**Executive Council Evening Meeting 9/4**

President Helen Strickland called meeting to order at 6:11

It was moved and seconded that the minutes would be approved from Summer Workshop

**Officer Reports**

1. President Helen Strickland

- Thanked Mary Richardson, Callie Ham, Tim Peerbolte, and the rest of the table for the job that they are doing

2. First Vice President Peerbolte

- Wished luck to Jennifer Salazar, spoke highly of Brandon Higdem, thanked Dawn Tucker for PD

 - Wants us to have participation in the Nature Hike at 9 o’clock Friday morning

 - 2015 Summer Meeting will be at UCA

3. 2nd VP Janetta Carney

 - 14-15 Calendar is up and going (there have been some edits recently)

 + Baylor Camps need to be on the calendar

 - Waiting to see if people will send her performance dates

- Mary Richardson needs a printed copy of job duties that she has done that isn’t in the Constitution (Article 7, Section 2 needs the date changed to a date closer to TOC

- States that the February 16th day needs to be extended; it is too early

\* Short break to fix our plates for our meal \*

4.1st VP Elect Elect Jennifer Salazar

- Went to Red Apple Inn on August 11th. Has a schedule and needs suggestions for possible PD. Currently we have 57 rooms, 4 bed condos, and 2 bed condos. Advance deposit needed March 1st. She has the menu and will pass it around for the Exec Council to look at. Be advised this is an old inn; it has a weird “charm”; every room has been remodeled. They are giving us the Conference Rooms for free and service of the coffee. The rooms are small but can be set up theatre-style. Theme of the conference is “Inspiration.” Added an early morning PD session; thinks that Eric Gamble will do about creating a classroom game.

- Take pics and props (small) from shows this year. These will be on display next year at Conference.

- Mary Richardson interjected that the cost we collect from members needs to cover the cost of the meals including the taxes. Akers said if we raise the cost of the guest then we will have low participation from guests.

- Wants her step mom to speak at the dinner. She has been teaching for 30 years and has been a great inspirational speaker that would benefit the Association

- Summer meeting for 2016 will be at Maumelle high

5.Executive Director Mary Richardson

- Will be rolling off of her position earlier than April 11. Plan was to only stay a year. Knew her getting her position name change would anger some people. The title change did not change the way that she did her job.

- Mary did some more talking that wasn’t wanted in the Secretary minutes

- We are moving away from the ListServe and will be using the Member Management Site

6. Executive Treasurer Jen Akers

- We all have a copy of the Treasurer’s report. On the first sheet, with monthly spending, The Fall Conference line item includes Conference, Dues, and Demo Day

- Miscellaneous income is 200 something odd dollars that she cannot figure out where it came from. We are keeping track of scholarship donations; had some at registration.

- StuCo spent a little more money than they took in

- When someone pays thru PayPal we lose a percentage of the money; suggested that if you use PayPal we require a $5 service fee to cover the PayPal expenses. This could be implemented before people start paying for Demo Day. If this would be problematic we can discontinue using PayPal.

+ Tim made a motion that we discuss this in the General Business Meeting with the rest of the body; Jennifer Salazar doesn’t think that we should bring this to the General Business Meeting. Tim’s motion passes

\* General Business Meeting will vote on whether they want the $5 increase on PayPal or they can disbar using PayPal \*

 - Brandon didn’t spend a lot of the $2,000 that was allotted to him

 + Things he purchased can be used in following years

7. Recording Secretary

 - No report available for the Council

8. College Representative John Gale

- College meeting is 9/4. Last year there were only 3 people who attended the college meeting. Last year the colleges had good presentations but no one came to listen to them. Good time to pigeon hole some college faculty meetings.

- Willing to recruit PD folks for Jennifer for Fall Conference. Talked to 3 theatre professors and they are willing to do PD on broad areas (design, costume, set, house management, etc.)

9.High School Representative Melinda Beith

- High school meeting and business meetings have been the exact same meeting in year’s past. There are some things that should be in both but not a BUNCH. There should be no voting in the high school meeting. StuCo and Demo Day can make announcements at the high school meeting. TOC/TAC things could be discussed; calendar, Poetry Out Loud. Stress that people need to attend the General Business Meeting

- TOC changes gets voted on in the High School Meeting as well as ballots and event changes. Let’s spike this one!

