



Guild of Oriental Dance

NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER / DECEMBER 2006

Guild Calendar

GUILD FESTIVAL SCHEDULE

Wednesday, January 10 - 9:00 p.m.
JDC Building

NEXT GUILD MEETING

Saturday, January 6, 2007
Time 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
JDC Building

AGENDA

Annual Party
Annual Show Planning
Guild Library
Festivals, Event & Seminars
Charitable Festival
Video Night II
Guild Portfolio
Officer Updates

DEADLINE FOR JANUARY/FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS

The deadline for submissions for
the January/February 2007
Newsletter is January 10, 2007.



From Leslie & Kristina...

FAREWELL & HAPPY SHIMMIES

Dear members,

As we prepare to pass on the positions of First and Second Chair to Bonnie Berquam and Mary West, (thank you Bonnie and Mary for your willingness to get involved and take on these positions), we look back on the year and hope you agree that the Guild had a pretty awesome year.

We started off January 2006 with a well-attended Annual Party put together by our fabulous Annual Party Committee. The Mozayik Arabic Ensemble played, there were many fun games, and lots of dancing, of course!

In February we had a successful open stage at Jerusalem's and filled the restaurant to capacity. It was a fun night for all involved.

Next was the Annual Show in April. This was a two weekend, four-day event and it was a huge success thanks to all the performers, volunteers and the annual show committee members, especially Kathy McCurdy (annual show committee chair).

In May we had another successful open stage at Beirut Restaurant. The owners of the restaurant graciously opened up their doors for us to hold this event on a day they are not normally open. Thank you to everyone who helped make it successful.

In July we had a fabulous picnic at Lake Harriet again. This event continues to grow and just gets more and more fun and we had a great turnout. Bonnie Berquam, Nadia, Linda Brown and all of the other volunteers really went out of their way to make this picnic great.

September rolled around and we held another packed open stage at the Mediterranean Cruise Café.

In October we had our first ever Guild movie night and saw the opening of the Guild Library!! We also had Guild board member elections in October. Several new faces will be joining the board come January. Congratulations to the new and returning members and thank you to everyone who ran for positions.

In November we held another Guild flea market. Thanks to Christine Johnson (organizer) and all the vendors and shoppers! We hope to continue to hold this event annually.

And of course dispersed all throughout the year were numerous meetings and dance festivals held at the Cassandra School (thank you Festival Committee members!)

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 2)

Guild Officers & Committees

BOARD MEMBERS

FIRST CHAIR

Leslie Kennedy (612) 701-3733

SECOND CHAIR

Kristine Paul (651) 253-4750

SECRETARY

Bonnie Berquam (651) 487-5378

NEWSLETTER EDITOR & NEWSLETTER DISTRIBUTION

Tiffany Tieche (952) 484-4355

Klee Burke (Asst.) (763) 218-4070

TREASURER

Kathy McCurdy (612) 822-8822

MEMBERSHIP & DISTRIBUTION

Linda Brown (651) 483-2399

COMMUNICATIONS

Linda Brown (651) 483-2399

Jennifer Roden (763) 232-0606

FESTIVAL COMMITTEE

If you would like to dance at a restaurant festival, please contact Melanie Meyer in advance at melanie.meyer@ampf.com

Kathy McCurdy (612) 822-8822

Melanie Meyer (612) 671-2597

Linda Brown (651) 483-2399

Dale Sulzen (612) 817-3811

Christine Johnson (612) 385-1137

PHONE COMMITTEE

Margaret Waller (763) 544-3067

Melanie Meyer (612) 671-2597

GUILD OF ORIENTAL DANCE

WEB SITE, EMAIL & PHONE

www.gulldoforientaldance.org

gulldoforientaldance@yahoo.com

(651) 253-4750 (8am-8pm)

Send address, phone changes, and information for the web site to:

Linda Brown, (651) 483-2399

851 Lovell Avenue, Roseville, MN 55113

aylalini@comcast.net

NEWSLETTER

Send newsletter articles, ads, ideas to:

Tiffany Tieche - Nadia@NadiaRaks.com

From Leslie & Kristina...

