

Minutes of the October 18, 2003 Membership Meeting, Northstar Chapter NRHS

The meeting was called to order at 7:15 p.m. by Treasurer Joe Fishbein in the St. Paul Fire Department Training Center with 17 members and guests present. (Chapter President Dan Meyer was not present, as he was attending the national Board of Directors meeting in Long Island.) There was a correction to the minutes of the September 20, 2003 membership meeting, as printed in the October 2003 issue of Northstar News - the correct address of Mancinni's is 531 West 7th St. A motion to approve the minutes, as corrected, was made, seconded, and carried.

Treasurer Joe Fishbein gave his report. Cash in the checking account, as of September 1, 2003 was \$4,919. Income during September was less than \$1 in checking account interest and \$32 in dues and donations for total income of \$32. Expenses during September were \$124 in newsletter expenses and \$20 in dues payment to NRHS national office for total expenses of \$144. Cash in checking account on September 30, 2003 was \$4,807, of which \$3,067 was in the general fund and \$1,740 was in the GT 8327 restoration fund. Current chapter membership is 79, which includes one member who has already paid for 2004. Joe Fishbein said he is waiting for the 2004 membership renewal forms from the NRHS national office in Philadelphia.

National director Marty Swan is also at the NRHS BOD meeting, so he was not present to give a report.

Trip director John Goodman gave his report. He described the recent operations of restored Milwaukee Road steam loco 261 as a rousing success, with 2,600 people carried in two days of operation. Their next planned operation will be to Duluth in May, 2004. Both BNSF and CP like operating trips under Amtrak auspices. However, most of Sandberg's equipment is not Amtrak compatible.

Rails to the Northstar is progressing slowly, but things are falling into place. We recently had a meeting with the NRHS national convention committee.

Secretary Dave Norman read a report from the Nominating Committee, written by Dan Meyer. The committee, consisting of Cy Svobodny, Dennis Loudon, Dave Norman, and Dan Meyer, had a dinner meeting on September 25th and came up with the following slate of candidates:

President - Dennis Loudon;
Vice President - Doug Johnson or Glen Holmberg;
Past President - Dan Meyer;
Secretary - Dave Norman;
Treasurer - Joe Fishbein;
National Director - Martin Swan;
Trustee - Mark Braun or Tom Neadle.

Additional nominations can be made from the floor at the November membership meeting, where the election will take place.

The holiday party is scheduled for Sunday, January 4th at Mancinni's. The menu choices will be either 10 ounces of chicken or a 8 ounce steak. The total cost, with everything included, will be \$22. The maximum capacity of the room is 40 people and there is no minimum. The program will be announced later. The question was asked if we should have our regular membership meeting in December and January, as we usually don't hold a membership meeting in December when we have the holiday party that month. John Goodman moved that we have a membership meeting in December and that the holiday party substitute for our January membership meeting. The motion was seconded by Cy Svobodny and carried.

Discussion of the 8327 restoration project was tabled until next month's meeting. The Northstar News was brought up. The question was asked if anyone had received a damaged copy. No one who was present had had any such problem. Programs were discussed. Dick Prosser plans to be here to present the program in November. The planned program will be on Arkansas.

New Business - Glen Holmberg said he attends a Buick club. They have many couples participating in that group's activities. He said we need to do something to attract more wives to our meetings and to our other activities. One of the

(Continued on page two.)