10.Lifetime Member Jane Balgavy

 - Not present

- We will have to get a new one; ask Debbie Ashcraft to fill this position. If Debbie doesn’t work out then we could recruit Conley Hall

11. Webmaster Hannah Sawyer

- ListServe is awful. It is not user friendly and impossible to use in an efficient manner. The new system (Member Management) would not allow members to send emails to the ListServe. This would direct more traffic to the Facebook page. She would like to keep it through a landmark; maybe after the Christmas holiday, after TOC, or after summer meeting

- Mary Richardson moved that we investigate how kill/get rid of LSoft by December 1st. John Gale seconded said motion. This does NOT have to go to the General Business meeting.

- There has been ambiguity about late registration fees for conference. We need to clarify, set, and make sure that we have the same policy about late registrations. This needs to be established and enforced from hence on out.

- At the end of Summer Workshop a twitter was set up for the Association and is linked to the Facebook account. The Association now has a gmail account and sets us up for: (1) transfer to the Google calendar, (2) very own YouTube channel, and (3) Calendar reservation dates by a Google form

12. PD Coordinator Dawn Tucker

 - We have PD. She appreciates everyone’s patience, text messages, notes, and emails

- One of the issues we had is we put surveys out for PD then the committee met then they realized they had too much PD. Dawn thinks that the Conference Coordinator needs to fill the PD themselves instead of having the Committee fill the slots.

- Dawn has had training for her PD Coordinator position. Torch has been passed from Jen Akers to Tucker.

- General consensus is that the Conference Coordinator will direct PD. We need clarity in the delineation of responsibilities for Conference PD. Dawn Tucker is a minion to the Conference Coordinator and she is HAPPY to serve!

- Mary Richardson suggested that we put more college people on the PD Committee. Akers followed up and said that the PD Committee Chair dictates the job descriptions for the rest of their committee members. These will be put in writing eventually.

13. Archives Report Sara Cooke

- Ms. Cooke is passing kidney stones and could not be here with us. Even though she can’t be with us she is recruiting HEAVILY

 - Report via Mary Richardson

 - Her husband will present on her behalf later on during the conference

- “This is a letter from David Ray to Mary Engalls for leaving her off of the TOY award.” Mary will print this for the following day.

14. Immediate Past President Dawn Tucker

 - It is good to not do this anymore

**New Business**

2. Alumni Committee

- Establishing a Student Almni level of membership. This would help with recruiting judges for debate/forensics tournaments

3. Social Media Position Statement

 - We wanted to come up with a statement to cover how to properly post on Social Media

 - Tim Peerbolte read what NFHS SM statement was to serve as a guide for our statement

4. Conference Fee Discussion

 - This was thrown in Jennifer’s corner

 - Full Conference fee is $90, one day is $55, cost for a guest meal is $30

5. Summer Conference

 - 2015 @ UCA July 12-14

 - 2016 @ Maumelle High July 10-12

6. Fall Conference 2016

 - September 8-10

7. Fall Conference 2015

 - September 10-12 in Heber Springs, AR at the Red Roof Inn

8. Exec Council Meetings

 - January 4 2015 unless snow/ice (January 11th) will be hosted at Mary’s house

 + April 11th is TOC; we want to incorporate the passing of gavel at TOC

9. Professional Development

- PD for Summer Conference needs to go out MUCH earlier than we have been doing in the past; this will be addressed in the High School Meeting (needed May 1)

- PD for Fall Conference needs to be published by August 1st so certain districts can turn in leave forms in a timely fashion

- These must be addressed to Callie because Mary is on her way out of the door

**Announcements**

Jennifer is having a girl, Finley Parker

Mary Richardson moved to reconsider the vote on bringing the money surcharge to the general membership. Seconded by John Gale. Motion passed. We are not speaking of PayPal to the General Body. Jennifer Sawyer will include that in the Webmaster’s Report.

President Helen Strickland recessed the meeting, at 8:49, until 11 am for Committee Reports in the Tanga Room.

