

## **Rust Control**

Minutes of the August 6, 2008 meeting at Martha Puckett's home

At the meeting held at the home of Martha Puckett, our head, Martha, called the meeting to order at some time following a rather lengthy, loud and animated social hour. Martha first appointed Graham to be sergeant-at-arms for the purpose of gaining some control over the evening. The appointment was accepted.

Those in attendance were: Paula Hale (who took over the minute taking from an unfocused, unnamed designated minute taker), the Honorable Charles Simpson (he's our very own), Susan Deetsch (a steadying influence on the group), Sally Wiggins, Mary Pat Hankla (and signifying the importance these meetings have in some folks lives as she comes over with Sally from Frankfort for each meeting – maybe they need some more excitement in their lives?), Heather Hurley (the bull dog), John Weeter, M.D., Elly Henderson (being the contrarian, bringing dessert for an appetizer event), Martha Puckett (host, leader, and pretty good swim instructor), Ed Gillingham (driving from Ft. Knox or somewhere out of Jefferson County), Marcy and Ron Suter (who is not only a good sport about being a part of this, but tends to be the proverbial life of this group), Emma Borders (brave enough to ride with Cooke in the Miata), James Tandy High (brief though the stay was), Cooke, and, of course, our counselor, Pat Morgan.

### Directories

Marcy began by passing out leftover (imperfect) directories, and someone suggested that we increase the charge for the next reunion by \$10 to cover the cost of the directory so we can have them printed professionally. One alternative might be to have folks add \$5 when they respond IF they want a directory and only print up directories for those who want them.<sup>1</sup>

### Golf<sup>2</sup>

Total income from the Friday golf outing was \$3,256.53 while expenses were but \$3,119.86 meaning we were able to add \$136.67 to the Rust coffers to donate to Waggener.

A special nod of thanks was directed to Diane Ogle who made the trophies for the event and made many of the arrangements to make for a smooth, wonderful event.

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<sup>1</sup> None of this makes much sense to this scribe, but that's what my notes seemed to say.

<sup>2</sup> For some reason I have a note that it was noticed that the Judge was examining Elly's shirt

The group commended Pat for his work on getting so many players<sup>3</sup> this year. Indeed, this year 36 folks signed up to play compared to the 16 who played five years ago.

### Cocktail Party

The group thought the selection of the Kentucky Center for the Arts as the venue for the cocktail party as the work of genius. It was a lively, well-attended event that fulfilled the desire to cross class<sup>4</sup> lines. The bartenders were great and they, too, had a good time (and presumably made pretty good tip money as the night wore on. The Center does not usually rent out the lobby to employees, but because Elly is, well, Elly, they made an exception. The price was right<sup>5</sup> and the environment allowed everyone to mingle. Elly was given a huge (for this group) round of applause. Martha is going to write up a list of those in attendance as not everyone “signed in,” and wants other classes to do their own dadgum publicity if they want to come to “our” event – there’s no reason for us to carry the entire load for them to have fun<sup>6</sup>. Emma chimed in with her feedback being that most of those with whom she spoke liked the cocktail party more than the dinner<sup>7</sup>. It was felt that the next cocktail party<sup>8</sup> needs to have better nametags for those in attendance.

There seemed to be some sentiment to have a cocktail party EVERY<sup>9</sup> year for at least the Louisville (and others close by) graduates.

Linda Morgan was held up for praise for the PR work she did on the cocktail party.

### Mayme S. Waggener Tour

About 30 showed up for the Saturday morning tour of the school. This number was down from prior years, but we think the principal was happy with the attendance. There was some thought that perhaps the prior night’s cocktail party may have contributed to the low attendance.<sup>10</sup>

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<sup>3</sup> And don’t forget about the gallery who braved the heat to follow several groups for a few holes.

<sup>4</sup> As in, we had members of prior and subsequent graduating classes in attendance.

<sup>5</sup> The charge was \$250 instead of the normal \$500.

