



# The Flag and Whistle

## Newsletter of the Soccer South Bay Referee Association

January 31, 2009

P.O. Box 10466, Torrance, CA 90505

Editor: Warren Howell

[www.ssbra.org](http://www.ssbra.org)

President: Ed McClure   Vice President: Paul Kelly   Secretary: Warren Howell   Treasurer: Tom Mallen  
Assignor: Bill Cook   Webmaster: Lee Jordan   At Large: Gabriel Goldsman

### LIVESCAN CONTROVERSY AGAIN IS MAIN TOPIC AT MONTHLY MEETING GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY FOR SOME LUCKY MEMBER ANNOUNCED SSBRA PRESIDENTIAL SIGHTING REPORTED IN TORRANCE

It was a full house in the library of North Torrance High School for the January meeting, no doubt because so many Members were interested in the Secretary's report. ....or maybe for some other reason. In any case, 65 Members signed in (it seemed like there were more than that present), and then no fewer than eight newcomers stood up and introduced themselves, receiving the warm SSBRA welcome for which we are known. There was even a sighting of someone who claimed to be our President **Ed "Shirttail" McClure**, and after a photo ID check to verify his identity, he re-introduced himself to the Membership after his absence and ran the meeting.

Our Assignor **Bill "Comrade" Cook** then started telling us about all the important stuff. The main topic was the upcoming State Cup games and procedures, and Bill stressed that we would all be looked at by State Cup officials during these games (including Bill himself as a field coordinator at Lancaster), so we all need to do our best so that we will be invited back. His instructions, naturally enough, generated questions and comments from the gathering, with **Alan Sampson, Larry Savell, Penny Rehm, Bill Mindlin** and **Marty Jeffers** all having a few words to share. Also the J-League is starting up, as is the Spring League, and all the rest of the leagues were continuing as usual, with the PSL schedule changing due to changes in field availability.

It was then time for the main event of the evening, as our friend Penny Rehm from Cal South was ready with a presentation on the Livescan (referee fingerprinting) program that would go into effect for matches in year 2010. First she started with the facts:

**What:** this is a one-time fingerprinting program. It is to be used so that background checks can be made with the Department of Justice.

**Why:** to help keep the kids safe. All of the folks who can be considered representatives of Cal South are being required to go through the program, including coaches and administrators. Referees are now considered to be part of this group. Though the risk of problems could be considered low, referees do wear uniforms that carry a certain authority to younger players, and there are some incidental encounters with players outside the immediate game area. **Vince Delmonico** had a few words to say at this point, and Penny informed us that referees could still register with USSF without going through the Livescan program, though their game assignments would be restricted.

**Who:** all referees doing youth matches (players under 18 years old) would be required to be scanned.

**When:** The program would go into effect on January 10, 2010. The goal of Cal South is to have most of the referee scanning done by July 31, 2009.

**How:** fill out a form and be scanned. Cal South will setup special sessions at a meeting of SSBRA (like they do for the annual USSF re-registration) for the scanning, at a cost of \$15 to be paid by each referee. If you miss that meeting, there are other opportunities to be scanned, at a higher cost (perhaps up to \$35). After that, ID cards would be issued and the assignor would keep track of who had been scanned and who had not. Those who have already been scanned by Cal South (usually because they already hold a coaching or administrator license) would not need to be re-scanned and can get the ID card by requesting it from Cal South.

Penny then went to the frequently asked questions part of her presentation, and took questions from the audience. There were a lot of those, with Vince, **Derek Taylor**, Larry Savell, **Ed Beverly**, **George Heggie**, **Alvar Kobe**, **Mike Clark**, **Lee Jordan**, **Shahram Danbeli**, **Rick Gates**, **Mike Copley**, **James Dixon**, **Veto Galati** and **Ralph Quirox** all being heard. It was a lively discussion, with a number of serious issues being raised, and the suggestion that the player's parents also be Livescanned, an idea that Penny rejected since they do not represent Cal South (there was no mention of pet dogs and cats being scanned). George objected to the \$15 cost, as did several others privately.

Moving on to other matters, Ed McClure told about how Chivas had contacted the Board about cheap tickets etc. The Cal South youth camp is coming for a \$75 fee, which SSBRA would reimburse upon completion of the course. Cal South, with about 130,000 youth players currently in the league, would also be taking on the administration of several adult leagues, with more to come. Also the Soccer Nation Expo (see below for details) was coming up in February.

