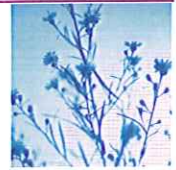




TRIANGLE SQUARES

September 2008



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Welcome back to our returning dancers and a special greeting to our new club members. I am sure you are all looking forward to an enjoyable and rewarding year of square dancing. I know that many of you had the opportunity to hone your dancing skills over the summer at the Cleveland IAGSDC Convention and at fly-ins, or at privately arranged reinforcement classes. I hope that all your efforts will pay off. This summer we held a couple of club dances and promotional events, as well as our regular two free Introductory Nights in September, in order to encourage new members to join us. If you joined Triangle Squares as a result of your participation in one of these promotional activities, thank you and welcome to our square dance "family". I hope you all have a very successful and fun year of square dancing.

Bob Hails

TOUCH A QUARTER CENTURY – THE IAGSDC ANNUAL CONVENTION

This year the annual convention was held in Cleveland from July 3 to July 6 and got its name from the fact that the International Association of Gay Square Dance Clubs has been in existence for twenty-five years. From all accounts, it was enjoyed by all the Triangle Squares members who attended. We had a record number of attendees from our club (41), the highest attendance at a convention since the IAGSDC convention was held in Toronto in 2002. Among this number we had two "Silver Babies" who, having just completed the Basic/Mainstream level, attended their first convention. They are enthusiastic about attending upcoming conventions because of the fun they had at this one. Some members went early to take part in the GCA caller school or to attend some pre-convention tours, such as the theatre outing to see "Jersey Boys".

The 2009 IAGSDC Convention will be held in Washington D.C. and, because it is not too difficult for our members to get to, we hope we will, once again, have good representation from the Triangle Squares dancers.

CADILLAC SQUARES (DETROIT) FLY-IN

This event was held from August 1 to 3 and several dancers from Triangle Squares took part. Their theme was "Lucky or Unlucky" and featured some opportunities to get discounted registrations for their next fly-in, as well as a 50-50 draw and a Chinese auction. The big feature was LOTS of dancing at various levels as well as an outstanding buffet dinner Saturday night and their assortment of "nibblies" and drinks available during the duration of the fly-in. An enjoyable time was had by all who attended from Triangle Squares.

UPCOMING DATES & EVENTS

Here is a list of upcoming events that you should mark on your calendar:

Annual General Meeting (AGM)

The AGM will be held on Thursday, November 13 at 7:00 p.m. at the 519 Community Centre. Following the AGM, there will be an all-level club dance until 10:00 p.m. with Joe Uebelacker calling. We hope to have a dessert buffet at this event so members are encouraged to make a "sweet" contribution. Thanks. Further information about the AGM is listed on the next page.

Club Dances

Below is a list of the club dances for the year that you should make note of. We have tried, where possible, to schedule the club dances outside of our regular dance nights so that our instructional times are not disrupted. The caller and venues for these events will be announced as soon as they are arranged. Tickets for the club dances will be sold in the classes at a cost of \$10 each. If you pay at the door, the cost is \$12, and the cost for non-members who wish to attend is \$20, payable at the door.

Unless otherwise indicated, the club dances usually run from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

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CLUB DANCES (CONT'D)

October

The Hallowe'en club dance will be held on Sunday, October 26. Attendees are encouraged to wear a costume and treats will be provided.

November

The club dance will follow our AGM on Thursday, November 13 at the 519 Community Centre. The caller will be Joe Uebelacker and, since this is held on one of our regularly-scheduled dance nights, there will be no charge!! Contributions accepted for the dessert buffet.

December

The Christmas club dance and Pot-Luck Dinner will be held on Sunday, December 7. The dancing will go from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., followed by the dinner. Sign-up sheets for Pot-Luck Dinner contributions will be circulated in the classes prior to this event.

January

Our "Kick off to the New Year" club dance will be held on Sunday, January 18.

February

The Valentine's club dance will be held on Sunday, February 15.

March

The St. Patrick's Day club dance will be held on Sunday, March 15.

April

The Spring club dance and Pot Luck Dinner will be held on Sunday, April 26, with dancing from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., followed by the dinner. Sign-up sheets will be available in the classes for you to list your Pot Luck Dinner contributions prior to the event.

May

There will be no club dance in May because of our Fly-in.

June

Our "Welcome to Summer" club dance will be held on Sunday, June 14.

At this time, we are still in the planning stages for club dances in July and August. These will most likely combine club dances with promotional activities to encourage new members to join our club.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

As mentioned above, the AGM will be held on Thursday, November 13 at 7:00 p.m. at the 519 Community Centre. On the agenda will be the election of members to fill positions on the Steering Committee that will be coming vacant. The positions on the Steering Committee that we will be voting on this year will be:

President

The main job of the President is to trouble shoot for the club and its members, to handle the mail, to maintain the X-tra phone message service, to set the dates and venues and to prepare the agenda and to chair the monthly Steering Committee Meetings, to offer guidance and assistance to other members of the Steering Committee in the handling of their responsibilities so that the workings of the club run smoothly, and to be an encouraging presence to others in the club so they know who to contact with issues that concern them, to help with the preparation of items for the club Newsletter, and to maintain regular contact with the person who handles e-mailing to the club membership.

It also helps if the President has some leadership ability and can work well with others.

Treasurer

The main job of the Treasurer is to handle the financial responsibilities of the club. These would include being responsible for the collection of club membership and registration fees and the issuing of related receipts, the handling of the payments to the callers, the handling of the permits and the related payments for the use of the various dance venues, attendance at the monthly Steering Committee meetings and the preparation of written financial statements when requested to do so.

