

W P A

Western Pyrotechnic Association

Newsletter

Volume 12, Number 3 - September 2001



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Dimitri Timohovich
P. O. Box 362
Verdugo City, CA 91046

Phone: (818) 662-9721
E-mail: Dimitri@pyro.org

The Western Pyrotechnic Association, Inc.

P.O. Box 10116 Canoga Park CA 91309

Web site: <http://wpa.pyrotechnics.org>

2001 OFFICERS

President

Keif Adler

Phone: (818) 991-8605

E-mail: kief@pyro.org

Vice President

Don Oesterle

Phone: (818) 773-9485

E-mail: Don@pyro.org

Secretary

Beckie Timohovich

Phone (818) 662-9721

E-mail: Beckie@pyro.org

Treasurer

Kathy Baird

Phone: (626) 350-1808

E-mail: kathy@pyro.org

Publications VP

Dimitri Timohovich

Phone: (818) 662-9721

E-mail: dimitri@pyro.org

Area Vice Presidents

Northwest - John Childs

(Phone: 253) 531-1658

E-mail: Jecpyro@juno.com

Northern California - Steve Wilson

Phone: (707) 485-5122

E-mail: pyrobert@saber.net

San Joaquin - Lynden King

Phone: (916) 686-5054

E-mail: fred@elkgrove.net

Los Angeles Area - Paul Salverson

Phone: (818) 348-1048

E-mail: Psaverson@mvlinc.com

San Diego - Rudy Schaffner

Phone: (760) 356-5426

E-mail: rudy@holtville.net

Arizona / Nevada - Judd Herberger

Phone: (480) 945-4517

Rocky Mountains - Charley Wilson

Phone: (303) 673-8285

E-mail: cwilson@celsvr.stortek.com

Eastern / Foreign - Tom Perigrin

Phone: (740) 448-3014

E-mail: tip@pyrosafety.com

Hawaii - No representative available

Holding own elections

Letter From the President

By Kief Adler

Well, the Fourth is behind us and it sounds like all of us survived with all digits intact, as it should be. I hope that all of you had as good a time as I did as this was my first Fourth as a licensed operator in charge of a show. That's right, yours truly finally got off his butt and decided that it was high time that I had my own license. I got to shoot a small electric show for the Pacific Symphony Orchestra in Irvine, California. I knew it was a success when I was told that, towards the end of the performance, the conductor threw his arms in the air in utter despair and put his hands over his ears! Who could ask for a better at-a-boy than that? I want to remind all of you what I told my crew before we started working that day. We are all blessed by being allowed to help put on the shows that help Americans celebrate our nation's birthday. John Adams said that we should celebrate the date of the signing of the Declaration of Independence with "bonfires and illuminations from this day and forevermore." It is a privilege and an honor to be a part of this great tradition.

This issue of our newsletter contains a Do It by the River registration form for those who have either never received one or who lost the last one! If you haven't been to Do It yet, you are missing a fantastic event. For those who want to try out their formulae before Winterblast or brush up on some new techniques, Do It is a great place for you. For those who feel that Winterblast has gotten too big, Do It is for you as well. This is a great gathering of the pyro tribe and a great time for all who attend. Don't wait: Do It today!

Belated congratulations to American Fireworks News on their 20th Anniversary! Jack Drewes and crew deserve all of our thanks for promoting pyrotechnics and keeping us informed on changes that effect our craft. For those unfamiliar with AFN, visit www.fireworksnews.com or call 570-828-8417 for subscriptions. It is the best \$22.95 that I spend on reading material each year.

Preparations for Winterblast 2002 are in high gear, even while we are getting ready for Do It. Beckie Timohovich and Russ Laurie, your Winterblast Chairs, are already working like mad to make sure next year's Blast is a great one. Changes are in store once again as the Flea Market will move to even larger quarters in the city's convention center. Parking there is NO problem. Fred May of Boom Boom Productions is putting together our longest public display yet and we are promising new sound for the members as well. Room rates are being held to last year's level at the host hotel, the Ramada, and more rooms should be available to us there as well. Look for more news in future issues of this newsletter.

