

USARD Meeting Corning, NY December 1, 2012

The meeting was convened at 12:20 pm.

Attendance: Gary Rockwell, Bill Mojica, Nick Biscotti, Bill Hartman, Steve Young, Joe Gillotti

Gary Gillotti, Charlie Kammer, Bill McGrath

Gary Gillotti read minutes from the July 7, 2012 meeting. Steve Young made a motion to accept minutes

Motion voted on and approved.

#### Treasures Report

Charlie Kammer reported the financial status of the USARD. Report N/A on minutes

#### Membership Recruitment

Bill McGrath stated that “performers should be members when they perform. Membership dues are the only way for USARD to make money” The committee’s consensus is that all Performers should have USARD Convention Badges and pay to stay at the Convention. Message needs to be sent out on the Website stating the above. There was a discussion on color coding the convention badges, to distinguish the days and events.

Charlie brought up the idea of concession stand for lunch “Hot dogs, Sandwiches” Everyone thought

It was a good idea. Steve will discuss with Heritage Hotel sales manager.

Bill McGrath asked to go ahead for his agenda.

Bill stated that it was important to develop Corporate Sponsorships. Like Blackrivermusicplus, Cooperman , maybe Ludwig, Yamaha etc.

## Lifetime Achievement Awards

Selected for 2013

Charles "Buck" Soistman

J Burns Moore

## Convention

Bill stated the following Clinicians will be attending

Adrian Mourdant

Rick Beckham

Marc Beecher

John Rozum

Following Performers will be attending

USAF Drum Corps Ensemble

Cadre

Bill Messerschmidt

New York Percussion Association

Jon Quigg

Middle River Ancients

John Flowers

Hip Pickles

The Hell Cats (Individuals)???

The Old Guard

New England Chapter

Joe Fontana and Jack Murray Skyliners

The Old Guard and Cadre will probably perform on Saturday Night (suggestion depending on scheduling)

## Convention 2013

Definitely was agreed to be in Lancaster this year. Steve stated same great deal for the weekend April 19 -21 2013 as last year.

## Convention 2014 Discussion

Steve made a motion that we vote on the dates for 2014. Suggested April 25- April 27. Week after Easter and WGI is a week before Easter. We finally won't have a conflict with WGI. – motion passed.

Steve said that Corning, NY was definitely out as we stated previously. He also said Scranton, PA was too expensive and did not have enough rooms, and Williamsport, Pa. was also out of the question.

Bill McGrath made a presentation on the Holiday Inn in Rochester. He brought a complete package with details of accommodations and prices. Bill stated that this will bring more New York and Canadian drummers. It was agreed that Rochester looked like a good option for 2014.

Gary Gillotti brought up that he visited the Crown Plaza in Danbury Ct. He said it was completely renovated and that the Banquet halls are away from the Hotel Rooms. The Crown Plaza's Rep was Marie Risk, who stated we will beat anyone's prices. She brought the idea of the Executive Committee having a meeting at the Hotel, so she can show them around.

## Website-Joe Gillotti

Joe led a discussion on the developing website. He also distributed a membership list. He brought up that he needs more information, stories and biographies. Bill Mojica brought up that "We need more commitments from people to give information to the website. Joe brought up that we are International now with the addition of Pavel Stepanov, Russian percussionist. Very enthusiastic, also on the cover of Russian Drummer.

Also short discussion on the Facebook site and the best way to handle that. We would like to see paid members go thru the USARD Website to get to the Official USARD Facebook site. Skee Derr's site is not the official one and is hurting membership recruitment. Steve said he would address this with Skee. Joe mention that the price of USARD domain was rising and the Committee agreed that Joe should be re-imbursed for the cost.

Bill Mojica stated more brochures should be distributed and a message thru the website should be sent inviting all members and ex members to renew their membership. Also invite all members to attend the 2013 Convention.

## Warren Lee Student Scholarship Fund

Steve introduced the new student stipends that will be available for full-time students under the age of 21. Funds for these "scholarships" were made possible through a generous gift from the widow of Warren Lee. The committee unanimously approved the program. Steve suggested USARD allocate \$200.00 from its budget to supplement the Fund. All agreed.

There was a discussion on underage students, if they're staying at the Convention they need to be chaperoned by a parent. Steve said he would put something together on the Scholarship program funding and its distribution so that it can be available starting in 2013.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:30 pm.