

Festival News

**Organizational
Angst**

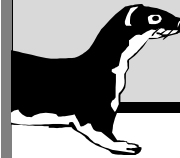
**Farewells to Old
Friends**

NEFFA NEW ENGLAND FOLK FESTIVAL ASSOCIATION NEWS

Spring 2005 – Vol. XXXI #1

Noteworthy Events

**This Issue is
Guaranteed to be
Weasel-
Free**



This is where it all started!

**The Boston YWCA,
Site of the first New England Folk Festival in 1944.**

*This year's Festival is April 8-10 at
Natick High School, Natick, Mass.*



From the President's Desk

Maureen Carey



As we were putting the finishing touches on the plans for this year's Festival, we have had to deal with a long-dreaded restriction from the Natick High School powers-that-be. They have taken away our use of the large Lower Hall that we have loved, and very much needed, as a dance

space. They were fortunate in receiving a huge grant that has allowed them to fit out that space, which they call their Wellness Center, with a new rubber floor and shiny new exercise machines. As it is no longer available to us, our beleaguered Program Committee had to work with this unfortunate situation and re-schedule the grid, using what we have called the .Overflow Hall. for the dances they expect will draw smaller crowds than the dances scheduled concurrently in the upstairs Main Hall. We apologize for any and all disappointment and inconvenience.

We on the Board are as upset and dismayed as we expect the dancers will be, but we intend to have a great Festival anyway. We are all already expert at .concise dancing. at NEFFA. We know how to take care of each other on a dance floor with limited space, so now we get to develop those useful skills a bit more.

We are committed to and have started work on finding a more suitable Festival site as soon as we can. We would be very grateful for help from our membership in this process. As we are part of a sub-culture that the authorities of other possible sites may not be aware of, it may be helpful to use the widest network of possible connections for our search.

There are two kinds of support that are essential for our Festival to continue to thrive, expanding membership and new leadership. Please consider becoming a member of NEFFA before or at the Festival. Entry fees may not cover all our expenses, and we don't wish to raise prices much, as that would exclude some people from coming. For \$20 per individual, or \$38 per family, you would get our newsletter, discounts on admission, and most of all, the satisfaction of supporting an organization that is dedicated to promoting the traditions that you love. NEFFA has a strong group of experienced leaders, but some of us have to move on as we go through different stages of life. We need new volunteers to join us in the pleasures and challenges of building a strong organization to keep this festival and our dances going.

Our members are our best publicity. Please tell your friends and families about the great fun to be had at NEFFA '05.

See you at NEFFA,

Maureen Carey, President



Editor: **Dan Pearl** Mailing: **Dayle Watts**
Editorial Review: **Maureen Carey, Shelagh Ellman-Pearl, Lisa Greenleaf, Robert Johnson**

The NEFFA News, a publication of the New England Folk Festival Association, Inc., is published four times a year to communicate with its membership and other interested persons. **Please send all editorial submissions** to Dan Pearl, 15 Buffalo Run, Southborough, MA 01772, or to Daniel_Pearl@yahoo.com . Opinions of individuals are not necessarily the opinion of the NEFFA Executive Board.

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Issue	Deadline
Spring	Feb. 1
Summer	May 15
Fall	Aug. 15
Winter	Nov. 1

IN PASSING

Charles (Chip) Cyril Hendrickson III, beloved husband and best friend of Frances (Cibel) (Eitapence) Hendrickson, passed peacefully at Danbury Hospital, on the evening of February 25, 2005, among

loving family, after a long courageous struggle with complications of a stroke.

Chip was born in Brooklyn, NY, September 26, 1932, son of Ruth (Copeland) and Charles Cyril Hendrickson II, of Oceanside, Long Island, NY.

As a pre-teen, experiencing a presentation by a Native American Family at Oceanside Library, Chip was inspired to make, what became a life-long commitment to educating the public about Indian ways. He formed a dance group in his teens and later, with his five children as the Te Wa Hey Dancers, continuing the education process. Chip created beautiful regalia perfecting his beadwork skills, leather craft and feather work. After his stroke in January 1997, Chip was not able to dance but could still teach and display his items. He became an Advisor to Explorer Post 413 in Newtown and The Red Tail Dancers led by his son Bob. The focus was on performing and educating others in Indian dance and culture.

