

UNY Meeting at El Mexicano, 3/10/18

Members in Attendance: Emily Cooper, Cynthia Flax, Myriam Santos, Cristina Marchese, Sherry Schermerhorn

Date for Chicos Charlando:

April 17, Panera in Clifton Park, 7-8PM
April 26, Panera in Queensbury, 7-8PM
May 22, Panera in Malta, 7-8PM

Dates for Tertulias:

March 23rd, Clifton Park, Nevia's House
April 27th, Mechanicville, Myriam's House
June 1st, Clifton Park, Cindy Hoetzer

UNY Meeting Dates:

May 17th - Electronic Meeting
July 21st at Emily Cooper's House

Saratoga Springs NYSAFLT Conference:

March 24th -
Emily will submit an online registration.
Received confirmation that Emily registered for Exhibitor Table, waiting for invoice & will pay when it arrives.
Will need a sign-up sheet.

Discussion:

1. We discussed a June 27th outing to The Hyde Museum (cost \$30 members, \$40 non-members, Spanish speaking docent), but decided that teachers would prefer a Paint n' Sip by the pool at Emily's house.

Pool Paint n' Sip would be from 11-2PM with a possible fee and maybe make it a potluck. People could RSVP and then pay at the door, July 9th. \$25 member. \$30 non-member.

Emily will contact the Paint n' Sip person to see if she is available. Paint inside if it rains or reschedule for sunny day.

Tabled Hyde Museum.

2. María del Pilar García Talk:

Would need a team of at least 3 people to work on this and organize it. Who would our audience be? How would we promote it? If we did this, we'd want to do it well. Do we have too many events?

Worries: Getting enough people to make it worth it? Then we discussed the importance of getting more active members before we start hosting bigger, more complicated events. Our strengths are immersion opportunities, and outings for teachers to socialize. Focus on these types of events to grow our active base (since right now, it's mostly board members who are participating in events) before committing to larger events.

Like the idea, but we need more time to organize, form a committee to split up responsibilities, plan, advertise widely, and do it well for next year (fall or spring).

Talk of a possible informal book discussion for María Pilar García in the future (at someone's house), but decided to table this for the moment.

3. Talk about offering a group of retired Spanish teachers to go into Spanish classrooms when requested by teachers. This group of 3-5 people would offer assistance with speaking activities, real conversations in the classroom (not grammar or lectures), with the goal of offering support for increased Spanish fluency.

4. Publicity Person:

Looking for a member to step up as our Publicity Person. Tasks would include: finding out about local events that would be relevant to our members and getting dates and times to publish in our newsletters/emails. Could be in contact with local college language departments. (Nevia?)

I think this could easily be a "position" in the UNY chapter.

Myriam is the Public Relations person, she has been concentrating on the membership.

Section 7: The primary role of the Public Relations/Membership Coordinator will be to create and coordinate efforts to increase membership in the Chapter. Other typical duties of the Public Relations Coordinator will include the following: serve as the contact person to the National Office of the AATSP for information on events, meetings and general information; work with local media outlets to publicize efforts made by members of the Chapter that correspond with the goals of AATSP; arrange recruitment activities at New York State Association of Foreign Language Teachers (NYSAFLT) Conferences and other events where Spanish teachers will be present. "

Our Bylaws don't have a separate position for this, perhaps it could be an appointed position by the President. I think Nevia would do a great job!

Possibly separating this into 2 positions might be more manageable - concentrating on increasing membership is a job in itself while keeping an eye on local offerings of interest and getting the news out is another.

Other Business:

Finances:

Bank Account: \$1042.86 (haven't yet received our chapter allowance - should come in late April, early May).

- Please cash reimbursement checks within 10 days. Receipts for Tertulia and Chicos Charlando to: 63 Balsam Way, CP, 12065

National Spanish Exam:

~1150 students signed up. Last year we had 1450. We lost some teachers and students. More Level 5 students are signed up. Shaker High has a high level of participation, but no teacher members. Ends around April 10th.

Myriam and Cynthia went to Schuylerville, Mechanicville, and Stilwater to invite teachers to the Tertulia.

Respectfully submitted,

Sherry Schermerhorn 3/11/18

Edited and submitted with comments,

Sherry Schermerhorn 6/11/18