

July 7, 2007

Texas Bay Area Polios Survivors Monthly Meeting
La Porte Library

Hello, polio survivors!

To those of you unable to attend, this newsletter is provided to share the information discussed at the monthly meetings.

John Hartman and Doris Scarborough, co-chairs, opened the meeting with the introduction of Heather Wooten, author of an upcoming book chronicling polio in Texas. Heather is attending our meetings on occasion to gain more insight into polio survivors' history and current challenges. If a bit of our stories can provide knowledge to others, we have done our part to help others understand the impact polio has on our lives, and the lives of those closest to us through the years.

The upcoming Texas Polio Survivors Association (TPSA) General Meeting was discussed, with clarification of some of the guidelines for the election of officers during that meeting. The July 29th meeting at the TIRR Challenge Center in Houston is the annual election meeting for officers, but any participant in the TBAPS group may attend (check the website for more details.) You do not have to be a member to attend the meeting, but you must be a current member to vote.

Since voting proxies had been received by some members of the group, discussion was held on the requirements to be a current active member in order to cast a vote. The guidelines state that at least one member from our support group is required for TPSA affiliation.

Some members expressed concern that they have not received notification of dues renewal for the current year, nor have they received newsletter mail-outs, and one member volunteered to address that issue. The newsletter has been a source of pertinent information regarding current post-polio concerns, and has been shared in the past with our new or visiting group attendees to help share this information.

Discussion was held on the question of how the dues fees are utilized. Currently, it is understood that the assistance fund for polio survivors in need of financial assistance in specific capacities is one way in which membership dues are delegated. Also, the dues are applied to the costs of publishing and mailing a quarterly newsletter from the TPSA office, as well as costs of same for special mail-outs, including dues renewal notifications and special mailings such as the voting proxies.

It was also shared that dues go towards the salary of the secretary retained by TPSA to provide these mail-outs, as well as other general office duties.

Notation was also made that TPSA is a not-for-profit organization. The Texas Bay Area Polio Survivors group is a member of the Texas Polio Survivors Association.

Concluding our meeting was a brief discussion for upcoming meetings. The September meeting will be on the second Saturday of the month due to the Labor Day holiday. Plans are also underway for a picnic to be held for our October meeting.

As a reminder, if you have any information or pictures to post on our website (texasbayareapolio.org) contact our webmaster (feedback tab) and let him know.

Hope to see everyone next month. Enjoy our lazy summer days.

Carol

PS...thanks are extended to Howard for bringing the BBQ brisket, and to everyone who contributed food at our meeting. It was delicious!