

Triangle Squares Newsletter  
April 1988

Issue No. 3

### Summer Dancing

A number of Triangle Squares dancers have asked how long we will continue to meet on Thursday evenings and if there will be any summer dancing. As well, those who signed up during the March Fly-in weekend for a new Basic course have asked how soon it will start. To capitalize on all this enthusiasm, and, with the help of Ann, the following is being planned.

We will continue to meet as we do, 7:30 10:00 p.m. up to and including May 5. Both Ann and Joe are not available on May 12 or 19 due to previous engagements in Hamilton, Ontario and Phoenix and so other arrangements will have to be made for those two nights. By then we should have completed all Basic and Mainstream steps.

After the Phoenix convention, starting on May 26 and going maybe till the end of July, we will extend our Thursday evenings slightly to include two classes. On those nights, Ann is willing to teach a Basic program from 7:00 - 8:30 p.m. and then from 8:30 - 10:30 p.m. will be our regular Mainstream class.

Remember that our first Basic class has dwindled from five squares down to two, sometimes three. This suggests that if a class for the next level, Plus, was started in September, very few people would be eligible for it. If it then dwindled still further, it would soon not be worth Ann's while to drive in to teach us. We have also seen that the less people turn out on a Thursday, the less energy there is in the class as a whole. Therefore, we need to increase the number of people dancing with us and bring them along fast to keep our own interest and energy level going.

These special summer dance classes with the two different levels, could, with your help, serve important purposes.

1. The Basic classes would capture the enthusiasm from the March Fly-In weekend and increase the potential number of people in our group.

2. They would also allow those who dropped out of our first Basic class, because they felt they had fallen behind, to catch up.

3. They would allow those of us dancing now, who feel a little foggy on some of the earlier moves, to try them again.

If those of us dancing now at the Mainstream level came early and attended all or part of the summer Basic classes, from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m., there would also be some interesting benefits.

1. We could help the new beginners (by acting as "angels") and they'd then progress towards Mainstream faster. This would mean that the September classes could be bigger and better.

2. Those of us who have regularly danced only one role as we progressed towards Mainstream, could practice the other role from the beginning, thus giving the Triangle Squares as a whole more flexibility and instilling individual dancers with more confidence.

3. At the Mainstream level, these extra classes would allow us to concentrate on brushing up on our styling, while solidifying what we have learned recently.

4. Finally, they would continue the pleasure we get from our present Thursday evenings.

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\* TELL US WHAT YOU THINK ABOUT THIS! \*  
\* \* \* \* \*  
\* FILL IN THE QUESTIONNAIRE ON THE \*  
\* \* \* \* \*  
\* BACK PAGE. \*  
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## March Fly-in Weekend

The weekend of March 4, 5 and 6 will be remembered by many. Not only was a good time had by just about all, but we made new friends, benefited from dancing with more experienced dancers, and provided new impetus for our own and future classes. (And, wow!, if we manage to get our act together over Weave The Ring, the whole thing will have been worth it for that alone).

Many of the Times Squares dancers who came up from New York wrote or phoned to say how much they had enjoyed the weekend and hoped that we would take the opportunity soon to go to New York and dance with them there. Some of us are thinking seriously of doing just that, and if you can't go this year, don't forget that the IAGSDC Convention in 1989 will be in New York. Those of us going to Phoenix, or those who recently watched tapes from the last two conventions in San Francisco (1986) and Portland (1987), will probably be urging others to go as a group in 1989.

Our special thanks to Ann for the ease with which she got things rolling on Friday and for her work with Joe (and Todd) at the Sunday dance which was solid fun and strenuous dancing. Ron Masker's handling of the Saturday night dance at the 519 was terrific, too, and did a tremendous amount to enthuse a large group who signed up for the next Basic class.

If you billeted someone from out of town, then our thanks are also due to you, and to Don Cheff for organizing that.

The weekend as a whole was not necessarily meant to make a profit and we almost broke even. Below are the expenses and revenues for your information. Our thanks to Out & Out for staking us some money up front, both for this weekend and for the start of the Triangle Squares back in September. We have the money in the Triangle Squares bank account to refund this to Out & Out and since it amounts to \$580.00 a cheque will be written soon.

