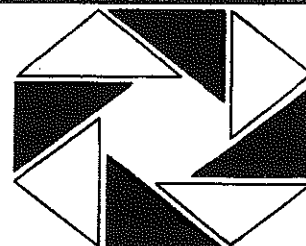


THE TRIANGLE STAR

Toronto Triangle Squares
 c/o 28 Sackville Place
 Toronto, Ontario, M4X 1A4

Halloween Apples

by Andy Chong

Here I was, in the Big Apple (New York, New York), combing dark alleys for the Gay and Lesbian Community Center in 13th Street. By the time I reached the third floor auditorium, I was gasping at both the climb and the art decorating the walls and ceilings. As the room filled up, I started to wonder at the size of Times Squares, New York's square dance club, as up to twelve squares packed the hall.

Friday nights are normally Club Nights, with general square dancing and no classes. These are held three other nights in the week. So there was a large turnout of local members. I heard that they have 200+ members (Mainstream graduates and above), and 100+ in their basic class. Talk about large! Also, there is cross-over circulation from straight clubs, a few members of which came and tried our stylings.

Even on Friday night, costumes were appearing. A sailor, a couple of leathermen, and a square of matching, screaming girls all came. Or maybe this was their usual clothing? Saturday night, of course, was the big costume night, with various ladies (with a different matched trio in large hats), a construction worker, various uniforms, various ghouls, and a phantom (a la opera) being present.

The mixture of dancers tended more towards Plus level, and sometimes in the Mainstream tips an easy Plus call would appear (Grand Swing Thru and Single Circle to a Wave). Moving up, in the Plus dances, at least one Advanced call appeared (Acey Ducey - centres trade, ends circulate - even the Mainstream group should know this.) Just to keep us on our toes, the Sunday afternoon caller taught us Spin the Bobbin, a Challenge level move.

Many out-of-towners came from Philadelphia, and I found others from Baltimore, Washington, Vancouver, and San Francisco. Having a large club meant that there were many members who could billet guests. Despite my late arrangements, I got to stay with a charming host in the Upper West Side one block from the subway. The reciprocal courtesy of billeting at Fly-Ins can make trips a lot more affordable.

As usual, the Andy and Andy confusion continued. No, it was the other Andy you met at the Convention, I kept having to say. The members of the Toronto group were well remembered, and various people from New York sent their regards to our friends in Toronto. Next time, somebody please lend me a cassette recorder!

The unseasonably warm weather had us walking out after Sunday Brunch (price included in the registration

fee) to the pier where they held their Summer Sunday dances. Many people are already planning their trips to Vancouver next Easter. We should try to have a good turnout there!

A Point of Dance Etiquette-
Listen to the caller. Do not talk when the caller is talking or calling. Not only is it rude but all dancers may need the information offered.

Gay Callers Association
by Don St. Jean

The formation of an organization devoted to the interests of gay callers was something of an inevitability since, of course, gay callers have been around as long as square dancing itself. Callers who are openly gay, like gay square dancing, have become visible only in relatively recent years.

Toronto has been in the much-envied position of having had Anne and Joe locally, not only as top-notch callers, but also as internationally recognized instructors of callers. Chris Homer and I first got our feet wet at a weekend callers' school held at the Uebelackers' home in Peterborough in 1988. The others present were about a dozen straight men and their "taws", their usual female dance partners, only one of whom was also a caller. Having Chris dance the lady's part in the first practice round did not raise eyebrows, as a shortage of partners at this sort of seminar often requires people to change roles; discovering that he danced only that part left some a little non-plussed. So Gay Square Dancing and Calling burst onto the scene in rural Ontario. We danced happily together at the local dance that weekend where the students got to do their practice calling and enjoyed teaching everyone to Weave the

Ring gay-style. Maybe they're still doing it...

The first workshop exclusively for the Gay Callers was organized by Harlan Kerr of San Francisco and held in New York in June, 1989, on the two days just prior to the convention, again led by Anne and Joe. This event brought many budding callers out: about ten in the intermediate class, twice that many in the beginners'. It was in New York as well that the idea of the Gay Callers' Association was revived, having been dormant since the Seattle Convention several years earlier. Anna Damiani has been generous with her time in doing the groundwork and has established a monthly newsletter, "The Call Sheet"; Karl Jaekel, square dancer with the Rocky Mountain Rainbeaus and computer hacker par excellence, is maintaining the data base of members. Membership is open, since we have gay callers at straight clubs, straight callers at gay clubs, and, yes, straight callers at straight clubs who are interested and supportive.

There will be a gay callers' workshop at the Vancouver convention in 1990, so make plans, all would-be warblers. The seminars are held in a relaxed, non-competitive environment. Workshops cover voice and diction, methods of calling, singing techniques, teaching methods, and a variety of related topics. We hope a time will be set aside at the convention, perhaps at an afternoon tea-dance, when the new callers can debut.

