

AMERICAN KNIFE AND TOOL INSTITUTE
Minutes of the Board of Regents Conference Call Meeting
December 16, 1999

Thursday, December 16, 1999 Meeting was called to order approximately 1:25 p.m. (Central time) by president Les de Asis. Regents present: Les de Asis, D'Holder, Bob Miller, CJ Buck, Wally Gardiner, and Executive Director Jan Billeb.

VP/Secretary Position

Bob Miller moved, D' Holder seconded to accept CJ Buck as VP/Secretary to replace Jim Wehrs.

Recruitment

Follow-ups to the recruitment mailings to potential advisory board members were briefly reviewed. It was decided to hold off on more mailings until after the Christmas season.

Shot Show

It was agreed that those Regents present at the Shot Show would approach prospects in teams. Everyone available will meet at the Schrade booth on Wednesday, January 19th at 3:00 p.m. No formal AKTI meeting or update will be held. CJ Buck will have Buck's marketing team write a press release for distribution in the pressroom.

Regents' Dues

Les de Asis will contact Sal Glessner regarding his 1999 dues and participation on the Board. Additional possible board members or potential replacements suggested included Jim Stitt from Cutco, Stuart Leatherman from Leatherman Tool Co. or A. G. Russell.

To ease the cash flow situation, Benchmade will pay \$5,000 of their dues for 2000 now and the balance in January. Schrade will also pay their dues soon.

Knifemakers Guild

D' Holder will contact the Knifemakers Guild about their dues and possible increase in contribution. Holder also agreed to contact Bob Terzuola about serving on the advisory board. This would provide increased involvement for the Guild by having a representative as a Regent and also a board member on the advisory board.

NICA (Nat'l Independent Cutlery Dealers Association)

De Asis announced that the NICA will have a meeting at the Shot Show to discuss their involvement or position regarding AKTI. He will be making a presentation. He will discuss NICA involvement with Brian Swanson, Exec. Director, in advance of the presentation.

Communications Position

It was suggested that A. G. Russell would be an excellent person to handle AKTI communications, preferably as a member of the Board of Regents. Holder will approach him about the possibility. It was agreed to touch base with Tom Fegely at the Shot Show so all Regents present could meet him.

Legislative

De Asis explained a tentative appointment he has arranged with the Congresswoman for the NW area to introduce AKTI members and the organization. Suggestions were discussed.

Membership

Jan noted that the AKTI gift for associate members has not been made available to them yet. She will check out a possible medallion that might fit into the current budget.

Next Meeting

A conference call meeting to recap the recruitment results and any other issues was scheduled for Wednesday, January 12th at 2:00 p.m. Eastern time.

Minutes submitted,

Jan Billeb
AKTI Executive Director