### STATEMENT OF EXPENSES AND REVENUES FOR MARCH 4, 5, & 6 WEEKEND

<u>COSTS</u>		<u>REVENUES</u>	
445.50	Rental of space	1455.98	Registrations
432.91	Cost of callers	<u>162.36</u>	Sale of juices
391.00	Cost of brunch	1618.34	TOTAL REVENUES
69.50	Piano tuning		
17.00	Reimbursement		
61.18	Flyers & postage	1622.80	Total costs
66.09	Long distance	<u>1618.34</u>	Total revenues
<u>139.62</u>	Juices	4.46	Liability
1622.80	TOTAL COSTS	<u>4.46</u>	From bank account
		0000.00	FINAL BALANCE

## IAGSDC Membership

Some of you know that the Triangle Squares has applied for Membership in the International Association of Gay Square Dancing Clubs. There are some real benefits to belonging to this group, not only because of the information about other Fly-Ins, but also because, through the IAGSDC, we can obtain tapes, manuals and other yummy items.

Also, for those that travel, all the gay square-dance clubs in North America are listed in a special guide. It has the times, levels and locations of dancing as well as the names and telephone number of contacts in the clubs.

When we made the application, we were asked for our set of by-laws, which, of course, we don't yet have. Apparently, there are precedents for a club being accepted into the IAGSDC without by-laws and it is expected that in Phoenix, where the vote will take place, we will be accepted, but urged to adopt by-laws and to elect officers.

For your information, the by-laws of the Times Squares are attached. Please read them and give some thought to whether you would be willing to serve as a duly elected officer of the Triangle Squares. As we enlarge and other matters come up, organizing the group will be more than one or two persons can handle. You are urged to give this your consideration.

**BY-LAWS OF TIMES SQUARES**

**ARTICLE I**  
**GENERAL**

Section 1. **Name.** The name of this organization shall be Times Squares.

Section 2. **Purpose.** This is a not-for-profit organization whose purpose shall be to encourage and provide social, educational, and recreational opportunities within the framework of Modern Western Square Dancing for the gay and lesbian community.

**ARTICLE II**  
**MEMBERSHIP**

Section 1. **Membership.** Membership shall be open to any Mainstream level square dancer who supports the purpose of the organization.

Section 2. **Dues.** Membership shall be contingent upon payment of dues. Dues shall be set by the Board of Directors.

Section 3. **Meetings.** The Annual Meeting of the members shall be held each year in the month of January at a time and place determined by the Board of Directors. A Special Meeting of the members may be called by the Board of Directors or by written petition of one-third of the members of the organization. The actions that may be taken at a Special Meeting of the members shall be limited to amending these By-Laws and removing Directors. A minimum of one-week advance notice shall be given to the members for all meetings of the members.

Section 4. **Quorum.** At all meetings of the members, except as otherwise provided in these By-Laws, a majority of the membership shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

Section 5. **Voting.** At any meeting of the members, except as otherwise provided in these By-Laws, each member present shall be entitled to one vote. Voting by proxy shall not be allowed.

Section 6. **Governance.** Robert's Rules of Order shall be the governing authority in instances of dispute not covered by these By-Laws.

**ARTICLE III**  
**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Section 1. Number and Duties. The Board of Directors shall consist of seven Directors, three of whom shall be the Officers of the organization. The Directors shall take an active part in the leadership of the organization, set policies for the organization, serve on such committees as may be formed from time to time, and be responsible for the management of the organization.

Section 2. Nomination. Any member of the organization may be nominated for the position of Director. Nominations shall be submitted in writing to the Election Committee at least two weeks prior to the Annual Meeting.

Section 3. Election. The Board of Directors shall be elected at the Annual Meeting by a written ballot. The Election Committee shall make provisions for absentee balloting. For the purpose of conducting the election, members who vote by absentee ballot shall contribute toward the quorum. Each member will be able to vote for up to seven nominees; no member may cast more than one vote for a nominee. The Election Committee shall tabulate the votes. The seven nominees receiving the most votes shall be elected. In the event of a tie vote, a run-off election between those nominees who tied will be held immediately.