Those interested in receiving The Call Sheet should send \$10.00 (U.S.) to;
Gay Callers' Association
c/o Anna Damiani
132 Hartford Street
San Francisco, CA, USA
94114

Square Dance Term-

Face Your Own-designates a quarter turn to face partner.

Squares for Squares

We thought it might be fun, seeing as how we often have pot luck nibblies, to have dancers submit their favourite (and easy) recipes for squares! Here's one for starters:

Butterscotch Oat Squares

1/2 cup butter melted
1 cup firmly packed brown sugar
1/2 tsp. vanilla
1 tsp. baking powder
2 cups rolled oats

Combine brown sugar, baking powder and oats in a mixing bowl. Add butter and vanilla, blend thoroughly. Spread thinly in ungreased square or oblong cake pan. Bake at 375 for 8-10 minutes until golden brown. Remove and let stand 5 minutes. cut while warm. Makes 3 dozen squares (or so it says! I'd like to see anyone get that many)

Steve Sterritt

Convention News!

by Chris Homer

Already, it's not too early to start to think about the upcoming annual convention of the International Association of Gay Square Dance Clubs. Any of those who went to the last one, held in June in New York, will be able to tell you what a great time can be had by all, no matter what level you dance.

For the first time the annual convention will be held in Canada, so, since there are only two Canadian clubs in the Association, our support and involvement is crucial. dancing great fun, but you also

Vancouver, April 12 - 15, 1990 are the place and dates. Registration Forms are available and you get a small saving in the fee if you register before December 31.

Over six hundred gay men and women are expected to be there and the convention offers many hours of square-dancing to really terrific callers, including our own Anne Uebelacker. There will also be opportunities to learn or participate in sessions on clogging, round dancing, line-dancing and two-stepping. There are also some wonderful wacky things as well, such as a Fun Badge Tour and the Honky Tonk Queen Contest. We had two great contestants in the Contest in New York, who looked stunning in their matching polka dot outfits, I want to tell you! This time I believe they'll be up against some stiff (?) competition from other Triangle Square dancers.

We're planning that all our Basic dancers should be through Mainstream by then and dancing with new partners to new callers really helps to increase your dancing confidence and ability. Some of our Plus dancers will probably want to take a workshop in Advanced while the opportunity is there.

If you plan to go to Vancouver a few days in advance, or to stay longer, then local billeting can be arranged. Otherwise it's a great advantage to stay in the convention hotel, which is the Hotel Vancouver. We're also looking into the possibility of airline seat sales. As well, pre-convention activities are being held in Portland and Seattle, so you could make a real outing of it. At these conventions, not only is the find yourself part of a huge

family of friends from all over.

SO, START THINKING ABOUT VANCOUVER IN APRIL. SHOULD BE FABULOUS! MORE INFORMATION WILL BE FORTHCOMING.

Styling Tip-
Loose Handhold-hands revolve around each other maintaining contact and a certain degree of security or stabilization. Slight pressure is all that is required.

Drag Tips for Drag Tips-
by Crystle Chandalier
THE most important... skirt work. For moiseif this is the reason Miss Crystle joined this craze. I mean where else is it proper to lift your skirts, whoop and expose your unmentionables and have it be called style(I took up tennis for a while but found it far too butch, and those frilly panties..too much) So girls lift those skirts .. a little good advert never hurt anyone! And with chests like I've been seeing around you should be heard as far as ..oh the far north(North York that is).

REMEMBER- the angels are there to help you. If you want extra help with calls or styling just ask, we'd be happy to help.

Shopping Western Style
by Mystery Shopper

Sometimes it's hard to find western wear around Toronto and I'm here to remedy that. Put on your shopping shoes and start early.

The following are stores that I go to on a regular basis to keep up on trends (research is the fun, and expensive, part):

Bootmaster
609 Yonge Street
(N. of Wellesley)
This place has a great selection of bolos, collar tips and boot accessories, not to mention boots. Prices seem reasonable all the way round. Sales staff is friendly.

Leather Image
617 Yonge Street
They have a limited supply of bolos and collar tips. Nice boots. Somewhat pushy sales staff (puts me off).

Mishon
663 Yonge Street
May seem strange at first but they have a great selection of western style belts. Also I've seen interesting 1 of a kind bolos hidden among all those glitzy beads. I still think belts are unisex. Not for the macho of the mind. Sales staff is friendly.

Unisex Shirt Factory
694 Yonge Street
Wear a wig and dark glasses so none of your friends will recognize you going in (what a window!) It's the place with the '60s clothes in the window on the east side near the Scientology Building. They have a good selection of shirts, a really good bolo and tip selection and the prices are good (nice matched sets). Shirts range from satin frills to black on black. Sales staff is forward to say the least but I think it's worth it.



