

RAF Presidents Meeting

August 10, 2020

Zoom Meeting started @ 6:30

Attendees (35 total):

Jim Gotta – acting secretary, caller

Peter Emmel – Village Squares, Promeander

Jeff & Debbie Blood - Presidents

Chuck & Sharon Meyer -, Cloverleaf

Sidney Marshall – Promenader, caller

Sue Sepkowski – co VP, Silver Squares

Anne Granger – co VP

Gary Etherton - Waterwheels

Pat & Bill Mosher – Southern Tier Wheelers

Ray Tompkins – Cloverleaf, caller

Rick & Donna LaDonna - Treasurers

Alice & Gary Bubel – Boo Bull Square and Rounds, caller and cuer

Dave Eno - caller

Jamond – Dalton

Carol Ann Stahl – Insurance, Grand Squares

Kris & Amy Aeckerle - Promotions

Eileen Webster - cuer

Mike Callahan – Shamrock Squares, caller

Gil Porter - caller

Phil & Mary Martin – Copy Cats

joined after the meeting started

Rich Rosenfield – Penn Yan

Bob & Alice Hager – Belles N’ Beaus

Ron Brown - caller

Gary & Lorraine Granath

Debra Allen – Shirts N’ Skirts

Stu Jones

Agenda

1) Attendance

2) What are people doing to keep club members connected?

Belle&Beaus and Silver Squares have Zoom chat, Village squares does as well.

Silver Squares has been having walks. Silver Squares may be starting Monday dance at the Callahans.

Shamrocks has been having squares – 17 people signed up, 10 dance at a time

Shirts N’ Skirts has occasional Zoom sessions and had an outdoor picnic. A2/C1 group has been meeting on sporadic basis in people garages.

Village Squares has virtual Zoom squares every Wed.

Copy Cats picnic tomorrow, no dancing. Club didn't have interest in Zoom.

Cayuga has been dancing outside a restaurant for the last 5 weeks. Dance with masks, sanitize between tips. Had 24 people. Don't want visitors. Only took 3 weeks to get rust off.

Penn Yan had picnic which went well.

3) Summer Covid survey

254 responses. Debbie walked through some highlights:

>1/2 didn't know when they would return to dancing

1/3 wanted non contact dancing

Take any initial dances as "rusty hinge" dance – time to re-learn

Couple write in suggestions to keep squares consistent to minimize exposure.

Discussion:

Mike C. think need to have some contact to dance. Peter asked about elbows. Jamond asked about line dancing.

Kris likes idea of consistent square for night. Anne indicated Silver Square club really want to do this.

Gil thinks square would generate cloud of vapor that would contaminate anyone in area. Keeping to 1 consistent square minimizes exposure. Large group is when virus spreads best.

Mike thinks our age group is more careful and not as bad as general population for risk.

Debbie – USDA recommendation, 1 person signs dancers in (provides contact tracing), take temperature, pay with check no cash.

4) Any current dancing going on already discussed

5) Club fall status

Belles N Beaus won't be dancing this year, no place, dancers don't want to.

Phil & Mary, church and school won't let anyone in so Copy Cats don't have current facility. Agrees with Gil. 2 squares will get lots of cross contamination. Since NYS hasn't opened gyms, should be consideration for us. Club members not happy with small group dances. Also concerned with hurt feelings on fixed squares. Personally don't see any chance of dancing this year.

Pat Mosher, STW will not dance at all this summer. Thinks consistent square helps with virus, but not good for square dancer dancing and feelings.

Carol Ann, Grand Squares, Rush schools won't allow use. Only one other couple willing to dance, so not dancing for now.

Dave Eno, Shirt & Skirts, can't use community room.

Gary & Alice, Bubel squares & rounds, can't get in hall. Same thing with the church. Cleanup before and after is uncertain. Agrees with Pat comment that consistent square will lead to some hurt feelings.

Peter, Village Squares in similar – no word from church from when can get in. If can't dance with social environment that know and love, don't want to do it in anti-social mode.

Debbie thinks Cloverleaf not dancing this fall. Sharon & Mike indicated church not available.

Richard indicated Pen Yan has own building, but board decided no dances at least until February. FLCC doesn't have a coordinator, so updates only on web site.

6) DOR-ish dance

Dave thinks may get a square to come. consensus to cancel

I indicated rooms are available at 1/2 capacity if people want to use. Given the opinions, make sense to cancel.

7) Federation help clubs – return to dancing task force

Debbie proposing club officers, caller make task force together to help when get.

Gil likes idea. Have a chance during this break to re-think square dancing and figure out how grow activity again. Need to keep people's busy schedule into account. A person has to be able to miss a class or two and stay in activity.

Mike agrees with Gil. Dave agrees. Mentioned SSD (new Social Square Dancing Program). Pay one fixed price for 12 weeks of lessons. Wants to make sure still have bridge to those that want to dance higher level. Eileen indicated "new graduates" disappointed that didn't get to finish class. Don't forget them in future concept. Start with promotion committee on finding dancers, get with new dancer input, etc.

Kris doesn't think they as committee is the proper place to run the task force. They are only making suggestions.

Debbie said she and Jeff will run. Email them if have interest in participating.

Gary indicated have 2 issues. Programs and getting people involved.

8) USDA insurance

no Covid insurance. If following NYS guidance, dance covered.

Nothing on private property is covered.

9) Sidney web site

a lot spammers out there, don't pay for anything for website without Sidney

just renewed hosting for 3 years since got discount

4gb of data today, 2gb is scanned old copies of Promenader

want email for where bills to go – can't be on host

Indicated don't have backup person, Rick volunteered

Anne indicated John McNeal passed on Friday.

adjourned at 7:55

next meeting Wed Sept 9 6:30 Zoom session