

The Reporter

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Illinois Association of Student Councils

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Come Monday, What Are You Going To Do With The Convention?

Student Council Can Be Devastating

EDITORIAL NOTE: Roanoke-Benson Student Council sponsored an essay contest whereby participants selected an idea concerning the role of student council. The winning essay was written by Ben Leman, Secretary of R-BSC:

Different people obviously define things differently. I feel that this would also apply to one's definition of the role of student council. They would ask themselves: How does it effect me? How is its existence of value to me? What has it done for me? When they find the answers to the questions they take the results and work them into a concrete structure from which they draw when asked, "What is the role of student council in your life?"

I have completed the aforementioned process and came up with my own thoughts. THE ROLE OF STUDENT COUNCIL CAN BE DEVASTATING!! Did you notice the word "can"? That is the key to the whole affair. It can make such a change in your life that you will

relish the memories in years to come. It can make such an impression on you that you will never be quite the same. I feel that it has done just that in my life. I feel that I can honestly say that student council has been an experience that has been truly enlightening and exciting. It was only that way because I allowed it to be that way. I opened myself to the available opportunities and consumed everything that came my way. I attended the various functions and talked with the people. Through these great experiences I feel I have become a better person. I feel that I have had some of the greatest times of my life and I just wish others could have shared in these experiences also. The role of student council in my life has been DEVASTATING!

Important Dates

To Remember

JUNE:

NASC National Conference. Decatur, Ga., June 22-26.

JULY:

IASC State Workshop, McKendree College, Lebanon, Ill., July 27-August 1.

AUGUST:

IASC State Workshop, McKendree College, Lebanon, Ill., August 3-8.

OCTOBER:

Materials Workshop, Oct. 17, 4 p.m., thru Oct. 19, 4 p.m.

NOVEMBER:

NED Convention, Nov. 8.
Advisers Workshop, Nov. 13, 4 p.m. through Nov. 14, 4 p.m.

DECEMBER:

Conference on Student Views, Dec. 6, 4 p.m. thru Dec. 8, 4 p.m.

APRIL

1976 IASC Convention, May 6-7-8.

JUNE

1976 NASC National Conference, June 20-24 (Tentative).

JULY:

1976 IASC Workshop, July 26-July 30 (Tentative).

AUGUST:

1976 IASC Workshop, August 2-August 6 (Tentative).



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Editorial

As I See It

As a member of the IASC board, this year has indeed been an educational experience. Many doors have been opened.

By being actively involved, one can see the inside operation of the Illinois Association of Student Councils. Annual workshops, conferences and the convention were once again held. However, the Board was always trying to improve them to meet the needs of students in today's changing society. Through discussion it was evident that there was no ideal solution to any idea or problem.

Stepping into a new direction, the IASC hosted for the first time a Materials Workshop. Student council information from "How To Run a Meeting" to "Committees" was written by students after much thorough research.

After working with the State Board of Education, President Kendall Christiansen has helped to establish a Student Advisory Committee to the board. The seven committee members will serve as student advocates for the students of Illinois. This in itself is a great step into student input and opinion to the State Board of Education.

As Reporter Editor

When I assumed my position as Reporter-Editor, the first thing I did was to write my goals. At the top of the list was to improve the IASC State newspaper. Through the expansion of its size and adding monthly articles: "Project of the Month," "IASC Spotlight," "Important Dates to Remember" and "District News," I feel that a beginning has been made. In the following years, I hope that the editors will build on the past and work for the future.

It has been a great experience meeting new people and discussing new ideas, but the greatest experience of all was to find out how much one really depends on others. Parents, teachers, advisors and fellow students have all been a terrific help. Forcing me to go that extra step, I was able to expand my parameter. Giving me the encouragement when all else seemed to fail, I reached higher grounds.

Sacrificing their time and money, I was able to increase my knowledge. Putting up with me when I was inconsiderate of them, put me back in my place. Without them I could not have made it. Thanks to them I have.

+ + +

The year has been both a busy and most exciting student council year. Everytime one accomplished a project there were two more waiting. Never has a year gone by so fast. It seems like it was only yesterday when the Board was elected and at this convention members will be leaving their offices. A piece of them however will still remain with the IASC. Through the minutes, letters, and Reporter, their ideas and goals will be the foundation for future IASC executive boards.

+ + +

I wish for you a most memorable and exciting student council experience.

(The Editor)

Something New

Materials Workshop

East Bay Camp, Bloomington, Illinois, was the site of another IASC first, Materials Workshop held from Sept. 21-23. The workshop was designed so the IASC could write its own student council materials, which will be distributed to member schools in order to create more effective councils throughout the state.

