

**South Bay Scottish Society
General Meeting Minutes
Friday, July 11, 2003**

With a quorum of membership and the board established, the Sennachie called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

Minutes of the last meeting

The following correction was made under New Business: "Andy would work with Linda LeZotte (Council Member District 1 of San Jose City Council and with Wayne Disher from the library. " Jack Marshall moved to approve Minutes as corrected, Bruce Dewing seconded motion. Minutes approved as corrected.

Chief's Report

Welcome, Announcements - Discussion & Correspondence

Jeff Cathcart welcomed Claudia Smurthwaite as our new Webmaster.

He further reported on the SBSS Tent at Campbell. We took in \$397, include \$94 on the raffle. The reaction to being at the fairgrounds was very favorable. Generally heard good comments about the venue. Jeff commented that it would have been better if more people had marched with SBSS in the parade.

Jeff announced that Sharon Cathcart resigned as Governor at Large and Rita Fabregas resigned as Steward. Jeff appointed Cecily Dewing as Interim Steward. We need the following officers and chairmen as quickly as possible: Governor at Large, Scribe, Publicity Chairman, Social Chairman, Activities Chairman, Budget Chairman and a Newsletter Editor. In response to this news, the Board of Governors and members present agreed that we will send out an appeal to the membership for volunteers to come forward for these jobs. If we cannot find volunteers very soon to help run the organization, we are truly in danger of folding. As Chief, Jeff is a pro-temp member of all the committees. He feels he should try and cover all those bases. However, in the discussion that followed, Sandy Welsh advised him not to even try to do that. We don't want to loose any more Board members because they are overwhelmed by having to do too much to keep the Society running. Instead, we can ramp back on planning events to which there's little response anyway, send out a strongly worded, no nonsense request for volunteers to come forward prior to the printing of the next newsletter, and perhaps re-activate the phone tree.

The question was asked, what does a Governor at Large do? Primarily they interface between the membership and the Board of Directors. This is rather difficult when you consider the level of participation in any given activity. When Sandy Welsh was Chief, she asked Andy McFarlin, then one of the Governors, to start a Telephone Tree. He did an outstanding job of it. Just the telephone tree alone got over 20 people involved. Jack Marshall, who has concentrated his work as governor at the games, meeting potential members and helping with the tent, commented that becoming involved as a board member well over a year ago, has been a satisfactory and worthwhile experience. He does not regret stepping up to help the Society.

In the discussion that followed, Eleanor Calvani and Sheryl Village indicated that they would be interested in helping on a telephone tree. Every one seemed to feel that this personal touch is very effective in making people feel like they are part of an organization.

Correspondence

Jeff received a letter from Glenna Ivey who had won, but not received a raffle prize at Ardenwood. He reported that he sent the prize to her, not sure of when.

Committee Reports

Steward

Cecily reported that she, Jeff and Sandy were going to meet with Rita on Monday, 7/14, to transfer the accounts over to her name and get Jeff and Sandy on the signature card.

Budget Committee

Jeff and Cecily will have a meeting to review the status of the checking account and establish a budget for 2004.

Membership

We currently have 55 individual and 62 family memberships + 18 from the Campbell Games for a total of 135 memberships on the books. That reflects a decline of 23 members since the January meeting.

Social

Jeff reported that 5 people signed up for the SJ Giants event planned for July 26... not enough. Sandy Welsh suggested that we scratch this event.

Movie Night venue needed for Friday, 7/18. Andy McFarlin will talk to the people at Mount Mike's Pizza and make sure they TV in the private room is working. Discussion ensued regarding pros and cons of continuing to have a movie night and

other social events. Consensus of the people in attendance was to consolidate our efforts because of limited volunteer resources at the present time. Jack Marshall moved and Andy McFarlin 2nd motion to table movie night until after the Pleasanton Games.

We don't need a formal arrangement for the Miniature Golf event on August 16. We can show up as a group - preferably in kilts and play mini golf as a group. A mailing will be sent out regarding this event. The golf course is on El Camino near Wolf in Sunnyvale. Shoot for starting time of 4PM.

Ainsley House "Tea" tabled.

Chief's Picnic - Consensus was that Roaring Camp would not be a great place for this event. Don Village, one of our members, will call and reserve a date in September at Ed Levin Park in the Spring Valley Area for September 13 or 20. He will advise Cecily of the reservation date.

Sandy Welsh mentioned that she would like to have a table at the CommunityFest in South San Jose. She will find out when in mid-September this event is and advise Don Village this weekend.

Publicity

Comment was made that we need to do more publicity. This will be an agenda item for the board meeting.

Newsletter

Cecily Dewing reported that she would do one more newsletter. She handed out an information/recommendation sheet for anyone contributing to the newsletter. The deadline is August 16. The newsletter also accepts advertising. We need any information we can get regarding upcoming year-end (and January) events for this newsletter. Whatever we know about the Halloween Ceilidh, Christmas Dinner and Burns Night needs to go into this issue. She also reviewed other items that may be good for the newsletter like recipes, articles, etc. Also, we should let people know that the recipe books are still for sale. Sandy suggested to Cecily that she pass on dates and newsworthy items to Claudia for inclusion on the website.

Fundraising

Larry Oakenful reported that there was no news. He is ramping up for the raffle at the Pleasanton Games.

Historian - No report

Webmaster - Claudia reported that she is in the process of redesigning the website; trying to add more Scottish stuff. It should be updated by next week.

Unfinished Business

CafePress - Jeff read a letter from CafePress, which is currently tied to Sharon's credit card. There's a \$25 management fee if orders do not meet the minimum order requirements. It was suggested that we order items from the site for upcoming raffles. BOG will have to re-visit this issue.

New Business

Larry Oakenfull suggested that we have a garage sale as a fundraiser. He shared some intelligence on possible locations. It was decided that this item could be discussed at the Board Meeting.

With business concluded, the time to adjourn was upon us. Jack Marshall moved that we adjourn the business meeting, Andy McFarlin seconded. Meeting adjourned about 8:50 p.m. The next general membership meeting will held on October 10, 2003.

Several members stayed around to play Parlour Games led by Jeff Cathcart. This was a lot of fun for everyone and a good morale booster.

Respectfully submitted

Sandy Welsh
Deputy Chieftain
Acting Scribe