetings of the Congress. I welcome and need input/ideas/articles! I thank all of the individuals who have contributed to the eleven issues I have prepared since my appointment as Editor in the fall of 2008.

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At the Executive Committee meeting on Friday night, we decided to revive the The Mid-American essay contest, which existed some twenty years ago. I invite you to submit an essay on the topic “Why _____ Is My Favorite Orchid Genus” – you fill in the blank. If you prefer to write about your favorite orchid or species within a genus, that will be fine, too. The essay should be no more than 500 words in length and sent to me no later than October 1. Prizes are \$100 for first place; \$50 for second, and \$25 for third prize, and will be announced in the Sunday Business meeting October 28, 2012 in Independence, MO. In March, 2011, Brian Spitler from the Greater Cincinnati Orchid Society accepted appointment as the Congress’ webmaster, and he has accomplished great things in his first year. All of the sections of the website have been updated and enhanced. Necessary changes are now being made in a timely manner. In addition, he and Treasurer Alexa Noel developed the capability for us to register online via the website for our Congress meetings. Thank you, Brian, for providing us with this important communication link. As with The Mid-American, Brian needs content for the MAOC website. Please look at the website (www.midamericanorchids.org) and make suggestions and provide content. Brian Spitler, MAOC Webmaster, was then given the podium to give an update on the website. He noted the addition of the MAOC History article written by Tom Harper to the website. His goal is to include future meeting information to encourage participation and include new technology usage such as Paypal. He will be formalizing the Technology Committee, providing a registration resource for societies, updating email addresses and continuing the MAOC classification schedule. Lowell Jacks asked Doris why all 632 members didn’t receive an email copy of the newsletter to which she replied the system wasn’t set up that way due to time constraints. The Communications report was accepted.

Conservation – Due to Russell Vernon’s excused absence Aileen called on Doug Martin to give a report on the Conservation Committee activities. Doug stated grants were sent out to McNeely, Cleveland and Ball State. Alexa Noel stated she has sent out the following grants; Marjory McNeely Foundation, St. Paul, MN, \$400, Wheeler Orchid collection at Ball State University, Muncie, IN, \$500, Cleveland Botanical Garden, Cleveland, OH, \$400. Doug reported that Ball State University now has nearly \$1,000,000 to build a new facility. They are seeking additional funding for a conservatory and research/classroom additions. There is one project pending, a *Cypripedium* seminar/ training workshop, planned for Michigan (probably in Lansing or Ann Arbor). Susan Wilson and I discussed this briefly and our committee will need to investigate this further. The Conservation report was accepted.

Constitution and Bylaws – Lowell Jacks stated there was no meeting and thus no report.

Education and Research – Doug Hartong stated there had been no meeting but the committee continues to work on a pronunciation guide. He welcomed any ideas for projects for education.

The Education and Research report was accepted.

Historical - Lois Holmes stated she usually tells stories for her report but this time she has a quiz. She was to be the judge and her decisions would be final in awarding the prize. She asked who does Mid-America accept into membership? Beth Martin got the right answer of only societies, not individuals, and was rewarded with a brownie. The brownies, made by Lois, were Lowell Jacks secret family recipe and according to her he doesn't give it out. It took her 2 years to get the recipe. Lois said it was Ghirardelli's recipe and Lowell said his family used liqueur instead of water.

The next question was to name the person who held the office of Treasurer for 20 years. It was answered by Hermann Pigors who said it was Armand Spies, and there was no term limit at that time. He received a brownie

Lois then asked, who prepared the document for Mid-America used all over the country. Mary Beth Mansour answered Lowell Jacks with the intergeneric list. She received a brownie.

Next, What orchid society was the first to use electronic show registration? Karen McBride answered the Orchid Society of Minnesota and won a brownie. Lois was in charge of registration but due to her electronic limitations she got four members with computers to do it and she took all the credit.

Next, name 3 conservation projects MAOC has participated in. Doug Martin mentioned the following projects being funded; the orchid collection at Como Park in St. Paul, MN, the grant was given every year to purchase new species, Ball State University, the collection fell out of favor and is now back in favor and the funding is for plant acquisitions, and the Cleveland Botanical Garden, which Mary Beth Mansour requested the funding for about 10 years ago for the purchase of species from Madagascar and Costa Rica. A previous project was funded in Green Bay, WI to set up a botanic garden with orchid gardens. Lois said a long time ago we sent money to Costa Rica to develop Lanchaster Gardens. Doug won a brownie. The last question was to name a society that hosted Mid-America 3 times. Lois Cinert answered Illinois, Doug Martin answered Kansas City, Aileen Garrison answered Atlanta, Judy Neagle answered Kentucky. They all received brownies. Lois added that Minnesota had also.

Finally, Lois showed a 1986 copy of the The Mid-American newsletter containing Lowell Jacks' first Show Rules and Regulations column and upon showing it to him he'd remarked that it brought back bad memories. When asked why, he said because it was done on a typewriter.

The Historical report was accepted.

Aileen's comment to Lois was, "Bring more brownies."

