



Triangle Squares

January 2011

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings Fellow Dancers,

As you know, Patrick Aubert had to (reluctantly) step down as President. We wish him well in his fabulous new job, and we say *bon voyage* to him and Don as they make their way to their new home in Vancouver. Yellowrocks, Pat and Don!

I thank the Club and Steering Committee for appointing me President, and I especially thank John Bailey for continuing as Club Treasurer and Terri Rothman for accepting the appointment to serve as Secretary. Having already worked with the committee for a year, I know that it's an effective and efficient group. Our meetings almost always end on time!

This past September, we welcomed 12 new and very enthusiastic dancers into the Basic/Mainstream class. They're progressing wonderfully well, with the support and encouragement of a slew of angels and, of course, the terrific Plus dancers.

This year, we're experimenting with having our club callers rotate through the C and A classes. The callers have been providing workshops by request, and the dancers are enjoying the opportunities to dance to their different styles of choreography and choices of music. Given the strongly positive feedback, this model seems to be a big success. Thank you, callers, for the great job you're doing!

The FunShops with recorded calls have also been very successful. Dancers have enjoyed the challenging choreography and the chance to dance to new and, often unfamiliar voices. We'll be running more FunShops in 2011, still at no charge, so check out the Events section below to find out what's coming up.

We've had outstanding turnouts at recent dances. In particular, the Christmas dance set a new record, with 64 guests. I thank Barry Clasper and Don St. Jean in helping to make the day such fun. And that was some feast. Thank you, chefs! A lot of people worked very hard this past year to make all of our events such successes. A collective pat-on-the-back is in order! See you all in 2011 for another great year of dancing!

Susan Cox

INTRODUCTORY DANCE

To kick off the New Year, we're holding a *One Night Stand* free introductory square dance on Wednesday, January 12, 2011, 7-9 p.m., at Jesse Ketchum School.

This is a great opportunity for folks to sample our favourite activity, without having to commit to classes. And who knows? Maybe they'll join us in our fall classes. So, tell your friends, tell your family, tell total strangers! And please, come out to angel and show our guests how much fun square dancing is.

IMPORTANT CLUB DATES

Dancing resumes January 5 & 6

Wednesday, January 12, 7-9 p.m. – Intro Dance

Sunday, Jan 16, 2-4:30 p.m. – Plus Funshop

Sunday, Jan 30, 2:30-4:30 p.m. - Club Dance, '519'

Sunday, February 6, 2-4:30 p.m. – Plus Funshop

Sunday, Feb 27, 2:30-4:30 p.m. - Club Dance, '519'

Sunday, March 6, 2-4:30 p.m. – Plus Funshop

Sunday, March 27, 2:30-4:30 p.m. - Club Dance, '519'

Sunday, April 3, 2-4:30 p.m. –A2 Workshop

Sunday, April 17, 2:30-4:30 p.m. - Club Dance, '519'

Guests are most welcome to join us at all events.

The Club makes available a subsidy to those who would like to attend club classes or a club function and who may be struggling financially. We encourage those who are facing financial challenges and hardships to approach a member of the Board for assistance.



SCOOT ACROSS THE BORDER 2011



The Thursday night Trail-In Dance will be at 7 p.m. at the 519, and all other events are at Jesse Ketchum. The theme is *Follow your Neighbour Through the Looking Glass*, so start planning your costume now!

Register at <http://trianglesquares.com/satb2011.aspx>.

Just in time for post-Christmas re-gifting, it's time to donate to the Fly-In Auction! The fabulous fundraising Fly-In auction will take place again this year. This is recycling at its best, and we're looking for a repeat of last year's amazingly high-quality donations. If you have new or new-looking items that you think would tempt people, please consider giving them to the auction. Household or gift items, something you received but you'll never use... just about anything goes, as long as it's clean and in good (and working!) condition. Please contact Colleen at 416-247-6854 or c.dodds@sympatico.ca to make arrangements, so that we don't have too many people bringing too many items to class at one time. Thanks!

TUXEDO T'S & CLUB SHIRTS

The club has a few Tuxedo T-Shirts available, as well as the White Club Shirts with the Maple Leaves.

Supplies are limited at the moment, and we will be ordering more as requests come! You're welcome to contact Don Cheff to order the T-Shirt and/or the White Club Shirt, at doncheff@hotmail.com.

COLOGNE & PERFUME USE

This is a gentle reminder to kindly refrain from using perfume or cologne, for the sake of those with scent sensitivities. Thank you for your ongoing cooperation.

DEMONSTRATION DANCES

If you would like to take part in the club's performance dances, please let us know with an e-mail to the club at info@trianglesquares.com.