**Committee Reports Meeting 9/5**

President Strickland reconvened the meeting at 11:05

1. Scholarship Committee – Liz Davis

 - She had limited info to give us

- Only change to application is that the logo matched the current one; due dates are in bookmarks that were given to members at registration

- We want to increase applicants from high school students, college students, and teachers. High school students are due mid February and teachers are due in March

2. TOC Committee – Tim and Jannetta

 - We had a wonderful tournament last year

 - We are going back to LR Central High for 15. We are excited to have it back in the central AR area. This was the site of Tim and Callie’s last tournament

3. PD Committee – Dawn Tucker

 - Submitted last night

4. TAC – Callie Ham

- Final forum later on this day. There hasn’t been much dissent on the new ballots. Update will follow once a decision has been made

- Judges waiver contract has been completed. We are supposed to have our judges sign that and send it to the tournament director by paper or email. Any guest judges from community will also need to sign them. Include them in the tournament registration form.

5. Professional Standards Committee – Jacki Reiff

 - Met yesterday but had been communicating back and forth.

- Embedded courses continue to be an issue. Reviewed what was done with Oral Comm statements and sent out with committees and ListServe. We had 5 embedded courses that were approved.

- We need to increase the participation and urgency of our members as a whole. We There is a possibility that we may lose teaching slots in the Oral Comm field. This may lead to the graduation requirement being taken away.

- We want to contact each legislator in AR personally. Each committee member will contact a legislator to try and convince them. Since this is an election year they should be more receptive. Add that we want to continue the accreditation requirement (1/2 credit for graduation.

- Targeted Social Media campaign to help get the word out. They are toying with starting a petition; they are researching how this can be done within the law. We will allow Jacki to speak at the High School Meeting to address the body about this serious issue

- Speech Certification is still law and will not be changed until October 1 at the earliest. We want to push for higher education courses being offered along side the testing requirement for speech certification.

- Made contact with AR Council of Teachers of English and Language Arts. Have not talked about it as a body but will be brought to their Executive Committee November 6th. They are not aware that Oral Comm will be embedded into their curriculum.

6. Nominations Committee – Chris Flowers

- For first VP Elect Melinda Beith and Jacki Reiff. Second VP is Ian Galloway and Dana McCutchen. Had a set back with Ian and he is backing out of the race. If he is elected he will not be able to fill the role. We will accept his resignation and Dana will get it if he wins.

- Recommendation for future nominations is that roles for each person needs to more easily accessible. Mr. Flowers will create a checklist that future position holders can follow in later years.

- We will be generating a list and will mark off the members who are not eligible so that the selection process can be streamlined (Callie will get her hands on the list)

7. Demo Day – Mandy Taylor

- Past Demo Day was at Searcy HS; it was 201 students who came and participated. It was a big success. They had handouts and DVDs; presenters for all of the IEs. They had rooms for StuCo, Mock Trial, and the other debates.

- This year we are sticking to the same schedule. Must check with Anthony McMullen and Joe Kieklak to make sure they can present. It’s becoming a North Pulaski/Mills presentation. TOC finalists need to know that their responsibility is to go to Demo Day and show their piece.

8. Recruitment and Mentoring – Mandy Taylor

- Recently took over the chair position at the Summer Meeting. They have boosted committee membership. Now has 16 members including two lifetime members. Members are assigned a coop region in the state to cover.

- Debbie Ashcraft stated we need to recruit the Virtual Arkansas teachers. They need to be involved and see what we are doing. The database is a work in progress; they are compiling non members in the state of Arkansas. We want every teacher who falls under ACTAA in the database. Database is color coded by the ARDA classification

- We have 19 new members and 11 of those members are here at conference. They have not been assigned a mentor but that will happen in the NEAR future.

- New member breakfast will have goodie bags for the newcomers. Callie will help her assign mentors before the Saturday breakfast. Mandy will talk about the New Member Breakfast at the High School Meeting.

9. NFL (NSDA) Committee – Rosie Valdez

- It was a good year for NFL. We have seen a massive increase in school participation and diversification in bids. Districts was at Hall. Bentonville, Central, Episcopal, Heritage, and Fayetteville all competed for bids. All committee members attended Nationals.

