

**MDSDF DELEGATES MEETING**  
**September 15, 2019**  
**Catonsville Senior Center**

**CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order at 2:15pm, followed by the Pledge.

**MINUTES:** The minutes of the June, 2019 meeting were accepted as presented. Norva Pope made the motion, seconded by June Campbell.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** The treasurer's report was accepted as presented. Norva Pope made the motion, seconded by June Campbell..

**FESTIVAL 2019:**

5-3-2 TICKETS raised \$1906 for Johns Hopkins Children's Oncology Unit. Friendship Squares sold the most tickets, Four County had the second most sales, and Swinging Squares placed third. Norva noted that club ticket sales were down in general for this Festival.

BASKET RAFFLE raised \$1028 (includes cash donations). Seventeen baskets were raffled off.

50-50 TICKETS raised \$756 (\$100 less than 2018). Thanks to Mike Sumy for dressing up to encourage sales. Laura Vykol stated that she would not be heading up this committee for the 2020 Festival, and asked for a new volunteer to run the 50-50.

ADVERTISING for the program realized a net profit of \$2071.32.

GRAD BALL was a success! Tom Miller and Jack Pladdys called, while the Herrs and the Blackfords handled the rounds. There were 20 new dancers present in the 11 squares dancing and 15-20 couples round dancing.

OPENING CEREMONY was well received. Dancers loved the rocket! It was noted that the rocket had to be reduced in size from 22' to 16' due the ceiling height in the ballroom. Many dancers used the rocket as a backdrop for festival pictures.

SLIDE SHOW was also well received. Dancers liked looking for themselves and friends in the pictures of former Festivals.

VENDORS/SECOND HAND ROSE raised \$1700. Deciding to sell the Dance Socks (\$5) was a good choice as they were very popular. The new pettipants also sold well. Lynda Brady and Annie Giancoli devoted a lot of time to the Second Hand Rose and essentially it was due to their efforts that it was so successful. Some of the left over clothing went to the PA FabFallFest for their Second Hand Rose sale in September. Mary Dean & Dan Roberts have about 9 bins of other leftovers for future Second Hand Rose sales. Cheryl Rakes stated that we will look for a regular clothing vendor for the 2020 Festival. Perhaps the new location and dates will be more attractive to an outside vendor. We will NOT have both a full line vendor and the Second Hand Rose. SUSIE Q will not be at the 2020 Festival due to the date change.

SOLO ROOM hosted dancers for the Ice Cream Social on Thursday night, following the Solo Dance Hour. Many good comments were heard on the ice cream choices. Glo lights were handed out at the solo dance and were enjoyed by the dancers. The Solo Room was well used throughout the Festival People brought snacks and used it to “chill out” between dance events.

AQUA SQUARES had up to three squares dancing in the pool. Everyone had a good time.

WOOD FLOORING was used in all rooms except the salons. We provided the flooring for most of the rooms; the Garden Room flooring was provided by the hotel. Dancers loved having the wooden floors instead of the composite tile.

INTRO TO ROUNDS with the Shottings had 25 couples. It was a good turnout, and the dancers enjoyed learning something new.

### **FESTIVAL 2020**

FESTIVAL location and dates have changed for this year only. It will be held at the Eisenhower Hotel & Conference Center, Gettysburg, PA on July 23-25.

CALLING STAFF will include Tom Miller (PA), Bill Harrison (MD), Todd Felleggy (CT), Mike Seastrom (CA) & Bronc Wise (TX).

CUEING STAFF will include Barbara & Wayne Blackford, Curt & Tammy Worlock and Steve & Irene Bradt (PA).

RESERVATIONS must be made directly with the hotel.

PUBLICITY is even more important this year with the change of venue & date. All dancers are strongly encouraged to take flyers everywhere you dance, and to talk about the Festival as much as possible to other dancers.

REGISTRATION for this Festival started at the 2019 festival. We had 84 dancers register for the 2020 Festival at the 2019 Festival.

BADGE CHANGES are being considered. We are thinking of having laminated Festival badges instead of the ribbons for this festival Denise Latimer suggested the use of buttons instead of badges. She has done this for other events and says it is easy and inexpensive. We will investigate these options.

