

## **VKA Board Meeting January 11, 2026**

**Call To Order:** President Copeland called the meeting to order at 8:03pm

**Roll Call:** S. Owen called the roll with the following results:

### **Board Members in Attendance:**

John Copeland	Gene Lang
Bill McCornack	Scott Nagel
Marty Westen	Kurt Bogerman
Steve Mox	Skip Owen
Bob Barthelemy	Sal Palatucci
Jack Hoegerl	Joe Swantek

### **Board Members Absent:**

Lynn Haddock

### **Guest:**

Rolf Hill

Mark Pardue

Cheryl Furtch

### **President's Report:**

President Copeland stated for a fairly quiet time of the season, things have been busy with Tucson next weekend and Jacksonville right after that. There has been a good bit of chatter about Tucson online so hopefully that equals a good turnout.

The transponder promotion with Mylaps has been a huge success and will let S Palatucci talk about that later.

J Copeland stated he is excited to have Jack and Gene join the board and is excited to hear what kind of new ideas and energy they will bring. He has also spoken to S Nagel and S Mox about manning the OVKA swap meet booth, and he will be bringing a promotional video and some old FirstTurn magazines.

B McCornack asked for the date of the swap meet, and J Copland advised it is on the 24 of January.

### **Vice President Report:**

S Mox advised he doesn't have anything to report at this time.

J Copland advised the December meeting minutes were approved via email vote.

### **Secretary's Report:**

S Owen stated he doesn't really have anything to report, but he does need to get the correct address for J Copeland and S Mox in order to file the new officers with the Nevada Secretary of State this month.

### **Membership report:**

M Westen provided the membership update for the month of December with the following results: 64 one-year individual renewals, 1 one-year family renewals, three 36-month individual renewals and 1 three-year family renewal. Also 10 new individual memberships, one new family membership, and 1 three-year family membership.

Membership count as of December 31st was 493

Northeast - 72

South -88

Midwest -285

West -48

Upon review of some of the membership, he noticed some people were placed in the wrong zones, that has been cleaned up and that is the reason for some of the region's fluctuation in memberships. Renewal postcards were mailed January 2nd, and March are ready to be mailed.

M Pardue asked if there is a lifetime membership that can be purchased at a higher fee?

J Copeland advised there is not a paid version for a lifetime membership, there are some lifetime members that have been nominated for honorarium membership.

#### **Treasurer's report:**

S Nagel advised he doesn't have a whole lot to report at this time, as he has been working with J Swantek on the transition into the new role.

J Copeland advised that the treasures report that was sent out to the board for review prior to the call was approved via email vote.

J Copeland advised he did not have time to do the cash flow analysis but will do that in the next few days and send it out to everybody so that everybody knows where our money came from and where it went.

#### **Rule and Guidelines:**

L Haddock is currently not on the call.

J Copeland advised that he is aware L Haddock has updated things, but that is all he knows at this time.

#### **Judging and Shows:**

K Bogerman stated he does not have anything too interesting to report. He has completed the awards packet for Tucson. K Bogerman advised he has been able to find some cool technical drawings and stuff to use for some background designs for the awards. If anyone has any technical drawings that they could share with him electronically that may make a good background to please forward that to him, so he may use them for future awards.

#### **Regional Reports:**

National-

B McCornack advised he will be working with S Nagel on creating the National schedule/ newsletter. He advised he will be writing up a promoter's package, short document that's more useful than his old document he had for the promoters and will have that out by the end of January, probably the latest. He is also working w K Shampine to create an email for a step-by-step instructional email for the promoter to send in pictures for event coverage, so they can send in pictures and stories of the events and hopefully make it simpler.

West-

J Swantek advised he is getting ready for the Winter Nationals, a joint event with the VKCA and the VKA, which is going to be happening next week, the turnout sounds good, as he's received calls from everywhere. The weather's going to be great. It's supposed to be 70, 75 all week long in Tucson next week. Mitchell Pearson is bringing a big display of bug karts through the history of their family's racing to have that at the kart show.

Northeast-

S. Palatucci S. Palatucci stated all 4 NE events ready to go.

Avon June 4-6;

Lafayette July 9-11 with the 9th an optional driving day for a separate fee;

Nicholson Aug. 7-8

Batavia 4 days: Sept. 9-16

Special guest: Lake Speed, who is planning on attending and driving his Dual C and 150cc Sidewinder.

Batavia Downs Hotel hold on VKA rooms down to 8. Attendees wanting to stay at the racetrack, coincidentally with Lake, are urged to call and make their reservations. The hotel is less than 2 miles from the track and dirt cheap: \$129 Tues-Thurs & \$169 Friday & Saturday. VKA discount code is **vintage26**

South-

B Barthelemy advised just five weeks until the Jacksonville event. Got the flyer out for the event, and CTs got it up on the website, as well as Barnesville event. He received the first advanced entry for the Jacksonville event just yesterday and has also talked to a couple guys already about coming to the event and sending in their entries shortly.