In the late afternoon about thirty students and advisers began arriving with armloads of materials and resources. To assure a right beginning, Mr. Phelps, IASC Executive Secretary, explained the purpose of the workshop and showed three films on creativity. Then the delegates broke into five groups and started brainstorming, tossing out ideas on materials that would be of value. After thirty minutes the groups reassembled and shared ideas. Since there was such a long list,

it was decided that the reporters from each group would form a committee to pick out the top ten topics for IASC materials.

After a cold night's rest—the heaters were not on in the building—the delegates warmed up by the fireplace before going to breakfast. At 9:30 the group reconvened to start compiling information on: committees, students' rights and responsibilities, constitutions, roles of student council, workshops, public relations, structures of student councils, how to run a meeting, student council publication and advisors. Each of the groups was given two topics to complete by the following day. Thus began a long day of researching, reading, writing, discussing and evaluating. By the end of

the day most groups had finished and their information had passed to the advisory board. The rest of the evening was filled with songs, talking, roasting marshmallows, eating pizzas and just having fun!

On Monday the final touches were put on the materials. The delegates gathered once again for the last time to evaluate the workshop. Everybody thought it went well and was worth their time. Hopefully, the materials will be compiled, typed and printed by December.

The IASC is to be commended for this significant step in preparing materials for student councils in the state. Hopefully, the councils will be able to improve and thus the student council movement in Illinois will gather even greater momentum! (Editor)

Kickapoo District Notes

Champaign—On Jan. 11 over 60 delegates from 14 high schools met at St. Joseph-Ogden High School to discuss the possibility of forming a new district. Kendall Christiansen, IASC President, presided over the meeting.

All of the schools that were represented are located in the eastern half of the old Champaign district, which includes about 35 high schools.

Their theory in forming a new, smaller district is that smaller districts could be the answer to many problems the larger districts are faced with. Transportation to and from district meetings would be faster and less costly. Communication would be better because it would be easier for the of-

ficers to visit member schools, and the shorter distances involved would make it easier to have student exchanges and would improve attendance at workshops and conventions.

A constitution that was proposed by St. Joseph-Ogden High School's student council passed after some 20 amendments and several new by-laws. It had been modelled after the very successful Eastern Illinois District's constitution, with a few minor changes, deletions and additions made.

The name selected for the new district is the Kickapoo District Association of Student Councils. Officers elected were: President, Harold Otto from Arcola; Vice-President, Melanie Frictl from Paxton; Secretary

Jeri Swearingen from St. Joseph-Ogden; and Treasurer, Pam Lee from Tuscola. Two advisors-at-large were chosen by the advisors present. The junior advisor-at-large, Mr. Gary ZumMallen from St. Joseph-Ogden, will serve for two years, and the senior advisor-at-large, Miss Ann Schnitz from Villa Grove, will serve for one year.

Kendall Christiansen summarized the new district as a "pilot project." If the smaller district works as well as it is expected to, it is possible that other large districts will divide into smaller ones to improve communication and to take advantage of the multitude of possibilities for district activities offered by a smaller district. (Bill Brown, St. Joseph-Ogden High School)

Reflections From



'74-'75 Reporter

Can You Identify?

Match the numbers on the pictures to the questions below.

- A. The Illinois delegation at the 1974 NASC Conference at Rochester?
- B. Doctor Earl Reum?
- C. IASC President, Kendall Christiansen?
- D. Delegates at the Materials Workshop?
- E. R-B's "Project of the Month," Intramurals.
- F. Harold Otto, President of the new Kickapoo District?
- G. Head bands, at McKendree Workshop?
- H. IASC Treasurer, Terry Orton?
- I. Junior Counselor, Terry Heble, at the IASC summer workshop?
- J. IASC 2nd Vice President, Kent Erickson?
- K. Prairie Eight District Board meeting?

ANSWERS ARE ON THE BACK PAGE



IASC Spotlight

"Take each day as it comes. Do as much as you can that day. Don't worry about yesterday or tomorrow. But, don't procrastinate! It catches up sooner or later." This is the philosophy of IASC's Press Secretary, Kathy Kienstra.

When asked what she hopes to accomplish in her new role, Kathy replied: "Since my office was created this year, I hope to leave a set of good, basic guidelines for next year's press secretary to follow. This year I hope to obtain as much publicity for the IASC as possible and start to develop legislative contacts to obtain information about legislation concerning high school students. I hope to get this office off of a good start and to be a great asset to the IASC."

