

Triangle Squares

Toronto's LGBTQ Square Dance Club

SEPTEMBER 2014

**DO YOU HAVE
A RECIPE TO
SHARE WITH
THE CLUB?**

IS IT YUMMY?

**IS IT A TESTED
RECIPE?**

**SEND IT TO US
AND WE MAY
INCLUDE IT IN
A FUTURE
NEWSLETTER.**

**INCLUDE A
PHOTO OR
TWO!**

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DEMO TEAM

Are you interested in joining the Triangle Squares Demo Team?

Triangle Squares would like to have a demo team ready to perform throughout the year, and would like to set up a group of prepared dancers to draw from.

We have choreography (written by Joe Uebelacker) that can be performed to two songs:

- YMCA
- Somewhere Over The Rainbow

We will provide you with opportunities throughout the year to practice and provide you with the choreography so that you become familiar with it.

The only requirements to join the team are:

- You must have completed the Basic/Mainstream Level
- You must attend a minimum number of practices
- You must have black pants/skirt and a club shirt/white shirt
- You must be enthusiastic and ready to have FUN!!!!

Let us know if you want to join the team! Contact us at publicity@trianglesquares.com

SAVE THE DATE! (more details to come)

OCTOBER 30, 2014

— HALLOWEEN DANCE @ 519 (7 TO 9 PM)

NOVEMBER 27, 2014

— ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING @ 519 (7 TO 9 PM)

DECEMBER 7, 2014

— ANNUAL HOLIDAY DANCE AND POTLUCK @ 519 (3 TO 8 PM)

All Join Hands is a registered charity that subsidizes first-time convention attendees AND new callers!



All Join Hands Canada has been issued a challenge!

If they can raise \$1,000 between now and the end of the year, a silent benefactor will match it.

You may send cheques to:
All Join Hands Canada,
165 Kingslake Rd, Toronto ON M2J 3G4

Caramel filled chocolate cookies

INGREDIENTS

- 1¼ cup all-purpose flour
 - ¼ cup + 2 tbsp unsweetened cocoa powder
 - ½ tsp baking soda
 - ¼ tsp salt
 - ½ cup (1 stick) unsalted butter, at room temperature
 - ¾ cup sugar, divided
 - ½ cup brown sugar
 - 1 large egg, at room temperature
 - 1 tsp vanilla
- 24 Rolos, unwrapped

1. Preheat the oven to 375 degrees F. Line two large baking sheets with parchment paper and set aside.
2. In a large bowl, whisk together the flour, cocoa powder, baking soda and salt. Set aside.
3. Using a stand mixer fitted the paddle attachment, beat the butter, brown sugar and ½ cup granulated sugar until light and creamy, about 3-4 minutes. Add the egg and vanilla. Continue to beat until combined. With the mixer on low speed, slowly add the dry ingredients to the wet ingredients. Mix until just combined.
4. With a small cookie scoop, scoop one ball of dough and place on top of a Rolo. Take another scoop of the dough and place on bottom of the Rolo. Seal the edges together and roll in a small bowl filled with ¼ cup sugar. Place cookie dough onto prepared baking sheets.

Bake for 9-11 minutes or until edges are set. Allow to cool for a few minutes on baking sheet before transferring to a wire rack to cool completely.



Paul Kivisto has made these cookies. He found the recipe on: spoonfulofflour.com
The 24 cookies were eaten within 12 hours.
A BIG hit!

Square dance etiquette: tip # 1

Be respectful of others! **Introduce yourself** to those you don't know in your square and **thank your square** after the tip. **Wear your name tag.** It makes it easier and less embarrassing for those of us who can barely remember our own names.



Get to know a caller: Andy Chong

1. Chocolate or vanilla? CHOCOLATE.

2. Star Wars or Star Trek?

STAR TREK TNG SEASONS 3-5.

3. Washing dishes or doing laundry?

NEITHER, JUST NECESSARY.

4. Sunrise or sunset? I LIKE FIDDLER ON THE ROOF.*

5. Pen or pencil? DARK PENCIL, ESPECIALLY FOR SUDOKUS AND KENKENS.

6. Saver or spender? HAVE BEEN SPENDING MY SPARE MONEY BUYING ETFs.



* Editor's note: I had to check Google on this answer; "Sunrise, sunset" is a song title in the musical.

Square dance etiquette: tip # 2

Listen to the caller! Refrain from talking when the caller is speaking or calling. All dancers may need the information offered. Once the dancing is underway, please limit your talking. Do not talk while announcements are being made. Give the speaker the same consideration you would want if you were speaking. **Be considerate.** Square dancing is a social event but be mindful not to be a disturbance to those dancing.



IAGSDC Event Calendar

You can access the full calendar [HERE](#).

Oct 3—5 Chase the Chile; Albuquerque, NM

Oct 10—12 The Great Chicago Crossfire 2014 "Step & Slide Down The Aisle"; Chicago, IL

Oct 17-19 Peel Off in Palm Springs; Palm Springs, CA (Peel-Off is a gay square dance event for those who like to dance naked. Strictly speaking, Peel-Off is a "clothing optional" event.)

Oct 23-26 Peel the Pumpkin 2014 "Cast A Royal Shadow" (30TH Anniversary); Iselin, NJ

Fun videos to promote square dancing!

Check out the FUN videos that Susan has created!

They are on YouTube [HERE](#) and [HERE](#) and [HERE](#).