1696 Danforth Ave.
Toronto, Ont. M4C 1H8
(416) 465-3378

1976 Queen St. E.
Toronto, Ont. M4L 1H8
(416) 894-0618

Gringo
1976 Queen Street East
When in the beach drop in here.
The boots are really something
else. They have lots of bolos,
tips, boot accessories and
...spurs...oooooh! Prices are
high. They have a white shirt
with black and white piping
that is to die..when you see
the \$130.00 price tag. Sales
staff are uppity so ignore
them. They have other clothes
as well ie: Michael Tong
\$1500.00 overcoats..eeeeeeck!
Watch for sales, they can be
good.

Western Corral
490 Eglinton Ave. West(at
Avenue Rd.)

I've never been but I have it
on good authority.. you haven't
yet seen all his shirts I'm
sure...that the selection of
clothing and accessories are
good. I've seen their ads in
the Sun. I can't go that far
north, I get a nose bleed!

B. Scene
584 Yonge Street
(east side N. of Wellesley)
Check every once in a while for
different bolos. Not for the
traditional at heart. I like
the sales staff (and some of
the clothes)

If you are ever in Key West
(name dropping) there is a
jewellery shop on Duval that
has a fantastic selection of
bolos, hand-made in silver with
semi-precious stones that are
unmatched for quality as far as
I'm concerned. Zuma in Toronto
at 817 Yonge Street comes
pretty close but the prices are
far higher even with exchange
but you wouldn't need
accommodation. They are
certainly worth a look!

If you are going to Vancouver
at Easter check out the Silver
Blue Traders shop on Robson,
they have bolos hand-made by N.
American indians.

As always and probably most fun

is hanging out at Goodwill and
Sally Anne for old western
apparel. Sometimes you're just
lucky, but they are in hot
demand even by non-square
dancers. Browse along Queen
west of Spadina in the vintage
clothing stores for both male
and female clothing. Take a
look on Kennsington Ave. just
north of Dundas Ave. There are
a few old clothing stores in
the area. If you shop around
(dicker) you can get some good
buys. If you can shop at the
Old Clothing Show and Sale (one
in Spring and one in Fall, get
there early for best selection.
You have to look hard but they
do have western wear and
accessories.

Have fun and GOOD SHOPPING, see
you on the circuit!

PARTY PARTY PARTY

by Ken Livingstone

What fun it was to see old
friends again and kick up our
heels at our roast for Anne!

We had three squares and then
some. Anne was pleased with our
progress, certainly a compliment
to our club's new instructors-
Don and Chris.

Anne, Bill and Gail seemed to
enjoy themselves; joining us in
having a gay auld tyme. Anne's
son seems destined to be a
square dancer and was whooping
it up along with the gang.

A clock was presented from the
group with a plaque attached
declaring Anne and Joe as
LIFE TIME MEMBERS of the
Triangle Squares. The clock
really was impressive with a
light oak stain. On the face,
done in needlepoint, was the
club insignia. It was a unique
and personal gift, thanks to
the creative effort of one who
prefers not to be named here.

UP-COMING EVENTS-

November 23 - Club Dance with Anne U. calling. \$5.00 for Mainstream/Plus and guests. No extra cost for Basics. Try to make it, it will be lots of fun!

December 21 - Graduation and Christmas dance. Both Anne AND Joe Uebelacker will be here to call, double the pleasure, double the fun. It's good practice to get used to different callers for out-of-town events. Hopefully we'll have pot luck nibblies.
Admission: \$5.00

HOT FLASH (but I'm not that old yet)

We've decided on the date for Toronto's Fly-in, ta-da.
KEEP THE WEEKEND OF JUNE 8,9,10 FREE .

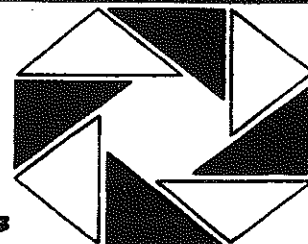
It's going to be lots of work but it will be twice as much fun!

Think about getting involved, you get to meet (meat?) all kinds of interesting people.

See the November calendar for other events and check out the other clubs' newsletters for for events we've missed.



NOVEMBER '89



Toronto Triangle Squares

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
			1	2 Basic Class 519 Church 7:30-9:30	3	4
5	6	7 Mainstr /Plus Church St School 7:30-9:30	8	9 . . Basic	10	11 Remembrance Day Washington, D.C. Fly-in
12	13	14 Mainstr /Plus Church St School 7:30-9:30	15	16 Basic	17	18
19	20	21 . Ms/Plus . . 7:30-9:30 .	22	23 . Club Dance with Anne 7:30 'til 10:00	24	25 Vancouver Jamboree
26	27 Submit this week for News- letter	28 . Ms/Plus . . 7:30-9:30 .	29	30 . Basic . . 7:30-9:30 .		

???info??? CALL Chris (416)960-5458