

Jim Dwyer - Skal USA 1st Quarter report/ March 2017

Calls

Skal Myrtle Beach – Pres. David Nelson reports that the Club is growing and will focus on Hotels and Golf. May bid for NASC in the next year. David said they may change their name to encompass more of the North and South Carolina shore area.

Skal Nashville – President Don recently had thyroid surgery and couldn't speak. He'll call me sometime in April.

Skal Miami – After 4 calls Pres. Jerry Max spoke very briefly with me and I sent him a prospective member. I will still try to touch base with him.

Skal New Orleans – Pres. Jody said their club is healthy and attracting new members. She had great praise for Tim Hemphill who turned around a stagnant club.

Skal New York – Pres. Keith reported that they lost over 20 members because they had not submitted their dues by Feb. 28. He expects that many will return once they have received their corporate checks. I attended a brainstorming board meeting where they discussed ideas for membership. These included targeting young professionals rather than students and Hotel Associations.

Visits

Skal Northeast PA – Attended their 20th Anniversary celebration. They inducted a new member and Pres. Gordon Reese has great plans for 2017. I was alarmed to hear that past president, Meygan Young, had left the club. One of the members mentioned that Meygan wanted to try new ideas but couldn't get things going. I'll try to touch base with her to find out more.

Skal Philadelphia – I attended the installation of their new President, Karen Adams, and her board. Nothing but good things to say about how they have pulled things together. Kare is the driving force and has added some strong members to the board bringing diversity and spirit to the club. They had planned an event at the Franklin Institute for April 28 but have decided to postpone it until the Fall.

Skal Northern NJ – The club lost 5 members but will induct three at their April meeting. A proposed joint meeting in Marh with SKAL AC was cancelled due to a snow storm. But it will be rescheduled for May as a 3 club meeting with Skal Philadelphia joining them. The May 9 Family Day at Six Flags Great Adventure has been postponed until Spring 2018 due to low response and a guarantee of 100 people. Pres. Tim O'Neill has invited SI President David Fisher to their 40th anniversary which will be held on June 8 at the U.S. Equestrian Training Center in Gladstone, NJ.

Skal New York – Pres. Keith Hyatt is planning a day at Luna Park in Coney Island for June 9 and has invited Pres. Fisher to attend since it coincides with his visit to IPW in Washington and the 40th anniversary in Skal Northern NJ.

Other news

Skal Central PA is celebrating their 40th anniversary but hasn't picked a date for their formal celebration, Sandy said probably in the Fall.

Skal Washington's Andres Hayes has been instrumental in the start up of a club in Richmond which you've read about from the report submitted by President Holly.

Both Skal Boston and Skal Washington are vibrant and healthy and are great models of how a Skal club should be operating.



SKÅL INTERNATIONAL UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
A National Committee of Skål International
An International Association of Travel and Tourism Professionals

Jim Dwyer April 2017 Monthly Report – Director of Membership

I've arranged a four club meeting [May 18](#). I did it because of three factors.

1. Northern New Jersey and Atlantic City had to cancel their March meeting due to a snow storm.
2. Northern New Jersey postponed its May Family Day at Six Flags until next Spring.
3. Skål Philadelphia postponed its meeting at Franklin Institute until the Fall.

So, Northern New Jersey, Philadelphia, Atlantic City and Northeast Pa agreed to meet at the Crowne Plaza in Princeton for their May meeting. Keith Hyatt, President of Skål New York has agreed to attend. And Skål USA President, Holly Powers, will preside over at least 5 clubs.

Skål Philadelphia added a new member as did Skål Northern New Jersey.

And it may not count for our membership contest I met with an old friend in Zadar and convinced her to join the Skål Kvarner club.

Our annual Friendship trip this year started in Venice where we dined with Skål Venezia headed by Armando Ballarin, currently President of Skål Italy. He also arranged for a great walking tour of Venice. We have representatives from five Skål clubs with us. Northern New Jersey, New York, Myrtle Beach, Atlanta and Puerto Rico.

This was followed by a day trip to Ljubljana, Slovenia where we had lunch with four potential members who are in the process of reviving the Slovenia Skal club.

From there we traveled to Opatija in Croatia where Katarina Hauptfeld, President of Skål Croatia and Irene Persic, President of Skål Kvarner, hosted a dinner for us at the Opatija Yacht Club before we boarded the MS Majestic, one of Katarina Lines 11 yachts.

In Zadar we ran into the Swedish ISC who recognized us from our various Skal gear.

On April 28 we will have dinner with Skål Split and on May 1 with Skål Dubrovnik.

