

**UNY Chapter of AATSP
January 26, 2017**

Council Members Present: Jennifer Cornell (UNY Chapter President); Emily Cooper (UNY Chapter Vice President); Cynthia Flax (UNY Chapter Webmaster/Newsletter); Gerardo T. Cummings (UNY Chapter Communications Coordinator/Secretary); Monica Abrams (UNY Chapter Central NY Representative); Myriam Santos (Public Relations Coordinator); Mark Warford (Western New York Representative); Brianna Dingmon (Poster Contest Representative); Cindy Hoetzer (Treasurer); and Evelyn Ledezma (NSE Representative).

Welcome Remarks from our New President: 2017 President Jennifer Cornell states she would like to plan our meetings/dates for the calendar year, discuss how we can improve upon our already successful events and get people to volunteer for our chapter activities. She invites all to check out our website and review the responsibilities as a council member. She ends her remarks by thanking Cynthia Flax for initiating this organization, and helping to maintain its strength well into our third year.

Scheduling 2017 Activities: President Cornell suggests having 2 face to face meetings this year. One to be held in Albany (to allow those further away to attend) and one to be held in Saratoga. She also suggests we have our meetings every other month. It seems in the past, that monthly meetings seem too close together and there isn't enough to talk about. The individuals working on activities can have more time in between to plan and be prepared for the meeting. She believes this can improve attendance as well. The meetings proposed by President Cornell are:

- ❖ **January 26 - 1st electronic meeting**
- ❖ **March 25 (Saturday) Meeting @ 12:00-2:00 - El Mexicano Restaurant, Saratoga**
- ❖ **May 18 (earlier to avoid the Memorial Day weekend) - electronic meeting - Google Hangout**
- ❖ **June 27 - Spring Outing to NYC - Cuba Exhibit at Museum of Natural History**
- ❖ **July 29 (Saturday) - Meeting in Albany at 12:00-2:00 - Oaxaquena Triqui (click here for review and directions)**
- ❖ **September 14 - electronic meeting**
- ❖ **October - Immersion Weekend (Date to be confirmed -Friday October 6 - Sunday October 8)**
- ❖ **November 16 - electronic meeting**
- ❖ **December 7 - electronic meeting AND December holiday gathering in Saratoga at Boca Restaurant @ 6:30 PM followed by Latin dancing at Newbury's**

Most of the members present at this electronic meeting agree that this mapping of a yearly calendar is an innovative idea and most welcome it, although other members express certain concerns. In the end, we will be experimenting with this approach and try this out in 2017.

Treasurer's Report: Cindy Hoetzer--the new treasurer--thanked Brianna Dingmon for all her work as past treasurer. Brianna handed Cindy with a binder with bank records. Our current balance is \$950.13. (\$860.13 once the AATSP cashes two outstanding membership checks from the Fall Outing).

Spring Outing (June 27): President Cornell requests feedback regarding the Cuba exhibit and whether anyone would be willing to organize this trip. This person would need to create an itinerary with prices and a flyer. This person can share this information with us during our March meeting in Saratoga. It's suggested that the Cuba exhibit could be combined with a Cuban restaurant for lunch. Another member suggests combining this trip with a show at El Repertorio Theater. Although, Repertorio ends on May 20th. Members discuss whether the Spring Outing could be moved to May, but it seems that June is more convenient to most. Cynthia Flax has volunteered to organize this event.

Fall Outing (October 6-8, although date needs to be confirmed): President Cornell has organized this event for the past 2 years and can easily do it again, but would prefer to have some helpers this time in hopes of someone new taking it on in the near future. She is looking for 2 people (ones that would consider organizing it in the future).

Chicos Charlando: The date of Thursday, April 6th, is offered for the Spring Chicos Charlando. It is before spring break and early enough that it may not conflict with too many sports or AP test review sessions. As for Fall 2017, the date of Thursday, Oct. 26th is suggested. One member would like to explore "Chicos Charlando" to happen closer to Albany and that judging by the NSE registrations we should at least have members from Shaker HS.

Update on AATSP Poster Contest: President Cornell presents to us the flyer. The flyer follows guidelines from the National contest coordinator/website. There is a lot of information on the website. <http://www.aatsp.org/?page=Posters2017>. One of our members who teach at a High School expresses that a few students are interested in this contest. The deadline is: March 1st.

Update on NSE - Registration open until Jan. 31: The NSE is for Middle Schools and high Schools and we discuss how we can inform more people of this opportunity. Registrations are more or less the same as last year. The deadline is Jan 31st, but then there's a late registration period in February.

Update on SHH: President Cornell will be holding her induction this April 5 @ 7 PM at the Lake George High School library and their guest speaker this year is a SHH alumni that is currently in medical school. He will talk about his work in foreign countries helping out in missions and using Spanish. She invites people to contact her if they would like to start their own SHH. People can contact her at: cornellj@lkgeorge.org. Claudia Decker, the current SHH Regional Director is preparing a workshop "Submit a Successful Application to Sociedad Honoraria Hispánica Awards/Scholarships", at NECTFL in New York City on Friday, February 10, and it is on how

to send a qualifying application for both the Bertie Green Travel Award and the Joseph Adams Senior Award for free summer travel. Information from this workshop will be shared with our UNY Chapter members. Other members talked about their shared experiences with SHH chapters, including one who recently **inducted 21 Spanish students.**

NYSAFLT Eastern Regional Conference booth - Queensbury High School - March 18: President Cornell and Emily will be at this conference and will be manning the booth between workshops. They request the advice of First President Cynthia Flax who believes we have already paid for the table for this upcoming conference in March.

Newsletter: President Cornell proposes the creation of a Winter newsletter (now), another one in the Spring and one more in the Fall. She believes more than three newsletters is unnecessary because news gets too repetitive.

Other business: Cynthia Flax was asked if we could create a travel or study scholarship for a student, or a teacher, but she pointed out that we may not have enough money for a scholarship. Perhaps there may be funding for an annual monetary prize for teachers to spend on improving their cultural and linguistic skills. She suggested that the teacher be selected by a rubric that demonstrated consistent commitment in the teaching of Spanish, as well as a commitment to participate in the AATSP programs and activities in our UNY Chapter.

For next meeting (Saturday March 25 in Saratoga Springs) a number of things are expected:

- **Volunteer(s) for Spring outing will share information collected such as itinerary, price and advertising flyer**
- **Secretary will summarize this meeting and share with Cynthia F. to post on our website**
- **Volunteers for Fall outing will share what they have discussed for this year's immersion**
- **Brianna will share Poster Contest results**