

# Cincinnati Contra Dancers

## Board Meeting

October 3, 2001

### Members Present:

Karen Keeton , Steve Tossey , Jim Vogt, Lucy Crane, John Brockman , John McCain, Debbie Barrett , Larry Lankford , Bob Frankenhoff, Darlene Underwood

#### 1. New Location Committee

Steve Tossey showed us a map that displayed the distribution of our membership in the Greater Cincinnati area. We agreed that a central location for our dances would be inside the I71, I75 and Norwood Lateral triangle. The hall committee had three recommendations for halls and each was discussed. We decided to have a trial dance at all of the halls. See attached document for a description of the three halls.

#### 2. Handling Performance Requests:

Lucy raised the issue of how to handle performance requests.

#### 3. Volunteer Scheduler Roles

Karen had some questions about roles.

1. Is each task coordinator in charge of recruiting new volunteers? YES.
2. If someone can't make it to the dance they are signed up for, who should they contact? Each volunteer is in charge of his or her time slot. If a volunteer can't make it, he or she must find a substitute from the list. It is not the responsibility of the scheduler to do this.
3. Karen will ask John Bealle if he wishes to continue as band coordinator.

#### 4. New Years Dance

We needed volunteers to take care of this dance.

1. Flyer/Mailing ... Lucy will print up flyers, John B. will make labels for mailing to other cities.
2. Potluck ... Karen and Larry volunteered to handle this. Larry will provide lemonade.
3. Caller Coordinator ... Darlene will coordinate. We asked that the callers ask for cleanup help.
4. Band Coordinator ... Lucy will ask John Bealle.
5. Sound ... Bob will coordinate it.
6. Decorations ... Lucy will ask for volunteers at Monday night dance.
7. Crew Boss ... Jim will coordinate.

#### 5. Elections and Member Dues

1. John McCain will announce membership dues, and explain that if you have given \$1 this year, you are a member already and can vote in the election.
2. Lucy will announce the election is coming up, and ask for nominations.
3. We will vote in December.

#### 6. Teaching New People

1. The question was raised, "Do we need to do more to help new people? "
2. Darlene teaches on the floor. She gets feedback that the new folks aren't being shown how to dance by us as we are dancing.
3. Darlene believes that fewer experienced dancers are coming Monday night because of the increased numbers of newer dancers. She also pointed out that the caller could ask experienced dancers to dance with new dancers, but that the caller cannot teach while calling. We need experienced dancers to teach new dancers on the floor.
4. Jim Vogt suggested that if just the people here at the meeting could teach people as they dance, we could help a lot.

#### 7. Guidelines for Callers

1. Darlene would like to get new callers, but is concerned that we have no guidelines for calling, and do we need them.
2. Larry suggested that we have potential new callers call on open night on a Monday, and that a core group of us evaluate each caller that night.

3. Karen was concerned that this evaluation could change our group.
4. Steve agreed that more guidelines and feedback from callers is needed.
5. Lucy wants to do this to bring callers along using guidelines and feedback.
6. We asked Darlene to make suggestions for guidelines.

8. Saturday Sound Person

1. In general, the group did not think that sound on Saturday night has been that good, but the volunteer sound people don't want to take on Saturday night again.
2. We decided that we will keep our sound person for Saturday night for now.

9. Bethany Benefit Dance 2002

1. Lucy would like to NOT do the benefit during the Celtic Festival again.
2. She asked if we could do the Bethany dance in place of our Saturday dance. The decision was NO. We will find a Saturday for Bethany that is NOT the same Saturday as the Celtic festival.

10. Announcements/etc

Everyone thought the nametags for our dances are great ...yeah Larry.

The following document was presented at the meeting by the New Hall Committee....

POTENTIAL NEW HALLS

(10/3/2001)

Most of these places have beautiful floors. In order to protect the floors we would probably have to institute a serious shoe policy. The Hall Committee likes the idea of buying a batch of bowling shoes to loan to beginners. We could hold their driver's license while they wore our shoes.

Promenade Palace in Covington . Available on Wednesdays; also Monday December 24 if we want it It is bigger than Annunciation w/ excellent floor, \$45 for weeknight (2.5 hr),. Modest sound system; some sound deadening, several storage areas, ample seating, air conditioning instead of windows. Ample parking. Very small stage. No piano. Several pillars down the middle.

It will soon become available the fourth Saturday each month (\$65). Other Saturdays may become available in time. We could arrange a test dance on the 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> Friday of the month.

St Bernard Fraternal Order of Eagles , 4815 Tower Ave (near Vine & McClelland Ave in St Bernard). \$200 for main floor (above a basement bar with music & smoking). John McCain & Darlene will try to renegotiate price, and will check whether there's a piano. Fine wooden floor, somewhat bigger than Annunciation. Stage. Tables & chairs. No sound system, but probably space to store ours. Air conditioning instead of windows. Maybe acoustical-tile drop-ceiling. Ample parking. Potlucks would be permitted in same room.

Available 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturdays after Nov. 2001 for \$325 (including bartender!). Have scheduled December 8 test dance there.

NOTE ST. BERNARD FRATERNAL ORDER OF EAGLES HALL IS AVAILABLE MONDAYS, SATURDAYS, AND NEW YEAR'S EVE.

Clark Montessori gym on Erie Ave. in Hyde Park. Possible for Saturdays after 12/31/01, but not weeknights. 70 x 90 ft, high -quality wood floor, no stage, good parking, good restrooms. Gym is next to cafeteria (for potlucks). John McCain & Ron Hoffman are double -checking the spring of the floor. Mary Judge is checking whether they'll consider reduced rental (currently quoted as \$100/hr, incl. custodian). We suggest a test dance there.

ADDITIONAL POSSIBILITIES FOR NEW YEAR'S EVE AND/OR PIGTOWN FLING

Corryville Recreation Center  
Big promising gym w/ related spaces  
Also small pie -wedge shaped room, maybe good for Christmas Eve

Campbell Country Recreation Center. Perfect space for New Year's Eve, but far away, and \$400. We are dancing there this New Year's Eve.

STILL AWAITING BASIC INFORMATION :

Kirby School 3<sup>rd</sup>-floor gym in College Hill

There may be some Catholic churches near downtown or on near West side w/ suitable gyms; Susan Vogt is still checking.