Cincinnati Contra Dance Meeting June 29, 2003 7:30 PM

Members present: Jim Vogt; Susan Vogt, John McCain, Jodi Sena, Sandy Jennings, Orlan Jennings, Ron Hoffman, Bernadine Zennie, Steve Tossey, Darlene Underwood, Mary Judge, Eileen Bens, Kim Thompson

The Contra Notebook is now available at all dances.

- 1. HALL SEARCH Reports on possible places:
- -- Pleasant Ridge Presbyterian John McCain says it is available on Monday. We need to check on windows and AC.
- -- Purcell Marion "no" per JimV.
- -- Hyde Park Methodist "no" too small per John M.
- -- McGing Irish Dance Hall- probably not available (too small)
- -- St. Mark's need to see how charter school is working; improve safety and security and location issues, etc.
- -- Wyoming Fine Arts we need to set up a test dance ASAP in early Aug. Kim will do that. Steve Edwards will call and we need to find a band.
- -- Glendale Fire Dept. Community Center -needs to be checked out.

Darlene asked if we could revisit the issue of using a smaller hall for our temporary place. Our attendance is quite down. Maybe a smaller hall in Cincinnati would help. Mary said she would call Kirby when it reopened. Most people would like to and hope that we can keep Monday as our dance night. So far only Harmony Hall can not do Monday.

Sandy offered to contact the newspaper to get our name in the paper regarding a group looking for a new place.

- 2. FEEDBACK FOR CALLERS there was discussion on creating a process structured process to evaluate callers and get new callers. We need to identify which callers want to participate.

 Sensitivity is needed and we are looking for constructive feedback. The consensus was the goals will be to encourage and help/instruct new callers and to constructively
- evaluate current callers.

 Lim will call all of our callers to invite them to participate. The committee will be Steve Edwards. Bernadine Zennie, possibly Steve Tossey. Mary Judge and Orlan.
- Jim will call all of our callers to invite them to participate. The committee will be Steve Edwards, Bernadine Zennie, possibly Steve Tossey, Mary Judge and Orlan Jennings.
- 3. SATURDAY DANCES We need someone to replace Darlene. She feels it needs to be someone that understands the chemistry between callers and bands. Also, hopefully they travel out of town to dance so they would have knowledge of the bands and callers available. She is willing to help and work with the new person. This position will be announced at our dances to see if anyone in the community would like to do this.
- 4. FANS We do need bigger and taller fans. We will wait until we get a permanent hall to do anything.
- 5. GETTING MORE DANCERS our regular dancers seem to not be coming. Is it location, hall, lack of chemistry between dancers-bands-callers? In 1993, at Annunciation, we had a low attendance and it came back up. Would another article in the paper help?
- 6. OUR DANCE EXPERIENCE how do we offer the best quality of dancing experience? Encourage dance etiquette; wear buttons; make new flyers on contra dance and the etiquette. Darlene feels we need to change the teaching and walkthroughs we do at 7:30 on Mondays. She proposed an experienced and new dancer would be matched up at 7:30 and it would be "one on one" teaching. The community would come forward to take ownership of helping the new dancers which ultimately helps make a better dance for everyone, Some people felt the caller should run this (teaching.) Susan suggested we try it and Darlene agreed to try it the next time she is the caller
- 7. BYLAWS CHANGES they have not yet been approved by the community. We decided to wait until we get a permanent hall. (so everyone will be informed)

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30PM.

Respectfully submitted, Mary Judge