

(Annual Business Meeting, 2011 MLA, Seattle, Noon-1:30 pm--held at Blueacre Seafood, 7th & Olive)

Present: Betsy Sargent, Nancy Paxton, Holly Laird, Joyce Wexler, Julianne Newmark, Garry Watson

Chaired by Betsy Sargent, President (till January 1, 2013)

1. **Minutes** of last year's meeting have been online for one year
2. **Treasurer's report** for 2011 (Joyce Wexler)--final figures will be available shortly, but key news is--we're in the black after the Sydney conference (Final 2011 report will be posted online soon)
 - a. The DHLNA bank account has been changed from Wells Fargo to Bank of America to make transactions more convenient for Joyce
 - b. PayPal is working smoothly and is ready for the January renewal process
 - c. Dues paid through PayPal are much easier to process and track than dues paid by check.
 - d. Filing annual income tax will be as simple as an eCard since once again we have taken in less (much less!) than \$25,000 per year
3. **MLA 2013 in Boston**—(Holly Laird)
 - a. Topics agreed upon (see online at <http://dhlsna.com/Conferences.htm>--our guaranteed section will be decided by the topic that generates the most interest, draws the best and most proposals; Holly will submit session proposals to MLA. CFPs to be sent out to DHLNAlist and posted elsewhere.
 - b. We are proposing one additional section in collaboration with the Joyce Society--Heather Lusty has worked hard on this and will send out the CFP (also posted online as above)
 - c. Possible collaborations with other allied organizations are needed for additional sessions in the future--MLA will only consider a third DHL section each year if it is proposed in collaboration with another group
 - d. We can always use more volunteers to initiate/follow through on ideas for more such collaborations--please contact Heather Lusty or Holly Laird if you have some ideas.
 - e. We hope to schedule the business meeting and annual dinner in time to have day, time, and location noted in the MLA program (printed and online). Annual dinner will be Saturday evening as usual (Thursday is too early in the conference, Friday is the presidential address). Members familiar with Boston are encouraged to suggest possible restaurants.
 - f. **KEY POINT: many groups post a CFP in August for MLA 17 months away--we thus decided to suggest 2 possible topics for 2014 to post this coming August (giving scholars more lead time to propose and write papers):** DHL and Poetry (first choice--to coincide with release of CUP Poetry) & DHL and Science
4. **Update on website**--Tina Ferris sent via email (see attached Webmaster Report)
5. **Update on newsletter** (Julie Newmark--should the archive of past newsletters be public? also see #7)
6. **Ideas for increasing membership?** (Everyone!) Nanette Norris has volunteered to help seek out lost members to find out if they still want to belong. Erin Johns-Speese helped get all member names correlated with emails in the listserv.
7. **Listserv issues--b and c were unanimously approved by the whole Executive Committee in early February:**
 - a. **How should memorials be handled? Using the newsletter for memorial pieces is not timely and may not be the best way to attract members (we don't look like a healthy and growing organization).**
 - b. **The listserv should be used for timely and brief memorials that can then be posted permanently on our website on a page that Tina will develop, with links from the current memorial page.**
 - c. **While MLA simply posts a list of members lost during the year (names only), in each of our newsletters we'll post an alphabetical list of members lost since the previous newsletter, with a few sentences by each name to emphasize why that person was important to the DHLNA (with links to online memorials).**
8. **Next election** (fall 2012--revisions to By-Laws mean that Jill, Holly, and Betsy will work on nominations, but they will eagerly accept suggestions from any member--we have two members eager to help and eager to serve on the Executive Committee at this point; there will be three openings on the Executive next fall)
9. **Report on upcoming international DHL conference in Gargnano 2014**--Paul Poplawski, new executive committee member, said there's nothing to report at the moment. We have a large organizing committee in place with clear responsibilities for each person--this will help minimize the workload on any one person.
10. **Other business?** We discussed some ideas for reducing the workload of the President in the future.