

## **SSDS Fun Business Meeting Minutes**

1:00pm, Sunday, November 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2008

Mary Ellen's house: 304 Roe Avenue, Syracuse, NY, 13210, Phone: 413-5017

Attendance: Alice Chico, Rosalie Neri, Lydia Perez, Isaias Banegas, John Manzano, Mary Ellen Datta.

### **1. Old Business**

- Thursday dances at Knights of Columbus. We saw the highest number of students last week. Discussion about starting the dance at 8pm after the holiday break. See below, January 2009. Discussion about the number of new people we see compared to the returning people. No complaints about the music mix. We sometimes receive requests for non-swing music that would be considered Ballroom & Latin music. Variety is nice. An occasional samba is okay as long as the floor is full of dancers. Foxtrot can also be danced swing. We also see an occasional request for waltzes and two-steps. People seem to enjoy the variety and occasional change of music. They can also freestyle dance. Playing of non-swing music is acceptable as long as it doesn't clear the floor.
- Sound system
- Music inventory and purchasing new music
  - SSDS iTunes account: Since our last business meeting we've purchased one song titled "Slow Walk" by Sil Austin. This was a test run to see how the process works. The iTunes program will allow five computers to use the account name/password. Currently, two computers have signed on and become authorized.
  - External hard drive/storage device: We have no external hard drive or external storage device yet.
  - New music transport/transfer method (CD, iPod, laptop): We still need to decide the best method for transfer & transport of new music purchases.
  - Google Spreadsheet: Created by Mary Ellen and viewed by invitation only, currently open to Greg, Can, Steve, Isaias, Maria and Mary Ellen. These viewers can also make changes to the spreadsheet. The spreadsheet consists of the original excel file created by Steve and includes a new page titled "wishlist" that allows people to add tunes they think we should purchase. There is also a page titled "iTunes" which lists music we have recently purchased.

- Review of Hazel & Tybaldt Ulrich WCS/Hustle weekend October 24<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup> at Syracuse Ukrainian Home. Review of decorating party 2:45 – 4:00pm, Saturday, October 25<sup>th</sup>. Review of Saturday night Halloween Costume Party, 9:30 – 1:00 am, October 25<sup>th</sup> at Syracuse Ukrainian Home: See MaryEllen's notes for names of volunteers. See Greg for financial details.

## 2. Publicity

- SSDS weekly dance flyer: We have about 65 flyers.
- SSDS business cards: One full box and one partial box.
- SSDS banner: We used it for the Halloween weekend. Darkness comes early now so we have not been displaying the banner at the K of C on Thursday nights.
- SSDS tee shirts: We sold one tee shirt during the Halloween weekend event.
- Syracuse Newspapers: Our listing is usually in Syracuse New Times but not usually included in the Stars Magazine anymore. Not sure about Neighbors or Weekend section.
- Internet advertising
  - [www.syrswingdance.org](http://www.syrswingdance.org)
  - SSDS listserv and announcements
  - Photos for SSDS website: Picnic '08 and Halloween photos added to our SSDS website.

## 3. Financial Report: See Greg or Mary Ellen for details.

## 4. Upcoming Events

- Holiday dance, Thursday, December 11<sup>th</sup>, 2008. We would like to offer food that would be easy to eat with your fingers, not something that needs seating and plates/knives/forks. Light food and snacks. \$5 or bring a dish to share, regular admission discount for dance students. It should be more of a cocktail party atmosphere, not a sit-down dinner.
- Mike Topel February 13<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> 2009. We have sent contract to Mike, waiting for signed copy to be returned. Flyer for the weekend event printed on lilac colored paper, 1000 double-sided copies from Staples. Packets of 50 were given to people for distribution in nearby areas: Rich Curtis took one packet for Ithaca, Tony Farrand took one packet for Binghamton, Louise Gour took three packets for Ottawa area. The

Syracuse Newspapers will include the Topel weekend in their “Wintertime” special section.

- Thursday, August 6<sup>th</sup>, 2009, Arrowhead Lodge picnic: Hall is reserved, contract is signed.

## 5. New Business, Other Business

- Dance instruction at area schools: We support dance events at any school level, high school, grade school or area colleges. We are always available to teach a free beginner lesson to these groups.
- Corcoran High School Band Dance: No dates for this year, 2008.
- Portable sign for roadside advertising: We did not purchase the portable “sandwich” sign for display at K of C. Most people come to our dance because they already knew the location. No one stops in because they were just driving by along East Taft Road.
- Halloween 2009: Saturday, October 31<sup>st</sup>. We will try to reserve the Ukrainian Home again for next year.
- New band for dancing: DoGood Swing Band. They like playing for dancers and were recently seen at the Elks club in Oswego. Their music is like the sound from the 40’s and 50’s. They are an all around good ballroom band and big 17-piece band.
- Thursday November 27<sup>th</sup>, Thanksgiving Day: We will offer no dance that day. Volunteers can enjoy their time off to spend with their families.
- Christmas Holiday is on a Thursday this year. We will not have a dance on Thursday, December 25<sup>th</sup>.
- January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2009 is a Thursday. We need to decide if we have a dance that day or wait until January 8<sup>th</sup>, 2009.
- Change to 8:00pm starting time for the dance: This would take effect starting January 2009, if we all agree. Ending time was not discussed.

Next Meeting date, time, place:

Sunday, December 7<sup>th</sup>, 7pm.

Greg’s house at 103 Croyden Road.

[http://maps.yahoo.com/maps\\_result?q1=103+croyden+road%2C+13224&fr2=sc-sb&fr=ush1-mail](http://maps.yahoo.com/maps_result?q1=103+croyden+road%2C+13224&fr2=sc-sb&fr=ush1-mail)

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List of things to do:



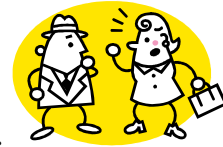
Deejays and SSDS board will evaluate Google spreadsheet.



We need a list of volunteers' names for Holiday party, December 11<sup>th</sup>.  
This will require help from our event coordinators.



Mary Ellen will call Nykola Lucak for reservation of Ukrainian Home for October 31<sup>st</sup>, 2009.



Mary Ellen will contact Mike Topel for signed copy of contract.