FAREWELL & HAPPY SHIMMIES (CONTINUED)

There were changes and improvements made to the web page, the newsletter and the organizational processes that accompany them. Special thanks to Linda Brown, Nadia and Klee Burke for all their hard work.

The current board saw changes and faced challenges, and everyone worked very hard this past year. We want to thank our fellow board members for all their hard work. Through a group effort, allot was accomplished. And we even had fun doing it!

We've learned through our experiences as guild members for many years and as a board members for the last couple that it is important to have new members as well as old get involved or re-involved in the running of the Guild. It takes time, commitment and patience to govern an organization of this type. Fresh ideas from new members (or old) combined with experience gained from members that have been in the community for years are sure to be successful. So, if you've been out of the loop for a while, get involved again, you'll be glad you did – it's fun!!

In January the newly elected board will assume office and we know they will do a fabulous job this upcoming year, but they can always use more help. That's where you, the members, come in. Get involved, go to meetings, sign up to be on committees. Write articles for the newsletter. Give the board your ideas. Really, they want to hear from you. If you want something new, tell them. If you think something is broken, they can't fix it unless they know about it.

On a personal note, we are sad to be leaving the board because it was a hugely rewarding experience, not to mention allot of fun . However, our schedules have become so much busier over the past year and are showing no signs of slowing down. We knew we no longer have the time that we felt was necessary to devote to board positions and were ecstatic when other members came forward with the willingness and commitment needed to devote to these positions. Bonnie and Mary will do great things in the upcoming year we have no doubt.

We want to thank everyone who got involved in 2006 – you helped make it a fabulous year. Here's to another amazing year in 2007!!!!

Signing off now,

Peace and Shimmies,

*Leslie (Aliyah Ammal)
& Kristina*



*R*estaurants *w*ith *D*ancers

METRO AREA

BEIRUT RESTAURANT

1385 South Robert Street, St. Paul
651-457-4886; Fri & Sat 7:30 p.m.

JERUSALEM'S RESTAURANT

1518 Nicollet Avenue S., Minneapolis
612-871-8883; Fri & Sat 7:30 & 9 p.m.

MAIRIAN'S TABLE

23 Northeast Fourth Street, Minneapolis
612-746-4272; Shows: 1st Saturday of
every month; 7 & 9 p.m.
www.mairianstable.com

MEDITERRANEAN CRUISE

Hwy 13 and Cedar Avenue S., Eagan
651-452-5991, Thur 7 & 8:30 p.m.,
Fri & Sat 7, 9 & 10 p.m.
www.medcruisecafe.com/schedule.htm

NAAR GRILLE

11528 Leona Road, Eden Prairie
952-946-NAAR www.NaarGrille.com
Thurs & Fri 7:30 & 9:00 p.m.
Sat 6:30, 7:45 & 9:00 p.m.

SANTORINI

9920 Wayzata Blvd., St. Louis Park
952-546-6722; Sun 7 p.m.

REMINDER!

If you have an upcoming event you
would like to have included on the Guild
website and in the newsletter, please
email them to Linda at:
aylalini@comcast.net

THANKS!

*G*uild Meeting Minutes

OCTOBER 8, 2006

THERE WERE 12 GUILD MEMBERS PRESENT. MUCH WAS ACCOMPLISHED AT THIS MEETING. THANKS TO KATHY McCURDY FOR STEPPING IN AND LEADING THE MEETING IN LESLIE'S ABSENCE. THANKS TO ALL WHO ATTENDED FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION AND YOUR GENEROSITY.