Once again, it is a pleasure to serve the members of the WPA and I am looking forward to seeing many of you at Do It by the River in October!

This year proved to be a challenge for me and the excellent crew who set up and fired the July 4th Starlight Bowl show in Burbank, CA. During the past 5 years that we have done shows at this location, we have come to know the location, and what types of conditions we can expect. Generally we have overcast skies in the morning, mild temperatures during the afternoon, a light breeze in the late afternoon (just in time for foiling the finales), and a clear sky at night. But this year was a little different. We didn't have the morning overcast, and the temperatures approached 105 degrees with higher than normal humidity. I have always provided drinks for the crew, and in the past, 2 large coolers full of bottled water, sodas, and Gatorade encased in 150 pounds of ice (about 150 drinks total) has been plenty for the 10-15 person crew for both days. This year by lunchtime on the 3rd, most of the drinks were gone, and almost all of the ice had melted in the closed coolers. With supplemental trips to Costco and the local ice company, we went through over 300 drinks, and 400 pounds of ice.

Fire suppression was another adventure. In past years, falling embers have caused spot fires in the brush on the hillsides. To help prevent these, the local fire department ran the sprinklers on the hillsides 2 years ago. There were no fires started where the sprinklers watered the hillside, only a couple of fires were started beyond the reach of the sprinklers on the hills above the shoot site. The crowd got an extra show when the helicopter flew over and dropped water to put out the fires. Last year the fire department put a flame retardant compound down on the hillside which prevented fires very well. This year, however, it appears that the compound wasn't as effective as previous years. Within the first 3-4 minutes of the show, we had our first fire. A few crewmembers that were fully dressed in turnout coats, helmets, goggles, and gloves grabbed pressurized water extinguishers and proceeded to successfully put out the fire. Other smaller fires started during the show, and were also quickly and successfully put out by the crew. All total, we had seven spot fires ignited by falling embers. We were able to put out 5 of them ourselves with the 2 water extinguishers provided by the company, 6 water extinguishers I brought, and the 100 foot long 1 1/2" diameter fire hose we had standing by fully charged. The other 2 larger fires were put out by the local fire department's fire truck, and water dropping helicopter. Despite the hot weather, and the excitement caused by the fires, we put the show up in the air, on time, and on-cue. The sponsor was happy, the crowd was ecstatic, and nobody got hurt. That all adds up to a successful show.

Thank you very much Russ L, Jon C, Erich H, Brian E, Jon W, Dean O, Diane O, Rita O, Gary B, Laura A, Larry C, Carrie C, Danny D, Mark B, Larry R, Sharon R, Mark K, Ronna E, Rozz S, Ernie L, Shane D, and anybody else I may have forgotten to mention here. You are the best crew any operator could ever hope to work with. Thanks again, and see you next year!

I hope all of you had a great and safe 4th of July and I look forward to seeing the membership at Do It!

Front cover photo, taken by Brian Erfurth, is of a 6" detonation at the above mentioned show.

Time for another newsletter. Wow seems like I just wrote the last Secretary's letter. All is well in the pseudo Secretaries office of the WPA- known as my apartment. Files are being organized and cleaned up, sorted out and filed away. We purchased two tall four drawer filing cabinets to store all our documents in and its just barely enough room. We have had a bunch of new members this quarter and loads of interest in Do It '01 which is great. I hope to see you all out there, lighting shells and making more...

To all my fellow WPA members, here is the Profit and Loss Statement for Jan 1st to July 31st, 2001. Look to the next exciting newsletter edition for the Do-It results. As you can see, the WPA is in fine financial condition. A successful WB2001 has kept the membership growing and the cash flowing. We are a proud organization.

With this in mind, I would like to announce that the office of treasurer will be available year. Just think, some lucky one of you will have the honor of being our next WPA Treasurer. Everyone get your campaign speeches ready. I hope the competition will be fierce.

I have enjoyed my experiences as your treasure for the past 3 years. I thank all of you for the opportunity to serve on the Board of Directors. I highly recommend to you the experience of helping your organization run efficiently. I have had a blast!

