

American Cue-maker's Association
General Membership Meeting
Held at Hopkins Expo, Valley Forge, PA

Introduce New Members –

New Merchandising members are Tweeten, Cue Veneer and Joe Villapondo.

New Voting Members are Steve Lomax and Josh Treadway. They will be on a 2 year probationary period.

Introduce Mark Griffin (BCA Pool League) – Mark talked about his July 10 day event in Las Vegas every year. This event is moving from the Rivera to the Rio in July of 2013 (July 17th – July 27th). This event has between 6400 – 7000 players, but there are not a lot of spectators. He said the vendor hours are from 9am – 8pm, but he could possibly set something up for the ACA to only be there for 5 days. ACA members would not have to pay the \$500 BCA dues in order to participate in this event. It was said that it would be squarely on our shoulders to think of a way to draw in the buyers / spectators. We would really have to “put on a show” to in order to give the real buyers a reason to attend this event.

1. **Called to Order** at 8:50 am on Sunday, March 11, 2012
2. **Roll Call:** Dave Jacoby, Russ Espiritu, Bruce Kuhn, Keith Josey, Jim Buss, Dale Perry, Steve Klein, Mike Capone, Jerry McWorter, Chris Nitti, Jeff Prather, Dan & Stephen Janes, Mike Stacey, Andy Gilbert, Chris Byrne, Pete Tonkin, Andy VanderVoord, Mike Durbin, Ron Haley, Josh Treadway, David Elliott & **Rory Mueller?**
3. **The agenda was approved** by Dale Perry
4. **The minutes were approved** from the meeting held on Sunday, March 13, 2011 by Bruce Kuhn.
5. **Treasurer's Report** – Steve Klein reported that we have \$20,700 in the bank now but that amount does not include the balance of \$2500 we will have to pay the caterer for last nights dinner as well as other expo expenses. We will also give Allen Hopkins a check for \$5,000 to hold the booths for next year. Steve also requested exhibitors send him the \$100 booth deposit for next years show by April 1st, 2012. He will be emailing an invoice for annual membership dues on the 1st of June 2012. Members need to let him know if they prefer snail mail instead of an email invoice. Dave Jacoby stated the association needs timely dues / booth fee payments so we can make a budget. This allows the ACA to move forward with more promotional things in the upcoming year.
6. **Board of Directors Election** – Keith Josey and Andy Gilbert's seats are up this year. No members expressed an interest in running, so Andy and Keith both agreed to serve another 3 year term.

7. **Old Business:**

A. **Last Year's To Do List –**

1. **Continue to educate the public**

2. **Create a 2nd event** – Jerry McWorter said he talked to Dawn Hopkins and she is not planning an event at this time. Dave Jacoby, Russ Espiritu and other members that currently attend this event will go over to the Rio with Mark and tour the new facility this July.

3. **Revise collectors form to include permission box for receiving emails/solicitations from individual ACA members** – Dave Jacoby talked to our web guy who strongly suggested against this idea. He said when collectors sign up to be on the ACA collector list, they expect to receive updates / emails from the association itself, not from individual members. If they start getting bombarded with emails from members, they will get disgusted and possibly drop off the list. Dave sent out 3 newsletters over the past year to collectors as well as members.

4. **Possibly create a Facebook page** – Dave said it is a nice idea, but we need to get someone to maintain it and constantly add content.

8. **New Business:**

A. **Address member concerns on new venue** – Dave had a chance to talk to Allen Hopkins last night about some of these concerns.

1. Exhibitor security at closing time is a big issue and Allen is aware of it
2. Closer parking for exhibitors – Allen said he had this worked out, but the guy he put in charge of the parking didn't show up to handle it.
3. Lighting – exhibitors and players
4. No free WiFi – Allen said he wasn't aware of any free WiFi
5. Distinction between ACA members and ICA members – possibly a different color pipe and drape from the ICA since our booths are right next to each other
6. Getting carpet for underneath the ACA pool tables as well as possibly getting it for the entire ACA arena
7. Possibly getting our area moved closer to the front entrance

B. **Banquet at new venue** – We had about 130 people attend the banquet last night. In years past, Mike said we had been paying about \$3500 for the banquet at the Radisson. However, in order to get the same service and food catered in at this new facility, it would have cost about \$8000. Mike gave the caterer a budget of \$3500 - \$4000. Overall, everyone thought the food was good.

The things they can improve on for next year is: getting the food and bar set up faster, have tea or water on all the tables, make the room a little more inviting (and not look so much like a cafeteria) with possibly improving on the lighting, possibly having some soft music during the dinner portion.

9. Committee Reports -

Hall of Fame – Jim Buss said there was nothing new to report

Promotions – Some new ACA members joined the committee and got the membership involved with the “Cuemaker of the Year” selection process by sending out a newsletter requesting a list of nominees for the award. ACA chalk was done by Tweeten and we were the first to get the new blue color. All the player tables had our chalk at this event. Dave will talk to Diamond to see if the chalk can be used at all diamond events like the BCA tournament. We had a flat screen TV with over 600 rotating pictures in the ACA booth and the web guy only charged \$25 to get the pictures done. We will see about getting a larger TV screen for next year. The committee also got a 20th anniversary plaque for Allen Hopkins as well as getting a 20th anniversary banner for each exhibitor.

Ethics – Jim said there was nothing new to report

Membership – Russ said he was going to try and have a meeting today with committee members to see about getting some of the old members back. Jerry McWorter played in the ICA pool tournament where the money went to a children’s home. He said we need to get more ACA exhibitors to play in the ICA’s tournament next year. He also mentioned that it would be a good idea to “keep it friendly” with the ICA because some of their good members may consider joining the ACA.

Long Range Planning – Dave said they revised the mission statement and updated the website to reflect the changes. They also sent out a newsletter stating the mission statement was broken down into four categories. Each LRPC member was assigned one of the four categories. Members need to contact the person responsible below if you have any thoughts or ideas for one of these categories:

1. To establish and recognize a standard of excellence in the art of cue making - Jim Buss and Dave Jacoby
2. To educate the public on cues – Keith Josey
3. To promote the collecting of cues – Pete Tonkin and Jerry Olivier
4. To cooperate with other organizations engaged in billiard promotions whose objectives are compatible with the ACA - Andy Gilbert

Website – The goal is for everyone looking for a cue *to go to the ACA website*. The purpose of the website is to promote cues as a group. However, the committee suggested starting a sister website to showcase member cues for sale. Steve Klein said they would charge a listing fee to cover the cost of maintaining the site. The exact fee will be determined later. It was suggested the cue would be \$10 per listing, or just charging a one time yearly fee. The number of cues each member could list at one time would be limited.

Dave talked to the web guy and the approximate cost to build the site would be \$800. Once a customer clicks on a cue, it would automatically go directly to the cuemakers website. The cuemaker would then negotiate the sale of the cue. The ACA would not be

involved in the actual sale. This would also give another reason to send an updated newsletter to the collectors to let them know which new cues are listed. Several members thought this was a good idea, so Dave will move forward with it.

10. Set new goals for upcoming year -

- A. Work on new sister website
- B. Have nice plaque made showing all of the “Cuemaker of the Year” recipients as well as all of the “Cue of the Year” recipients. A vote was taken and passed
- C. Change the Sunday morning General Meeting to Saturday night after the banquet
- D. Work on getting a block of hotel rooms for this expo next year. Sherri Josey will call hotels and find out information on rates, shuttle, onsite restaurant and bar
- E. Talk to Mark Griffin further regarding BCA venue

11. Next meeting - set for Saturday night after the banquet in March of 2013

12. Meeting was adjourned at 10:10 am.