

COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERS FOR INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS (CVIP)

Board Minutes

May 8, 2013

ATTENDANCE: Peg Arbanas, Mary Barrett, Pat Barrett, Stacey Bieler, Carol Bryson, Marion Chapman, Fred Fritz, Mary Hennessey, Cheryl Highstreet, Lisa Homeniuk, David Horner, Iris Horner, Erika Nwankwo Larson, Mickie Marx, Ann McCall, Sue McDonald, Barbara Sawyer-Koch, Dottie Schmidt, Pam Sievers. OISS Staff: Joy Walter, Nicole Namy, and Jose Melendez-Rodriguez. Guest: Dorinda VanKempen

APRIL MINUTES: Fred Fritz – M/S/A

TREASURER’S REPORT - April 2013 – M/S/A

April 2013

Accounts at MSU Federal Credit Union

Savings Account (Shares)

4-01-13 Balance Forward	5.75
4-30-13 Ending Balance	5.75

Insured Money Management Account

4-01-13 Balance Forward	12,569.05
4-30-13 Deposit Dividend + 2.07	12,571.12
4-30-13 Ending Balance	12,571.12

Percentage yield: .20% from April 1, 2013 through April 30, 2013

Checking Account

4-01-13 Balance Forward	681.37
4-30-13 Ending Balance	681.37

Total= \$13,258.24

No receipts were submitted to OISS on CVIP’s behalf in April.

Please note that the interest rate has fallen still further to .20% on our IMMA account.

Report submitted electronically on 5-07-13

Dottie Schmidt

DISCUSSION:

ANNUAL MEETING

- Chair Pam Sievers reviewed various assignments for the annual luncheon.
- Pam reminded all that the luncheon would begin promptly at noon with no grace offered so as to assist the flow of program.

ANNUAL REPORTS:

- Reports are due to Pam Sievers by June 28 - except for final finance report.
- Please shoot for a maximum of 250 words per committee.
- Please list committee volunteers separately from reports.

KUMATA MEMORIAL: Discussion by the Executive Committee on how best to memorialize Lillian Kumata’s contributions to CVIP still continue. Several suggestions have been offered to date.

NEW BROCHURE: The new CVIP brochure was distributed for comment.

CVIP EVALUATION by Josue Melendez-Rodriguez: Josue showed a power point with the current data collected from nearly 500 respondents. Data is still being collected and a completed report will be submitted at a later date.

ADJOURNMENT TO ANNUAL MEETING: Thanks were offered for those retiring from the Board.

PROGRAM REPORTS:

Every Tuesday: *No Report submitted.*

Christine Van Nada

Home Visits: On Wednesday, April 24, 2013, fifty one international English language students had the opportunity to tour an American home and practice conversation while enjoying light refreshments provided by one of the home hosts. The hour and a half home tour and conversation is often the highlight of the semester for many of the English language students.

We appreciated having 5 new home hosts and 3 new drivers participating this time.

Thanks to new home participants Alice Hill, Charlotte Poston, Jim Stedman, Kathie Woefel, and Pat Zandstra along with continued support from Pauline Adams, Stacey Bieler, Mona Brandou, Helen Hagans & John Casberque, Dr. Alice Hamachek, Pat Hepp, Susan Leavitt, and Lois & Harold Sollenberger.

A wonderful dilemma occurred in this time around in that we had more homes than needed. However, in the Fall we usually have the opposite problem in that there are not enough homes and so we have to send more than the ideal number of only 3 to 5 students to a home. These international students truly appreciate and enjoy having the opportunity to visit an American home. *Report submitted electronically on 5-07-13.*

Iris Horner

Global Festival: *No report submitted.*

ISC: 2013 Schedule

The following four topics / activities were scheduled and carried out for the period Apr 12-26:

- Photography discussion: Barbara Toman taught the group how to take great photographs
- Burgdorf Winery visit: the group visited the winery
- Pot luck: this favorite meeting was well attended
- The summer session will run 7 June to 2 August 2013.

Group Leadership

Both Wei Lui and Dana Kanhai continue to organize and lead the group during the summer session.

Report submitted electronically on 5-08-13.

Dana Kanhai

I SPEAK: Nine international students participated in Holt High School's Annual World Language Week on April 16 and 18. Countries represented were Thailand, South Korea, Saudi Arabia, Indonesia, China, Brazil and Australia (a country new to our list!) Janine Baker was our contact person at Holt High School this year while Karen Holman-Cervera is on sabbatical leave in Spain.

