

SQUARE TIME

**Eastern Ontario Square
and
Round Dance Association**



Square Time Edition 68.2 November 2022

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This issue of Square Time will not be printed. It is available, free, online:

http://www.eodance.ca/square_time.php

Submissions to Square Time

We welcome letters, articles, advertisements and almost anything dance related. Each member club is encouraged to send us their news, and tell us about themselves. Separate text and pictures, please. Text is reformatted to present a uniform appearance and pictures have to be extracted. Please send them to SquareTimeEditor@eosarda.ca.

Next issue...

The next issue will be Feb 2023. Deadline for submission is January 30.

Advertising in Square Time

To advertise in Square Time, please send a PDF file to the editor, indicating the size the advertisement is to be (full page, half page etc.). Advertisements will not be reformatted, other than to fit the space.

	Member	Non-Member	Commercial
Full Page	\$25	\$40	\$100
Half Page	\$20	\$30	\$75
Quarter Page	\$15	\$20	\$45
Full Column	\$20	\$35	\$75
Half Column	\$15	\$20	\$45

Message from the President

November, 2022

Dancing is back!

Proof of vaccination may be required but dancing is back!

Wearing masks on the dance floor may be mandatory but dancing is back!

Being told to stay home if you don't feel well may be the new norm but dancing is back!

We're dancing again and this time it is beginning to look like it's for keeps!

Most of EOSARDA's Member Clubs resumed dancing this September, some even sooner. A couple of clubs have delayed their start up until this coming January, and unfortunately a few have closed their doors.

There have even been a number of successful, club-sponsored open dances in our region..

As was to be expected, we have lost a number of dancers along the way. It's been almost 30 months since the pandemic struck this country and time has taken its toll. However, the good news is that we have retained more dancers than we have lost and we have a great crop of new dancers who have joined us this autumn.

We have also seen changes in the way some clubs run their square dance program. With three very different methodologies being used to appeal to different demographics.

Most of our square dance clubs still use the tried and true CallerLab program featuring Basic, Mainstream, Plus, Advanced and Challenge levels. This program has proved its worth over many years and is still the Gold Standard in square dancing.

But a desire for a more simplified teaching syllabus with fewer Calls; more opportunities to just dance what has already been learned; and shorter teaching programs has given rise to Social Square Dancing or SSD. SSD incorporates most, but not all, of the Basic and Mainstream Calls and is usually taught over a 12 to 14 week program. With suitable additional training, dancers are free to move up to full Mainstream, but

they are under no pressure to do so. Many SSD dancers are quite content to stick with what they already know. At least two of our Member Clubs are using SSD this year and report very good recruiting results.

Two other Member Clubs have decided to take a different approach. Rather than offering an extended training syllabus, they have taken a page from the Contra Dance community, and start their weekly or monthly dance by teaching just the Calls that will be used for that dance. These Calls, and only these Calls, are then incorporated into that afternoon's or evening's dance program. The process is repeated at the next dance. Calls used at one dance might or might not be used in a subsequent dance. With no need to sign up for a series of lessons and no need to remember what has been previously taught, this approach appeals to those who want to dance but don't want to make a commitment to a long-term dance program.

There are obvious problems in having different teaching methodologies, the most obvious being the loss of commonality which permitted dancers to dance at their level anywhere in the world.

But it is hoped that having three different approaches will help to broaden the appeal of Modern Square Dancing thereby attracting more people to the activity.

There are still lots of obstacles to overcome, not the least of which is that while we might be done with COVID, COVID might not be done with us.

But we're dancing again and that's a good thing!

Dave Western
President
EOSARDA

Message from the Editor

Well, we are having a rather lovely late fall. I know that climate change is going to be a problem, but weather has been nice.

I have not danced in some while. My wife had a stroke in August, but is recovering well. We are very lucky. Since I write this, I start Chemo in a couple of days. Margaret would like to thank the kind people from Harbour Lites for the cards they sent her. Very much appreciated!

