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▲■ doesn't appear as a triangle and a square, please [email me](#) with details how you view your emails (device, browser, email provider etc).

## Upcoming

- **Feb 17:** Advanced Funshop for A and C level dancers. Free, 2 - 4:30pm. Registration required ([details](#))
- **Feb 23:** Try contra dancing, to live music! Bev, Lee, David, Nora, Stephen, Chris & Charlotte can contra; can you? Beginners welcome, no partner needed. Contra dancing is a walking step, no fancy footwork, each pair of couples performs sequence of moves similar to square dancing. You and your clean, soft-soled shoes should come to St. Barnabas Church Hall, SE corner of Hampton & Danforth, near Chester subway station. Beginners must attend 30 min intro class at 7pm; dance is 7:30 - 10:30pm, \$12 pp ([details](#)). **Warning:** contra dancing involves considerable swinging.
- **▲■ Club dances @ 519 every month!** Come out, get some dance practice with a different caller and socialize with club members from other classes. \$5 pp.



**Feb 10:** great turnout at our ♥ Dance, we had 4 squares! Thanks to Ajax and Oshawa dancers who joined us. Photo courtesy of Byron ([more pics](#)).

**March 17:** St. Patrick's Day ♀, caller [Tim Crawford](#)

**April 21:** caller [Don St. Jean](#) (more details about this event in next month's newsletter)

- **April 20:** [Spring Spree](#) (Peterborough)
- **May 23-26,** Toronto fly-in: Fly-In can now accept payment via **Interac** e-mail money transfer. The registration fee for regular dancers goes up on March 1st, so please take advantage of this convenience to register today. Pay only \$85 for a full weekend of great dancing, tempting food, and endless fun. Mainstream dancers pay \$75, no matter when you register. Contact [Terri](#) for more info or see the [fly-in website](#). Convince your friends to come, too! Congratulations to Guy Brassard of Ottawa on winning the early registration prize on December 2. **Weave the Ring in 2013 !**
- **May 31-June 2:** Joe Uebelacker's [caller school](#) (Peterborough): emphasis on how to call, learning the mechanics of choreography – set ups and get-outs, lots of mic time and helpful critiques, how to practice to get better and more.
- **July 4-7:** Weave Your Heart in [San Francisco](#) (IAGSDC's annual convention)
- want more dance events? Check out Toronto & District [event list](#) as well as IAGSDC [event list](#).



## Club Archives

I'm looking for an electronic or hard copy version of the Newsletter from November 2011, to add to my archive files, and to post on the web site's newsletter listings. You're welcome to send an e-copy to me directly, or if you have a hard copy, I can either pick it up from you at your class, or you can [e-mail](#) it to me. Thank you for your help with this, Don Cheff

## All Join Hands Canada

All Join Hands Canada Society Foundation (AJH Canada), formed at the beginning of 2012, is a Canadian charity which gives financial support to groups and individuals, to assist in promoting and developing square dancing, in the LGBTQ and other communities within Canada. For example: partially defraying cost of a caller for an intro dance, subsidizing attendance at caller school held at IAGSDC conventions. Donations of any amount are welcome and are tax-deductible. Official receipts will be issued. Donations can be made [online](#); in person to Pam Clasper or Chris Homer; or mailed to 165 Kingslake Road, Toronto ON, M2J3G4 The U.S. counterpart is the [All Join Hands Foundation](#), formed in 2002. And if you have ideas for promoting LGBTQ square dancing in Canada, contact [AJH Canada](#) with your suggestion. (Thanks to Pam Clasper for her input.)

## Yellow binder

Traditionally, dance clubs have mailed out flyers / entry forms, to advertise their events. When we receive these event flyers by mail, copies are filed in a **yellow** binder, which is available to ▲■ members at Wed and Thursday classes, on the snack table. Bi-monthly, IAGSDC distributes flyers for member clubs - in both PDF and printed formats.

Here is a link to [PDFs for these LGBTQ events](#): Washington AC DC (Feb 15-17), Gay Caller School: San Francisco (July 1-3), San Diego (Sept 13-15), Palm Springs (Oct 18-20), Washington all-levels (Nov 8-10).

This month's contest: be the 3rd person who [emails me](#) and correctly states the **colour** of our "events binder" (NB. 1 entry per person).

## Singing Calls

One feature of a [singing call](#) is that every 64 beats, *each "lady" moves to the next "gent" to her right*. But I think a bonus is that the caller may make you smile with their obscure, sometimes hilarious lyrics. Don St. Jean taught the basic/mainstream class last year and I loved his song about roadkill: [Five Pounds of Possum](#) (check out the [chorus](#)). For those wanting to delve further into that subgenre, here's an [entire CD](#) of possum songs. For this year's Plus class and for our 2012 holiday party, Joe Uebelacker sang "I Want a Hippopotamus for Christmas" ([lyrics](#) and [original recording](#)). [Gayla Peevey](#) was a "one-hit" wonder; she recorded that novelty song in 1953, when she was 10 years old.