In 1951, on Long Island, Chip entered the world of Square Dancing, a vocation he would follow for the next 46 years. He was caller to many local clubs and traveled across the country. He made 27 recordings and wrote for a national square dance magazine. Chip made the transition to Traditional Squares and in 1975 discovered the dances and music of the 18th century. He enjoyed teaching all ages as obvious to all those who attended the Parent/Child dances at CT schools and for Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts. Chip was skilled at teaching Square dances, Contras and English Country Dancing. He staffed at many dance camps from Kentucky to Canada. Chip was Producer of the annual Lincoln Center Out-of-Doors summer Country Dance Program from the mid 1970's through 1996.

During the American Bi-centennial, Chip and friend Kate Van Winkle Keller researched dances and music from the 18th century as primary sources became available in abundance. Chip, operating as Cyril Hendrickson, Dancing Master, taught the dances and developed a performing group whose members dressed in Colonial garb. As research continued it became clear that the next step was to publish the wealth of newly discovered dances and music. In 1988, Chip and his wife Fran created The Hendrickson Group to provide a vehicle to publish the books and record the music for the revival of this historic form of social dancing.

Chip was known for his loving enthusiasm and joy of life. His attitude was contagious. With the wealth of knowledge accrued over years of research, he enjoyed educating others through public performances and lectures. He loved nature, walking in the woods, camping, designing, creating and building projects and most of all his family. He was exceedingly proud of his children and grandchildren and always introduced his wife, Fran, as "my best friend and wife."

Contributions may be made to the Chip and Fran Hendrickson Benefit Fund at Newtown Savings Bank, 250 South Main Street, Newtown, CT, 06470, to help defray extensive medical costs. — *from Allen Brozek, via the English Country Dance mailing list*

Herman Fritjof Johnson, 98, a long-time Chicago Area folk dancer and leader passed away on the morning of Wednesday, December 29, 2004.

I will always remember Herman's enthusiasm, kindness and willingness to help. Herman was instrumental in helping me get started as leader, teacher and organizer in the International Folk Dance Community. At the University of Chicago back in 1967, Herman provided me with immeasurable logistical support, encouragement and wisdom and shared many of his life stories with me as we ran the summer folk dance group that met in the parking lot behind Ida Noyes Hall. Thank you Herman!

If anyone would like to contribute pictures, stories, etc. about Herman F. Johnson, I will setup a webpage memorial for him on the www.EthnicDance.Net website. Somewhere, I believe that I have a film that Charlie and Steve Fawkes gave me that has Herman dancing Austrian Dreysteyrer with Pat Dixon and possibly Beth Fawkes. I will try to get that transferred to a digital format and put it in the website. — *Paul Collins, pcollins@ethnicedance.net*

Andrew G. Woolf, 59, a professor of English at Northern Essex Community College for the past twenty years and a renowned folk musician and artist, passed away at the Lahey Clinic Medical Center in Burlington Friday evening, February 4th, after having been stricken while he was at work two days earlier. He was the husband of Karen (Hendrickson) Woolf, with whom he recently celebrated thirty-six years of marriage.

Andy was born and raised in White Plains, New York, son of the late Robert and Ruth (Goldmark) Woolf. He received his Bachelor's degree from Oberlin College in Ohio, and his Master's in English from the University of Wisconsin. He then went on to earn a doctorate in Ethnomusicology from Tufts University.

He lived with his wife Karen in Brentwood, New Hampshire. For the past twenty years he taught at Northern Essex Community College in Haverhill and Lawrence.

Andy was a prize-winning fiddler and also talented as a player of many other musical instruments, including the banjo, thumb piano, guitar, pentaharp, and especially, the ukulele. He traveled around the United States and throughout the world playing at festivals, dances, coffee houses, weddings, and other venues. He was also a gifted poet and artist whose silly sense of humor and love of life endeared him to friends and acquaintances alike.