Officers

Kathy McCurdy, Linda Brown, Bonnie Berquam

Members

Mary West, Rachel Westlake, Jean Zerby, Tatyana Butkova, Anne Farrington, Cindy Kisse, Jennifre Roden, Teresa Taylor, Tonia Miller-Lake, Susan Shelso, Christine "Cat" Johnson, Klee Burke

Officer Election results

As mentioned in the last meeting minutes, the three Board positions with multiple nominees on the ballot were: Second Chair, Secretary and Communications Chair. The nominees for the other positions were elected "by acclamation" according to the Guild By-Laws. All ballots were collected and tallied by Kathy McCurdy. Kathy then announced the results as follows:

- Second Chair: Mary West
- Communications Chair. Linda Brown
- Secretary was a tie, which Kathy suggested could be filled in a collaborative approach. Following this announcement, Teresa Taylor graciously declined the role, so Christine Johnson will be Secretary.

Beginning at the January meeting, the following officers will begin their duties:

First Chair – Bonnie Berquam
Second Chair – Mary West
Secretary – Christine Johnson
Treasurer – Kathy McCurdy
Newsletter Editor – Tiffany Tieche
Membership – Linda Brown
Communications – Linda Brown

Membership Report

Linda Brown reported that last month, at the end of our membership year we had 266 members. Currently, given membership renewals, we have 137 Guild members.

From the Editor

BY TIFFANY TIECHE

Greetings everyone!
Wishing everyone a wonderful and safe
holiday season! Happy 2007!

Namaste,

*Nadia (Tiffany Tieche)**Guild Meeting Minutes*

OCTOBER 8, 2006 (continued)

Treasurer's Report

PREVIOUS BALANCE	\$1,629.51
INCOME	
DVD Sales	208.50
Membership Dues	1,682.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$1890.50
EXPENSES	
Bank Charge	10.00
Bad Check	24.00
Lottery - Janine Waldack	100.00
Stamps	19.53
Festival Flyers	17.54
Picnic	132.57
Newsletter	57.29
Postage (Show)	2.09
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$357.02
BALANCE AFTER EXPENSES	\$3162.99

Guild Library Almost Ready to Roll

Tatyana Butkova, our Guild Librarian, is getting everything organized, including the checkout approach. We discussed requesting a deposit for items when checked out to ensure we can replace any item if it does not get returned. For items that cannot be replaced such as older copies of publications, we discussed scanning the item and storing it electronically. We had some concern about copyright restrictions and Susan Shelso offered to do some legal research on what is appropriate.

Guild Website

Communications officer, Linda Brown, assigned the role of Webmaster to Jennifer Roden. Jennifer will be reviewing the current website and making recommendations with a fresh eye. Changes to our ISP provider are still in the works, but will be made soon as our contract needs to be renewed. Our Website Committee will review and discuss options, then make recommendations to the Board as needed to meet expiration deadlines.

Guild Newsletter

We have had some difficulty recently meeting content deadlines and this has caused the delay of newsletter publication. We discussed setting up content deadlines for the full year, and sticking to the dates whether content is submitted or not. Klee & Tiffany discussed options and Tiffany will work on streamlining the process with the new Board.

Other Events

PRATT HAFLAS

The Haflas are sponsored by the Pratt Community Ed Belly Dance Program. Everyone is welcome. Please come and dance with us!

Haflas are on the first Saturday of the month, from 7 p.m. to 9 pm. and are held at the Lake Harriet Dance Center, 6438 Lyndale Ave S in Minneapolis (right next to Lyndale Garden & Hardware.) Please enter through the back door.

A Hafla is a Middle Eastern dance party. We have solo and group performances. The dancers may be students, professionals, or anyone in between. We usually have time for drumming and social dancing after the performances.

This year the band Felahi will play for social dancing and for performers who are interested in working with them.

If you want to perform, contact one of the people listed below. If you want to watch, just show up. It is free, but we do pass the hat to pay the rent.

Suzanne D'Souza (612) 824-4507
suzdsouza@hotmail.com

Mary West (763) 537-8106
aminaraks@aol.com

Nikita Davis (612) 710-1904
parisa.bellydance@gmail.com

Anne Farrington (612) 722-3721
anne_farrington@hotmail.com

HAFLA SCHEDULE

January 6, 2007
February 3, 2007
March 3, 2007
April 7, 2007

Guild Meeting Minutes

OCTOBER 8, 2006 (continued)

Festivals and Event Planning underway for 2007

We began planning Guild festivals, note that restaurant festivals are on the second Sunday. We tentatively planned Guild meetings at 11:30 a.m. on the second Saturday of odd months; however, January's meeting is the first Saturday.

