



Triangle Squares Newsletter

Spring 2016



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By Royal Proclamation

**At The Fairmont Royal York Hotel
July 1 of the year 2016
in our good Queen Elizabeth's Reign
An Introduction to Square Dance**

to which you are invited to attend.

Hosted by the Triangle Squares of Toronto

Don St. Jean shall be the Caller

In the Ballroom, 7:00-9:00 pm.

**Neither prior dance experience,
nor RSVP will be required.**

No fee shall be charged.



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SAY IT AIN'T SO JOE

We're sad to announce that **Joe Uebelacker**, our long-time caller, and one of the club founders, will be retiring from his calling duties at Triangle Squares. We'll see him at the Convention, and have him back for club dances, but he will truly be missed. We thank him for his 30 years of dedication and organizing talents to the club, and wish him well in his continued activities in Peterborough, including calling for the Lift Lock Squares.

When we've had a chance to digest the news more fully, we'll make plans to give him a proper send-off and thank him next year. Stay tuned for more details.



A big **Thank You** to everyone who volunteered as angels in the Basic/Mainstream class this term. Both Joe and Colleen report that the sign-up sheet was a success. We kept two squares dancing the entire term, which livened up the class considerably. The new dancers were always curious to see who would come through the door next. We plan to use this next year, too.

NEW DANCERS & SEASON END DANCE

Our final dance of the year was well attended by about 50 dancers. We brought together club callers **Joe Uebelacker** and **Osamu Miyabe**, both of whom will be staff callers at the Maple Leafs Regroup Convention. This gave them a chance to try out new material, and to prep dancers for full-speed dancing.

We also took the opportunity of welcoming our newest dancers into the fold, giving them a light-hearted indoctrination dancing with an elastic band around them. We also handed out certificates. We congratulate them for their patience and perseverance, hope to see them at some of our dance events this summer, and would love to see them come back in September. Square dance is a journey, the best is yet to come.



CONVENTION HAPPENINGS

WOMEN'S HOSPITALITY SUITE

CALLING ALL MEMBERS!

As Convention is almost upon us, the Women's Hospitality Room is asking for member support. Traditionally the host club has a Women's Room set aside, as women are heavily outnumbered gender-wise at Convention. This is just a side room away from the hectic pace, where women dancers or visitors can sit down, relax, and possibly have a snack. It also provides a place to securely leave a backpack, etc., as the room is locked when not staffed by volunteers. We invite all Triangle Square members to help us welcome our women dancers by bringing us some snacks to share. Please drop off snacks at the **Quebec Room** on the Mezzanine level anytime we're open, or give to Holly Price or Colleen Dodds. We thank you!

SNACKS for WHR

The ideal presentation would be to have all snacks in single-serve baggies to be enjoyed on-site or take-out, if preferred. Filled baggies can be kept in either a cooler or the fridge.

SIGN UP FOR VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES

As the Convention draws near, the to-do list is becoming longer. The Committee is looking for volunteers, particularly for the following tasks: flooring set-up (Friday morning) and take-down (Monday evening), and staffing the Registration desk. To have your name added to the volunteer list, contact the volunteer coordinator, [Drew Post](#).

We'll also be looking for dancers to help with the [GCA Caller School](#), running Tuesday-Thursday prior to the Convention. Contact [Drew](#) for that, too.

Baked or Bought: Please label anything containing nuts!

Finger food: is preferred. i.e.; Iced cakes would require forks, plates, etc., which we won't have.

Fruit: Single-serve, as in bananas, tangerines, apples, peaches or plums, etc.

Veggies: Raw carrot or celery sticks, cut up zucchini, grape tomatoes, etc.

Trail Mix: Nuts, dried fruit, raisins, etc.

Chocolate Bars: Any kind wrapped

We'll even supply the baggies if you cannot!

HOURS:

Friday: 6 - 8pm

Saturday: 11.30 – 1pm; 2 - 5pm & 7 - 9pm

Sunday: 9am - noon; 2 - 5pm

Monday: 2 - 4pm

Please contact [Colleen](#) for more info.

DON'T FORGET TO SELECT YOUR MEALS

The Fairmont Royal York is renowned for its food. But you have to select your meal preferences and make sure they know of any special dietary requirements.

Please login to your **IAGSDC Profile** to make your **meal selections** for the banquet. From the **Events** drop-down menu, choose **My Event Registrations**. Click on **Meals** to make your selection from one of these: **Fish, Vegan, or Pork**.

CONVENTION HAPPENINGS (CONT.)

DID WE FORGET ABOUT PRIDE?

What? Psssh. Of course not.

