

SSDS Meeting Minutes

Sunday, December 6th, 3pm at Panera Bread Company, Cicero.

Attendance: Deb Smith, Can Isik, Jeff Wormald, Greg Boyer, Alice Chico, Michael Stafford-Hill, Maria Cirino, Mary Ellen Datta

1. Old Business

- Thursday dances at St. Clare Theater: November 12th, 19th, December 3rd. No dance November 26th (Thanksgiving Holiday). We try to keep the packing up chores to a minimum. The lights do not need to be packed, just left unplugged. Bottled water costs 5¢ more to purchase but we still sell it for 50¢ per bottle. Most people leave a dollar and don't bother taking change. Whoever stays to clean up keeps the refund for recycling the bottles. We need to buy more pretzels. The heat is supposed to be turned on and working according to communication from Sara. MaryEllen will remind David Mulherin about providing paper towels & soap for the bathrooms.
- Sound system, DeeJay rotation, Michael purchased a new lindy music cd.
- Volunteer incentives: we want our volunteers to feel satisfied, rewarded and to have fun.

2. Publicity

- Publicity Chairperson: This volunteer position and is currently available. We will again advertise this position and seek qualified individuals to help us with our advertising responsibilities.
- Printed flyers & business cards: We used Staples printing services for Holiday flyer and weekly dance flyer, 100 copies each. Greg will order the new business cards with our St. Clare location on the back. We have two Staples accounts and one should have some credit available for use with our next order. They link the accounts with home phone numbers. This account credit could be used for name tags, wrist bands, etc.
- Internet: SSDS website + list
- US mail: The permit annual fee cost is \$185. Greg will check to see if this has been paid.

3. Financial Report: Discussion about filing taxes every year even though we don't clear a large income. Our annual license (and insurance) fees are due in January. Deb will be added to the HSBC account so that she can sign checks.

4. Upcoming Events

- Holiday 2009 dance: December 10th, 2009 at the St. Clare Theater.
 - i. There will be a dance lesson scheduled and taught by Steve so the Holiday party will start at 8:30pm. Volunteers will be decorating the hall at 5pm before the 6pm lesson. Alice talked to people about bringing finger food that they could take home after the party since there is no kitchen at this venue. No admission fee for people that bring food.
 - ii. SSDS will provide napkins, plates, plasticware, cups, soda and ice. Deb will purchase blue or lavender tablecovers. We have candles. We have snowmen figurines and candleholders that we've used from past parties. Lights will need extension cords.
 - iii. Deb ordered the shoe bags from Eric. These will be awarded to volunteers. Their names will be collected in a jar and they must be present to win. They can not win more than once. Deb also ordered shoe brushes which will be prizes for the dance card game. People can enter the dance card game as often as they wish.
 - iv. Discussion about wine tasting table provided by Andy Watkins. We'll extend an invitation to Andy about setting up a wine-tasting table during the party providing he supervises the table and accepts responsibility for it. Policy concerning alcoholic beverages at SSDS events would be similar to how we organize the summer picnic. The person that brings the alcoholic beverage is responsible for it and the persons that consume it.
 - v. We considered ordering pizza, but the starting time of the party is later and most people will have eaten dinner before 8:30pm. Last year, we ordered pizza, but didn't really need it as there seemed to be alot of food. No pizza order this year. Finger foods and desserts will be enough. Soda, cups & magic markers will be fine.

- No dance Thursday, December 24th, Christmas Eve.
- Mario Robau, Jr. in Syracuse, April 9-11th, 2010: Kris Caspari will coordinate this event. This will be a three-day event similar to past years. Hustle workshops will be Friday, WCS all day Saturday and Sunday will be upper level hustle or WCS workshops. Maria will be on the sidelines to help if needed. We need to confirm the venue. Ukrainian Home floor was slippery. Possible alternate venue could be Polish Home. Event flyer should be ready for February mailing if we decide to organize a mailing. If we do not send flyers in a mailing, we could assemble packets as was done for the Mike Topel February 2009 event.

- 2010 Picnic Arrowhead Lodge Thursday, July 29th, 2010
- Halloween Dance, Saturday, October 30th, 2010

5. New Business, Other Business

- Dance instruction at area schools: no events planned at this time.
- Planning events for 2010: Discussion about Arjay and Melissa. They will be at the SwingNiagara September 2010 event. Combining a dance weekend with Halloween weekend is harder for parents with children that want to go out trick-or-treating. We do usually host two dance workshop weekends each year. Stephanie Batista was also mentioned. Continue this discussion with next meeting.
- New Year's Eve dance: St. Clare venue contract requires the music stop playing at 11pm. Discussion about pros & cons of providing alcoholic beverages and legal drinking age of our dance patrons. Many people already have plans to attend other New Year's Eve functions, local and regional. Hosting a dance on New Year's Eve requires volunteers to work and we would like to give our volunteers some time off to enjoy themselves. No Thursday dance at St. Clare on December 31st, New Year's Eve. Guzman's was mentioned as alternate venue. Three weeks to organize a dance on New Year's Eve is not enough time.
- Demonstrations at the Carousel Mall; Dance demonstrations by local talent provides free advertising for the dance groups. It's good exposure for the dance clubs. The New York State Fair also provides opportunity for local dancers to perform.

Next Meeting date, time, place: February 7th, 2010, 3:00pm, Panera's Bread Company, Cicero. No business meeting in January.