<u>MONTH</u>	<u>DAY</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>EVENT</u>
Dec 6	Wed	9:00 p.m.	JDC Building	Guild Festival
Jan 6	Sat	11:30 a.m.	JDC Building	Guild Meeting
Jan 10	Wed	9:00 p.m.	JDC Building	Guild Festival
Jan 27	Sat	7:00 p.m.	Location TBD	Annual Guild Party
Feb 7 or 12	Wed or Sun	9:00 p.m. or 6:30 p.m.	JDC Building or Restaurant	Guild Festival - Date and location TBD
Mar 7 or 12	Wed or Sun	9:00 p.m. or 6:30 p.m.	JDC Building or Restaurant	Guild Festival - Date and location TBD
Mar 10	Sat	11:30 a.m.	JDC Building	Guild Meeting
Apr 4	Wed	9:00 p.m.	JDC Building	Guild Festival
Apr 21-22 and 28-29	Sat- Sun		JDC Building	Annual Guild Show
May	TBD			Guild Festival
May 12	Sat	11:30 a.m.	JDC Building	Guild Meeting
Jun	TBD			Guild Festival
Jul	TBD		Park Location	Guild Picnic
Jul 14	Sat	11:30 a.m.	JDC Building	Guild Meeting
Aug	TBD			Guild Festival
Sep	TBD			Guild Festival
Sep 8	Sat	11:30 a.m.	JDC Building	Guild Meeting
Oct	TBD			Guild Festival
Nov	TBD			Guild Festival
Nov 10	Sat	11:30 a.m.		Guild Meeting
Dec	TBD			Guild Festival

Kathy suggested we could have a special festival event in the new Jawaahir South Studio location. This festival space is under development.

Several members mentioned how much they had enjoyed the Guild seminars held in recent years and suggested we plan some more. Potential topics included: stage lighting techniques, sewing, costuming (Tribal, Turkish, traditional Middle-Eastern), and history. We encourage members to submit ideas for seminars to Bonnie Berquam or Mary West for discussion in upcoming meetings.

Guild Meeting Minutes

OCTOBER 8, 2006 (continued)

Annual Guild Party - January 27, 2007

We selected the last Saturday in January for the all Guild Member event. Kathy McCurdy offered to chair this event and the following committee members volunteered: Teresa, Rachel, Jennifer and Tonia. Rachel will collect the white elephant gifts. Back by popular demand is our participation game with gift certificate. The committee will get to work on arranging a venue and booking a band. Watch for more details in Guild emails.

Annual Show Planning - April 21,22,28,29

We agreed that we will increase ticket prices to \$10 this year with the goal to have the event break even. We are delighted to have the following people chair the show committees:

Show Coordinator	Kathy McCurdy
Stage Managers	TBD
Lighting & Tech Director	Hilary Smith
Sound	Christine Johnson
Promotions & Programs	Bonnie Berquam
Videography	Linda Brown
Door & Usher	Jennifer Roden (More people needed)
Decorations	Rachel Westlake, Jean Zerby, Jennifer Roden, Mary West
Food	Tatyana Butkova (More people needed)
Setup & Teardown	Klee Burke (More people needed)

Note that there are some open spots and lots of ways to participate and support these aspects of the show to ensure it is a successful event. What talents would you like to share?

We reviewed lessons learned about managing DVD orders. Instead of having DVD orders trickle in and requiring ongoing work by Linda and production house, we established two order deadlines for ordering DVDs, May 15 and June 1. Beyond that, no additional order will be accepted. Linda will also plan a pickup date for those who can stop by JDC to pick up their DVD order. For DVDs that are mailed, we will include a \$5 mailing cost to ensure we can cover the cost of packaging and postage.

Guild Meeting Minutes

OCTOBER 8, 2006 (continued)

Congratulations - Educational Lottery Winners!

