

Metropolitan Chicago Association of Square Dancers

Minutes from the MCASD General Meeting

Trinity Lutheran Church, Roselle, Ill.

Sunday, September 18, 2016

- The MCASD General Meeting was called to order at 2 pm by Frankie Terry, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.
- Terry Kosobud moved to approve the **Agenda**. Marlene Neurauter seconded. The Agenda was approved unanimously.
- Terry Kosobud moved to approve **Minutes** from the April 17, 2016, meeting. Darlene Kulpa seconded. The Minutes were approved as unanimously.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Frankie Terry covered many points.

- The 2016-17 season has begun. It is vitally important for club members to work to bring new dancers into the activity. And even though the newest students have only been dancing for a few weeks, it is important to bring them to the Pumpkin Ball, taking place Sunday, Oct 23, from 1:30 pm to 5:30 pm.
- Let's all do our best to keep communication flowing between clubs and MCASD. When an MCASD director visits your club, please be sure to chat with them and to introduce them to your club members during announcements.
- The MCASD board is charged with supporting the activity by helping the newest dancers, and also with interacting with the state organization, SCISDA. The MCASD board needs volunteers—specifically, a secretary. We have only six meetings a year, plus the General Meetings. We hope at least one of you will share your talent.
- A group of MCASD member dancers – 10 people from four clubs (Southside Squares, Glenview Squares, Swingin' Sugar Squares and Oceanwaves – was on TV in mid-September to promote square dancing. The venue was WTTW's on-air pledge drive. WTTW showed the MCASD logo and also the square dance vols wearing their red t-shirts from the 2016 SD Convention. Screenshots and an update were shared on the SDChicago Facebook Group in mid-September.
- Thank you to all the clubs and dancers who turned out for the Illinois SD Convention's Trail-in Benefit Dance in July. In all, we raised \$2,661 for St. Jude and children's cancer research. This was enough to purchase an engraved brick that will be placed at the St Jude facility in May 2017.

TREASURER's REPORT: Anita Johnson sent in the following report.

- Summary – March 2016 cash balance was \$20,964.41. The balance was nearly the same at the end of July 2016, tallying \$20,845.15, showing a decrease of \$119.26 over the five month period.
- The Illinois 2016 SD Convention is expected to show a profit of approximately \$4,300.

VICE-PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Janice Cha gave an update about MCASD New Dancer Dances (NDD).

- Unusual new venue for the Oct 29 NDD dance: an empty store at Golf Mill Shopping Mall, Niles IL. The venue will be viewable by the public (good PR), and the mall is providing it at no charge. (Square Spares hosting)
 - Glenview Squares will return to the Golf Mill mall on Jan. 21 to host an 'Intro to SD' event at the mall's center court. Area clubs and dancers will be invited to take part and share info about their clubs lessons.
 - Confirming that we have tapped into a rising trend, the Chicago Tribune ran an article entitled 'Entertaining New Options At Malls; Activities, recreation fill space emptied by big-retail exits.'
- The other two NDDs will take place in late January in Evergreen Park (Swingin Sugar Sqs hosting), and in late March in Downers Grove (Naper Sqs, Call n Caper hosting).

INSURANCE UPDATE (submitted via email by William Neurauter)

An increasing number of dance locations are asking their name to be included on your insurance certificate. The Our State Insurance Policy considers this an Additional Insurance Request (AIR) since the carrier does not need the location name of your events on your certificate which is why each club receives a certificate with just your club name. Any club sponsored event, such as a picnic, etc. are covered.

Therefore, the AIR Form must be completed & submitted to myself or our association president, if I am out of town, to get a certificate with the location name, etc. West Agency can send special certificates by email, fax or regular mail. Email is the preferred method of distribution for these special certificate requests. Naper Squares club continues to have the problem

with the School District wanting their employees included as Addition Insured. These may require an additional cost on a per club basis that a club may have to pay for special wording.

For now your regular club certificate will continue to be made available the later part of August or beginning of September each year and distributed by the MCASD President. By now you should have received your regular certificate.

The West Agency was able to prepare a special certificate for use by any club who is holding a special dance here at Trinity Lutheran in Roselle. Any club needing a copy may contact me by email or phone.

Does your club have a copy of the MCASD Information Handbook at every club dance with copies of the AIR Form & Accident Report forms? If not, then I highly recommend doing so? Each club is reminded to review the insurance summary, which is sent out in the spring with your club membership renewal forms.

If you need a copy of either the insurance summary, AIR form or Accident Report Form, you can download a Word file at <http://www.squaredancechicago.com/insurance.php>. If reading this on your computer, by clicking on the above link, you will be taken to the insurance forms. If a PDF copy will work better for you, I can email blank copies which can be reused.

Please let me know if you have any questions. Respectively submitted,

Bill Neurauter MCASD Insurance Coordinator 630-495-1182

WEBMASTER: Brian Robinson noted that anyone who would like to contact MCASD via the phone number or email address on the SDChicago website must be sure to leave their name and contact information in order for suggestions to be considered.

