

Assistance League® of Orange

May Regular Meeting

May 2, 2008

President Betsy Little called the May regular meeting to order at the chapter house at 10:08 a.m.

The **Pledge of Allegiance** was led by Sue Counts.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

- Please make sure your cell phones are turned off
- Summary of the March in home meetings will be available in next Limelight.
- Medallion and Assisteens® Recognition Ceremony, Sunday, April 13th was lovely. Congratulations to all our Assisteens and thank you for including me.
- New Member Teas were well attended. Hopefully many will join.
- All year-end Committee reports are now due. Expense reimbursement must be requested no later than May 15th. Your cooperation is important.

Opportunity Baskets: Noël's Chairman Jackie Carter presented the opportunity drawing prizes that will be awarded at the conclusion of today's meeting.

Recording Secretary: Jan Doezie requested that the minutes of the April 11, 2008 regular meeting be approved as presented and stated that these minutes had been read by four members. She made the following motion:

MOTION: Jan Doezie moved that the minutes of the April 11, 2008 regular meeting be approved as presented and that these minutes were read by four members.

Motion approved May 2, 2008.

Treasurer: Kathy Davis provided members with year to date financial information and indicated that this information would be available online for members and chairmen to review. In addition, Lisa Gries reviewed the budget for 2007-2008 with membership, and then gave a review of the year to date financials, including overages in OSB and Special Assistance. Subsequently, Kathy Davis made three motions to ratify the budget, as follows:

MOTION: Upon recommendation of the Budget Committee, Kathy Davis moves the membership ratify the Special Assistance 2007-2008 budget to stand at \$15,033.00.

Motion passed on May 2, 2008.

MOTION: Upon recommendation of the Budget Committee, Kathy Davis moves the membership ratify the Operation School Bell 2007-2008 budget to stand at \$84,878.00.

Motion passed on May 2, 2008.

MOTION: Upon recommendation of the Budget Committee, Kathy Davis moves the membership approve amendment of the 2007-2008 budget for allocable expenses with an increase of \$5,000.00 from \$43,900.00 to \$48,900.00.

Motion passed on May 2, 2008.

Gries discussed the proposed budget for 2008-2009, with the following special comments and notations:

- A credit card/debit machine will be used at Thrift (also Boutique Noël). It is believed this will raise sales in Thrift.
- Boutique Noël has raised Vendor fees from \$200 to \$250.
- Project ten new members for next year. Increase dues to \$85.00.
- HHH – Change to hands on program, not pay for entertainment.
- Links to Learning – funded three projects this year with excess funds. We do not have excess funds next year, so currently no projects will be budgeted.
- OSB – Continue to do program, same as before. City grant of \$6,000. With current funding, ALO can dress 750 kids next year, costing \$75 per child or ALO can choose to provide less clothing to more kids, to stretch our dollars.
- Secret Santa – funds itself. Dollars raised are dollars spent.
- Special Assistance - \$10,500 is budgeted for next year. Desire is to make this program more hands on for members. Articles need to be included in our Community Newsletter and/or told to our members at meetings, so we are included.
- Assisteens – Medallions are given to each senior, costing \$200 a piece. We have ten (10) seniors with member parents that ALO needs to purchase medallions for = \$2,000; this money must come from membership and not from fundraising.
- Limelight – printing costs very high. Publishing the Limelight online would save hundreds of dollars each month. Printing only those copies absolutely necessary for sending to other chapters and for our members who do not have access to online.

President Little thanked Lisa Gries and Kathy Davis for all the work they did on the budget for 2007-2008 and the projected budget for 2008-2009 and for taking the time to explain all this, first to the Board and then to membership.

1st Vice President, Membership: Melodee Fahy made a motion to increase dues \$10 to \$85.00.

MOTION: Upon recommendation of the Membership Committee and the Board, Melodee Fahy moved membership to approve a dues increase of \$10.00, making dues \$85.00 in 2008-2009.

Motion passed on May 2, 2008.

