

GOOD AFTERNOON.MY NAME IS John Mckinstry and I am chair of the IAGSDC .It is my pleasure to welcome you to the 26<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting of the IAGSDC and call this meeting to order. On Thursday afternoon the delegates meeting was held .At that meeting we elected new officers (or old one's).

I am pleased to report that both our Vice Chair Keith Gehrig and our Club Liaison officer Phil Davis were reelected to another two years. Would the two of you please stand.

After I think 10 years on the Executive Board Scott Philips has decided that it is time to let someone new take this position. Michael Spayd from the Cleveland City Country Dancers offered his name and was elected. I thank Michael for volunteering and look forward to working with him.

Scott Philips, What a pleasure it has been to work with you. On behalf of all the IAGSDC, I would like to offer thanks for a job well done.

Speaking of thanks: I would like to thank a few of the many who work for this cause.

The DC Diamond Circulate committee and all those people who have worked so hard to bring us his great event

Karl Jaeckel for scanning every single club photo from all those conventions so they can be digitally stored. Of course digital download is now the norm so you can relax, a bit..

Thank you Karl.

And last but my no means least, the man who created the means to store and disseminate all this information. Danny Lee IAGSDC Web master.

You are all fabulous.

The Petersen fund reported giving 11,84200 in grants this year. The Fund has only paid out 5,000 of that money. This means that some clubs applied and were granted the money but never submitted receipts for it It has 13,000 in grants asked for in the following year. The fund will eventually be depleted, as Joe did not wish it to be an investment fund. However, it has served this association well in helping clubs do things that they might not ordinarily have been able to afford. I would like to thank Keith Gehrig the chair and all those who serve on this committee for their work.

This year the association continued moving forward with new projects.

Our web site continues to improve. We now have the IAGSDC Store, which will enable all of us to sell our club merchandise and it can be used by The IAGSDC itself to sell goods

We have also embarked on a different way of doing certain things. In these times of uncertain economies and global warming, we thought that in a very small way we could do our part.

We no longer print and mail out delegate meeting information or convention bids. It is all done electronically. This saves paper, postage and our time.

The newsletter goes to about 1600 people electronically as well with another 1000 going my regular mail. It would be nice if it all went electronically.

One of the statistics I have noticed is that for most clubs their membership is going down. I know that this is a problem not only for us but also for straight square dance clubs as well and it would be in our best interest to try (and I know we all do this on daily basis) and reverse the trend. We have had some interest from a couple of members in figuring out what is the best way we have to get new dancers. If you have ideas (I know we have been through all this before!) but let us give it another try. With some NEW brains doing the thinking maybe this time there are answers. Maybe a committee of new faces working in conjunction with the IAGSDC Board may come up with new ideas.

I am also working on other avenues of saving money, paper and time

We have not lost any clubs this year, which is good news. We welcome one new club to the IAGSDC this year .From Salt Lake City, Temple Squares. Would the members from that clubs here today please stand so we can see who you are....

There were no banner dances held his year. which is a shame. Banner dances helped us keep money in the bank. We are sure that this is a sign of the times (economic that is) and hopefully we can return to banner dance revenue in the near future. However I would like to thank Times Squares for their very generous donation of \$1000.00

Brian Smith presented the budget for the fiscal year 2008-2009. The association is still in good financial shape with \$20,000 or so in the bank. Thank you Brian for your work on this.

It has been a real pleasure for me to work with the board of the IAGSDC over the past two years. They are all a joy to work with and they all Phil, Brian, Keith and Scott deserve your thanks as well. While it is not rocket science, it still requires time and energy to move forward.

Our Secretary and Treasurer have informed me that we have:

52 Full membership clubs

3 Associate clubs or organization

8 Affiliate Clubs or organizations.

This is to my reckoning the same result as last year.

By The Way: The only way we on the executive of the IAGSDC know anything about your clubs is if you tell us. There are several ways to do this. One is to give us the information when you pay your dues. The other and easiest for all concerned is to go the [www.iagsdc.org](http://www.iagsdc.org) create a profile and then you can update your clubs info whenever it changes. It makes it more convenient for us as then we have the correct address to send information, dues notices etc to. In amassing an email list to send out the delegates meeting information to I came across a number of incorrect addresses which were in the data base compiled from the data that YOU the delegates give us. It is incumbent on all of us that we notify somebody about changes in contact information...PLEASE.

I would like at this time to recognize that there are dancers here for whom this is their first Convention. ....So I would ask the first time convention goers please to stand and be recognized. Now can I have all those dancers who have benefited from the reduced convention rate please stand. These people are the future of our activity.... We, the present "doers" will not be doing this forever so it will fall to all of you to take the challenge and run with it. I am pleased to see that Conventions are now offering early bird registration rates to all newly graduated basic dancers. This is a very positive step for our organization. Thanks To All Join Hands, for their continued support of this project and all the other projects that they so generously fund for the association.

At the Delegates meeting, we entertained expressions of interest for Convention 2014 from clubs in Salt Lake City Utah

Bids are now closed for 2014

Finally, I am pleased to tell you that in 2013 we will be going to San Francisco for our annual convention. It will be held in July of 2013.

There were no Agenda items to change, alter, add on to or take away from this year so that being said I ask for a motion to close this 26 annual General meeting of the IAGSDC.

See you In Chicago in July 2010

I would like to ask Allan Hurst to step up here for a very short presentation. He is wired with electricity so we can let him know when to stop. While he is getting up here I want to thank him and his committee for the history projects that they have taken on and the great transcription of Luis Torres words in the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary History of the IAGSDC onto the IAGSDC web site

A good job very well done Thank you Allan.