

Pomona Valley UNA of USA
Minutes of Board Meeting – Porter Hall, May 20, 2008

Present: Emily Burch* Dean McHenry*, Martha Millett, Carolee Monroe, Jack Monroe, John Moore*, Marilee Scaff*, Bob Smith, Art Sutton*, Lois Thompson, Rhodes Thompson, Bob Wallace, Shirley Williams*, Tinker Williams, and students from Cal Poly - Aaron Burton, Susie Hassen, Lisa Orwig, Mike Stover, Sonny Tsom and Jose Vargas. Refreshments were provided by the Art Sutton. *Board Member

Meeting was called to order at 5:30 pm. by Emily Burch, Treasurer and President *pro tem*. in the absence of the President and Vice President.

The Secretary provided minutes of the meeting of April 15. with a summary of the presentation by Bob Smith on “The Two Faces of Congo, East and West.” Minutes were approved as presented.

Treasurer Emily Burch reported no activities in the account: he balance stands at \$3,152.34.

The Chair announced forth coming Chapter meetings, at the usual time and place:

June 17 - Dean McHenry of CGU will speak on “Seeds of Ethnic Conflict.”

July 15 – Ardi Rashidi will speak on “Sustainability Issues.”

There will be no meeting in August.

The Chairman introduced John Moore, Professor at California Polytechnic University, Pomona who has for 26 years taken a delegation of Cal Poly students to the Model United Nations Meeting at the UN Headquarters in New York City. Dr. Moore explained the organization of the New York Model UN. This year some of the student UN meetings were held in an auxiliary building, but the final session was in the UN Building, a very exciting situation for the students. Cal Poly was assigned to represent Portugal. In preparation they had a year-long course on the United Nations. The selected team of 13 students worked very hard to learn the positions of Portugal on many international issues, and had a very useful session with the Ambassador from Portugal.

Six students came to our Chapter meeting this year: Aaron Burton, Susie Hassen, Lisa Orwig, Mike Stover, Sonny Tsom and Jose Vargas. Each student then reported on their particular assignment.

Jose Vargas was assigned to EcoSec, the Economic and Social Commission, and explained that their chief concern was water and water availability, especially for many poorer nations. World water supplies and the availability of fresh water is compromised both by availability and by international free trade agreements which are treating water as a commodity to be bought and sold.

Susie Hassen was assigned to NATO, and represented one of the less dominant European countries in their attempts to determine future needs and prospects of NATO.

Lisa Orwig explained as a first year attendant at Model UN she was fascinated by the whole operation. She was assigned to Health Care, and there were extensive discussions about Health Care needs around the world, but this is not such a problem for Portugal.

Aaron Burton was assigned to the International Security Council where there were urgent issues of international relations and peace keeping problems. The point of view of Portugal, as a smaller European nation, was very different from that of the US which we hear all the time.

Sunny Tsom as new to the Model UN was fascinated by the way delegates represented countries and negotiated with others to come to international agreements. He hopes to go again to use his experience.

Mike Stover, a Senior who has been to Model UN several times, was chosen by his group to represent them on the National Security Council, where there was much negotiation and responsibility about issues of international policy and international courts. Questions from the audience and general discussion followed.

Respectfully submitted, Marilee Scaff, Secretary