



Mendel Alumni Association Board of Directors Meeting

August 8, 2023

MINUTES

President Tom Gavin and Chairman Bill Kushner Called the Meeting to Order at 7:06 PM

Rick Zarr, Craig Larsen, Mike Anthony, John Mikenis, David Milton, John Knoebel, Derek Lott, Dennis Heitzmann, Mike Dreznes, Pat Regan, Tom Gavin, Andy Youpel, Mike Foley, Rich Williams, and Bill Kushner were present.

Bob Fioretti, Ron Dubin, Eric Rouse, Gene Rouse, Kelvin Lovely, Curtis Rempson, John Wilson and John Franklin notified the Board that they would not be able to attend the meeting.

Ron Smith, (3rd Consecutive Miss With No Explanation) Nolan Lane, (2nd Consecutive Miss With No Explanation) Billy Hilbring, (2nd Consecutive Miss With No Explanation) David Ireland, (4th Consecutive Miss With No Explanation) and John Fanning, (2nd Consecutive Miss With No Explanation) were Missing With No Explanation.

Opening Prayer

Andy Youpel opened the meeting with a prayer asking for inspiration to allow us to have a productive meeting and to allow us to make good decisions.

Board of Directors Rotation Voting/Induction Bill Kushner

Per Article 5 Section E of the Mendel Alumni Association Articles of Association, eight Board Members rotate off the Board each year. The Board Members whose terms ended on July 31, 2023 include Larry Bliss ('61), Jamie Mayes ('78), Jim Weber ('71), Eric Rouse ('75), Gene Rouse ('72), Mike Foley ('71), Ron Dubin ('63) and John Knoebel ('75). In addition, John Quattrocki ('71) resigned from the Board, and Danny Randall ('82) was asked to leave the Board for missing three consecutive meetings with no explanation.

Eric Rouse ('75), Gene Rouse ('72), Mike Foley ('71), Ron Dubin ('63) and John Knoebel ('75) asked to have their terms extended for three more years.

Five new candidates, Mike Anthony ('68), Rick Zarr ('71), David Milton ('78), John Mikenis ('73) and Craig Larson ('68) introduced themselves to the Board.

Bill Kushner made a motion to induct Eric Rouse ('75), Gene Rouse ('72), Mike Foley ('71), Ron Dubin ('63), John Knoebel ('75), David Milton ('78), John Mikenis ('73) and Craig Larson ('68) for three-year terms from August 1, 2023 to July 31, 2026. In addition, he proposed that Mike Anthony ('68) be inducted for a two-year term from August 1, 2023 to July 31, 2025 and that Rick Zarr ('71) be inducted for a one-year term from August 1, 2023 to July 31, 2024. Pat Regan seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously. All ten Directors were congratulated and welcomed to the Mendel Alumni Association Board of Directors.

Tom Gavin made a motion to have Mike Dreznes spend up to \$75 each for plaques for Larry Bliss, Jamie Mayes, and Jim Weber to thank them for completing their service. Bill Kushner seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously. **UPDATE: Mike Dreznes ordered plaques.**

Minutes from June 21, 2023 BOD ZOOM Call Meeting Mike Dreznes

Bill Kushner presented the Minutes from the June 21, 2023 Board Meeting. No one had any questions or comments regarding the ZOOM Call Minutes.

Andy Youpel made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted. Pat Regan seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: Finance Committee Pat Regan

Pat Regan announced that even though the initial Golf Outing date of 7/12/2023 was rained out, we still had very good results. We initially had 100 paid golfers. Unfortunately, most out-of-towners requested refund that totaled 20 for \$2,900. In addition, 7 paid golfers (\$1,050) requested a rollover to next year's Golf Outing. We netted 71 paid golfers and 7 paid dinners. However, from strong Hole Sponsorship, Donations and Split the Pot proceeds, plus the significantly lower costs paid to Hickory Hills made this year's results much better than previous years' outings. Not included in these figures, we also sold \$375 of Hats and T-shirts.