- This is helping them get ready for auditions for plays and college. This is something that the children want to do. The committee will continue to push for integration of NFL style rules into ACTAA rules.

- Committee Rosie (Chair), Chris Flowers, Jennifer Akers, Colton Gilbert, and Eric Gamble. District Tourney will be at Searcy HS (February 27-28) and will be run simultaneously as the Searcy HS. Students cannot enter into both tournaments.

- The first point audit will happen after the Heritage Tournament (Nov 21). Next will be before Christmas break and the last will be the week before the district tournament.

- Nationals this year will be held in June 14-19 in Dallas, TX.

10. StuCo – Rosie Valdez

- We are voting this weekend on three bylaw changes. (1) Pages cannot assist delegates in ANY way. (3) Delegates CANNOT research during session

11. Teacher Assessment – John Gale

 - Nothing to report

13. AR Thespians – Michelle Moss

- Excellent year this year. Upcoming dates: Once Act Prelims (Oct 4th @ JHS and Jan 17th @ Fayetteville HS, State Festival is February 12-14th @ Russellville HS

- This past year they had 776 delegates participate at the Festival. We will have Junior High Theatre Festival (May 16th @ Judsonia) for junior high students to get them excited to join in their HS years

14. Professional Ethics – Pat Treadway

- Committee is meeting as she speaks to Exec Council. There is a copy of the committee report on the website. We got “nitty” and “tacky” with each other this past year. They were dealt with informally.

-Suggestions ranging from sanctioning processes all the way to keeping it on an informal basis. Sought the input from Anthony McMullen who is also an attorney. We have to think about some things when we go through with formal sanctioning. Some offensive things are protected under the 1st Amendment

- @ 3:30 members can drop into their meeting to give suggestions about how to formulate the sanctioning process

- Every year when membership is renewed members will have to read and sign a Code of Ethics Statement that outlines

15. Publicity and Promotions – Brandon Higdem

 - Everything is set for the banquet and we are looking forward.

- They have been trying to put a Press Kit together. Brandon hand delivered them to the High Profile and Sync; no one has grabbed the story but it is still pending. They will come if we have something in the Little Rock area; this is how High Profile and Soiree to show up.

- We may want to put together an Ad Hoc Committee that will handle the Scholarship Event

- Dealing with a company that is excited about bringing a movie premiere to Arkansas. Brandon is working with the new movie theatre that opened up downtown (Robinson Theatre). A former student is their promoter/manager. The trailer is centered about what is forensics; “Thank You for Judging.” We would have to pay them $300; if we have at least 30 people come they will refund the $300 back to us. If we got 130 people to come we get 5% of the ticket sales. No date is set but the guy is pushing for the Fall; Mary Richardson suggested that we offer the showing the Monday of StuCo (11/10/14).

16. Mock Trial – Dawn Tucker

 - Link is on the Website. Competition date is in LR on March 6-7

 - Each team was guaranteed 3 rounds. The last rounds will be power matched

 - Nationals is May 15-16 in North Carolina

 - They have been working on Lesson Plans that are aligned with Oral Comm frameworks

17. Audit Committee – Colton Gilbert

- Akers had all of her things in line. The audit of her records took about 30-45 minutes because she had such impeccable records.

- Its obvious that her use of Quicken has made her job easier and the Audit Committees job much easier as well.

- Decided that every summer there will be an audit

18. NFHS – Colton Gilbert/Tim Peerbolte

 - It was in Rapid City, SD

- We narrowed 8 topics down to 5. The initial vote is due on October 17th. Final vote will be in January 5th

President Helen Strickland recessed the meeting at 12:52 until Saturday

**High School Meeting 9/5**

Melinda Beith called the meeting to order at 5:00

She started by welcoming the entire body to the meeting and thanked us for our devotion to the children.

Tim Peerbolte interrupted with a drawing for a door prize.

**Brief Announcements**

1. Beith stressed that we be in attendance for the General Meeting

2. Poetry Out Loud – Cynthia Haas

- People have participated in POL; this is the 10th year of POL. Every state champion will go on to compete in Washington D.C. (held in late April)

- National winner receives a $20,000 scholarship

- In service workshop (6 credit hours) will be taught by Berry Glaser and he will teach teachers on how to use students performances with elderly that suffer from Alzheimer’s. This happens Saturday October 10th and they will reimburse those who attend with mileage.

