

Minutes of the meeting of the United States Association of Rudimental Drummers
January 31, 2009
New Cumberland, PA

Attending: Nick Biscotti, Ron Church, Skee Derr, Nathan Duncan, Gary Gillotti, Bill Hartmann, Harry Jenkins, Charlie Kammer, Cliff Long, Jeff Long, Danny Magsamen, Bill McGrath, Bill Mojica, Gary Rockwell, Cullen Triner, Steve Young, and Bob Zarfoss.

Joe Gillotti, Bill Maling and Bill Murray indicated they could not attend.

It was nice to see all the people in attendance at the last USARD meeting held in Harrisburg PA on 1/31/09. Not only was the attendance great but there were some new faces at this one as well. Thanks to everyone that has shown their support for the new organization by coming out to the meetings and giving us their input and opinions. Without any of your support we wouldn't be able to make this happen.

The meeting was called to order by Co-President Bill McGrath.

Nate Duncan, Treasurer, reported that as of 1.31.09 there were 18 paid members and that the USARD Paypal account had a balance of \$398.68.

Of all the things that were accomplished and talked about at this meeting the Official USARD Bylaws were what was most talked about and discussed. I am happy to announce that we now have an official set of by laws that are attached to this mailing. The bylaws were approved by unanimous vote of all attending. The bylaws include our "Mission Statement" along with our Purpose, Organization, Officers, Election of Officers, Meetings, Committees, Membership, Dues, Territory and Amendments to the Bylaws. Please take some time to read over these as these have been officially adopted on 1/31/09. Thanks to Bill Maling for getting the initial work on this done.

Our first convention was also discussed and was decided that it would be held Oct. 2-4 in New Cumberland. There are still some details left to work out but as for right now it looks as though there is going to be a 35 room minimum at \$99.00 a night. We will have sign up sheets for convention early so please make sure to fill them out. It was decided that we would be having an "informal BBQ" as a banquet on Saturday evening at the convention. Other details about convention are still pending at this time.

We also voted to select a logo design. Thanks again to Ron Church for taking the time to come up with several design concepts for us to look at and to be able to vote upon. Ron is going to take the chosen logo and give us a couple different color schemes on the same design, that way we will be able to take it to a graphic artist and have the logo ready to go for shirts, hats, jackets, or what have you.

Marketing and Public Relations Planning were discussed at some length as well. Topics included Brochures, Media, Flyers/Handouts, Website/internet, and of course the convention. Bill Maling will be putting a draft of a Brochure together for us to look at and decide upon. It was unanimously approved that expenditures up to \$200 would be earmarked for initial production of

the membership brochure. Thanks to Charlie Kammer for volunteering time and effort to help out with all the Public Relations dealings. (The pictures on the website from 1/31 were taken by him.)

Gary Rockwell went through the website with everyone. (Thanks to Bob Zarfoss for bringing the projection screen for the meeting.) Our website is UP AND RUNNING. Many thanks go out to Joe Gilloti for getting it set up and making it look great. All members are encouraged to add or send ANY information that would help to keep the website updated and to add to the members pages. In order to get and keep membership growing we have to be able to offer them something. The website is a great tool for all members. Please check out the new members section, update any of your biographies, start a topic on the members forum, add photos, articles, music or what ever you would like. Remember, this organization is for you. Without your help, we won't be able to continue to grow.

The topic of having Chapters and Chapter Coordinators also was brought up. Should they be by State or Region? What is their purpose? It was decided that they would be by both. By state were applicable, and then by region where applicable. Obviously as the organization would grow this will be subject to possible change, but the system that was used by the former APRDC seemed to be easy to use for the time being.

USARD will be attending GAS on May 2-3 we will be in need of a definitive list of people that will be attending. Cost is \$88.00 per person. We will be performing the following numbers there:

Three Camps

Downfall of Paris

The General

Liverpool/Prussia Variations

Devils Flute

Thunder & Lightning

Reilly Raiders '58 (AKA the Grey Ghost)

Please let Bill McGrath know if you are planning on attending. (emerald0113@rochester.rr.com) It would be nice to have a good showing for this which will be our first public performance as USARD.

Finally our next business meeting will be held on Saturday, May 30th 2009. Where the meeting will be held is up in the air but will be confirmed shortly. Mark your calendars now!

Respectfully,
Cullen Triner