



POWER MEMORIAL ACADEMY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION, INC.

Cherokee Station | P O Box 20493 | New York, NY 10021-0068

Quarterly Newsletter -- January 2019

Quarterly PMAAA Board of Directors Meeting

The PMAAA Board of Directors held their first meeting of the new year on January 5th, 2019 at the St. Joseph's Residence located on the Iona College campus in New Rochelle, NY.

Among the many topics that were discussed, the Board reviewed the recent Hall of Fame and Reunion Dinner that took place on November 3rd, 2018. The consensus of the Board was the dinner was largely successful, both financially and with the overall satisfaction of the alumni. However, the Board is exploring new ideas to improve future dinners.

The newly formed Nominating Committee will be considering a candidate that was recently suggested to be a member of the PMAAA Board of Directors.

The Board debated additional methods to increase fund raising for the PMAAA Scholarship Fund. One of the several concepts that were discussed include the distribution of mailers to the Alumni requesting donations to the fund. After a lengthy discussion, it was decided to form a committee to come up with recommendations that will be discussed at the next Board meeting.

Treasurer Kevin Bollbach provided the following update on the financial status of the organization as of January 5th, 2019:

Checking:	\$ 22,417.00
Savings:	\$ 70,717.00
Total:	\$ 93,134.00

Next Board meeting is scheduled for February 2nd at 11 AM. The full meeting minutes may be found on the PMAAA website:

[https://www.powermemorialacademy.com/Documents/Minutes/PMAAA%20MEETING%20MINUTES%20_01-05-2019_FINAL%20\[1\].pdf](https://www.powermemorialacademy.com/Documents/Minutes/PMAAA%20MEETING%20MINUTES%20_01-05-2019_FINAL%20[1].pdf)

Alumni Celebrate at the 2018 PMAAA Hall of Fame Dinner

The 87th Anniversary PMAAA Hall of Fame and Reunion Dinner was held on November 3, 2018. The event was attended by over 160 alumni and guests. As in the previous two years, the dinner was hosted at the Immaculate Conception Center located in Douglaston, New York.

After the cocktail hour, President Chick Pisani welcomed the group to the dinner, then asked the group to stand for the *National Anthem* and the traditional singing of the *PMA Alma Mater*. Former faculty





member, Rev. Brother Lawrence Murphy offered the opening prayer and convocation.

President Pisani welcomed over forty members of the Class of 1968 who were celebrating their 50th anniversary since graduating from PMA. Many of the 1968 classmates that attended event hadn't seen each other since graduation. Several classmates caught up, reminisced and shared stories about the good times at Power. (See photo below.)



The evening was highlighted by the induction of this year's HOF members. The inductees include: Br. Arthur Loftus – Faculty and Varsity Baseball Coach, Andrew Altenburg - Class of '50, Mario Elie - Class of '81, Thomas Gorman - Class of '38, Richard Lombardi -- Class of '60, John Mulligan – Class of '39 and Faculty/Track Coach. (See the bios of the HOF Inductees on Page 5) Julio Alonso, Class of '73 was to be inducted into the HOF, unfortunately, Julio passed away shortly before the dinner. At the request of his family, he will be inducted posthumously at next year's event.

Robert Shearn, PMA Class of '35 was given special recognition as the oldest living PMA alumni. The award was accepted on behalf of Robert by his son Dan. According to Dan, his father's "eyes lit up" upon seeing the Certificate of Recognition that was provided by the PMAAA. He went on to say, "I cannot begin to express how much this means to him and to me!"

Regretfully, Robert passed away on January 27, 2019 a few days short of his 101st birthday. According to those who knew Robert, he was always proud to be a Power Man.



Robert Shearn (right) proudly displaying his plaque along with his son Dan.



Special recognition was also given to Jennifer V. Abelaj, Esq. of the law firm Davidoff Hutcher & Citron LLP. Jennifer generously provided pro bono legal advice to the Association over the past year.

The alumni and their guests thoroughly enjoyed the evening. The food and refreshments provided by the Immaculate Conception Center were both enjoyable and plentiful. A special thanks goes out to Jim Austin and his staff at the ICC for their part in making the evening successful.

The proceeds from the HOF dinner exceeded \$9,000.00 after covering the evening's expenses. This will benefit the scholarship fund.



Jennifer V. Abelaj is joined by President Chick Pisani (right) and Sean Crowley as she displays the special recognition plaque.



