

	<p><b>Triangle Squares</b> 28 Sackville Pl., Toronto, ON M4X 1A4  (416) 968-5458</p>
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FEBRUARY CLUB NIGHT

Well, you missed it, or most of the Basic/Mainstream class did. Too bad, it was a great evening and an opportunity to dance to three different callers. No new moves, just new voices and choreography and lots of helping hands from the Plus and Advanced classes who turned out in strength.

This kind of experience is going to be invaluable for the upcoming Fly-In at the end of May when we'll be joined by many friends (they're already beginning to register) from south of the border! To be able to dance at speed; to recognize and remember the calls; to get the fullest enjoyment from dancing in a square that knows what it's doing, with confidence, you need to dance as much as possible.

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MARCH CLUB NIGHT

The next Club Night is FRIDAY, March 19, 7:30 - 10:00 at St. Luke's United Church, SE corner of Sherbourne and Carlton Streets (Carlton streetcar or Sherbourne St. bus passes the door).

For this evening we have

engaged the services of Donna Saunders, and it will be her first time calling for Triangle Squares. Donna calls for Solo Squares in Willowdale; mostly singles. She knows we are Ontario's only Gay and Lesbian Square Dance Club and is looking forward to calling for us. She will be given a list of moves that have been taught and will call at class levels. So mark this down and turn out for the experience and the fun!

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UPCOMING MOVES

Please read up on the following moves to be taught in March -

BASIC/MAINSTREAM: Spin Chain Thru, Pass To The Centre, Walk & Dodge, Dixie Style to an Ocean Wave, Recycle, Tag the Line.

PLUS: Spin Chain & Exchange the Gears, Crossfire, Linear Cycle, Remake the Thar, Chase Right.

A1: Scoot & Dodge, Double Star Thru, Left Wheel Thru, (Anything) & Cross, Half Breed Thru, Fractional Tops, 3/4 Thru, Triple Star Thru.

BE SURE TO USE YOUR MANUAL IF YOU MISS A CLASS!

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BY-LAWS

Alan Dearnley has been chairing a By-laws Committee and a semi-final draft of the new by-laws is being presented to the Steering Committee on March 2nd. The Committee will have a special meeting for final revisions and then the

new by-laws will be presented to the membership at the Annual General Meeting (April?). If you want to receive a copy of the draft to make any of your own suggestions, ask Alan for a copy. Our thanks to those who spent time discussing and drafting the by-laws.

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#### CONVENTION NEWS

Plans for the annual convention to be held in Seattle this year (July 4th. weekend) are proceeding. Since accommodations are on the U. of Washington campus, Stephen Holmes is putting together a list of Triangle Squares dancers who intend to attend. So if you're going, or thinking of going, speak to Stephen. You will still have to register individually for the convention, so get a form and fill it in.

On the other hand... the committee that was charged with looking into hotel space and facilities in Toronto in order to see whether it was practical to make our own convention bid in the late 90's is presenting its report to the Steering Committee on March 2nd.

We have also received a copy of the Convention Report compiled by the "Diamonds in the Desert" committee in Albuquerque, NM. It starts with a reverse timetable; Five Years Before and goes from there through the convention itself and beyond. It makes fascinating reading. It's a bit large for duplicating so after the Steering Committee's read it, it can be passed around. Tell Chris if you'd like to read it.

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#### THIS IS THE THEORY

What is it about square dancing that makes people enjoy it for year after year? Some of us in Triangle Squares have been dancing for over five years now and no evening is the same, no tip is the same, either.

As you know by now, there are two forms of the "tip" or individual square dance; one is called "patter" or "hash" in which the Caller calls a sequence of varied moves. This tip starts from a Static Square and moves the dancers around in any direction but must finally deliver them to a position where they can Left Allemande their Corner in order to regain the Static Square with their Original Partner.

In the course of these calls, the Caller may move you through a variety of formations, lines, waves, columns, boxes, etc., all either right-handed or left-handed. He/she may put the girls and boys together ("don't fix it!") or have you half sashayed with your partner (Lead on the right instead of the left) - don't fix this either!

Part of the joy and interest of square dancing is to notice what the Caller is doing, how varied the choreography is, how pleasurable it is to do the moves in conjunction with the rhythm of the music, how intricate and how many are the patterns you go through before you end up next to your Corner. A good Caller can make this so interesting and diverse that the final move to bring you next to your Corner is delightfully unexpected and it takes you by surprise.

