

**Kairos of South Carolina State Chapter Committee Meeting
Columbia, South Carolina
December 3-4, 2010**

Present 12/3: Mackie Manning, Jerry & Melveta Bode, Gail Randall, Rose & Ken Cannon, Melissa Walser, Steve Gordy, Joe Cavallaro, Jon Skytta, Billy Gaines, Jim Holly, Butler Gore Jr., John Williams, Emily Ghassemzadeh, Vikki Brogdon, Bert Webb, Dave Cunha, John Peden, Ed Hertwig, Gary Jeffords, and Bill Leidel.

The meeting was opened with a community song led by Ken Cannon and then a prayer by Mackie Manning. Introductions followed recognizing a number of new members/guests.

The meeting was held as an open forum with discussions on the following topics:

- Mackie spoke about problems concerning volunteers - incidents of cell phone possession, money deposited in Cooper accounts and inappropriate language contained in a letter sent to an inmate. Rather than discuss these incidents, Mackie suggested that the Advisory Councils retrain team members in appropriate behavior and suggested that the State Committee develop a procedure that will answer these types of problems in a timely manner so that the Institutional Wardens will realize that we are serious about addressing issues in a timely fashion.
- Mackie then opened the meeting to a general overview of the new Kairos (Red) Manual and the changes that will be effective the first of 2011.
 1. Handouts regarding daily itineraries were distributed.
 2. A revision in the number of inmates allowed to work during the Weekend was discussed. This revision has been changed back to the original.
 3. Critiquing all talks will now also include all meditation homilies.
 4. The Chaplain is to select all attendees to the Weekend. We felt that this will put a load on our Chaplains that they may not be able or willing to handle.
 5. The Chaplain is supposed to hold an "Orientation Talk", with the inmates, prior to the Weekend.
 6. Diversity of inmates at a table is strongly encouraged.
 7. For the sake of table dynamics, the new Manual suggests that neither inmate nor team member move from their original seats during the Weekend. Our experience of rotating team members has shown that this was effective in opening resident/team relations.
 8. Clergy can only be a person qualified to act under the protection of pastor/parishioner confidentiality privilege.
 9. Sponsor to sponsoree should always be in a 1 to 1 relationship.

Mackie asked that comments to these changes, and any other thoughts, be emailed to him and he will add his thoughts and forward them to Bill Rushing at KPML.

Present 12/4: Mackie Manning, Jerry & Melveta Bode, Gail Randall, Rose & Ken Cannon, Melissa Walser, Joe Cavallaro, Jon Skytta, Billy Gaines, Jim Holly, Butler Gore Jr., John Williams, Emily Ghassemzadeh, Bert Webb, Dave Cunha, John Peden, Gary Jeffords, Glenn Hesselbart, Lewis Warren, Thornton and Arlene Crouch, Ed Hertwig, Ginny Schroeder, and Bill Leidel.

Mackie Manning opened the meeting, at 9:15am. Jerry Bode then led us with prayer and a homily regarding trusting that God will direct us in all we do, through our new State leadership, new manuals, and new International bylaws.

Ken Cannon then led us in two familiar songs from the old Kairos songbook.

Mackie reviewed the discussion of last evening regarding the new Manual with its new model for the Weekends. He suggested we make a strong effort to follow this new model as closely as our Institutional rules allow.

Minutes were presented by email to all participants. A few copies were distributed. Recognizing no changes being needed the minutes were then accepted as presented.

Treasurer's Report

Lew Warren discussed our financial status at this time. Since we have been working to keep Weekend expenses down and donations have increased, we are presently looking at a healthy balance of \$148,350 in our State account. There are a few outstanding expense reports that haven't been forwarded to him which may impact the balance negatively. Lew then showed his report to those who wanted to see how their respective teams have done over the year of 2010.

International Committee Representative's Report

Jerry Bode noted that a motion was made, at the International Conference, to make the Excellence Initiative (Observer Program) mandatory and to develop a plan to implement it. Jerry noted that the costs to KPMI regarding auditing are very high partially due to a lack of communication, bank reconciliations not being completed, and receipt logs not following auditing rules with two signatures which causes additional time and cost to follow-up. Jerry said that he found the subcommittee meetings, at the Summer Conference, interesting. Some of the early manuals are being printed without an Index. This will be rectified with a mailing within the next couple of months. Jerry said that over 200 suggestions came in to KPMI regarding corrections in the new Manual.

Committee Reports:

Agape Report

Ginny Schroeder reported that she and Susan Creech have found their work a pleasure. The workload raises and lowers as the Weekend seasons come and go but that she hopes to be able to maintain a good working relationship with each of the Institutional teams.