In August the club hosted a potluck at Ashbridges Bay Park. It was a breezy summer day and Cherry Beach was **PACKED**. Thanks to those who attended and brought yummy food to share! (Lesson for next time: take transit, parking was a nightmare)

L to R: Paul, Warren, Don, and Pierre soaking up some sun

Joe's A1 teach: Peterborough

A1 "ALL-DAY TEACH", Saturday October 25 and November 22, 2014

\$30/person per day

Joe Uebelacker will be calling. This is an opportunity to learn all the A1 calls and dance them. There will be follow-up A1 dances.

Pre-registration and payment by cheque is required.

For a registration form, or for more info, email Joe at cchsoap@yahoo.ca

Schedule:

10—12:30

1:30—4:30

6:30—9

St. Anne's Parish Centre

859 Barnardo Ave

Peterborough, ON K9H 5W2

This event is sponsored by Lift Lock Squares.

Contact Us

Do you have something to share with the club?

If you want to write an article for the newsletter, advertise your community event, share a recipe, or have an idea on how to promote square dancing and our club, please contact us at:

[Newsletter](#)

Editors:

Steve McKeown

Paul Kivisto



Hearing-assist system now available By Susan Cox

The club now owns a hearing-assist system, along with two receivers. For those who have never seen or used these systems, here's how they work.

The low-frequency FM transmitter is attached to the caller's sound equipment and is set to broadcast at a specific frequency. Receivers are set to match that frequency. What is being broadcast is only the caller's voice. The result is that you'll always hear the caller clearly, via your earpiece, but you'll still be able to enjoy the ambient music. In noisy halls, the extra bit of clarity is a distinct advantage. And even if you're at the very back of a huge hall, you'll never miss what the caller is saying.

Dancers can use the receiver in one of two ways. They can attach their own earphones or earbuds (this is just a matter of personal preference), or, if they use hearing aids, they can purchase an induction loop and attach that to the receiver. Experience has shown that for most people who aren't using hearing aids, it's best to have an earpiece in only one ear, so that it's still possible to hear what's going on nearby and in the square. Receivers are usually carried in a pouch (on a belt), or, if they're small enough, they can be stored in a pocket.

Transmitters are frequently used at conventions and fly-ins (although not always). Each transmitter is set to a unique frequency. When you arrive in a hall, you check the caller's table for info on the frequency being used, and then set your receiver to that number. This takes only a few moments.

Our club's equipment can be set up where needed. The transmitter is small, lightweight, and extremely easy to transport and set up.

The receivers are testers, intended for try-outs, so that dancers can find out what it's like to use a hearing-assist system. If you try it and like it, you will need to purchase your own receiver.

To purchase, you have two options. You can buy the special receiver, or you might prefer to go for a portable radio that can receive low-frequency FM signals. Regular radios do not receive low-frequency FM signals, unfortunately, so you'll have to buy one that does. These radios are available on Amazon for around \$50. They're cheaper than the receivers, which usually cost around \$80 to \$100, so you'll save some money, but the radios are bulkier and heavier, and you'll need a pouch to hold one on your belt. They definitely do not feel comfortable when they're kept in a pocket! The main advantage of the receivers is their very small size, which is about the same as that of a cellphone.

I have tested receivers and radios at several events now, including our fly-in. Even though I have no hearing impairment, I really enjoy using a receiver, particularly when I'm in a big (and noisy) hall. I never have to strain to hear the caller, and I never miss a call. In fact, there have been a few occasions when I was the **ONLY** dancer in my square who knew what the caller had said! Having that extra bit of clarity is nice, because it allows me to relax and concentrate on the dancing.

If you would like to test out the system, get in touch with Susan and we'll make arrangements to have it brought to your class. And if you would like to have a system set up weekly in your class, please get in touch with Peter.

MAPLE LEAFS REGROUP



T O R O N T O 2 0 1 6

Features of the Month: Registration Rates and Swing Me in St. Louis

So far, **351** people have registered for our **Maple Leafs Regroup** convention, taking place **July 1-4, 2016**—an excellent number for this stage in the preparations. The Registration rate still stands at \$210, but will jump to \$250 after May 31st of next year. The Non-Dancer rate is \$130, no matter when you register.

By the way, all these registration rates are in US dollars. We operate our convention under the auspices of the IAGSDC, which is an American organization. Therefore the fees, even when the annual convention is held in Canada, have to be in US dollars.

We had a great contingent of dancers from Toronto in Salt Lake City for the **Squeeze the Hive** convention. It would be even more splendid to have a larger group in St. Louis in 2015 for the **Swing Me in St. Louis** convention, **May 22-25, 2015**, which is considerably closer to Toronto than is Salt Lake City. Bing Maps lists the driving distance as 1,213 km, with an estimated driving time of 11.5 hours (if you don't take any bathroom breaks!). The Registration rate for the St. Louis convention stands at \$205, but goes up to \$240 on January 1, 2015. Their Non-

Dancer rate is \$125. The lineup of callers has many familiar names, some of whom will be calling at our convention—Anne Uebelacker, Sandra Bryant, Barry Clasper, Dayle Hodge, and Mike Kellogg will all be there—along with others you might not have danced to yet. Triangle Squares will be making its final presentation at this convention. We'll also be staffing a registration desk and selling 50/50 tickets and our special T-shirts. Your help would be appreciated for any of these activities; it's a great way to meet people and encourage them to come to Toronto in 2016. Help **Maple Leafs Regroup** have a strong presence at this upcoming convention by planning to be in St. Louis, too.

The special Volunteer rate of \$160 is available only until May 31, 2015. So sign up now to help in some non-arduous way with the many tasks that make up a successful convention. Each of us has some skill that can be utilized for this effort. Speak to one of the Convention Committee members (Michiel Bagchus, John Bailey, Lee Godfrey, Chris Homer) and tell us how you'd like to help. Or write to info@toronto2016.com for more info.