

Supreme Scratch
2007 National Convention in Albuquerque, NM
August 8, 2007

At approximately 0800 hours, the nits and crawlers started the interesting procedure of becoming a flea. We had a welcomed surprise at 0845 hours; the dogs going for their pedigree came through the FLEA HOUSE to go through the de-fleaing process by our beautifully dressed initiation committee members along with other helping fleas.

BF Sadie Smiley brought the scratch to order to take care of the business at hand at 1010. Holy Flea, Barbara Nobile was requested to hop forward, open the Bible, read the opening prayer and then close the Bible. The new nits and crawlers were brought up front to MBF and she proceeded to give the oath of obligation to all the nits and crawlers accepting them into the National Hide.

Medium Flea, Merveena Wing, and Little Flea, Alice Blackford performed their duties.

MBF Sadie took a minute to recognize the PBFs in the room. Also, Flea Georgopolous's 75th birthday was today. We all sang happy birthday to her!

Before roll call, Scratchy Flea paid \$10.00 so she could be left alone to take care of doing her job in a proper, correct manner (which never works out anyway).

Karen Washabaugh made a motion to pay to stop scratching, 2nd by Shirley Keyes. All were in favor, motion carried.

Roll Call was taken by Scratchy Flea Tracey Killinger.

Big Flea – Sadie Smiley (Pres)	Medium Flea – Merveena Wing (Pres)
Little Flea – Alice Blackford (Pres)	Smart Flea – Inda Adams (Pres)
Scrappy Flea – Karen Washabaugh (Pres)	Holy Flea – Barbara Nobile (Pres)
Police Flea – Janet Voltaggio (Pres)	Studios Flea – Ruth Moyse (Absent)
Waggy Flea – Rosemary Foster (Pres)	No Name Flea – Lois Payne (Pres)
Trusty Flea #1 – Gloria Roman (Absent)	Trusty Flea #2 – Teresa Sarapata (Pres)
Trusty Flea #3 – Glenda Travis (Pres)	Scratchy Flea – Tracey Killinger (Pres)
Shopper Flea – Marie Williams (Pres)	

Minutes – Minutes of the 2006 Scratch in Quincy, MA were read. Barbara Nobile made a motion, 2nd by Belinda Ritchner (Spelling) to accept the minutes as written and previously emailed with National Newsletter.

It was announced that there was a white hat going around to be signed for Sam Dressler (it never did get to me to sign... Boo Hoo!!! Sorry Sam)

Bills: Three (3) bills were brought up. They were (1) Barb Nobile \$29.33; (2) BF Sadie for \$32.23 and (3) PBF Cynthia Marshall \$48.26. All bills were agreed on to be paid.

Alice Blackford announced to the body that we had a Mother and Daughter team go through the Flea initiation together.

The trustees got together and audited the Scratchy Flea's books and announced that once again she did another fine job and keeping our bills paid and donations taken care of (which by the way you fleas didn't put your initials in my book).

Old Business: Barb Nobile went to the microphone and brought up the \$500 donation to the Big Flea that was voted on and approved at last year's scratch! She didn't feel that it was right to use our funds to do this. People donate to us thinking that we are using all this money to donate to charitable organizations. Shirley Keyes, PBF, came to the microphone to address this issue since she was the one who made this motion last year. She explained that the Big Flea has been left out as far as her room being compensated or her meals/events being paid for. A lot of discussion was held concerning this topic. PBF Shirley made a motion, 2nd by Karen Washabaugh to pay Madame Big Flea (providing her room isn't comped) up to \$500.00 out of the Ships Store proceeds, more discussion on this and motion was changed and I believe when it was all over and done with, the \$500.00 was to come out of the flea dues. There were 79 fleas in the room, 15 were against the motion. Motion passed! **(This entire conversation was very confusing to listen to and take notes on and I'm sure I'm not the only one confused about this but I think the end result is correct.)**

Karen Washabaugh made a motion, 2nd by Shirley Otto to designate the member dues as a General Administrative Fund (separate line item). Motion passed! This will start also this coming year.... people have already paid their dues this year!

After all the "BS" business, Madame Big Flea asked the Scratchy Flea how good our finances were and how much money could be donated. Her reply was "I don't know, around \$4,000." Then the race was on... fleas lined up behind the microphone for their charitable donations to be given out. **

Below are the places we donated to this year. [\(These checks are already mailed!\)](#)

Gold Star Wives of America	\$200.00
West Palm Beach VA	100.00
Leatherneck Foundation	500.00
MCL Foundation \$500 Scholar/\$200 OLA	700.00
MCLA (\$500 operating fund/\$250.00 MCLA Memorial Fund)	750.00
James A Healy Hospital	200.00
Crohn's & Colitus	100.00
National Alliance for Mentally Ill	500.00
Bob Stump VA Hospital	200.00
Wounded Warriors	300.00
Cheyenne VAMC	100.00
Richmond VAMC	100.00
Hampton VA Hospital	100.00
Marines Helping Marines	100.00

** I had one donation marked for Robert Jenkins. I have no clue where or what this is. The person that wanted \$100.00 to go to this, please contact me because I'm at a loss here and this won't be sent in until I get some more info.

Scratchy Flea (that's me) brought up the yearly dues that I receive from different areas. Normally I get anywhere from \$.50 to \$1.00 per member. Something has to be done. Discussion was held and Shirley Otto made a motion, 2nd by Deb Evans to make the flea dues

to the National Scratchy Flea \$2.00 per member. This will start this coming year. So when you are holding your Division meetings or Department Conventions, the dues you collect for each flea will be \$2.00.

Discussion was held on what picture to have in your Flea Passport. Some wanted current pictures and some wanted their original picture, stick figure or whatever in there! Does this really matter? This scratch is supposed to be the **"FUN MEETING"** of the week! Go ahead and try to fine me for that one!!!!

We also discussed the fact that Flea Stamps should be done at Registration Desk when you arrive. This is a good idea but you also need manpower to be there available to do this.

The Bible was opened and we moved on to the election and installation of the new officers for 2008 year. Below is the slate of officers for the 2008 National Flea Hide.

Big Flea – Merveena Wing	Medium Flea – Alice Blackford
Little Flea – Inda Adams	Smart Flea – Karen Washabaugh
Scrappy Flea – Barbara Nobile	Holy Flea – Janet Voltaggio
Police Flea – Rosemary Foster	Studios Flea – Lois Payne
Waggy Flea – Teresa Sarapata	No Name Flea – Glenda Travis
Trusty Flea #1 – Colleen English	Trusty Flea #2 – Pat Engel
Trusty Flea #3 – _____**	Scratchy Flea – Tracey Killinger
Shopper Flea – Marie Williams	

**** We actually needed three people for officers instead of two... so MBF will take care of this at the Mid-Winter conference.**

The above individuals were installed. Madame Past Big Flea Sadie received her PBF medallion. Barb Nobile closed the Bible. The scratch was turned over to the New BF Merveena Wing. Merveena said that she is going to have a "Scratch Planning meeting" at the Mid-Winter conference at Falls Church, VA. The Scratch was closed to reopen Wednesday morning, during the 2008 MCL/MCLA convention in Orlando, FL.

Tracey G. Killinger
National Scratchy Flea