The Treasurer is also responsible for issuing cheques related to club expenses, such as printing costs, postage, the purchase of dance handbooks and club badges, and the costs accrued for promotional activities and sundry club expenses. It helps if the Treasurer has some knowledge of accounting and or bookkeeping procedures and will be willing to work closely and co-operatively with the other members of the Steering Committee.

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AGM (CONT'D)

IAGSDC Representative

The main job of the IAGSDC rep is to attend the annual IAGSDC convention and to attend the rep meetings at the convention in order to take notes and report on any news gleaned from this meeting which may be pertinent, or of interest, to our club. He or she should be prepared to make a report at the AGM on the information from the annual IAGSDC meeting. Since an important responsibility of the IAGSDC rep is to transport our Triangle Squares club banner so it can be on display at the convention, it is important that the IAGSDC rep is a regular attendee at the annual IAGSDC conventions, at least during his or her two year term of office.

The IAGSDC rep should also be prepared to attend the monthly Steering Committee meetings, not only to share with us any information that may be forthcoming from the IAGSDC governing body, but also to offer assistance with decisions the Steering Committee needs to make.

If you wish to be considered for one of these positions, please let our current President, Bob Hails, know (robert.hails@sympatico.ca) so we will know if a vote will be necessary at the AGM, should one of the positions be contested by two or more candidates. Interested candidates should, at the AGM, also arrange to have another club member put their name in nomination for the position they wish to fill.

We encourage as many club members as possible to attend the AGM so that a quorum of at least one third of the voting membership can be achieved. As associate members, the Basic/Mainstream dancers are not allowed to vote at the AGM, but are encouraged to attend to gain insight into the voting procedures and operation of the club and to stay for the club dance that will follow.

REGISTRATION FEES

Once our regular classes start in late September, we will start collecting the membership and registration fees during the month of October. The fee schedule is as follows:

Basic/Mainstream dancers pay a \$15 one time membership fee for the dance year to cover our club's operating expenses. The B/M level dancers do not pay the full membership fee and are considered associate members with no voting privileges at the AGM.

They will also pay \$90 to cover the expenses of running their classes from September to the end of January. The total amount due in October from each Basic/Mainstream member is (\$15 + \$90) **\$105.**

All other instructional levels pay a full, one-time membership fee for the dance year of \$30, plus \$90 to cover the cost of their classes for a total of **\$120.** A further \$90 will be collected from every member at the end of January or early February to cover the cost of running the last term's classes until the end of May. The collection of registration fees for the dance year averages out to a cost of just under \$6 for each instructional class.

Those Triangle Square dancers who are unable to attend classes, but who wish to be kept informed of our club news, social events and class updates, can be placed on the "Members Only" list for a one-time dance year fee of \$30. These who are Members-Only may attend instructional classes for a fee of \$10 per class, and they are invited to attend club dances and other social events the club may plan.

If you are paying by cheque, please make the cheque payable to Triangle Squares. Some of you may wish to pay in cash, but in either case, make sure you get a receipt so our (and your) financial records are kept up to date. Our Treasurer, or their designate from the Steering Committee, will come to the classes in early October to collect your club fees and to issue receipts. If you are unable to get to class to pay your fees, you can mail a cheque to: Triangle Squares, 552 Church St., Box 57, Toronto, Ontario, M4Y 2E3.

If you are mailing in your payment, please enclose a note with your name printed out along with your dance level so we are sure of whom your payment should be attributed to. A receipt will either be mailed to you or given to you personally in a timely fashion.

No Matter How You Pay Your Fees, Please Be Prompt With Your Payment. It Makes It Difficult To Keep Our Financial Records Straight, as Well As To Keep Our Enrolment Lists Current When The Collection Of Fees Is Dragged Out. Thanks For Your Help With This.



UPCOMING FLY-IN'S AND EVENTS

The Great Chicago Crossfire XIX - *The Raucous Caucus*, hosted by Chi-Town Squares, August 29-September 1; Callers: Sandra Bryant, & Barry Clasper, with a host of others GCA callers. Info: www.iagsdc.org/chitownsquares/.

Make Waves for Duckling 2008, hosted by Boston Uncommons, September 12-14; Callers: Sandie Bryant, Andy Shore, & Ted Lizotte (club caller); Info: www.lcfd.org/bu/Flyin2008.html/

Load The Boat XVIII – Wreck of The Exxon Valdez, hosted by Cleveland City Country Dancers, October 10-12; Caller: Anne Uebelacker. Info: www.cccdohio.com/ltb/flyin18.html.

Peel the Pumpkin 2008: *Voulez-vous Sashay Avec Moi?*, Asbury Park, New Jersey, as hosted by Times Squares, New York City' October 24-26; Callers: Betsy Gotta, Tim Marriner, & John Marshall.

Info: www.iagsdc.org/timesquares/tsflyin.html.

For all other events associated with the **IAGSDC**, please go to www.iagsdc.org.

If you'd like to submit an article or a digital photograph for inclusion in the newsletter, please e-mail it to Don Cheff, at dcheff@oct.ca.

Reminder: Please check our telephone line for Club updates: (416) 925-XTRA, ext 2014.



Closing Ceremonies, IAGSDC Convention 2008



Rock & Rock Hall of Fame, Fun Badge Tour, Touch A Quarter Century – IAGSDC Convention 2008