

## **MINUTES**

### **BOUCHERCON BUSINESS MEETING**

**Las Vegas, NV**

**OCTOBER 19, 2003**

**8:00 a. m.**

Welcome by the Vice-Chair Thom Walls.

Present: Al Abramson, Mary Helen Becker, Deen Kogan, Al Navis, Gary Warren Niebuhr, Sonya Rice, Enid Schantz, Tom Schantz, Dana Stabenow, Thom Walls. Absent: Bryan Barrett, Rebecca Bates, Howard W. Bloch, Adolph Falcon, Dee Ford, Bill Starck.

#### **Report of the Current Bouchercon Chair**

The Chair recognized Deen Kogan for a report on the current Bouchercon. Deen reported that Vegas had approximately 1,700 registrants. The auction raised \$22,000 for the Clark County Library System. The Chair asked Deen to provide an accounting of the projected finances of her Bouchercon. She did not have it available at that time.

#### **Reports of the Future Bouchercon Chairs**

The Chair recognized Al Navis for a report on the Toronto Bouchercon that included hotel and programming information. Hotel registration and the con's web site will begin in December.

The Chair recognized Deen Kogan for a report on the Chicago Bouchercon. Deen also recognized Sonya Rice from the Chicago Bouchercon.

The Chair recognized Al Abramson for a report on the Madison Bouchercon. Al recognized Mary Helen Becker, co-chair of the Madison event. Al announced that there would be a venue change for Madison.

The Chair recognized Dana Stabenow for a report on the Anchorage Bouchercon. The venue will be the Hilton, the same location as Left Coast Crime Conference.

#### **Amendments to the Standing Rules**

By Gary Warren Niebuhr, seconded by Al Abramson, a motion was made to adopt a standing rule change proposed by Thom Walls (11/01/02) as follows: Standing Rule II, B, 6: The terms of office for the Members-at-large will be limited to two consecutive terms of three years with a wait period of three years before a person could rejoin the committee.

Ayes: Unanimous.

Noes: None.

The motion was adopted.

By Gary Warren Niebuhr, seconded by Maggie Mason, a motion was made to adopt a standing rule change proposed by Tom Schantz (03/14/03) as follows: Bylaw IV: Replace existing "A. Bouchercons shall be held in

cities across the North American Continent, rotating annually from the Eastern Region to the Central Region to the Western Region, then in the fourth year be available to any North American or non-North American site. In the fifth year, the rotation shall begin with the Eastern Region” with new language “A. Bouchercons shall be held in any city on the North American continent so long as that city is more than 500 air miles from the city hosting the previous Bouchercon. In addition, Bouchercon can be held in any North American or non-North America site in leap years.” Delete existing “B. The three Regions shall be defined as follows: 1. Eastern Region--Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Vermont, Virginia, Washington DC, West Virginia, New Brunswick, Newfoundland, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, Quebec. 2. Central Region--Alabama, Arkansas, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Wisconsin, Ontario, Central America, and Mexico. 3. Western Region--Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington, Wyoming, Alberta, British Columbia, Manitoba, Northwest Territories, Saskatchewan, Yukon Territory.” Modify existing C to read “B. Bids for future site selections shall be accepted up to (delete: four; new language: five) years in the future.” Re-letter existing D, E, & F to C, D & E. Delete Standing Rule IV, C.

During the discussion on this standing rule, a friendly amendment was made and accepted by the proposer, first and second that changed the sentence “Bouchercon can be held in any North American or non-North American site in even years” to “Bouchercon can be held in non-North American sites in even years.”

Ayes: 80

Noes: 13

The motion was adopted.

By Gary Warren Niebuhr, seconded by Rick Kovalcik, a motion was made to adopt a standing rule change proposed by Rick Kovalcik (11/05/02) as follows: Standing Rule V: modify to read "The Standing Committee will hold a business meeting at each Bouchercon (new language--whose time and place must be published in all schedules distributed at that Bouchercon—end new language) with the following agenda:"

Ayes: Unanimous

Noes: 0

The motion was adopted.

By Gary Warren Niebuhr, seconded by Rick Kovalcik, a motion was made to adopt a standing rule change proposed by Rick Kovalcik (11/05/02) as follows: Standing Rule VI, C: Membership number 000 is retired in memory of the late Mrs. Phyllis White, widow and lifetime helpmate of Anthony Boucher and longtime supporter of Bouchercon during her lifetime. (Delete Standing Rule VI, B, 5).

Ayes: Unanimous

Noes: 0

The motion was adopted.

By Deen Kogan, seconded by Chris Myers, a motion was made to adopt a standing rule change proposed by Deen Kogan and Al Navis (03/13/03) as follows: Standing Rule VII, C: Modify #1 to read “The Conference Committee shall solicit nominations from (delete: its membership; new language: the mystery community at large) on the best in each category from the previous calendar year.”

Ayes: 0

Noes: Unanimous

The motion failed.

### **New Business**

An election was held for the member at large standing committee position for 2004-2006.

Liz DeVries: 70

Linda Sue Barnes: 10

Dina Willner called for a clarification and establishment of the Bouchercon trademark, the Anthony Award process and a Bouchercon website.

The chair created a subcommittee to recommend new procedures for the Anthony Award selection. The subcommittee will be chaired by Al Navis and its members include Linda Sue Barnes, Sally Fellows, Jan Burke and Rick Kovalcik.

Bill Gottfried proposed a change in the Bylaws to allow New Business to be voted on at the annual business meeting without being published to the membership prior to the meeting.

The chair suggested that in the future the Bouchercon business meeting be scheduled for a two hour session.

### **Adjournment**

The business meeting was adjourned at 9:00 a. m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gary Warren Niebuhr and Al Abramson, Secretary