

# TRIANGLE SQUARES

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TORONTO, ONTARIO  
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*News from all Angles*  
June 1994

## SCOOT ACROSS THE BORDER

The fly-in was, from all accounts, another success! With 110 dancers representing 15 different clubs from coast to coast, we all had the opportunity to meet new people, and make new friends.

We want to take this opportunity to again thank all those people who took part in the organization and set-up of this year's fly-in. A lot of hard work was put in by both the committee (Kevin Kavanagh, Kevin Seymour, John Nishikawa, Steve Varga and Chris Homer) and all of the people who volunteered their time and energy to put up and take down decorations, arrange food and callers, and all of the other tasks that go with this type of event. Congratulations on a job well done!

As you might be aware, the 1995 IAGSDC™ convention in Chicago has been scheduled for the Memorial Day weekend next year. Therefore, we are considering two weekends for the 1995 fly-in — the July long weekend and the Labour Day weekend. There is the possibility that Labour Day will be available if Chicago cancels their annual fly-in, after so recently having hosted the convention. Labour Day has the advantage of the holiday Monday for our American friends, whereas their July holiday will be on Tuesday, and many of them will be working on the Monday. We will let you know as the situation develops.

For those of you already anxious to attend another fly-in, there is a list of fly-ins and events (scheduled to date) later in this newsletter.

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## They Did More Than Just "Scoot Across The Border"

by Crystal

This year's fly-in carried on the great Triangle Squares' tradition of showing everyone a really great time... on and off the dance floor! Kevin and the committee pulled all the details together and put on a fun-filled, dance-filled weekend! Thanks to all involved.

The calling was great, Joe Uebelacker took

us through a progressive square and Tim Crawford kept us going with his upbeat styling. Tim's girlfriend even pitched in when needed... many thanks and sorry for all the abuse in the Advanced squares! Pushy? US!?

Brunch and Pat and Mario's was to die for! The mounds of desserts I saw on people's plates was testimony to that... and **they** don't gain an ounce! The decor for the Saturday dance was colourful and festive, something I always appreciate. The dance was well

attended with a smattering of *outsiders*! I bet you were wondering how long I could stay nice. Well I can't remain pleasant for long, goodness knows I try!

On Friday night we took our billets to the Toolbox, as good hosts should. OOOH la la... Matt, the owner, was all over our N.Y. billet from the moment he walked up to the counter to order drinks. I said "Please, this man's from New York, he has no idea how to handle someone as forward as you!"



Pleeease Hon! We tired quickly and off we went... to our own places I presume.

Saturday, off to... you guessed it... the Toolbox. After a quick costume change of course! And who do we run into but a prominently placed Country Dancer, who kept muttering "Daddy made me do it", or some such thing, and a recent prize winner (you guess the category). The *trash compactor* was so full I kept losing parts of my party... PARTY not PARTYDRESS! I don't think we all made it home that night!

Drag races. I think I ruffled some crinolines when I decided to arrive early at the dance and dragged along our resident lesbian drag queen, and Golden Tart winner. I'm a no muss, no fuss kinda girl and I get hot and sweaty... DOWN BOY!... under all that fru-fru. Shea Needaman looked fantastic in a can-can number I'm sure was haute couture... call Jeannie Bekker... hello FTV? She truly deserved the BEST VAMP AWARD. Finalnet also deserved BEST COW AWARD but we won't get into that here! Our debutante, Patti O. Furniture, came out with a bang and lost her composure **AND** her hair to the aforementioned leather (oops) prize winner! Welcome to the ranks girlfriend!

So, did we get **any** of the moves right in our demo? Eat your hearts out, Demo Team.

Now I'll revert, to give thanks to Kevin Seymour for arranging the tours of ROM. I enjoyed myself immensely and I know others did as well. A chance to expand our minds and not other body parts! We saw party dresses, plates, prehistoric poop (we all held it), party dresses, silverware, a dodo, party dresses, crocodile skulls and ... party dresses! Thanks again to our hosts for taking us through their departments... but I'm sure we weren't as clumsy as those school kids! Touring

the galleries of ROM with Ed and Bill from Cleveland is something everyone should go through at least once in a lifetime... it was fun guys! Walk like an Egyptian...

Thanks again and hope to see everyone again next year... Same bat time, same bat channel.