Unfortunately due to both my personal and Business schedule I didn't have a chance to call the five Skål USA reps this month. I'll do it next week when I return.

Jim Dwyer
Director of Membership

Skal Hampton Roads has closed and hopefully will incorporate their remaining members into the new club in Richmond (or Northern Virginia)

Skal Central PA – Pres. Sandy Sipe said they hope to add 3 new members or more this year. Their annual scholarship dinner will be in May!

Skal Long Island – I spoke with Tina Ferro, their coordinator for Young Skal who said this. “ I am still a member, unfortunately, payment through the college takes a little time to post. We do still have some Young SKAL members and I am working on obtaining more. **Unfortunately, some students joined SKAL when school started in September and cannot pay again when dues were due in January. I do feel the membership should be more flexible for the YS to reflect the starting of the semester (Just a thought)**” And I heard from their president, Don Raad who said that three Young Skalleagues have already paid and 3 adult members have also paid.

Skal Orlando – Spoke with Skal USA rep, Richard Scinta who said their club is doing just fine. Maintaining their membership of approx.. 150. He will attend NASC with his wife.

Skal Albany – Anita Peck said they just added two new members and will hopefully compete for Club of the Year.

Skal Baltimore – Tina Comma announced that they have 3 new members.

Skal Philadelphia – I spoke with President Karen Adams and Sal USA rep Debbie Magaldi about our proposed joint meeting with Skal AC in May. David Hirsch, their Secretary, manages a Crowne Plaza in Princeton, NJ which is in the center of the three clubs. He will check on availability and rates for the meeting. I also heard yesterday that Skal NEPA may join us as well.

Skal Boston – Carrie Campbell reported the following

We have been focusing on recruiting new members who will be engaged in our club and have had great success so far in 2017 with the addition of 5 newly pinned members in just 3 months. We have about 15 member prospects that we are courting at the moment. Skal Boston is thriving – we are in a very good place and are looking forward to Toronto in June.

By-Laws

Art Allis advised that he is working on the MOI and hopes to make significant and relevant changes to the document. I told him we have a committee that can help in any way he needs.

Skal USA Report, May 2017

Jim Dwyer

Director of Membership

Attended Membership Development meeting at Skal Charlotte on May 16. Met with Raffaella Beltram, Rebecca Johns and Francis Tsai at Rebecca's home and discussed various membership options. I spoke about the benefits of Skal and the incredible networking possibilities locally and globally. Four prospective members attended and it appears they will join the club.

Organized and presided over a joint Skal meeting at the Crowne Plaza in Princeton, NJ on May 18. Members from Northern NJ, Philadelphia, Atlantic City, Northeast PA, New York and Boston were in attendance. Skal USA President Holly Powers addressed the group of 40 Skalleagues. The members were unanimous in wanting to continue this event in the future. David Hirsch, Skal Philadelphia treasurer, is the area manager of the hotel and did an outstanding job.

Attended Skal New York Past President's luncheon on May 24. Eight former New York past Presidents were present. Keith Hyatt, President of Skal New York reminded the members about their June event, a family day of fun at Luna Park in Coney Island.

Met with Skal International Senior Auditor Frank Klare and Skal Philadelphia President Karen Adams to greet Skal Frankfurt President Heribert Becker who was visiting Philadelphia with a group. Skal Philadelphia and Skal Frankfurt twinned several years ago and Mr. Becker was instrumental in having Frankfurt and Philadelphia become "Sister Cities".

Spoke with Skal Long Island President Don Raad about getting four members who had not paid their dues by the Feb. 28 deadline back on their roster. He has collected their payment and they are back in the club. He also mentioned that two Young Skal members tried to register for NASC but couldn't because the YS registration was closed. I contacted Sean Buckland who advised to have them register as full Skal members and they would adjust the registration.

As I may have mentioned previously while I was in Croatia I met an old colleague who had worked with me for 20 years. She and her husband had "retired" to Zadar, Croatia and she was still active in travel. I told her that she should join Skal. I gave her the name and email for the president of Skal Kvarner and they got in touch and she is joining. Membership growth is important anywhere in the world.

Upcoming events

June 8 – Skal Northern New Jersey 40th Anniversary – US Equestrian Center, Gladstone NJ

June 9 – Skal New York – Family Day at Luna Park in Coney Island

August 16 – Skal Baltimore – Crab Feast

September – Skal Philadelphia – Franklin Institute presentation and meeting. Date TBA

November – Skal Central PA – 40th Anniversary Date TBA