



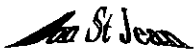
HALO, the local London hotspot. London is a short two hour cruise from the centre of the universe, and this will be a fun opportunity to show off our dancing. If you are interested, please give John Bailey a call at 921-0571. He will try to coordinate some car pooling etc.

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## **Scoot Across the Border - Fly-in 1995**

To repeat the story once again, Track 2 Chicago, the 1995 IAGSDC™ convention has been scheduled for the Memorial Day weekend, bumping our usual fly-in date. We have now determined the new date will be the Labour Day weekend, September 1-4, 1995. Chris is busy hunting callers, and we expect to be in a position to announce the roster shortly. A committee will be forming shortly, to proceed with the planning, led by a chair who will also be announced shortly (when we can nail Diedre down to something a little more firm than simply not saying "no").

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## **Chaining Down**

One of the best side benefits of Square

Dancing is, of course, the excuse it gives to travel to otherwise ruinously expensive cities, like New York and Washington...

As part of the Chain Down the Northeast sequence, Times Squares of NY hosted a dance on Friday, June 24, featuring one of our favourites, Anne Uebelacker. About a hundred square dancers were present, most having flown in for the Gay Games and the 25th anniversary of Stonewall, with representation from all levels up to Challenge, and from most clubs across the continent. Because of the generally high level of expertise, Anne called some of the hottest Mainstream I've ever danced - a good reminder that it's not necessary to keep advancing through the programs to have exciting dancing.

Triangle Squares had a delegate to the Gay Games, with one of our Advanced dancers, Sandy, entered in the marathon. Although illness prevented Sandy from finishing, we extend to her our heartiest congratulations on her participation and lots of gold-medal-quality hugs.

The March on Sunday, June 26, had either fewer than 100 thousand or more than a million, depending on whose estimate you believe. It began with Raise the Rainbow (not a bad name for a square dance call), a mile-long rainbow flag carried up 1st Avenue, with one of the carriers being Paul Waters, our popular fly-in caller last year. I was marching with a doctor friend in the medical contingent ("2-4-6-8, can we check your prostate"), then dropped out to watch the other groups go by. Two visually spectacular hours later, the Times Squares came along, and I joined in as we square danced our way along 59th Street and into Central Park. Times Squares club caller Nick Manocchio did the honours.

The next day, I drove to Washington with two other callers, Stan More of New York, and Kevin Cassidy, founder of Citadel Squares in Halifax, and soon-to-be founder of a club in London, Ontario (yay, Kevin). Callers' School is a three-day series of workshops which takes place just before conventions, and is a highly recommended experience, even for those who do not wish to be callers, as it gives a better appreciation for what happens on the other side of the mike. This schools was divided into three levels of experience, and once again, Triangle Squares was well represented, with Andy Chong, Dan Cooperstock, and myself in attendance. We had workshops in voice training from an opera singer and trained vocal coach who is experienced at working with square dance callers, practise writing choreographic patterns, and drill in sight calling. The most useful features are critiques from professionals Anne Uebelacker, Mike Jacobs, and Betsy Gotta.

The Convention came next, but of course you either know or have heard all about that - just ask any of the bubbly, enthusiastic square dancers around you.



Steve Stern

## IAGSDC™ Convention - 1994

Washington, been there, saw that, bought a t-shirt... and another... and another...

Dancing? Was there supposed to be dancing? I thought it was a shopping trip!

Of course, I danced. I was coerced by that nagging group of Plus dancers until my little feeties got moving and I was do-sa-do'in' with the rest.

I really enjoyed the calling. All the callers were "hyped" for the event and they had us going through our paces like the Royal Lipizzanners. The wood floor covers caused some problems as Anne Uebelacker lost her voice due to dust created as the coating wore down from the dancing. Even I was having problems talking... no cheering please and no, you cannot import the dust!

The banquet had everyone in their finery and the hair on those drags was too much... literally, too much. Stephanie outdid herself with a 4th of July tribute, that was to be her last appearance... what will we do? A hair statue in her honour perhaps?