Mitsuko Marx took Frederic Voutard, one of last year's speaker volunteers from France, to speak at Allen Neighborhood Center Senior Citizen Coffee Hour on May 1. Frederic graduated from MSU last year and took a job outside this area. When he returned recently to work in East Lansing, he **requested** to be assigned to the Allen Center again. He really must have felt welcome among those folks!

A few of our volunteers will be remaining in East Lansing for Summer Semester. We have assignments waiting for them at Mason Middle School, Eaton County Youth Facility, and Allen Neighborhood Center.

The 32 students and scholars who gave presentations during the 2012-2013 year were offered certificates of participation in I SPEAK. As they did last year, the MSU Alumni Association provided gifts, USB drives,

to these active speakers. However, this year the drives featured the bonus of motivational files provided by Scott Westerman, Associate Vice President for Alumni Relations/ Executive Director, about “Chasing Happiness.”

We plan to send out promotional information to local service clubs in late May or early June, anticipating that new officers will be planning their program calendar for the coming year. I SPEAK gets very few requests for speakers from schools during Fall Semester, so fall is an ideal time to provide speakers for service club meetings. *Report submitted electronically on 4-09-13.* **Carol Towl**

Lending Center: We've closed the books on the 2012 - 2013 year so the Annual Report can be prepared. The Center will stay open through May with regular hours but will close for June and July. A limited staff will handle appointments for donations, returns from those leaving MSU, and any newly arriving students. The summer will be spent restocking and preparing for the mid August reopening. (Date to be determined) *Report submitted electronically on 5-13-13.* **Erika Nwankwo Larson**

Scholarship: After conducting interviews, the CVIP Scholarship Committee has awarded 4 full scholarships for Fall 2013, for \$2,500 each.

Liz Loayza-Herrera, from Bolivia, is an undergrad majoring in violin. She plans to graduate and pursue a Master's degree while her husband completes his PhD in Orchestral Conducting. Together they plan to return to Bolivia and provide musical instruction that is not currently available in Bolivia. When Liz wanted to pursue her musical training, she had to move to Argentina because of the lack of instruction in her home country. She hopes to help fill that need for younger students.

Jing Yang, from China, received a scholarship from CVIP last year, but returned it when she needed to drop out of classes for health reasons. One year later, she is ready to return and complete the final semester of her Master's program in Computer Science and Engineering. Jing has been an active part of CVIP's International Spouse Connection, saying that it helped her to become more accustomed to the culture here. She has taken part in leading the group during the past year in order to extend that same help to others.

Xi Yang, from China, is also pursuing a Master's degree in Computer Science. She was not present on the day we interviewed the other applicants, as she had received a grant to present a paper in Italy that week. She and her husband are in the same field and have collaborated on a number of similar publications. When we asked her to explain a little about the topic of her paper, though Xi's English is fine, we could only nod and smile with pretended understanding of the concepts!

Mehrabi Sahar, from Iran, is in the middle of a one-year intensive Master's program in Marketing Research. She has been employed in Iran as an engineer and hopes to open a business of her own when she returns. Current economic sanctions against Iran by the United States have caused the rial to lose about 70% of its value compared to the US dollar, causing many Iranian students a sudden economic crisis of their own.

Interviews were conducted by Carol Bryson, Peggy Arbanas, Dottie Schmidt and Christine Van Nada. The remembered wisdom of Lillian Kumata was greatly helpful in the consideration of each applicant and the decision-making process. *Report submitted electronically on 4-06-13.* **Carol Bryson**

Volunteer English Tutoring Program: This month a few new people have expressed interest in tutoring with VETP. I revised the tutor volunteer application and worked with Pat about putting it up on the CVIP web site. I met and interviewed 5 potential tutors. VETP had an end-of-semester pot luck, with 25 people attending. Some tutoring will continue in the summer, and a schedule of classes should be up on the vetp web site soon. Check out the VETP Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/vetpmsu> (Thanks to Joy for helping me set this up! *Report submitted electronically on 5-6-13.* **Mary Hennessey**

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Executive: *No Report submitted.*

Pam Sievers

Leadership: Mary Barrett presented the slate of officers and program chairs for 2013-14 at the April board meeting. The slate was accepted unanimously. *Report Submitted electronically on 5-08-13.* **Stacey Bieler**

Executive

President	Pam Sievers
Vice-President	Stacey Bieler
Secretary	Sue McDonald
Treasurer	David Horner

Programs

Every Tuesday	Christine Van Nada/Sarah Phillips
Global Festival	Not a position for this year - transition
Gift Shop	Wendy Pope/Hengheng/Dottie Schmidt
Home Visits	Iris Horner
I-Speak	Carol Towl/Mary Henessey
International Friendship Program	Larry Karnes
International Spouse Connection	Cheryl Highstreet/ Dana Kanhai
Lending Center	Erika Larson
Scholarship	Dottie Schmidt/Peggy Arbanas
Volunteer English Tutoring Program	Mary Henessey