So here we are again, another post holiday season for all of us pyros. I hope everyone had a safe and happy 4th of July. I can tell you that mine was full of action and adventure and I'm looking forward to many more.

Now it is time for us to switch gears and start planning our future events. Plans for Do It are in full swing and the Winterblast committee is working hard on making sure our next Blast will be the best ever. In this issue you will find info on both of these upcoming events.

If you plan on attending Do It, please read the related articles. They will supply you with the necessary information from registration all the way up to how to help with clean up on Sunday morning. So enjoy this newsletter and I look forward to seeing old friends and making new ones at Do It and Winterblast.

Income:	
donations	\$18,000.00
membership dues	\$79,180.50
vendors	\$6,001.00
interest earned	\$57.34
Total income	\$103,238.84

Expenses:

Convention:	
catering	\$8,400.84
communications	\$1,040.00
display	\$15,366.75
medical	\$1,404.46
registration supplies	\$8,043.20
security	\$2,036.00
seminars	\$641.95
site preparation	\$19,861.27
staff expenses	\$1,996.23
Total convention	\$58,790.70

General operating:

bank charges	\$35.00
dues & subscriptions	\$100.00
equipment	\$1,675.00
insurance	\$13,966.25
internet	\$450.00
legal & professional	\$4,738.41
officer stipends	\$216.16
postage	\$840.84
printing & newsletter	\$4,831.04
supplies	\$242.56
taxes	\$4,318.69
telephone	\$350.66
WPA merchandise	\$193.50
Total general Operating	\$31,958.11
Total Expenses	\$90,748.81

Net income	\$12,490.03
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Do It by the River III

October 18th, 19th and 20th at the Avi Hotel and Casino, Laughlin, Nevada

OPEN TO WPA MEMBERS AND THEIR IMMEDIATE FAMILY MEMBERS ONLY!!!

NO ON SITE REGISTRATIONS!!!!

That's right, **Do It** is back! The second annual event hosted by the Western Pyrotechnic Association is **Do It by the River** and this, our third **Do It**, promises to rattle the windows and scare the fish even more than before! Come smell the smoke and swap lies with your pyro buds in sunny Laughlin, Nevada.

Hands on seminars for your amusement, open shooting every night and wholesale fireworks for sale! With the success of last years experiment, we will again be opening class B sales to ALL REGISTERED ATTENDEES (OVER 18 YEARS OLD)! You will be able to buy, and shoot, class B product under the club's ATF license 'til the cows come home (or 10pm, whichever comes first...). Afterglows on site following open shooting each night! Beer, soda and snacks will be available!

Don't forget that free, classy and collectable **Do It** T shirt with each member registrant! Spouse and kids' shirt available for an additional \$17 each.

Looking for non-pyro activities? Can't imagine why, but Laughlin has movies, outlet shopping, bowling and, of course, CASINOS. You will find 24 hour food as well as a giant pool, spa, watercraft for rent, kids playground, etc. at the Avi.

Registration for **Do It** will close on September 30th. NO exceptions!

QUESTIONS? Contact Chairman Dimitri Timobovich at Dimitri@pyro.org or Co-Chairman Joe "Bald Avenger" Pfeffer at pfeffer_insurance@email.msn.com

Fee Schedule:

Members--\$45

Spouse--\$20

Children (under 18)--\$20 each

Spouse Seminar--\$10

Additional T shirts are available for \$17 each

NO children will be allowed to attend any hands on workshop, except non-pyro or class C types.

Call the Avi Hotel and Casino for room reservations, 800-284-2946

Mention booking number 6026 for club rates (\$40/room on the weekend and \$19 during the week)

Want to help out? Email Dimitri...

Don't miss out:

DO IT!!!

The Ground Salute Committee is finally taking shape, and I'm glad to say, we have reached our first consensus. We all agree that ground salutes are cool. After that, things get interesting. So far the Committee consists of Joe Bartallano, Kief Adler, Chris Spurell, Jay Brown, and myself, Frances Marquez. John Steinburg has graciously volunteer to advise and share PGI Guidelines with the committee. We are actively soliciting input from all members, and any member that wants to join the committee should contact me as soon as possible.