### PICNIC

A Picnic site has been booked for August 7th at Hanlan's Point on Toronto Island. We will be holding a barbecue, as well as trying a few dance tips in the open air. We have a site close to the beach, as well as the wading pool for the more timid.

The picnic will run from about 3:00PM until whenever. Walter Buchwalder and his *Cabbagetown Cafe* will be catering the event, so all food and refreshments will be included in the low ticket price. We will be inviting back all of those dancers who have joined us in the past couple of years, including those who have stopped coming out. Hopefully some of them may consider joining us again in the fall.

### DANCING

The current dance season ends June 22 for the Wednesday night class and June 23 for the Thursday night class. We will be holding two club nights this summer, July 14th and August 18th. The July dance will be called by Joe Uebelacker, while the August club night will feature Tim Crawford. Both of these dances will be at the 519.

We have the 519 every Thursday through July and August, and there is the possibility that casual dancing or workshops could be arranged if anyone (including a caller) is interested. These dances don't necessarily even have to be on a Thursday, depending on the availability of space. You are urged to speak to Chris Homer if you are interested in this type of activity.

We have tentatively made up the club schedule for the fall season. The Board of Education has advised us that we were successful in obtaining a permit for Jesse Ketchum school as well as the Church Street School on Wednesday nights. We are therefore considering utilizing the dividing wall at Jesse Ketchum to split the gym into two spaces, holding the Basic/Mainstream class in one half of the gym, and alternating A2 dancing with the demo team in the other half. Thursday nights we will likely continue to dance in the 519, with the A1 class from 7:00 to 8:30, and Plus class from 8:30 to 10:00.

Dancing will begin on September 7th for the Wednesday classes, and September 8th for the Thursday classes.



### VESTS

The club has utilized most of the John Rutledge bequest to purchase club vests, that we plan to debut at the Washington convention. The vests will remain the property of the club, and will be available for use by any club member dancing at other fly-ins or any other square dance event, such as dancing at the CNE or the Hamilton convention next year.



The vests are black and white with silver buttons, and we would therefore like to make the club "uniform", the vest accompanied with black pants, a white shirt, and a silver bolo tie.

The vests will be available in Washington from Richard and Les. If you have an occasion where you would like to use one of the club vests after that date, you should speak to one of the steering committee, who will be happy to arrange it for you.



## DANCING IN HAMILTON

by Ginger Snapped (aka DYKES do so do DRAG)

The newsletter editor asked me (on Thursday!) to write up a little blurb on Hamilton for the Newsletter. I told him it was going to be short. I mean, what was there to tell — we went, we danced, we left. But as I began to remember back to that day, more and more came to mind, so now I'm wondering how much space I'm allowed. Oh well, I'll just type my little heart out and if you've got a 6 page Newsletter you'll know I won. If it's 2 pages — the editor won.

It was a gorgeous Saturday morning. Four Convention Virgins agreed to meet at 9:00 at a member's apartment and go from there. When we arrived, the apartment owner was just getting up, I realized I forgot my club badge, someone else forgot their convention ribbon and someone else forgot her, I mean their (sorry Shell) new white shirt, freshly ironed no less (and it really wasn't warm enough to go without a shirt)! So we spent

the next hour running around getting together what we were missing. Organization is obviously not one of our strong suits!

We were finally on the road to Hamilton when we realized one of us (who shall remain nameless) was looking rather exhausted. With a little teasing and cajoling we learned that a "new romance" had blossomed. Well, that was all we needed!! The rest of the trip was spent getting all the juicy details and laughing uproariously. We were so engrossed in our gossiping that we missed the turn-off for the parking lot. It took us 3 shots before we finally made it into that damn (oops) darned lot!

We created a bit of a stir as we walked across the campus since 2 of us were not dressed in the regulation a-crinolins (Scarlet's spelling). Tensions mounted when we got to the hall and met up with everyone because, of course, kisses and hugs had to be dispensed to everyone (etiquette must always be followed no matter where you are!). The straights knew something was up and that we weren't your run of the mill square dancers!

What I remember most about the main hall is the boutiques and how quiet it was! The boutiques were perused by our "shop till you drop" contingent. The girls went crazy when they saw all the goodies waiting to be bought! It was no mean feat getting them away from there to dance, though of course they did not leave empty handed (petty pants seemed to be the item of choice this year). The silence of the hall (hey, this might make a great movie title — sorry I'm digressing) is a by-product of straight square dancing. Not having witnessed or participated in straight square dancing since I was a wee tot, I did not realize how different their styling was to ours. As I looked

down from the balcony onto at least 30 or more squares of plus dancers the only noise was coming from the caller! It was eerie! I mean, it was as if these people had been turned into the Stepford wives, or pod people! The caller made his/her call and the dancers did their thing but there was no laughing, no hijinks, nothing! I tell you, it was frightening!