Donations may be made in Andy's memory to the Country Dance and Song Society (CDSS), PO Box 338, Haydenville, MA 01039. — *As printed in the Boston Globe*

This Land Is Your Land: An American Songbook Featuring The Kingston Trio, The Brothers Four, Glenn Yarbrough & The Folk Reunion

In a celebration of the American folk music legacy and the great musical storytellers of the Sixties generation, This Land Is Your Land: An American Songbook will feature three original folk groups: The Kingston Trio, The Brothers Four, Glenn Yarbrough & The Folk Reunion, and a collection of their hit songs in a magical, one-of-a-kind evening. Glenn Yarbrough will host this fully staged production. Along the way, audiences will be treated to such hits as "Greenfields," "If I Had A Hammer," "Where Have All the Flowers Gone?," "There's A Meetin' Here Tonight," "Tom Dooley," "Try To Remember," "Charlie On The MTA," and much more. And, of course, the evening wouldn't be complete without the rousing closing number, "This Land Is Your Land!" Performances are Saturday April 2, 2005 at 4pm and 8pm and Sunday April 3, 2005 at 4pm. Tickets are from \$45 to \$68.50. The Cutler Majestic Theatre at Emerson College is located at 219 Tremont Street, Boston, MA. 02116. For tickets and information call Telecharge.com at 1-800-233-3123 or visit www.maj.org/masters. Check it out at the website too. <http://www.maj.org/P2005/thisland.html>.

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Memorial Day Weekend Workshop for Accordion and Fiddle with Jeremiah McLane and Sarah Blair in Tunbridge, Vermont

Join accordionist Jeremiah McLane and fiddler Sarah Blair in their home state of Vermont for a weekend of instruction in accordion and fiddle. Each known for their dynamic playing and clear teaching styles for musicians at any level, Jeremiah and Sarah are offering this weekend of workshops for musicians on accordion and fiddle. Contact Jeremiah at jeremiah@sover.net or (802) 765-9904 for more information.

The weekend will include workshops on Friday evening, Saturday morning and afternoon, and Sunday morning. There will be a Saturday night concert, and time to jam and enjoy the beautiful setting. Meals will include dinner on Friday through Sunday brunch.

New Acadia Farm in Tunbridge, VT is located in central Vermont, about 30 miles from White River Junction and Montpelier, VT. A beautiful location to enjoy and play music, the site also includes hiking trails, a swimming pond, a camping area, and a relaxing porch to sit and enjoy the scenery!

Sarah Blair began playing fiddle in Providence, Rhode Island's thriving Irish music community. As a member of the band "The Sevens" and with other ensembles, Sarah has played for festivals, dance weeks, and dances from Alaska to Quebec to Florida. Fiddler magazine has called her "simply a great fiddler. Her combination of grit and control makes for music



with drive, lift, and a compelling earthiness." Sarah loves teaching Irish fiddle to all levels of players. She will offer workshops that focus on technique, tone and clarity,

learning by ear, and developing an authentic style. She will also teach the bowing patterns and ornaments used extensively in Irish music. Sarah teaches privately and at fiddle workshops and camps in the United States and in Canada.

Jeremiah McLane will offer repertoire classes in Quebecois, New England and French dance music for button and piano accordion players, and will give classes designed specifically for piano accordion players, including left hand technique and bellows work. Jeremiah has a Master's in Contemporary Improvisation from the New England Conservatory of Music, and has taught at the Augusta Heritage Arts Center, Ashokan Fiddle and Dance, and the Swannanoa Gathering. He has been artist in residence at schools in Vermont since 1998.

\$185 per person includes all meals (five full meals plus snacks available all day), lodging, instruction, and enjoyment of the grounds at New Acadia Farm.

\$160 per person includes meals, instruction, and a campsite. \$110 per person for day use only (meals and instruction); no overnight accommodations.

To Find Out More:

Contact Jeremiah at jeremiah@sover.net or (802) 765-9904.

DEADLINE FOR REGISTRATION IS APRIL 21

Summary of the Minutes of the NEFFA Executive Board

5 December 2004

President's Report (Maureen Carey)

Ralph Page Weekend: Losses for the weekend cannot be sustained; they're losing \$1000 a year. Will the weekend keep going? **Ralph:** They have some money in the bank; they could sustain some number of years of losses. Money can be moved around, we're all family. **Angela:** It's food that's very expensive. **Ralph:** We deal with the New England Center – how close are their ties to the university? We pay a lot for room rent. **Maureen:** And give them business during a quiet time of the year.

