

The North Iowa Diversity Team (NIDAT) met on Wednesday, February 13, 2008 at City Hall in Mason City. Those in attendance were: Karen Regal, Joy Drennen, Scott Pardoe, Melissa Werner, Dan Gapinski, Marilyn Hoffman, Darcy Skellenger, Ron Wagenaar, Diane Wilson, Hal Minear, Jennifer Andrade, Jane Ginapp and Dixie Lamoreux.

This was Ron's final meeting as a Legal Aide representative. He has been appointed Magistrate and will be replaced on NIDAT by Diane Wilson and we are glad to have Diane with us.

Joy reported that we have \$1869.13 in our account and Karen gave her another \$50 donation from Clear Lake Bank and Trust. That will make our balance \$1919.63. Karen received a form from Diamond Jo's Casino to be filled out and sent in with the hope that we may see a donation from them also.

Dixie will be sending Thanks You's to Clear Lake Bank and Trust for their \$50 donation and also to Dr Mark Johnson at NIACC for the \$200 in printing for our books from the Black History Art/Essay contest. The judging has been completed and invitations to a reception will be sent out early next week inviting the participants, families and friends. The reception will be in the Salisbury Room at MacNider Art Museum on the 28th of February from 5 to 6 pm.

Jane will be doing the programs which will include music provided by Haley ER. Minear, a Girl Scout color guard and a proclamation by Mayor, Roger Bang. Scott Pardoe will talk briefly on the stamps that are being created for the winners of the art contest; Karen will talk about the book, it's cost and how to order one. Dan Gapinski will serve as emcee and the participation certificates and awards will be presented by Scott Pardoe and Jane Ginapp.

Karen has been getting things together for the printing of the books with all of the art and essays that were submitted and books will be available to order. Mention of their availability will be made with the invitations also. Winners and schools with entrants will be getting a complimentary book. Something will also be put on the website about the books.

Darcy is checking with Marigold about donating drinks for the reception; she will be donating Girl Scout cookies and Karen will be providing bars and donating paper products for us to use for serving.

A lot of thought and work has gone into this event and hopefully we will see the fruits of our labor at the reception and in the books. We will then need to discuss and make some decisions about next year and what we will want to do. Thanks to all for your efforts. It does truly take the efforts of many to make something like this a success.

Next meeting is March 12, 2008 at 4 PM

Respectfully submitted by Dixie Lamoreux