Show Schedule – Hermann Pigors announced that he had entry tags with him if anyone needed them. He remembered the first electronic registration at San Francisco and they must have had only had one computer because it took them until 7am the next day to finish. Hermann reported that the Show Schedule Committee met on Friday, April 13, 2012 with members Lois Cinert, Stephen Benjamin, and guest Judy Neagle being present. Tom Harper was excused and member Nathan Bell of MO was absent.

Outside committee input included a suggestion by Doug Martin to create a Cypridium class. We suggest adding a class #42A under Cypridium Alliance as needed locally when entries are anticipated. Also a suggestion to list Prosthecia cochleata with the proper class. The committee felt it is best listed in classes 10 and 11 where it has been, and to be added to the designation: *Epidendrum*, *Encyclia* and *Prosthecia* in the revision.

The current class sequence will remain in effect without changes. The class 4 designation will remain in effect. Classes 46A and 52A, for harlequin markings will be eliminated since they are covered in the other classes for *Phalaenopsis*. The breeding progression has blended their characteristics and made the classes obsolete.

The Show Schedule report was accepted.

Ways and Means – Roberta Ginavan welcomed Mark van der Woerd as a new member to the committee. The committee met electronically during February and March to select the lovely glass tile for today's raffle and they would like to thank Lois Cinert for suggesting the "items for the Kansas City meeting.

She also thanked all who helped with yesterday's auction, including extra clerk Judy Neagle. We could not have had the auction without their help. In addition to the committee members, Judith, Pat, Mark and myself, those who helped included our great auctioneers Doug Martin and Karen McBride. We look forward to having them "call the auction" this Fall in Kansas City. Our clerks, Aileen, Alexa, Jan, Lois and Judy are also critical to the success of the auction.

The auction last evening brought in \$2047. The raffle tickets sold have brought in \$520, less cost. Doug Martin called for more sales now and Doug bought a ticket. Aileen stirred up the tickets and unbelievably drew Doug Martin's winning ticket of #68. Doug said the tile had a Cypridium on it so he might enter it in the new show schedule's optional class.

The Ways and Means report was accepted.

Old Business

Aileen noted the CD of Dr. Leonid Averyanov's program, "New Discoveries About Vietnamese Paphiopedilums" was distributed by Lois Cinert for free to all judging centers and affiliated societies on behalf of MAOC. We owe Lois a big thank you. It can be used for training or as a program. Doris Asher observed that out of the 8-10 newsletters she receives from various societies several were offering it as a program.

New Business

While preparing for her Presidency, Aileen had found references to a Technology Committee but couldn't find any official committee in the bylaws. She asked Doris Asher, being the great record keeper she is, what the history of this committee was. Doris recollected from her records that past-President, Mark van der Woerd, had formed the committee at the 2008 meeting in Ohio. It was never acted upon so according to Doris, "It died a-birthing." It is a needed committee so it was officially formed at the Executive

meeting Friday, April 13, 2012. It will be presented to the membership through the The Mid-American and then voted on within the required 60 days at the Fall meeting in Kansas City. Aileen stated that Webmaster, Brian Spitler, would be the committee chairman and she was sure he would appreciate any help anyone had to offer.

Announcements

Doug Martin introduced Mark Prout, who along with his wife Joy, are the show-chairs for the upcoming Fall meeting hosted by the Orchid Society of Greater Kansas City. The AOS sanctioned show will be held October 26-28, 2012 and the meetings will be at the Hilton Garden Inn in Independence, Missouri. Mark gave a Power Point presentation outlining the speakers and highlighting the planned events. The first speaker will be Ed de Vogel, Ph.D. from the Nationaal Herbarium Nederland and New Guinea Orchid Project who has been working on a series of CD's on New Guinea orchid species with Andre Schuiteman. He'll give two programs, the first on "Orchids of New Guinea: Bulbophyllums", and the second on Sunday, after the business meeting, on "Orchids of New Guinea: Dendrobiums". The second speaker will be Mary Gerritsen, Ph.D., author, with Ron Parsons, of "Masdevallias, Gems of the Orchid World". Her program will be "Masdevallias: Selected Species and How to Grow Them". And the banquet speaker will be Tom Mirenda, Orchid Collection Specialist for the Smithsonian Institution, giving his program titled "Orchid Travels in Costa Rica". The banquet will be catered by The Hereford House steakhouse. Since the auction preview party will be so close to Halloween, they are encouraging costumes.

If you have time after the meetings they are recommending several close-by opportunities. One is David Bird's 'Bird's Botanicals' on Sunday afternoon. His orchid growing business is in a limestone cave and worth a trip to see. The Truman Presidential Library and home are nearby, as well as The National WWI Museum, and the Arabian Steamboat Museum. There are always lots of things to do in Kansas City as well. Mark encouraged everyone to attend and said registration would be on their society website at OSGKC.org now and of course on MAOC website soon.

Lowell Jacks asked what the hotel rate would be. Mark said \$95.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:44 am.

Respectfully Submitted,
Susan Wilson, Secretary