Golf Outing Analysis									
		Golf/Dinner	Sponsors	Donations	Cash Only	Silent	2023	2022	
	#	\$	#	\$	#	\$	Totals	Totals	
Revenue:									
Golf & Dinner									
Paid	98	14,671.00							
Refund	(20)	(2,900.00)							
Rollovers to 2024	(7)	(1,050.00)							
Golf & Dinner Net	71	10,721.00							
Dinners Only Paid	7	350.00							
Total Revenue	78	11,071.00	24	2,700.00	14	2,050.00	710.00	11	895.00
							\$ 9.10	ea	
Costs:									
Golf Course (\$1k paid in 2022)		6,100.00						6,100.00	11,082.44
Golf Totes		2,182.80						2,182.80	877.40
Golf Balls		373.37						373.37	325.00
Prizes (\$500 paid in 2022)		227.26						227.26	150.00
Competition Cash Prizes		350.00						350.00	350.00
Tips		160.00						160.00	160.00
CC Charges	483.62	320.30	78.12	59.31				483.62	237.12
Sponsor Signs			264.61					264.61	170.00
Other Open Est		250.00						250.00	397.48
Total		9,963.73	342.73	59.31	-	-	25.89	-	10,391.66
Net		1,107.27	2,357.27	1,990.69	-	710.00	869.11	-	7,034.34
% Net to Revenue		10%	87%	97%	100%	97%	40%	22.4%	
% of total net		16%	34%	28%	10%	12%	100%		
Suggested Items for 2024:									
Remove Golf Totes	100	(2,182.80)							
Remove Golf Balls		(373.37)							
Add Polo Golf Shirts	100	2,530.50							
Net Change		(25.67)							
Assumed increase from HH at 10%		610.00							
Total Expected Change in costs At 72 Golfers		584.33							
Change in Net at 100 Golfers									
28 golfers increase at \$150 ea		1,120.00							

Pat Regan announced that the Alumni All Class Picnic was very successful. We sold 35 Hats for \$875 and 20 T-shirts for \$300 at the picnic.

Tom Gavin proposed that the Alumni Association make a \$1,000 deposit to reserve the Hickory Hills Golf Course for the 2024 Mendel Alumni Golf Outing. He said the event will be held on one of three dates in 2024, and that he will report the preferred date at the next Board Meeting. John Knoebel made a motion to approve Tom Gavin's suggestion. John Mikenis seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

ACTION ITEMS: Tom Gavin and Pat Regan to contact Hickory Hills Golf Course to negotiate the price for the 2024 Golf Outing by September 1, 2023. UPDATE: The cost for 2024 will be \$110 for dinner and golf. In 2023 the cost was \$100.

Chairman's Report- Hall of Fame Committee-Tom Gavin

Tom Gavin reported he has been in discussions with John Farris regarding the leadership of the Hall of Fame Committee since Ben McCall stepped down. He asked that any Board Member who was interested in serving on the Hall of Fame Committee contact him. He will report on the new leadership at the next Board of Directors Meeting.

ACTION ITEMS: All Board of Directors to solicit Alumni friends and relatives to ask if they want to serve on the Hall of Fame Committee.

Chairman's Report- Website Committee- Rick Zarr

POLICY STATEMENT FOR WEBSITE

Rick Zarr reported that the following verbiage will be added to the Mendelchs.org website:

The MendelCHS.org website is designed specifically for the use of the Mendel Alumni Association to inform Mendel Alumni of activities and news related to Mendel High School.

General Information: The information provided on this website is intended for general informational purposes only. It should not be considered as professional advice or a substitute for seeking professional guidance.

No Warranty: The Mendel Alumni Association makes no representation or warranty, express or implied, regarding the accuracy, completeness, reliability, or availability of the content on this site. The use of the information is at the user's own risk.

Not Financial, Legal, or Medical Advice: The content on this website does not constitute financial, legal, medical, or any other professional advice. Users should consult with the relevant professionals for specific advice related to their situation.

Third-Party Links: This website may contain links to third-party websites or content. These links are provided for convenience only, and the Mendel Alumni Association does not endorse, warrant, or assume liability for the content or practices of these third-party sites.

No Endorsement: The presence of any link or reference to a third-party website, product, or service does not imply an endorsement nor recommendation by the Mendel Alumni Association.

No Guarantee of Results: The Mendel Alumni Association does not guarantee any specific results or outcomes based on the use of its products, services, or information provided on this website.

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Indemnification: By using this website, users agree to indemnify and hold harmless the Mendel Alumni Association from any claims, damages, losses, or liabilities arising from their use of the site.