THEME DANCE schedule needs to be completed. Laura Vykol offered to draw up a schedule of Theme Dances. Some clubs already have these on their schedule for 2019-2020. Laura will contact the other clubs and finalize the schedule.

WEBSITE HOST Bill Phelps has added information about Gettysburg restaurants and sightseeing opportunities to the website to make the new location more interesting.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

AMBASSADOR PROGRAM has four clubs participating, including Dublin Dancers, who do have a representative for this program. The 2019-20 has been set, but nothing past that. Amy Shottling suggested closing the program for the 2020-21 dance year.

HEART FUND DANCE for February 2020 has been canceled due to the fact that Emma Hahn is no longer able to organize this dance. This fundraiser may end unless someone else steps up to run the dance. We are asking for a new person or group to consider taking on this great cause beginning in 2021.

SICKNESS/DISTRESS/SUNSHINE COMMITTEE sent many cards to our dancers. A get well card went to John Marshall (surgery). Ruthye Steinberg received a sympathy card on the loss of her husband Manny. Kathy Zottman (her father had a stroke) and Miriam Feit both received Thinking of You cards. Stan Harrell is waiting for double bypass surgery in St. Joseph's Hospital. Jean Harrell has Lyme Disease and needs to have her medication adjusted. Peggy Lea Gosnell reported that Marie Disney had passed away recently.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE handed out current rosters at this meeting and asked for updates ASAP. We need to get the updated rosters to complete the Directory.

PARK & REC LIASON Peggy Lea Gosnell reminded dancers that if they dance/meet at the Catonsville Senior Center they need to sign the waiver for Baltimore County. You only need to sign this once a year, but it must be signed.

CLUB INSURANCE INFORMATION will be given to clubs still in the insurance program. Elizabeth Sanders is the new USDA representative.

RECRUITMENT & PROMOTION COMMITTEE provided a calendar of summer dances for the new dancers. They also noticed e-mail reminders of both Tom Thumb & Friendship summer workshops.; these workshops help integrate new dancers into our activity as they move from being "students" to being "square dancers". The committee hosted a Last Chance Dance in July . This was a Plus Workshop for all dancers to help prepare them for the Festival. They are recommending that this become an annual event as it was well attended and got lots of good feedback. They also hosted the Grad Ball at the Festival (see above).

QUARTER-WAY DANCE (hosted by R&P) will be held on Sunday, October 27 from 2-4:30pm at the Catonsville Senior Center. Bruce Simperts will call and Amy Shottling will cue the rounds. This event will be free for all MDSDF students and angels. Non-MDSDF dancers will be charged \$5. There will be a Second Hand Rose sale and a 50-50.

APPRECIATION DANCE has been scheduled for May 3, 2020.

MDSDF GOOGLE GROUP currently has 327 members.

SDBLA added ¼ tag the line, and ¾ tag the line to the Mainstream List. They have separated the Basic List and the Mainstream List into two lists.

TELEPHONE TREE has been updated. Norva Pope has the new list and will e-mail it to the callers. Dancers, please make Norva the first contact to disseminate information about our members.

USDA MEEETING was attended by Carol Eyre, Ellen Linsenbardt and Cheryl Rakes at the June 2019 meeting at the Atlanta National Convention. The Eastern representative is moving up to President, so there will be a new person filling that position. Prescription discount cards are available through the USDA, and Carol had some at this meeting. We will need MDSDF representative(s) to attend this meeting next year at the Spokane National Convention.

ROLL CALL report was that 13 of 16 MDSDF clubs were in attendance at this meeting.

NO REPORTS were received from the Ways & Means Committee, Website Committee, or WASCA.

### **OLD/UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

STATE FAIR DEMO had four squares, including new dancers, attending. Virgil Forbes, Bruce Simperts and Ed Trever called the dance. It was noted that it was much cooler this year, and that, perhaps due to this fact, spectators stayed longer at the demo. Mary Dean suggested that if we have three callers available, we could dance continuously so that it was less likely that people would wander away from the demo.