We have lost some of our dancers over the last couple of years and it makes you consider how quickly life can change.

I am glad to see that most of our clubs have started dancing again. We are seeing some new enthusiastic new dancers/many seasoned dancers have returned. There is new material on the EOSAR-DA web site that will be of interest to new dancers. Our publicity committee has done a great job trying to attract new folks. Check out the article from publicity.

You will find a great article from Geoff on how to link hands while dancing. There is material from many of our clubs. We also remember some of those who have gone on in a memorial pages.

I have been reviewing the history of EOSARDA. It has been part of the Ottawa area square and round dance community since 1954. Over the years there have many dance clubs that have existed. Most of these have long since disappeared. I am a history enthusiast looking for any material on this subject. If you have material stored away that might pertain to the history of dancing in our area, I would like to know about it. Perhaps you have old minutes from a club, or other club history information. Please contact me. I have a substantial collection of old Square Time issues, but if you have very old copies, I would like to know. Too often this history just disappears.

The cover page show a dance demonstration at the International Plowing Match in Kemptville organized by our publicity committee.

Enjoy the coming holidays and enjoy your dancing.

Gerry Johnson

Square Time Editor

In Memorium

Dorothy Tweed – 1929 - 2022

With sadness we have learned of the death of Dorothy Tweed, long-time Eastern Ontario and Seaway Valley dancer and cuer.



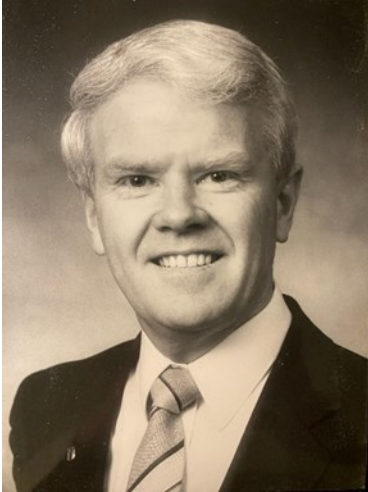
Dorothy Tweed; Dorothy began Square Dancing with the Harbour Lites club,(then located in Cardinal, Ontario), in 1992. In 1994, she was one of the core group of dancers who started the Riverside Gypsy Squares in Happy Green Acres, just west of Brockville, Ontario. In 1996 Dorothy took up Round Dancing, and although continuing to Square Dance, Round Dancing became her passion. Within a few years, Dorothy was dancing regularly at two Square Dance and 3 Round Dance clubs. In 1997 Dorothy was asked to Cue a Round Dance “cold turkey”. She accepted the challenge and a star was born. In September of 1998, Dorothy started the St. Lawrence Smoothies, Round Dance club in Cardinal. She has been Cueing ever since. She has cued Rounds for the Harbour Lites, the Seaway Squares, the Skirts and Flirts of Canton New York, Kemptville’s Grenville Gremlins and Brockville’s

Swinging Saints to name just a few.

Margaret and I were members of her round dance club. She was a very smooth cuer and we always enjoyed her dances, especially the “spinning Wheel Waltz”

In Memorium

Helgi Dennis Goodman 1942 ~ 2022 (age 79)



It is with **great sadness** that we tell you that our great friend & neighbour and long-time dancer at the Lockits (one of our originals) has lost his valiant battle with cancer.

Helgi passed away on Sunday afternoon, October 16th at the General Hospital with his family at his side.

Here's a link to his obituary - <http://www.barkerfh.com/obituary/Helgi-Goodman>

A "Celebration of Life" was held in Carleton Place on October 22nd with many of his fellow dancers in attendance.

Helgi was not only a long-time member of Lockits, but also of Mississippi Squares where he & his wife Sharen first joined as new dancers back in 2002, adding Rounds in subsequent years!

Always ready & willing to "give a hand", Helgi worked tirelessly with his 'home' club (Mississippi Squares) and he shared that same passion (to help) with both our SVSR-DA & EOSARDA organizations.

