

MVPA Membership Meeting Synopsis

August 6, 2011 * Wright State University Nutter Center * Dayton, Ohio

President David Welch stated there was adequate notice of the meeting and called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Board of Directors Present:

David Cadorette

Toby Chandler

John Cheney II, Vice President

David Doyle

Kevin Emdee

David Welch, President

Kay Willard, C.O.O.

Randy Withrow, Treasurer

Tom Wolboldt, Secretary

Tracey Metcalf, Administrative Assistant (*recorded minutes*)

Not present: Kevin Kronlund, Reg Hodgson, and Steve Preston

There were 25 MVPA members in attendance

John Cheney II thanked the members for their participation in the Dayton Convention, and prompted anyone with questions to contact him or any of the OMP members wearing yellow or orange T-shirts.

David Welch explained the loss of over 300 Italian members occurred last year when they were asked to pay the same dues as other overseas members. We could no longer afford to subsidize the cost of printing and mailing their publications. A committee he is chairing with Italian member Maurizio Beretta has been formed to create a liaison between the MVPA and the Italian members.

The president recognized Terry Shelswell #13857L who asked the Board what plans were in place to increase and retain membership in the future.

- David Welch explained that the Board had contacted non-renewing members in their areas for the 2011 year, encouraging them to renew their membership. Several did renew after the calls. He continued that the mailing of Supply Line to the non-MVPA members on Military Vehicles Magazine's mailing list had not produced the results they had hoped for.
- The Board has authorized a new brochure, which includes an "outreach" sponsorship where if someone knows of a person or organization that would benefit from our publications, but does not require voting rights or other member benefits they can sponsor them for a publication only membership. This would be in the case of teachers, libraries, technical schools, etc.
- The Board is working on updating the website to be more attractive and user friendly, which should be complete by the end of the year.
- David Welch reported on a national judging standard for the HVM hobby, and anyone at regional events wanting MVPA Judging Standards applied to their vehicle would have to join the MVPA.
- Kevin Emdee reported that Pedro Campos had gotten a historic military vehicle judging category at the annual ACAA Hersey, PA Show.
- John Cheney II stated he attempted to really reach the public in the Ohio area to familiarize them with the hobby by aggressively advertising the convention.

- David Cadorette encouraged all members present to get a supply of MVPA Brochures, take their HMVs to local Cruise-Ins and car shows. Whenever anyone is interested in the vehicle give them a brochure and explain the benefits of MVPA membership.
- Kevin Emdee stated the Kilroy Chapter partnered up with a local 4WD club, giving them the opportunity to be in contact with people within the “jeep” hobby, and show them the All American Wonder and more.
- Scott Madison #19592 would like to see a downloadable brochure on the website in case a member was heading to an event and didn’t have time to contact HQ for a supply.
- David Welch explained that there is no 5-year plan in place to increase membership, but the Board works to recruit new members, and requests that the membership do the same. If each member recruits just one new member we could double in size.
- David Cadorette would like to see vehicle owners being more receptive to people that are not in the hobby. He thinks this will help the public to understand the hobby, and perhaps join in.

LtCol Tim Evans #8352 complimented the decision to have the awards banquet on Friday night, making it easier to see the winning vehicles on Saturday.

- John Cheney II asked the crowd to raise their hand if they liked the banquet on Friday night; all in attendance agreed it was a good idea.
- Tom Wolboldt reported that plans were in place next year to have “Gold”, “Silver” and “Bronze” markers on the vehicles Saturday for the public to determine which vehicles won their class.
- Kay Willard suggested with the Awards banquet on Friday that we try next year holding the BBQ and Auction on Saturday.

Craig “Wally” Wahlforth #8636L stated it was difficult for a working man to attend an event that is longer than 3 days. He was also displeased with the cutoff of judged vehicles being made without notice to the members.

- Tom Wolboldt explained that the judged vehicle registration was closed to guarantee that he had judges in place for all the vehicles. When a vehicle comes in at the gate there is no guarantee a qualified judge is present to inspect it, causing the vehicle to be judge below the MVPA’s standard. Tom continued that the vehicle registration cutoff would be prominently announced for the 2012 Huntsville, AL convention.
- LtCol Tim Evans #8352 stated he liked the longer schedule because it gave him more time to relax and take his time to see everything.
- Kay Willard commented that a longer event usually costs more in venue rent. The Nutter Center is an exception, their reasonable fee included access for the week.

James Rufener #5680 stated he had a vehicle registered to be judged, and would like to know the criteria the judges are looking at. He also enjoyed the late Tuesday vehicle move-in, because he is local and put his vehicle in place, then came back when the event started.

- Tom Wolboldt replied that a copy of the judging form is on the MVPA's website under downloads. If a member can't find the pdf of the form, they can call Headquarters and one would be mailed or e-mailed.
- Tom continued that if any member has a questions, comment, request or suggestion to just call Headquarters and it would be relayed to the Board.
- David Cadorette welcomed members to contact the Directors, and that their contact information is in every issue of Supply Line.
- David Doyle stated he had heard from several members that they weren't having a vehicle judged so they didn't bring one. He encouraged the crowd to tell everyone BRING A VEHICLE. If the convention is anywhere near you, BRING A VEHICLE.
- Randy Hedges #33231 told the Board he was afraid to bring his vehicle because it was less than perfect and HQ told him to bring it, no matter the condition, it was good for the public to see the vehicles in every stage of restoration, from acquisition to restoration. He would like to see "all vehicles welcome" emphasized in the future, and possibly on the web site.
- Tom Wolboldt pointed out that vehicles are not exclusive to judging; there are more vehicles brought for display than judging each year.
- James Rufener #5680 would like to see the judges be a little "kinder" when judging vehicles. He noted a young man was listening while his vehicle was judged and the remarks were rather brutal.
- Fred Coldwell #283C suggested we have "learn about your vehicle" seminars for people beginning a restoration with the technical advisors.
- Tracey Metcalf suggested the members contact the technical advisor for their vehicle and make plans to meet at the convention to discuss the project. When advising one member, they may attract more people with the same vehicle.

LtCol Tim Evans #8352 likes the combined publications, but would prefer to see each *Supply Line* have an *Army Motors* with it. He suggests we print fewer pages per issue, and do a combined issue 6 times per year. He thought the demonstrations and seminars were great, but would like to see more for kids to do at the conventions.

Joe Gullo stated he really thought the allowance of shuttles filled with veterans from a local home was great, and great for the hobby.

Fred Coldwell #283C thanked the Board and Officers for their service to the organization.

Tom Wolboldt reminded everyone to vote in the upcoming election.

The meeting was adjourned by David Welch, President at 11:00 a.m.

Synopsis respectfully submitted by Tracey Metcalf on 8/12/11

Review by Kay Willard 8/16/11

Secretary Tom Wolboldt Reviewed 8/17/11