Fahy indicated dues forms were available at today's meeting and requested fees be paid today. She reported the New Member Tea was attended by thirteen (13) prospective members. In addition, she has spoken to additional prospective members who could not attend the tea. There was a power point presentation and currently there are three new paid members for next year. She is projecting that there will be ten. Present at today's luncheon are 2008-2009 new members Rosemary Ramirez and Ester Healy; not present is Jean Wagner.

Fahy reported that the Non-Board position of New Member Trainer became available and Elise Luckham agreed to fill this role. She also reported that Membership is seeking mentors for next year's new members.

Fahy stated that forty-four (44) voting members did not complete the forms to sign up for a philanthropy and committee. She stated this needs to be ASAP. She asked all Chairman to review their committee information in the Green Directory and make any corrections, additions, deletions for 2007-2008 and project for 2008-2009. She asked these forms be returned to her today to provided to Archival.

Thrift will be handled differently next year. Orange Blossoms will work the first Saturday of each month, September through May. Professional Auxiliary will handle afternoons and Assisteens will do afternoons. Orange Blossoms, Professional Auxiliary and Assisteens will be scheduled first and any unfilled shifts will be covered by ALO members.

President Nominee: Ellie Jordan reported the NAL Conference will be October 20-24th at the Hyatt Regency Century Plaza. Interested members need to contact Jordan.

Jordan indicated the C.A.R. Committee met last month and discussed the importance of coordination of scheduling meetings. Toward this end, it was suggested that ALO list chapter center and offsite meetings on the chapter center calendar with each one in a different color. The budget was discussed and why profits were down and expenses up. Assisteens will be giving \$500 to ALO to help with costs; Orange Blossoms will be helping as well.

Jordan attended the President's Roundtable last Monday. It was noted that the Irvine Chapter had received a \$550,000 Community Development Block Grant from the City of Irvine to locate a new Thrift Shop. They currently rent a facility. She asked that we all be on the look out for grants. There was discussion regarding Operation School Bell and how different Chapters do it. Some Chapters give clothing out at the Chapter Center, like we do. Others use Kohl's, Mervyn's, or go directly to the school. The latter was the least satisfactory for members. One Chapter wanted to use community volunteers, but was told they would need to fingerprint all volunteers, costing \$30-40 per person. Discussion was held regarding the high cost of printing newsletters. All Chapters have the newsletter

online with limited printing. Irvine also prints their Yearbook online. The meeting ended with suggestions on how to make meetings more interesting. The consensus was to make the meetings shorter and don't repeat what is listed in the newsletter. Several Chapters have cut the business part of their meeting to one hour and some have speakers from outside.

Jordan reported that the National Review will take place in the coming months. The last review was 2005. Two Chapters are on yearly review because they did not meet compliance of 65/35% spent on program expenses. We are to be congratulated – we are currently at 76% of total expenses spent on Program Services.

2nd Vice President, Resource Development: Carolyn Seeley was not present, but President Little reminded everyone that “Chipping in for Children” is set for September 12th.

3rd Vice President, Program Services: Elise Luckham was not present, but President Little advised us that there would be an Operation School Bell dressing and inventory on May 14th at 8:00 am and the Community Health Fair would be held on May 10th.

Corresponding Secretary: Peggy Stephens stated that Selma Polk had passed away, Ellen Doyle passed away, Bonnie Barnett's mother had passed away, Karen Self's father passed away and her mother had cancer surgery and Lisa Gries' husband broke his ankle and needed surgery.

Parliamentarian: Sharon Algeo had no report. The Bylaws committee is busy working on the changes as a result of the new National template.

Assistees Coordinator: Deena Arnold reported that Medallion and Assisten Recognition Ceremony held on April 13th was wonderful. She thanked the committee and Lisa Gries who was emcee of the event. Mary Beth Martin won the Medallion Circle Award and both of Mary Beth's daughter's won awards also. Arnold stated the New Member tea had thirty-two (32) people in attendance and that she was trying hard to get the new moms to join ALO. Arnold asked everyone to review the Limelight for listing of the Assisten's 2008-2009 Governing Board.

Professional Auxiliary Representative to Chapter: Joyce Hansen reported they will have their year end meeting on May 12th at JT Schmidt's. She asked everyone to review the Limelight for the PA 2008-2009 Leadership Board.