The objective of this committee is to first, determine if it feasible to allow ground salutes at WWB, and if so, how to set up and operate the Ground Salute Area at WWB. Sounds fairly basic, but there are several considerations that we feel the membership should be aware of.

After meeting with the WWB Committee, several topics were addressed. According to our legal advisors, Ground Salutes are considered explosive devices, not pyrotechnic devices. Hence the term "Ground Bomb". According to our dear friends at BATF, they are very interested in our proposal to include bomb building and detonation at WWB. Our insurance coverage, always the highest caliber warm & fuzzy policy we can get, also wants to know what this "Bomb" thing is. That's for starters.

Of course, in the interest of safety; we would only want experienced pyrotechnicians doing Ground Salutes during set hours in a controlled area with lots of "Ground Salute police" to help the BATF who will show up guaranteed, to monitor all production, and operations in this area. Ladies and gentlemen, your papers please.

Logistics include securing the site, storage for product and flash, determining that all involved parties have the proper documentation for manufacture, the actual set up and frame for suspended ground salutes, etc. The most obvious place for ground salutes so far is the infield at Sara Park. Unfortunately, the rocks and gravel will have a tendency to become projectiles that can and will reach the grandstand area. We need to determine if there is a safer area that can be utilized while still allowing a secure manufacturing area to be run. We will need to monitor the manufacturing of GS in this area, and only salutes manufactured in this area will be allowed. Manufacture will have to be monitored to assure compliance to the GS outlines, and bunker space will be made for any storage requirements.

So the picture we have so far looks like this. First, do we truly want to bring in a project that will directly involve brings in representatives from the BATF to both Do-It, and WWB. This will up the ante, and spill over to all other area, making it imperative that everyone has all their permits, etc. available should the nice BATF folks get bored and want to inspect other areas. At this point, I would pretty much expect this to happen, based on their increased presence and the high visibility of those who would controlled and abolish our dear sweet pyro. Think carefully to what we will be doing to the nature of WWB, and Do-It when we agree to this level

of regulation and inspection.

The scope, salutes will be limited in size and construction materials, and firing hours will be limited to predetermined times. There has even been a suggestion, that anyone wanting to participate will need to pre register there intention to do so, and only those people will be allowed to participate.

Tough stuff, and hard to swallow for the easy going, independent general good folks that we are. Yet this is a project that if done properly, can and will grow. The first year is a test for all following years. Everyone needs to decide where and how we want to take this since it will affect all the areas we currently run, and change the easy going nature of our event to a seriously regulated convention for pyros. If we can agree and comply with this, it will be an amazing opportunity and yes, lots of booms and big fun. We will be meeting beginning of September to hash out a proposal that we will submit to the Board & membership. Your input now will show us which direction we will take. If it is decided that is a feasible, we will also want to test our set up at Do-It to make sure this will be as safe an area as possible. This will include building the Suspension Fixture for the salutes, and approximating the event they will have when fired on terrain similar to the field at Sara Park.

Lots of work still to do, and we could use a few more experienced members to help us out. If we don't hear from you now, I'm sure we'll hear from you later once things are set. Remember the first consensus?

Ground Salutes are cool, and we, the members must be willing to work to make this happen. Write me, call me, or email me if you can help.

Frances Marquez
Ground Salute Committee Chairperson
11116 Vinevale St. Garden Grove, CA 92841
b.raven@rocketmail.com
(714) 537-7889

Ain't this the truth!!

Little Billy and his Dad were watching a fireworks display together.

Little Billy looks up at his Dad and says, "Dad, when I grow up I want to be a pyrotechnician."

His Dad looks down at him and says, "Son, you can't grow up AND be a pyrotechnician"

Submitted by Leslie Swan

I Paul Salverson being of somewhat sound mind (OK who re-futted that) and known pyro-junkie or the now politically correct term of "thump-junkie" whose new adage is "will work for smoke" want to express the sheer pleasure of once again being able to view KGB's famous KGB SKYSHOW (tm). I have not been able to go down and see the show for about 8 years NOW and SKYSHOW XXVI made up for lost time. Unfortunately we didn't know the exact start of the game and had assumed a start time of around 7 PM. Boy were we wrong, we left at 12:30 and it ONLY took 4 1/2 hours to make the trip down from Los Angeles, which should have been more like around 3.

