

Montana Creativity Quest, Online Board Meeting, October 26, 2003

Present: Heather Geiger (President), Heide Arneson (Secretary), Roy Mears (Member at Large), Laura Jo McKamey (Northeast), Kathleen Dent (Southwest), Linda Adams (South central), Sharon Lamar (Northwest)

Souvenirs – lunch boxes are iffy, but Nalgene water bottles should do ok (UM sells them for \$10, so \$10 should be ok.)

The frog pin is cool, only 1.5 inches tall. The frog T-shirt is also cool.

Hammers with “I Do DI” and a pen, or without, \$5 to sell. Souvenir items need to be under \$4 if possible.

Heather discussed using a catch phrase such as “Fishing for Creativity” and finding sponsors to tie into it, such as fishing supply companies like Orvis and Simms. Brainstorming: One idea for the design is kids fishing on a dock, lures made out of duct tape. It needs to be on a river, or maybe ice fishing, sitting on a milk carton or a milk carton ice house? Maybe milk carton fish. A bear fishing? Pelicans fishing?

We need to think about pins that could go with this theme too. A bear fishing with a DI ball cap, milk carton fish so Dairy can sponsor again?

Finance: Heather stated that when we decided to let each region keep their surplus at the end of the year she forgot that those amounts still needed to be included in the state total for the end of the year. Therefore when the taxes were filed those amounts were not included. To correct this error when the taxes are filed this next year we need to do the following:

- 1) each region needs to make sure their accounts are under the state tax ID number which is *31-1671338*.
- 2) After you receive and deposit your fall start up money you need to return the amount prior to the deposit that was in your account to Alean. Then she will send it you back a check for that amount.
- 3) We will count those moneys as donations from the regions to the state and then as regional expenses when the money is returned to you.
- 4) At the end of the program year I will need each region to report what their account balance is so I can include it in the total for the taxes.
- 5) Finally we need to add the state treasurer on as a signer on each of your accounts.

Do we use the same budget form this year? Yes, but with the new beginning balance line. Heather will do a mailing with all this information. She will have to check the tax identification number.

Scoring: Heather asks that all regions use the JAVA (DI) scoring program this year. The program is currently debugged only for PCs. It is not on the CD. Chris Geiger will again develop an Excel scoring program for MACs in case regions don't have access to a PC. JAVA on CD. Someone will be working on debugging the code for MACs, but it is best to use a PC (or

laptop) if possible. Last year the State score room people used both scoring programs. They really liked the Java program, easy to use and less errors.

This year there is a new Unified Scoring System, different from what we have used in the past. There is one scale, 1-30 instead of some items 1-5, some 1-15 and so on. That way appraisers don't need to remember the max, just use one scale for everything. The number cruncher converts it, either when crunching or in the score room. With the new scoring program, it can all be done there with less errors. It will mean some training for team managers, for them to understand the new scoring system. Sharon commented that based on Globals, the appraisers liked it. The JAVA program crunches it for us. It means an extra trip for the score runner, but it is workable.

Every Regional Director will be added to the e-group, a link to the world outside of Montana. Each one can set it up to get a daily summary of items. Let Heather know and she will have the moderator set you up in digest (Sharon wants digest.) You also need to check the RD website regularly. Heather will send out user name and password. The address is www.destinationimagination.org/rd.

Back to Souvenirs:

Water eels do well, everyone agreed.

Sticky Hands – custodians don't like the goo, could sell once the competition is over – each region can decide. Maybe during the cake walk. 5 dozen per region, 10 dozen for Linda.

Playing Cards – with “I Do DI” on them, good item, something to occupy them.

Mugs – if they are breakable, that could be a problem – only if they are durable.

Hacky Sacks – they are coming back in style and are always popular.

State Shirts

Nalgene Water Bottles

IncreDIBLE Shirts

Esther and Sharon expressed concern about mug breakage. Do they come in individual boxes? We could wrap them in newspaper if not, five per region.

Heather will send each region an order form so they may indicate the souvenir selection they would like.

RDs – please get your memberships registered ASAP when DI-ON gets back up.

Stevensville is interested in getting back involved.

Sharon Lamar moved to adjourn, Roy Mears seconded, meeting adjourned at 8:24pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Heide Arneson
State Secretary