SCISDA:

- The next Illinois State SD Convention, hosted by SCISDA, will take place in July 2017 in Springfield, IL. The featured caller is Mike Hogan. The registration form can be downloaded from squaredanceillinois.com.
- The 2016-17 SCISDA officers include: Bill Neurauter, president; Christine Steffy, northern vp; Rich Sehnert, central vp; Anita Johnson, treasurer; and Chris Burdick, secretary,

NEWSNOTES: No report from Jan Morse.

ILLINOIS 2016 CONVENTION: Janice Cha, convention co-chair, reported that 675 attendees and 49 dance leaders took part at the convention, held July 29-31, 2016, at the Westin Chicago Northwest, Itasca, Ill. Attendees came from 12 states outside of IL, including as far away as California.

This convention included a number of ‘firsts’, at least in recent memory:

- First seminar for truly new callers—about 20 people brand new to calling took part in the daylong event.
- First open-mic for brand new callers
- First convention to feature a hall for Club 50-level dancers
- Best-attended educational sessions – 62 people at the ‘Club 50’ session and ___ at the ‘Staying Alive’ session.
- First appearance of the SCISDA historical quilt in 25 years – thanks to Donna, Bob Carpenter for displaying it.
- First time for Ozzie Pearl to display some of his SD museum items at an IL convention.

PUBLICITY: Janice Cha gave an update on the use of Facebook in publicizing SD events and activities.

- On Facebook, the SDChicago-MCASD ‘page’ is for square dance outreach to the public – intro parties, benefits of SD, lessons, news articles, etc.--things we hope all SD-ers will share on their own pages.
- Also on FB, the SDChicago ‘group’ is a scrolling bulletin board that lets existing dancers communicate with each other about Chicago-area upcoming dances, venue changes, passages and more.
- The Shutterfly site SDRevival.shutterfly.com offers the MCASD Toolbox with ideas and info about promoting SD lessons and activities. A template for a press release is useful for clubs to edit and share with their local news outlets.

FRIENDSHIP BADGES: Coordinator Donna Carpenter was traveling, but has given all the friendship awards to Pat Semple to hand out during the General Meeting.

HISTORY: Randy Moore thanked attendees for bringing his SD-related periodicals. He expects to begin work on digitizing some of the materials in order to create a video display – photos on a small screen. He has no timeline, however, due to issues with the monitor he is trying to use. It was suggested he could reach out to the MCASD webmaster for assistance.

PUMPKIN BALL – Cornie Gardner (Southside Sq) is the coordinator.

- Date: Sunday 10/23/16, 1:30-5:30 pm, Trinity Lutheran Church, Roselle
- Cornie's committee will shop the week before dance to purchase food for the dance. They will arrive at 12:30 to begin setting up.
- All club presidents will receive Pumpkin Ball tickets in the mail this week. Please sell to all your club members.
- Question: WILL THERE BE VENDORS AT PUMPKIN BALL?

SWEETHEART DANCE – Frankie Terry is the coordinator.

- Date: Sunday, 2/19/17, Trinity Lutheran Church, Roselle
- Callers: Ken Burke and Arlene Kaspik; Cuer Flora Haynes

ROLL CALL OF CLUBS: All MCASD member clubs were represented by their delegates.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

NEW BYLAWS: Ken Davies has updated the MCASD's new Bylaws according to revisions voted on at the April General Meeting.

- The new Bylaws will be distributed to executive board members at the Oct 8 meeting
- The new Bylaws will be distributed to delegates and club presidents at the December General meeting.

MCASD GRANT UPDATE: Grant committee member Janice Cha presented the following update.

- Thanks to the Grant's influence, 3 clubs have debuted websites for the first time (Happy Twirlers, Yellowrockers, Naper Squares); one club will soon debut its website (Southside Sq); and 3 clubs have revamped their websites (Arlington Sq, Glenview Sq and McHenry BnB).
- As of Sept 18, some 12 intro parties have been slated, and 7 demos occurred in late summer.
- Some 13 clubs intend to offer SD lessons.
- Some 11 clubs have turned in "Step 2" of the Grant (due June 30). And as of Sept 18, two clubs have turned in "Step 3" (due shortly after a club's second lesson so they can get an idea of attendees).
- Two clubs have made yard signs – Swingin Sugar and Arlington Sq.

MCASD CLUB PASSES FOR NEW GRADUATES:

- Jan Morse and Sue Davies printed 21 sets of passes to area club dances, intended for new SD graduates.
- Distribution of the admission passes at the General Meeting included: 6 to McHenry/Woodstock—Janeen Hyde; 10 to Glenview Sq – Janice Cha; 4 to Naper Sq—Beverly Ainsworth; 1 to Southside Sq—Gloria Clay.
- Still needs passes: Fox Valley Mixers (10 needed); Arlington Sq (5 needed)
- Sue will bring the extra passes to the Oct 8 Executive Meeting.

TOYS FOR TOTS: Frankie reminded attendees that we will again be collecting donations of new toys, in packaging (no stuffed animal toys), in November and early December.

Announcements from various clubs were made.

Darlene Kulpa moved to adjourn; Terry Kosobud seconded. The meeting ended at 3:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice Cha
Interim Secretary

MCASD ONLINE

SquareDanceChicago.com
&
Facebook.com/SquareDanceChicago