



## El Camino Reelers Board Meeting Minutes

Sunday, December 18, 2022, 11:00 AM PST, 20:00 CET

Remote meeting via Zoom 465 455 8223

*Attending: Annette, David, Ed, Michael G, Robin, Kurt, Oliver.*

### Minutes from Last Meeting

- Minutes from the 11/20/2022 meeting minutes were approved.

### Activities since last meeting

- Open House on December 6<sup>th</sup> with 1 guest through word-of-mouth
- Now have PayPal button on website for monthly subscriptions

### Covid Policies

- As of November 1st, we have changed our masking policy to recommending instead of requiring them.
- We're keeping our requirements of requiring fully vaccinated. Currently, very few County residents have the Omicron BA5 booster, so can't require that, yet
- Current [Community Level for Santa Clara County](#) is "High", with cases having trended sharply up recently. [Sewer viral load trend](#) is also very high in North county
- We will require masks until end of January
- **We will reconsider** when the risk level in SCC reaches Medium again and trends continue to go up.

### Club Nights

- Kurt has scheduled club night callers through end of this year, sent out availability query for January
- **Adjust schedule** to include more Plus, like SSD-SSD-Plus, SSD-SSD-Plus for the first hour and a half, then alternating Advanced-Plus for the last hour. End on a Plus tip.
- We will be dark December 27<sup>th</sup> and encourage people to attend the Interclub Holiday party on the 26<sup>th</sup>

### Venues

- The hope is that with successful recruiting we will have enough attendance to have two club nights again, one (mostly) SSD, one Plus and Advanced.
- Looking for Saturday afternoon dance venues for potentially a second club "night" for Plus and Advanced dancing, and potentially future classes
- St. Andrew's schedule to see if 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sat mornings 10-12 are available. Cost would be \$100 (per night?). Solidly booked afternoons
- Ventura Community Center. \$250 refundable deposit, \$50/hour, high stage with power, possible kitchen access.
- Mountain View Community Center (hardwood floors in L Room: \$56-Maple Room \$? – padded vinyl floors \$113/hr: no tables and chairs allowed in those rooms) \$250 deposit required Prices are for non-profit. We are 501(c)7
- Trinity Church Menlo Park: They have 2 large rooms (for 106 or 300 people "standing". Larger hall has a sound system. \$20 or \$35/hour. \$150 security and \$15 key deposit. \$50 cleaning fee for 3 hours (i.e. \$150)
- **Will go with Ventura CC. Oliver to initiate contract (will need proof of insurance)**

### Quarterly Dances

- Eric Henerlau confirmed to call the Halloween Dance
- Ken Ritucci will call on March 25, 2023 7-10
- **We should have a sign / poster board about what level will be called with the next tip Ed will work on that**
- Masking decision for March dance will have to be done at the January board meeting
- We had two teams doing 50/50 at the Halloween dance.
- Ed has confirmed Mike Kellogg as caller for May 27<sup>th</sup>

- Ed will work on an August 5<sup>th</sup> dance
- A public calendar has now been posted by the mailboxes

## Classes / Open House

- At Open Houses, we need to have a rotation to greet new people at the door to make them feel welcome, even late comers. Starting Dec 6, 7:00-8:30 pm
- We had an Open House Dec 6. Will start advertising the January ones (Jan 10<sup>th</sup> and Jan 24<sup>th</sup>) once Ed has updated the flyer.
- We will have the next SSD class likely Feb 4<sup>th</sup>, Feb 18<sup>th</sup>, Mar 4<sup>th</sup>, and Mar 18<sup>th</sup>. 2p-5p. Caller will be Kurt
- Need to reserve Ventura CC
- Michael L and Kurt have come up with a syllabus to run over 4 Saturdays x 3 hours
- For the class, there's a need to warm people up, then review previous calls, then teach, then review what was learned that day. 4x3 hours will be tighter than 3x4 hours but should be doable.
- Up-to-date vaccination (incl. booster) required, mask policy to be decided
- Class fee includes all review club nights
- If less than 3 months left in membership year (i.e. graduation is after June 30), Students get the following year free, otherwise the rest of the current year
- Class members will get badges at graduation.
- Things that worked in terms of recruiting, and those that didn't:
  - Nextdoor and Palo Alto weekly, and word of mouth had people show up at least at intro nights
  - One group showed up after seeing the flyers on California Avenue
  - Though there was online response on Meetup, no-one showed up
  - Los Altos had success with Palo Alto Daily Post. They offered an ad package for \$850
  - Oliver reached out to Avenidas, who expressed interest at San Mateo Pride In The Park including the info in their newsletter, but has never heard back
  - Flyers were posted on California Ave and around Stanford
  - Reached out to Stanford Queer Student Resources who promised to spread the word
- What did we not do (enough) of, if any? Paid ad in paper? Distribute flyer in the area at University Ave, Castro St (Mtn Vw)

## Community Events

- No upcoming events

## Membership

- At what occasions will we hand out the next batch of anniversary bars? (At General Meeting?)