We arrived during the end of the first inning and man can San Diego throw a party. We knew we were in for some heavy party goers when we had to follow a big party rental truck and van in front of us into the parking lot. Every parking spot by that time was just about taken, but we were fortunate enough to get the VERY VERY last handicapped parking spot.

There seemed to be as many people in the parking lot throwing tailgate party's as there were people sitting in the stadium, and it was a sold out game to boot. Even the limo driver parked next to us had his own little party going in the back seat during the game, the only reason I knew this was just before the end of the game he and his "friend" emerged from the backseat and then she disappeared out into the crowded parking lot never to be seen again. In days gone past, many a pyro including myself would come down from Los Angeles just to watch the show and party in the parking lot along with a few other thousand thump-junkies. Gone are the days when one could see the Mark Wray's, the Kurt Medlin's, the Richard Coles, the Steve Haller's (the father of WinterBlast) all amassed as close as they could to the mortars on the other side of the fence.

We had our own little pyro community with our own bar-b-ques going etc. I guess the days of the TRUE pyro are gone, one who would travel (hours) just to smell the smoke. Now I don't proclaim to be the ultimate thump-junkie, I just thought it weird that the only ones I knew anymore were working on the crew. Just to give you a little insight as to what the show comprised of if you aren't familiar with the KGB SKYSHOW (courtesy of Fireworks America) who put on the show. 5,000 shells from 2" to 12" in 28 minutes. 2,000 shell finale in 23 SECONDS. 40 man crew with a total of 7 days setting up and tearing down. The show started with an awesome finale, I thought to myself, WHOLLY SHL... who wired in the show backwards, only to find out that the KGB SKYSHOW wizard Ron Dixon had choreographed it that way. Unfortunately the smoke from the opening teaser finale didn't clear that quickly and a lot of the shells from then on were lost in the smoke.

The show naturally has "smoke breaks" included just for that purpose to let the smoke clear, but there just wasn't enough air movement that night.

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Before the show there was just the perfect little breeze blowing away from us. But as show time neared, it stopped altogether. Jill said that we needed some huge ritter fans like we use at the Hollywood Bowl to help clear away the smoke, but even if they did, those would have had to be some big mammas to move that much air. We were not near our Truck during the actual show and there weren't that many people near us with their radios blasting to really appreciate the music score with the choreographed fireworks, as Ron (Dad) had planned.

During the show, which I couldn't believe, people were leaving the stadium, I watched a mother drag her son towards their car, she facing forward, him walking backwards still watching the fireworks (a true pyro in the making for sure). When the finale started and I could see the rising tails on the salutes starting to rise, I replanted my feet to better steady myself for the oncoming on slot of salute concussions. When the finale was over, which I was hoping that it was only a teaser finale, that I had seen so many other times at other SKYSHOWS in the past, I was waiting for the real thing, only to be somewhat disappointed that it was REALLY over this time, and we would have to wait for another SKYSHOW another day.

As a big plus, after waiting an entire hour just to leave the parking lot when we got back to our hotel room, I turned on the TV just in time to see a pre-taped segment of some behind the scenes footage of the KGB SKYSHOW with a nice interview of Ron Dixon. The cable channel down in San Diego re-plays the entire game after the real thing, and I had wondered if they would have shown the fireworks as well but it was late and I didn't want to watch TV for another 3 more hours to find out.

Thank you Fireworks America and Texaco for sponsoring a fantastic show. I hope to return in the very near future, and maybe even work the show someday.

Get On The Email List !

If you have email and aren't on the list you are missing out!
Meeting announcements, get togethers, pyro shows, advice,
ideas and much more are coming across the list daily.

Send an email to: list-admin@wpa.pyro.org In subject line specify if
want the "list" or the "digest" and your email address you want to receive it at.

What is the difference between the two?