Milestone Anniversaries

The 2019 PMAAA Hall of Fame and Reunion Dinner, scheduled for November 2nd, 2019, will mark the milestone anniversaries for the following classes:

- Class of 1949 – 70 Years
- Class of 1959 – 60 Years
- Class of 1969 – 50 Years
- Class of 1979 – 40 Years
- Class of 1984 – 35 Years

Celebrating these anniversaries at the next HOF Dinner held at the Immaculate Conception Center located in Douglaston, NY is a perfect venue for the occasion. In recent years, both the Class of '66 and the Class of '68 effectively held their 50th Anniversary reunion as part of the annual HOF dinner at the Immaculate Conception Center. The Class of '68 successfully celebrated at the last HOF dinner with over 50 alumni and their family attending.

The PMAAA Board of Directors strongly encourages members of the classes that have upcoming milestone anniversaries to organize their fellow classmates to celebrate their anniversary. If you wish to volunteer to organize a reunion for your class, please contact Brian McCann @ brian.mccann@powermemorialacademy.com. The PMAAA Board can assist volunteers with alumni contact information, reserving tables and providing special recognition at the event.

In an effort to improve the PMAAA website, the Board is seeking volunteers with website design expertise to volunteer their time and knowledge to assist with this initiative. Please contact Rick Martin at: Rick.Martin@PowerMemorialAcademy.com



Alumni Spotlight

PMA Alumni Honored as Business Leader of the Year in Florida

PMA alumni Joseph Reilly was honored as the Business Leader of the Year by Florida's *Space Coast Magazine*. Joe, a member of PMA Class of '75, was awarded the Simpkins Entrepreneurial Award on December 5, 2018. He is the current owner of National Drug Screening Inc. which provides drug testing for companies that require testing of their employees. He has been in the drug testing industry for over twenty-five years and is regarded as an expert in the field, accordingly Joe is called upon to testify as an expert witness.

To read the article published in Space Coast Magazine please click on the link below:

<http://www.spacecoastbusiness.com/drug-testing-industry-veteran-celebrates-25-years-receives-simpkins-entrepreneurial-award/>



PMA Class of '75 Alumni Joseph Reilly displaying the Simpkins Entrepreneurial Award

Michael Slattery Retires after 30 Years with REBNY



Michael Slattery

Michael Slattery, a member of the PMA Class of '68, was recently honored by his friends and colleagues at the Real Estate Board of New York. Mike retired after 32 years with REBNY serving as a Senior Vice President for REBNY's research group. Many of New York's top real estate owners and executives, as well as a representative from the NYC Mayor's Office, gathered at Mike's retirement celebration which was held at Club 101 located at 101 Park Avenue, NY this past December. We all wish Mike the best of luck on his retirement.

NOTE: If you know of any stories of interest of our alumni or have any memories that you would like to share for future newsletters, please send to:

brian.mccann@powermemorialacademy.com

Class Captains Wanted

Class Captains play an important part in communicating with their classmates and getting the word out on various PMAAA events. Anyone who volunteers to be a Class Captain will be provided with contact information for their corresponding classmates.

Alumni who may be interested in volunteering to be a Class Captain, please contact Kevin McGeary at kevin.mcgeary@powermemorialacademy.com or Brian McCann at brian.mccann@powermemorialacademy.com



2018 PMAAA Hall of Fame Dinner (continued from page 1)

HOF Recipients Bios



Brother Arthur Loftus (posthumously)

Brother Arthur Loftus taught at Power Memorial Academy from 1933 to 1940. During that time Brother Loftus coached the varsity baseball team which captured the 1937 and 1939 CHSAA City Championships. He was also the coach of the 1939 Varsity championship team.

Brother Loftus was one of the nine Irish Christian Brothers who were faculty members of Iona College when the college opened its doors in 1940. In 1946, he became president of the college. He was instrumental in leading Iona's remarkable expansion during the middle of 20th century.

Brother Murphy accepted the HOF honors on behalf of Brother Loftus who passed away in 1979.

Thomas (Tom) Gorman (posthumously)

Brother Loftus coached Tom Gorman during the 1937 CHSAA city championship game against St. Augustine High School. Tom pitched a three hitter that day to beat St. Augustine's to win the City Championship. He went on to pitch for the New York Giants; however his career was interrupted by World War II.

