

EOSARDA Board Meeting

Sunday, 17 March 2019
1:30 - 4:30 pm
Pretty Street Community Centre
2 Pretty Street, Stittsville, Ontario

Possible ATTENDEES:

Gavin Currie	Ann Davelaar	Barb Englehart
Gerry Johnson	George Newton	Bob Pitruniak
Arlo Speer	June Tripp	Wendy VanderMeulen
	Dave Western	

ABSENTEES:

Bob Summers

1. Call to Order

- 1.1. Approval of agenda – Dave Western
- 1.2. Opening Remarks Appendix A – Dave Western

2. Previous Minutes

- 2.1. **MOTION:** VanderMeulen/Tripp: ~ that the minutes be accepted as circulated. **CARRIED**

3. Reports

- 3.1. Operations Committee
- 3.2. General – Dave Western
 - Treasurer's Report Appendix B - Bob Pitruniak
- 3.3. Dance Committee
 - *Swing into Spring* Appendix C - Arlo Speer
- 3.4. Publicity & Promotion Committee Appendix D - George Newton
- 3.5. Ottawa Area Callers' Association Appendix E - Wendy VanderMeulen
 - A number of callers are putting on summer workshops; help is requested to advertise and promote these events.
 - The size of the Callers' association is reducing both in the number of callers attending meetings and in the number of callers in the area is reducing. There used to be approximately 20 area callers; we now have approximately 13 active callers. The association is exploring alternate approaches to its operation.

- 3.6. **MOTION:** Ann Davelaar/Gavin Currie: ~ That the reports be accepted **CARRIED**

4. Business Arising from the Minutes

- 4.1. Regulatory compliance (Item 3.1, 2 from 18 November 2018) -Bob Pitruniak
 - Awaiting response from CRA.
- 4.2. Clubs with no Registered Dancers (Item 3.2 18 November 2018) - Dave Western
Appendix E

- 4.3. Potential co-sponsored dances (Item 4.4 from 18 November 2018) - Dave Western
- Earlier, Gloria Bateman of the Swinging Swallows advised that prior to our March Board meeting, the club would present the Board with a business case to support its application for holding a co-sponsored dance in Pembroke this autumn.
 - The initially proposed dates were 16 October 2019. Dave Western indicated that he would not be available to attend the dance on that date.
 - No such business case has been received to date.
- 4.4. Trillium Awards - Dave Western
- Motions were passed to support applications for Long-Service Awards.
 - One application has been forwarded to the Ontario Square and Round Dance Federation and we are working with the nominators to finalise the other.
- 4.5. New Dancer Celebrations – Club Visits - Ann Davelaar
- Only 10 clubs have responded to our requests regarding New Dancer Celebrations
 - Following are dates, number of new dancers and EOSARDA representative for each of our clubs:
 - April 12 Stonebridge 11 new dancers – Gerry Johnson
Bay Waves 5 new dancers – June Tripp & Barb Englehart
Swingin’ Bs 6 new dancers – Wendy VanderMeulen
 - April 15 Grenville Gremlins – 7 new dancers – Gerry Johnson
 - April 16 Mississippi Squares – 7 new dancers – George Newton
 - April 17 Harbour Lites – 3 new dancers – Bob Pitruniak
 - April 25 Swinging Swallows -- 10 new dancers – June Tripp & Barb Englehart
 - April 30 Meri Squares – 12 new dancers – Bob Pitruniak
 -
 - May 31 Napanee Pioneers – 5 new dancers – presenter to be determined
 - Date Squares -- no response as yet
 - Limestones Dancers -- no response as yet
 - Quinte Twirlers -- no response as yet
 -
 - Glengarry Tartans -- requested material be mailed
Bob Pitruniak will talk to Carole Lauzon to see if they would accept an EOSARDA representative
 - Kanata Squares -- requested material be mailed
At the meeting, George Newton agreed to talk to Dave Currie to see if they would accept an EOSARDA representative.
Subsequent to the meeting, George reported that Dave Currie quite happy to have George attend the club’s new dancer celebration night.
- 4.6. Participation at Glengarry Highland Games - George Newton

- Time has run out for the 2019 event – with only one meeting left for this dance year (and the need to prepare for the Council of Dancers meeting), the Board is not able to complete the work necessary to participate this year.
- George will follow up with Carole Lauzon
- We will persue participation for the 2020 events.

