



SUMMERFAIR
CINCINNATI

Supporting and Promoting
Artists and the Arts Year-Round

Volume 42
Issue 5
May 2009

Membership Meeting

Date: May 18

Where: Coney Island

When: 6 p.m.

What: Green Shirt Shift Sign Up, Fair Walk-Thru

President

Dave Ziegler

Vice President

-Finance

Dustin Minton

Vice President

-Membership

Jayne Utter

Vice President

-Operations

Roger Harding

Trustee

Bob Hinman Trustee

Executive Director

Sharon Strubbe

Executive Board Update

I'd like to share with you an update on how we've progressed operating under our reorganized structure. At a recent Executive Board meeting, we did a recap of what is working well, and what isn't.

Key learning's are as follows:

- 1) The Executive Board structure is working well. We are able to get very focused on longer term, strategic issues and to drive focus on key priorities, Such as operating structure, financial management and organization planning.
- 2) There is still confusion between the Executive Board and the Operating Committee; primarily regarding information flow between the two. We will focus on streamlining that for this coming year and to get more frequent, broader communication to the entire membership.
- 3) Between the Executive Board Meetings, Operations Committee meetings and Membership meetings, there are too many meetings during any given month. We need to focus on reducing the number of meetings and on improving overall communication between the organizations and committees (as referenced in #2 above).
- 4) Special KUDO's to the development of our Financial Systems and our Membership focus! We see great progress in each of these areas and our sincerest thanks to everyone who has participated in these efforts.
- 5) Where we continue to see opportunity for improvement is in the development and communication of "roles and responsibilities" for the various positions in Summerfair. Lack of clarity in these areas causes confusion and frustration and we'll continue to build clarity on.

Moving on to the Fair. We have not had any volunteers to Chair the 2010 Fair and we believe in part, it is due to the lack of clarity regarding roles and responsibilities. We do not have clear role descriptions between the Fair Chair and Executive Director. This lack of clarity results in challenging communications, discrepancies in priority management, and general project management issues. This isn't something new so please don't read this as a critique of anyone; this problem has existed since the Fair was conceived!

What I can tell you now is that along with the Fair Chair duties, we'll ask the 2010 Fair Chair(s) to work closely with the Executive Board and Executive Director to outline and detail roles and responsibilities. Our goal is to document this to a level that will help future Fair Chair prospects better understand the Fair Chair job, to streamline communications and project management, and to provide for future succession planning of our Fair Chair.

We are working on options to address this and we'll share this with you within the next couple of weeks. I feel very confident that before the 2009 Fair, we will have candidate(s) for the 2010 Fair Chair. If you are interested in being a Fair Chair, or a Division Head for 2010, please contact Dave Ziegler at Ziegler_D@msn.com or 513.237.1514. This is not a time to be shy, and quite frankly, we don't know if you're interested or not, so now is the time to speak up.

Thank you all and let's have a GREAT 2009 Fair!
Dave

SUMMERFAIR CINCINNATI'S VOLUNTEERS OF THE MONTH

Summerfair Cincinnati (SFC) is chock full of enthusiastic and passionate member VOLUNTEERS! Starting this month, I'll be highlighting several SFC members who continue to go "above and beyond" for the good of the organization. This article will also be highlighted and archived on our website, www.summerfair.org. It's a fun way to get to know your SFC colleagues – especially some of their personal interests!

Ashley Oehler-Art Ops Co-Division Head

How many years have you been with Summerfair Cincinnati?

I was an outside volunteer starting in the mid 90's and became a green shirt after the '99 show.

Why did you join the organization? Free admission and a radio, isn't that why everyone joins? ☺ I always came down all three days and figured since I was already here I should probably help out. Turned out I liked the Summerfair people and the artists and it was a fabulous idea.

What's your favorite thing about being a member volunteer? The friends I've made and the dynamics of how everyone comes together to make the Fair happen and work and just take care of everything (the patrons, the artists, each other).

What Fair committee do you normally work on? I am currently doing Art Operations/Pre-fair/ Exhibitor Relations with Kelly Christian and Dee Newton; this is my second year doing this and I think I'll hang here awhile. **Why?** I love working with the artists, I enjoy them and like getting to know them. I like seeing the work that is submitted and being able to solve problems for them.

What's one favorite memory you have from your green shirt experience at the Fair? Being approached by a woman I barely knew (Melinda) and being asked to be co-chair for the '07 show. She had another woman lined up (Dee, who I didn't really know either) who said she would if Melinda could find a co-chair for her. I walked away thinking, I have no idea what to do. I loved Dee and we worked together well. I don't know if I'd be as involved as I am today if she hadn't asked me.

Tell us a little about yourself.... I'm the oldest of three, I have a sister and a brother, and he will be 12 this year. I'm a bothsider, I grew up in Hyde Park but my dad grew up in Green Township and moved back to the west side when he married his second wife. I've held many jobs such as a nanny, manager at the movie theatre, Glamour Shots, PCUPgrades, Victoria's Secret and Cincinnati Bell Wireless. I have over 10 years of management in non-traditional retail at the local, national and international level. I generally am pretty upbeat and like to laugh. I love jigsaw puzzles, cryptoquips and Sudoku.