Governing Law: This disclaimer shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Illinois, and any disputes arising out of or in connection with this disclaimer shall be subject to the exclusive jurisdiction of the courts in Illinois.

The content on this website is produced by the Mendel Alumni Association and made public for its members. The content remains the property of the Mendel Alumni Association, and any third-party use or reproduction of this website without the expressed, written consent of the Mendel Alumni Association is prohibited.

UPDATE: The language has been added to the Mendelchs.org website.

SHOP MONARCHS DIRECTORY

John Mikenis ('73) had previously suggested that the Mendel Website include an "Alumni Product & Services" tab that Alumni could use to post a link to their product or service. The Board agreed that this would be a useful tool to help Alumni communicate with each other and grow their businesses.

Mike Dreznes showed a mockup of the concept, and he will work with John Dreznes to create the page on the Mendelchs.org website. This will only be offered to Mendel Alumni.

The website would list the Products and Services and show the Alumni person's name, email address, website (if applicable) and phone number. The Alumni Association WILL NOT endorse any Product nor Service. The following disclaimer will be prominently displayed on the SHOP MONARCHS DIRECTORY page:

Companies, Services or Retail Stores shown on the "SHOP MONARCHS DIRECTORY" website are either owned by or employ a Mendel High School Alumni. The contact shown for these organizations is the Mendel High School Alumni.

The information, content and materials provided on the "SHOP MONARCHS DIRECTORY" website are for general informational purposes only. Information on this website may not constitute the most up to date details.

The website includes links to third-party websites. Such links are for the convenience of the reader, user, or browser. The Mendel Alumni Association does not endorse, nor recommend the contents of these third-party sites.

ACTION ITEMS: Rick Zarr and Mike Dreznes to work with John Dreznes to create the SHOP MONARCHS DIRECTORY on the Website by September 15, 2023.

Rick Zarr encouraged all Board Members to contact Alumni friends and family members to get Mendel publications that can be scanned onto the Mendelchs.org website.

Chairman's Report-Membership Committee-Ron Dubin

Ron Dubin was unable to attend the meeting. Mike Dreznes emphasized again how critical it is to locate Email addresses for Alumni since much of the correspondence and promotional materials for Alumni Events are sent through email.

The Alumni Association has a potential audience of about 9,000 Alumni for our Events. However, we only have about 1,850 Email addresses. If we do not have their Email addresses, those Alumni will be unaware of the Events. All Board Members were encouraged to send Mike Dreznes email addresses for any Alumni friends and relatives. The goal is to have good email addresses for at least 50% of living Alumni.

Rich Williams has done an amazing job updating the Mendel Alumni Database for the classes from 1955 to 1964. Since the last Board Meeting, on June 20, 2023, Rich Williams has helped to find 219 more Deceased Monarchs and 34 more Email addresses for Alumni. Dennis Heitzmann asked Rich Williams how he found the missing Alumni. Rich uses Legacy.com, Classmates and Facebook.

MENDEL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP 6/20/2023					
CLASS	NAMES	DECEASED	LIVING	EMAIL ADDRESSES	%
1955	293	74	219	31	14.16%
1956	274	83	191	28	14.66%
1957	250	51	199	27	13.57%
1958	325	49	276	54	19.57%
1959	377	52	325	71	21.85%
1960	413	67	346	53	15.32%
1961	366	55	311	59	18.97%
1962	318	121	197	140	71.07%
1963	376	57	319	60	18.81%
1964	440	45	395	80	20.25%
1965	488	62	426	55	12.91%
1966	487	59	428	83	19.39%
1967	389	32	357	70	19.61%
1968	354	70	284	192	67.61%
1969	362	39	323	79	24.46%
1970	294	18	276	63	22.83%
1971	327	30	297	98	33.00%
1972	264	25	239	72	30.13%
1973	258	23	235	110	46.81%
1974	229	16	213	32	15.02%
1975	168	12	156	45	28.85%
1976	140	5	135	23	17.04%
1977	75	5	70	20	28.57%
1978	136	9	127	36	28.35%
1979	176	13	163	33	20.25%
1980	111	7	104	17	16.35%
1981	116	7	109	21	19.27%
1982	96	3	93	21	22.58%
1983	120	4	116	12	10.34%
1984	141	2	139	24	17.27%
1985	135	5	130	22	16.92%
1986	128	4	124	21	16.94%
1987	137	4	133	30	22.56%
1988	99	2	97	16	16.49%
1989 MDP	111	3	108	2	1.85%
1990 MDP	88	0	88	1	1.14%
1991 MDP	90	1	89	0	0.00%
UNK CLASS	61	1	60	13	21.67%
ALUMNI	9012	1115	7897	1814	22.97%
TEACHER	23	8	15	6	40.00%
TOTAL	9035	1123	7912	1820	23.00%