5. New Business

5.1. 2019/2020 Budget - Bob Pitruniak

Bob needs estimates from each Board member about expenses in the Board members' areas of responsibility. Without input from board members, Bob will base the budget proposal on the past year's expenses and revenues.

We should plan on holding Frosty Fling again and include the \$500 for the Highland games.

The budget will need to be approved by the Board in advance of the Council of Dancers meeting.

5.2. Items for April Council of Dancers' Meeting - Dave Western

- How can we get dancers to attend the Council of Dancers & Board meetings?
- How can we get dancers to be prepared to join the Board of Directors?
 - Is remote access to meetings possible?
 - Can meeting location vary to share travel obligations?
 - Emphasise the strong possibility that without participation, EOSARDA may no longer exist. Without EOSARDA, there would be no:
 - SquareTime
 - EoDance.ca website
 - Subsidies to clubs, callers, cuers, leaders
 - New dancer recruitment subsidies
 - Dancer registration with Canadian Square and Round Dance Society
 - Reduced rental for some halls (through EOSARDA's non-profit status)
 - Recognition programme for new dancers
- Dave will draft posters for the Board's review and approval.
- Election of new Board

5.3. Recording Secretary for April Board meeting and Council of Dancers' Meeting

- Arlo Speer

Barbara agreed to keep the record of the April meetings.

6. Next Meeting

Date: Sunday 28 April, 2019
 Location: St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church
 425 Centre St. (at Dibble)
 Prescott, Ontario

Time: 11:00 – Board Meeting
13:30 – Council of Dancers’ Meeting

Appendix A: -- President's Opening Remarks

It seems like only yesterday we were gearing up for a new dance year and now we are discussing New Dancer Celebrations, the Association's 2019 Annual General Meeting and the election of a new Board of Directors to take us into 2019/2020.

Holy Moly! Where does the time go?

Speaking of time, as hard as it is for me to believe, it has been nearly 10 years since, at the Board's request, I stepped in to replace Wendy Sauvé as Chair of the Board in light of her sudden and quite unforeseen health crisis. Since that time, I have been honoured to serve the Board to the best of ability and have been fortunate in being able to work with a large number of excellent and dedicated Directors.

But, as hard as we have worked to change the downward trajectory of the Square and Round Dance movement in Eastern Ontario, we have not enjoyed a great deal of success. At best we may have slowed the decline somewhat. We certainly haven't been able to stop it.

It is therefore, time to ask ourselves whether it would not be best to hand the problem over to a younger person who might have a better perspective on the problem and how to resolve it, someone with new ideas who would be more in tune with the concerns of our newest dancers.

I recognize that the problem in doing this is that of finding a willing volunteer, and that this problem includes all of the positions on the Board, not just that of President, particularly as several members of the current Board have indicated that they will not serve again next year.

This afternoon we will be talking about next Month's Council of Dancers and what we can do to get clubs to send representatives to the meeting. We should also discuss ways to encourage more people to volunteer to serve on the Board.

That being said, I call the meeting to order.

Dave Western
President
EOSARDA

Appendix B: -- Treasurer's Report

14 Mar 2019

1. Current results

I include a summary of activity since 01 July and including results up to 14 March 2019, Note that the bank figures are reconciled to 31 Jan 2019 – I have not yet received a bank statement for Feb 2019. Items I wish to comment upon:

a) Club new dancer recruitment re-imburement

I completed sending out cheques to all clubs for their re-imburements.

Again, print this report in landscape mode.

2. Financial Compliance

I am ready to begin filling out T2 tax forms now that we established a head office. I cannot file any T2 until we obtain a Business Number from CRA. I collected the necessary info from all Board members, filled out the application for a BN and sent it to CRA. I am still in wait-mode.

3. Online access to bank account

We are still in the process of getting all necessary TD forms signed. I cannot get online access to the bank account until this step completes. Note that I have a couple of unpaid SquareTime invoices outstanding as the advertisers prefer making epayments.

Bob Pitruniak
Treasurer, EOSARDA

NOTE: Additional information has been omitted from the on-line version but is available upon request.

Appendix C: -- Swing into Spring Report



Swing into Spring 2019 is less than 2 months away! As usual, the weekend will be held at the South Grenville District High School in Prescott, Ontario. Callers this year will be **Ken Ritucci** from West Springfield, Massachusetts and **Bill Harrison** from Cheltenham, Maryland. Round dance teaching and cueing will be provided by **JL and Linda Pelton** from Plano, Texas. The committee has completed final confirmations for rental of the venue, meals and vendors. So far, 52 dancers have registered for the weekend (including 1 new basic dancer) – slightly less than were registered by this time last year. Please help by encouraging your dancers to register soon.

