

H.C.S.C. Alumni Club Annual Meeting Minutes
October 5, 2022

The meeting, via Zoom video conference, was called to order at 10:01 a.m. by President Bill Watson.

The following National Board members participated:

Bill Watson, Bill Kruder, Steve Strom, Karen Bell, Robin Caldwell, John Gresham, Dave Kloose, Larry Noble, Josh Norcross, Phil Shama, Harry Smart, Wynn Watkins and Emeritus Board member Tom Clarke. Secretary Sharon Winkle also participated.

Representing the H.C.S.C. Foundation:

Larry Noble and Ron Salzetti

Representing the Regional Meeting Groups:

Deep South	Karen Witt & Josh Norcross
Heart of America	Rod Schweitzer
Indiana	None
Mason Dixon	Harry Smart & Karen Bell
Mile High Denver/Rocky Mountain	Royce Bervig
Northern CA/Nevada	Dave Kloose & Hal Monroe
North Central	Glen Thompson & Tom Clarke
Northwest	Phil Shama
Ohio	Ben Preston & Tim DeMuth
Southern CA	Mark Schultz & Ron Salzetti
Southeastern	John Chapman, John Gresham & Bob Cote
Southwest	Bill Kruder

President Bill Watson welcomed Bob Cote as a new Board member candidate and Karen Witt gave an invocation.

Approval of Minutes from the October 6, 2021 Annual Meeting

The minutes from the October 6, 2021 Annual Meeting, which had been sent as a pre-read, were discussed and no changes were recommended. Action: Motion to approve the minutes made, seconded, and carried unanimously.

Election of new Officers

- Bill Kruder as the new President for a 1 year term
- Steve Strom as 1st V.P. for a 1 year term
- John Gresham as 2nd V.P. for a 1 year term
- Sharon Winkle as Officer and Secretary for a 4 year term

Election of new Board Members

- Bob Cote for a 2 year term completing John Gresham's term
- Karen Witt for a 4 year term replacing Wynn Watkins who has retired
- Phil Esch as Emeritus Board Member

Renewing Board Members

Larry Noble and Alan Rogers for additional 4 year terms

Actions: Motions to approve the above new Officers, Board Members, and renewing Board Members made, seconded and carried unanimously.

Meeting Transitioned to new President Bill Kruder

Bill Kruder presented a certificate of appreciation to Bill Watson for his years of service to H.C.S.C. and praised his Presidential leadership to the organization. He also thanked Bill for agreeing to continue serving as a Board member for an additional year.

Treasurer's Report and Fiscal 2023 Budget Approval

Treasurer Karen Bell reviewed the financial report and significant variances from Budget as of July 31, 2022 which had been sent as a pre-read. Action: Motion to approve the financial report was made, seconded and carried unanimously. She then reviewed the proposed fiscal 2023 Budget and significant variances from the fiscal 2022 Budget which had been sent as a pre-read. Karen noted that the fiscal 2023 Budget contains \$12,000 in Advertising Revenue from JCPenney and Total

Revenue in excess of Expenses of about \$5,000. Action: Motion to approve the fiscal 2023 Budget was made, seconded and carried unanimously.

Membership Report

Tom Clarke reviewed the Membership Report as of October 5, 2022 which had been sent as a pre-read. He noted that Total membership has decreased by 86 members since the prior year, including 25 due to non-payment of dues.

Membership Drive Results as of September 30, 2022

Steve Strom reviewed the Membership Drive results that had been sent as a pre-read noting that 43 new members had joined through September 2022, still short of our Membership goal of 200 members. He congratulated RMGs that had achieved new goals or were very close to doing so. Steve encouraged Board members to increase their RMGs' membership by inviting non-member friends to their upcoming holiday parties and personally inviting them to join H.C.S.C.

Partners Update

In Jeannette Siegel's absence, Bill Kruder gave an update on Partners magazine. As noted on the agenda, due dates for magazine content are February 1, 2023 (Winter), June 1, 2023 (Summer), and October 1, 2023 (Fall). Articles on current 50 Year Pin recipients and Century Club members will be included in future Partners issues.

