



Niagara Frontier Fiddle Club

Newsletter

March, 2012

Fiddling for fun on the Niagara Frontier

niagarafiddlers.org

Board Members:

*President: Roger
Vaillancourt*

*Vice President: Larry
Brennen*

Secretary: Neil Yerkey

Treasurer: Dick Anderson

*Gig Chair: Joanne Brennen,
Lead Fiddler: Lyle Cote*

At Large Members:

Jim Witkowski

Roy Fisher

Sharon Cianciosi

MINUTES

March, 2012

BOARD MINUTES:

1. Roger called the Board to order at 1:30.
2. Committees:

Treasurer: There is \$4289 in the account.

Apparel: Order forms will soon be made available to buy apparel. Club will reimburse \$10 for each shirt. No reimbursement for other apparel. Roger will handle the orders as they come in.

Sunshine: Sent cards to Rich and John. Sent thanks card to Elderwood for their help with a member who became ill. Sent \$50 gift cards for Tim Hortons to John Quinn so that he could take some milkshakes to Joan Moran while she is in rehab.

3. New business:

Some organizations are asking for W-9 forms. Discussion of whether/how to apply for 501(C)3. Larry and Joanne will check with a pro-bono lawyer to see if we can get help.

4. Sound system: The omnidirectional mike requires large separation of speakers from the mike, but we don't have long enough cables. The sound has been better since we have been using individual mikes. Jim recommended buying another shotgun mike for back-up. Larry moved, Jim seconded that Roger determine the price of a shotgun mike and cables to separate the speakers. Unanimous
5. Suggestion letter: Last month we received 2 page letter of suggestions. The Board decided to study it further and discuss some points with the author before bringing to the general meeting.

Closed at 2:05

GENERAL MEETING:

1. Roger called the meeting to order at 2:08.
2. Neil read the Minutes. Moved by Roy, seconded by several to accept.
3. Treasurer report: Income last year: \$7861. Total in bank: \$4289. There was no expense report.
4. Committees:

Sunshine: Card was sent to Wally

Food: Good

Sound: Going to use original mikes, especially in smaller venues. Roger will look into the cost of another "shotgun mike" and longer speaker chords.

Gigs: Joanne presented two additional gigs for voting—All approved



The gig on May 30 at Westbrook Country Club is expected to have a large audience and we should have as many musicians as possible. Larry would like to know who would be attending. Please respond to Larry at landjbrennen@gmail.com or to Roger at 580-3720

5. Neil distributed the membership list for people to correct/add.
6. Sharon read a flyer from The United Heritage Fiddlers Association inviting us to meet with them (attached).
7. Rod discussed changes that have taken place in our performances over the years. He says we have turned into more of a jam session, with everyone playing on everything. Rod suggested soloist should be the “boss” of that solo, asking specific people to back him/her up. This applies only to solos; fiddle tunes should be backed up by all who know the number. Most agreed with Rod on these points. Rod also said we may have too many solos. We once had a rule of only 3 solos per hour. Several members argued that audiences like the solos, and appreciate the multi-talented mix of performers.
8. Larry said we will have three masters of ceremony rotating through the gigs: Larry, Rod, Neil.
9. Nancy K suggested that Lyle sign purchased CD’s.
10. Larry reminded the group that Bill Pocobello and JoeBicheler have offered to teach music theory, in addition to Lyle. Larry will try to set up a time for music instruction. Joanne made a suggestion that we have practice sessions. Neil argued that we should not confuse instruction with practice; we need both.
11. There was a question about pants colors for summer. The group decided it will be white.
12. Moved by Rod, Seconded by Diane to adjourn. Everyone voted by moving to the food table.

NEXT MEETING: Apr 22, 2:00 at Knights of Columbus, 2735 Union Rd. Cheektowaga, NY

Approved Gigs (also listed on the Web page under “Where We’re Playing”):

Apr 21 Sat 1:00-2:00 St Stephen’s United Church, 8520 S. Tonawanda Creek Rd. Amherst (they will feed us at noon)

Apr 27 Fri 2:30-3:30 Seneca Manor, 2987 Seneca St., W. Seneca

May 11 Friday: 6:30-7:30 Batavia 1st Methodist Church Coffee House, 8221 Clinton St, Batavia

May 30 Wed 12:00-1:00 Westbrook Country Club, N. Forest, Amherst

Jun 2 Sat 11:00-12:30 Alden Farmers’ Market on Broadway, Alden (in Save-A-Lot plaza)

Jun 9 Sat 2:00-3:00 Kenwell DePaul Assisted Living, 3456 Delaware Ave, Kenmore

Jul 8 Sun 3:00-4:00 Neuman Center, UB North Campus, Amherst (use Sweet Home entrance)

Jul 19 Thur 7:00-8:30 Pine Tree Park Concert, 622 Lapp Rd. Coldsville

Jul 28 Sat 5:30-6:30 Williamstown Village, Williams Rd, near Union (close to our meeting place)

Aug 1 Wed 2:00-4:00 Niagara City Fair, 4487 Lake Ave (rte 78), Lockport



NOTE: If you plan to attend the Fair gig, you must sign up with Joanne to get tickets.

Aug 4 Sat Springville Centennial-more info to follow

Sep 9 Sun 1:00-3:00 Gas & Steam Engine Show, Gillate Rd., Alexander

Sep 16 Sun 10:30-noon Celtic Festival, Krull Park, Rt 18, Olcott, NY

Oct 6 Thur 12:30-1:30 Ransomville Seniors, Ransomville Fire Hall, 2521 Youngstown-Lockport Rd, Ransomville (they feed us before we play)