There are few people in our local square & round dance region that have not encountered Helgi, either on the dance floor or in some committee or event that he was involved with!

A great dancer and friend to all of us, he will be sadly missed.

Geoff & Teena Clarke



Your Publicity Committee, working with you to promote square, round and line dancing.

News and Views

Our fun demonstration event on August 21 on the waterfront at Confederation Park in Kingston was a memorable event – for more than one reason! It rained, then poured. Dancers and callers sought shelter under the big tent, while we enjoyed goodies that Dave Hutchinson brought along for us, and we waited to see if the weather would clear, as was forecast. It did! Before 1 pm, the sun shone and the air got humid. Now dancers hunkered under the tent for SHADE! Some great dancing – square, round and line – and some wonderful folks chose to join us on the dance ‘floor’! It turned out to be a fantastic afternoon. Dave Hutchinson, Ron Gardner, Wendy VanderMeulen and John Chapman, as well as Laird Greene and Linda Chapman all provided some great calling/leadership. Many visitors to the park stopped to watch, and as mentioned, some joined in the dancing. Judging by the number of flyers that were handed out and conversations that took place, there are quite a few more people who are aware of our ‘world of dance’.

The International Plowing Match in September was very successful from our point of view --- after it was over. Prior to opening day, we had a few hurdles to get over. We waited to hear if we had been accepted to host an information booth; we waited to learn whether or not we would be performing a demo dance. Then, we learned that the organizers would like us to dance on two different days, and we were having difficulty attracting dancers to join in. One of the callers who had volunteered his time and talent could not attend after all. Thank you, Wendy and John for stepping up!

The last and biggest hurdle – Lamar tested positive for COVID the day before we were to travel to Kemptville, and she was the lead for the project! However, with the help of some great volunteers, Shirley and I managed to hold down the fort (errr, Information Booth) until Lamar was back on her feet and tested negative.

The Information Booth proved to be quite busy. EOSARDA received some funding from the OSRDF for the IPM so we had a great display with the OSRDF banner and promotional materials as well as EOSARDA's dance map and materials from our own clubs. We handed out quite a few flyers and chatted with lots of folks. Everyone remembered square dancing in school and many were happy (and surprised) to hear there was a club near them.

Shirley and I and our volunteers smiled through the rain (every day except Saturday) and cold (nice on Saturday). We wished we had thought of bringing heavier coats or blankets or an electric heater! It was very chilly for a few days. BUT Lamar came out to relieve us ON SATURDAY...and I think she enjoyed her time in the tent, too.

Overall, the International Plowing Match was a success and lots of fun. It was a great opportunity to raise the visibility of square dancing in Eastern Ontario and right across the province. The more often people see and hear about us, the more likely they will be to give square, round or line dancing a try. This was our first week-long event and we learned lots that will serve us well as we plan for the next event.

The Publicity Committee has a number of projects that we plan to work on during this next while and we need to start looking for venues for demonstrations for summer 2023. If you know of a large event that is being planned or an area that gathers a crowd (like Confederation Park in Kingston) in Eastern Ontario, please let Lamar know at publicity@eosarda.ca. The earlier we apply to participate, the more chance we have of attending.



The Information Booth in Tent City, the International Plowing Match, Kemptville, Sep 20-24.

It was cool with some rain, but a fun week! Shirley and I started the week off, with volunteers helping out and Lamar finishing off the week. We handed out lots of flyers and spoke with many people.



This is the demonstration dance that took place on Friday with Wendy calling. There was also a demo dance on Tuesday and John called for that event.

It rained in Kingston the day of our promotional event. The blue tarps were put up to prevent equipment and flyers from getting all wet!



Dave Hutchinson, Ron Gardner and Laird Greene called squares in the rain all morning. Wendy called squares, John cued rounds and Linda Chapman led the line dancing in the afternoon sun.



Our Information Booth had to be sheltered from the rain ... and then the sun!



The dancing was fun!