Family? Married for 7 years to Bob and we have two children, Audrey is 6 ½ and J.T. is 3.

Where are you employed and what's your role there? My primary job right now is Mom; however I am also an Independent Wine Consultant with The Traveling Vineyard where I do in-home wine tastings.

Hobbies (besides Summerfair!)? I'm enjoying learning about wine very much. I've started doing genealogical research and a

What is a D.E.V.?

D: ded' i – cat' ed adj. Devoted, faithful

E: en-thu' si – as' tic adj. Intense or eager interest, zeal

V: vol – un – teer n. one who chooses freely to do something

family tree. I have over 500 family members listed currently and have 10 generations in some lines. I also love to scuba dive, snow ski and have started doing some scrapbooking since I had the kids.

Where's your favorite vacation spot? The beach, I am always happy at the water, preferably a warm beach with scuba diving nearby. I also love going to the mountains to go skiing (I like spring skiing, it is warmer, nothing like skiing the slopes when it is 55 degrees out).

What's your favorite drink / food? Fav food—I never turn down chocolate and I seldom turn down pizza. Drink – I enjoy wine and one of my best friends has me on a White Russian kick right now. Feel free to bring me a Cherry Coke anytime (don't forget to bring a Diet Coke for Kelly).

What's your favorite sports team? My daughter's soccer team, the Panthers, and I'll always go to a Bearcats game or a Reds game.

Kelly Christian -Art Ops Co-Division Head

Whenever there's a question about SFC history, Kelly's the Summerfair member volunteer to ask...she's been with the organization for 21 years – joining in 1989.

Her favorite reason for being with the organization is working with the artists – she's all about the Fair! That's why she continues to act as Art Ops Division Head; it gives her a chance to talk with the artists.

Kelly's favorite memory of the many Fairs that she's been involved with are several: 1995 – the dunking booth; 1990 – jump starting the bumper boats after hours, the hurricane watch on Friday night after the Fair and Dianne Hight signing karaoke at the after Fair party... (gee, any chance we have videos on any of those?!)

Her favorite poster is the 1993 "Reel of Film" poster.

Kelly has just recently purchased her first home – a condo that she's been fixing up in Springfield Township. She's single w/no kids and is an RN at University Hospital. Her hobbies (besides Summerfair) are Kindervelt, reading and sewing. She does cross-stitch and crochets. Her favorite vacation spot is Holmes County.

Asked what her favorite drink is, she said "anyone who knows me knows this is Diet Coke"! Currently, she's reading *Dogs and Goddesses* by local author Jennifer Cruise.

Her favorite sports teams are the Covington (OH) Bucs and the Ohio Northern women's volleyball team.

Thank You and CONGRATULATIONS to our May 2009 SFC D.E.V.s!

FAIR NEWS 2009

Less than 30 days and counting till the Fair!! Whoo Hoo!!

This has been an incredible journey so far!! But we're not there yet – as we come down the home stretch we still have a few things to tidy up!!

There are still lots of available volunteer slots for Green Shirts! Make sure you drop a line to Kelly Boschert or bring your pencil ready to fill in a few slots at the Walk-Thru Meeting (affectionately known as the Chicken Walk-Thru). All Green Shirts should plan to attend the **May 18** meeting at **Coney Island** beginning at **6:00 p.m.** – we'll go over Fair policies, do a walk-thru on the grounds (especially interesting if this is your first fair) and of course - the **Summerfair Dude & Dudettes Do Raffle!!!**

Everything is falling in place for the fair – the Division Heads and their teams have been terrific!!! Kudos and huge thank yous to all – you've made our jobs easier (and make us look really good)!! This year's fair will be fantastic!! The final pieces of the program have come together – as we write, the program is being "put to bed".

It's very exciting - at this point in time we have more than 300 artists (at last count 319) descending on Coney Island at the end of the month. It is a sight to behold, that color coded map that hangs on Ashley's wall – the layout of this year's fair.

As we near the end of our journey we again sincerely thank our Division Heads and everyone who courageously assumed responsibilities throughout the year. Thank You!!!

Whoo Hoo!!

See Ya Soon!!!!

- Bill & JTerri
2009 Fair Chairs

GREENSHIRT SHIFT REGISTRATION 2009

Calling all Green Shirts!

Sign up for your preferred shifts for this year's fair. Remember three simple shifts gets you the 2009 fashionable ware!!

Please see attach pdf file for what is currently open and contact Kelly Boschert at kelly.boschert@gmail.com with any and all questions.

See you at the fair!

Summerfair Cincinnati Event Calendar

May

18

Walk Thru-Chicken Dinner; 6:00 p.m.

Coney Island

29, 30 & 31

Summerfair

Coney Island

Happy May!