<sup>6</sup> Go, Martha!

<sup>7</sup> It is unclear to this writer whether this feedback refers to the venue or just the nature of the event. Sorry.

<sup>8</sup> And maybe this is a universal feeling about all events????

<sup>9</sup> Yes, EVERY.

<sup>10</sup> Go figure.

## Dinner Dance

The format of the evening worked. The time to talk with folks in the beginning of the evening was great. It was a perfect way to break the ice with people not seen in years. The Boat Club as a venue was very comfortable.

Loved the music. At this, Martha took a bow. Phil Kelly was terrific and a great value, and perfect for what most folks wanted out of the evening.

The meal was fine, but it was noted there was no dessert<sup>11</sup>. Next time, it was thought by some that at a minimum we need a sheet cake of some sort.

The set-up for the buffet needs to change next time. Instead of having dining tables in the rear, out of the mainstream portion of the room, let's move the buffet line to that spot and move the dining tables. This will allow all who are in attendance to fundamentally be in the same room.

There was some disappointment expressed about the quality of the group photo. Pat agreed to talk with the photographer about cleaning it up a bit.<sup>12</sup>

Pat was commended for being an outstanding MC. His sidekick did whatever he did. It was noted that it was a nice touch to have our class president, Harry Geisburg, as the keynote speaker. Harry told a joke. Pat made sure it was appropriate.

## Churchill Downs on Sunday

About 50 people took advantage of the free tickets to a skybox to have a day at the races on Sunday following the dinner.<sup>13</sup> Emma arranged for a backside tour of the track, led by Sherry Ross (WHS class of 1962.) It was a big hit.

## What we liked about the weekend

1. The variety of activities.
2. Each of the activities
3. Personalizing the invitations.

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<sup>11</sup> A personal note: this writer asked the wait staff if we were going to be served dessert. The response was something like, "I'll get back with you on that one." I never saw the person again. Otherwise, the wait staff was incredibly attentive and efficient.

<sup>12</sup> Oh well, Pat reports that there is little that can be done about the focus issues noted in the group photo.

<sup>13</sup> Elly and Martha made it. Obviously they were feeling the effects of the long weekend – and the weeks and months leading up to it – and begged off and out after but a few races.

## Areas for Improvement

1. E-mail (or whatever the state of technology will be in five years) committee members the names of folks who have sent in their reservations. The purpose of this is to jog the memory of committee members to prod others about coming.
2. We seemed to have run out of some food Saturday evening. We need to make sure this doesn't happen next time. Add a dessert (perhaps a sheet cake).
3. Help! Paula has written something that looks like, "the second bone." What on earth could that mean?
4. Switch buffet and back dining tables at the Boat Club.<sup>14</sup>
5. Martha, "It was pretty perfect."
6. As a refinement on 1, supra: Update the list of attendees and send it out more frequently.
7. Use Facebook.com (or the next hot thing.)
8. Consider dropping the school tour, or downsizing.
9. Work to get folks to go to BOTH the cocktail party AND the dinner dance. (For that matter, there are some folks who only come to the Golf outing. We need to ask them what it would take for them to come to the dinner, etc.)
10. Put comments page on the reunion website.
11. Encourage committee members to send "glad to see you" postcards to those folks who came. Emma and Martha showed everyone up by already doing this.
12. Illegible<sup>15</sup>

## Donation

We ended the reunion in the black. Indeed, we finished the reunion weekend with \$2,839.56 in the bank. It was suggested that Martha and Elly decide – in concert with WHS folks – how to earmark a gift to the school in that amount (or an amount to be determined.)

Submitted respectfully by  
Graham Cooke

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<sup>14</sup> Yep, I know, I know. We've already covered this. But folks seemed adamant about making this change.

<sup>15</sup> It appears to say something like, "Graham's job is to get viyhel;vyiyb to the next reunion, maybe" What the hell does that mean?