The Russell Stone Bridge Squares have closed

MacDougall Park Stone Bridge in Russell for which the club was named

Last year the Stone Bridge Squares in Russell were hoping that someone would be able to take over managing the club. That didn't happen and so the future was in doubt for a while.

Now, with no end in sight from this pandemic and the fact that they

might not have access to the school for the duration of the dance season, the club has decided to close permanently.

The remaining club funds were donated to the Russell Lions Club -- a fitting donation since it was some members from the Lions who initially started the Square Dance club for the community.

A big thank you to Shirley and Dean Benson for their dedication and hard work over the past 7 years to ensure many people could participate in this fun activity.



News from Seaway Valley Square & Round Dance Association

Seaway Valley Square & Round Dance Association had their meeting on October 23, 2022 and it was decided by the member clubs to dissolve the Association. The members, who all have positions in their own clubs, were not willing to step into the executive positions which was needed to keep the Association going.

Special thanks to our executives, who, for the last six years, supported our two dances every year.

Thanks to the following people for their support-

Lee Warriner as vice President

Jeannie & Russ as our secretary who did an amazing job.

Bill Shield our treasurer, who wanted to continue as treasurer,

Co-ordinators Carolyn Greenhough, Deryl Neron, Sandy & Allen Brown & Shirley & Colin Brown, for their help during our two dances, Christmas & Mother's Day for the past six years.

Helgi & Sharon Goodman, as Editor, Helgi passed away on October 31, 2022, were SVSRDA greatest supporter, they worked very hard on the 35th Anniversary calendar, gathering the history of the Association, and he completed all the graduation certificates for all our new graduates, the flyers for our Christmas and Mothers' Day Dance as well as the dangles. They both worked hard on every calendar in the last five years.

Pearl King for helping Helgi with the names of the past presidents and history of the Association

Helen McCallum for helping us find the banner, we searched with determination to have the banner for the 35th Anniversary.

Wendy VanderMeulen as our Caller Rep

Arlo Speer for helping us with our virtual meetings,

Lamar Mason also helped with our last virtual meeting.

It is with great sadness that the Association dissolved, a lot of work but not enough support.

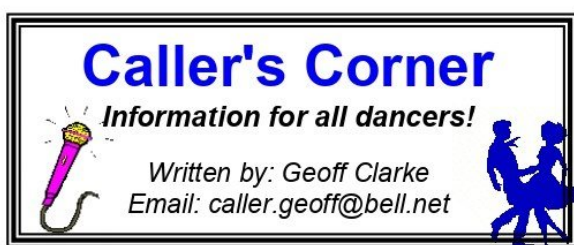
Submitted by Gerald & Marlene Casselman President of SVSRDA

Celebrating Geoff Clarke calling for 25 Years

At the October meeting of the OACA (Ottawa Area Callers Association), Wendy VanderMeulen presented Geoff Clarke with a certificate, on behalf of CALLERLAB, to recognize Geoff's 25 years of calling. Both Wendy and Geoff are members of CALLERLAB.

CALLERLAB is an international organization of square dance callers. Their mission is "to foster the art of square dance calling, and improve caller skills". CALLERLAB provides guidance and education, certifies caller coaches, maintains standardized lists of calls and definitions, and generally promotes the square dance activity.





At this point in the season our **Basic & SSD** dancers are getting closer to learn about Ocean Waves & calls like 'Swing Thru', so I thought it was a perfect time for this edition of Caller's Corner to talk about **HAND CONTACT!!**



HAND CONTACT!!

Let's look at the 'total picture'.

It's NOT hand holds but hand CONTACT – there is a huge difference! The 'key' word is **CONTACT**, and it's NOT 'gripping' & 'holding (on)' as you complete a Right & Left Grand; or Courtesy Turns; or Right & Left Thru; or Allemande Left, etc. Certainly, for these calls & especially so once you learn about Ocean Waves & the ensuing call **Swing Thru!**

SO, WHAT'S GOING ON??