ALO Liaison to Orange Blossoms: Char Vaughn advised that the Orange Blossoms “A Taste of Orange” was a wonderful event with plenty of members in attendance. She thanked everyone that attended and/or sent in contributions. The total amount raised is not available yet.

Chapter Center: Deida Conrad had no report.

Hospitality: Sandy Eyerly thanked this month’s luncheon committee chaired by Susie Blakesley and for the lovely table decorations by Sharon Algeo. Eyerly also asked members to sign up for the Annual luncheon meeting held on May 30th.

Public Relations: Barbara Khazoyan was not present, but Etta Williams reported the Community Newsletter is in draft form and titled “Fresh Squeezed.” The first edition will highlight stories about OSB and list donors. The newsletter is expected to be printed approximately three times per year, sent to donors, and made available to the community online.

President Little reminded members that today was the last day to submit nominations for the Ada Edwards Laughlin Award.

Dental Health Center: Beth Brake had no report, but reminded members that Dental saw one hundred and twenty patients in April.

“Now and Again” Thrift Shop Chairman: Cindy McCandless stated that workers scheduled on Saturdays do not always show up to work their shift, and thus McCandless asked for volunteers to make reminder calls: Diane Gates, Peggy Stephens, and Beth Brake volunteered to do this. McCandless also indicated that Thrift was now collecting email addresses and would send out email blasts with sales, coupons, etc. April sales were \$9,677. McCandless stated Thrift needed books and jewelry.

Boutique Noël: Jan Doezie had no report but asked members to save the Boutique Noël 2008 dates:

Wednesday	October 29th	4-9 pm
Thursday	October 30th	10-8 pm
Friday	October 31st	10-3 pm (closed early for Halloween)
Saturday	November 1st	10-8 pm
Sunday	November 2nd	11-4 pm

COMMITTEES:

Bridge: Nancy Mellon had no report. She asked members to read the Limelight for updates.

Athena Nominating Committee: Sharon Algeo announced that our Athena nominee was Nancy Mellon who would be honored at the Athena Luncheon on October 24th.

Circle Pin: Susie Blakesley thanked everyone for their contributions to the fund. President Little reported that this year Circle Pin raised more money than every before.

Hours: Janet Cairney reminded all members to turn in their hour sheets for April and projected hours for May.

Restoration: Cindy McCandless had no report.

Strategic Planning: Joy Nicholls thanked everyone for all the cards, flowers and prayers she received. Nicholls presented the Strategic Planning Goals 1-6 to the membership.

UNFINISHED AND NEW BUSINESS:

Opportunity Drawing: Jackie Carter announced the winners of the Opportunity Drawings.

Program:

Advisory Board: Ellie Jordan formally introduced members of our Advisory Board present today: Mike Escobedo, Zelda Benson, Fred Barrera and Honorary Member Mayor Carolyn Cavacche. Not present today were members Gary Heil, Dr. Richard Gates, Robert Brynes, and Michael Greene.

Scholarships: Robin Lyall thanked her scholarship committee and then presented ten of the eleven scholarship recipients who spoke briefly:

- Jennifer Fingal – Eugenia “Genie” Love Memorial Scholarship for the Arts
- Sean Baeyens – Academic Scholarship
- Angelica Barrera – Academic Scholarship
- Anthony Bonilla – Academic Scholarship
- Michael Burkin – Academic Scholarship
- Alexander Chase – Academic Scholarship
- Taylor Mitzner – Academic Scholarship
- Farrah Moos – Academic Scholarship
- Lauren Prokop – Academic Scholarship (not present)
- Jordan Tsai – Academic Scholarship
- Erika Vazquez – Academic Scholarship

Announcements:

Limelight articles are due by May 15th to Courtney.

The Annual Meeting and Installation is set for Friday, May 30th, at 9:30 am, at the Yorba Linda Country Club. This is an obligatory meeting for all voting members. We hope that all members will attend to celebrate our hard work for the community and show support for your new leadership team.

Adjournment: This meeting was adjourned at 11:50 a.m.

Betsy Little
President

Jan Doezie
Recording Secretary

