

VKA Board Meeting April 13,2025

Call To Order: President Copeland called the meeting to order at 8:04pm

Board Members in Attendance:

John Copeland
Bill McCornack
Marty Westen
Sal Palatucci
Louie Figone

Joe Swantek
Steve Mox
Lynn Haddock
Bob Barthelemy
Scott Nagel

Board Members Absent:

Kurt Bogerman
Skip Owen

Guest:

Rolf Hill

President's Report:

President Copeland advised that he heard that the Barnesville event was a great event, and he has seen a lot of great photos and videos on social media. John asked Bob if he had been posting those? B Barthelemy advised that Richard Pierson maybe be doing some of that as he was doing all the still photos. J Copeland stated he looks forward to hearing about the event details in the regional reports section of the meeting.

President Copeland advised he has been speaking with M Westen and looking into memberships management software. He is particularly interested in auto renewal portion of the software that will automate membership renewals and asked if anyone has any knowledge and would like help in researching them. M Westen advised he had looked at Join It but looks to be a little expensive once he dug into it and explained a few pros of the software. He plans on reaching out to them to get more information. President Copeland advised he had a meeting with Glue Up, it had a lot of interesting features that the VKA does not need. He did receive an initial quote but is waiting to hear back to see if there is a different option due to not needing all the features the quote includes.

Vice President Report:

L Figone advised he is working with the Prairie City track to see about hosting an event there. The only problem he sees is that they are a rental track and that may cut into their weekend rentals.

President Copeland advised that the March minutes were only approved online by 5 people and need to call for a vote to get the minutes approved.

President Copeland call for a vote: All those in favor of approving the March 2025 minutes

Call for vote: All in favor: No one apposed Motion Carries

Secretary's Report:

President Copeland advised that S Owen has submitted Registration in the State of Nevada paperwork has been approved.

Membership report:

M Westen provided a membership update for the month of March.

M Westen was asked to provide an update/ progress on the 25th Anniversary membership drive, with the following update:

March memberships: 10 individuals/ single 12 month, 9 people rejoin the organization and he classified them as people whose membership has been lapsed/ expired more than 6 months. 10 people renew with the 25th anniversary price.

So far this year 20 new members, and 18 to rejoin.

Membership total as of March 31st: 476. With the following breakdown of region:

Northeast-77, South-90, Midwest- 256 and West-53

May renewal post cards were mailed out, March 28th with Junes ready to go out.

M Westen advised he started a new database to capture the membership survey responses. M Westin advised they don't get many, it's only when a check is mailed in with the applications, when he gets those responses.

Palatucci also asked M Weston to provide the percentage of PayPal versus mailed in memberships: 65% PayPal versus 35% mailed in memberships.

B Barthelemy advised he received 34 memberships at Barnesville with 25 of those being the 25th anniversary 1 yr memberships. He is chasing down one applicant as he did not check any boxes to confirm the membership he is applying for and will get those in the mail shortly.

B McCornack stated, that kind of shows that most people wait until their first event to renew or sign up for their memberships.

M Westin advised that he had spoken to R Howden in Daytona. R Howden runs E Karting news. R Howden advised he would post about the 25th Anniversary on his website and M Westen checked and there is information posted on their website with a nice write up and promotional video.

Treasurer's report:

President Copeland advised that J Swantek had sent out the treasures report for review and J Copeland also sent out the Cash Flow spreadsheet.

Only 5 people had voted prior to the call to approve the treasurers reports, he will need to call for a vote to approve. All in Favor: No one opposed Motion carries: report is approved

J Swantek advised that the Cash flow spreadsheet/report was solid, everyone had an opportunity to see where the organization stands and where the money is being spent, and he has nothing additional to add at this time.

Rule and Guidelines:

President Copeland advised that Haddock is currently not on the call. He asked the board if they had received and reviewed the email thread regarding twin engine classes. J Copeland asked if it's OK with the Board that he ask Haddock to change the verbiage: from "drivers should be at least 18 years old to must be 18 yrs old" This seems to be a typo in the rules and guidelines as the age has always been 18 yrs old for this class. Several people stated they agree. J Copeland advised that he will ask L. Haddock that change be made.

President Copeland also advised there has been some discussion regarding Jack Shafts being legal, and advised that that discussion took place some time ago and it was decided that Jack Shafts are not legal and would not be allowed.

Judging and Shows:

J Copeland advised K Bogerman is not on the call. K Bogerman did send pictures of the next four certificates and he continues to knock them out of the park, and is doing a great job creating those.