SINCE OUR LAST MEETING

219 More Deaths

34 More Emails

MENDEL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP 8/8/2023					
CLASS	NAMES	DECEASED	LIVING	EMAIL	%
1955	290	115	175	31	17.71%
1956	274	99	175	34	19.43%
1957	250	70	180	27	15.00%
1958	325	62	263	52	19.77%
1959	377	71	306	72	23.53%
1960	412	122	290	54	18.62%
1961	366	66	300	58	19.33%
1962	318	123	195	140	71.79%
1963	333	87	246	59	23.98%
1964	440	47	393	82	20.87%
1965	488	63	425	55	12.94%
1966	487	60	427	87	20.37%
1967	389	33	356	72	20.22%
1968	354	71	283	197	69.61%
1969	362	40	322	78	24.22%
1970	294	18	276	65	23.55%
1971	327	30	297	100	33.67%
1972	264	25	239	72	30.13%
1973	258	28	230	113	49.13%
1974	229	16	213	31	14.55%
1975	168	12	156	45	28.85%
1976	140	5	135	23	17.04%
1977	75	5	70	20	28.57%
1978	136	9	127	36	28.35%
1979	176	13	163	34	20.86%
1980	111	7	104	17	16.35%
1981	116	8	108	21	19.44%
1982	96	3	93	21	22.58%
1983	120	4	116	13	11.21%
1984	141	2	139	28	20.14%
1985	135	5	130	24	18.46%
1986	128	4	124	21	16.94%
1987	137	4	133	33	24.81%
1988	99	2	97	16	16.49%
1989 MDP	111	3	108	2	1.85%
1990 MDP	88	0	88	1	1.14%
1991 MDP	90	1	89	0	0.00%
UNK CLASS	61	1	60	13	21.67%
ALUMNI	8965	1334	7631	1847	24.20%
TEACHER	24	8	16	7	43.75%
TOTAL	8989	1342	7647	1854	24.24%

Mike Dreznes asked each Board of Director to be the Champion for his class. Mike Dreznes will send all Board of Directors the current database for Alumni. He asked that the BOD Members check the list and send Mike Dreznes any missing contact details that they may have for Classmates, Friends, and Relatives. This database is not for public disclosure.

ACTION ITEMS: Mike Dreznes to send Board of Director Members the All-Class database by August 15, 2023. All BOD Members are to review the Alumni Roster Database and try to locate as many missing Classmates as possible.

Chairman’s Report-Veterans Committee-Andy Youpel

Andy Youpel suggested that the November 11, 2023 Veterans Day Mass be on a smaller scale than 2022. The Mass could be at St. Rita or St. Cajetan or another church. He will work with his Committee and make a proposal at the next Board of Directors Meeting.

ACTION ITEMS: Andy Youpel to meet with the Veterans Committee to develop a proposal for the 2024 Veterans Day Mass. This proposal will be presented to the Board of Directors at the next Board Meeting.

Chairman's Report-Scholarship Committee-Ron Smith

Ron Smith was not at the Meeting. Mike Dreznes reported that the Scholarship Committee is trying to raise funds to pay for future Scholarships. A 50-50 Split the Pot Raffle was suggested. Pat Regan advised that this could be a viable option provided the Raffle was a part of a planned activity such as a Golf Outing or an All-Class Reunion and that donations only be accepted from Mendel Alumni.

Craig Larsen mentioned that he had coordinated fundraising activities on his farm in Georgia. He asked to be added to the Scholarship Committee.