Supply Coordinator

Thorton Crouch has offered to order Manuals for the teams and have them drop shipped to their respective team coordinators. Jerry Bode set out Spring Weekend supplies for some of the early Weekends and will complete this distribution at the January meeting.

Training Report

Bert Webb reported that we had a good attendance at the July training session. The next session will be held on January 30, 2011 for Inside and Kitchen Coordinators, Lay Leaders, and would like to see A/C Chairs. AKT (Advanced Kairos Training) dates are on the KPMI website. Bert suggested that payments for AKT volunteers should come through the State Financial Secretary in order to eliminate the KPMI 15% surcharge levied on the State holding the training function (State-to-State money flow is exempt).

Music Coordinator Report

Ken Cannon stated that all listed music (over 400 songs) is on the McCormick website. There is also a .PDF format of the listed music on the SC website for downloading. If anyone has a song that they would like to use and can't find on the website, they should contact Ken Cannon for follow-up. Ken also noted that he has scores for most requested songs.

By-Laws Report

No report at this time.

Observer Program Report

Steve Gordy reported that he has received some, but not all, the observer reports and that he appreciates the effort the teams are giving to getting this procedure in place. Steve has made a CD that he has turned over to Mackie, and will be stepping down from these responsibilities.

Trailer Coordinator Report

Billy Gaines has been contacted by a person that has an 8' X 14' trailer available for \$2000. Even though the trailer is slightly shorter than the others, the price is good and two of the teams have asked for private trailers due to their respective distances from the trailers they presently borrow. Billy noted that it costs approx. \$5000 to outfit a trailer and he asked that when a team uses a borrowed trailer that they turn it over to the next team in a clean and supplied condition (as they hopefully have received it).

Food Coordinator Report

Melissa Walser noted that the Fall Kitchen Coordinators have done a wonderful job in keeping costs down. The costs to run the kitchen are now running 40% of the Weekend costs versus 53% in past years. On average, a six-table Weekend is running \$2500 for the kitchen. Melissa suggested we reduce the amount of snacks we have between meals so inmates aren't stuffed when it comes time for the meals. Weekend Kitchen Reports need to be sent to Melissa and to the A/C Chair for future reference.

Clergy Oversight Report

No report at this time.

Database Report

No report at this time.

Institutional Reports:

Allendale

Gary Jeffords said that Allendale #8 closed with 37 residents receiving their crosses. Gary presented Dave Post, Michael Coyne and Frank Amisano as future Lay Leaders. They were accepted and approved with prayer.

Broad River

Lew Warren said that BR #28 was very well attended with 42 residents receiving their crosses. Open mic comments were well received. Lew made changes to the Lay Leader schedule and presented Henry Wall for a future Lay Leader position. He was accepted and approved with prayer.

Camille Griffin Graham

Emily Ghassemzadeh (for Gwen Gibson) said that 42 residents attended the Fall Weekend. They attended the State training for A/Cs and are working hard to be in compliance with the Kairos model. They have started their Spring Weekend team meetings using the "Red" Manual. At Reunions, CGG has changed to healthy smaller meals (mainly salads) and have found acceptance all the way around.

Evans

Jon Skytta said that 36 residents attended the Fall Weekend and received their crosses. A/C elections were held and positions appointed. Jon introduced Rodney Ranck for the Fall 2011 Lay Leader position. He was accepted and approved with prayer.

Kershaw

Butler Gore Jr. noted that Calvin Newman had an industrial accident and has been in intensive care for the past four weeks. Butler led us all in prayer for Calvin's recovery. Kershaw had 36 residents attend the Fall Weekend and receive their crosses. A/C elections were held and positions filled.

Leath

Rose Cannon reported that their Fall Weekend had 18 residents and all completed the Weekend. Mackie suggested that the State Chair should be involved in serious team conflicts and that the A/C should use this person's assistance to help mend problems. Leath's Reunions will change to early afternoon hours on Saturdays starting in January 2011. This change will allow residents to have their brunch before Reunions (eliminating cost burden from team), will eliminate pill line calls, and will eliminate the late morning count interruption. A/C elections are in progress and some of the positions filled.

Lee

Glenn Hesselbart reported that they had 36 residents at the Fall 2010 Weekend. Their A/C is meeting on the 11th of December to hold their elections and position members on the board.