3. Recruitment and Mentoring – Mandy Taylor

 - Boosted membership in the committee; still looking for 2-3 more members.

 - 19 new members and 12 in attendance this weekend

4. Calendar – Jannetta Carney

- Page 41 of the program. (1) Conway tourney will be Nov 7-8, (2) March 6-7 there is Mock Trial and Dardanelle’s tournament, (3) February 27-28 is the NFL qualifier

- Christy Armbrust stated that her name was spelled wrong on the program and that she, not Martene, is over StuCo., (4) Har-Ber Tourney is February 20-21

- Send Ms. Carney your performance dates and show names so that she can add them to the calendar

5. NFL – Rosie Valdez

 - Held at Searcy HS Feb 27-28. Nationals will be June 14-19 in Dallas, TX

- Colton Gilbert, Jennifer Akers, Chris Flowers, and Eric Gamble complete the committee

6. Thespians

- Upcoming dates: Once Act Prelims (Oct 4th @ JHS and Jan 17th @ Fayetteville HS, State Festival is February 12-14th

7. Mock Trial

 - Registration is on Arkbar.com website and is currently open

 - Case material comes out mid to late Oct

 - State competition is March 6-7 (3 prelims then out rounds)

8. NFHS

 - I will send out Extemp topic areas, LD, and Public Forum topics at the end of each month for the following month

9. Demo Day – Mandy Taylor/Micah Qualls

 - Saturday September 13th held at Maumelle High School

- Registration is at 9 and the presentations will start at 10. Entry fees are $10 per student and goes towards the scholarship fund. She needs a ballpark figure for students who will be attending.

 - The debate pull out will be in the afternoon (extensive)

 - There were no problems with Maumelle providing concessions for Demo Day

10. StuCo – Martene/Christy

 - 13 was good

 - 14 is Nov 9-11; all of the info is on actaa.net

- We had 3 changes in the by laws that need to be approved by the Exec Council. Thinking about doing t-shirts and a competition. Bills are due by Sept 26 and the following Sunday we will put the bill book together and it will be published by October 7th.

11. TOC – Jannetta/Tim

 - 14 was a wonderful tournament and ballot problems have been addressed.

- He was not in here when his name was initially called. It will be hosted at the historic LR Central. We will stick with the current tournament schedule

- Some schools want to host a JV division in debate. This will not affect TOC and will follow the current rules as written. April 10-11

12. TAC – Callie Ham

- We just did everything in the last meeting. We are here to help solve issues when they arise at tournaments.

- Changes were made to Reader’s Theatre, Words & Music, Extemp (US and Int’l), Oratory, splitting HI/DI, and adding Duo Interp.

- Christy moved that we accept the changes. The body without any dissent approved these changes. Akers will change the ballots and Hannah Sawyer will post them as soon as they are available

13. PD – Dawn Tucker

- Survey will come out around Nov/Dec. This will tell her the areas the body wants PD. Dawn needs to know when your district needs to know when/what PD people will be attending.

14. Professional Standards – Jacki Reiff

- Discussed concerns and issues around embedding Oral Comm into other classes. Certified standards have been changed as well. They have even investigating a possible EOC exam for Oral Comm.

- The statement is posted on the website. These trends are happening around the state and we have to fight this as an organization. Letters were sent out to administrators and ADE members. It went from 5 schools to 16 that have approval to mesh the standards with another course subject. These teachers are using ALP’s and are not qualified to teach our content. The letters the ADE received did not affect the decision they arrived to.

- The ADE is looking to remove the requirement from the collegiate level as well. We want to contact each legislator in AR personally. Each committee member will contact a legislator to try and convince them of our position.

- Expect to see a blanket Social Media campaign to supplement our endeavors

- Debbie Ashcraft stated that passing a StuCo bill is the quickest way to reach them

- Kim Stanley stated that we should partner with businesses that can speak on how important Communication skills are.