What is the correct way to hold your hands when dancing Swing thru?

For those that already know, how many times have you been in an Ocean Wave & you find your hand is being 'held' firmly (roughly) by another (thumbs locked & ready to arm wrestle)? The Caller says..... "Swing Thru" and someone starts going in the wrong direction...and because you're being firmly held... fingers, a wrist, a shoulder... something gets wrenched... **someone gets hurt!!**

The CALLERLAB Caller/Teacher manual on Ocean Waves states: "Dancers should use hands-up position. ... distance between dancers should be determined by the arm position of the dancer which is extended forward and bent slightly at the elbow..... This set-up will be most comfortable if dancers have their hands up, palm to palm, with the dancers on each side.....The palm to palm contact is comfortable if the palms are turned or angled clockwise slightly, but, in doing this, the contact should not become a grip or a hold – **just a light pressure contact!**

In summary then, for Ocean Waves, it's 'palm to palm' contact with **NO GRIPS!** Just maintain slight pressure towards each other but do not close your hand over the other!

Swing Thru from Ocean Waves is only one movement from which, with **incorrect hand contact**, injuries can result! (shoulders, wrists etc), there are a number of others which can also result in a potential injury to a dancer.

It is important to **ALWAYS** make hand contact with the person you're dancing beside. Making that contact is NOT optional but how you do it is! As soon as you're standing beside another dancer, hand **contact** is mandatory in order for you to 'confirm' that, 'right now', "I'm your partner". Take hands! - a gentle hand hold with a small amount of pressure that says "I'm here!"

BE CONSIDERATE OF OTHERS!

Think about it....do you close your hand over others? Do you grab thumbs? On arm turns, do you grip the other arm or maintain gentle pressure? **Are you aware** of what kind of hand contact that you're using? Are you gentle or rough? **Think about it the next time you're dancing....**

AND THERE WILL BE MANY A DANCER OUT THERE THAT WILL BE MOST GRATEFUL THAT YOU DID!

Social Square Dancing and how it's working

Wendy VanderMeulen

Many of you will know that I am a supporter of CALLERLAB's Social Square Dance (SSD) initiative. I believe that dancers need to feel like they've FINISHED a program long before the 8 or 9 months that we take to teach Basic (and then have them move immediately into starting another program – Mainstream). To be honest, I'm not really sure how it *will* work, but I figure it's worth a try.

Two clubs in EOSARDA decided to try the program: Ottawa Date Squares and Meri Squares (is it just coincidence that I am the caller for both clubs? J)

The Date Squares did their first class in the summer – May through July. 10 dancers completed the session. The majority of the dancers had NO problem with the program. Only 2 people had any difficulty, but they stuck with it and enjoyed it as much as everyone else. In the return to dancing in September, two of the dancers did not return – one due to a conflict, the other unknown; 2 decided to accept the challenge of continuing lessons and are currently learning the rest of the Mainstream and the Plus calls; the other 6 all returned to the new SSD class and are "polishing" their skills there as they act as angels with our new class. That's an 80% retention rate. Pretty good!

In September, after CONSIDERABLE publicity and promotion, the two clubs started their fall SSD classes, both with over 20 new dancers (Meri Squares 23; Date Squares 24). The age of the dancers range from mid-20's to mid-60's, showing the attraction to all kinds of people!

The SSD program is set up to be taught in 12 weeks, but that is NOT cast in stone! Due to scheduling differences, the Meri Squares fall session is exactly 12 weeks, so getting all the calls taught will probably not happen. The Date Sqs fall session is 14 weeks and we will get through the program. Both groups are looking forward to the winter session where we will have 14 or 15 weeks - a comfortable window in which to teach the program (here's hoping we don't have to cancel any classes due to snowstorms!!).