In response to feedback received from those who attended last year's event, we have incorporated some changes for this year:

- round dancing this year will move from Gym C to the upstairs area, near the cafeteria – giving round dancers a shorter distance to travel to the round dance area and offering a terrazzo floor that should be more dance-friendly.
- just like the Saturday lunch, Sunday's lunch will now be served at the school rather than being catered at an off-site location as we've done in the past – providing more dance time by eliminating the need to travel for Sunday's lunch.

The committee has established a more user-friendly address for our existing website (www.SwingIntoSpring.ca) to help us communicate information about the event. The address is also listed in the footer of this document. Please update any bookmarks you might have and use this new address when sharing it with others.

As we approach the final weeks before *Swing into Spring*, the committee is now looking to our sponsoring associations and local clubs for volunteers to help with various chores during the event. Among other chores, we'll need folks to help with:

- setting up the halls Friday night and clearing things away Sunday afternoon,
- decorating
- setting up and serving refreshments and lunches.

As well, we will be looking for individuals to greet dancers as they arrive at the event. Since *Swing into Spring* is co-sponsored by EOSARDA and SVSRDA, the committee hopes that the President Couples from both organisations will be willing to greet dancers on Friday and/or Saturday evenings. The committee also hopes that both SVSRDA and EOSARDA will encourage their dancers to register soon and to help inform newly-graduated dancers of the reduced admission charge for new dancers.

We're looking forward to seeing all Eastern Ontario dancers at *Swing into Spring* 2019!

Submitted March 2019, by

Regina Gerhard, Liaison to SVSRD & Arlo Speer, Liaison to EOSARDA

www.SwingIntoSpring.ca www.facebook.com/PrescottSIS/

Appendix D: -- Publicity & Promotions Committee Report

Flyer outlining the benefits of dancing

Much of my time has been spent on making observations and comments on a host of ideas promoted by the Leader of the Highland Games Project, Carole Luzon. One of the many ideas has merit as it would be useful, not only for the games but for other events where the general public is involved. The idea being, to develop a generic flyer outlining the benefits of dancing, be it square or round.

I have previously distributed draft versions for comment. Carole is somewhat insistent that all Clubs be listed on the flyer. I find to be impractical because of what we are trying to accomplish, that being the recruitment of new dancers.

The following considerations taken in the development of square dance promotional material are:

Promote what is actually being sold

Overcoming the current brand.

Be more in tune with the target audience. This is not to say that anyone of any age, gender or orientation is not welcome.

Demonstrate that our organization is in touch with the Social Media network

We are modern

Attached is another version of the square dance flyer for your consideration. I have used the health theme as the drawing card. The health theme has been used in Mississippi Squares promotional material for three years. MS has also developed a Facebook Group under this heading and people are posting to it. In fact, a healthy lifestyle is what we are promoting.

Note that I have totally steered away from any early reference to either square dancing or, EOSARDA. The colour blue is seen as being friendly. The couple are not dancers but healthy modern younger people. And, the strange blob on the bottom right-hand corner is called a QE code. Modern people are using these codes as a way to instantly gain access to WEB information. The APP is a free download and once one has the app it can be used to scan the Code block using any smart device and then, once scanned, the user is immediately directed to the relevant web site.

Bob Summers and I have been working on the application of this technology and currently have a link developed. I will demonstrate it at the meeting.

This Flyer can also be used as a newspaper article, with or without the QR code.

Glengarry Highland Games

With regard to the Glengarry Highland Games project the application for a booth/table has been granted. However, the project has been assigned to a "Clan Tent". What I understand from reviewing what goes on in a Clan tent is not in keeping with what we are trying to accomplish. The Clan tents are used to distribute information regarding the many Scotch Clans. Evidently Prince William, Duke of Cumberland didn't wipe out the Clans at the 1746 Battle of Culloden in as history would have us believe.

Carole also asked for an opportunity to be part of the entertainment, I.E. demo dancing. However again, the games committee thought that we were talking about Scottish Square Dancing not modern Modern Square dancing thus, this is off the table.

Our Leader is currently exploring other options, such as a separate tent on the grounds. This was the original intent. She is also trying to find out if there is an opportunity to place ads in the programme information handout.

The organizing committee is quite busy and feedback is slow.

Carole has been very diligent in her efforts to make be able to promote square, round and line dancing at the games and no matter the outcome her efforts have been much appreciated.