**New Business**

1. Cabot Workshop –

- September 26-27

 - Teach PF and LD debate

 - Friday we will teach and Saturday each kid will be guaranteed 4 rounds

2. Baylor Workshop

 - September 18th in Fayetteville and 19th in NLR

 - spoken by Kim Stanley

3. AAA Sanctioning

 - Hannah Sawyer stated that the correct sheet has been posted to the ACTAA website

Melinda Beith dismissed the meeting at 5:56 after Akers made a dismissal motion

**General Body Meeting 9/6**

President Helen Strickland called the meeting to order at 9:12

Minutes have been accepted as read

**Officer/Committe Reports**

1. President

- Summer Conference was at UALR. Committees grew and the fruits of this labor have been seen during this conference. Special thanks to Tim Peerbolte and those who helped him in organizing this conference. Publicity and Promotions Committee kicked butt as well; thank you Brandon Higdem.

2. 1st VP

- We have had a very successful Fall Conference. Summer Workshop will be at UCA July 10-12. He also thanked Brandon and pointed out that Chris Flowers almost broke table decorations.

- Peerbolte then began to dance and make a fool of himself.

3. 2nd VP

- Responsibility is to maintain the calendar. The Google calendar is up on the website; she passed around a sheet to list the performances and dates at each school. Anything you want to add just send her an email at her school

4. 1st VP Elect

- We will be at the Red Apple Inn in Heber Springs, AR. The theme will be “Inspiration.” The reservation will be posted on the website in the coming days. She also thanked the Promotions Committee.

5. Executive Director – Mary Richardson/Callie Ham

- Callie will officially take over in April of 2015. She is glad that we are in attendance during Fall Conference during the 75th Anniversary of our organization.

 - Callie is excited to take over and asks that we be patient with her as she takes over

6. Treasurer

- Brandon Higdem passed out the report to everyone in the building. Audit Committee did a great job and found nothing wrong with

7. Secretary

 - Took over in the summer. Don’t talk too fast so I can keep up

8. College Rep

- Association was discussed as well as the state of debate in our state. They are going to go out and recruit more collegiate members.

9.High School Rep

- Recognized Cynthia Haas for Poetry Out Loud. Teacher workshop is on October 18th at Pulaski Tech College. If you are not in the Central AR area they will compensate you for your mileage.

- In the meeting yesterday we had a successful meeting; it happened under one hour. We debate issues and NOT people. Several tournament issues were addressed

10.Webmaster

- We heard about the THEA foundation and there is a way to donate in the website. We can commit or you can come see Akers to give her your donation.

- The video that Brandon Higdem made is currently on the website. We have both Facebook and Twitter now. Pictures are up on Facebook.

- We have faced issues with ListServe service. We are currently exploring other options so we can resolve these issues.

- We now have a gmail account, which gives us access to our own YouTube channel.

- Exec Council decided that there will be a surcharge if you use PayPal, you reserve the option to no pay via the internet.

11. PD Coordinator

- We have three sessions after this business meeting. Make sure that you sign in/out for workshops. Dawn will fill out any forms for you that you didn’t receive at any PD you attended.

- She is sending out a survey of what PD people would like to be offered at Fall/Summer Conference. Need to start setting timelines for ourselves

12.Immediate Past President

 - Last year was a great year. She thoroughly enjoyed serving for us

13. Audit Committee

- Met this summer and filled out the committee. We put in place some expectations for the committee and will perform an audit yearly during Summer Workshop

14.Scholarship Committee

- Liz created a flyer that she will send out to the membership. This flyer will include dates. Last year we gave two high school seniors, one member scholarship, and the last one to a student in college.

 - We MUST send in the applications by the deadline

- The exchange of Rosie’s scholarship was either a drug deal or payment for services rendered

15.TOC

- 2014 was chaired by Jannetta Carney. The tourney was hosted at Heritage HS. Yesterday we cleaned up rules for this year.

- 2015 will be chaired by Tim Peerbolte; will be hosted by LRCH April 10-11. We will double check Words and Music entries. Please bring the script and copyright permission release. He will send out a reminder before TOC.

16.StuCo

- 2014 was chaired by Martene Mourning. Congress went very well and we added some new schools. We had a great tournament and things went well.

