

SSDS Meeting Minutes

Friday, August 14th, 6:00pm

Greg & Mary's House: 103 Croyden Road, Syracuse, NY, 13224

Attendance: Greg, Rosalie, Kris, Alice and Mary Ellen.

1. Old Business

- Thursday dances at St. Clare Theater: June 11th, June 18th, June 25th, July 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd, 30th. As there were no janitorial services being provided, we began paying \$50 to rent the space each week from June 11th through July 9th. David Mulherin started working as their new custodian week of July 16th so we paid \$100 for rent that day (5 hours) and same for July 23rd and 30th. Parking lot incident July 23rd with tenant of building complaining about someone parking in her spot. Vandals had been in the St. Clare Theater that week causing damage to the floor by throwing cans of Diet Coke from the balcony. The vandals also took tootsie rolls that we had left stored along with our box of SSDS stuff. July 30th was a celebration party for Steve's birthday. Photos posted on Facebook. Dances have been well attended by 40-50 people each week. Eric has asked about repairing the lock on the men's room door. This will be brought to David Mulherin's attention.
- Review of August 6th Arrowhead Lodge Picnic: The remodeled patio space is beautiful. The park employee named Sean opened the hall for us at 3pm and turned the air conditioning on. The park employee named Holly was there working with us for the entire night and was very helpful. We gave her a cake. She provided a set of bocci balls for the barbecue area when asked. Alice & Ann came early to set up. Dennis cut lemons & limes for the drinking water. Pete & his daughter, Linda, distributed the dance card game tickets and pens. Judy passed out the name-game stickers and took some photos. Josie directed traffic flow. John Manzano came early and started the charcoal grill and brought fruit salad. Greg and John cooked the meat outdoors on the grill. Brenda Miller recorded food items that people brought: Baked beans/John McNeil, various chips/Judy, cheesecake/Connie, macaroni salad/Ann, tossed salad/Patty, three bean salad/Pete, cole slaw/Alice, chocolate chip cookies/Josie, pulled pork/Brenda & Ed Miller, cucumber tomato salad/Rosalie, brownies/Diane, appetizer & dessert/Lynn & Sally, corn on the cob/Linda, pineapple dessert/Bonnie, collard greens/Deb, chocolate raspberry cake/Barb & Eric, spinach ravioli/ Evelyn, zucchini chocolate chip bread/Holly. Cooked meat left over consisted of one hamburger and one hot dog. We used three bags of Morningstar veggieburgers and two were left uncooked. There are

about 32 hamburgers in a case and eight hamburgers were not cooked. We bought two bags of hot dogs and one bag of coney's. One bag of hot dogs was not cooked. There were lots of extra rolls because many people eat the meat without the rolls. People that did not bring food paid \$5. We collected \$185 cash. [Some people paid \$10 instead of \$5 because they wanted to contribute more.] Many people paid with \$20 bill and had no smaller bills. Steve brought the sound system and transported it back to the St. Clare Theater. Maria deejayed until last song at 10pm. There were 56 people present at 9pm. The floor was much better than last year for dancing. We gave away prizes to everyone that submitted a dance card ticket. All the remaining SSDS tee shirts were given as prizes along with some dance posters and tee shirts donated by Maria. [Grand prize winner of the dance card game was Brenda Miller who submitted three tickets so she won the wine/cheese basket.] With everyone dancing, the hall started to feel a little hot and sticky so they opened the windows at the end of the evening.

- Sound system, Deejays

2. Publicity

- SSDS weekly St. Clare dance flyers: We have a few printed on white paper.
- SSDS Business cards: We should order more business cards with our St. Clare address on the back. Also order more magnets.
- SSDS Banner: We have about 75 paper fans.
- SSDS t-shirts: We have no more tee shirt inventory. People liked the custom order SSDS shoe bags and we might order more.
- SSDS mailing list: Our permit has expired. It will cost \$185 to renew. There are about 600 people on our mailing list and 180 currently subscribe to SSDS e-mail. Discussion about continuing usage of the "snail mail" mailing list; Send an "opt-out" of the snail mail and directing people to internet sources. Undeliverables are returned to our SSDS PO Box and are removed from the snail mail list. People that return the event registrations would be current and would stay on the list. People that do not return the registrations might need to be contacted to determine if they still want to receive mailings.
- Syracuse Newspapers: Our weekly dance is included in this week's paper, even though we're on vacation.
- Internet advertising: We are renewed and current on Kijiji, Backpage and Pennysaver.com. These websites offer free want-ads.

- Publicity photos, video: Isaias posted some video on Facebook that includes the barndance that we had at the picnic.
 - Window stickers for cars: ordering 100 oval stickers would cost \$135 plus \$15 shipping. These stickers are technically illegal to display on the windshield because it is considered an obstruction of view.
3. Financial Report: The St. Clare location is working out well for our organization. Greg deposited the receipts and HSBC does not accept free coins anymore. The coins must be rolled.
4. Upcoming Events
- August break
 - SSDS weekly dances at St. Clare Theater start September 10th: Group discussion about St. Clare vs. other possible dance venues.
 - Halloween Dance, Saturday, October 31st, 2009, Ukrainian Home: Hall is reserved with no down payment. Pizza/decorating party before the costume party. Group discussion about hiring bands vs. deejay music.
 - Jason Colacino, Saturday, October 31st, 2009, Ukrainian Home: Jason has passed away. We will offer a respectful remembrance when we resume weekly dances on September 10th. Open discussion about possibly organizing workshops with other instructors, local vs. national, for that day. West Coast Swing or Hustle workshops would probably bring larger crowds.
 - Holiday 2009 dance: December 10th, 2009, probably at our current venue which is St. Clare Theater. Light snacks, possibly pizza or sandwiches, decorate with Christmas trees and holiday theme.
 - 2010 Picnic Arrowhead Lodge Thursday, July 29th, 2010.
5. New Business, Other Business
- Dance instruction at area schools.
 - Planning events for 2010: Suggestion for Mario Robau, Jr., workshop in April 2010.

Next Meeting date, time, place: Monday, October 5th, 7:00pm, at Panera Bread Company, Cicero.