UPCOMING IAGSDC EVENTS

AC/DC, Advance/Challenge Weekend, February 18-20, Washington DC.

<http://www.dclambdasquares.org/acdc/index.php>.

2011 Philadelphia Freedom Fly-In: Dixie Sashay to a Diamond State, March 25-27, Wilmington DE.

<http://www.iagsdc.org/indsquares/flyins.htm>.

Ropin' the River 2011- Wheelin' Dealin' & Gettin' Lucky, April 8-10, Grand Rapids MI.

<http://www.grsquares.org/squares/flyin/>

Pass the Ocean, Hon! 2011, April 29-May 1, Rehoboth Beach, Delaware.

<http://chesapeake-squares.org/>

The Toronto & District Square and Round Dance Convention, May 12-14, Brock University, St Catharines.

<http://www3.sympatico.ca/jerry.callen/td/Brock.htm>.

Trail-End Dance, May 26, 7:00 p.m., '519'

Scoot Across The Border - Follow Your Neighbour Through The Looking Glass, May 27-29, 2011; Toronto.

<http://trianglesquares.com/SATB2011.aspx>.

Gone With The Windmill, July 1-4, 28th Annual IAGSDC Convention, Atlanta GA.

<http://atlanta2011.com/>

For all events associated with the IAGSDC, please go to www.iagsdc.org. Sign-up as a member and have access to online registration and lots more!



BEGINNERS' REVIEWS

So Much Fun! Never in a million years would I ever have thought that I would put aside one night a week to learn to square dance. I guess those million years are up, because I'm loving this Toronto group of men and women who just let go and have fun, stumble, get tangled, laugh and try it again. It's so "not serious", but we're all committed to eventually getting it right. Laughing is one of the greatest releases of tension you can use. Laugh at yourself. Laugh with others. It's great brain exercise, and like walking a labyrinth, I believe it can unravel or reorganize some unbalanced energies. *David Barilla*

Nurturing the Nonplussed Non-Plus Novice

As a novice mainstream dancer this fall at Toronto Triangle Squares, it was with a mixture of eagerness and trepidation that I attended the first class. As we squared up for our first set of lessons, I was befuddled by the vernacular – Dosado? Allemande left? Promenade home? Moreover, it is hard to hide your dancing mistakes when you're hurling yourself with great enthusiasm at your corner instead of your partner, and dragging them for a promenade home to a totally different square. In short, I began the first class entirely nonplussed.

And then, an incredibly strange thing happened. I looked at the Plus dancers. And they were all smiling. Not only that, but they beamed serenity as we novices stumbled into them, twisted their arms into inhuman contortions, and manhandled body parts that weren't meant to serve as dance flourishes. Perhaps most marvelously of all, the Plus dancers' mixture of fun and generosity has continued unabated and manifests itself in a myriad of ways. The prizes! The parties! The incredibly handy follow-up emails! The compliments (Yes, these Plus people actually lie to our faces and tell us we're doing great without rolling their eyes)! And how many clubs do you know that have a president who is also the Director of Fun (Self-Appointed)? Or refer to mistakes as "personal touches"? In short, these Plus dancers, these aptly named angels, under the fabulous tutelage of our wonderful caller, have overlooked our unsightly lurches and total square breakdowns that deprive them of practice with nary a scowl or a scoff. On behalf of all novice dancers, thank you, good angels, for nurturing the nonplussed non-Plus neophytes with such non-disparaging nonchalance and noteworthy nobility. *Christine Oliver*



Susan & the "Newbies"

SCAN this image using your mobile phone to link to Triangle Squares' website.



Charlotte & Chris show off their non-disposable water bottles!

The Club takes great effort in making recycling available, with bins placed at most events and classes. Please take the time to help us recycle!

NOTE: You can submit an article or a digital photo for inclusion in the newsletter by e-mailing them to Don at doncheff@hotmail.com



Dare to be SQUARE
Toronto Triangle Squares Presents



A ONE NIGHT STAND

INTRODUCTION TO SQUARE DANCING

An opportunity to try modern square dancing for Free

**When: Wednesday, January 12, 2011,
7:00pm–9:00pm**

Where: Jesse Ketchum Public School

61 Davenport Road, @ Bay Street (north entrance)

Free parking off Berryman Street (second alley on left)

No experience or partner required

All dance levels welcome

FREE ▼ FUN ■ PRIZES ▼ REFRESHMENTS ■ FREE

www.trianglesquares.com



Dancing with Triangle Squares is open to everyone, regardless of age or sexual orientation
For more information: info@trianglesquares.com