- ◆ If you want to receive the email as it is sent out, one at a time go for the list.
- ◆ If you would prefer to receive one email at the end of each day with all of the emails in one then you'll want the digest.

ATTENTION DO-IT SEMINAR ATTENDEES

If you are planning on attending seminars at Do It, especially the HDPE gun building seminars, please bring your own tools.

Suggested tools to bring:

- Makita or DeWalt drill/screwdriver
- Portable (battery) circular saw
- Hot glue guns or caulking gun (we will supply the liquid nails)
- End nippers/diagonals (something to cut fuse)
- Masking tape (3/4" & 2")
- Possibly duct tape or 2" glass tape
- Anything else that you feel will make these assemblies run that much smoother.

See you at Do-It

⇒ One final note, those of you that did not attend last years, a folding chair will come in handy as there are no bleachers available.

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Winter Blast Update.

By Russ Laurie, W.W.B. Co-Chair 2002

Things here with the Winter Blast Committee are moving right along at a fast pace in anticipation of this years-upcoming Winter Blast. Most if not all key positions are filled and the Chairs are busy getting organized. With Winter Blast only six months away there is still a lot of work ahead of us. Planning/coordinating is the key activity that is taking place now, making sure that all of you members have a great time with us at this years festivities. With phone calls to make and e-mails to send out everyone involved with this years Winter Blast is steadily making progress toward another great event. We are still searching for a theme for this up coming Winter Blast so if any of you have an idea for a theme please forward your idea to us at our respective e-mail addresses. Rlaurie@dhs.ca.gov and WPA sec@yahoo.com. We would like to thank in advance all of the people that make this event a great one.



DO-IT
Blast
November



Do-It seminar chair needs your help! Do-it is just around the corner and I need your suggestions and feedback in putting together a good program of seminars.

Traditionally we have leaned heavily towards hands-on seminars at Do-It and this year will be no different. However, given the short duration of the event, the hands-on projects revolve around fireworks projects that can be completed in no more than two days, and preferable the same day to be fired that night. That means the seminar cannot include making anything that requires a lot of drying time as so many fireworks projects do. For instance, it can be difficult to do a seminar on subjects like traditional star making or Italian shells (although we have done traditional strung and pasted 3" Italian shells in two days in the past).

Traditional BP rockets and assembling plastic shells have been two staples among the seminars that lend themselves to these limitations, and others that could work, or have worked in the past include: wheels, fountains, mines, set pieces, and candles. So, here are my questions:

- Bearing in mind the above mentioned limitations, what types of hands-on seminars would you like to see?
- Are people still interested in having the traditional hands-on BP rockets and round plastic shell seminars?
- Would you like to see an advanced technique demonstration seminar (like making a multibreak shell) that is non-hands-on?
- Or would you like to see simpler projects instead (or mixed in)?
- How about a group project where individuals don't make and fire one item themselves, but work together on making the components of something like a large wheel or assemble a set piece?
- How do people feel about concurrent seminars?
- We're going to schedule at least one seminar for Thursday afternoon. Are many of you planning on arriving by then or will that be a travel day for you? (There will be open shooting that night, if that makes a difference...)
- Personally, I've wanted to do a hands-on seminar on tourbillions - not the shell insert type, but the kind with a curved stick that takeoff from the ground. Any interest in a seminar like that?

I like to err on the side of having a little something for everyone covering as many aspects as possible, so any feedback I get will help make it that much more tailored to those in attendance (as opposed to what I like to see in the seminar lineup...)

Already confirmed so far are the following: Mortar plugging workshop, "Instant pyro gratification through modification of common pyrotechnic consumer goods" by El Presidente himself, Kief Adler. Not to be out done by Dad, once again Greg Adler will be supervising the preparation and setup of a class C display for Saturday

Cont. on Page 17.

night. For those interested in making something simple, Steve Majdali will be giving a seminar on making little 3/8" id rockets using simple tools the participants will actually make themselves in the seminar, be to take home afterwards.