Ed then announced that **Heidi Garlick** had resigned her position as Training Director, and that the Board was looking for a replacement. Anyone interested should contact him directly at [President@ssbra.org](mailto:President@ssbra.org).

Treasurer **Steve "Show-Me-The-Money" Brandon** then decided to say a few words, and claimed there was \$8800 in the bank, and babbled on about some other stuff (see his complete report below).

Ed then took back the floor, and made the long-delayed announcement that **Bob Hildreth** had been awarded the SSBRA Center Circle award, for outstanding SSBRA achievements and to soccer in general. Sadly, Ed also reported that Bob's wife had passed away.

Wrapping up, the meeting closed with the raffle. The lucky winners this month were Rick Gates, Derek Taylor, **Dave Dillard** and James Dixon.

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING, January 15, 2009**

- The Board met gladly with **Laura Cadanel** from Club Deportivo Chivas USA, since she brought a goodie-bag for each of us. Cheap tickets to games, referee nights at the stadium, how to best interest the referee community in Chivas soccer and the opportunity for SSBRA to cover some of the local youth and other tournaments that Chivas runs, were all talked about.
- New Member applications for **Michael Hinz, Grant Waldron, Julie Nouray** (provisionally), and **Raymond Williams** were approved
- Fined a Member for being very late to a match
- Steve supplied a complete financial report, with \$7955.80 in the bank. All invoices/bills have been paid and 1099s created, though he is still tracking down four SSNs
- Bill reported that State Cup is starting 1/31, with a new group running the show
- Penny will come to the January meeting and give a Livescan presentation. A long and lively discussion on said topic then took place
- Heidi Garlick announced her resignation from the Board, with immediate effect

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING, January 27, 2009**

- The Sportsmanship award program will go inactive
- Search for Training Director to begin
- Michael Clark, James Dixon and **Connie Sadeghi** approved as new Members
- **Paul Kelly** to be added to approved check signors list as Ed will continue to be absent at times

## **NEXT MONTHLY MEETING**

**THE NEXT MEETING IS ON TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2009 AT 7:30 P.M. IN THE LIBRARY OF NORTH TORRANCE HIGH SCHOOL, 3620 182<sup>ND</sup> ST. (AT YUKON - SEE SSBRA.ORG FOR DETAILED MAPS), WHEREIN BEVERAGES AND FOOD ARE PROHIBITED BY THE SCHOOL. THE AGENDA WILL INCLUDE ASSOCIATION BUSINESS, NEWS ABOUT THE STATE AND NATIONAL CUP TOURNAMENTS, TRAINING AND OTHER EXCITING STUFF THAT CAN NOT BE DISCLOSED AT THIS TIME.**

### **Just Say No, and Then Don't Do It** (from Referee magazine)

**Don't fetch the ball.** As an assistant referee, your primary job is paying attention to the players and even a momentary redirection of your focus to a ball off the field — no matter how helpful you are trying to be — takes away from your responsibility to assist the referee (not the players). The referee is counting on you. Also, by retrieving or stopping the ball, you are making a quick restart easier for a team so, if you don't do that every time the ball leaves the field, you could be accused of favoring one team over the other. Save your energy for staying with the second-to-last defender and following the ball to the goal line.

## **Fun-loving Spanish Referee Shows How to Have a Good Time (submitted by Lee Jordan)**

### **A referee in Spain issued 19 red cards after a regional match degenerated into a mass brawl.**

Recreativo Linense were beating Saladillo Algesiras 1-0 in the regional first division of the southern province of Cadiz before referee **Jose Manuel Barro Escandon** stopped the match. Escandon had already issued one red card before a fight broke out between two players which escalated into a brawl involving several players from both teams and spectators who invaded the pitch. The referee stopped the match before fleeing to the safety of the changing rooms.

In his post-match report, he stated that he had sent off 19 players.

Linense coach **Sebastian Naranjo** said the red cards were unjustified: "After the altercation between **Francis and Aguilar**, there were no clashes. The players who intervened, and even the spectators, were just trying to see that things didn't get worse. I don't know what got into the guy [the referee]."