Secretary's Report (Laura Leibensperger)

Motion to accept Minutes of October 24 as corrected made by Maureen Carey, seconded by Peter Olszowska, carried by voice vote.

Natick High School Report (Harold Henry)

I'm working with the School Dept. to verify that we can pull up the floor in the Lower Hall. **Dan:** Often Folk Dance is only in one half anyway. I can give you (Harold) the schedule for the dance hall. **Harold:** I need to talk to the principal about when we can get in Thursday and Friday. **Peter:** The things I need to do before Friday are running cables and moving lights in the Auditorium, hanging soundproofing in the Small Hall, and hanging speakers in the Main Hall. **Harold:** The Auditorium may be a problem if they have rehearsals for a school play.

Ticket Prices

Motion: Moved by Mark Jones to set the following 2005 Festival rates: Adult non-member = \$18/\$59; Senior = \$14/\$44; Teen = \$8/\$26; Children: \$5/\$16. Seconded by Shelagh Ellman-Pearl. Carried by unanimous voice vote.

(?) What would happen if we did away with NEFFA Bucks (=NB)? **Shelagh:** We'd have to revise our membership rates. **Ralph:** The idea was that we could raise rates because we'd be giving something back. **Peter:** And people who volunteer at the Festival would also get something back. **Maureen:** We'll have to accept any NBs that show up this year, although we won't be

issuing them. **Ralph:** It would be nice to get a membership report. A long discussion about NBs ensued.

Maureen and **Laura** will be a task force, (separate from the Membership Committee), to work on the NB clean-up and make a recommendation for this year's membership discount. They'll work on this in January/February.

Festival Committee Reports

Folk Bazaar (Angela Taylor): Will I be able to get into the school at 3:00 to put up signs on Friday? **Harold:** Yes, just you, not vendors. I'll have to check on the actual time, 3:00 or 3:30. Kids will be out of school but there may be after-school activities. **Angela:** 3 or 4 booths have their own set-up and only need chairs: when can they come in? **Harold:** Everybody does set-up at the same time. It depends on when the halls are available for our use.

Food (Maureen Carey): Kitchen people are out at 2:00; Nick and I will be there by 1:00. 3:00 is too late because the workday is already over for delivery people. I just need to know when vendors can come.

Operations and Outside Facilities (Dan Pearl): Communications are an issue. **Peter:** I'd like to raise our technology level. Lots of people have cell phones, phones are often free nights and weekends. We might be able to have cell phones for everybody, rather than pagers. **Dan:** We should collect cell phone numbers and have them on an info sheet. Everybody should be able to borrow a cell phone. People should have vibrating cell phones, not beepers. **Dan:** An advantage of pagers is that you don't have to try to hear a conversation in a noisy hallway – do we need a headset arrangement? **Peter:** I have a headset I could loan to Hospitality. **Peter:** What about text messaging? **Dan:** We want to keep the learning curve low for volunteers. **Harold:** I like a combination of the two systems – the pager would mean I could find a quiet corner to use the phone. I like having a pager. **Peter:** I've found that when I'm paged, a 30 second phone call would have resolved the situation without having to go anywhere. **Maureen:** Do cell phones work in the school? **Peter:** Yes.

Dan: We'll have an additional taxi company this year. Should

The New England Folk Festival Association, Inc. is a non-profit educational and cultural organization, incorporated under the general laws of Massachusetts to preserve folk traditions in New England and elsewhere; to encourage the development of a living folk culture; and to encourage high standards of quality and performance in the folk arts.

Membership entitles one to voting privileges, publications, and to reduced admission to selected NEFFA-sponsored activities. It is open to interested persons who support our objectives.

