

# CAVE SPRING DDA REPORT, OCTOBER 2022

submitted by Larry Dolan, Executive Director

- I. We had one long-running event in October.
  - A. The Ghost Tours took place on October 28 & 29<sup>th</sup>.
    - 1) It was a moderate success
  - B. It looks like we cleared approx. \$4,000.
  - C. That was down from the previous year when we made around \$5,000.
    - 1) However, it is better than 2020 where we made \$3,100.
      - a) Part of the reason is because this year we used paid actors and it cost us \$600.
      - b) However, by most accounts, they did an excellent job.
    - 2) Another factor was that on this weekend, there were a lot of other events in Floyd County that we had to compete with.
      - a) Perhaps we could move the event to the previous weekend next year. Just something we might consider.
  - D. Another plus was that Tracy Hellriegel handled the sites and coordinated the tours. She did a great job.
    - 1) As usual, Melody Noyes stole the show with her performance
    - 2) And, as expected, the cave was a big hit.
- II. We had a new event this month
  - A. Valerie York approached me with the idea of doing a scarecrow contest in the Square
    - 1) I told her that she should present this to our board and if they agree, then we would promote it for her, but that it would be her that would be in charge of it.
    - 2) She readily agreed and it was another big success without being labor-intensive to us.
      - a) We had roughly 450 online votes for people's favorite scarecrow.
  - B. The only negative aspect was when a former DDA member had the scarecrows removed by the prisoners without our approval.
    - 1) Our plan was to wait 2 additional days to present the winner of the vote with their prizes and recognition.

- 2) Not only did he remove them, but they didn't even know where they were placed so that they could get them back
    - a) So, he took people's private property, without their permission and didn't even let them know what happened to it.
  - C. We need to get some clarity on who can use the prisoners and how people can make decisions on what is allowed on the Square and when.
- III. I showed Dwight Dyer the interior of the school and he loved it
- A. He told me that he knows many filmmakers who would love to film in there because whenever they have classroom scenes, they are prohibited from filming in schools for security reasons.
    - 1) Now this is a great opportunity for them
    - 2) He also thinks that they will jump at the chance to film in the gym and auditorium.
  - B. He is scheduled to come back on November 12 to film a youtube video on the city
    - 1) This will be designed to promote filming locations in our town to the burgeoning Georgia film industry
    - 2) He wants include City Hall, the Park, the Cave, the School, several businesses and restaurants, some old homes, the Pumpkin Patch, the Indian Cabin, etc.
    - 3) I would like to get permission and keys to accommodate this venture
    - 4) The DDA has already paid him \$2,000 in advance to do this.