### **Some Coaches I Know Talk Like This Too (singer Paula Abdul during an American Idol show)**

“**Simon** gave me advice and said on [UK show] *The X Factor* he always refers to a fortune cookie and says the moth who finds the melon finds the cornflake always finds the melon and one of you didn't pick the right fortune.”

### **Making New Friends and Influencing People (memo from Al Kleinitis on mass confrontations)**

The referee's ability to maintain composure in the face of dissent from a player is magnified when he becomes the focus of dissent and challenge from several players simultaneously. For the purpose of this guidance, a "mass confrontation" is defined as the concerted actions of three or more players from the same team who are disputing a decision while surrounding the referee or hindering or forcing movement by the referee. Such situations bring the game into disrepute, are inherently intimidating, and create a strongly negative public image. The Laws of the Game provide adequate tools to deal with dissent on an individual level, but mass confrontations add a dangerous element calling for special measures involving all members of the officiating team. Instances of mass confrontation are significant events that transcend the sum of the individual acts of misconduct which the referee must handle.

#### **Referee**

- Attempt to assess the likelihood of a mass confrontation and move out of the area where it would probably occur.
- Distinguish between those players who are actively and aggressively increasing the tension and those who, though physically nearby, are clearly trying to reduce tension.
- Pay particular attention to those who instigate the confrontation, those who join it from the immediate area, and those who move a considerable distance in order to participate in the confrontation.
- Consult with the assistant referees before taking disciplinary action.
- Assess the appropriate punitive measures individually and, if a player is to be sent off, ensure that this occurs before moving on to other players who are to be disciplined.
- Ensure that all cards for misconduct are displayed and recorded before play is restarted.

#### **Assistant Referees**

- Both assistants move along the touchline to a point as near as possible to the confrontation and, if necessary, prepare to enter the field for a better viewing position.
- The nearer assistant should concentrate fully on the confrontation and attempt to identify the instigator(s) while the farther assistant concentrates on players who join the confrontation from a distance.
- After the confrontation has ended, both assistants should be ready to provide information to the referee regarding the identities of persons they observed and the role each such person played in the confrontation.

The referee's game report must list and describe separately any instances of mass confrontation in addition to the actions the referee took to handle individual misconduct that may have been part of the confrontation. Individual misconduct is clearly the responsibility of the referee and must be handled during the match in accordance with standard procedures. Competition authorities reserve the right to administer supplementary discipline to players involved in mass confrontations who may have escaped the attention of the officiating team. Officials should not rely on the right of any competition authority in this regard but instead make every effort to properly administer justice for misconduct at the time it occurs.



Liverpool's Dutch forward **Dirk Kuyt** (L) shows his frustration as referee **Alan Wiley** sends off Liverpool's Brazilian midfielder **Lucas** (C) against Everton during their English FA Cup football match at Goodison Park in Liverpool, England

### **Let's Hope this Doesn't Give Lee Jordan Any Ideas** (recent news article)

Setting a record that will never be broken, **David Pratt**, a striker for the English soccer club Chippenham Town, was red-carded three seconds into a match against Bashley. The ball was kicked-off, Pratt lunged at a Bashley player and the referee blew his whistle and raised a red card, citing Pratt for a dangerous tackle. "The world record is not a big deal for me. It's not something I'm proud of" Pratt said....

The previous record was in a 1990 Italian League match, where Bologna's **Guiseppe Lorenzo** was dismissed after 10 seconds for hitting an opponent. The previous English red card record was 13 seconds, set in 2000 by Sheffield Wednesday goal keeper **Kevin Pressman** for handling a shot outside the box.

### **Quotes of the Month** (attributed to an anonymous guy from Missouri)

"The role of the lead goose is to break wind on the other geese."

"He was running around like a chicken with his legs cut off."

"It's all water under a camel's back."

## **Even in the Big Leagues, the Referee Can't See Everything** (recent news article)

ROME (Jan. 26) - Inter Milan striker **Adriano** received a three-match suspension for punching an opponent during his team's Serie A match against Sampdoria. Adriano scored Sunday to give Inter a 1-0 victory, keeping the club as the sole Serie A leaders. The Italian league said Monday in a statement that Adriano punched **Daniele Gastaldello** of Sampdoria in the stomach in the 38th minute, shortly before scoring in first-half injury time.

The league imposed the ban after reviewing TV footage that showed the punch, which had not been seen by the referee, the statement said.