No dancer should ever dance passively - it destroys



the fun of it. As a dancer you have responsibilities, too. Apart from knowing the definition of the moves you've been taught, so that you can do a move from variable positions without flinching, it will increase your dancing pleasure and the square's ability to do the move if you:

- a) remember which role you're dancing,
- b) remember whether you started as a Side or Head dancer,
- c) remember automatically which hand your dance role uses for Star Thru and which way to turn for Slide Thru,
- d) watch where you are, which formation you're in, and take note as you change formations as to whether you're now an End or a Centre, looking In to the formation or Out of the formation,
- e) trust the Caller's intentions so that you don't hesitate when girls or boys are made to dance together or when you're half-sashayed,
- f) remember who your Corner actually is so that you don't resist or avoid doing an Allemande Left with them when required.

The other form of the tip is the Singing Call. This has a pattern to it in which there are seven parts. In the first, fourth and seventh part, there is no change of Partner. These parts are often called the Beginning, Middle and End Breaks.

The second, third, fifth and sixth part are the Figure, in which there is change of Partner, usually by the dancers pairing up with the person who started the Figure as their Corner. This works in sequence, so a major responsibility here is for each dancer to note in order as the square forms, who you are going to dance with.

For the Head Follow No. 1, the new Partners would be Lead No. 2, Lead No. 3, Lead No. 4 and then their Original Partner, Lead No. 1. For Head Lead No. 3, the new Partner would be Follow No. 2, Follow No. 1, Follow No. 4 and then Original Partner, Follow No. 3. If you know which Partner you'll be dancing with, you'll be able to pick that partner up even if the square breaks down and end up with your Original Partner in place; very important and much more satisfying than milling around in a confused heap!

Another feature of the Singing Call is that, usually (but not always) the calls in each Break are the same. The Figures, while different from the Breaks, are also usually the same as each other, except that the first two Figures feature the Heads moving first and the last two feature the Sides moving first. It really aids your dancing pleasure and the square's ability if you watch and listen to remember the pattern of what is called so that you aren't in a complete fog for the entire Singing Call, trying to decipher and separate the song's words from the calls themselves.

While all this may seem a bit long-winded and while some people drop out of square dancing because they feel the whole thing's too much to remember, the fun is the challenge, the diversity, the musical movements, the community and the "high" that comes from responding to a caller and getting through a tip by cooperating and moving in synch with seven others. Once you've experienced that, and it often comes at Fly-Ins, Club Nights, and Conventions, where you can rise to the challenge and put

to good use all the training you've gone through, you're hooked!

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#### SOME UPCOMING EVENTS

Mar 12 - 14: South Florida Mustangs Fly-In, Miami, FL (Anne Uebelacker, Chris Phillips).

Mar 20: The Wilde Bunch "Anniversary", Albuquerque, NM, ALSO Western Star "Anniversary", San Francisco, CA.

Mar 26-28: "Pass Thru the Alamo", San Antonio, TX (Anne Uebelacker, Terry Kephart).

Apr 2-4: "Southern California Fly-In", San Diego, CA (Ron Nelson, Verne Weese, Paul Waters).

Apr 10-12: Independence Squares Fly-In, Philadelphia, PA (Anne Uebelacker, Glen Matthew, Howard Richman).

Apr 17-18: "Retreat at Guerneville", Sacramento, CA (Paul Waters).

Apr 25: NATIONAL MARCH FOR GAY RIGHTS, WASHINGTON, DC (also Square dancing, C & W dancing).

Apr 30 - May 2: "Pass the Ocean, Hon!", Rehoboth Beach, DE (Shelby Dawson, Sandra Bryant, Mike Desisto).

May 28-30: "Scoot Across the Border", Toronto ON (Joe Uebelacker, Paul Waters).

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#### TEX-MEX DECORATIONS

During our Fly-In, there's going to be a C & W dance on the Saturday evening after square dancing. If you have items of a Spanish, Tex-Mex

flavour that would help to establish the flavour of the event (large sombreros, cactuses from your greenhouse) please consider lending them for that evening. We want this to be a bash to remember!

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#### DEMO TEAM NEWS

The Demo Team made an appearance at the Tribute to Patsy Recline evening which was a jam-packed event at Big Country. Appearances were made by Cloggers, Line-Dancers and Female Impersonators from the community and the evening was a spectacular fundraiser for Michael Dobie (a.k.a. Patsy Recline).

The next scheduled event for the Demo Team will be on Thursday, March 25 at Cockatoo's (formerly known as Soltero's). This is a fundraising event for P.W.A. There will be other performers on the program, and our team should be dancing around 10:30 p.m.

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#### CLUB NIGHT AND C & W DANCE

Mark down Saturday, April 17 in your diaries. That's our next Country & Western night at the 519. Doors will probably open at 9:00 and there'll be two-stepping and line-dances, etc., from then until 1:00 a.m.

Please volunteer to sell beer and door tickets, work behind the bar or help clean up. "Many hands make light work" as everyone's favourite granny used to say!

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TURNTABLE/TUNER GOING DIRT CHEAP. SEE STEPHEN OR CHRIS.\*