IN-TOWN WINNERS: Jessa Fowler, Pamela Cluckey, Sarah Maas, Angela Polk

OUT-OF-TOWN WINNER: Fran Dunfee

PARTICIPATION WINNER: Tonia Miller-Lake

Lottery winners can contact Kathy McCurdy to arrange to use their winnings toward a class or workshop tuition. It can be used for any kind of education; it does not have to be a Middle-Eastern dance class. Lottery winnings expire after a year. The winners selected this year have until October 1, 2007 to use their winnings.

Our First Video Night – October 13

Our chair for this event, Jennifer Roden, says all is in place. This event is the first of potentially many. We will be viewing some videos from our Guild Library. Donations will be accepted to support the library. Bonnie and Tatyana offered to help with the door. People are reminded to bring a pillow to sit on, and if you do bring food, be careful to clean up.

Guild Flea Market – NEW date: Nov 11, 10am – 1pm

Due to potential scheduling conflicts, we moved the Flea Market to Saturday, Nov 11. Christine Johnson is chairing this event and several members are ready to vend. Contact Christine at 612-385-1137, straycatscrj@yahoo.com, to reserve your spot. She will prepare a flyer to send to our teachers. Mark this date and plan to vend and/or shop! Cost to members to vend is \$5. Setup starts at 8am. Please, no commercial vending.

Supporting a Charity

Linda reported results of her research on charitable organizations. She suggested two types of organizations to support: shelters for battered women, and advocacy groups that try to help women who are still in a tough situation. We learned that there are many more advocacy groups than there are shelters. Also, we learned that shelters do need more charitable support for women, since women typically bring children with them. We decided to support two shelters, one in St. Paul and one in Minneapolis. Next we decided to plan an event to raise funds we can donate. To start small, we selected a Guild Festival where the proceeds would go to the two shelters. We selected the April Festival since this typically has a good turn out. And we will invite a “headliner” performer to help bring in a broader audience. The suggested donation will be \$10. Given the 9pm timing of the Festival that follows dance classes, the audience will be invited to bring pillows as seating will be on the floor – caravan style. Linda will develop a flyer to promote this. Other committee members include Jean and Teresa.

Guild Meeting Minutes

OCTOBER 8, 2006 (continued)

New Contacts for Member Liason, Guild Phone, and Guild Portfolio

In her new role as Second Chair, Mary West, will be Member Liaison and will also responsible for the Guild Phone and Guild Portfolio. As Member Liaison, you can call on her to represent your ideas, concerns, questions, and suggestions at meetings where you are unable to be present. From time to time, the Guild Phone number receives requests for bookings. The Guild Portfolio is a collection of contacts for dancers, teachers, dancer groups, henna artists, musicians, musician groups and other. This form was last published in the April/May 2005 newsletter. Since several people at the meeting were unaware of the Portfolio and what it is, we will review the Portfolio at upcoming meetings. Mary West plans to bring fresh ideas to this process. Jennifer Roden, our new Web master, will consider placing this form on the Guild Web site.

Mary's contact information (new Guild Phone): 763-221-5820, aminaraks@aol.com.

Guild of Oriental Dance

MEMBERSHIP

The Guild of Oriental Dance is an organization of professional and avocational Middle Eastern Dancers. It was established in 1981 to help promote Middle Eastern Dance, provide dancers performance opportunities, and promote camaraderie within the dance community.

The Guild also helps ensure good working conditions and minimum wage guidelines for professional and avocational performers working in and around the Twin Cities. Implicit in the charter is a wish to promote improved intercultural understanding between the United States and the Middle East through music and dance.

CURRENT GUILD WAGE GUIDELINES

MINIMUM CLUB RATES

\$60.00 for 1 show / \$75.00 for 2 shows / \$90.00 for 3 shows

This is a special rate for clubs because they have regularly scheduled dance performances.