Kemmerer 2nd Annual JCPenney Golden Rule Days Recap

Steve Strom referred to an article about this event in August of this year that had been sent to Board members. He reminded Board members that JCPenney had made a \$10,000 donation to the city of Kemmerer for the maintenance of the JCPenney home and museum. He also thanked H.C.S.C. members for their \$6,000 donation to the city toward the cost of removing and transporting to Kemmerer the plaques that had been at the base of Mr. Penney's statue at the Home Office. Next year's annual event will be on August 26, 2023 and all H.C.S.C. members are invited to attend.

H.C.S.C. 90TH Birthday Celebration

Bill Kruder reported that the last Zoom “Happy Hour” celebration of H.C.S.C.’s 90th anniversary would be held on October 18th at 6:30 p.m. with Bob Gill, retired Vice Chairman and Century Club member, as the keynote speaker. Bill noted that, to date, \$3,000 has been donated by H.C.S.C. members to the Foundation in connection with the three Happy Hours scheduled.

H.C.S.C. Foundation Report

Larry Noble reported that he had received the “Happy Hour” donations from H.C.S.C. members. He also said that as a result of the 9th annual mailing to 1,800 H.C.S.C. members, the Foundation had received \$19,000 in donations from 103 members, a decrease of \$500 from last year’s mailing. As of the end of the year, the Foundation had distributed \$519,303, compared to \$527,910 last year, to 81 recipients. Total donations received this year were \$54,784 vs. last year \$103,578, down 112%. Most of the decrease was due to a large donation from the estate of a deceased retiree last year. Ron Salzetti thanked the Board for their support and noted that the Foundation had received over \$12,000 in donations from the new website. He encouraged Board members to be sure spouses are aware of the Foundation in the case of death.

Century Club Update

Robin Caldwell reported that 19 new members became eligible this year and that, at the start of each year, newly-eligible members would be invited to join the Club.

50 Year Pin Update

Tom Clarke reported that 52 members are eligible for their 50 year pin this year. He said that 3 members will be contacted about their past-due 2022 dues, but they will not be denied their pins.

Website Update

Tom Clarke reported that, at this time, the plan is to maintain the website. An email had been sent on Oct 2nd to all members encouraging them to use the website and the database. Early results are: For the website – 246 unique users and 269 visits. For the database – 100 new visits and 27 requests for changes to be made.

RMG Gatherings Update

- **Southeastern RMG** – Columbus, GA, April 30 – May 2, 2023
- **North Central RMG** – Radisson Hotel in La Crosse, WI, June 6-8, 2023
- **Southern CA RMG** – Annual Christmas Party – Dec 10, 2022; Spring Fling in Palm Springs, CA, last week in February 2023 (will publish in Partners)
- **Southwestern RMG** – Holiday Party on December 7, 2022; other events twice a month

If all RMGs will send Bill Kruder info on their events, he will put on Facebook and send email to members.

JCPenney/HCSC Salvation Army Volunteer Project

Tim DeMuth reported on a collaboration with the JCPenney Philanthropy Department and two stores and the Distribution Center in Columbus, Ohio on a three day Christmas event (December 20-22) with the Salvation Army distributing food to 6,400 families and toys to 10,000 kids. Tim will ask for volunteers from the Ohio RMG to also participate. He encouraged Board members to have their RMGs look for these kind of volunteer activities for their members.

Board Meeting Dates in 2023

Bill Kruder advised Board members of the 2023 Board meeting dates listed on the meeting agenda, i.e.: March 1, June 7, September 6, and the Annual Meeting on December 6. All are via Zoom at 10:00 a.m. Central Time.

Old Business

Bill Kruder advised Board members that, after the Valley of the Sun RMG was dissolved, only three of their former members joined another RMG. A majority chose to have only National membership.

He also reported that the group in Arkansas that had asked about forming a new RMG have decided not to move forward on this idea at this time.

New Business

A discussion ensued about whether the new leaders at JCPenney would be willing to attend H.C.S.C Board meetings. Bill Watson said that CEO Marc Rosen's

attendance at the Southeast RMG's event was encouraging and should help us recruit new members. Bill Kruder said that a number of JCPenney leaders attend the Southwest RMG's annual Holiday luncheon.

Wynn Watkins said that he wanted to "plant a seed" for thought on the question of what we can, as a retiree organization, do to help the Penney Company. Would the Company view H.C.S.C. differently if we are doing something for them?

Meeting Adjournment

Action: Motion to adjourn the meeting was made, seconded and carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 11:24 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Sharon Winkle
Secretary