

Midnight Squares

June 13, 2004

Club Meeting Minutes

Attendees

Jeff Hamilton, Geoff Kulik, Harlan Kerr, Steve Anderson, Ed Zeigler, Lily Gee Hickman, Judith Stevenson, Tom Johnson, Ed Egenias, Galen Workman, Richard Rockwell, Gary Young, Neale Grasham, Richard Tuck, Mary Jane Wood, Don Queen, Fen Tamanaha

Minutes

The meeting convened at 3pm. Geoffrey Kulik volunteered to serve as secretary for the meeting. The minutes of the previous meeting were not read as they had been previously published on the website.

Treasurer's Report

Don Queen, Co-Treasurer, passed out a treasurer's report covering the receipts and disbursements since the last meeting. See treasurer report in locker. It was noted that we are financially healthy.

Don also presented a financial report on the 2003-2004 classes. The three classes resulted in net income to the club of \$597.

Jeff Hamilton recalled that bonuses had been paid to instructors for 2002-2003 classes. He proposed that bonuses be paid out of approximately 50% of the class profits to the instructors based on the weeks of instruction. There was general agreement to distribute \$300 in this fashion. Thank you to our class instructors, Peggy, Fen, Andy and Harlan!

Administrative Items

Woody will continue to update email addresses in the database. She advised the club that she will be able to administer the club database through March 2005. After this date, database administration will need to transition to a new volunteer. Several club members indicated their willingness to take on this task.

Jeff Hamilton reported that the basement of Friends School will continue to be available to us through May 2005. After that the basement will need to be rented from the school (as opposed to the church.) We may need to find alternate space if the school is not willing continue the rental due to their needs.

Jeff also reported that we received a letter from the Church indicating that they continue to have problems with the state the basement/kitchen is left in. It was noted that, generally, we are not the last group to use the space and that we do clean up after ourselves. Jeff will respond to the letter.

Richard Rockwell has shirts available. If you want a club shirt, please let Richard know.

Ed reported that Allan purchased on behalf of the club the domains MidnightSquares.com, MidnightSquares.net, and MidnightSquares.org and that they all point to the club website. (Thank you Allan!) The registration service displays a banner for their service on the bottom of the browser window when you first reach the site but disappears when you follow a link from the home page. The registration expires in April of 2007. It was noted that Ed Zeigler keeps our club site extremely current!

Club Liaisons

PACE will have Ross Howell in August. [After the meeting, PACE announced that due to a misunderstanding, there will be no August dancing.] Top Cats is focusing on strengthening the C2 floor level. San Jose pride celebrations were scheduled for today, so representatives from El Camino were presumably busy there. Midnight Squares donated money to assist with the square dance booth at San Francisco Pride and several

members indicated they will be volunteering in the booth. Foggy City's new mainstream class starts in July. The 3 classes in July will be free. Harlan Kerr will be teaching the class.

2004 Convention

Gary Dougan and Harlan are our delegates to the executive meeting of the IAGSDC in Phoenix. We have received materials regarding the 2008 convention bids from Seattle, Cleveland, and Washington, D.C. The general consensus from those who reviewed the bids before the meeting was to have our delegates vote for Cleveland. Club banners are to be in Phoenix by Tuesday before convention. Fen volunteered to take the banner to Phoenix (it was not found in the locker but Fen believed he knew where it had been taken) and it was suggested that Bill Tyler could bring the banner home. Jeff and Steve Anderson will coordinate sales of the club photo to be taken at the conventions. Club members are asked to wear their club T-Shirts for the photo.

Upcoming Dances

There was a report that indicated the club may have had a net outflow of approximately \$100 in connection with the Anne Uebelacker dances held over the weekend of June 6. Thank you Peggy and Tom for pulling together the dances over the weekend, including the very successful graduation/pizza dance. September 11, 2004, we have the Plus/Advanced dance scheduled with Anne calling. (Peggy, Allan and Pat Smith are coordinating.) We are not sure as of today if the hall at Ebenezer has been rented. [After the meeting, Arthur confirmed with Jeff that the reservation is in place.] In November (either 14th or 21st) we have a dance with Bill Eycler calling. {Question to reviewers: Who volunteered to coordinate this dance?} Richard Tuck and Harlan will follow up with Gary. [After the meeting, Jeff and Gary confirmed that the dance will be 11/21/04.] January 16, 2005 we have our Member Appreciation dance scheduled with Kris Jensen calling. Judith and Lilly volunteered to serve as coordinators for this dance. In March, Sandra Bryant will be in the area. The club will likely try to schedule a dance with her during then.

Club Nights/Meeting Times

Wednesday and Thursday club nights will continue through the summer and after the new classes start in the Fall. Thursday club nights continue on track. There will be no dancing on Thursday, September 30. Check the website for Sunday schedules until

classes start. Generally, Advanced will be held from 2pm to 4pm and a C1 or C2 will be scheduled from 4pm to 6pm.

Fall Classes

The survey was sent to assess the interest level at specific Challenge levels. Jeff reported that the number one comment received was that classes were important and the second most frequently received comment was that we should be strengthening the floor levels of our dancers. There was a significant response indicating interest in C3A and C1. It was noted that Ken Sales will be teaching a C1 class in the East Bay.

Jeff proposed that we plan on a 2-hour advanced class, and 90-minute classes of C1 and C3A. There was general agreement to accept this proposal.

Richard Tuck will make a proposal to Peggy Shumway that they coteach the Advanced class. [After the meeting, Peggy confirmed that this arrangement will work fine.] Harlan agreed to teach the two Challenge classes.

Jeff will alert the church that we would like to move up our 5 hour slot from 2-7 to 1-6. This will enable the classes to still be over by 6:00 (our current timing). Additionally, the group that meets in the basement after us usually starts setting up before 6:30 anyway. Therefore, the Advanced class will be 1-3, C1 from 3-4:30, and C3A from 4:30-6. There was discussion as to what order the classes should be taught in. Harlan pointed out the Challenge classes needed to be consecutive. Although there were some disagreements, it was generally determined that angels were more likely to come and angel prior to their own class (and less likely to stay after their class to angel a lower level). It was also pointed out that there is always a natural dropoff during a class, so angels are more likely to be needed at the end of a class, rather than at the beginning.

During the discussion regarding the class plans, there were questions raised regarding the club's policy regarding Angels at classes. It was noted that during recent classes Angels had been asked to leave squares and may not feel welcome. Members expressed a wide range of opinions. Some felt that if Angels are really wanted, they should be allowed to dance and that encouraging Angels to participate in classes makes it easier to learn the calls at a new level and enhances club cohesion. Others felt that it is inappropriate to ever have paying class members sitting out during a class. There were additional points

raised that consistently tagging in allows all present to dance. Harlan pointed out that tag-ins should start after two sequences in a tip have been completed and that after nine sequences of tagging in, all present will have a similar amount of floor time.

After the discussion, there was general agreement regarding the following:

- ? Angels who are present at classes should be allowed some floor time.
- ? Class members should be given priority but may not dance all the time.
- ? The Instructor has a choice to allowing tagging-in based on the instructors comfort level and that at times it may be appropriate because of instruction to ask Angles to temporarily step out in favor of class members.

Don Queen will assemble a committee to work on price structure for the upcoming classes. (See Don if you want to be on the pricing committee.) Neale Grasham will do flyers for the upcoming class. All classes will start on October 10.

Lily reported that the club received a Thank-You note from the United Methodist Church for our consideration of their space during the C1 class. They indicated they would be happy to rent to us in the future.

Adjournment

At approximately 4:20pm the meeting adjourned. The next club meeting is scheduled for August 29 at 3pm.