MINIMUM PRIVATE PARTY RATES

\$100.00 for 1 show

This rate includes a \$10.00 Guild Agency Fee the dancer would send to the Guild, if the referral service is used. Rate guidelines are not the same as the Guild agency fees.

Dancers should not take less than the Guild minimum rate for shows or private parties. Doing so undercuts the Guild effort to ensure good working conditions and wages. Supporting the Guild guidelines benefits us all.

MEMBERSHIP FORM

Date _____

Name _____

Address _____

Home Phone _____

Work Phone _____

Email _____

Dance Name _____

Send with check payable to **Guild of Oriental Dance** to:

Guild of Oriental Dance - 1940 Hennepin Ave. S Minneapolis, MN 55403

Dues are \$24 per year from August 1 to July 31 (or prorated \$2 per month - For New Members only). There are many benefits to being a Guild member, including the opportunity to take part in the Annual Guild Show, Parades, and participate in planning meetings every other month. Plus, there is a great year-end party.

October Festival Participants

WE HAD 3 BEAUTIFUL DANCERS PERFORM AT OUR OCTOBER FESTIVAL HELD AT THE JDC THEATER ON OCTOBER 4. THE PERFORMANCES WERE BREATHTAKING & WONDERFUL!

DANCERS

Angelina

Inara

Tatyana

The festival crew came early and prepared the stage with the back drop and equipment. The music (Dawn), lighting (Christine) and camera (Linda) technicians did a great job along with special EmC by Heidi Waldon.

The Guild Festivals are open to anyone to come and practice their performance talents. It is not limited to Middle-Eastern dance.

We recommend that anyone new to performance, dance in a festival prior to dancing in the annual show. You get to practice being under the lights, dancing for an audience, test out your costume and get a DVD of your performance. Remember to bring your friends, too!

October Festival Photos



Angelina



Inara



Tatyana

Photos by Linda Brown

Oriental Treasures

Fundraiser Silent Auction, Show, and Student Showcase

Sunday January 14, 2007

6:00-10:00 p.m.

Location:

Great Hall at The Church of Gethsemane
905 4th Ave. S. Minneapolis (free parking)

Tickets:

\$12 in advance (paid by 1/8)
\$15 at the door



Event Schedule

6:00-6:30 Doors open
Silent auction open
6:30-7:00 Student showcase
performance
7:00-8:00 Social and shopping
(silent auction closes at 8)
8:00-9:00 Ammala and Friends
Show
9:00-10:00 Open dancing, pick up
silent auction items

Please join us for a gala evening of fun, food, and performances to celebrate another exciting year!

- Check out the silent auction filled with great items for dancers and non-dancers.
- See a Student Showcase performance, featuring students from the Ammala School of Dance
- Enjoy an "Ammala and Friends" show, with Ammala Middle Eastern Dance & Music, other guest performers.
- Sample delectable appetizers, beverages, and Mediterranean treats.

Proceeds go to help the Ammala organization continue and grow its educational, community, and performance programs in 2007 and beyond. Come for part or all of the evening's events!

Ammala Middle Eastern Dance & Music is a Minnesota non-profit corporation. Ammala is proud to partner with Springboard for the Arts, our fiscal sponsor while we are getting our federal 501(c)(3) tax-exempt status. Contributions made to Ammala through our fiscal sponsor are tax deductible.

Oriental Treasures Tickets - Advanced Sale

Ammala
Middle Eastern Dance & Music

Please make your tax-deductible contribution payable to our fiscal sponsor,
Springboard for the Arts and be sure to note "Ammala" in the memo line.

Number of Tickets: _____ x \$12.00

Amount enclosed: _____

Mail to: Ammala Dance & Music Attn: Fundraiser
PO Box 19030, Minneapolis, MN 55419

Payment for advanced sale tickets must be received by the
Ammala office by January 8, 2007 for the advanced sale price.
Tickets are \$15.00 at the door. Tickets are non-refundable.

All tickets will be held at Will Call.

If you require an e-mail confirmation, be sure to check the
"confirmation required" box. Confirmation sent by request only.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Confirmation required (if checked, confirmation will be sent via email.)