Section 4. Term of Office. Each Director shall hold office until his or her successor is installed, or until his or her death, resignation, or removal.

Section 5. Vacancies. Vacancies on the Board of Directors shall be filled by a majority vote of the Directors then in office, even if this is less than a quorum.

Section 6. Resignations. Any Director may resign from office at any time by delivering a resignation in writing to an Officer.

Section 7. Removal. Any Director may be removed by a two-thirds vote of the Directors or by a majority vote of a Special Meeting of the members of the organization.

Section 8. Meetings. Regular meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held once a month. Special meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held when called by any Director. Meetings of the Board of Directors shall be open to all members of the organization; however, only Directors shall be allowed to vote.

Section 9. Quorum. Five Directors shall constitute a quorum.

Section 10. Voting. Voting by proxy shall not be allowed.

Section 11. Action by the Board of Directors. Except as otherwise provided in these By-Laws, the majority vote of the Directors present at the time of the vote, if a quorum is present at such time, shall be the act of the Board of Directors.

Section 12. Governance. Robert's Rules of Order shall be the governing authority in instances of dispute not covered by these By-Laws.

#### ARTICLE IV OFFICERS

Section 1. Officers. The officers of the organization shall be President, Secretary, and Treasurer. They shall be selected by the Directors from among themselves.

Section 2. President: Duties. The President shall preside at meetings of the members, preside at meetings of the Board of Directors, and carry out such other duties as may be delegated by the Board of Directors. In the absence of the President at any meeting, an acting chair shall be chosen by the Directors present.

Section 3. Secretary: Duties. The Secretary shall maintain a list of members and committees, prepare correspondence for the organization, give notice of meetings, record and report the minutes of meetings, and carry out such other duties as may be delegated by the Board of Directors.

Section 4. Treasurer: Duties. The Treasurer shall maintain full and accurate accounts of the receipts and disbursements of the organization, be responsible for making deposits for and paying the bills of the organization, maintain an inventory of the property of the organization, give a statement of the organization's finances at the regular meetings of the Board of Directors, provide a written financial report at the Annual Meeting of the members, and carry out such other duties as may be delegated by the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE V  
COMMITTEES

Section 1. Election Committee. The Election Committee shall be formed by the Board of Directors at least one month prior to the Annual Meeting of the members. The Election Committee shall have no fewer than three members, selected from the members of the organization. Members of the Election Committee who accept nomination to run for the Board of Directors must resign from the Election Committee. The Election Committee shall verify the eligibility and willingness of each nominee to serve.

Section 2. Other Committees. The Board of Directors shall establish such other committees as it deems necessary.

ARTICLE VI  
CONTRACTS, CHECKS, AND BANK ACCOUNTS

The Board of Directors is authorized to select such depositories as it shall deem proper for the funds of the organization and shall determine who shall be authorized in the organization's behalf to sign bills, notes, receipts, acceptances, endorsements, checks, releases, contracts, and documents.

ARTICLE VII  
BOOKS

There shall be kept books of account of the activities and transactions of the organization, including a minute book, which shall contain a copy of these By-Laws and all minutes of meetings of the members and the Board of Directors. These books shall be made available upon request for inspection by any member of the organization.

ARTICLE VIII  
AMENDMENTS

These By-Laws may be amended by the affirmative vote of two-thirds of the members or by the affirmative vote of all seven Directors, whose vote must be ratified by two-thirds of the members within three months.



## Looking Ahead

Whether we manage to organize the Summer Dancing or not, we should already be making plans for September. We will want Ann to continue teaching us, for sure. And the 519 will probably be pleased to allow us to use the Auditorium again on Thursdays in the Fall and Winter of 88/89.

To get that season going with a bang, it is proposed that we hold a Dance on Saturday, September 10. This would be advertized as a Beginner's Dance, open to all. If we make the necessary arrangements, we could also advertize that Basic classes would begin and Mainstream/Plus classes would continue on Thursday, September 15, with two classes happening in tandem on the same evening.