Got a singing call that made you smile? Please [share](#). (In the meantime, enjoy this recorded call version of Adele's 2010 [Rolling in the Deep](#).)

## Pimp Your Ride

For those club members who have a [car](#): does anyone have one of these? It's a [fundraiser](#) for [Ontario Square and Round Dance Federation](#), as cheap as \$54. Even if you don't have a car, sample plates can be [purchased](#) as decorative items and for plate collectors.



## Recipe: How to make Triangle Tarts

Jeremy Vincent, Don St. Jean and Don Cheff have all been dancing with ▲■ since our club started in Sept 1987. [Drag](#) appeared within a few months: Don St. Jean (Mary Christmas) and Jeremy (Santa Claus) dressed up for the club's first Xmas party. When Jeremy and Don Cheff went to the 1990 IAGSDC Convention in Vancouver, they wanted to join in the fun of the [Honky Tonk Queen](#) contest. So they cavorted in complementary polka dots shirts (in blue, black), crinolines and hair bows, and earned an "Honourable Mention". Steve Sterritt (Crystal Chandelier) was 1st runner up for Honky Tonk Queen in 2000. Jeremy and Don were spotted again - polka dot shirts (in green, red) - in Miami, at the 1991 Convention. Drag is a part of gay culture. Since "date square" is a common dance pun, they decided to call themselves "jam [tarts](#)", soon shortened to Triangle Tarts. Founding Tarts, circa 1989: Jeremy Vincent (Final Net [Funicello](#)), Don Cheff (I Wanna Donis), Steve Sherritt (Cristyl Chandelier) and Rick M (Hope Leslie Romantic).

For the first few years, the Tarts simply paraded into the centre of the room at every ▲■ club dance, interrupting the tip and generally causing chaos. It's a challenge to dance well in hideous, over the top drag: big wigs, glasses, hairclips, and hastily assembled costumes that sometimes unravelled equally quickly, in mid-dance. At the club's 10th anniversary dance in 1997, the Tarts entered the room as fashion queens, wearing a banner for each year: Miss 1987, Miss 1988, etc.

Like Janet Jackson, the Tarts too have experienced [wardrobe malfunctions](#). When Brian Croker (Eileen Dover)'s wig partially dislodged and got tangled on the back of her costume, it was initially mistaken for her hairy back. Tarts frequently switch sex while dancing; a few of them once performed on [roller skates](#) (which makes for a really fast promenade). Jeremy's Tart identity is now FLO, who was spotted last month on ice skates, at Ryerson's new rink. The Tarts often coordinate their wardrobe to reflect a theme (eg. see Aug [2011 newsletter](#), page 3), for their appearance at Toronto's Fly-in or in the Pride Parade: eg. polka dots, or silver (for last year's 25th anniversary). Never heckle a drag queen; they have really sharp tongues. Similarly, the Tarts are sharp dancers as well as wicked fashionistas.

The newest Tart is Paul (Vesta Bule). She was the only entrant (wearing zombie drag) in the 2012 Honky Tonk Queen contest - couldn't lose! If you have fashion sense and can dance Plus; you too can be a Tart (no audition, no casting couch). Being a Tart is fun for both performers and the audience. Doubtless the Tarts will appear at ▲■'s 2013 fly-in; be there to experience!



The **current** plate of Tarts: Brian Croker (Eileen Dover), Brian W (Liz Tureen), Don Cheff (previously I. Juana Donis, now Donna-Marie), Jeremy Vincent (previously Finalnet Funicello now known as FLO), Nancy D (Deb Archery), Paul K (Vesta Bule), Peter D (Patty O'Furniture), Steve M (Tiara del Fuego) and Steve Sterritt (Crystal Chandelier). **Former Tarts** include Alan D (Strawberry Dickerie), Costa R (Tesse Tosterone), David W (Tart name?), Dierdre T (Ginger Snapped), Don St. Jean (Mary Christmas, Sheila Buzyu and Mary Kay Y), Keltie J (Ophelia McCracken), Kevin K (Scarlet Mascara), Richard S (Heidi Sausage), Rick M (Hope Leslie Romantic), Steve V (Rhea Cycle), Terry T (Carmina Putana) and Warren E (Mona Lil Louder)

(Thanks to Terri for voicing her curiosity about drag, and to Jeremy for these memories. When not dressed as FLO, he may appear as the Kiwi (from [Fruit Cocktail](#)), or as Sister Penny Tration: Jeremy is working to resurrect the [Toronto](#) order of the [Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence](#).) We don't yet have an dedicated album giving a complete photo and video record of the [Tarts through history](#), but that might happen sometime.

## Next issue

Deadline for contributions to this newsletter is 10th of each month. This newsletter is emailed monthly to all current ▲■ members. Hope you enjoy reading it. Links are all current at the time of newsletter publication. Previous issues (with all of the fun links) are on our website:

[Jan 2013](#) | [prior years](#)

Dare to be Square!

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