So down we went to add some life to what appeared to be a lifeless event. We were pumped and ready to dance. Adrenalin raced through our veins (let's face it, 16 gays & 2700 straight people are not my kind of odds — I was nervous!). We were going to show them a thing or two! Well, what we showed them was how quickly we could break down a square! The darned caller (our friend Tim C) called something we've never done before! It was embarrassing but it broke the ice. We concentrated on trying to figure out the call (he must have called it 50 times in one tip) and forgot about all the people staring at us. By the time Tim finished calling, our nervousness was gone.

Sorry guys, this is turning into an epic so to speed things up, I'll just focus on the highlights:

- walking en masse from the main hall to the smaller halls to dance and seeing the expression on people's faces,
- arriving en masse at the smaller halls to dance and watching people's expressions as we squared up to dance,
- seeing people's faces as we were dancing,
- cheering, hooting and clapping for Anne Uebelacker when she came into the hall to call (what a dyke!!!) and the other



dancers not knowing what all the fuss was about,

- receiving compliments and words of encouragement from numerous straight square dancers — men and women — who loved our enthusiasm and styling,
- doing Weave the Ring and Load the Boat at least 50,000 times (I hate those calls now)!
- at the evening sessions, being asked by various straight couples if they could dance in our squares!
- dancing with straight couples and trying to learn some of their styling techniques,
- being stared at, pointed at and watched at all times — you get to love it after a while,
- going to lunch at Wendy's and again to dinner with the whole gang,
- watching the old, old, straight square dancers dance — honestly, they are too funny for words — they move like molasses in February!
- being asked by straight dancers to come and visit their clubs anytime!
- learning some new styling techniques from other clubs,
- the black dancers and gays were relegated to the back of the main hall but let me tell you, that's where all the action was!
- meeting up with some of the straight dancers at Tim Horton's after the Convention and practising some of their

styling techniques in the store!

I could go on and on but the editor is going to kill me when he gets this so it's time to wrap this thing up. As you may have guessed it was a FABULOUS day and a great time was had by all. Being a bit of a radical I feel it was good for the straight square dancers to see us and know we exist, and it was also encouraging to know that there are straight dancers who are supportive and want to dance with us. I'll be there next year, and I hope to see you too!

Hugs & Kisses.

#### DEMO TEAM STYLING

Our demo team's fabulous performance on the Saturday afternoon of our recent fly-in was noteworthy for some new styling on the "Square Thru Four" move that produced an appreciative reaction from many onlookers. This styling came from our recent visit to the Hamilton convention where we met a group from Steel City Squares (Tim Crawford calls for their advanced level). In return for our teaching them how to *really* Weave the Ring, they taught us their own styling which the Demo Team quickly stole. Many thanks to Peter and "Max" Byerlay for this move; we hope to see them dancing with us at one of upcoming Club Nights, especially the one that Tim is calling on August 18.

## ANOTHER SIDE OF THE HAMILTON CONVENTION

By Andy Chong

Being the only person from the club to go to the entire convention, from Thursday to Sunday, and the only person to pick up a microphone, here are some of the other happenings behind the scenes.

Thursday was arrival and check-in day. I found that I had not booked a room overlooking the ravine, but one over the tennis courts. Unfortunately for the view, the weather was cool all weekend.

Serious dancing started Thursday night, and the first complaints were heard about the scheduling. Somehow, Ron Libby was not scheduled for the C2 room, and Ray, the Programme Chairman got an earful over that. Eventually, Ron Libby switched with Tim Crawford and called a C2 hour instead of a C1 hour.

Meanwhile, I found that written instructions to the contrary, I was booked to call in the A1 room, not the A2 room. When I caught up with the overworked Ray (while he was busy hanging banners), he said I could switch back, but never changed the schedule. Eventually, at the indulgence of the A2 caller, I got a short tip in A2, but got out of calling A1. Meanwhile, in the A1 room, my calling partner for the hour passed his duties to his son, so neither of the two listed callers for that hour actually called.