## **This Must be Something to See** (as told by **Rudy Chavez**)

The South Bay Sports league has a team called, of all things, "Law 5." This group includes some SSBRA Members trying to see things from the Other Side, not to mention having a fun night out. The rest of us are encouraged to come on out when they play to watch and to offer helpful suggestions etc. from the sidelines. Members of that team and some others who play from time to time in SBS include: **Paula Borstel, Caroline Kabe, Patricia Carlini, Tino Perone**, Lee "Evel Knievel" Jordan, Rudolph "Chokehold" Chavez, **Richard Lagraff, Ki Nam Kim, Sean "Kickball" Ji, Steve McCall** and **Dan Damian**.

## **Excuses for Missing an Assignment That Will Not Impress the SSBRA Board**

1. Referee didn't want to lose the parking space in front of his house.
2. Referee hit a turkey while riding a bike.
3. Referee said he had a heart attack early that morning, but that he was "all better now."
4. Referee donated too much blood.
5. Referee's dog was stressed out after a family reunion.
6. Referee was kicked by a deer.
7. Referee contracted mono after kissing a mailroom intern at their company holiday party.
8. Referee swallowed too much mouthwash.
9. Referee's wife burned all his clothes and he had nothing to wear.
10. Referee's toe was injured when a soda can fell out of the refrigerator.

## **There's More Than One Way to Get Yourself Sent Off** (recent news article)

A soccer ejection that made headlines in England recently was the red card Stoke's **Ricardo Fuller** received for hitting another player – his own captain. Stoke held a 1-0 lead over West Ham before West Ham's **Carlton Cole** beat Stoke's **Andy Griffin** for the equalizer. Incensed, Fuller approached Griffin and slapped him in the face. Fuller was sent off and Stoke, playing short-handed, eventually lost the match 2-1. Stoke coach **Tony Pulis** said Griffin was playing with an injured knee, filling in at a position where the team is lacking in depth. "We've got a good group of players who care about things, and Ricardo Fuller cared too much" Pulis said.

## **Another Quote of the Month**

"Grandchildren are God's gift for not killing your teenagers."



Brazil's **Wellington Souza** (L) vies for the ball with Venezuelan **Salomon Rondon** (C) during a match of the U-20 South American Championships at the "Jose Antonio Anzoteagui" Stadium in Puerto La Cruz, Venezuela

### **Check List for Assistant Referees**

- Arrive on time
- Follow the pre-game instructions
- Show enthusiasm toward the job
- Adjust to the changes and demands of the game
- Show self-control
- Think independently
- Take responsibility for your critical decisions
- Show respect for the game
- Accept criticism

### **A Little More Clarification is Needed** (attributed to soccer player **Gary Lineker**)

“There is no in-between – you’re either good or bad. Today we were in-between.”

### **Tragedy Strikes South of the Border** (recent news item)

(CNN) — Two anti-riot police died and five were injured in the collapse of part of Paraguay’s principal stadium in the capital city, Asuncion, medical officials said.

The incident happened during a football (soccer) match when a block of cement that was part of the structure of the Defensores del Chaco Stadium dropped some seven meters onto the police.

Last year, the 50-year-old structure was declared in good enough shape to host world competition by FIFA, the International Federation of Association Football.

### **Let's Hope He is Not Talking About the Flag and Whistle (footballer R. W. McQuarters)**

“Don't get me wrong, everything the media writes is not wrong. But I'd say 99 percent of it is wrong, in my opinion, but I don't read the newspaper, so I don't know. I hear things, though.”

### **This Could Work (attributed to Harry S Truman)**

“Always be sincere, even if you don't mean it.”

### **This Referee Knows What to Do in an Unusual Situation (news article)**

Argentine soccer player **Gaston Aguirre** joined an unwanted list when a ball he kicked landed in a group of pigeons situated in the corner of the field. A burst of feathers ensued and the pigeons flew away – except one....”Now I will be remembered as the pigeon killer,” Aguirre said.

Aguirre hit the bird during the 2-1 victory against Tigre in the Argentine league championship. Several players surrounded the bird as it tried to fly away, but the bird collapsed. Eventually, referee **Saul Laverni** scooped up the dead pigeon and placed it off the field.