Annual Dues are \$20/individual, \$38/family (up to 2 people over 18). Contributions beyond these basic amounts are welcome and tax-deductible to the extent permitted by law. Send check, payable to NEFFA, to the office. Occasionally, NEFFA shares its mailing list for a one-time use by like-minded folk organizations. If you do not want your name and address shared in this way, tell us with your membership. **Please direct all inquiries** to the NEFFA office: PMB 282, 1770 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge, MA 02140 or (781) 662-6710, or via email: neffa@neffa.org

Interested persons may get on NEFFA's mailing list for one year at no charge. Send request with full name and address to the office.

we tell people to come to the Natick stop which has taxi stands, or to the West Natick stop, which has more train service, but no taxi stand. I need to hear from Dayle about TJX; I need the list of hotels and motels. **Mark:** We should indicate that lots are full as of opening, not 10:30 etc. **Dan:** I'll give a draft of the flier for Shelagh and Maureen to review – would people be comfortable with that as approval? **General:** Yes.

Sound (Peter Olszowska): I still need 3 people for my committee: Volunteer Coordinator, Logistics Coordinator, Lighting Coordinator. I can do one of these jobs. Susan Falkoff does performer liaison. There are many things this year that are different for performers. Lyric and North Star rooms had sound in the past, they will not this year. The Small Hall will have sound. Performers will be informed in the Performer Confirmation letter. One thing: can we get interlocking chairs from Peterson at the same rate? In some of the rooms, it might help keep the aisles organized. The budget will have about a 5% increase.

9 January 2005

Considerations for a New Festival Site

Linda Leslie: I'd rather not get into details without an action plan, a timeline, a report from the Site Committee - let's talk about our strategy. Also, Mari is interested in helping with the site process. **Peter:** The Committee consists of Dan, Harold and myself, (no Chair). We haven't met yet, we don't have a formal process lined up yet. We need a list of our absolute requirements. From that, we'll make a short list to use during first contacts with institutions, possibly by phone. **Dan:** I think it's premature to talk about specific sites; let's get the process down first. **Peter:** It would be useful to have contacts at sites we're interested in: teachers, school board contacts etc. **Harold:** Let's get clear on what we're looking for in a site. **Linda:** Program gets started the earliest so a time line is really important. If we don't have a site and a contract in hand in the fall, we can't get started. Are we talking about 2006? **Harold:** My feeling is that we'll be at Natick in 2006. This process will take time, unless something falls into our lap. **Peter:** If we meet the timeline of "3 sites with representative invited to the Festival", it may be possible between the Festival and Sept. 1st to be ready for 2006. Phone screening seems like a volunteer job once we have a list of places to call and a standard list of questions. **Shelagh:** Every year our space has been curtailed; this year it will affect attendees. If we decide we have to deal with this now, we can make it happen, but we'd probably need to pay people to do part of the work. Inviting people to the Festival is not critical - they can talk to someone at Natick. **Dan:** I disagree; the Festival is its own best "sales job". They need to know exactly what they're getting into – it's not a "sitting down" kind of Festival. **Harold:** Making calls will take a lot of work, not a little. **Peter:** I don't think we can hire someone to do that – they're going to want to talk to the president. **Harold:** But

the person will be speaking for NEFFA; schools could also meet with the Board if they wanted to. **Linda:** There would be advantages to having the same person making the same pitch and keeping track of things. **Maureen:** I can be this person – I think I've expressed this. I could make calls in the morning - between 8 and 9AM is a good time to catch school people. **Harold:** I see this as pretty intensive work over months – it's worth compensation. It would be good to stay somewhere for 5-10 years. **Linda:** I have two requests: a timeline; and let's hold off on phone calls until we have a list.

President's Report (Maureen Carey)