The grand march was orchestrated differently this year, to mixed reviews, but the thrill was still there for this old girl. Our vests got raves! Moo'ing dancers announced our entrance and many were thrilled with our Holstein haberdashery. Thanks to Chris & Les for coordinating their creation and to Les and Richard for toting them all the way down. Bravo! (And what a pleasant, if not **short**, little doo was put on for their disbursement, imported **nuts** no less!)

The Honky Tonk Queen Contest, the leather tip and the bear tip were once again held in too small a room. No Tarts entered the Queen contest, although one displaced tart-wannabe who has gone to the Big Apple did have the nerve. Rhoda Mannhard from Cleveland needed a bodyguard to get her out of the room by the time the contest ended. Ow-ow-ow, but she did have her leatherman escort. (Did I smell coconut, or was I just dreaming?)

We had a showing in the leather and bear tips

(sometimes **too** much showing) and there is photographic proof of well-known, country living lesbian being overcome by the sight of one of our more macho (eh-hem) dancers (PS it felt good).

Awards were given out for service to the IAGSDC™ in general, and for attending 10 conventions. The group is growing.

Now, a couple of, shall we say, personal items. No names, well maybe some, but it won't hurt.

I think Costa danced every tip. I would be talking to him and he'd just run off! I told him not to miss the bear tip! He did!

Speak of bare tip. There wasn't one, and hotel stuff kept making sure there wouldn't be one! I had news of a bare tip in one prominent drag's room, but unless I see photographic proof, no one should believe this nasty gossip... please! honest!

Everyone got nice rooms, but yours truly and company. Niagara Falls was recreated just outside our door whenever it rained. Liz Tureen and I had to go on missions to "pinch" toilet paper from the housekeeping wagon. Forget about room for crinolines.

We didn't hear of much in the way of sexcapades, but I did notice one (*just one?*) TO caller snuggling on a lobby sofa with a man I did not recognize! Oh, and I believe we have a new allemande left, done above the waist, with one of 2 matching body parts (no, David, not the ears). I saw one of our A dancers practising much too often for moral statutes.

Speaking of morals, or lack thereof, the She-Devil of Chicago and various hangers-on, were asked to leave the pool area when they arrived en masse in prim and proper swim attire, one piece women's suits. They promptly returned in proper male attire with body jewellery glittering in the sun! How do you explain nipple rings to a five year old?

It was fun listening to show tunes in the lobby bar, it was fun eating at various of the local eateries, it was fun sightseeing with good friends in a city of such history, it was fun, and expensive shopping in Pentagon city and Old Town Alexandria, but it was most fun seeing our dancing friends from other cities and just talking, well sometimes dancing, catching up on lives, and sometimes

remembering others, who will dance no more.

Until we meet in dance again, remember, it's all about family... so get out there and dance, SISTER!!! (that's non-gender-specific, wink!).

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## From the IAGSDC™ Representative

The executive boards of the International Association of Gay Square Dance Clubs (IAGSDC™), consisting of representatives and alternates from each club, met at the annual convention in

*Andy Chong*

Washington. While most of the decisions were also announced at the general business meeting, here is a summary for those who were not there.

The Association's finances have improved since the special assessment last year. Along with a reduction in spending, the IAGSDC™ anticipates a \$600 deficit in 1994 and 1995, which it can now afford.

Five new full member clubs were admitted: Lismore Scooters of East Balina, NSW, Australia, Ohio City Squares of Cleveland, Ohio (after some debate), Royalty Squares of Chino, California, Rainbow Wranglers of Eugene, Oregon, and MC<sup>2</sup> of Boyd, Maryland (which dances in a community centre run by a Metropolitan Community Church).

While the IAGSDC™ has cut down somewhat in its straight advertising, it has budgeted more money for assisting in the formation of new clubs, like seeding advertising in local papers. It is also advertising in various general gay magazines and newspapers.

The Seattle convention reported a record 1,138 registrants, and on an income of some \$160,000, had a profit of \$1,270, split between the local clubs and charities. (The Washington convention then broke this attendance record with 1,158 registrants.)

