



March Monthly Meeting

March 2, 2009 – GMU, Arlington Campus

Board Members Present (alphabetically): Stephen Anfield, Chris Casto, Melissa Coughlin, Mike Hanpeter, Anthony Jones, Chris Maurer, Bekah Meyerowitz, Lamont Rooker, Aaron Steffensmeier, and Mark Tallarico.

Schools Present (alphabetically): Alabama, Arizona State, Boston College, Boston University, Christopher Newport, Clemson, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Drexel, Duke, Elon, Florida State, Fordham, Georgetown, Hampden-Sydney, Maryland, Miami, Michigan, Notre Dame, Ohio State, Ohio University, Penn, Penn State, Pittsburgh, Rutgers, Seton Hall, Stanford, Tennessee, Tulane, Naval Academy, West Virginia, William & Mary, Wisconsin, Xavier, and Yale.

Meeting began 7:22PM

I. Attendees' Introductions and Sign-In

- a. Introductions – name, school and upcoming events.
- b. **Please be sure to post your event on your chapter page on the website by the 15th of every month. These are also visible on the Chapter Events Calendar of the homepage and some will be included in the monthly CAN Happenings e-newsletter.**

II. Organizational Status Report

a. RFP Update

- i. After a long, detailed process, The Exchange (1719 G Street, NW) was chosen as the CAN 2009 Softball sponsor bar. There will be a pre-season party on Saturday, March 7.
- ii. Q and A:
 1. What space will we have?
A: Portions of the outside patio space (20 x 200 ft), as well as adjacent indoor space; we also have access to their rooftop patio for small functions; have had past events that held up to 500 people.
 2. What about other sport leagues?
A: We'd have reserved space; they will work with our schedule (permits per night) to determine what space to set aside for us; on nights CAN doesn't have lots of games won't reserve a lot of space.
- iii. The owners are the direct points of contact and want to work with us to the best of their ability to make the partnership work – they will create a menu to our specifications; they will acquire game machines if we like (Big Buck Hunter, Golden Tee). They are also interested in developing relationships with the individual chapters to help with events, game watches, etc.
- iv. Mel asked everyone present to encourage their chapters to attend Saturday's Pre-Season Party and give the bar a chance the first month or so of the season. We know there have been issues in the past, but please be the example and make every effort to support the RFP Committee's decision.

b. Committee Chairs up for Appointment

- i. The Advisory Committee, Communications and Social Chairs are up for appointment. These are two-year term appointments, beginning on July 1. If interested in applying for any of these Chair positions, please visit: <http://www.dalum.org/content/Openings.aspx>. Candidates can submit applications through April 1. Interviews with the Board will take place shortly

after the April 1 deadline, with the Board submitting its decision to the Advisory Committee for consent approval no later than May 4.

III. Committee Updates

- a. Advisory Committee
 - i. There will be a meeting March 23 (location TBD) to allow all current and new AC chapter members to meet each other and the AC leadership, as well as allow the AC leadership to speak to committee expectations.
 - ii. If your chapter is not yet a part of the AC but would like to be, contact AJ via the website www.dcalum.org.
- b. Communications
 - i. After February's Monthly Meeting, the gathering at Liberty Tavern was quite successful. Participants were encouraged to gather there again after this meeting.
 - ii. An official CAN Facebook fan site went live today – please spread the word to all CAN participants on Facebook. The page was created in response to member suggestions for a central place for CAN participants to locate information about the organization on the social networking platform. The fan site will redirect fans to the CAN website for more information.
 - iii. The Communications Committee is working on other projects such as auditing the website.
- c. Community Service
 - i. The Anacostia clean-up is now scheduled for March 28, 9AM-Noon. More communications will be disseminated in the near future. Meeting participants were asked to spread the word to their chapters and teams as this is an opportunity to give back directly to the community in an area the organization uses.
 - ii. Other events that might be of interest to Chapters include:
 1. National Walk for Epilepsy – March 28
 2. Leukemia/Lymphoma event – 10K, 8 weeks of training.
 - iii. St. Baldrick's Foundation – (more information below).
 - iv. Hands-On-DC – April 25. It is a day of service to area schools, including painting classrooms and cleaning up courtyards. Stephen is working with them to create a CAN division to allow for inter-chapter competition and have all chapters at the same sites. If your chapter has participated in the past, do what you have always done and Stephen will take care of the rest.
 - v. Large CAN Community Service event – Stephen is planning an event involving local student artists as well as local professional artists to showcase their work and allow CAN participants to purchase. A venue is needed so if anyone has suggestions, please contact Stephen. He is currently working with the Duke Ellington School to identify potential artists and as a possible site.
 - vi. There is a CAN Community Service newsletter – if you would like to receive it, contact him from www.dcalum.org.
- d. Membership
 - i. Bekah is continuing to plan the Speaker Series and encourages suggestions of individuals that are capable of speaking to or about topics that have been highlighted as potential subject areas.
 - ii. New chapters – Lamont and Bekah have met with a number of chapters that have contacted CAN inquiring about becoming involved as well as assisting their chapter to grow in the area. Recently these chapters consist of Fordham and Hampden-Sydney. If you are alumni of either of these schools and would like to get involved, please contact Bekah from www.dcalum.org.
- e. Social
 - i. Pre-season softball party – It will take place on Saturday, March 7 at 8PM at The Exchange Saloon (G Street, NW). CAN will provide a few kegs (on a first come first served basis) and CAN specials will be in effect when the kegs run out (including \$8 pitchers of Bud Light, rail discounts and shot specials). Festivities begin at 8PM and run 'til closing time. This is an excellent chance to get your

team together before the season, reconnect with other teams, players and coaches. For more details and to RSVP, please go to <http://www.dcalum.org/event.aspx?id=125>.