### **Big Soccer Event is Coming to Town (submitted by Tom Bobadilla)**

#### **Soccer Nation - February 21/22 at the L.A. Convention Center**

<http://www.soccernationexpo.com/>

- Please remind all of our referees to make an effort to stop by the event and enjoy the different activities and programs that will be provided.
- Referees have to be a "student of the game" and this event will provide a lot of good information and fun activities.
- **Larry Yee** has set up a program, aimed at the referees, with activities on both days.
  - **Dr. Don Wilbur**, National Instructor/Assessor will spend the weekend sharing his wisdom on the game.
  - Larry will provide details soon to all of you so you can share them with the referees.
  - Ideally, it would be great if referees could participate the whole weekend. However, if they have to officiate, they can stop by part of the time.
  - Saturday, from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. - session with top level referees (see description below).
    - **Toledo Baldomero** (FIFA/MLS Referee) & **Fabio Tovar** (FIFA/MLS AR) will be presenting.

#### **Session Description - Saturday**

Round table session which will allow participants to learn from International and MLS referees what it takes to be a good referee. Join us for a two-hour session full of refereeing know-how, interesting anecdotes, prizes, and fun activities. Coaches, parents, fans and others, can learn what referees do to always be ready to deliver top-peak performance. You can participate in the entire session or walk in at any time as there will be different topics presented.



Topics include:

- Personal preparation for referees (fitness, mental, game related, etc.).
- Achieving top level performance.
- Managing the most significant problem with refereeing.
- Reaching MLS/International levels.
- Personal fun and interesting anecdotes from top level referees.

### **He Must Have Been a Referee Before the Election** (attributed to Harry S Truman)

“I learned that a great leader is a man who has the ability to get other people to do what they don't want to do and like it”

### **This is Quite a Complement, I Think** (attributed to **Bum Phillips**, talking about **Don Shula**)

“He can take his’n and beat your’n, and he can take your’n and beat his’n.”

### **New Fitness Program for SSBRA Referees Suggested** (submitted by **Jeff Schuh**)

With a 5-lb potato sack in each hand, extend your arms straight out from your sides and hold them there as long as you can. Try to reach a full minute, and then relax.

Each day you'll find that you can hold this position for just a bit longer. After a couple of weeks, move up to 10-lb potato sacks. Then try 50-lb potato sacks and then eventually try to get to where you can lift a 100-lb potato sack in each hand and hold your arms straight for more than a full minute.

After you feel confident at that level, put a potato in each sack.....

### **Blah Blah Blah, We've All Heard This Before** (FIFA President **Joseph “Sepp” Blatter**)

“FIFA’s rules are practically perfect. What is the problem with football today? It’s not the rules. It is the refereeing.”

### **This Takes Living and Dying With Your Team a Bit Too Far** (news item)

HamburgSV in the German Bundesliga has given supporters their own cemetery, built within sight of the team’s stadium and complete with an entranceway in the shape of a soccer goal. Each of the maximum 500 graves will be covered with grass from the stadium’s playing surface. “We will have the first funerals here in the next few days,” board member **Christian Reichert** said.

### **Let's Hope We Never See This in One of Our Games** (news item)

**Gilvan**, a midfielder for Novo Horizonte in Brazil, was hit by lightning in the 63<sup>rd</sup> minute of the Golas state championship against Atletico Goianiense. He was taken to the hospital, treated and released.

“I woke up in the hospital,” Gilvan said. “The pain was too strong. I’m relieved to have survived this.”

## **A Comforting Thought When You've Had a Tough Game** (attributed to Harry S Truman)

“When you've done the best you can, you can't do any better.”

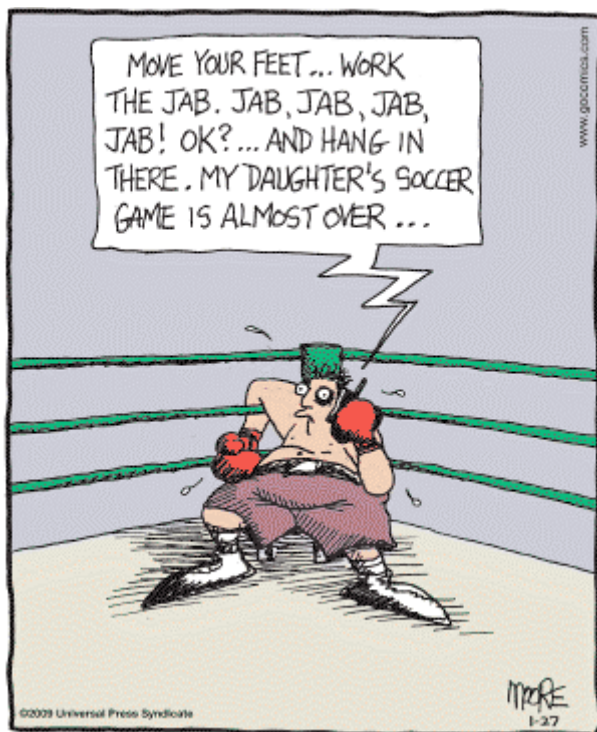
## **We Should Keep This Guy Out of Bakersfield During State Cup** (attributed to George W. Bush)