Administrative Services

Office Manager	John Alzubady/Pat Barrett
Public Relations	Barbara Sawyer-Koch/Stacey Bieler
Membership/Data Base	Pat Barrett/ Ruby Bato
Website Manager	Pat Barrett
Historian	Stacey Bieler
CVIP Alumni Council	Mary Barrett/Ann McCall

Membership After some pruning, the CVIP Membership list now holds approximately 915 entries, consisting of both individuals and families. Upon the advice of our program chairpersons, a number of former members were dropped due to their death, relocation or non-participation. Further pruning may occur this summer, when program chairs have more time to survey their active and inactive members.

Report submitted electronically on 5-05-13.

Pat Barrett

Newsletter: Newsletters sent by email: 631/ Newsletters sent by US mail: 317. Dana Kanhai joined Pat Barrett and Stacey Bieler in editing the Spring 2013 newsletter. Thanks to Dana for her help and to all for great articles and pictures. *Report submitted electronically on 5-8-13.* **Pat Barrett and Stacey Bieler**

Office: The CVIP Office is beginning to look like our home away from home. The outer office is furnished with a cabinet, a display stand, shelves and our new table with four chairs. Decorations include two large pictures and a batik hanging. The inner office now has our award plaques on the walls for all to see.

As for our office equipment we have two computers and an automatic paper folder (thanks to OISS), as well as an all-in-one color printer and a scanner. The Office is now ready to meet the needs of our CVIP Board, whether it be the production of newsletters and brochures or just a quiet place to have a small meeting or hold an interview.

At the beginning of May the Office staff sent out 631 copies of the Spring 2013 *CVIP Newsletter* by **email** and 317 copies by **US mail**. *Report submitted electronically on 5-05-13.* **Pat Barrett**

Website: A number of small changes were made to the CVIP website during the last month. Most of these were updates of deadlines and corrections and additions to the website pages. The International Spouses Connection has declared its intention of updating all of the pictures on its gallery pages, a project that we welcome with enthusiasm. No doubt this summer, more program chairs will take the opportunity to both add new pictures and revise outdated text. *Report submitted electronically on 5-05-13.* **Pat Barrett**

Visioning: *No Report submitted.*

Barb Sawyer-Koch

ADJUNCT REPORTS

OISS/ ISP Dean's Office: *No report submitted.*

Joy Walter

Church Women United: *No report submitted.*

Marion Chapman

A+ English Language School/Okemos Adult Education, English as a Second Language, ABE and GED: *No report submitted.*

Jo Pamment

CVIP Alumni: *No Report submitted.*

Mary Barrett and Ann McCall

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- Saturday, June 1 – Memorial Service for Lillian Kumata
- Wednesday, June 5 – Board Mtg
- Thursday and Friday, Aug 15 – 16 – early arrivals, MSU Hostels open
- Saturday, Aug 17 – Residence Halls open for International Students
- Monday, August 19 – Welcome Orientation at Breslin Center!
- Friday, Aug 23 – Family Resource Fair, Spartan Village
- Wednesday, Sept 4 – Exec Com Meeting
- Wednesday, Sept 11 – Board Meeting

REFRESHMENT SCHEDULE:

June Home Visits/Leadership

Respectfully submitted, Fred Fritz

CVIP HOURS April -13		Ad	Alm	ET	Lnd	Schlp	Glbl	IFP	ISC	I Spk	Visits	Office	VETP	Lead
Arbanas, Peggy	✓					7								
Bankson, Bonnie														
Barrett, Mary	✓													
Barrett, Pat	✓	92												
Bieler, Stacey	✓	15												
Bryson, Carol	✓					7								
Chapman, Marion	✓							4						
Fritz, Fred	✓	5												
Hagens, Helen														
Hennessey, Mary	✓													
Highstreet, Cheryl	✓							10						
Homeniuk, Lisa	✓													
Horner, David	✓										10			
Horner, Iris	✓													
Kanhai, Dana														
Larson, Erika	✓				84.5									
Marxs, Mickie														
McCall, Ann	✓													
McDonald, Sue	✓													
Melendoz -R, Jose														
Morrow, Midge														
Mukheree, Pat														
Pamment, Jo														
Sawyer-Koch, Barb	✓	4												
Schmidt, Dottie	✓	1		4										
Sievers, Pam	✓	12												
Towl, Carol														
VanNada, Christine														
Total														