Potential seminars, if there is interest and/or presenters can be found, include:

Black Powder and Whistle Rockets
Round Plastic Shells
Wheels
Candles
Tourbillions

Do bear in mind that there is a limited amount of time available, and without concurrent seminars, only about three hands-on seminars can be presented per day, for a total of about 7 in the 2-1/2 days available. I am also limited by the people I can find to give seminars, so any presenter's name you can pass along for the your suggested seminar can go a long way towards making it happen.

Please feel free to e-mail me at kcomedlin@aol.com or phone me evenings before 10:00 pm at (818) 884-2874. Any suggestions will help to make this Do-It truly reflect what the attendees really want to see and do. Thanks!

USE OF THE WPA NAME...

The use of the WPA name, logos, etc. is NOT available for the general membership to use without the prior approval of the Board of Directors. It has come to our attention that certain members have been using the WPA name as a means of claiming either great pyrotechnic knowledge or implying, falsely, that the WPA is backing their displays and/or endeavors.

The club's image is important to all of us and needs to remain independent of it's membership. Claiming to be a member of the WPA is one thing. Implying that this gives you more than a membership card and a right to attend meetings and conventions is another.

WPA BOD Meeting Minutes

By: Beckie Timohovich

June 4th 2001 BOD Meeting

Attendees:

President Kief Adler
Vice President Don Oesterle
Secretary Beckie Timohovich
Communications VP Dimitri Timohovich
Treasurer Kathy Baird

Meeting called to order 8:33

8:33pm Treasurers Report—Kathy Baird

8:36pm Latest WWB numbers—review.

Possibly overpaid the Food Vendor BBQ Bills.

8:40pm Current profit and loss statement.

8:44pm Ground Salute Committee progress.

Agreed that Frances Marequez would be the chairman of the Ground Salute committee. Beckie to contact Frances and make arrangements.

8:46pm BOD updated on lawsuit progress

8:49pm Vote on the Changing of bylaws regarding financial compensation to read,

"the website managers shall receive compensation of \$450.00/year for maintaining the WPA website as well as providing Board email addresses." For the record only per our email vote.

Voted unanimously in agreement.

8:50pm 'Do It' update – Dimitri

Staff—Crew is mostly selected a few positions left to fill.

Joe Pfeffer to Co-Chair.

Russ Laurie to be Safety Chairman with Don Oesterle.

Kevin Bollinger for Site Foreman.

Firefox will be vending chemicals.

Flash Fireworks will be vending product.

Registration forms— to be in the next newsletter.

Pyro Novelties doing shirts—to be designed by a person to be determined
Brush cleaning and clearing to be completed by the Avi hotel. Kief to handle this.

9:02pm WWB 2002—Beckie

Update—Staff is 50% Filled still recruiting more. Documentation has been updated and is being tracked by Beckie and Russ Laurie.

Approval of Compensation policy.

Kief motions that we accept the policy as sent in email.

Seconded by Don Oesterle.

Voted unanimously for the policy.

9:11pm meeting adjourned

August 6th 2001 BOD Meeting

Attendees:

President Kief Adler

Cont on next page.

Vice President Don Oesterle

Secretary Beckie Timohovich

Communications VP Dimitri Timohovich

Treasurer Kathy Baird

8:35PM Meeting called to order by Kief Adler

8:35PM Kathy gives brief finance update, all is well.

8:36PM Don does a brief update on the Ground Salute committee.

8:38PM Don and Kief discuss possible non-sanctioned shoots at the AVI hotel.

This brings up a question about liability, especially if it is a non-sanctioned event. Should we allow or condone this to happen?

After much discussion the BOD has decided that this is not something we should allow to have happen.

Kief will contact Gary Berg and let him know it would be a bad idea.

8:45PM Beckie updates on possibly moving the PO Box. Is there a possibility of moving the PO box to a more accessible location or find a way to have it forwarded permanently to different addresses.

8:50PM Legal updates off the record.

8:53PM Do It 3 update by Dimitri. 31 members, 13 spouses, 4 children are registered. We have FireFox and Flash Fireworks lined up as vendors. Avi is booked about half of our allotted rooms.

8:58PM Winter Blast update.

Registration location and hours.

Registration hours should be open to 8PM or whatever the registration Chairman and co-chairman decide. Possibly having a long lunch break in the middle of the afternoon.

