

Arthur (Art) Newcomer, EDD, CAA - Kansas
1982-1995
NIAAA Secretary/Treasurer

Art was one of the fortunate persons Tom Frederick, Associate Director of the National Federation, called in January 1977 to ask to attend a meeting in Elgin, Illinois to formulate and develop plans for a National High School Athletic Administrators' Organization. During those meetings that winter and summer, the National Interscholastic Athletic Administrators' Association (NIAAA) was formed, a logo was selected, some By-Laws were written, and a slate of officers was selected for a national election to be held in Omaha, Nebraska, December, 1977.

Secretary/Treasurer Responsibility to Communicate with the State Athletic Directors Organizations

In the early years, we found the task trying to get organized very difficult. It was hard to know how to contact each of the state athletic directors' organizations. The presidents changed each year and we often called or wrote to the wrong individual who we thought was in charge of the athletic directors' organization.

Each year we had the task of balancing activities, finding persons to serve on national committees, and communicating with the states about who would rotate on the Board of Directors - as directed in Dallas, Texas in 1979. We came up with the idea of having one person with whom we could always communicate regarding NIAAA information in each state. We would call this person the NIAAA Liaison. That communication system has worked very well for our national organization over the years.

Policy Manual Developed

The Secretary/Treasurer had a lot of correspondence filling large notebooks and each officer had similar amounts of information and minutes in various places. We felt the need to develop a POP Manual to combine all of the information needed to run the organization on a year to year basis. An Ad Hoc Committee was formed and the task was completed. The POP Manual was approved by the Delegate Assembly, which helps run the organization much more efficiently.

Balancing and Recommending National Committee Members

Each February, one of the responsibilities of the Secretary/Treasurer was to recommend to the officers names of individuals to serve on the various national committees, to replace those who had served their term or had left the profession for some reason. We came up with the idea of a national pool of names from each of the eight sections. In the early nineties we began a concerted effort within the NIAAA leadership organization to make our committees more diversified.

New Committee Orientation

In 1995 we began having a meeting during the National Conference in December, specifically for new national committee members. We felt this would help give each of them a better understanding of NIAAA goals, objectives and history of the organization.

Future Financial Resources Secured

In the spring of 1999, Sister Lynn Winsor, Wayne Taylor, Frank Kovaleski and Art Newcomer formed an Ad Hoc Committee to develop plans for the establishment of an NIAAA Endowment Fund. The Endowment Fund was proposed to ensure the security of our national organization and to support the NIAAA goals and objectives in technology and educational athletic administration.