When we started to plan the convention, the Pride Parade was scheduled for the last weekend of June. Our tag line was to be, '*Come for Pride, Stay for the Convention.*' But in their wisdom (discuss), they expanded events to Pride Month, and moved the date of the Parade, infringing on our weekend.

With an event that huge, there's no fighting it. Especially as Americans love a parade, and many are coming from towns that don't have Pride celebrations anywhere near this scale. So, we're on board for the big party.

On Friday, July 1st, the Convention has given Triangle Squares use of the Ballroom floor for an [Introduction to Square Dance](#), which is listed as a Pride Toronto 2016 [affiliated event](#). **Don St. Jean** will be the caller. Drop in and help us promote our club to the wider Toronto community. The fun runs from 7:00-9:00 pm.

Also, following the Fun Badge Tour on Sunday, July 3rd, **Crystal Chandelier** will head for the Parade marshalling point to lead a contingent of conventioners (and club members), who will carry our club banner, so it can be seen by all, and broadcast on TV. You too are invited to march with us. Sensible footwear, water, hats, outrageous clothing, hooting, and hollering is encouraged.

Contact [Crystal](#), who will tell you the marshalling point and time once it is assigned. The Convention won't schedule any specialty tips opposite Sunday's parade.

IN THE FRAME: THE PARADE

It's big. Crazy big. If you work at it, a Facebook post might get 200 views. In your dreams it's 2000. Suddenly, there they are, a million people staring at you, hootin' and hollerin', taking pictures. You're the star. There are TV cameras! As publicity goes, there's no other way we can get nearly the same exposure as marching in the Pride Parade.



Toronto's parades trace their lineage directly back to the Stonewall Riots of New York in 1969. Following a police raid on a gay club in Greenwich Village, spontaneous protests broke out, which in subsequent years sparked the modern Gay Rights movement, and became New York's Gay Pride Parade. Sympathetic parades followed suit in major U.S. cities.

Toronto's parade began as informal protests against gay-bashing in the Yonge Wellesley neighbourhood on Saturday nights, and gained political traction in the 1980s following the 1981 Bathhouse Raids. It began on Church Street, but continued to grow until it was moved to its present route on Bloor and Yonge, anchoring Pride Week. For reasons not fully clear, the parade has also morphed into three separate

parades, including the Dyke March and Trans March.

Triangle Squares has long participated in the main parade on Sunday, forming a recognizable group, thanks in large part to the colorful marching banner and flamboyant costumes of the Triangle Tarts. The marshalling can be a slow and tedious process, especially so during World Pride in 2015. But once things get moving, the energy picks up, and the charge of marching in front of so many people can be electric.



Over the years, the parade has continued to be a source of controversy, as the bacchanal atmosphere challenges the more conservative establishment of *Toronto the Good*. Since the 1990s, when crowds began to approach one million, politicians have jumped on the bandwagon. David Miller was the first sitting mayor to participate, and Rob Ford was notorious for his refusals. Kathleen Wynne, a member of Toronto's LGBT Community, took part long before becoming Premier, and continues to participate. NDP leaders, as well as Liberal leader, **Justin Trudeau**, have been regular attendees. Trudeau is a huge Tart fan, and will make history this year as the first Prime Minister to march in the parade.



Crystal Chandelier will lead this year's contingent, which is expected to include delegates of the Convention. Toronto's Pride Parade is so well-known, and Americans love a parade, so the fit is a natural. If you want to participate, contact [Crystal](#), and she will give you the details of where and when our marshalling time will be. This year marks the 35th anniversary of the Bathhouse Raids, and [Pride Month](#) will include special commemorations.



Volunteer opportunities for Pride 2016 are now open!
Volunteer for Pride Month's closing weekend, July 1-3.
Visit pridetoronto.com/volunteer for all the details.