## Board / General Meeting

- Need to start thinking about GM and getting candidates for Board
- 21<sup>st</sup> February. Seats opening up are Ed's, Michael's, David's. David's not thinking of running again

## Financials

- 61 people have paid their dues, 17 outstanding (some possibly in the mailbox)
- Tuesday Club Nights: Still losing money weekly, but not unsustainably.
- PayPal button for subscriptions is ready and live
- Ed is adding new members to insurance as they renew

## Other dancing

### Saturday afternoon dances

- Should do more weekend afternoon events.
- Should they become regular, and if so, how frequent?

- They could morph into Workshops?

#### Venue

- Billy de Frank has started to have some in-person events again. Annette tried to reach out to BdF, but they still have very limited hours.

#### Picnic

- Will schedule picnics again in Spring

#### Fun Nights

- Currently on hold. Doing a couple of Open Houses pre- class begin.
- We previously decided that whenever we resume dancing, the monthly Fun Nights held at St. Andrews (twice a quarter) will move to Tuesday nights from 7:15 PM to 9:00 PM, with full level Plus dancing from 9:00 PM to 9:30 PM. We will advertise the night as starting at 7:00 PM to get people there on time to start dancing by 7:15 PM.
- We are planning on retaining the quarterly Friday Fun Nights at the Billy De Frank Center in San Jose once we feel comfortable doing so. We'll be reaching out to them about starting those up.

#### Potluck Nights

- Once we feel comfortable to have shareable food, we will discuss scheduling potluck nights.
- We're not comfortable, yet, and will assess in the New Year.
- In the meantime, we'll have picnics

#### Quarterly Workshops

- Need to find a space for them now that St. Andrew's is unavailable weekend afternoons
- We want to hold more quarterly workshops. We'd pay \$200 or half the door. Topics we'd like to cover: Gender Swap/APD workshop, for 4 hours.
- Allan was to check with Rob to see how long he thinks a workshop should take, and if he's available for a date yet to be determined. If Rob's not available, Allan will ask the same question of Eric Henerlau.
- Convention Brush-Up for Plus (thars, teacup chain, other rarely-used calls) This might also be handled via the 6 weeks of club nights prior to Convention, as long as we announce the topic of each club night in advance? In the last half-hour of Adv-Class-Plus format?
- APD/DBD Plus. (Again.)
- Square recovery techniques. (Keep the square dancing, and also know how to reset from lines or waves. Ideally, swap people around to get them into the right place before the end of the sequence.)

#### Social Activities

- None planned at this time
- Robin has looked at taking up going to the Mountain View theater again. Their free tickets for non-profits was stopped during Covid, and they do not seem to have any intentions of taking that up again. We could still go. Weekday tickets are \$30, so an evening with dinner would be \$50-\$60. In the Board's opinion, \$30 for an event / \$50-\$60 with dinner would be upper limit for events. We'll put our planned social activities on our ECR club calendar. Robin will try and organize something for January.

#### Online Presence

##### Meetup

- Meetup currently costs \$24.99/mo. We will keep MeetUp and have changed to the 6-month model. Just paid another \$100. Is this something we want to keep up? How active are we on Meetup?
- Robin to try and generate more interest on Meetup.
- Let's advertise our Open Houses as much as possible, if no response, we'll drop it.

- If, we'll cancel it before next renewal in April. Need to let Oaktown 8's know, since they share the account.

#### Zoom

- Zoom has been renewed for another year in June.
- Board meetings are zoomed.

#### Facebook

- Group has been deleted.

#### Other

- Eric posts on Instagram, posts are sent to Twitter. Last update to Twitter was 2020. Michael will ask Eric what's going on. If there's extra work with Twitter, we should drop it. Anyone wants to take up TikTok? Michael will ask Jeff if he has any interest in doing that. Instagram posts can be linked to Facebook, and vice versa if it's a post with picture.
- Robin will look into TikTok

#### Website

##### Next Board Meeting:

- Sunday, January 29th, 2023, at 11 am PST. Location: Zoom