After the breakout of the War, Tom enlisted in the United States Army. He served four years and was discharged in 1945 as a Staff Sergeant. He tried to resume his major league baseball career after the war, but injuries that he sustained while in the service took its toll. Tom's love for the game never diminished, however, and, at the encouragement of his wife Margaret, he decided to give umpiring a try. After many years of minor league



umpiring, Tom was promoted to the major leagues in 1951. After officiating 3,805 major league baseball games, Tom retired in 1976. He enjoyed a distinguished career umpiring in many notable games such as Don Larsen's perfect game in 1956, the first game played at Shea Stadium in 1964 (as the home plate umpire) and, in 1968, Tom called balls and strikes during Bob Gibson's record breaking 17 strike outs versus the Detroit Tigers in the World Series.

Tom's sons, Kevin and Thomas, accepted the honors on behalf of his father who passed away in 1986. Tom's other son, Brian, has continued the baseball tradition in the Gorman family serving as a major league baseball umpire to this day.

John P. Mulligan (posthumously)

A 1939 graduate of Power Memorial Academy, John P. Mulligan went on to join the faculty of PMA as a physical education teacher in 1956. Mr. Mulligan completed his college education at New York University after a stint in the United States Army Air Corp interrupted his studies.



Under Mr. Mulligan's leadership, PMA achieved many successes in New York City high school track. These achievements include, first place in the 1960 Penn Relays Distance Medley, and the CHSAA Varsity Cross Country City Championship in 1965 and 1966. Mr. Mulligan also coached some of Power's most successful track stars including Chancy Marsh, Joe Barbary, Kevin O'Brien, Peter and John Lovett, Mario Campo and Kevin O'Brien.



In 1967, Mr. Mulligan became the Chairman of PMA's Physical Education department and was instrumental in expanding the physical education programs at the school.

Mr. Mulligan was inducted into the CHSAA Hall of Fame in 1993.

Mr. Mulligan passed away in 1991. Accepting the HOF honors for Mr. Mulligan, were his daughters Anne Mulligan Maistre and Elizabeth Mulligan.

Andrew Altenburg

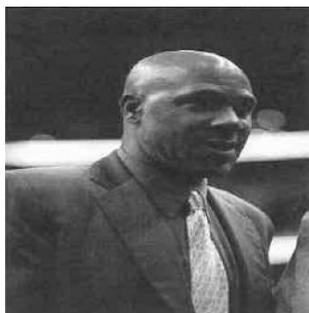
Andrew Altenburg is a successful businessman who attended Power Memorial Academy graduating in 1950. While at PMA he played on the varsity basketball team. Andy held the school's scoring record until it was broken by Lew Alcindor (Kareem Abdul-Jabbar) in the 1960s. He was awarded a full scholarship for basketball to the University of Connecticut. Unfortunately his college career was shortened by the Korean War serving in the United States Army. After the Army, he played semi-pro basketball for several minor league teams.



Along with his wife Barbara, they started a courier business with a mere \$5,000, known as DC Express. Andy grew that business into a multi-million dollar company employing over 85 workers with offices in most major cities around the country.

Andy always gave back to the community by building basketball and bocce courts for the neighborhood community. He was also the Baseball Commissioner for the local PAL baseball league and coached CYO basketball.

Mario A. Elie



Growing up in Manhattan, Mario Elie attended Power Memorial Academy from 1978 to 1981. While at Power he played alongside NBA Hall of Famer Chris Mullin and was coached by Steve Donohue. After PMA, Mario went to American International College in Springfield, MA.

Although he didn't enter the NBA directly out of college, Mario had a successful professional career playing in the Portuguese League, World Basketball League and the Continental Basketball Association. In 1990, Mario finally entered the National Basketball League playing for the Philadelphia 76ers and the Golden State Warriors. Mario won two NBA Championships with the Houston Rockets in 1994 and 1995, and one NBA Championship with the San Antonio Spurs in 1999. Mario has held coaching positions with several NBA teams including the San Antonio Spurs, Dallas Mavericks, Sacramento Kings, New Jersey Nets and the Orlando Magic.



Richard Lombardi

After graduating Power Memorial Academy in 1960, Rich signed with the United States Coast Guard. While in the Coast Guard he went on to become the Senior Weather Forecaster for the 3rd Coast Guard District. After leaving the USCG, Richard married his wife Elaine and moved to California. There he became the general manager for the Automatic Switch Company. Rich then became involved in the wholesale food business that supplied food to specialty stores such as Trader Joe’s.