BANNER RAID GUIDELINES have been finalized and will be posted on the website.

MDSDF DIRECTORY is still in the works. We need an idea for the front cover, and are waiting for the updated rosters. We hope to have the directory available at the November delegate meeting.

BOARD NOMINEES are needed. We have openings on the MDSDF Board of Directors and need dancers to fill these positions.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

FUNDRAISING IDEAS and options were discussed. There was a lot of energy around the "Buy a Block (of flooring)" idea. This would raise money so all the dance halls would have wooden flooring at the 2020 SSBF. Expanding the 5-3-2 ticket sales to other locations was discussed. Laura Vykol noted that we had raised the Registration fee for the Festival, so that in itself will bring in more money. Laura also suggested that we have some kind of tote board display (thermometer?) available at dances so the members can see how much money has been raised versus our goal. Denise Latimer suggested talking about the Festival not only at the Quarter dances but also at classes. By asking the students for donations we might be able to draw them in and make them feel a bigger part of the MDSDF and get them excited to attend the Festival as new dancers. It was also suggested that we could hold a Fundraising Dance over the summer (when there is less dancing in general) for the next Festival. We could possibly have two dances. The first one could be at Catonsville Senior Center, which people are familiar with, to get started. Then a second one later in the summer, perhaps at a bigger venue like the South Carroll Senior Center to facilitate a larger crowd. Another idea was to have a night at a local restaurant where a percentage of all food purchased would go to MDSDF. Both Chik-Fil-A and Ledo's Pizza sponsor these types of fundraisers.

A GAMING PERMIT is needed for our event when it is held in Maryland. Peggy Lea asked whether we would need this type of permit for an event in Pennsylvania. Carol Eyre will look into this.

MD STATE OUTFIT might be nice to have for the Spokane Convention. Laura Vykol noted that at the Atlanta Convention many of the attendees had an official state outfit which they wore in the Parade of States. Her idea was to have suggestions and discussion about what type of outfit we would like for MD. Friendship Square will host a Fashion Show at their dance on Jan. 3, 2020 for people who want to display their idea for an outfit. Once a design has been selected, patterns can be provided and attendees can make their outfits and then wear them proudly representing Maryland in the Spokane Parade of States.

SOME NEW CLASSES have been formed in a non-traditional format. The Ellicott City Senior Center is sponsoring a class on Tuesday afternoons, which is being taught by Bruce Simperts. They need angels so all the students can dance. There was also a dance at Village Crest . They had 3 squares of dancers, including 15 angels. It was a very enthusiastic group, and hopefully some of these dancers will move to a more traditional class to continue learning. Bruce noted that this could be a good way to recruit new dancers, by focusing on the “younger seniors”.

### **CLUB ANNOUNCEMENTS**

CASUAL SQUARES will not dance this fall. Dances will resume in January, 2020.

ADVANCE CLASSES are being offered by Gary Felton at Spinning Windmills. Information is on the website.

AMYABLE ROUNDERS will offer a beginners round dance class this fall beginning on Thurs, Oct. 3. The first class is free. Amy reminded us that you do not need to know how to square dance in order to round dance, so tell all your friends.

MARY DEAN said that she is trying to organize an International Square Dance Day event, hopefully in September 2020. It is based on another dance event she was part of recently. More information will follow as this event is developed.

BELAIR SQUARE CATS classes will be held Tuesdays at 7-9pm at Chapel Forge School.  
FRIENDSHIP SQUARES classes will be held Wednesdays from 7-9pm at Lindale Middle School.

SWINGING SQUARES will host a Plus Workshop on Friday nights. They will have their Welcome Back dance on Saturday, Sept. 21 with Virgil Forbes calling and Amy Shotting cueing.

**MOTION TO ADJOURN** was made by Virgil Forbes and seconded by Mike Sumy The meeting was adjourned at 4:50pm.

Next Delegate meeting is scheduled for Sunday, November 17, 2-4 pm at Catonsville Senior Center.  
Next Board meeting is scheduled for Saturday, Oct. 12, place TBD

Respectfully submitted,  
Helena Jester  
Recording Secretary