- 2015 will be chaired by Christy Armbrust. We are taking t-shirt submissions as a competition for the students. Bills and entries are due the 26th of September. We had to add a couple of changes to the bylaws and will be uploading in the coming week. Bill book should be published by October 7th

17.Demo Day

- 2014 was chaired by Mandy Taylor. It was successful last year and we had 201 students attend. Passed out DVDs and materials to coaches

- 2015 will be chaired by Micah Qualls; it will be hosted at Maumelle HS. Registration beings at 930 and it starts at 10; we will be done by 2

- There will be on campus concessions so that students can mingle with each other. There will be an extensive debate pull out in the afternoon and interp will be in the morning.

- Entry fees are $10 per student and proceeds go towards to scholarship fund

18.Publicity and Promotions

- Working with Aliquinez for next Fall’s Convention. We are working on trying to get our logo out to the committee

- They are trying to host a movie premiere, during StuCo, that will help money go into the scholarship fund. Working with a new theatre downtown; the Ron Robinson Movie Theatre

19.Recruitment and Mentoring

- Took over for Callie Ham. We have a total of 24 new members; 14 of them were at the breakfast this morning. They are still looking for mentors to help new members

- They are working on a database that will be comprehensive in the coming months; both old and new members

20.TAC

- Did a lot of our talking in the session before the High School Meeting. There were changes to HI/DI, Oratory, Reader’s Theatre, W&M, and we added Duo Interp.

- We have put together a Judge’s Waiver form stating that the judge will not be unprofessional

- Tournament Directors will check that W&M entries have the copyrights to them

- Tournament Directors will manipulate the schedule that we have used in the past. We may be incorporating a JV division in debate; if they qualify for state then they will compete in Varsity at TOC

21.Professional Standards

- Committee met with Oral Comm Standard Committee. Partner committee members with legislators in order to take action. There will be a Social Media blitz that goes out to the whole community. By November there will be a petition that will be available for us to sign and distribute to our community

- If schools think classes can be embedded then Oral Comm will continue to be threatened.

- Teacher certification is something that we feel needs to be amended as well.

22.Ethical Practices

- Last year we had some issues raised and some repeat offenders; this is the third report this committee has filed since May. Members were making statements about other members in ear shot of students, members, and on Social Media.

- Treadway stresses that everyone remember the Ethical Practices statement. They also request that any concerns be submitted in writing to the committee.

- Committee decided that drafting sanctions would not be the best policy without input from the organization. Sought the input of Anthony McMullen, an attorney, and he stated that sanctions are something that you want to use SPARINGLY.

- Committee is suggesting that when membership is renewed that we check off that we are aware of the statement of Ethical Practices. If you have a concern, put something in writing and the committee will do their best to keep it confidential. Reprimands, if used, could be oral, written, probation, contact of an administrator, or we can revoke a membership.

23.Nominations Committee

- Chris Flowers and Teri Valentine passed out ballots with Flowers’ phone number on them

 - 2nd VP will be Dana McCutchen and 1st VP Elect will be Melinda Beith

 - Ballots are going around

24. Topic Liason

25. AR Thespians

- Excellent year this year. Upcoming dates: Once Act Prelims (Oct 4th @ JHS and Jan 17th @ Fayetteville HS, State Festival is February 12-14th @ Russellville HS

26.NSDA

 - Nationals will be in Dallas, TX June 14-20

 - February 27-28 will be the District Qualifier

- We are looking towards pushing our rules to become synonymous with national-style rules

27.Mock Trial

- Arkbar.com. State competition will be March6-7 in Little Rock, AR. The case will be posted by the end of October

**New Business**

1. Constitution Revisions

- Several changes: Lifetime members, Alumni members, changed qualifications to run for 2nd VP, passing of the gavel, changed Exec position choosing, submit to the Webmaster tournament results in a timely fashion, TOC dates, StuCo info, added the fee structures for things, how money is spent, Demo Day money goes to Topic Selection travel fund, added Ethical Practices, choosing of TOY & other awards, and added another award

- Mary Richardson made a motion to adopt the Constitution revisions and it was seconded by Jacki Reiff. Motion passed and the revisions pass

- Helen Strickland was presented with the Spirit of ACTAA award

2. StuCo bylaw changes

- Two changes: pages can’t assist delegates in research and cell phone usage during session

- Dawn Tucker made a motion to accept the changes; seconded by Hannah Sawyer. The changes/motion passed

3. TOC/TAC

 - Tim says um between every 2-3 words.