George Newton

DANCE FOR THE HEALTH OF IT

Try Modern Square Dancing: Singles welcome, Modern music, Lively instruction, Casual clothing, Inexpensive, Easy steps, Alcohol free, Non-discriminatory, Great fun.



It burns calories. Dancing can burn as many calories as walking, swimming or riding a bicycle, according to a Mayo Clinic study.

It keeps you moving. Modern square dancing, in particular, is a low-impact activity requiring constant movement and quick directional changes, which help keep the body in shape, heart rate increases, muscles strengthen, balance improves and mind-body coordination sharpens.

It's for all ages. Modern square dancing keeps the social tradition of old-time square dancing alive. It provides people of all ages an opportunity to have fun, forget their troubles, make new friends, get exercise and feel good about mastering something new in the company of helpful, friendly people.

It's set to modern music. The Caller (instructor) weaves directions for the dancers into the music. These easy-to-follow calls are repeated in each dance, so dancers soon learn to respond in a synchronized way with other dancers. The Caller starts with a few basic steps that set the foundation for the dance and all future moves. An easy walking rhythm is the same for all steps, only the words and music change. People are amazed at how fast they progress through the early stages. Positive feedback from new dancers regarding how they feel about themselves and their accomplishments attests to the fact that modern square dancing lives up to all the benefits that are proclaimed by long-time enthusiasts.

No previous dance experience is necessary. The Caller will have you up dancing from the moment you take to the floor. Step by step they will teach you all you need to know. Dancing is done in couples but, two singles can make a couple. And experienced Dancers are there to dance with you.

The Square Dancing season is divided into two sessions: September to December and January to April. However, in certain locations there are workshops and other lessons held throughout the year. Dancing is available in many centres both at home and around the world. The language of the dance is English and most Callers, around the world, use the same programme. **Free trial Open Houses are generally held in September.**

**Scan here to find an Eastern Ontario Club
that teaches dance.**



Appendix E: Clubs with No Registered Dancers

As per the Board's decision on this matter on February 26, 2019 I sent the following e-mail to the Presidents of the Lift Lock Squares, the Otonabee Squares and the Lakeshore Waves through their club contacts as identified on eodance.ca.

Dancer membership fees constitute EOSARDA's major source of revenue. Of the \$6.00 per year that we collect annually as dancer registration fees, \$4.00 are passed on to the Ontario Square and Round Dance Federation and the Canadian Square and Round Dance Society, and \$2.00 are retained by EOSARDA to fund the operations of the association. Without these dancer registration-sourced funds, this association would be unable to operate.

Accordingly, at last April's Annual General Meeting, the Council of Dancers unanimously passed a motion amending Article 2 of EOSARDA's By-Laws as follows (emphasis added):

That Article 2 of EOSARDA's By-Laws be amended as follows:

All dancers who attend the following events must be registered with EOSARDA:

- EOSARDA sponsored regional dances;*
- EOSARDA Member Club sponsored Open Dances;*
- Special club dance events and dance workshops sponsored by any EOSARDA Member Club; and*
- Any EOSARDA Member Club's regular club night.*

Notwithstanding the foregoing, people attending Open Houses designed to recruit new dancers; dancers who drop into a club only one time; and visitors registered in another region are exempt from this provision.
and

iii) - adding a new Article 2(c) to read:

It is the duty and responsibility of every EOSARDA Member Club to take all reasonable measures to ensure compliance with 2(b) above.

Notification of this change in policy was given to all member clubs last spring by special Bulletin and in the Minutes of the April 2018 Annual General Meeting which were circulated to all Member Clubs and posted on our web site, eodance.ca. The notice of the change in membership rules was also included in this year's registration packages sent out by our Registrar.

Since 2018/19 was a transition year, the Lift Lock Squares' [the Otonabee Squares] [the Lakeshore Waves] application for membership in EOSARDA was accepted even though the club did not register any dancers through this Association.

In that regard, I believe that your club is also a member of T&D. Consequently you may have chosen to register your dancers either through that association or directly with the Ontario Square and Round Dance Federation. Unfortunately, such a course of action is inconsistent with membership in EOSARDA for the reasons cited above.

Consequently, unless the Lift Lock Squares [the Otonabee Squares] [the Lakeshore Waves] is prepared to register its dancers through EOSARDA for the next dance year (2019/20), EOSARDA will be unable to accept the club's application for membership.