The Board discussed the merits of creating a separate 501c3 Organization to solicit scholarship funds. This was deemed to be complicated and too difficult. Mike Foley was to present the process at the Next Board Meeting. However, the Board understood that it would be preferable to stay as a 501c7. The preference would be to solicit Alumni directly for donations to the Mendel Alumni Association Legacy Scholarship Fund

UPDATE: Mike Dreznes met with John Dreznes to discuss the feasibility of the All-Class Reunion 50-50 Split the Pot Raffle being conducted through the Mendelchs.org website. John said it would not be difficult to set up online. However, it would require some manual labor to develop the raffle drawing mechanism.

ACTION ITEMS: The Scholarship Committee to prepare a proposal for a 50-50 Split the Pot Raffle to present to the Board of Directors at the next Board Meeting. Members were asked to send Ron Smith suggestions for the Mendel Alumni Legacy Scholarship Fund Raising.

OLD BUSINESS

2023 All-Class Picnic on June 24, 2023

Derek Lott reported that the Mendel All-Class Picnic was very successful. Pat Regan complimented Derek and his Committee on the picnic.

Derek Lott said the picnic revenue covered the expenses and the Picnic Committee would not be asking the Mendel Alumni Association Board for any additional funds.

Mendel Morning of Reflection Retreat and Rededication of Mendel Hall

Mike Dreznes reported that only four Alumni signed up for the Mendel Morning of Reflection Retreat and Rededication of Mendel Hall. For this reason, the Event was postponed and will be rescheduled at a later date.

Andy Youpel reported that he is working with St. Rita to reestablish Mendel Hall at St Rita. However, the Hall will now be named the Mendel Hall of Science. The Hall would include Mendel trophies, a photo of the fifteen Monarchs killed in Vietnam, a portrait of Gregor Mendel, and a history of Gregor Mendel plus a history of Mendel High School.



Mendel Catholic High School, the home of the Mendel Monarchs from 1951 to 1988, was established by The Augustinians of the Midwest in cooperation with the Chicago Archdiocese.

Fr. John Seary, O.S.A. led the installation of Mendel on Chicago's Southside blue collar community of Roseland at 111th and Martin Luther King Drive at the retired Pullman Truck facilities.

Mendel was known as "The high school with a college campus." In fact, Mendel was a college prep school. The school prepared the all-male student body for their futures by demanding discipline and their best efforts in academics, sports, and activities.

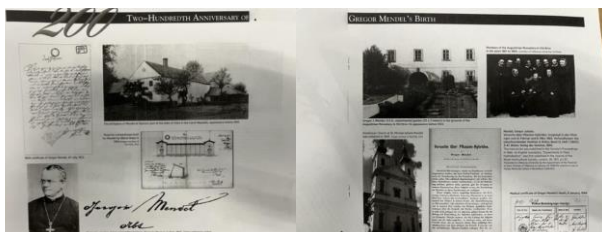
Since the first graduating class of 1955 to the last graduating class of 1988, Mendel sent over 92% of its graduates on to promising college, and military careers. This is consistently ranks among the many outstanding accomplishments Mendel Catholic High School achieved. Mendel in 1979 was ranked as one of the Top Ten high schools in America by a noted education periodical. Mendel graduates have gone on to excel in all professional areas such as medicine, law, business, law enforcement and politics, just to name a few.

The confidence was planted in every student that if you are willing to work hard for a goal and not give up, you can achieve it. Loyalty to your classmates, team and the school was the order of the day. "Mendel Men are Gentlemen" was more than a slogan. We are Brothers all!

From simple beginnings in 1951 to a robust program of academic and athletic excellence, Mendel was an experience that enriched its students and Mendel's impact on Chicago's Roseland/West Pullman community, the city of Chicago, the state of Illinois, and the United States of America.

Mendel's 37 year history is short but legendary. Its influence is still felt today, and the foundation is committed to building Mendel's legacy for years to come.

The mission of the Mendel Alumni Association is to honor the Alumni, teachers, coaches, and Augustinian Fathers of Chicago's Mendel Catholic Prep High School (1951-1988) by harnessing the intellectual and financial powers of Mendel Alumni to pass the legacy of Mendel to the children and grandchildren of Mendel alumni. The Mendel Alumni Association also seeks to provide financial support to retired Augustinian Priests and Brothers.



St Rita wants to dedicate the Mendel Hall of Science with a Mass attended by all St. Rita Students and invited guests from the Mendel Alumni Association sometime in October.

