

Central Indiana Folk Music and Mountain Dulcimer Society  
Minutes of the March 8, 2009 Board Meeting

The meeting was called to order at 1:02 p.m. by President Steve Kessinger.

Board members present were Steve Kessinger, Gary Rogers, Dave Slates, Ruth Slates, Dave Wensits, Phil Slates, and Amy Raab.

The February 2009 Secretary's Report was approved as presented on a motion by Phil Slates, seconded by Gary Rogers.

The February 2009 Treasurer's Report was approved as presented on a motion by Ruth Slates, seconded by Steve Kessinger.

Music Coordinator's Report, presented by Dave Slates:

1. The CIFM&MDS has earned \$550 profit from gigs.
2. There was a great turnout and reaction at Henry County/New Castle Public Library. Some of the audience showed interest in visiting our society and getting involved.
3. August 23, 2009, we are expecting to play at the Indiana State Fair. There will be a new venue, the "Possum Holler Opera House." We are to play during the First Annual Ice Cream Churn-off. We are performing gratis, but expect to receive free tickets to the fair and maybe some ice cream. We'll be in the official State Fair schedule. This gig will give us good promotion and visibility. Phil Slates and Dave Slates share the credit for bringing about this opportunity.
4. The [Ohio Valley Gathering](#) in Lexington, KY, will be March 27-29, 2009. The CIFM&MDS will perform. Music Coordinator Dave Slates will share further information on the e-list.
5. Eric Fricke is coordinating another trip to the Veteran's Administration Hospital. Dates to be announced later; the gig will be either May 3<sup>rd</sup> or May 31<sup>st</sup>.
6. The ***Fifth Annual Midwest Mandolin Festival***, presented by the [Mandolin Society of Central Indiana](#), will be held Saturday June 6, 2009, at [Eagle Creek Park Marina Stage](#), in Indianapolis, 11:00am - 8:00pm. The CIFM&MDS will perform, gratis. This gig will be a good chance to promote and practice for the Eagle Creek Festival.

Phil Slates reported on the potential name change. Two people are interested in being on a committee concerning this issue. There have been no formalized meetings yet. Phil again noted that it is important to not lose the "dulcimer" ID, but rather to add or modify in a way to be more inclusive. The board generally agreed that we are a "Folk Music Society" and not strictly a "Dulcimer Society." Also the name "Indiana Folk Music Society" easily segues to our web address, [www.indianafolkmusic.org](http://www.indianafolkmusic.org). Phil Slates will report the progress of the future committee, in the future.

Phil Slates noted, and the board unanimously agreed, that President Steve Kessinger's notes in the newsletters are encouraging to all.

Ruth Slates reported on the progress of the Eagle Creek Festival committee.

1. A meeting was planned for March 12, 2009 for the purpose of brainstorming concerning "lessons learned" and "lessons observed."
2. There were schedule problems last year. This year we need a concrete schedule by the end of April.
3. Job descriptions for all committee members will be short but definite on both roles and expectations.
4. Performances and workshops will be well advertised.
5. The committee had hoped to secure Bing Futch to headline the festival, but he had a conflict of dates and could not agree. The committee has other options to pursue.
6. The Eagle Creek Festival date is June 20, 2009. There is no rain date.
7. We will again be at the Marina Stage. Possibly we can get the Discovery Center as a backup location.

Steve Kessinger introduced the business of the songbook. He suggested that we take Dave Wensits' well-researched advice to combine two of the three existing songbooks (the Main book and the Melody Line book, not the fiddle supplement) into one book. Demand for the Melody Line songbook is low since most of the existing members who want it, have it by now. By combining the two books, new members will automatically get the music notation from the Melody Line songbook and the lyrics and chords from the Main book and will no longer need to purchase them separately. Combining the Main songbook and the Melody Line book will cause printing costs to increase to about \$26, or \$5 more than the cost to print the Main Songbook today (\$21). This estimate is based on current printing rates and takes credit for improved printing efficiencies gained by eliminating duplication between the two songbooks, and by printing all music on one-side only. Member price for the combined songbook will be discussed at a future board meeting, but is expected to be considerably less than the total price to buy the two books today (\$20 for the Main book, \$15 for the Melody Line book). An archived file of the Melody Line songbook will be preserved in case it needs to be resurrected, but a separate inventory will no longer be maintained for general membership purchase.

Phil Slates moved to combine the two books at the price determined by the treasurer. Dave Slates seconded, and the motion was approved.

Dave Wensits suggested that the board work harder at promoting the society. He suggested advertising in the newspaper, and offering songbook price discounts to new members. Phil Slates suggested running a promotion in June, during which time new members receive a discount on the songbook. The board agreed to discuss these ideas in the future.

The board made a decision to post the meeting minutes on the website. Each month's minutes will be available on the website the following month.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:49 p.m. Phil Slates made a motion to adjourn which was seconded by Ruth Slates.

Respectfully submitted,  
Amy Raab