Kristin has formally resigned. I have been talking to someone who is considering taking Membership Chair, provided that I can give him a committee to work with. John W. has also retired as Safety Chair because of work considerations. He has a co-chair who will work with someone, but can't take it over. We need a new Volunteer Chair, a replacement for John W., a Parking person to work with Mark. Tickets are in good shape – Dave will be there the entire weekend, and Michael and Steve will backup. Performer Sales is under control during the Festival – we need someone to do the books afterwards – Ralph may do it himself. Publicity is not filled yet, several people are interested. If someone wanted to work with Michael and Dave on tickets, I could move Steve to Parking for the Festival. I talked to Linda Palmstrom and she's all set. **Shelagh:** A big gap in Safety is that John used to get his own volunteers. **Nancy:** John and I worked together and we'll keep these contacts. **Shelagh:** The Hospitality Table checks in a lot of Safety volunteers; Lee will be coming; I don't think Safety will be a disaster. I need to get in touch with John and get his materials. **Mark:** A good question for John is, "What takes you away from the desk"? **Shelagh:** Injuries, property issues, blocked cars; he makes rounds to check on volunteers. **Laura:** What about hiring someone to keep the membership database? It seems like it's a lot of work and people haven't been able to stay in. **Maureen:** I'm hoping Kristin would do the Festival and Bob could do things outside of the Festival. **Dan:** Does the database need a lot of work? **Nancy:** Bob's database was excellent. Things got difficult because we changed the membership set-up, NEFFA Bucks etc. **Linda:** I've recruited two new Board members, they're young, energetic, bright. Hopefully, they'll come next month to check things out. One of them has very good computer skills.

Festival Badge Orders (Shelagh Ellman-Pearl)

Last year we went to a new system; I'll stick with it this year. We'll also have the "Ask Me" buttons; anybody who's here can have one. If anybody else wants one, they can talk to me.

Evaluations (Shelagh Ellman-Pearl)

Given issues with the Festival this year, we might want to word have wording to let people know that we are aware there was a

6 February 2005

problem. I'll have something to circulate at the next meeting.

Maureen: We should just say, "we share your concerns. We're working on it ...". **Linda:** Program has suggested that there be a prominent box at the top. **Peter:** Maybe we should know if people weren't bothered. **Linda:** We are going to make our plans anyway. It would be worth asking for constructive ideas, as opposed to complaints. **Maureen:** It's grueling to read over and over about something that we have no control over.

Festival Committee Reports

Folk Bazaar (Angela Taylor): I want to make sure I know when people can come in – I'll explain to them that they can come in at 3:30 and leave their stuff in specific places. They'll have to understand that they'll need to wait for tables unless they have their own set-up. I'll come in at 3:00 and put up my signs.

Instrument & Costume Check (Laura Leibensperger): Are you going to have enough volunteers to set up tables and paper the windows? **Harold:** I'll probably just deliver the paper and the tables. We might have people free after drop offs. **Laura:** I need at least one volunteer on set-up then. **Nancy:** I want to point out that this is a work-day. Normally, people would come out after work Thursday night. People will have to take at least part of a day off for set-up.

Inside Facilities (Harold Henry): I'll send out a timeline for set-up. **Maureen:** If you put a stack of tables in the Cafeteria, my people will set them up. **Shelagh:** Harold and Peter are the ones that definitely need staffing. **Nancy:** When I get the returns, I'll know what we have. What about people making trips to the storage locker? **Harold:** This year, we may just get a big truck. There won't be people to drive a truck back and forth. Loading the truck will take 30 or 45 minutes. I'll need to set up the truck reservation about a month in advance.

Printed Materials and Program (Linda Leslie): The mailing went out to performers last Sunday – we're hearing back from them. Last year it did not work well to have the Evaluation meeting before the Program Evaluation meeting – I could not make a report. If I know when the Board wanted to meet, I could set our schedule. Can we get an Xerox copy of the entire Evaluations? We could really use an entire set to work with. We need 3 weeks to go over evaluations and get e-mail evaluations before reporting to the Board.

Sound (Peter Olszowska): We have updated sound sheets for the mailing – there are lots of updates.

Other Business

Mark: I'm submitting a budget for parking, (handout). I want to buy some 18" cones for the mud lot.

Nominating Committee (Linda Leslie)

The Slate of Candidates was presented by Linda Leslie. President - Maureen Carey. Nominating Committee - Steve Moore. Secretary - Laura Leibensperger. Board Members - Ron Bernier, Harold Henry, Peter Olszowska, Bethany Seeger.