Regional Reports:

National-

S Nagel stated he wanted to say Thank you to B McCornack for stepping in while he was out.

S Nagel advised he is tabulating the list of the participants in each class and will get that report sent out to everyone in advance of the meetings for review.

Scott advised that his dad wanted to go to Barnesville, and they went and had a great time as it was a really good event.

S Nagel advised that B McCornack had sent out a list to be sent out to the promoters. The list includes items of things that should happen before, during and after each event, a kind of outline to go by.

L Figone asked what the issue was with the transponders down there. S Nagel advised there were not enough transponders for everyone. B Barthelemy advised that if you were looking at Race Monitor it looked to be a mess, but timing and scoring was able to time and score everyone correctly. L Figone advised he had just seen chatter on the internet about it and wondered what really happened.

B Barthelemy advised there has been some discussion about buying more transponders as there were not enough rentals to go around.

J Copeland advised he wondered if there should be something in the VKA Guidelines addressing this issue. J Copeland proposed the following: "Scoring at VKA events will be done by transponder only. It is highly recommended that all participants purchase they're on transponders. Some tracks may have limited transponders by rent. But the safe choice is to bring your own, karts without transponders will not be scored."

Discussion took place among the board regarding the option to rent transponders and the limited availability at some tracks for rentals, buying and renting new and used transponders online on sites such as Ebay.

Midwest-

B McCornack advised their first event is coming up the middle of May at Springfield, IL and feels that that is going to be a really good event based on feedback he is receiving. B McCornack advised that he feels like they may run short of rental transponders, due to the number of people who say they plan on attending.

J Copeland advised that there will be a special guest at New Castle. The Vice President of the Vintage Karting Organization is coming over and is shipping his twin engine kart. Arrangements have been made with New Castle for his kart to be shipped to them.

L Figone advised that a group from Australia is also going. Their karts have been stored at KMP and they will be flying into California and driving over and L Figone plans on being in attendance too.

Northeast-

S. Palatucci that he had sent out an email prior to the call for the board to review, advising them of the upcoming items for their season they are getting ready for. B McCornack advised he likes the plan on what they are getting ready to do in the Northeast. (flyers attached)

South-

B Barthelemy advised he has spent the last week recuperating and will be getting all the data pulled together. There were 112 entries, made-up of 81 drivers. 196 pit passes were sold. 50/50 raffle was successful as well. Memberships will be sent to M Westen shortly once he gets the one membership sorted out.

J Copeland asked how the T shirts were received? M Westen advised that 20 were sold. They liked the design of the shirt but not so much the price.

B Barthelemy advise they had a good drivers meeting Friday and had Ken Ragan, former Nascar driver, speak and give his testimony about racing at Barnesville back in the mid-sixties. Anthony Lazzaro, former sports car driver, who also got his start at Barnesville also spoke. Also in attendance at the event were Jeff and Mark Green. Ragan and Lazzaro made some laps around the track, and Ragan stated that that was the first time in a kart since the 90's.

B McCornack advised that S Nagel will be the contact for the T-shirts, now that he is back. McCornack advised that he will be bringing the shirts he has to Springfield and then turning them over to Scott.

West-

L Figone advised that the VKCA had a few events. L Figone asked if J Swantek was in attendance at Bakerfield? J Swantek advised he did not go, but had heard from a few people that it was a light turn out.

L Figone advised he had gone to the Dixon event in March and was a laid-back event and fun was fun. He was there with his grandchildren and wrenched for them the whole event to keep them on track.

New Business:

J Copeland advised he had a couple of people ask when the VKA does not have advertisers on their website? J Copeland advised that was a valid question as most websites do and he has checked with K Shampine and he advised that is something that can be added. J Copeland asked the board to give it some thought and would like to discuss it at the next meeting.

L Haddock advised that a conversation took place a few years ago and it seems it never went anywhere. He would like to know how many advertisements K Shampine thinks could fit on the webpage?

B McCornack advised that some advertisements are already listed under the Forums page on the website.

L Haddock had a question from a member, If the general membership was allowed to dial in and listen to the meetings? B McCornack advised that due to time constraints this has not been allowed in the past. J Copeland advised that if the member has something they feel needs to be addressed or put before the board, that they can send something to him or S Owen, the secretary, and if needed the person may be invited to attend a meeting. Discussion took place among the board and decided to discuss the proper procedures at the next meeting.

Meeting adjourned 8:59 pm EST.

Respectfully submitted by: Kelly Frazier