But, MOST IMPORTANTLY, remember that the WHOLE POINT of the program is to get the dancers through the calls – NOT to have them dancing perfectly! After their first session of SSD, they will dance the following sessions, for as long as they like, continuing to dance the calls they've learned and perfecting them. **The LESSONS are over.** Now it's time to dance, practice, dance, practice, dance, practice and just have fun, making the social side of square dance more enjoyable! And THAT, I'm sure, can be done.

I'll let you know!

Club News Bay Waves

After a long 3 years, The Bay Waves started up again in September of this year. Thanks to a demo at Bay Days in Constance Bay, online ads in local community groups, advertising at the centre we dance in, and word of mouth, we have welcomed 7 enthusiastic new dancers to our club plus returning dancers plus dancers from The Swingin' Swallows, our sister club in Pembroke.

We have chosen to try the SSD program and just completed module 4. Our dancers are loving it, some of them even go home and practice on their own.

Last Friday, we had our Halloween dance - masks, costumes, treats, decorations, and dancing - what more could you ask for?

We will be dancing every Friday night from 7:30pm til 9:15pm and welcome all levels of dancers.

Happy Dancing,

The Bay Waves

Club News Harbour Lites

Harbour Lites danced in the month of May in the afternoon and had a great turnout. The dancers were eager to dance again after over two years of not dancing. It did not take too long before the dancers remembered the different calls. We had a lot of fun and when a mistake happened, we laughed at ourselves and kept dancing. In September we had two open house and we welcomed two new dancers.

Harbour Lites have 30 members but we struggle to have two squares each night. Our dancers from the states have been with us. The members decided not to have the Food Bank dance in November, this year, due to the fact no one wants to travel at this time.

Two years have made a difference in our membership as many of the dancers have medical issues, some have passed away and some are not ready to come back yet because of covid.

Thank you to our members, who make the effort to dance every week and for all their support in keeping Harbour Lites dancing.

Submitted by Marlene Casselman

Club News Grenville Gremlins

The Grenville Gremlins are very pleased to be back dancing after the last 2 years of no dancing under the direction of our caller Geoff Clarke. We held a demo dance at Kemptville Farmer's Market on August 21st, a Mobile sign at Peavy Mart on Highway 43 and advertising in local newspapers to attract new members. A big thanks to our members who went out of their way to attract new dancers. The 1st 2 weeks we opted to have just our own Club to get The Gremlins that were returning back in the swing of things. Our Open House on September 26th attracted in 33 new people, but when it came time for the commitment we had 8 new dancers join us.

We had a Halloween Party on October 31st with lots of great costumes and treats.

The Gremlins Executive has decided NOT to host our annual New Year's Dance this year so hopefully next year.

The Gremlins are looking forward to another fun year of dancing and would welcome anyone to join us. Proof of vaccination required.



Wishing everyone a Happy, Healthy Holiday Season.

Peter & Geraldine Matthew

President couple

Club News Kanata Squares

Kanata Squares - Never say die!

There is a surprisingly long history of Square Dancing in Kanata, so to see our club resuming after the "Covid Break" has made a lot of people happy.

In the 1980s, a square dance club was formed called the Kanata Grand Squares.

We have no details as to its history and why it went away. But, in 1990, a new club was formed by the members of a City of Kanata Further Ed class and became the Kanata Towne Squares. Our caller couple, Bill and Hazel Judge, moved to BC a few years later and the club took a hiatus.

About 1996, many members lead by John & Sheila Maxwell recreated the club as the Kanata Squares at the Lion Dick Brule Community Centre on Castlefrank where we still dance today. We've had four caller couples, after the Judges, we have had Graham & Kerri Ingram and then Dave & Marie Currie and now have Bob and Marguerite Summers at the helm.

Kanata Squares members have ensured that the club survived in spite of the apparent downturns in dancing across the city partly due to Covid with a good turnout. We're optimistic that we'll return to the days of 4 squares.

We dance Basic and Mainstream on Thursday afternoons, 1:30 to 3:30. Easy to find us on Castlefrank, south of Hazeldean Rd.

