

SSDS Fun Business Meeting Minutes

Sunday, November 4th, 12 noon

Dan's house, 15 Carol drive Camillus 13031, 450-6775

Attendance: Dan, Rosalie, Nancy, Isaias, Mary Ellen, Maria, Cathie, Greg, Stacey

Agenda:

1. Old Business

- Weekly dance 8:30 to 11pm. Our last dance at the Ballybay venue was October 25th. Attendance was 41 people.

- New dance venue Knights of Columbus East Taft Road: We had our free first night dance November 1st. We did not use nametags or ask anyone to work door duty. Approximately 50 people attended our free first night dance. Some people came because it was a better location. Steve taught two lessons before the dance. The dance started at 8:30. We did not use the second room for classes. We plan to offer classes in the other room before the dance but not during the dance unless it was a beginner class. Hopefully at least one class offered each week would always be at the beginner level. The dance was supposed to end at 10pm but we went on until 11pm and left a tip for the bartender. The hall rental agreement is from 6pm until 10pm. The classes should start no earlier than 6pm.

- Sound System/Cabinet Keys: The cabinet is in the adjoining garage area of the main K of C hall. Steve moved the cabinet out from Ballybay October 25th and into K of C during the November 1st dance. The Grand Knight, Ray Geis, has given us permission to store our sound equipment there. Fred Goodson, the bartender, explained that we can store the equipment but they will not accept responsibility for it. Can has purchased a new speaker stand.

- Review of Angel Figueroa dance weekend at UKHome

Well liked by all. Weekend went very well. There were more people from out of town attending the workshops than local dancers. It was refreshing to have an instructor that started classes at a more advanced level. He stayed for the dance and danced with the people in the crowd. This is the first

experimental “mixed bag” weekend. The workshops were for intermediate level dancers and beginner dancers would not have gotten much out of the Angel workshops. We will consider offering beginner level classes to prepare our local dancers for the next workshop weekend.

- Review of Halloween Band Dance with John Puma Band. The band came in at 4pm to set up their equipment. They wanted to set up a sound stage in the center of the dance floor. The band was not clear about their role and what we expected from them. We’ll consider deejay only dance for next year’s Halloween party.

We finished Saturday night clean up around 2:30am. It took about an hour to take down the decorations and another 45 minutes to finish picking up and taking the garbage out. About eight people (Don, Connie, Steve, Shirley, and others) stayed to help with the clean up. They did a great job and the place never looked so good when we opened on Sunday morning. We didn’t ask for clean-up volunteers.

The band dance started at 9pm. There was a long break between the end of the workshops and the beginning of the dance. Some folks from out of town went home because of the long break. We had extra pizza. Greg, Mike, Alice, Steve, Dennis and a few others helped decorate. The band helped eat the pizza. We saw about 120 people attend the dance.

2. Publicity

- Greg volunteered to design our new Venue flyer. It will include the times of the dance 8:30 – 11pm and new pricing which is \$5 or \$3 for dance class students.

- Stacey volunteered to post a sign at Ballybay advertising our new location.

- Dan volunteered to contact the Syracuse Newspapers, Sunday Stars and Thursday weekend edition.

3. Financial Report

4. Upcoming Events:

- Thanksgiving dance November 22nd, Maria volunteered to deejay starting at 8:30pm. Isiais also volunteered to help deejay and/or watch the door.

Fred said the hall is available and he is willing to work that day starting at 6pm.

- Skybarn dance November 30th. The Skybarn is a large hall with a wooden floor located in the Skytop section of Syracuse University. The Skybarn has been reserved for a dance to be held Friday night, November 30th. Can Isik volunteered to help deejay and transport the sound system. This event would be free admission and free to the public. We still need to determine the start/end times for the dance.

- December 6th, 2007 Holiday Dance: Venue will move from Ukranian Home to our new location at Taft Road Knights of Columbus. We will use e-mail to inform people of the change of venue.

We discussed the option of having the food catered. Rosalie volunteered to call the caterer for pricing. Cathie will find volunteers to work the door, set up and clean up. Admission will be \$10 or \$12 depending on the cost of the caterer. Maria will design a new flyer. Cathie will collect a list of volunteers, people that have helped us throughout the year, to be recognized during the evening.

- Arrowhead Lodge 2008 Picnic Thursday, July 31st, 2008

5. New Business, Other Business

- Dance Instruction for area schools

- New board members: Welcome Dan Hermann to the SSDS board.
Welcome Isaias Banegas to the SSDS Board.

- Planning 2008 dance weekends with Sylvia Sykes, Michael Kielbasa, Jennifer Lyons, Maria Torres, Mike Topel and Robert Cordoba.

Sylvia Sykes: Sylvia and Frankie Manning will be teaching in Toronto with TSDS April 25-27th, 2008. We would not want to plan a weekend in April featuring Sylvia but will try to schedule Sylvia to come to Syracuse in 2009.

Peter Strom might be a good choice to bring to Syracuse for Spring 2008 instead of Sylvia. Hazel and Tybalt might be available. Robert Cordoba is still interested in coming, possibly Halloween weekend. He is communicating with Steve and Cathie.

Michael Kielbasa responded to say that he is teaching in Buffalo mid April, but has time available in May and June. We would not want to bring him to Syracuse so soon after his Buffalo workshops.

Mike Topel has weekends available in April, May, June and August. He is scheduled to teach in Toronto in Mid May. First weekend of August might be the earliest we would consider hosting Mike in Syracuse. Mary Ellen will contact him about his pricing.

6. Next Meeting time, place: Sunday, December 2nd, 2pm at Dan Hermann's house, Carol drive Camillus 13031, 450-6775.