*Dave Western
President
EOSARDA
613 838-5428*

Appendix F: New Dancer Celebrations

I ordered 100 Society pins, but received only 50 pins from Peter Piazza, Treasurer of OSRDF.

That was because those were the only ones left over, and new pins with a changed design were being planned for.

It has been difficult to arrive at a total figure of new Basic dancers who are registered with EOSARDA this dance year. Only 10 clubs, out of the 14 eligible, have responded to my two emails so far.

Therefore, based on a somewhat "loose" estimate, supplies to provide 120 "grads" are being organized. If the remaining 4 clubs reply to my email of Friday, March 15, I will probably have to order more supplies.

Since inclusion of a free ticket in each envelope was not authorized by the Board, a statement will be added to the Visiting Directors' instructions to clubs that "a free ticket will be available for a future EOSARDA Dance for each graduate dancer".

Based on the figures I have collected so far, I have prepared 74 envelopes to be taken by Visiting Directors to New Dancer Celebrations which have been confirmed. These envelopes are ready for pick-up today. Each Visiting Director will have to contact the club(s) chosen.

I will contact the 4 clubs which have not responded so far, in order to learn their decisions regarding their New Dancer Celebration plans. These clubs are: Limestone Dancers, Meri Squares, Ottawa Date Squares and the Quinte Twirlers.

I will offer a suggestion about how this situation might be more easily solved, and will keep the Board informed as the situation evolves.

Ann Davelaar

2019 Instructions for Each New Dancer Club Visit

A. Packages

- * Items are clipped together, so nothing should fall out (EOSARDA brochure, Society pin)
- * Plastic sleeves should be brought back after visit, containing left-over packages, if any, for future recycling
- * All plastic sleeves and remaining packages should be returned to Club Liaison at May/June Board Meeting, or as soon thereafter as possible

B. Club Contact

- * Visiting Directors must use contact person to work out all other arrangements for the club visit

C. Speaking Notes

- * Visiting Director should wait to be invited to speak, and keep speech short
- * Speaking notes are attached on the following page of this document.

- * **N.B. – (2019) – Note the importance of adding to your Speaking Notes: A free ticket will be available for a future EOSARDA Dance for each “graduate” student.**

D. Written Report

- * Visiting Directors should email a written report to me, of each visit as soon as possible after each celebration event, or at the latest just before the May/June Board Meeting, so that I can submit a Final Report in June
- * The following elements should be included, if applicable:
 - Club name
 - Date visited
 - Number of packages delivered, and remaining number, if any
 - total of travel expenses incurred
(N.B. – Please read EOSARDA By-Laws very carefully and keep receipts for all expenses you intend to claim from the EOSARDA Treasurer)
 - Questions relating to club visit details should be addressed to the President or the Treasurer, if needed.

Speaking Notes for Club Visits

If given an opportunity to speak, hold the microphone close to your mouth, speak clearly, don't mumble and don't rush.

Good evening

On behalf of the Eastern Ontario Square and Round Dance Association, the Ontario Square and Round Dance Federation and the Canadian Square and Round Dance Society, I would like to congratulate the new dancers for having completed their first year of square dancing and to welcome them to the world wide fellowship of square dancing.

And thank you to all the experienced dancers and your caller who have worked with you to get you to this point in your dancing career. I hope that you have many enjoyable years of dancing ahead of you and look forward to meeting you on the dance floor.

This evening, in recognition of your accomplishments, EOSARDA will be presenting each of the new dancers with their Canadian Square and Round Dance Society pin and a coupon for free admission to either Fall Fest 2017 or Frosty Fling 2018, along with a brochure explaining a little about what EOSARDA does.

Conclude either with,

Once again, I would like to congratulate all the new dancers on their accomplishments.

OR

I would like to conclude with a poem that was written about 4 years ago by a brand new dancer

You arrived here as strangers, knowing nothing at all
Mixed your rights with your lefts and caused chaos for all.

But you were taught with patience, laughter and grace
You were turned 'round and shown your place

From circling left to Allemande Thars
Look at you now, you're Shooting Stars

You're Making Waves and Bending Lines
Slipping the Clutch and marching in time

You're Setting Squares and Passing Through
Swinging and Starring and Diving Through too

You swing yours and I'll swing mine
Listen to [*Caller's name*], he'll keep you in line.

Now you can twirl - California style
And Courtesy Turn with a with a very nice smile.

So to [*Caller's name*] and the angels too
A bow and a wave and a heartfelt THANK YOU