Registration can be in the building at the track, or at the host hotel as decided by the BOD and the Winter Blast Committee..

Can we have the Chamber of Commerce help out? There is a possibility if the Chair or the co-chair can be there.

Laptop for registration and moving the database onto that laptop. There is a possibility of a tug of war of multiple people needing the laptop.

Possibility of the laptop verses a desktop

Kathy motions to find the pricing for a laptop Beckie gets to price it out.

Kief seconds it.

9:22PM Database change? Should we change the database to get the system easier for the secretary to deal with. Should we handle it internally or go with an outside company? An outside company may be more cost prohibitive.

Dimitri motions to move the database off of the internet.

Kief seconds it.

All in favor.

9:27PM Web link reviews.

We should start reviewing the websites.

Don will review them and give his review...

9:33PM meeting adjourned

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Do It 2001 "Gate" Policy

While having a 'gate policy' has not always been a popular practice, it has served us well in terms of keeping the WPA in good standing with both the authorities and the community in general. In the interest of avoiding any misunderstandings regarding exactly what will and won't be allowed out of Do It (and hopefully avoiding disappointment on anyone's part), this article will present the "gate policy" with regard to what is sold in the class C vending tent at Do It.

Before I continue, I should make it clear that it is not the WPA's intent to stop anyone from legally purchasing live product on site and legally transporting it off site. The key word here is, "legally" and anyone in possession of the proper permits, licenses, and transportation papers appropriate for the material in question, will be allowed to leave with their live product.

To get right down to it, the items allowed out of Do It without any paperwork are:

- Black powder in the manufacturer's 11b. cans labeled for retail sale
- Visco fuse (all diameters)
- Time fuse
- StickyMatch
- Electric matches
- All non-mixed chemicals
- Pyrotechnic comps/mixtures available via mail order without a permit or sold over the counter for consumer use in Arizona.
- All inert materials (i.e., paper and plastic products; all printed materials, etc.)

The items not allowed through the gate without proper paperwork are:

- Any class C/1.4G or class B/1.3G firework items. This includes live antique fireworks sold as collectibles.
- Bulk packaged black powder
- Quick match
- Stars and live pyrotechnic inserts (whistles, serpents, small insert shells, lance etc.)
- Pyrotechnic comps/mixtures not available via mail order without a permit or sold over the counter for consumer use in Arizona.

The basic reasoning used behind the above list is this: Any pyrotechnic thing that normally requires paperwork to purchase and transport outside of Do It, will also require the same paperwork to leave Do It.

One of the above items likely to raise eyebrows and cause disappointment is the inclusion of live antique fireworks sold as collectibles. While this may seem a bit Continued on page 22.

Continued from page 21...

harsh when it comes down to a 60 year old pack of 16 ladyfingers, as long as the local, state and federal authorities make no legal and enforcement distinction between these items and other class B and C items, we cannot make the distinction either.

Like wise, the inclusion of quick match may seem a bit harsh, especially considering Sticky Match is allowed. The distinction basically comes down to whether an item is 1.4g ('Class C' fireworks, quick match, shell inserts, etc.) or 1.4s (visco, time fuse, electric matches, Sticky Match).

Rest assured that the Do It organizers and the WPA Board of Directors are aware that this policy will not prove popular with a number of members and even some vendors. But given the legal problems and associated expenses the WPA has experienced these last few years, we can't responsibly conduct Do Its with policies that aren't grounded in legal compliance. Our past legal problems may not have been associated with what was officially allowed through the gate, but no good purpose would be served by adopting an official-in-writing gate policy containing exceptions allowing the above 1.3g and 1.4g items to leave without the same licenses and permits they require for purchase outside the Do It.



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PARTING SHOT

Below is a photo of a pig barn that was blown up for the movie '*Guilty as Charged*'. This shot took four days of intense setup and used a variety of pyrotechnic devices. As you can see, all the hard work paid off and a great explosion was

I had a great time working on this film but always remember that high E and gas bombs are not for everyone and should only be set up and discharged by trained professionals.

~Dimitri Timohovich

