

# ANNUAL MEETING MIAMI VALLEY FOLK DANCERS

January 8, 2012

1. **The meeting was called to order** by Chairperson Joanne Dombrowski, at 3:00 P.M. at the Michael Solomon Pavilion. Twenty-nine members were present.
2. **The Minutes** for the annual meeting of January 9, 2011, were read by Secretary Bill Vernon and approved.
3. **The Treasurer's report** was read by Treasurer Lee Moser. The club has on hand, counting cash and checking account balance, \$7,392.98. Discussion pointed out that the small profit from the Greek workshop was due to the sale of folk dance items. The Israeli workshop underpaid the cost for the pavilion rental by \$20, which the club itself had to pay from the \$200 fee the Israeli teachers pay us. The error was in the rental-amount-due given the Israeli instructors and reflects what could be an error in the cost schedule that is posted on the bulletin board. Members accepted this report to be filed for audit. The report is attached.

## 4. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. **Miami Valley Dance Council**--Carolyn Stovall reported that the Ohio Dance Convention in Dayton on May 6-7, 2011, was the major MVDC activity last year. Folk dancers collaborated with City Folk Contra teachers in presenting and teaching dances. Carolyn thanked a number of our members for their participation and help. Although the convention made money, attendance was down. Therefore, the MVDC will probably not host another convention in the Convention Center but rather use a smaller, less expensive venue. The second item Carolyn stressed were changes in the Honors Couple presentation. For one thing, winners will be announced at the March Honor Couple Dance. Thirdly, our club's request to MVDC for it to participate in a fund raiser dance for the Peace Museum will be considered by MVDC this month. Carolyn's report is attached. Joanne added that Carolyn had arranged for us to rent the pavilion for another New Year's Eve party. Reservation is in the books.

B. **Program committee**--Harry Khamis, chair, thanked the other five committee members for a job well done.

C. **Equipment and Recording Committee**--Ed Cordray had nothing new to report.

D. **Orientation class**--John Pappas reported that 14 dances on the core dance list have not been taught. Some variation in teaching dances from the core list occurred to enable visitors to try easier dances than scheduled. Sixteen members have taught during the 7:00 o'clock classes the last two years. John had four recommendations. The report is attached.

E. **Kitchen**--Chair Ellen Rice said only the kitchen committee was buying supplies, and asked for suggestions. Herbal tea was suggested. A request for another to join the committee received no volunteers. Ellen's report is attached.

**F. Refreshments Committee**--Lee Moser thanked all the volunteers who participated in 2011. She reminded us that up to \$30 is repaid for supplies used. The 2012 calendar has three openings for volunteers remaining.

**G. Publicity**--Chair Dolores Brooks reported a number of publicity efforts this past year. Two recent Dayton Daily News stories occurred this past two weeks. News releases about us put our activities on a number of calendars and WYSO radio's "To Do" announcements. We are also listed on several on-line sites. The Sixtieth Anniversary Workshop publicity has begun and will continue. Our number of Friends on Facebook, as well as those who "like" us, has grown.

**H. Membership Committee**--Lee Moser reported that extra greeting cards are in the cabinet. A number of cards were sent in 2011. Also, some sad news. Janet Winandy is in Hospice care at the moment, Jeanine Yeager's husband has suffered a stroke, and Anne Ballinger passed away. A remembrance gathering for her will occur on Thursday.

**I. Webmaster**--Leslie Hyll reported no major changes in our web presence. The 83 email addresses on our Yahoo group mailing list, some of them duplicates, received an average of 4 messages per week in 2011. Her report is attached.

**J. Historian**--Leslie Hyll asked that we send her all of our Club paperwork, including committee reports. Those in electronic form are easiest to use. MVFD archives are online, and more material is yet to be processed for inclusion. Records and pictures from other folk dance groups and individuals have been donated. Leslie's written report is attached.

**K. Newsletter**--Ellen Rice reported making a few minor changes in the newsletter and anticipates a few more next year. Four issues came out in 2011. She has now completed 7 years as chair and again is preparing the new membership list, for which she requested corrections and additions. The electronic distribution of the newsletter as of now is voluntary so hard copies will continue. She asked for submissions and suggestions of what to cover in the newsletter. Also, MVDC wants submissions of material about us for its newsletter. Ed Cordray said we should remind MVDC in any submission that we are one of only 3 founding clubs remaining in the Dance Council. Ellen's report is attached.

**5. CHAIR'S REPORT**--Joanne Dombrowski thanked all club members for their cooperation and work, and said all was going well. Three new members joined us this past year. There were 5 visitors per Thursdays and an odd phenomena occurred. Many attended enough times to qualify for membership, then quit coming and so did not join. Joanne presented Honorary Membership to Henry Stovall and Gitta Reck. She also urged the club to continue to sponsor mini- and larger workshops even if they lose a little money because they benefit the club and members. We did several demonstration

performances this past year, receiving \$50 payments for two of them. Ed Anderson reserved a shelter for our August picnic. The Chair's report is attached.

