

## Minutes of Teachers' Committee Meeting

22 January, 2005

Lin Pettengill's House, Montara

Meeting called to order at 2:00pm.

Present: Armin Busse, Juliet Davoren, Bruce Herbold, Coletta Hill, Paula Jacobson (arrived during meeting), Susie Langdon Kass (arrived during meeting), Pat O'Brien, Lin Pettengill, Alan Twigg

Regrets: Cathy Bertics, Kathleen McAdam, Bruce Hamilton, Jo Hamilton, Fred McCondray, David Newitt, Claudette Sigg, Gary Thomas, Ron Wallace

1. Minutes: Juliet Davoren agreed to take the minutes in the absence of Bruce Hamilton.
2. Minutes of Previous Meeting: The minutes of the September 18, 2004 meeting were accepted. (Prop. Alan; 2<sup>nd</sup> Lin; unanimous)
3. Report on Party Program Committees: Party Programs completed for this session. A big thank you to Sara Gratiot for such a great job proof-reading the monthly party programs. (Note: All program committees are encouraged to use a proof-reader.)
4. Report on Teachers Resources (on web site): Armin has added details provided to him. Some information is not showing. Armin will investigate and correct. Many teachers have LP records and cassette tapes – these resources will not be itemized on the Resources list. Juliet has gone through the materials given to her by Howard Leach's son. They include 2 virgin Stan Hamilton LPs.
5. Report on Teachers' Web page: All is functioning. A suggestion was made to remove the word "current" from the position titles. Armin will investigate.
6. Teacher Candidate Class Report: The class is going well and all candidates are putting in effort, though the candidates cover a wide range in ability. Examination forms and fees have been submitted and the exam will be around April 8/9/10<sup>th</sup>. There was some discussion of the role of the tutors in submitting candidates for examination – candidates have been made aware the pass rate can be around 50%, and candidates are urged to continue to enjoy dancing whether or not they pass. Alan and Bruce are very appreciative of the various guest teachers they invited. Teaching the class is proving exhausting – there are so many unpredictable aspects it requires constant mental effort and hard work. Bruce and Alan are immensely grateful to Witsie McKelvy for handling the large amount of administrative work. Bruce and Alan were thanked for agreeing to teach the class and for all their ongoing hard work in preparing and teaching it.
7. Tutor Training: It was agreed there is a definite need for more Bay Area teachers with training in how to teach a candidate class. Spring 2006 still seems viable for a course. Ron Wallace would be the obvious person to teach, having taught several candidate classes. Coletta has spoken with Dwayne, and they have agreed to work together on this, but as yet there has been no discussion with Ron Wallace. Pat O'Brien offered to remind Dwayne of this topic. Dwayne and Coletta should meet with Ron to discuss length of course, dates, format, facilities etc.

8. Report on Teachers' E-mail Reflector: A big thank you to Don Pettengill for setting this up. All those present agree it works – but we realized anyone for whom it doesn't work will no longer be receiving Teacher related e-mails. It is each teacher's responsibility to provide their up-to-date e-mail address to [sftaddresses@pettengill.org](mailto:sftaddresses@pettengill.org) to be on the list. (So if you're reading this on the web site, or a printed copy from a fellow teacher, and don't get e-mails with [rscdsteachers@pettengill.org](mailto:rscdsteachers@pettengill.org) in the "To" field, then fix it!)

It was emphasized that people should think carefully about the address in the "To" field when they respond to e-mails (and be cognizant of the difference between "Reply" and "Reply All").

Discussion of Armin's e-mail of January 10<sup>th</sup> (RSCDS-SF Teachers' Committee - Email Reflector - Usage and FAQ) followed. It was proposed (Juliet), seconded (Lin) and unanimously passed that requests for substitutes, dance instructions and music be permissible posts to the list. It is requested that those posting a request then post a follow-up message as soon as their needs have been met. Changes to contact information for a teacher would also be an example of a permissible post. Armin will send out revised Usage and FAQ guidelines.

9. Fall 2005 Workshop: Armin will post a call for volunteers to organize a Fall 2005 Workshop – please respond.

10. Selection of Officers. A big thank you was expressed to all current officers. The following were unanimously re-elected unopposed. Chair: Armin Busse; Monthly Party Co-ordinator: Bruce Herbold; TAC Representative: Alan Thwigg. Election of a Secretary was deferred by unanimous consent until the next meeting, in the strong hope that Bruce Hamilton will be willing to continue.

11. Selection of Party Program Committees: (listed by due date; committee convener in italics; conveners will solicit individuals to replace the "??")

Due	Event	Committee Members
03/01/05	Kim McGarrity Memorial Ball 2005	<i>Juliet</i> , Paula, Alan
03/15/05	Jean Patrick Memorial Dance	<i>Pat</i> , Coletta, ??
08/01/05	Oct/Nov 2005 Monthly Party	<i>Bruce</i> , Susie, Lin/Dwayne?
08/15/05	Valentine's Ball 2006	<i>Lin</i> , ??, ??
10/01/05	Dec 05/Jan06 Monthly Party	<i>Bruce</i> , Pat, ??
12/01/05	March/April 2006 Monthly Party	<i>Bruce</i> , Alan, Armin
02/01/06	May/June 2006 Monthly Party	<i>Bruce</i> , Paula, ??

12. Monthly Parties - Programs: In response to requests, Bruce has included a number of recent book dances in monthly party programs. Bruce is soliciting feedback on this from teachers and from class members – so please solicit feedback from your classes. Also, Bruce stated that, as always, he is in the market for suggestions for Monthly Party Programs.

13. Promotion of Attendance at Monthly Parties (brought to our attention by the Branch Committee via Paula): Please encourage dancers to attend the monthly parties. Do what you can to ensure dancers are well prepared and enthusiastic about Monthly Parties.

14. New Adjudication Standards for Pleasanton (brought to our attention by the Branch Committee via Paula): A document, by Alistair Brown, member of the Caledonian Club of San Francisco, will be forthcoming. Once available, we will make the document an agenda item at a future meeting.

15. Spring Dance Workshop (brought to our attention by the Branch Committee via Paula): The RSCDS-SF Branch will be holding a Spring Dance Workshop on May 7, 2pm-5pm, prior to the AGM and May Monthly Party. The Branch is looking for suggestions for a teacher for the advanced technique class. Please contact Paula with your suggestions. Paula will also speak to Marianna, current Teacher Liaison for the Asilomar Weekend, for additional suggestions.

It was mentioned that if the Branch Committee is holding a new RSCDS-SF Branch Event with dance instruction it could make use of its Teachers Committee earlier in the planning stages.

16. Ken McFarland's Old Records Proposal (brought to our attention by the Branch Committee via Paula): This item was postponed till the next meeting.

17. Advanced Class: Armin is interested in knowing if anyone is interested in attending or teaching an advanced class. This question will be revisited after the Spring Dance Workshop on May 7.

18. Branch Committee Members: Please ask in your classes if there are any dancers willing to serve on the Branch Committee – anyone with accounting skills would be especially welcomed. Suggestions to be sent to Dotty Lieber, Nominating Committee Recruiter.

19. Date & Location of Next Meeting: April 23, 2005, location TBD. We need an East Bay location. Please contact Armin if you are willing to host.

The meeting was adjourned at 4.46pm.

Submitted by Juliet Davoren