His love of food eventually led Rich to open a critically acclaimed restaurant in 1995 which he operated until 2005. After retiring from the restaurant business he appeared in several celebrity cooking shows all over the United States.

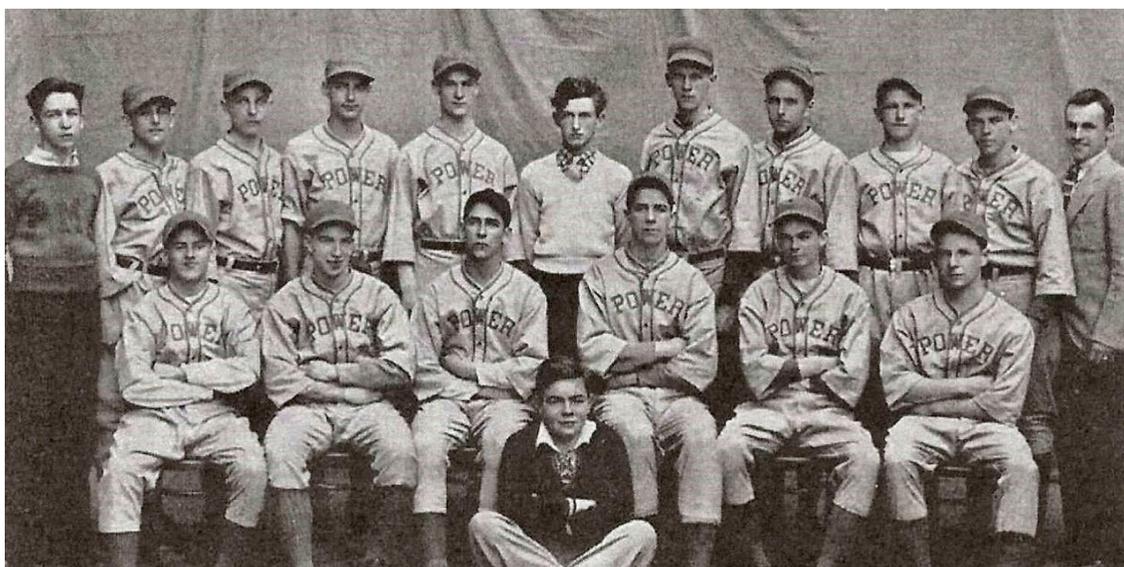
In 2009 Rich was diagnosed with Hodgkins Lymphoma. At that point he began to wonder if eating the right foods would help fight against his illness. He researched several major cancer organizations and discovered that all had guidelines for eating while fighting the disease. As a result of his research, Rich created a website to make this information available to anyone interested. The website Rich developed is called: www.cancerfightingchef.org.

As the website became more popular, Rich realized that a book on this topic would be the next logical step. He subsequently published his book, *The Cancer Fighting Cook* in October, 1967. The book was so successful that it will shortly have its second printing.

The 1937 and 1939 Varsity Baseball City Champions

The Power Memorial Academy varsity baseball squads for 1937 and 1939 captured the CHSAA New York City Championship. Both teams were managed by recently inducted HOF member Brother Arthur Loftus. The 1937 team starred another recent inductee, Tom Gorman, who pitched a three hitter in the championship game.

Below is a photograph of the 1937 championship team. Unfortunately, no photos were available for the 1939 squad since a yearbook was not published that year.



1937 Power Memorial Academy CHSAA City Champions

Standing (L to R): E. Cassidy, W. Tyson, J. Miggins, C. Squibb, E. Winn, P. Smith, T. Courtney, J. Finan, J. Maher, W. Conklin, J. Doheny; **Seated**: P. Cox, J. Hanley, E. Sullivan, T. Gorman, B. McKeever, W. Lysaght, J.Barrett



Annual Financial Data

The PMAAA Board of Directors committed to the alumni that all financial activities of the Association would be transparent. In keeping with that pledge, financial reports will be published on the PMAAA website and issued in the fourth quarter PMAAA Newsletter that is published in January of each year. You will find the most recent financial report starting on page 11.

