

GOOD AFTERNOON.MY NAME IS John Mckinstry and I am chair of the IAGSDC .It is my pleasure to welcome you to the 27th Annual General Meeting of the IAGSDC and call this meeting to order.

On Thursday afternoon the delegates meeting was held .

At that meeting it was determined that the membership numbers for the IAGSDC have fallen a bit. Not as much as in previous years though. There are 53 paying full member clubs, 2 associate member organizations and 7 affiliates.

We welcomed I new club from Sebastapol California, the Redwood Rainbow. Would the club members stand please. Welcome to the IAGSDC. We also welcomed one affiliate member, The Lavender Contra Folk Dancers from the Boston Area. Their representative Mr. Andy Shore is here. Welcome to the IAGSDC.

Our treasurer Brian Smith presented the annual budget report. Without the generous donation some years back from Mr. Andy Shore we would be looking at diminishing amounts of money coming in.

Thank you Brian for your work on this.

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

The Chi-town Shakedown Board of directors ,Chi-Town Squares and all those who assisted them in putting on a great convention in one of the best cities, Chicago.

The Petersen fund reported giving,\$18,000 in grants this year. The Fund has only paid out 8,300 of that money. This means that some clubs applied and were granted the money but never submitted receipts for it It has 8,500.00 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 Twitter and a means of communicating with each other on line. Conventions routinely use the web site for merchandising, registration ,informational releases and anything else they need it for. It was not so long ago that it was all done by snail mail....

Speaking of snail mail. We tried this year to use electronic means to distribute our bi monthly mailings.It is undergoing some growing pains and hopefully we have resolved them to everyone's satisfaction.

Remember ,if you are the designated person who receives email, snail mail whatever the method of communication is, it is your responsibility to make sure everyone in your club gets that information. It can be as simple as a bulk email to every club member to see

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 and easiest for all concerned is to go the 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.

There were 3 banner dances held his year. Thanks to Chesapeake Squares,Times Squares and Midnight Squares for their donations.

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 Michael deserve your thanks as well. While it is not rocket science, it still requires time and energy to move forward.

Elections were held for positions on The Petersen Fund at which time Tim Berg of Rosetown Ramblers was elected to the committee

Elections were also held for The All Join Hands Foundation. James Ozanich of Capital City Squares was elected to the position of Advisor

And finally the positions of Treasurer and Chair were up for election this year

Our Treasurer of 8 years Brian Smith decided it was time to put away the Abacus.

Thank you Brian for being there beside me and doing all you have done.

We welcome Michael Pemberton from Chicago for taking on the position of Treasurer.

After 6 years as Chair I decided that it was time for someone else to be chair. We all have our best before date and mine is up. I am very happy to report that Bob Hazen of Grand Rapids is your new chair..Starting Monday morning Bob..no funny ideas.Thank you for taking this on.

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 2015 from Times Squares in New York City

Bids are now closed for 2015

Finally, I am pleased to tell you that in 2014 we will be going to Salt Lake City for our annual convention. It will be held in July of 2014.

I would like now to thank a few people who have made doing what I do so much easier.

Karl Jaekel for being the keeper of our memories. It is a pleasure to work with you

Danny Lee..Mr. Web site. Thank you .. you are a god in my world.

Allan Hurst for taking on the cataloging of those memories, and all the other things you are taking on.

Seth Levine for chairing the always boisterous Convention planning meeting for all these years.

And to all of you who work to keep this gathering alive.

To the Board members ,Brian ,Keith, Phil Michael, Scott and Bob who I have worked with over the years
Thank you.

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 27th annual General meeting of the IAGSDC.

Seconded

All in favour

We stand adjourned.

See you In Atlanta in July 2011