“I believe the town where I used to come – from Houston, Texas, to enjoy myself, occasionally too much – will be that very same town, that it will be a better place to come to.”

## **This is Becoming a Trend** (news item)

Where do old Georgia Bulldogs go when they die? Some will go to Bulldog Haven, a cemetery plot near Georgia's football stadium devoted exclusively to Georgia football lettermen and their families. The plot will include a wall that looks like stadium steps, a small-scale version of a football field, a small chapel bell and the trademark hedges that line the field inside the big stadium across the street. So far, more than 100 spots have been sold to former Georgia players and their families at \$1,500 apiece.

“We thought that it would be great to be buried close to the stadium where we could hear the crowds six times a year. It goes back to the Georgia tradition. There's nothing like being in Athens on a Saturday afternoon,” said former lineman and president of the lettermen's club **Mack Guest**.



## **Yet Another Quote of the Month** (attributed to Harry S Truman)

“All my life, whenever it comes time to make a decision, I make it and forget about it”

## Treasurer's Report (submitted by Steve Brandon)

The Western Federal Credit Union Checking and Savings, as well as the Petty Cash and Stamps account balances, as maintained by the Quicken SSBRA database are comprised as follows:

SSBRA Cash Balances		
	12/31/2008	1/27/2009
Checking	\$ 3,810.41	\$ 1,616.11
Savings	4,009.27	3,009.27
Petty Cash	100.00	95.00
Stamps	36.12	23.10
Totals	\$ 7,955.80	\$ 4,743.48
Advances:		
Manhattan Bch	\$ 1,170.00	\$ 2,092.50
Copa Real Nike	-	2,065.00
Total Adv.	\$ 1,170.00	\$ 4,157.50
Checking	\$ 4,980.41	\$ 5,773.61
Savings	4,009.27	3,009.27
Petty Cash	100.00	95.00
Stamps	36.12	23.10
Adj. Totals	\$ 9,125.80	\$ 8,900.98

2009 Membership dues payments are comprised as follows:

SSBRA 2009 Dues Paid Thru 12/31/08		
	Count	Fee
Waived Dues	14	\$ -
Regular Dues	137	\$ 8,220
Non Internet Dues	1	\$ 70
Bank Deposit Error		\$ 5
Total Dues Paid	152	\$ 8,295

In January, funds from the SSBRA Treasury were utilized to issue member checks for the Copa Real Nike tournament and first installment for the Manhattan Beach 7v7 Winter season. As always, once payments are received from the applicable organizations, the Treasury will be replenished. Totals for Copa Real Nike and Manhattan Beach are as follows:

Copa Real Nike Tournament		
	\$	Cks
Referee Fees	\$ 1,925.00	27
Assignor Fees	\$ 140.00	1
Treasurer Fees	\$ -	n/a
Postage	\$ 10.50	n/a
SSBRA Payment Totals	\$ 2,075.50	28

Manhattan Beach Parks & Recreation - Winter Season 2009			
Category	Cks Issued 01/27/09		
Games		65	
	\$		Cks
Referee Fees	\$ 1,885.00		27
Assignor Fees	162.50		2
Treasurer Fees	45.00		1
Postage	5.88		n/a
SSBRA Payment Totals	\$ 2,098.38		30
Billed To Manhattan Beach	2,112.50		
Net Surplus to SSBRA	\$ 14.12		

In addition, the Treasury was utilized to pay \$160 in PSL forfeit fees. Once again, when payment is received from PSL the Treasury will be replenished. Further, due to the year end, I did some house keeping with respect to stale outstanding checks. Specifically, I reissued to members checks that had been outstanding in excess of 6 months.