Save the Date

Please save the date for the upcoming PMAAA activities:

- **Annual PMAAA Mass of Remembrance – March 9th, 2019**
- **St. Patrick's Day Parade – March 16th, 2019***
*Since St. Patrick's Day falls on a Sunday, the parade has been moved to Saturday, March 16th
- **Post Parade Party – March 16th, 2019 at Cathedral H.S. 350 E 56th St, NY**
- **Second Annual Alumni Mixer – TBA.**

Powerful Thoughts 2

by Dr. John R. Cleary, '57

In late 1983, I escorted my future (second) wife Stephanie to the Big Apple to delight in its Christmas festivities. We sauntered from Grand Central Terminal on 42nd Street to the derelict PMA building -- several months before it was to be demolished. I schmoozed the security guard on duty, told him I was an alumnus; he let me view the remains -- no gratuity necessary!

What a shambles! Broken booze bottles and crushed beer cans (left by the bros?) sprawled across the floor like an alcohol container cemetery. Books were strewn around bleak, dank and moldy-smelling classrooms. Urine fumes oozing from the building's open pores won the battle for olfactory dominance. Windows and desks were trashed, as if a maelstrom had penetrated the elevator shaft, stopped at each level then surged through the rooms wreaking havoc.

It was a doleful day, yet I managed to cop a sentimental-souvenir-PMA loose leaf binder from the coaches' office in the gym across from the quadrangle. I had used it to organize, protect and store my handwritten annual budget records until 2017. (Thanks Mr. Spina for my bookkeeping class in 1955.) However, I now have gotten "techy" and record all income/budget data on a single spreadsheet in Microsoft Excel 2010.

I currently use the purple and gold erstwhile record keeper as a photo album for pics of my six children, 17 grandchildren and three great grandchildren. Burgeoning binder!

Power gym locker room was very familiar as I played on the basketball team for three years and ran on the track team for three, as well. I likewise played baseball for two years while maintaining a B+ average over four years from 1953 to 1957 (on the honor roll 13/16 quarters). I managed to pull off a basketball scholarship to North Dakota Agricultural College (now NDSU). "Go Bizons!" as President Trump articulated at his June 2018 rally in Fargo, North Dakota.



I offer this anecdote because I am sure many of Power's senior "alums" also have much and such to contribute. I don't know how many are in the PMAAA network or know this association exists. An effort might be exerted to find out and solicit/recognize their contributions as well, before we pass into oblivion as did our esteemed edifice.

Note: Dr. Cleary has volunteered to author a series of articles reflecting on his experiences at PMA. We encourage all alumni to submit articles and share their experiences at Power Memorial Academy.

Final Dismissal

The following Alumni and Faculty have gone to their final dismissal.

-  Julio Alonso – Class of 1973
-  Michael F. Dowling – Class of 1964
-  Thomas J. O'Rourke – Class of 1950
-  Michael W. O'Sullivan – Class of 1958
-  John T. Sharkey – Class of 1955
-  James Shea – Class of 1961
-  Robert Shearn – Class of 1935
-  James P. Slattery – Class of 1968

May they rest in peace.

President's Letter

January 2019

Dear Brother Panthers,

By now you should be well rested from the Christmas Holidays and the New Year. With that in mind, I would like to remind you of our upcoming annual events; the Mass of Remembrance and the St Patrick's Day Parade.

This year the Mass of Remembrance is being held on Saturday March 9, 2019, and the St Patrick's Day Parade is on Saturday, March 16, 2019. Yes, March 16, 2019. The parade is never held on a Sunday.

The PMAAA Board has received a request from Dennis Mooney '84 to join the board. He already sent us his resume which has gone to the committee for review. We look forward to meeting with Dennis to discuss his candidacy.

In a quest for new and unique items, Joe DeFazio & I met with Vinnie Bonomi '84 at his shop "Special T's" in Staten Island. Vinnie came up with some new & innovative ideas for Power merchandise which we are going to have for sale at the Mass Reception and the Post Parade Party. Vinnie also offered to assist us in setting up internet sales.

The board has also set up a fundraising function with Amazon through "Amazon Smile" where a tiny portion (0.5%) of a sale is donated to a charity of the customer's choice. However, you must shop on Smile.Amazon.com for the donation to take place. No additional money is attached to the sale. As a Power Alumnus and an Amazon shopper, I ask you to register and shop <Smile.Amazon.com> where the donations will add up for us. Please spread this



information to your family members who shop Amazon. Every little bit helps. The following is from the email I received after I registered:

Remember, always start at smile.amazon.com

and Amazon will donate 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases.”