 - We are trying to pair ourselves with NFL/NSDA

- Martene made a motion to accept and Melinda seconded the motion. The motion passed through the General Body

4. Ad Hoc Scholarship Committee

- Help with events and build the scholarship fund. The first event would be this movie premiere. The committee will be filled using volunteers

- Tim Peerbolte made a motion to accept the committee and Jannetta seconded it. The motion passed the General Body without discussion

5. THEA match

- Tim moved that ACTAA match individual donations and Christy seconded it. The motion passed the General Body with limited discussion.

“ The body of ACTAA will privately match the individual contribution of its members to the THEA Foundation.”

- Jen Akers requested that we cap the match at $1,500. Deadline will be the first of November

6. Ethical Practices

- Excerpt from Committee report “To highlight the importance …… Executive Council.” Said excerpt will be added to the Ethical Practices Statement at the end of the document.

- Treadway made the motion and Micah Qualls seconded it. The General Body passed the motion with limited discussion on it.

7. Nominations Committee

 - Chair is Casey Griffith

 - Members are Shelle House, and Christy Armbrust

**Announcements**

President Helen Strickland requested that we give a standing ovation for Mary Richardson

Tim Peerbolte moved that we adjourn the meeting and was seconded by multiple people.

President Strickland adjourned the meeting at 10:57

**Executive Council Meeting 9/6**

President Helen Strickland called the meeting to order at 3:36

A. Recommendations for Secondary Representative

- Mike Nolan, Ta’Neisha Marshall, Lauri Harrison, Teri Valentine. Mike is the front-runner

 - The next person will complete Melinda’s 3-year term that started this summer

 - President Strickland will make an offer to Mike Nolan

B. College Debate Tournaments

 - This is more of a brainstorming endeavor

C. Demo Day

- Competitive component of Demo Day. President Strickland stated that the Demo Day Committee

- Jannetta Carney will be the Demo Day Chair next year and is making note of the problems we are facing

D. New Members

- New members were lost in the shuffle because they were listed under the Institutional Membership

- Hannah Sawyer noted that we will have to amend the way we deal with the Ethical Practices Statement

E. Joy of Tournaments

 - Several tournament directors want to learn how to first hand run Joy of Tournaments

 - Possibly offer a PD that Rosie shows us how to run Joy of Tournaments

 - Mr. Gilbert offered that Hall High School be the possible site

- Mary Richardson stated that we would have to give Rosie and honorarium to show our appreciation for her hard work and dedication

- This would be an allotment of $500 for the room. Rosie would be compensated $25 per hour ($200) for her services.

- Tim Peerbolte made the motion and Jannetta seconded it. The motion passed without any discussion

F. LSoft

 - Determine how we can move off and the possible day of finishing up with them

G. PayPal

 - We will start with the surcharge coming up

- Jennifer and Hannah will discuss opening another PayPal account in Akers’ name so that we can discontinue the one in Richardson’s name

H. TOC

- Passing of the gavel at TOC. This will happen at the top of the program and not at the end

 - We will do a quick recognition of the retirees at the TOC

I. StuCo

- Caucus and Committee awards could be given out at the down time period on Sunday night

President Helen Strickland welcomed the two new members on to the Executive Council

Hannah needs to know if we add the $5 fee open. This will go into effect for Student Congress and TOC.

Hannah is tinkering with the membership levels. Next year we will add an item about food restrictions and allergies to Fall Conference registration. What about the possibility of non-educational organizations with a vested interest in ACTAA?

Sean Peterson is willing to sign up seniors as Alumni members at TOC

Brandon will produce a list of the Ad Hoc Committee members

We will start requiring that those who make reports provide a paper copy

Callie will stay in close contact with Jacki Reiff about Oral Comm being embedded in other courses

President Helen Strickland adjourned at 4:17