Besides being active in the IASC, Kathy is a member of the NHS, National Thespan Society, Pep Club, Curriculum Committee, Student Council, and recipient of the DAR

award. When Kathy is not at Alton Senior High School and she has some free time, one will find her playing tennis, swimming, bike riding, or planting a garden. She also enjoys talking to people, spring days, pizza, and laughing.

Kathy, being a friendly and easy going person, has only one pet peeve. She dislikes people who are insincere and those who put up a false front.

Her attitudes toward student council are: "Basically student council is an organization giving students a chance to help improve their school communications among students, teachers, and administrators. Become more involved, help others become more involved. Remember, always keep an open ear to the opinions of others, even when they differ from yours. Don't become discouraged too easily. Try hard, if you don't succeed, try again."

Although Kathy has been a member of the IASC for only a half year, she has



Kathy Kienstra

already put forth a full year's work. Laying the foundation for future press secretaries, she will help guide the IASC into a new direction.



Judy Sedaitis

A real ham who loves acting, singing, and music is Judy Sedaitis who has the title of secretary of the IASC. Jue, as she is called by all her friends, is one of Hubbard High's scholars who has had a high school career packed with academic and community achievements.

Elected to the National Honor Society, a member of Quill and Scroll, and yearbook staff, Jue has also received awards for outstanding leadership in Hubbard High's SC. She is a connoisseur of the fine arts and can really get into music. She sings with the park district chorus, the school's madrigal group, and plays the piano. Chopin is her favorite classical composer. On the other side of the musical spectrum, enjoyment comes from listening to the contemporary sounds of Cat Stevens.

Ranking high on the blacklist of personal dislikes are ironing, jogging, forgetting birthdays, and people who have no hope or faith in anything.

IASC's dynamic secretary offers a few words of wisdom to all SC representatives, "Remain open and alert to the needs of your school. Be relevant to your times, but also think ahead as to how your endeavors may benefit future students."

Throughout her term in office Judy has worked to improve IASC and member schools. She would also like to see less "soda pop" and "rubber stamp" councils. "SC should set higher goals than sock hops and bake sales. Providing leadership and a growing experience for its members plays an important role in any SC."

Judy's term as secretary will be permanently recorded in IASC history with reports which are contained in 10 to 14 pages of minutes from each marathon board meeting. Her attentions to the concerns and functioning of the IASC executive board has earned her the recognition of Illinois students.

Kids Here Want Input

"We are the only state to sponsor such an activity . . . kids here want input." That's what Brian Foss, consultant to the National Association of Student Councils, said about the Conference on Student Views. Ninety-five delegates from various areas of the state came to East Bay Camp, Dec. 6-8, to express students' opinions. The purpose of the conference was to write resolutions representing both sides of many controversial issues. Schools in the state will vote on these resolutions. The conference results will be given to several sources, including the news media and legislators.

At the First General Session Brian Foss gave the keynote address, entitled "Challenge of Leadership in the '70's." Power, responsibility and leadership were stressed in his speech.

Following this dynamic speech, the

delegates broke into groups, varying in size from five to eighteen members.

Each discussion group leader handled his or her group differently. Some played tapes to orient the delegates to the different topics, some asked questions to stimulate thought, while still others talked about what they hoped to accomplish.

After much thought, the groups carefully began writing the resolutions. In order to begin their task, they first went over their notes and summarized, writing the basic idea. Much time was spent debating and rephrasing the resolutions, so students throughout the state would interpret them in the right context.

Dr. Gordon Brown, director of the Educational Alternative Section, OSPI, and Gary Kerr, legal advisor Section,

OSPI, addressed the groups in the afternoon at the Third General Session. "In dealing with alternatives," Dr. Brown stated, "don't create another monolith."

Gary Kerr spoke on the rights and responsibilities of students. He mentioned such things as: students' records, punishments, P.E. and A160.

Reports on the groups' progresses were given at the Fourth General Session that evening. All the delegates evaluated and gave suggestions on each resolution. The groups then got back together, made changes and put on the finishing touches.

The last General Session was called to order at 8:00, and all groups read their final resolutions. By 11:00 all business was taken care of. So ended a weekend of GREAT SUCCESS!

Unite—Share—Progress

More than 100 students and advisors unboarded buses and cars June 23 at Rochester, Minn., making Illinois the largest out of state delegation at the 38th National Association of Student Council Conference. At Mayo High School the delegates were met by the families whom they were to stay with for the next four nights. That evening, they returned to the high school where five days of learning and sharing were to begin under the theme of Unite-Share-Progress.