Program and Printed Materials Report (Linda Leslie) The Preliminary Grid is now available on the web. The Program Book deadline has been moved up to March 1. **Harold:** Remember to put the piano people in the acknowledgements. **Linda:** Are things set for sound in the Main Hall? **Peter:** Speakers can be hung Thursday. The first event on Friday may need an alternate sound system. **Maureen:** One issue is that there's a game in the Craft Area space until 6:00 – vendors will then need to move their stuff in through the corner of the Main Hall. **Linda:** Let's move the band and the caller to the Crafts Room end. **Harold:** Or put them at the other end. The lines won't be very long and crowds can be kept away from the Craft Hall. **Peter:** If lines are long, you can put cones halfway down the hall, and have 2 lines "per line" between the band and the Craft Room. **Maureen:** Let's check this out on the walk-through. **Maureen:** In terms of safety, Alan is doing Safety Fri. night and Sat. all day; John is doing Safety Sat. PM and Sunday. **Linda:** We'll have a lot of new events: Lindy, Hula, Italian dance, steel drum, West African dance.

Secretarial Report (Laura Leibensperger)

Motion to accept December Minutes as amended made by Ralph Jones, seconded by Linda Leslie, carried by voice vote.

Acceptance of minutes of 9 January Exec Board Meeting made by Ralph Jones, seconded by Robert Johnson, carried by voice vote.

Treasurer's Report (Ralph Jones)

Tax exemption: We are a tax-exempt organization. Usually, we turn in a copy of Form ST2. The government is not sending out this form anymore. They send us a 10-year extension letter instead, so I don't have a copy of an ST2 to hand out. I've made a tax-exemption form with the ST2 on one side and the extension letter on the other side.

Ralph Page Weekend: I assume the Weekend financial report includes income, but not expenses. As of today, the Weekend lost \$300.

Membership Report (Maureen Carey)

Kristin Gustafson will be in charge of the membership table at the Festival. Bob Solosko will deal with documents after the festival. Maureen, Kristin and Laura will deal with outstanding NEFFA Bucks (NB). We need to make a new, updated membership form. **Peter:** Does Bob have the form on his computer? Can we just remove the NB wording and

reference to 3-year membership? Nancy found a copy of the 2002 membership form. Changes to be made: remove references to 3-year membership, update membership rates; remove any references to NB; add donation request. Membership rates will stay where they are for the Festival. If a person with NB renews at the Festival, they'll receive both the NB discount and this year's membership discount. Motion: Moved by Peter Olszowska to discontinue use of NEFFA Bucks, excluding fulfillment of our current obligation. Seconded by Harold Henry. Moved by voice vote with one nay vote and one abstention. At the next meeting, the "mechanism" for accepting donations will be discussed.

Festival Committee Reports

Food (Maureen Carey): We've lost both the Scottish and Polish booths this year due to lack of volunteers/staffing. Other groups will fill in the "holes" with tea and hotdogs. The maple cotton candy vendor will come back. A guy who makes caramel apples has approached me. He'd like to park an ice cream truck outside.

Harold: This would be noisy and cause traffic blockages at the pick-up and drop-off area. There may be smaller attendance – it might be OK to have fewer booths. **Maureen:** It would be easier not to have more people in the kitchen. He can make food off site, but for us, it would just be vending space. Several comments: "Real food" and "meals" should be a priority, would this be messy?

Instrument & Costume Check (Laura Leibensperger): What time can I come in for set-up? **Harold:** 2:15. It would help if you put up the paper up – you can get 36" wide rolls at Home

Depot.

Inside Facilities (Harold Henry): We met with the custodian and worked out a schedule.

Publicity (presented by Maureen Carey): We don't have anyone yet. Linda is good at Publicity and she could help. A good thing about Publicity is that it's over once the Festival starts.

Sound (Peter Olszowska): We don't have a final plan for the Main Hall yet. It's easier if the rigger only comes in once – we may have to pay him more because he'll be here Friday night. Bethany will help with Sound Volunteer coordination. Mike Shannon isn't available so I'll take care of Sound Logistics Coordination.

Tickets (presented by Maureen Carey): Unfortunately, Dave Reid is sick again and won't be at the Festival, though he'll help with ticket prep.

Volunteers (Nancy Hanssen): Susan Crocker will be in charge at the Festival – she'll wear the beeper. Last year we had about 190 volunteer "pre-signed" and about 70 signing up at the Festival. The bottleneck is in making the notes that volunteers take to their assignments. I'd like to not use notes, or find a way to batch them. Bethany will take volunteer sign-up forms to the Flurry.



N·E·F·F·A

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