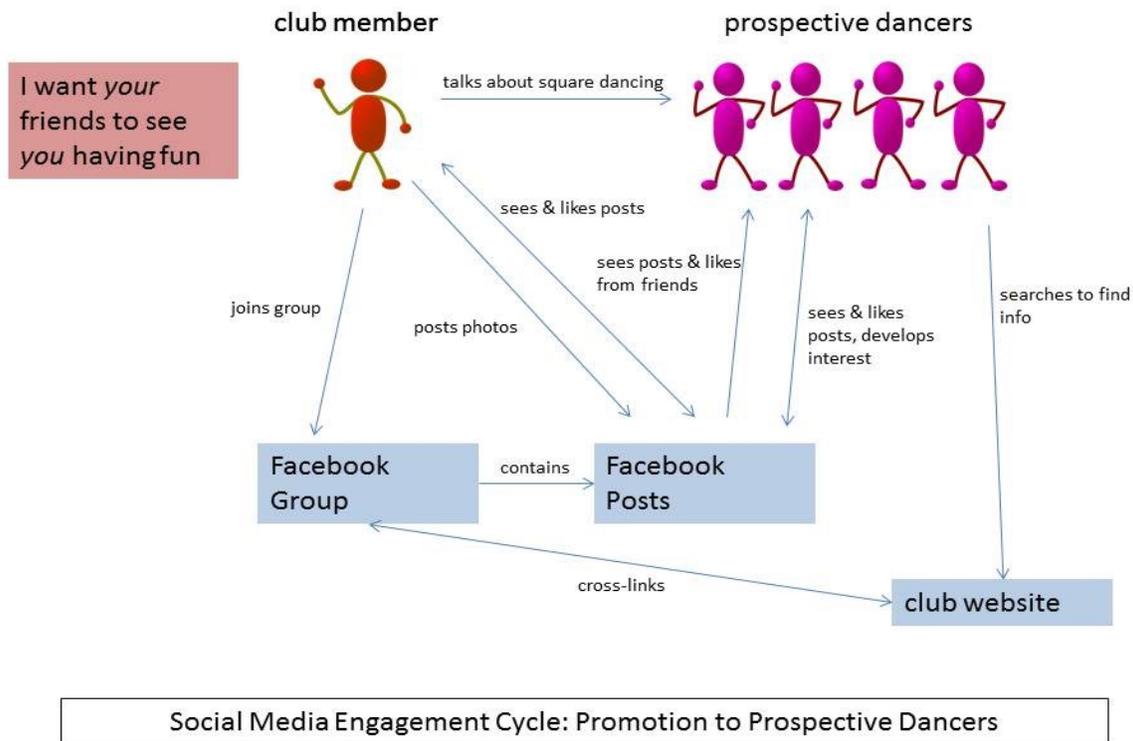
GUERRILLA MARKETING: THE ROLE OF OUR SOCIAL MEDIA FEEDS

We have a very small budget for promotion, so you can imagine that free options, particularly social media, figure large in our annual plans. However, a social media feed on its own has a very limited reach. Posts to our group may typically be seen by 20-40 followers. The reach is extended considerably when members engage with posts, by liking them, or recommending events to their friends. The reach can go into the hundreds. Occasionally, partners such as

The 519 and Pride Week can also extend our reach immensely.

Waiting until September, and then approaching friends directly helps, but we need to set the groundwork in advance by posting pictures of ourselves having fun. Odd as it may sound, we're not selling square dancing, we're selling you.

Email me anytime: publicity@trianglesquares.com



MAPLE LEAFS REGROUP



The next IAGSDC Convention will be held at The Fairmont Royal York Hotel. If you've never been to a convention, and dance Mainstream or higher, you are eligible for the First-Time-Attendee rate of \$180 US, thanks to the generous support of [All Join Hands](#). [Contact us](#) for more information.



Triangle Squares presents

Summer Dance Party

*Thursday evenings
August 11 & 25*

*The 519 Community Centre
Church and Wellesley*

*7:00-9:00 pm
\$10.00*

No dance experience required

Caller: Susan Cox

*featuring the live music of
Sidewinder Stringband*

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TRIANGLE SQUARES FLY-IN

RAINBOW

IS THE NEW BLACK

Toronto Triangle Squares Fly-In

May 26-28, 2017

Callers Barry Clasper

& Todd Fellego

Mainstream thru C1

Location to be announced



trianglesquares.com/flyin

UPCOMING EVENTS

- July 1-4, 2016 at the Fairmont Royal York Hotel:

MAPLE LEAFS REGROUP



T O R O N T O 2 0 1 6

Watch for separately priced, open events

Fri July 1, 9:30-11:30 am Graduation Dance for GCA
Caller School, Free

Fri July 1, 7:00-10:00, Trail-in Dance,
Callers: Joe & Anne Uebelacker, Free

Fri July 1, 7:00-9:00, Intro to Square Dance,
Caller: Don St. Jean, Free

Sat July 2, 8:00-10:30 Contra Dance
with live music, featuring Anne Lederman, \$10.00

- **Triangle Summer Dance Parties**

Thu August 11 & 25, 7:00-9:00 pm

Caller: Susan Cox,

featuring Sidewinder Stringband

The 519, [details](#)

- **Triangle Squares Fly-In**

May 26-28, 2017

Rainbow is the New Black

Callers: Barry Clasper & Todd Fellegly [details](#)

Click [here](#) for upcoming IAGSDC Events,
and [here](#) for T&D dances.

Contact Us

If you want to write
an article for the newsletter, please
feel free to contact us:

[Newsletter Editors](#)

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Photos provided by

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Stay tuned to the scene