At the first general session they were addressed by Ann Armstrong, counsellor to the President, on "The White House."

In the following days they were ad-

dressed by well noted speakers such as: William Boost, who in a very dynamic speech, stressed the need for change in our educational systems, no more "book teaching." "Students," said Boost, "should be prepared more for the real world."

At the banquet, Earl Reum, author of many Student Council leadership books, uniquely combined magic with his speech, "How to Make a Difference," to put his point across very effectively.

There were over fifty different discussion groups one could attend, with topics ranging from "Alternatives in Education" to "Youth in the White

House." These seminars were headed by college professors to men in the police departments. By interrelating with others they expanded their knowledge of their roles that they play in Student Council and also that which they play in life.

But, the greatest learning experience of all was associating with the 1300 student leaders from all over the nation, including Guam and Puerto Rico. As in the theme of the convention "Unite-Share-Progress," the feeling of unity was there among all the kids, because they were all working for the same cause, all of the delegates shared their ideas and each and every one progressed in one way or another because of this.

America In Action

NASC/NASAA Conference

We're the National Association of Student Councils and the National Association of Student Activity Advisers. Most people know us as NASC—NASAA.

We invite you to join us for five days of learning, challenging experiences, and fun at our 39th Annual National Conference, June 22-26, 1975 at Towers High School in Decatur, Ga., (just outside Atlanta).

You'll meet with leaders in education and other fields who are eager to share their knowledge and experiences. You'll sit down with students and advisers from all 50 states and discuss common (and not so common) problems and inspirations—and practical ideas for making student councils and student governments work.

Student-led workshops on student council issues, indepth professional programs for advisers, and a wide range of seminars on social issues are

the heart of the conference. The seminar topics include youth and the legislative process, alienation and American youth, sex education, and legal problems related to student activities.

On the fun side, our Georgia conference plans include side trips to Stone Mountain and Six Flags Over Georgia. At Stone Mountain, a recreational and historic center, we'll see the memorial to the great men of the Confederacy that's carved in the side of the 583-acre granite mountain, and restored buildings and grounds that recreate the Georgia of the 1800's. At Six Flags (named for the six national flags that have flown over Georgia), there's a turn-of-the-century carousel with 70 hand-carved horses, the biggest, fastest roller coaster in the world, a sky lift, and beautifully landscaped gardens.

That's what we're doing in Georgia, June 22-26. We hope you'll join us!

Student Advisory Committee Formed

The State Board of Education, in working with the Illinois Association of Student Councils, established a Student Advisory Committee at their recent meeting March 13, 1975, in Springfield.

IASC President Kendall Christiansen presented the proposal for an advisory committee of seven members to provide student input and opinion to the State Board of Education.

"We are very encouraged by the action of the State Board and look for-

ward to working with them to improve channels for student input and involvement in Illinois," said Mr. Christiansen, who will serve as chairperson of the first Advisory Committee.

The action taken by the State Board of Education establishes a Student Advisory Committee to them for two major purposes: one, to establish guidelines for future Student Advisory Committees, and two, to serve as student advocates for students in Illinois.

ANSWERS TO "CAN YOU IDENTIFY?"

A,2; B,5; C,1; D,11; E,4; F,3; G,9;
H,7; I,8; J,6; K,10.

New Positions, Press Secretary And Advisor

The Constitution adopted at the State Convention last spring established two new positions on the executive board: press secretary and press secretary advisor. Kathy Kienstra and her advisor, Mrs. Donna Kirby, from Alton were elected to these positions Dec. 8.

Duties of the press secretary are:

A. Send out press releases to the news media and the NASC, covering IASC and district activities including:

1. Reports on workshops—districts, state and national
2. Reports on conventions and conferences—district, state and national
3. Reports on the conference on student views.

B. Compile a year end report in the form of a yearbook that will be available to all member schools.

C. Correspond with the appropriate Illinois State Legislative and Education Committees and agencies as well as individuals concerning programs that directly affect or are the concern of high school students in the State of Illinois.

Save Cost on Transportation

If one wishes to cut down transportation cost, travel with the IASC. Illinois is planning to take two busses to the NASC Conference, one leaving from Chicago, and the other from St. Louis. This trip will take one through the Smokies and into Atlanta. On the return, the busses will take a side trip through New Orleans. There are only 38 seats on each bus, and they will be filled on a first come first served basis. Cost will be \$70 per person for the round trip and a \$50 registration fee, a total of \$120. For more information contact: Ed Phelps, IASC Executive Secretary, Collinsville High School, Collinsville, IL.