6. **OLD BUSINESS:** none

7. **NEW BUSINESS**

- a. Joanne announced the **60th Anniversary Workshop** in March will have an optional dinner catered by Christophers Club for \$15 a plate, and Joanne showed designs for a flyer and for a tee shirt, which will soon be on sale.
- b. **Outreach Opportunity**--Leslie reported that East End Community Services had invited us to offer folk dance classes to a variety of prospective dancers, primarily as a healthful activity. Our participation begins January 17. Emphasis will be on movement, and dancers will include mainly teens to young adults. Classes could extend until the end of May, or they could end early if there is little participation. Classes will be at Ruskin Elementary School on Tuesdays from 6:00 to 7:00 PM. And MVFD will be paid for its participation.
- c. **Possible Greek Mini-Workshop** is being investigated, perhaps for May.
- d. **9:00 O'clock Teaching**--Lee Moser moved, and it was seconded, that 9:00 teaching be moved to 9:30. Discussion led to the withdrawal of the motion in favor of the new Council's setting up a committee to study the issue of the advanced teaching schedule.
- e. Jim Rohal reported that the **Blood Bank program** which he had investigated for our participation was no longer available.

8. **HONOR COUPLE**--Joanne reported that Council was having trouble picking a couple to represent MVFD in March at the Honor Couple Dance. There followed a brief discussion of the reasons to re-nominate Ed Cordray and Leslie Hyll, and the reasons not to re-nominate them. Apparently the positives outweighed the negatives. They were re-nominated. A copy of their nomination form is available.

9. **ELECTION OF MVFD COUNCIL MEMBERS**--Council terms were over for two board members, Joanne Dombrowski and Lee Moser, and Carolyn Stovall stepped down. The terms of John Pappas and Bill Vernon continued. It was moved, seconded and passed to elect three members to two-year terms this year. The new members elected were Janifer Tsou, Harry Khamis and Jim Rohal.

Meeting adjourned at 5:20 P.M.

Respectfully submitted, Bill Vernon, Secretary

## 2011 Newsletter Report

Just for fun, I made a couple of changes to typefaces this year – and might do so again in 2012! Other than that, the newsletter is unchanged. I'll ask the members present about anything they never read, or other changes (including timing) they'd like to see; otherwise, I continue to think that we're squeezing in as much as we can.

I will also make my usual plea for news and articles. Again this year I had just about enough material to fill four newsletters – sometimes it was a little too much and things got slightly short shrift – but I always worry until relatively late in the process that there won't be anything to include that everyone hasn't already heard about several times. I will thank those who sent in material, or told me about the accomplishments of those too modest to tell me themselves!

I was also grateful for articles by John, Dolores, and Cassandra – and for Joanne's exceptional flexibility on the length and wording of her column, which was often a lifesaver for me. (I will thank any new members present for their bios.) The deaths filled up space, but I would have been happy to do without those.... The parties and workshops, of course, were a big help, and more would be great!

I'm continuing to try to make the non-member membership lists more complete, up-to-date, and useful. It would be helpful to get the guest registry and the listings in sync more often, and also to make sure that we get both e-mails and addresses from our guests when possible. (I will also remind people at this point to pay their dues ASAP, since that's what gets them on the membership list rather than the "irregulars" list.)

I will also ask whether anyone present would prefer to receive the newsletter electronically, although I doubt that they will be the ones who really should. I do plan to suggest again that the people who attend irregularly consider going to electronic delivery in the coming year. I will even ask again what people think about an e-newsletter, which would offer a lot of flexibility (maybe too much).

I will also ask the meeting attendees my three usual questions:

Are there topics you'd like to see covered that aren't being?

Can you think of ways to use the newsletter for more publicity for MVFD?

Would anyone else like to take over as newsletter editor?

Having now completed a seven-year stint as editor, I will be thinking hard this year about whether I want to continue. It's hard to believe that there's no one out there with new ideas!

Respectfully submitted,  
Ellen Rice, Newsletter Editor

## **2011 Kitchen Committee Report**

I don't think that any policies changed over the course of 2011, although occasionally supplies appeared mysteriously, which they weren't supposed to. (DON'T buy toothpicks; we have them, honest....)

I can't think of anything to report. We received a couple of dishtowel donations (thanks, donors!) although I actually bought a brand-new one before then because it was so pretty and on such a good sale. Again, I will ask the members present whether there's anything else they think we need that we don't have (besides space).

And I will also ask whether there's anyone else who'd like to serve on the kitchen committee – it's rarely onerous, but on New Year's Eve it would have been nice to have another person!

Respectfully submitted,

Ellen Rice, Kitchen Committee Chair