

RED RIVER VALLEY SAS USERS GROUP
MINUTES
July 22, 2008
American Crystal Sugar, Moorhead, MN

Present: Iris Gill, Brian Kugel, Kathy Wang, Peter Kilpatrick, Nancy Barbour, Alan Wilts, Daniel Nordhougen, Hong Ren, Xuan Zhang, Gretchen Kost, Danelle Schuster, Jeff Gross, Mike Burak, Dean Hjelle, Jeff Struck, Darrel Weers, Dale Hanson, Debbie Opatz, Katie Ogren, Bill Slanger, Dwight Galster.

Pizza lunch was served at noon at \$3 per person. \$60 was collected.

Dean Hjelle called the meeting to order and introductions were made.

REPORTS:

Iris Gill presented the minutes of the April 24, 2008 meeting and the Treasurer's report. Our current balance is \$1105.30. No corrections or additions were noted and both reports were approved (motion by Struck, second by Hjelle).

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Midwest SAS Users Group 2008 Conference will be held on October 12-14 in Indianapolis.

SAS Global Forum 2009 will be held March 22-25 in National Harbor, Maryland.

Planning is currently taking place for our next meeting to be held sometime in October or November. Plans are to bring in our yearly SAS Institute speaker. Need suggestions for possible topics.

Possible topics suggested were:

- What's new in SAS 9.2
- SAS Tips and Tricks
- Enterprise Guide
- More up-to-date user interfaces outside of Base SAS (things like the demonstration of the Window & Display statements we had recently)
- New ways to output to Excel
- Fine-tuning output displays (underlining, boldfacing)

Question was asked whether a half-day or a full-day meeting would be preferred. The comment was made that it is difficult to have a company's entire staff at our meeting for an entire day. But it was also noted that staff could attend in shifts (some a.m., some p.m.).

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PROGRAM:

Handouts for some (but not all) of the presentations can be found on the RRVSUG website (<http://www.und.nodak.edu/org/rrvsug/>).

- Peter Kilpatrick, USDA – National Agricultural Statistics Service: Merging Data with SAS
- Iris Gill, Minnesota State University Moorhead: Basic Types of Data Step Merges
- Brian Kugel, USDA – National Agricultural Statistics Service: Statistical Procedures – When to Use What Procedure
- Dr. Dwight Galster, Associate Professor, South Dakota State University: Merging Data with PROC SQL and with the Data Step; SAS Arrays and the Do Loop

Prizes from Ottertail Power were handed out.

Meeting adjourned at 3:25 pm.

Iris Gill, Secretary/Treasurer
Red River Valley SAS Users Group
7/22/08