Thus, the enthusiasm that comes out of the September dance could immediately be captured and we'd lose no time carrying on to the Plus level. Your input to make that occasion terrific would be appreciated. Let's discuss it and help the Triangle Squares to grow and improve.

## Important Announcement

THE 519 MANAGEMENT HAS INFORMED US THAT THE AUDITORIUM IS BEING USED THURSDAY, MAY 5 FOR AN IMPORTANT TENANT'S MEETING. BECAUSE WE DON'T WANT TO MISS ANY EVENINGS BETWEEN NOW AND THE PHOENIX CONVENTION, THE 519 IS RENTING OTHER ACCOMODATION FOR US THAT EVENING AND PAYING FOR IT.

SO, IT LOOKS LIKE WE WILL BE ABLE TO DANCE QUITE CLOSE BY AT ST. PAUL'S ANGLICAN CHURCH, 227 BLOOR ST. EAST, JUST EAST OF CHURCH ST. MANY THANKS TO HELEN, FROM DOWNSTAIRS WHO FIXED THIS FOR US.

THERE WILL BE A FURTHER CONFIRMATION OF THIS LATER. KEEP IN TOUCH.

THE FOLLOWING REPRINT COMES FROM THOSE ORGANIZING THE 1990 IAGSDC CONVENTION TO BE HELD IN VANCOUVER. PLEASE READ. THE TRIANGLE SQUARES' OPINION COULD BE SENT TO THEM LATER THIS MONTH.

Dear Fellow Square Dancers,

The 1990 I.A.G.S.D.C. CONVENTION "NORTH STAR PROMENADE" COMMITTEE has been officially formed and has had its first meeting in March. Already we have had to make a change in the dates. We need to know how your club members feel about the new dates.

Originally, the Convention was scheduled to be held following the Gay Games III, which will be held August 4-11, 1990. It was understood that both events at the same time would be a great celebration of the Gay Community. We are however, facing some problems with these dates. Since it is the tourist season in Vancouver from mid-April to mid-October, the hotels rates are atrocious. We are talking equal to or above \$150.00cdn/night, single/double occupancy. We cannot block a full hotel for the delegates during this period of time. The hotels do not have a problem filling their rooms with Mr. Joe Average walking in from the street.

This is a serious problem. The 1990 Convention Committee is unwilling to ask the delegates from all the clubs to pay such an amount of money for the Convention. We have decided on another date: Easter long weekend April 13,14,and 15, 1990. We have, at this time, a tentative agreement with the Hotel Vancouver and have a guaranteed maximum rate of \$95.00cdn/night, single/double occupancy. This is the best deal that we can get at the present time. The price may go down but will not go higher.

Some concern has arisen within the I.A.G.S.D.C. membership that the turn-out in April wouldn't be as projected for August. We want to know from your club membership, if they are willing to come in April, which means maybe coming back for the Gay Games III, for the ones who want to. During the period of the Gay Games III, Squares Across the Border will be providing billeting for I.A.G.S.D.C. members.

We need your input on this matter. If you have any questions, please contact one of the persons below. We would appreciate your reply by May 1st.

Thanking you in advance for spending time and effort to answer our request,

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\* PLEASE READ THIS NEWSLETTER AT YOUR LEISURE. WE NEED TO \*  
\* HEAR YOUR OPINIONS. \*  
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SO WHAT DO YOU SAY? LET'S GO FOR IT!

Dates: May 26 - July 28

Times: Basic Class 7:00 - 8:30 p.m.  
Mainstream Class 8:30 - 10:30 p.m.

Cost : \$35.00 for ten nights, payable in advance.

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\* To get some idea if this fits with your general \*  
\* plans could you please answer the following questions \*  
\* and give the answers to Chris. \*  
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NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

TEL NO: \_\_\_\_\_

YES, COUNT ME IN!

I can probably attend all ten nights \_\_\_\_\_

I LIKE THE IDEA,

but I can't attend all ten nights, \_\_\_\_\_

more like \_\_\_\_ nights.

I'll probably come ONLY

to the Mainstream Class \_\_\_\_\_

I'll attend

BOTH Basic and Mainstream classes \_\_\_\_\_