A committee that investigated whether the IAGSDC™ should be involved in the Advanced and Challenge fly-in which currently rotates around various west coast cities, suggested leaving things as they are: non-interference unless required.

The IAGSDC™ Treasurer in the future will have to be bonded.

A motion to change the dues structure back to a flat fee per club was defeated, after some debate.

A proposal for Association-wide liability insurance was defeated, since it would be mandatory for all US and Canadian clubs to participate at a cost of \$1.50 per member. The Treasurer will seek an optional-participation policy.



A resolution was passed asking member clubs to join their local square dance association. (Triangle Squares is indirectly represented with the Toronto & District Association by myself.)

An experimental association-wide mailing system will be set up. We will be able to mail newsletters, flyers, etc. to a single location, which will repackage and redirect them to all member clubs at a lower cost than mailing them ourselves.

A committee will be setup up to advise future convention committees. The first year's work of this committee is to write its mandate and report back next year.

The terms of the officers were doubled to two years, with staggered elections. Starting this year, the President and Treasurer will serve two years; starting next year, the Vice President and Secretary will serve two years.

A new level of non-voting membership was created for non-dance organizations, with a fixed fee. Specifically this includes the Gay Callers Association and convention organizing committees (like Tip the Cow Inc.).

The Association has trademarked a couple of logos, and will charge future conventions 15% of

their profits for their use (waived, if there is no profit). This allows the Association to get some profit out of the conventions, which previously was impossible due to legal restrictions.

October 28th - 20th, 1994



### Club Steering Committee

Richard Stoveld President

964-2471

Marion Carroll Basic Class Rep

462-3063

Chris Homer Publicity Coordinator

960-5458

Andy Chong IAGSDC™ Rep

925-2602

John Bailey Secretary

921-0571

John Mills Treasurer

421-9625

The 1995 convention will be held in Chicago on the Memorial Day Weekend, while 1996 will be held in San Francisco the weekend after Pride Day. Neon Squares of Las Vegas was the only bidder for 1997, and despite having only 12 members, has various other clubs willing to assist on-site, so were ratified for July 10th-12th at the Sands Convention Centre. Portland OR was the only bidder for 1998, Time Squares of New York and Paul Waters organizing various Los Angeles clubs are interested in 1999. Baltimore is interested in 2000, and Vancouver for 2001.

Finally, Bob Young of Time Squares, New York was re-elected Chair, Randy Clark of various California clubs was elected Vice-Chair, John Foulds of Desert Valley Squares, Phoenix was re-elected Secretary, and Darrell Ertzberger remains Treasurer.

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### Birthdays:

A belated Happy Birthday to:

*July:*

John Mills

Larry White

And we got in these Happy Birthday's on time:

*August:*

Allen Leblanc

*September:*

Joseph Chan

Warren Estabrooks (finally legal)

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### Travelling?

#### Great Chicago Crossfire VI

Labour Day weekend

Chicago, Illinois

September 2nd - 5th, 1994

#### Load the Boat V

Thanksgiving Weekend

Cleveland, Ohio

October 7th - 10th, 1994

#### Peel the Pumpkin

Hallowe'en

New York, New York

## Triangle Squares Dance Calendar

September 1994						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4	5	6	Basic Intro Night/C1 Class 7	Plus Class Advanced Class 8	Dancing @ HALO, London 9	10
11	12	13	Basic Intro Night/C1 Class 14	Plus Class Advanced Class 15	16	17
18	19	20	Basic Intro Night/C1 Class 21	Plus Class Advanced Class 22	23	24
25	26	27	Basic Class Begins/C1 Class 28	Plus Class/ Advanced Class 29	30	

October 1994						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3	4	Basic Class/C1 Class 5	Plus Class/ Advanced Class 6	7	8
9	10	11	Basic Class/C1 Class 12	Plus Class/ Advanced Class 13	14	15
16	17	18	Basic Class/C1 Class 19	<b>Club Nigh</b> 20	21	22
23/30	24/31	25	Basic Class/C1 Class 26	Plus Class/ Advanced Class 27	28	29