

## **Guild Meeting Sunday, September 9, 2007**

### **Meeting called to order:**

Members in attendance were as follows: Bonnie Berquam (First Chair), Deb Brazil (Second Chair), Linda Brown (Communications Officer & Membership Officer), Kathy McCurdy (Treasurer), Jennifer Roden (Webmaster), Klee Burke (Member). The minutes from previous meeting (July 14, 2007) were approved.

### **First Chairperson (Bonnie Berquam) Report:**

The first informal coffee talk was held after the last meeting and several ideas were suggested regarding the Annual Party, which were passed along to Kathy McCurdy.

### **Second Chairperson (Deb Brazil) Report:**

Received two inquiries regarding dancers:

1. A Guild member questioned the base price to charge for a performance and she was directed to the website. She did not specify which rates she wanted to know - private party, restaurant, group, etc.
2. Dan Reagan from the Grand Av. Business Association in St. Paul called about getting dancers to perform at an event. Second Chair returned his call and had to leave him a voicemail, asking him to call again to discuss specifics - event date/time/location, what was he looking for in terms of solo dancers vs. a group, etc. He has not called back yet.

### **Treasurer (Kathy McCurdy) Report:**

We still have in excess of \$5,000.00 in funds. We either need some great ways to use our funds or consider reducing the amount of dues. A detailed update was not available at this time.

### **Secretary (Teresa Taylor) Report:**

Since Teresa was unable to attend, Bonnie wrote the minutes for this meeting.

### **Newsletter Editor (Open) Report:**

Jennifer Roden has agreed to prepare one more issue of the newsletter and continue to work on getting it set up to hand off to the new editor, who is, potentially, Sarah Bell. We discussed some ideas for event submissions, including labeling them as Guild sponsored or Member sponsored.

### **Webmaster (Jennifer Roden) Report:**

Recent website issues include entries being made to the Guild calendar by non-members. Also some entries have been non-Middle-Eastern related, which were removed. Jennifer will explore options for creating a password approach to restrict access to the calendar to members only.

Use of online polls has begun. The first poll, asking what is the favorite Guild benefit, received 16 entries, voting for the Annual Show, festivals and networking. Please submit your ideas for poll topics to Jennifer.

We had some discussion about creating a calendar of all classes on the website. Members present thought the large volume of entries would make it too long to be readable or helpful. However, we do hope teachers will use the hyperlink option on the Teachers page that can be used to provide access to class schedules.

**Membership Officer (Linda Brown) Report:**

As of today, 94 members had renewed their membership. All members are notified via email that their renewal was received. New members received a welcome response with member outline and emails of updates and newsletter links.

Since it is two months after the start of the new membership year, members who have not renewed by now will be removed from the email distribution list. Teachers who have not renewed have been notified that they need to update their dues in order to remain listed on the Teachers page.

Linda provided the following list of new members who have joined since Aug 1, 2007.

Welcome, new members!!

- Nissa Boeckman
- Yvonne Brewster-Bartusch
- Jaime Cleland
- Laura Crocker
- Bobbie Cullen
- DeeAnn Davich
- Kristin Kaspar
- Kathy Meister
- Dianna May Rawnsley
- Sharon Schwartz
- Roberta Steib
- Ally Trombley
- Rhiannon Way

**Educational Lottery:**

This is for members who have renewed their membership. We drew names from three categories. The winners are listed below.

<b>Categories</b>	<b>Winners</b>
In town (Twin cities and surrounding area)	Sharon Schwartz Anne-Marie Loushine Jennifer Cleasby Kathy Meister
Out of town (based on phone area code)	Sherri Baker – Mankato
Participated in meetings or	Susan Shelso

volunteered for a Guild event	
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The winners will be notified that they will receive \$100 to use toward tuition for the class of their choosing. This does not have to be a Middle-Eastern related class. They need to contact Kathy McCurdy and she will prepare a check for their course tuition. They have one year to use their \$100 prize.

**Guild Festival (Linda Brown) Report:**

We are ready for a fun and full Guild Fundraiser festival on September 12. We have lots of dancers lined up to perform and look forward to a really fun event while raising money for the Tubman Family Alliance. Linda suggested we get started planning our 2008 festivals now.

**Makeup Seminar – Sunday, September 23:**

As of the meeting, we have only 4 registrations for this seminar. We requested Linda to send an email to members specific to the seminar. We will determine on 9/16 if we have enough registrations to continue.

**Annual Guild Party (Kathy McCurdy) Report – Saturday, January 26:**

The focus of the party is yummy food, socializing and dancing to live music. If you would like to participate in decorating for the party, contact Kathy. The venue still needs to be confirmed, but will hopefully be the Knights of Columbus Hall in Bloomington.

**Annual Guild Show – April 2008:**

It’s time to look ahead and begin planning for the 2008 show. The dates are set as the last two weekends of April. We formed some initial plans for the support roles and subcommittees. If there is an area where you would like to participate, please contact Kathy.

<b>Annual Show Committees</b>	
Show Coordinator	Kathy McCurdy
Stage Managers	
Lighting & Tech Director	Hilary Smith
Sound	
Promotions & Programs	
Videography & DVDs	Linda Brown
Door & Usher	
Decorations	
Food	
Setup & Teardown	

**Old Business Reports:**

**Opportunities for New Guild Performance Venues:**

Since performance opportunities seem to be one of the most liked aspects of Guild members, we would like to explore ideas for new venues that the Guild could support. Linda mentioned she has continued to be in communication with the Aquatennial Parade organizers. We will explore opportunities for next year's MN State Fair. If anyone has ideas on other venues, please contact one of the Board members.

**Online Payment Option:**

For those who requested an online payment option, we are happy to report that this option is working! And it was relatively simple to implement.

**New Business Reports:**

**Guild Seminar Planning:**

We received the following seminar suggestions.

- History Seminar: This was discussed in the last meeting. There were no updates on this event.
- Business and marketing roundtable for emerging professional dancers.
- Putting together a show.

No dates or coordinators were selected. If you have other ideas or would like to coordinate an event, please let us know.

**Guild Rates:**

We are looking for members to form a committee to research and make proposals concerning Guild rates for parties and group performances.

**Next Guild Meeting:**

***Please note, Guild meetings are open to ALL members, and all are strongly encouraged to come and participate!!***

Please mark your calendar and join us for our next Guild meeting on Saturday, November 10, 11:30 am – 1:00 pm at the JDC building.