- ii. Make-A-Wish Scavenger Hunt – postponed until the Fall (Make-A-Wish Foundation wanted to have a fall event), details to come.
- iii. Softball season Kickoff (Season Opener) party will be April 18. This will also be the end of season parties for Basketball and Volleyball.

f. Sports

i. Soccer

- 1. So far not a lot of applications have been received– only 18 (including those that have been approved by chapter presidents as well as those that haven't). As a result, the Sports Chair is considering postponing the deadline (March 6) or possibly canceling the season if necessary.
- 2. Andy Hyson, Soccer Commissioner is curious as to why teams are not as interested this year as they have been in the past – last year there were 12 teams in the 11s leagues, 18 or 20 in 7s league. Costs are higher than in other sports so perhaps that is a factor.
- 3. Fields – the ones used last year for the 7s league will not be used again, but the rest of the details are still being finalized.

ii. Softball

- 1. Applications continue to come in, currently about 63, with the application deadline being March 6. Once a chapter applies an email goes to the chapter President to approve, and once that's been done, another email is generated to the coach for payment. Attendees were asked to make sure their chapter's information is correct on their individual chapter pages on www.dcalum.org.
 - 2. What is the process for determining what teams will participate in the league? Priority is given to those teams that have been around for a while in good standing; then to teams who play other sports also in good standing; then new teams are evaluated. It's best for new teams to the league to have a roster of about 30 going into the season in order to be able to maintain a team throughout the season.
 - 3. A question was asked regarding whether or not any consideration was being given to dividing the league similarly to Major League Baseball with an American and National League. The Sports Chair and Commissioners are open to suggestions on how to expand, but they don't want to inhibit teams from playing opponents with which they've developed rivalries or have played for a number of years.
 - 4. Tournament dates are August 8, 9, and 15. All major dates are on the softball page on the website.
 - 5. Three weekend dates have been arranged for regular season games at Goddard (May 16, June 27 and July 18) where we will have a longer period of time during the day to allow for numerous games.
 - 6. This season the same rule will apply for weekend games – only 4-10 per team.
- iii. Volleyball – the season is going well; new location further out in VA working well; this weekend is the last of the regular season, with the Tournament starting next weekend.
 - iv. Basketball – there have been some glitches with games. The Commissioners and Assistant Sports Chair are currently working on securing the Comcast Center (UMD) for the final four.
 - v. Football commissioner position still open – if interested, apply on www.dcalum.org.

IV. Committee Highlight: Business Development

- a. Dan Nguyen, Chair, resigned last week due to time constraints.

- b. Lamont and Mark are going to take the Committee under their advisement for the foreseeable future. If people are interested in joining the committee, please contact them via the CAN website.
- c. Currently the Committee's focus will be on identifying sponsors for the softball tournament. They asked that everyone think of what we use (products and services) during the tournament and try to identify potential sponsors – whether monetary or in-kind (product, gift certificates, services, etc.).
- d. Dcalumnisports.com – they have been covering CAN basketball, taking pictures, keeping stats and posting them on their website along with write-ups. CAN Board members have met with them twice and are now considering a partnership (formal recognition as partners, sports coverage, joint advertising and sponsorship opportunities). The company would not be a competitor to CAN as their focus is solely on covering sports. While they have interfered with some basketball games (inserting themselves into games) at our private facilities, if they come out to softball games we'll have less control since public space. Meeting participants were made aware that they do not have to engage the company's representatives and if they have problems to let Maurer know directly.

V. New Business

- a. St. Baldrick's Foundation – raises money for children's cancer research. This event will be April 11 at 2PM at CCSP. People obtain pledges for them to shave their heads in solidarity with those who are going through cancer treatment. A CAN competition will be established to enable the school that raises the most money to receive a \$500 donation to their scholarship fund. If interested, get in touch with Brian Mano (WI) - st.baldricksdc@gmail.com.
- b. Team Coalition – works to promote positive fan behavior and sober driving. They are having a contest - <http://www.teamup2win.org/> - where you can win a trip to the Final Four!
- c. The Board is moving forward to trademark the phrase 'Capital Alumni Network'. Also trade-marking the CAN logo. We are thinking of having the organization name around the logo to ensure both remain ours.
- d. We have also bought the domain names – capitalalumninetwork.com, capitalalumninetwork.org, and capitalalumninetwork.net. The thought is to possibly use one of those sites in the future and redirect to the current site for consistency.

VI. Next Meeting:

Monday, April 6 – Highlighting Social Committee

This meeting is the same night as the NCAA Men's Basketball Championship game so the board is considering changing the date of the meeting or starting earlier to end in time to watch the game. The Board will make a decision and disseminate the updated information shortly.

Meeting adjourned 8:52PM

Respectfully submitted by Bekah Meyerowitz, CAN Secretary/Membership – 3/4/09

Motion to approve by Mark Tallarico, CAN Vice President – 3/5/09

Motion seconded by Chris Maurer, CAN Sports Chair – 3/5/09