

1973

April

28-29

LaCrosse

ANTIQUe TELEPHONE COLLECTORS ASSOCIATION  
MINUTES - ANNUAL MEETING  
La Crosse, Kansas - April 28th, 1973

The Annual Meeting of the Antique Telephone Collectors Association was held at LaCrosse, Kansas, April 28th, 1973. Members present were: Van Nortwick, Watts, Kroneberger, Farmer, Herwer, Sribniak, O'Connor, Murphy, Jones, Waldo, Fellers, Al Ellis, G. Esslinger, Ek, Shumaker, Stull, Ehly, Foster, Smith, and 6 guests.

President Merrill Humburg called the meeting to order. Mayor Roy Ehly gave the welcome. Minutes of the last meeting were read and approved as read. Treasurer's report included financial (copy enclosed) and membership, with remarks concerning other phases of the year's operation. In reporting the financial condition, mention was made that the growth of the membership would be a factor in the cash position and, that should memberships become static, the \$5.00 per member dues would probably not be sufficient to meet the growing cost in servicing the membership, as postage alone will amount to about \$2.00 per member.

Further discussion of the dues structure indicated a need to have funds available for purchase of record keeping facilities, such as letter file, binders, mimeograph and copy machines and other office equipment, supplies, and expenses. A portion of Article V of the By-Laws reads "Any person, organization or municipality in sympathy with the objectives of the Association shall be eligible for membership upon the payment of \$5.00 initiation fee and \$5.00 annual dues. A motion was made from the floor to amend the By-Laws (as provided and authorized by Article VIII) to read "Any person, organization, or municipality in sympathy with the objectives of the Association shall be eligible for membership upon the payment of \$5.00 initiation fee and \$10.00 annual dues", to become effective January 1st, 1974, and all dues to be due January 1st and delinquent after April 1st. The motion was seconded and passed.

Discussions and other reports indicate many ways of improvement that would be of benefit to members. Many good suggestions that will be of future concern were noted, and will be made use of. Alan Farmer reported that arrangements for the October meeting in Lincoln, Nebr., were about completed and was sure that members will be pleased with the facilities. More in later letters about this meeting. Consensus of opinion was that the 1974 fall meeting should be in California, if the members there so desire. Tom Herwer was commissioned to contact California members to determine their feeling in regards to hosting the meeting. Determination of place and dates should be made so that announcement can be made prior to or at the Lincoln meeting.

Directors Ehly and Watts terms expired with this meeting. President Humburg announced that the nominations for two directors were now in order. Alan Farmer and Roy Ehly were nominated - there being no other nominations, the motion was made that the secretary be instructed to cast a unanimous vote for Alan Farmer and Roy Ehly. The motion was seconded and passed. The 1973 spring business meeting was set for LaCrosse, Kansas, on April 20th, 1974. The motion was made and seconded and the meeting was adjourned.

The Board of Directors met following the membership meeting, and the following officers were elected: Merrill Humburg, President; Dan Foster, Vice-President; Clarence Smith, Secretary-Treasurer. Due to the late hour, the meeting adjourned until 10:00 a.m., April 29th, 1973. At that meeting, budget items were considered and authorization was given for the purchase of a letter file and other office requirements. A motion was made and seconded to pay the Secretary \$50.00 per month. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned.

More next month.

Clarence E. Smith, Sec-Tr.



### La Crosse To Remain Annual Site For Collectors . . .



THE THIRD ANNUAL ANTIQUE TELEPHONE COLLECTORS meeting which was held April 28 and 29 in La Crosse was termed as "the best yet". Shown in the top left picture is Merrill Humburg, president of the Telephone Collectors Association, who presided over the meeting and banquet which was held in the Corner Grill Saturday night. Photo on the top right shows C.A. Smith, La Crosse, secretary of the association, as he was presented an antique wall telephone from the association in appreciation of all the work he has done for the group. The presentation was made by Wayne Stull, Great Bend. Al Farmer, Lincoln, Nebr., who was

elected a director of the association is shown with some of the 145 phones he has in his collection. Shown with Farmer is Tom Herwer from California who flew in for the meeting. In the picture on the lower left is John L. Murphy, Gorham, who had one of the most decorative displays of wall phones and a large collection of insulators. Murphy is a telephone employee. Oral P. Watts, Coffeyville, one of the largest collectors, was also present for the meeting. The next meeting will be the fall meeting and will be held in Lincoln, Nebr., October 6 and 7.

News Photos



# Telephone Show Draws Large Crowd

Hundreds of Antique Telephones were on display the past weekend at the La Crosse City Auditorium as part of the Antique Telephone Collectors fourth annual meeting.

Along with the phones, switchboards, insulators and other related items were displayed by the collectors.

During the telephone collectors banquet Merrill Humburg was re-elected as President of the Telephone Collectors Association and C.A. Smith was re-elected as secretary.

An election was also held to fill the vacancy of two retiring directors, Oral Watts, and Roy Ehly. Roy Ehly was re-elected and Al Farmer of Lincoln, Nebr., was elected for two year terms.

Many collectors were on hand with large collections. Oral P. Watts, Coffeyville, drew a large crowd of observers again this year. He had planned to have a display on Main Street Friday for the Sidewalk Bazaar but was unable to do so as he is still partly incapacitated due to a broken leg. Watts is instrumental in helping the Telephone Antique Show get its start.

Dr. Francis X. Fellers, Cambridge, Mass., who flew in last year for the show, was present again this year. He drove through but due to the floods in Missouri had to detour quite a distance to get to La Crosse.

President, Merrill Humburg opened the business meeting at the Corner Grill, Saturday night, following the banquet for the collectors.

Roy Ehly, Mayor of La Crosse, gave the welcome address. Special recognition was given to Mrs. Barbara Grass and she

was commended for all the work she has done organizing the annual Telephone Collectors meetings.

C.A. Smith, secretary of the organization, gave the minutes of the past meeting and a yearly report. There are now 129 members in the Association. It was reported that the fall meeting will be held on October 6 and 7 in Lincoln, Nebr.

Wayne Stull, Great Bend, presented Smith with an Antique wall telephone in appreciation of all the work he has done for the association as well as other gifts.

Merv Srihbnak of Toronto, Canada, was present at the meeting and reported of a meeting to be held at Brandford, Canada, and invited everyone to come and attend this meeting. He suggested that he would like to see the United States group and the Caradian group hold a combined meeting on the 100th anniversary of the telephone and possibly mint a commemorative coin for the occasion.

The compiling of a swapping want list was also discussed.

The possibility of forming a Western chapter

and an Eastern chapter in order to keep the meeting centralized was also discussed. A committee was organized to study the regional formation of

chapters.

The annual spring meeting will again be held in La Crosse next year on the first weekend after Easter.