

SOMERSET AUXILIARY
of the
JOHNSTOWN SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
Minutes for August 13, 2015

The Somerset Auxiliary of the JSO met on Thursday, **August 13, 2015** at 12:30 pm at **Crazy Alice's Cafe** in Somerset. Members present were Belinda Baker, Beckie Bracken, Mike Cascio, Leslie Custer, Beckie Dickey, Mindy Forry, Sam Hanson, Bob Hanson, Gary Hofmaster, Ruth Hofmaster, Pat Hofscher, Janice McGreehan, Sue Menser, Kathy Picking, Beth Pile, Gay Reed, Don Reed, Eleanor Schrock, Jane Sotomayor, and Jeanne Wagle. Special guests attending were Sharyn Spinelli, President, JSO Auxiliary and Teresa Marafino, Proprietor, Green Gables Restaurant, and JSO Board member.

President Gay Reed opened the meeting at 12:30 pm by introducing our special guests. Members then introduced themselves. Minutes from the last meeting were approved as emailed, except to add Ray McGreehan to the list of guests attending. Gay's attendance sheet and agenda for the current meeting was passed around.

The Sunshine Basket was circulated to collect \$1.00 donations and names. Gay described the Sunshine Basket as a means of raising money to pay for greeting cards and memorial donations sent out by the Auxiliary. This time a charming basket with maple syrup and candy was provided by Vice-President Beth Pile and won by Sue Menser.

Most of this meeting was devoted to preparations for Taste of the Laurel Highlands. Flyers for distribution and tickets to be sold were given out. A sign-up sheet to make baskets for the Chinese Auction was passed around, as well as a list of past vendors for members to confirm or add their contacts. Teresa Marafino, who will host the fundraiser for us at Green Gables, asked if there were any new logistical questions to be considered. She mentioned that the microphone at the restaurant had been repaired. There was some discussion as to wine bottles now being allowed in Auction baskets.

Pat Hofscher, Orchestra Manager, stated that she was glad to see such a full capacity of members! (The banquet room on the lower level of Crazy Alice's is an attractive and cheerful room that we filled to the brim). She continued to say that readiness for the JSO Opera Festival on Sept. 19 is progressing, and that two generous grants/gifts have been awarded to the JSO and Youth Symphony.

Sharyn Spinelli announced that she was excited that our group is all together and that her JSOA is working with us. Their monthly meetings are held alternately at lunch time and evenings to accommodate working members. She hopes some of our members will attend. Bob Hanson, Treasurer, stated that he will be able to access money out of our bank account once he is authorized on Sept. 1. He reiterated that PayPal on our website is safe and efficient, but that various payments also can be processed by the JSO office or by him directly.

It was decided that monthly meetings from now on will be held on the second Thursday of each month. The next regular meeting will be held at the Somerset Country Club on Thursday, Sept. 10, 2015 at 12:30. Jane Sotomayor will make arrangements.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:15 pm.

Ruth Hofmaster, Recording Secretary