That afternoon, we dropped by the Mainstream room, where one of our fellow C2 dancers was calling. There I found that another volunteer caller had cancelled, and Ray had pressed a staff caller (who, helpfully, was his son) to fill in. As Ray put it "If you



would like to be Programme Chairman — take this job, please!"

Calling in a large room certainly changes perspective. The dancers are further away, and I need to look beyond the square in front of me. If I am reading, maybe look at the squares less often. I was told I called too slow, because the front square was the slowest in the room! Hopefully next year, I will be able to call to more than one square more often.

On Saturday night, after all the dancing was over, I was invited to the caller's afterparty. This is where the staff callers hang around waiting to give their comments on the convention, and more importantly, get paid. The unpaid callers were here as a small show of appreciation.

I have already pre-registered, and re-offered to call, and I am already looking forward to next year.

### WANTED

Alternate IAGSDC™ representative willing to spend 1 hour (optionally more) Friday morning at the convention in Washington. Some likely topics of discussion: how a 2 square club will hold a full convention, and taxation with proportional representation.

Please call Andy: 925-2602

## TRAVELLING?



### Chain Down the Northeast

New Haven, June 23rd  
New York, June 24th  
Philadelphia, June 28th  
Baltimore, June 29th

### Stars & Squares Forever

IAGSDC™ Convention  
Washington, DC  
June 30th - July 3rd, 1994

### 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

Halloween  
New York, New York  
October 28th - 30th, 1994

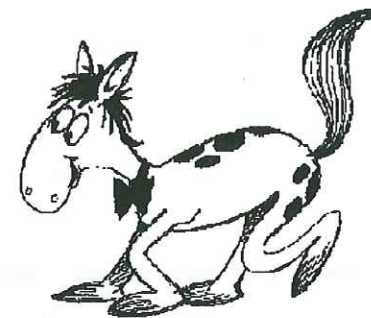
## BIRTHDAYS

Happy Birthday to:  
Don Cheff  
John Nishikawa  
Loris Pittioni  
Peter Davies



## CLUB STEERING COMMITTEE

Richard Stoveld (PRESIDENT)	964-2671
John Mills (TREASURER)	421-9625
Chris Homer (PUBLICITY COOR)	960-5458
John Bailey (SECRETARY)	921-0571
Andy Chong (IAGSDC REP)	925-2602
Marion Carroll (MAINSTREAM CLASS REP)	462-3063





### Gay Pride Day-Sunday, July 3rd

Mark this date in your calendar. If you are not going to the convention in Washington we need you to rally around the banner. Gay Pride Day is an important occasion when we make ourselves known within the community and try to interest and recruit new dancers for the Fall. New dancers are the lifeblood of our group, and a necessary source of revenue for the club.

As in past years, we have applied for a table site on Church St. and we will need volunteers to help set this up in the morning about 11:30 AM, using display materials gathered in advance. During the day, we need others to drop over, and man the table, greeting and meeting, and answering any questions that may come up. You can have fun, and you will be right in the centre of the activities and crowds. Don't forget that we also march in the parade behind our banner, though this year we are not expecting to dance along the route as the logistics of providing the music and hearing the calls make that a little difficult. Chris Homer, our publicity coordinator, is responsible for this event, and if you have any ideas on how to make our display stand out from others, he wants to hear them.

## Triangle Squares Dance Calendar

June 1994						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			Mainstream Dancing 1	Plus/ Advanced Dancing 2	3	4
5	Demo Team 6	7	Mainstream Dancing 8	Plus/ Advanced Dancing 9	10	11
12	13	14	Mainstream Dancing 15	Plus/ Advanced Dancing/ Badlands 16	17	18
19	Demo Team 20	21	Mainstream Dancing 22	Plus/ Advanced Dancing 23	24	25
26	27	28	29	Star & Squares Forever 30		



**July 1994**

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
					IAGSDC™ Convention 1	Stars & Squares Forever 2
IAGSDC™ Convention <b>Pride Day</b> 3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	<b>Club Night</b> 14 with Joe Uebelacker	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24/31	25	26	27	28	29	30

**August 1994**

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
	<b>HOLIDAY</b> 1	2	3	4	5	6
<b>Picnic</b> 7 at Hanlan's Point	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	<b>Club Night</b> 18 with Tim Crawford	19	20
Square Dancing21 at CNE	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			