The directions to start with Smile.Amazon.com are simple: Copy and bookmark the following link:

https://smile.amazon.com/gp/chpf/dashboard/ref=smi_se_ssr_btnr1_setch?ie=UTF8&pldnNewSubDash=1

Once on the registration page, there is a box/section to search for your charity

We are listed as Power Memorial Academy Alumni Association Inc.

Once you make PMAAA your charity, you fill out some other minor info, then you are set.

Very Important: You must shop at <Smile.Amazon.com> for us to receive the donation. It is the same procedure as shopping on the regular Amazon.

Pro Christo Rege

Andrew “Chick” Pisani ‘70



Social Media

PMAAA has taken to social media to help spread the word about the association. Board member, Rick Martin, spearheads the social media activities for the association. In addition to the PMA *Facebook* and *LinkedIn* accounts, PMAAA activities can now be tracked on *Twitter*. The PMAAA *Twitter* account that has been established by Rick is “#PMA4Life.”



Announcements

Submissions from the alumni for the newsletter are always welcome. Please send any articles, pictures, memories of Power, personal situations (including grandchildren, anniversaries, retirements etc.) to Brian McCann at brian.mccann@powermemorialacademy.com

Please let fellow alumni who may not be aware of the Power Memorial Academy Alumni Association or don't receive notices about association activities to register on the PMAAA website: www.powermemorialacademy.org with their contact information so that they receive future announcements of PMAAA activities.



POWER MEMORIAL ACADEMY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION, INC.

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PMAAA Financial Report

Power Memorial Academy Alumni Association, Inc.					
Donations To The Scholarship Fund					
Tax Year	Amount	Restricted Cash	Scholarship	All Hallows	Rice
2003-2004	\$ 25,857				
2005	14,000		\$ 5,000	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500
2006	10,705		5,000	2,500	2,500
2007	13,607		5,000	2,500	2,500
2008	19,665		5,000	2,500	2,500
2009	17,288		5,000	2,500	2,500
2010	20,393		5,000	2,500	2,500
2011	8,982		2,500	2,500	
2012	870		7,500	7,500	
2013	5,908		2,500	2,500	
2014	5,589		25,000	25,000	
2015	3,600		25,000	25,000	
2016	4,650		10,000	10,000	
2017	5,085		12,500	12,500	
	\$ 156,199	\$ 41,199	\$ 115,000	\$ 100,000	\$ 15,000
FYE 12-31-17					
Checking & Savings		\$ 84,981			
Restricted Cash Donations		41,199			
Unrestricted Cash & Savings		\$ 43,782			

Please note that the most recent IRS Form 990 has been posted on the PMAAA Website for viewing @ <https://www.powermemorialacademy.com/>



Merchandise Sales & Costs						
Tax Year	Sales	Cost	Profit / (Loss)			Gross Profit %
2003	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,700	(1)		
2004	0	652	(652)	(1)		
2005	3,500	2,290	1,210			34.6%
2006	10,878	6,164	4,714			43.3%
2007	4,351	4,548	(197)			-4.5%
2008	7,493	3,971	3,522			47.0%
2009	5,055	5,773	(718)			-14.2%
2010	5,954	4,600	1,354			22.7%
2011	14,255	10,085	4,170			29.3%
2012	15,641	3,919	11,722			74.9%
2013	2,924	3,327	(403)			-13.8%
2014	3,158	2,979	179			5.7%
2015	4,373	2,177	2,196			50.2%
2016	6,580	4,448	2,132			32.4%
2017	4,660	4,730	(70)			-1.5%
	\$ 88,822	\$ 59,663	\$ 30,859			34.7%
			Excluding 2003 & 2005			33.9%

(1) In 2004 Rich Coppolino gave PMAAA a check for \$1,500 which was the profit from the sale of merchandise at the 2003 Reunion. There was also a \$200 profit from Mario DeSol from the sale of the 2003 Parade Video. Rich Coppolino also gave the remaining inventory he had to PMAAA. There were no inventory records. The Sales numbers also include sashes and pins.

(2) Since there were no inventory records I decided to use an estimated FIFO (First In First Out) for regulatory reporting on the Balance Sheet. There was an inventory number on the Balance Sheet until year-end 2006. Beginning in 2007 for PMAAA accounting and regulatory reporting, the sale and purchase of inventory has been reported on a cash basis.