J Copeland asked M Pardue to see if he can reach out to some of his contacts in the Alabama, Mississippi area and see if you can steer some people towards Jacksonville and Barnesville. M Pardue advised he has reached out to some people and has piqued some interest.

B Barthelemy wanted to remind everyone, the Jacksonville event is the 20th and 21st, Friday and Saturday. The track there is owned by the city of Jacksonville, Duval County, and it is open every weekday, and every weekend there is not a scheduled event there. It is open for free practice. If people come in early on Thursday, they're welcome to get out there on the track as long as they've got their protective gear on and everything and practice. There won't be any turn corner workers or anything, but the track is open for free practice.

B Barthelemy wanted to thank M Pardue for all he's done to get Biloxi going, which is October 30th, 31<sup>st</sup> and offered his entry form as a template to use for registration if needed. M Pardue, thanked him for that and advised that Christy has the online registration part of it handled.

Midwest-

G Lang advised everyone is hard at work building karts and dreaming of going to their first event of the year. But that is all he has at the moment.

J Hoegerl thanked for getting the minutes updated on the website and it helps see the directions that the VKA is moving in at this time.

### **Old Business:**

J Copeland advised Steve and Scott are going to help man the OVKA booth.

J Copeland asked Sal or Cheryl to Provide an update on the Transponder program.

S Palatucci advised 59 units were sold and he will be calling Mylaps to place the order, but before he places the order, he wants to make a motion.

Motion made by S Palatucci: that the VKA would buy 14 additional units specifically for a giveaway/ a free Raffle giveaway to every driver who shows up next year at our tracks.

Seconded by S Mox

Discussion took place among the board.

J Copeland asked S Palatucci if he wanted to restate his motion after the discussion.

Restated Motion Made by S Palatucci: Requesting board permission to buy an additional 14 transponders for the use I mentioned earlier to the tune of \$2,044.

Call for a vote: All in favor      no one opposed      Motion carries.

S Palatucci wanted everyone to know that Cheryl, Sam, and Rolf, contributed to the MYLAPS project. It was a team effort. Cheryl edited and posted our notices on Facebook and [vkakarting.com](http://vkakarting.com). Sam identified the need

for members driving in NE events to have their own transponders. Especially for our Avon event on June 4,5,6. And Rolf designed the Santa -Mylaps graphic.

J Copeland stated that the next item on the agenda is hats for 2026 and asked B McCornack to give an update.

B McCornack. advised at the previous meeting I quoted you for the hats of \$10 per hat, and that was a verbal quote I got from the representative at National Emblem. That was incorrect. The actual cost will be \$15 a hat with the patch sewed on it. Order 100 hats for \$1,500. I'll get 100 extra patches for \$312 each, to be kept at the plant where they're going to sew the hats together with the patches, because he thinks we'll be sold out of these 100 hats by June 1st, and because of the long lead time in making patches when they're busy at the plant, they'll be ready to go and they can order hats to put the patches on immediately when we're out at some point. So that's a total of \$1,852. So that's the situation, and they're working on them now.

**New Business:**

J Copeland advised R Hill and G Woldarski have been working on getting a buy-sell button or buy-sell page on the VKA Facebook page and they've successfully done that. The intent is to try to get the buy-sell stuff onto its own page within the VKA Facebook page. We're still struggling with figuring out how to move things from the general discussion page over to the buy-sell page. He has a meeting tomorrow with some IT people who may be able to help us do that and teach us how our moderators can move things over, because people are just going to post them on the general discussion page, and that's what we're trying to get away from. He will have more to report at next month's meeting, but so far, we've got a pretty good start. We've got the buy-sell page, and that's important.

The next item is the 2026 membership drive proposal, which he is turning over to S Palatucci for discussion.

S Palatucci spoke to the board regarding a membership drive- Member- get-a- member campaign as a way to involve the members in selling their organization and provided details to the board on how the campaign would work. After some discussion J Copeland asked if the board wanted to vote on the member-get-a member campaign tonight or put two or three people together to flesh out all the details and bring it back to next month for review? Discussion took place among the board on the pros, cons and foreseeable glitches of the program.

S Palatucci, J Hoegerl, B McCornack and M Westin will meet to put together a proposal to bring to the board next month.

R Hill asked for clarification regarding the Buy/sell Facebook tab, if only VKA members should be able to post on it? J Copeland stated in his opinion, no, because VKA members benefit from the more stuff that they see for sale. Because it may be a VKA member, but I may be looking for something that somebody has for sale that's not a VKA member. The more people he can see, the better. As long as the listings are karting and vintage it should be eligible for posting, a VKA membership is not required to post a listing.

Meeting adjourned 9:10 pm EST.

Respectfully submitted by: Kelly Frazier