

Patroller Committee Report of Central Division Fall Meeting, September 9-11

NSP UPDATES

- Bill Sachs announced he wants to be NSP chairman until 2008 and at the Annual Meeting in June the Board voted to increase the chairman's term limits so he can.
- Steve Over reviewed the new NSP website and upon request agreed to leave the old forum in place so the historical trail of communications will not be lost.
- Bill Sachs says NSP is not at risk of losing our Federal Charter, as NSP as an educational organization still meets the purpose as defined in its Federal Charter.
- When asked what at NSP is broken, Bill Sachs responded "communications"; Bill Sachs also said at a different time that the Board cannot and do not respond to member communications, but they are read and considered.
- Bill Sachs confirmed that "less than 50 persons" voted in the last election for the national Board.

CENTRAL DIVISION ACTIVITY

- Approximately 180 members attended the Central Division Meeting which was the largest member turn out for a division meeting in recent memory.
- Jim Woodrum shared his considerable efforts, in collaboration with Neil Booth, Chris Ross, and the Governance Committee in developing proposals for the desired changes to the NSP nomination and voting processes. These efforts look very promising and in general members were encouraged to see the progress reported to date. Central Division members could and likely did walk away from the Saturday morning session with an understanding that Jim Woodrum's work will result in positive changes in the nomination and voting processes to be implemented by June 2006 to which Bill Sachs said was supported and possible. (Although how soon could not be committed to by Bill Sachs, who said he would like to get something to the Board by January, if not then by June 2006.)
- Very little time was spent addressing any issues and member sentiment concerning the Petition except for the Sunday Board meeting to which few members other than officers and advisors attended.
The mood of the general membership was quite varied. Most members support change, but within the member ranks many are confused, but eager to learn. The general sessions on Saturday morning with Bill Sachs and Steve Over which had the greatest attendance did not portray a fair and balanced picture of what's going on nationwide with no discussion on the Petition other than negative aspect that NSP will be in Court on September 14.
- The Central Division Board passed a motion to finalize the proposed changes and communicate a sense of desired urgency to the NSP Board on the desired resolutions of change. This motion proposed by Ty Damon redefines the proposals presented in June and makes a request to NSP to have a finalized proposal ready for a Board vote at the January 2006 Board Winter Meeting, which could allow Board verification 60 days later via a electronic board vote. (The specific wording of this motion should be available on CD website.)

NSP ACTIVITY UPDATE

- Twelve BOD nominees finished the application process and were interviewed in preparation for the NSP fall election of members to the National Board of Directors. Jim Woodrum spoke very favorably on the fairness and openness of the process utilized. The final slate of five, for the five Board openings, has been selected; two of which are not on the board today. The slate has not been announced.
- With Jim Woodrum's assistance the Governance Committee has been working on the Nomination process and voting process revisions with some promising results, but no work has occurred on term limits to date.

PETITION

- According to Bill Sachs, the NSP Board is not allowing the Petition amendment vote because members do not have the right according to NSP bylaws to change the NSP Articles of Incorporation. (Not disclosed: The NSP can amend NSP bylaws at will if desired.)
- When asked if the 4000 petition signers are more than a small group of disenchanting group of patrollers, Bill Sachs responded "It's not a quorum". Bill Sachs had no comment when it was pointed out that this was more people than had voted in all the Board elections combined since 2002.
- With the initiation of court action, Steve Over said the Board will be consumed with fighting the Petition and will have no time to work on the resolutions that Jim Woodrum has been working on. In fact Jim said that his work on the nomination and voting processes was just placed on hold.