

**Williamsville Garden Club Meeting**  
**Saturday, November 7, 2015**  
**Val Patterson Home**

**TROLLEY RIDE AND SIGN-UP:**

- Route Decorations Great
- Amazing Community Participation
- Length of route good
- Drop off at mansion okay
- More communication between trolley assistants and ticket booth
- Start on time (3) (\$ was returned, & couldn't do later trolley since signed up for first trolley)
- Sell glow sticks to kids for trolley ride
- Positive comments from Community, scary but not too, great performers and a necessity (2)
- More trolleys or shorter route
- Make improvements for ticket sells: use roll of tickets (like 50/50), trolley # on back, do 20 of each, give to riders, collect on trolley
- Trolley too fast
- Spread trolleys farther apart
- Trolley Rider complaints about truck fume smells
- Possible 3rd trolley
- Have a competition among trolley route residents, possible awards, community sponsors, trolley riders vote (2)
- Through boulevard to pick-up and drop off later was successful NOTE: Costume contest must be over!!!

**MOVIE AND POPCORN:**

- Signage for Buildings (4) Chalk Boards, Art Easels, etc.
- Warm place to wait for trolley
- Underutilized since no signage

**ARTS&CRAFTS AND PHOTO AREA:**

- Pictures were shared on FB
- Use only 1 building not both (all events in 1 building)
- More arts&crafts....order NOW from Oriental Trading

## BOUNCE HOUSES:

- Well used
- Busy and needed supervision (separated toddlers/big kids)

## COSTUME CONTEST:

- Better Spot for Sign-Up
- Test Equipment prior to Event (4)
- Music during entire Event
- Allow contest participation in both individual and group
- More organized sign-up...not enough members for sign-up area, too long of wait, use signage for age group sign-up (3)
- More organization for actual contest...use paddle signage for age groups
- Overall contest too long...contestant interviews and parading
- Contestants uncomfortable due to cold and wind, use large village tent for protection
- Good to see kids on stage individually
- Immediate prize announcements was great
- 66 contestants, consistent participation past three years
- Start contest earlier to eliminate overlap with trolley start time
- Prizes clever but impractical, neck awards more considerate (2)
- Todd Marshall awesome
- Split up the heavy age groups....3,4,5,6 year olds NOTE: 3,4,5 had 29 participants
- Set judging guidelines for judges
- Third judge for 'ties'
- All set up complete prior to event (viewer benches)

## BEER GARDEN:

- Sell pizza by slice and beer outdoors
- Beer garden a flop (5)
- Weather determined usage
- Use tent for that area
- Family oriented event and maybe not needed
- Sell warm beverages instead (4)... maybe use coffee/hot chocolate for revenue??

## S'MORES AREA:

- Picnic tables well used
- Fire pits enjoyed

## STORYTELLERS:

- Approximately half of trolley riders went into mansion
- Ted Morrissey great, had visuals
- Other storyteller, inappropriate stories for age group and not scary, no visuals
- Put storytellers in old bank building

## ADVERTISING:

- Appropriate and no further suggestions

## OVERALL:

- Many 'better than Carter's' comments
- Great community involvement
- Community giving back to community
- Non-trolley route villagers want to be on next year's route
- All committee chairs need to share ideas and progress with club members
- No mansion next year ....Jim selling
- Cass Communications 'Champ the cheetah' was a no show
- Downtown has never looked better
- Perfect location for event
- More JFL involvement....possible revenue source
- Revenue from event does not reflect preparation work hours

## CHRISTMAS PREPARATION

- Make new bows for wreaths
- Prep wreaths
- Prep pot decorations
- Determine new purchases
- Decide \$ for new decos
- Schedule a work night