

PVREA Minutes
February 1, 2012

President Guy Roggenkamp called the meeting to order at 2:05 p.m. We all stood to recite the Pledge of Allegiance followed by Christy Hewitt reading the Statement of Purpose of PVREA. The officers were introduced: Guy, President, Martha McGahan, Vice President, Linda Dahlstrom, Secretary, and Marlin Sekutera, Treasurer in absentia. There were 41 members and one guest in attendance.

Our speaker was Vi Wray, formerly of Grand Island Public Schools, who told us of her experience as an exchange teacher in Australia in 1992. Her assignment was teaching fifth graders in Canberra, the capital city. She lived in the exchange teacher's own house and was greeted at the airport by the exchange teacher's parents. The food, language, and history of Australia took some getting used to. Even driving on the left side of the road was a challenge!

The schools there do not use reading textbooks, so Vi developed her own reading program, which incorporated art and plays. She also taught her students Physical Education, which they soon learned to love. When she taught U.S. history, the students dressed as the famous American they researched and presented quite a memorable program.

The two-week breaks from school allowed Vi to travel around the country. She learned about Australian plants and animals firsthand. The best part was spending time with the local people. She showed us a boomerang and several scrapbooks from her time spent as an exchange teacher in Australia 20 years ago.

The minutes were read and approved. The treasurer's report, showing a balance of \$2677.18, was read and approved.

NSEA-R rep, Jan Barnason, reminded us about Lobby Day on February 7 in Lincoln. Also, the Inter-Generational Mentoring training is February 10-11 in Lincoln. The Spring Conference is in Omaha Thursday, April 19.

Guy encouraged all WWII veterans to sign up for the next two Honor Flights held in May, 2012. He also reported on the legislative dinner he had with Senator Mike Gloor in Lincoln recently. Senator Gloor suggested any constituent who wants his/her email to stand out to him, should include an eye-catching subject line.

SEAN Outreach to Teach was a success on a cold Saturday last November. A large group of college SEAN members, plus several retired PVREA and NSEA members worked at Howard School in Grand Island preparing the new annex for the Kindergarten students move there. Also landscaping and general cleanup was helpful to the school's overall maintenance.

Guy reported that ELDA testing is March 21, 22, and 23 this year. Contact Kris Burling at 385-5900 to sign up for one of the training sessions March 12 (1:00-2:30 p.m.) or March 16 (8:30 -10:00 a.m.).

PVREA elections will be held at the May 2 meeting. Nominations are being taken now for the positions of vice president and treasurer.

Christy Hewitt reported on the upcoming Relay for Life fundraising dinner on February 10, 2012. She also sold raffle tickets at her table.

The refreshment committee was thanked. Also, every member chose a door prize.

Next meeting is May 2, 2012. Meeting was adjourned at 3:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Dahlstrom, Secretary