Leiber

Billy Gaines reported that the Fall Weekend had 36 residents. The prison was locked down and the team was only able to start the Weekend on Friday late morning. Everything ran smoothly, even with this interruption, and cookies were handed out on Friday and Saturday evenings. Billy introduced Dave Cunha, who also was at the State meeting, for a future Lay Leader position. He was accepted and approved with prayer.

McCormick

Jim Holly said that 34 residents went through the Fall Weekend. They lost the Thursday due to lockdown problems. During their 2-day Retreat, the team had to meet in two different places due to movement and availability caused by the formation of a Faith Based Dorm. The A/C is holding elections with two candidates available for each of the positions that are open.

Perry

John Peden reported that there were 29 residents at the Fall Weekend closing. The Weekend went smoothly and almost all residents accepted their crosses. The A/C elections have been held and positions filled.

Tyger River

Bert Webb noted that 30 residents went through the Fall Weekend with all receiving their crosses. Bert introduced David Shaub and Gus Walser for future Lay Leader positions. They were accepted and approved with prayer.

Kairos Outside

Gail Randall reported that they held their first Weekend at Camp Nazarene with 15 guests of the 20 that signed up. Costs were considerably reduced by changing the location. KO expressed their thanks to the teams that provided agape for their Weekend. This Weekend served guests who had loved ones in ten different Institutions in South Carolina. A/C has held elections but still has two positions open. KO's fund raiser is set for February with information coming via email.

Ridgeland

Joe Cavallaro reported that 24 residents went through the Weekend. There was a mix of those of other faiths and two wiccans have stated that they want to convert to Christianity. Approx. 150 showed up for the closing. The team is looking for supplies and would appreciate any help that is offered. Recruiting of clergy is going well. The team is planning on A/C elections. Ridgeland found that having Closing guests come in as a group (not staggered) and then leave as a group before the resident guests are released kept all things in order.

As a change to “normal procedure”, all suggested future lay leaders were prayed for and accepted as a group at the end of the Institutional Reports.

Old Business

There was no old business at this time.

New Business

- After reviewing a discussion held last night about problems concerning volunteers - incidents of cell phone possession, money deposited in Cooper accounts and inappropriate language contained in a letter sent to an inmate, Mackie suggested that the Advisory Councils retrain team members in appropriate behavior and suggested that the State Committee develop a procedure that will answer these types of problems in a timely manner so that the Institutional Wardens will realize that we are serious about addressing issues in a timely fashion.
- Bill Leidel reported on the newly revised Policies for Kairos Clergy in South Carolina. The main thrust of the revisions involved changing the “waiving of confidentiality privilege” from the clergy to the inmate. This had been wrongly reversed in the original document in 2004. There were other wording changes that made the document more easily understood. A motion was made and seconded to place the new document into the South Carolina Kairos State Committee Procedures. The motion passed unanimously. *A copy of the new document is attached.*
- Mackie reported that the October AKT, held on the East Coast of South Carolina, was well attended with 21 Kairos Inside and 18 Kairos Outside attendees. We had two “no-shows” from SC who never notified us of their change of intention. Mackie suggested we hold additional AKTs in the future, but make sure to get everyone to send in their registration monies before the Weekend.
- John Williams spoke about a fund raising idea that Kairos Outside uses effectively. They sell meal tickets (\$5 each) to cover the cost of an inmates meal. A note is placed at the inmate’s spot which tells the name of the donor and a short message of hope and love. John has a template for the tickets and can send them by email to anyone interested.
Joe Cavalarro then mentioned that his church’s youth group was selling cookie dough for \$10. Joe asked them to turn the dough into cookies and was able to add a decent amount of cookies to the nightly cookie distribution program.
- Lew Warren made a motion to have Billy Gaines evaluate and purchase a used 8’ X 14’ trailer at his discretion for \$2000 (see Trailer Coordinator report above). Billy will then set a committee to determine best use scenario for the trailer use. Bill Leidel seconded the motion, a discussion followed with various ideas regarding geography, Institutional supply needs, logistical issues, etc. and then passed unanimously. After the vote, it was determined that Billy Gaines, Emily Ghassemzadeh, Joe Cavalarro, and Jim Holly would serve on the committee.

- Nominations for State office were announced and nominations from the floor were opened. The nominations were:
 - Billy Gaines – Chair
 - John Peden – Vice Chair
 - Melveta Bode – Secretary
 - Bill Leidel – Financial SecretaryJohn Williams motioned that the nominations be closed and a vote take place to accept the slate as presented. Butler Gore Jr. seconded. The vote was unanimous.

Meeting was adjourned at 1:15pm with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Bill Leidel
Secretary

The next State Committee meeting will be held on January 29th. More information will follow.