

Oct 12, 09 Chapter Meeting

MILTON HERSHEY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION  
HOMESTEAD CHAPTER

Minutes of October 12, 2009 General Membership Meeting  
(At the MHS AEE Facility)

President Ralph Griffith called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Ralph introduced Michael Benner, Ph.D., Director of the Agricultural and Environmental Education Program (AEE). Dr. Benner gave a briefing on the program and conducted a tour of the greenhouses of the AEE facility.

Presidents Report-Ralph Griffith stated that the Elementary Christmas Party will be held at Founder's Hall on December 2<sup>nd</sup>. Santa Claus has agreed to visit that party as well as the Milton's Workshop which will be held, at Founder's Hall, on Dec 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>. House parents and Chapter Alumni are asking to contribute cookies for the Elementary Party.

Christmas Concerts start on December 7 at twelve noon till one o'clock at the Founders Hall Rotunda. Various musical groups perform each day that week. They enjoy having an audience, so see if you can attend.

Vice President's Report-Shannon Coughlin reported that he was contacted by a house parent who requested our support for a School Girl Scout Troop who have put together a Centennial Patchwork Quilt and would like financial support to get it quilted. Chester Rose volunteered to contact the Quilting Group at the Spring Creek Church of Brethren to see if they could do the quilting. The Chapter agreed to donate one hundred dollars toward the project.

Secretary's Report-Chester Rose read the minutes of the September 14th, 09 meeting. Bill Parks made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. It was seconded by Bob Patton and accepted by the membership.

Treasurer's Report-John O'Toole, in Jim Gibbs' absence, reported that the checking account has a balance of \$10,602.83 and the MMA balance is \$10,137.52, for a total of \$20,740.35. The Spartan Wear sale on October 3<sup>rd</sup> netted \$2,649, all profit since the Homecoming Sale paid for our inventory purchases. We also sold \$280 of MHS Centennial items for MHSAA.

Chapter Representative-Charles Dodson had no report because the MHSAA had no meetings since our September meeting.

Committee Reports:

Programs- Ralph reported that the "Chocolate for Milt's Soul" program has gone into limbo

because the student who was to head up the project has fallen by the wayside.

At the last meeting we had a discussion about who paid for the pizza at the Elementary Christmas Party. The Alumni Relations Office paid for the pizza for two years but starting last year, was under budget constraints, so the Chapter reimbursed them last year. Following discussion, a motion was made, seconded and approved that the Chapter will pay for the pizza for that party in the future.

Milton's Workshop will be held Dec 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> at Founder's Hall. The Chapter buys the cookies and the School provides the hot chocolate. Last year it cost us about \$700 for the Milton's Workshop cookies. December 23<sup>rd</sup> we need more cookies for the YRE Christmas Party sponsored by the Service Center at the Memorial Hall (Elementary School) cafeteria. This is for the same students we take to our YRE Christmas Party, but it is sponsored by the Service Center and Bus Drivers. The Services Center has asked us to provide homemade cookies. Our YRE Christmas Party is where we, the Chapter, take them out to dinner, and give them each \$10 and candy. Last year we took about sixty kids and fourteen chaperones to Fire Mountain. This year it will tentatively be on December 29<sup>th</sup> at an undetermined location. We are considering going to the Jumbo Buffett, on Paxton Street, 1/4 mile west of Bass Pro.

The Chapter Christmas Party is set for December 19<sup>th</sup> at the Purcell Friendship Hall at 5:30 PM. Reservations should be made with John O'Toole no later than December 4<sup>th</sup>. There will not be a regular second Monday of the month meeting in December.

Last year we had a close discussion on supporting graduates' families' attendance at graduation ceremonies. This last graduation, with the swine flu situation, there was limited attendance and the School provided lodging at B&G and other School facilities. There was no need for our proposed financial assistance. At the last meeting, we discussed the possibility of using that money for additional scholarships. The Alumni Relationship Office would prefer that we do not add scholarships. Any scholarship students receive only reduces the amount provided by the School. There are a number of graduates that need help traveling to their homes after graduation and or getting from their homes to their next school. They, the Alumni Relations Office, suggest that the Chapter designate X number of dollars for that support (according to John O'Toole, the Dearden House Board is also considering contributing to this project).

Food Service-John O'Toole reported the next Chapter Breakfast will be November 7<sup>th</sup>. The last Breakfast only had thirty-seven paid attendees plus \$16 of donations which was about equal to the cost of the food. Ralph ask if there was any desire to discuss the suggestion made at the last meeting of changing the breakfasts to the second Saturday of the month. After some discussion, it was decided to continue having the breakfasts on the first Saturday of the month. It is encouraged that more people attend the breakfasts. Ralph Carfagno and Dori will see to getting the breakfast notices into the School's communication system.

Communications: Chris Cook, absent.

Inter Chapter-John Hanawalt reported the next meeting of the Harrisburg Chapter will be on Monday, the 19<sup>st</sup> at the Rutherford VFW. On October 3<sup>rd</sup>, on short notice, their Chapter pulled together a Community Service Yard Sale to support a local church Youth Group. They were able to raise about \$300 for the group. The Chapter is having a Casino Night at Hollywood Casino on Friday, October 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Old Business:

Elementary Christmas Party and YRE Christmas Party were covered earlier.

New Business:

February 10<sup>th</sup> Valentine Dinner by the School's Culinary Arts Students will be held at the Purcell Friendship Hall. Let Dori know if you are interested in attending. Last year it was \$25 a person.

Holiday Concerts, by the School's various musical groups, will be from noon to 1:00 PM daily from December 7<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup>. They put on a great program.

John Hanawalt announced that the MHSAA would be holding their organizational meeting at Southfield on November 8<sup>th</sup> at noon. There will also be some Centennial Events with an e-mail blast and a full page ad in USA Today the first or second week of November about the Centennial. The new Documentary will air, he believes, November 9<sup>th</sup>. And on Friday, November the 13<sup>th</sup>, there will be representatives of the School, the Hershey Company and the Alumni Association ringing the Opening Bell at the New York Stock Exchange.

He also thanked the Homestead Chapter for their sale of the MHSAA Centennial Items at various events.

Jim Hanawalt also thanked the Chapter for the \$1,200 gift made at the last meeting to the Centennial "Spartan Head" Gift. Currently, the contributions are in excess of \$8,000. The unveiling is scheduled for November 9<sup>th</sup>.

Ralph Griffith stated that the kids have been participating in a Centennial Game called Finders Keepers. The winning groups (homes) will be receiving front row seats at the Jordin Sparks Concert.

Charles Dodson shared that he had received an email from Protect Hershey's Children, railing against the Board of Trustees.

Upcoming events:

The next Breakfast will be on November 7<sup>th</sup>.

The next Chapter Meeting will be on November 9<sup>th</sup> at the Purcell Friendship Hall with the new football coach to be followed by Monday Night Football with Wings and Beverages.

Meeting Adjourned at 9:00 PM.

Submitted By,



Chester A. Rose

Secretary

IN ATTENDANCE

Ralph Griffith

Chester Rose

Fred Bowser

Harry Heath

Tom Keck

Michelle Kissinger

Jerry Gaughan

Shannon Coughlin

Charles Dodson

Jim Hanawalt

Dick Shadel

John Hanawalt

Lew Mervine

Ted Shelly

John O'Toole

Bill Parks

Jack Swofford

Mike Mulderig

Bob Patton

David Patterson

Jim Black