

**Triangle Squares
Newsletter Issue No. 2
January 1988**

AND ON WE GO....

Happy New Year. Here's hoping you had a good Holiday Season. The Pot Luck Party on Dec. 17 was a great success with some delicious goodies available. Thanks to all those who went to the trouble to bring something to eat or drink.

Santa paid a visit to the party, too, and asked us to tell him what was on our wish-list. There were some pretty strange requests.

Two days later two carloads of Triangle Squares dancers went out to Northbridge on 20 December to raise a festive cup with Ann and Joe which was very pleasant despite the rather dreary weather.

SQUARE DANCE TRAVEL GUIDE

A call came recently from San Francisco to ask about our schedule and level of dancing. The Triangle Squares will be listed in the next issue of the Square Dance Travel Guide coming out in April.

This guide lists all the groups around the continent, which night they meet and at what level they dance. So if you are travelling ask Chris Homer for a copy.

A card also recently arrived from Portland, Oregon with enquiries as to whether the I.A.G.S.D.C. could be of any assistance to us. Rumour has it that they are counting on us to hold the 1992 convention here in Toronto! Are you ready for that....?

The appearance of a new gay square dance group in Toronto has caused quite a lot of comment around the continent. Reprinted in this issue is a page of the Times Squares' newsletter.

Reprinted from the TIMES SQUARES newsletter

December, 1987

NEW CLUB IN TORONTO, EH?

After two years of rumbling, gay square dancing has come to Toronto. Some of the people who had attended the square dances Ron called for Out and Out, Toronto's gay outdoor club, have organized a beginners class. Anne Uebelacker, a caller known throughout North America, is teaching (Phoenix has booked her for their convention, too). The class meets at a hall perfect for square dancing — wood floors, lots of ventilation, no slopes, no desk stubs, and no rental fee.

Out and Out members first became acquainted with square dancing in 1984, when Ron called at the first international gay outdoor club jamboree, sponsored by New York's Sundance and held in the Catskills. The club invited Ron to call a weekend of beginner-level dances in Toronto in March of 1986 and 1987. At least 10 squares turned out for each dance. On both trips, more than a square of Times Squares members accompanied Ron and were overwhelmed by the friendliness and hospitality of the hosts (just ask Vinny!) Ron also called at the outdoor club jamboree sponsored by Out and Out in 1986 and had 18 squares on the floor.

There was obviously lots of enthusiasm for square dancing in Toronto, but not much action in turning that into a class. Eventually organizers emerged. By last summer they had set a time and place and were ready to start, but they still hadn't found someone to teach. Then Harlan Kerr, from Seattle, called us to recommend an Advanced and Challenge caller for our convention. She had already expressed interest in calling at Phoenix and was good at calling lower levels. She also happened to live in Ontario. We relayed this information to Toronto, they got in touch with her, and the rest of the story is being written now.

With Baltimore well underway, Toronto and Atlanta getting started, and first efforts in Providence, it looks as though the East is where gay square dancing is growing. *If anyone is going to Toronto, the class meets on Thursdays. You can contact Chris at 416-960-5458 for more information.*

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TIMES SQUARE VISIT

The forthcoming visit from our friends in New York is shaping up. The weekend we are planning for is the first in March, the 4th., 5th., and 6th.

As has happened twice before, we will rent a space, probably the Huron St. Public School for the Friday night; 519 is available Saturday night and Sunday will shape up later.

These two nights of dancing will be advertized as widely as possible as being for all-comers, with instruction and demonstration. Cost will be \$12.00 for the two nights, \$6.50 for one night.

Ron Masker, who calls for the Times Squares group will be coming up and Ann will be available on the Friday night. It's a great chance to get others enthused about square dancing and we hope that out of this weekend will come another group that wants to start basic lessons in the fall of 1988.

At the moment we are not sure how many of the New York dancers will be coming up. Ron is hoping to bring some from his own beginner's class who are roughly at the same level as ourselves.

It may be that on both nights the Triangle Squares will be called upon to demonstrate their prowess.... We hope to get a beer licence for the 519 evening and the reason for the admission fee is of course to cover all necessary expenses.

Don Cheff, who dances with us on Thursdays and is on the Steering Committee of the Out and Out has very kindly volunteered to help with this event. Billeting will be necessary for those coming in from the States. So if you have a spare room or bed, and are willing to have some company then speak to Don.

The 1989 Annual International Gay Square Dance Convention is going to be held in New York. Further notice of that event will be available here. So if Phoenix is too far or not convenient, keep New York in mind for 1989.

CONVENTION IN PHOENIX

At the Pot Luck Party, we played a little of a video from last year's convention. It showed a huge group of men and women having a great time and dancing up a storm along with a pretty dazzling demonstration of a few steps we haven't quite mastered yet.

This year's convention is set to be held in Phoenix, Arizona, May 19 - 22. and printed here is the latest schedule of events that are planned.

Further news should be arriving this week about exact hotel costs etc., but listed below is an estimate of what it might cost you if you wanted to plan ahead and budget for such a trip.

Air fare:	\$330.00
Registration:	\$ 71.50
Hotel/5 nights:?	\$450.00

These prices are in Can. funds. Some free meals are included in the registration. Registration after 15 Feb. costs \$60.00 U.S. instead of \$55.00 U.S. All cancellations are subject to a \$5.00 handling charge. No refunds after 1 May.

Extra sightseeing trips are available if you wanted to go early or stay longer. (Don't forget the Grand Canyon is