Dennis Heitzmann suggested that a PowerPoint presentation on the Mendel Hall of Fame Members be made so it could be displayed in the Mendel Hall of Science. Andy Youpel said St. Rita has something similar for their Hall of Fame Members. Andy Youpel asked for help to prepare this PowerPoint presentation. Possibly someone in the Hall of Fame Committee could develop this presentation.

Mike Anthony made a motion to allow Andy Youpel to spend up to \$1,200 to get the Mendel items displayed in the Mendel Hall of Science. Pat Regan seconded the motion, and the motion was carried unanimously.

Andy Youpel proposed that the Mendel Alumni Association create a Mendel Alumni Association STEM Award that would be given to a St. Rita student regardless of his class. Andy proposed a \$200 Stipend for the Award. The Board suggested that Andy discuss this concept with Fr. Tom McCarthy, and, if accepted by St. Rita, ask the Mendel Alumni Association Board of Directors for approval at the next Board Meeting.

Northwest Indiana “R-O-M-E-O” Update

Andy Youpel reported that the next R-O-M-E-O (Random Old Monarchs Eating Out) Event will be at JJ Kelley’s Restaurant and Pub located at 2455 Bernice Road in Lansing Illinois. Terry Lynch (’66) will be hosting this Event.

Mike Dreznes and Andy Youpel will meet with Terry Lynch on Monday August 14, 2023 at JJ Kelley’s Restaurant and Pub to finalize the date. It is expected that the date will be a weekday in September or October. All Board of Director Members are encouraged to attend this R.O.M.E.O. Event.

Class of 1973 Fiftieth Reunion on Thursday August 3, 2023

On Thursday August 3, 2023, five members of the Class of 1973 celebrated their 50th Anniversary at Two Brothers Roundhouse Brewery in Aurora, Illinois. Art Santoyo (’73) and the other organizers were disappointed in the turnout but said that everyone who attended had a good time.

The 1973 Class will use this Event as a starting point to launch the 1973 Class involvement at the All-Class Reunion in 2024, at which their 1973 Class and the 1974 Class will be honored for their 50th Anniversary.

2024 All-Class Reunion Discussion

Mike Dreznes presented proposals from Hickory Hills Golf Course and Gaelic Park for an All-Class Reunion on May 3, 2024..



	MENDEL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION ALL-CLASS REUNION 2024					
	400 GUESTS		400 GUESTS		400 GUESTS	
	GAELIC PARK	CHICKEN VESUVIO	GAELIC PARK	FAMILY STYLE	HICKORY HILLS	FAMILY STYLE
DINNER	\$28.95	\$11,580.00	\$30.95	\$12,380.00	\$34.00	\$13,600.00
OPEN BAR	\$16.00	\$6,400.00	\$16.00	\$6,400.00	\$16.00	\$6,400.00
TAXES (10%)	10%	\$1,798.00	10%	\$1,878.00	10%	\$2,000.00
SERVICE (20%)	20%		20%	\$3,756.00	20%	\$4,000.00
SECURITY	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$250.00	\$250.00
TOTAL		\$19,778.00		\$24,414.00		\$26,250.00
TOTAL PER PERSON		\$49.45		\$61.04		\$65.63

* TOTAL COST FOR DINNER AND DRINKS AT HICKORY HILLS IS \$50
2 HOURS OPEN BAR AT GAELIC/ 4 HOURS OPEN BAR AT HICKORY

Gaelic Park has done a nice job in the past for the Mendel Alumni Association. The major differences in the pricing were the mandatory 20% service fee at Hickory Hills and Hickory Hills' reluctance to reduce their total cost by more than \$200 when the four-hour open bar was reduced to two and a half hours.

The Board agreed that the proposal from Gaelic Park for Friday May 3, 2024 was the preferred option. The decision was made to formally accept the Gaelic Park option once the 2024 Alumni Golf Outing at Hickory Hills Golf Course was finalized. This is expected to be finalized by September 1, 2023.

ACTION ITEMS: BOD Members are encouraged to solicit volunteers for the 2024 All-Class Reunion Planning Committee.

NEXT MEETING

The next BOD ZOOM meeting will be held on Tuesday September 12, 2023 at 7 PM Chicago time.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned at 8:45 PM