

## CPAANT Minutes – August 2007

The Citizen Police Academy Alumni of North Texas met Saturday, August 4, 2007, in Burleson at the City Hall, 141 W. Renfro.

At 9 a.m. we were welcomed by Burleson's Chief of Police who had another commitment and wanted to spend a little time with us before he left. Since he will be unable to attend our Roundtable in October, he fielded questions from the group.

One big question regarded how an alumni association can gain the cooperation of its own police department. The Chief's suggestions were followed by a discussion that included ideas from representatives of other cities. This meeting broke up around 9:25 and the general membership was free to socialize and eat (the food was abundant and delicious!) while the board held its usual monthly meeting.

The general meeting was called to order at 10:08 a.m. by our President, John Engels, and this was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the U.S. flag. After the group had been welcomed to Burleson, Officer Jerry Stringer introduced the day's speaker: Missy Johnson, Director of CASA of Johnson County.

CASA is the acronym for Court Appointed Special Advocate. CASAs are volunteers appointed by a judge on a one to one basis. After a child has been removed from a home, the CASA becomes the one constant in the child's life. There are 67 CASA programs in Texas and 532 throughout the United States. They are always looking for volunteers and donations.

Following the program we took another social and food break and then reconvened at 11:01 a.m. when all attendees introduced themselves.

Old Business: Kathi and Tom Mulkerin and John and Cindy Engels drove to Comanche to help with their CPA program as planned.

The annual CPAANT picnic was June 23 in Ft. Worth and it was enjoyed by all who were there. Right now the hostess, Marge Carr, is in the hospital.

New Business: We need to be aware of any fellow members who are in need so that we can at least send cards to them. Today we shall circulate a card for Marge. A sheet of paper was circulated so that each of us could write a greeting to Marge; it was understood that Cindy would buy a card, enclose the greetings, and get it into the mail.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved (Mansfield moved, Ft. Worth seconded). North Richland Hills borrowed the treasurer's copy of the handout from the Waco meeting.

Copies of the Treasurer's Report had already been circulated and the report was approved as printed. (Moved by Mansfield, seconded by Burleson.)

State Convention: There were 400 attending this year; 700 people had paid dues last year. The 2008 event will be in Wichita Falls in an attempt to gain the interest of more North Texas people. The 2009 convention returns to the Galveston area, exact location to be determined.

Our official delegate President Engels is half-way through writing his 11-page trip report. This includes the eight (maximum number offered) meetings that he attended.

President Engels gave special recognition to Officer Jerry Stringer who received the Ray Ramone Officer of the Year award at the convention. We need to be aware that there are other awards available but nominations are required.

Chiefs Roundtable: Fifty invitations have gone out to Chiefs of Police inside and outside The Metroplex. We need more responses, and members are asked to prompt their own chiefs to reply. If a chief is unavailable, he may send a representative in his place. Written questions for the chiefs are to be submitted to the board (for approval) prior to the Roundtable in October in Weatherford.

More about the convention: James Long gave the official report on the convention and John Engels encouraged us to go to Wichita Falls next year. This year, other states represented at our convention included Oklahoma, Colorado, Florida, and Ohio. There was also a man from Ireland.

Next month's meeting: September 08, 2007, in North Richland Hills at the Recreation Center, 3720 NE Loop 820.

Reports from cities: National Night Out is next Tuesday. There should be new voting signs available at our next meeting. Weatherford is offering CD's/DVD's about Casino Night. Eules is getting a new red SUV donated by a Dodge dealer.

Lunch will be at Babe's. Generous door prizes were awarded.

Adjournment: moved by Watauga, seconded by Ft. Worth.

Respectfully Submitted,

Alice Isbell, Secretary