Submitted by Stuart Brook





LOCKITS Advanced Dance Club

Geoff & Teena Clarke

November 2022!

Well folks..... **WE MADE IT!!** Yes, we're all back dancing again after a hiatus of ~30 months!! **YAY!!**



Here at Lockits, we 'restarted' our regular Wednesday morning dancing on September 14th with a good number of our dancers returning once more on that day! To participate however, the club decided to make it a requirement that all dancers are fully vaccinated & even though masks were no longer mandatory (by public health), the dancers also decided that 'all' should be wearing masks while in the dance hall & that's how we're still operating as of today. So far, not a single case of COVID has originated from our dance floor! That's not to say however, that cases of COVID have not affected our dancers – in fact it has, with several of our members having tangled with the virus over the last few weeks – fortunately, all have recovered & are well again!

We've had a few of our former dancers chose to 'retire' from dancing, so we're missing their happy faces this year, many of whom have been dancing at Lockits for a long time! But, as we know, we can't stop the passage of time which impacts our age & health! And, as most know, we lost a great friend & an 'original' member of the Lockits when – **Helgi Goodman** passed away, losing his magnificent battle with cancer. We miss him dearly!

Each week though we're having upwards of 5 squares on the dance floor as we continue to "work off the rust", and 'remember' the moves!! As most have found, we "*really hadn't forgotten everything*", so we're gradually getting "back up to speed" and certainly enjoying the comradeship that we've been missing so badly!!

Hey! - if you're an Advanced Dancer and would like to dance in the daytime, then come on out & have fun with us on Wednesday mornings – A2 starts at 9:30am, followed by A1 at 10:30am through until noon!

Live Lively -



Square Dance

You're welcome to come & dance with us.
Check our website at : www.lockits.ca for all the details!

Square Dancing IS all about Fun & Friendship
So, come & join us, won't you?

Club News Meri Squares

By Lamar Mason, President

What to expect in September 2022? That was the big question as we started planning for this dance season. Meri Squares Executive members had been in touch regularly with all members since March 202. Many were indicating that their health was no longer great or that they were not yet comfortable being in a larger group and were not ready to begin dancing. How many returning dancers would we have? How to set fees and budget with such a big unknown?

And then there was our **new Social Square Dance** program. Meri Squares members had voted at the April AGM to replace our Basic program with SSD to try to attract more dancers and potentially a younger group. We felt that the shorter teaching time (just 12-14 weeks) would be more attractive to a younger audience. The Club invested considerable time and money into a publicity campaign to attract new SSD dancers (see separate article). Would it pay off?

September came...we welcomed back 40 Mainstream and Plus dancers, slightly less than two-thirds of those registered in 2020. But enough to be encouraged and everyone was VERY happy to be back dancing. Masks are worn at all times and after some initial hesitation, dancers found they presented no problems. John Charman did a great job of getting everyone up to speed on the dance floor and is even introducing Plus moves for the Mainstream dancers.

And the Social Square Dance program? It has been a wonderful success in our view. We had over 40 people come to the free Kick-off dance and 27 registered for the full teach session. We expect 23 new SSD dancers to complete the program in December. Thanks to Wendy VanderMeulen for a fantastic program.

In support of the SSD program, Meri Squares worked with Ottawa Dates Squares to host an **SSD dance on November 5**. It was a huge success and lots of fun. Brain Crawford got the dance floor humming! We had over 60 dancers, most of whom were SSD dancers from the two clubs. The angels present also had great fun. The energy from 7 squares was amazing!

Meri Squares members celebrated Halloween in fine style on both the SSD night and Mainstream/Plus nights. Costumes were very creative and a howling good time was had by all!

December will be a busy month. **On December 3**, we are hosting our second SSD dance with the Ottawa Date Squares BUT it will be bigger! **There will be a Plus/Advanced/Challenge session from 1:30 to 4pm and then an SSD/Mainstream session from 6:30 to 9 pm**. Dave Hutchinson will be calling so we know it will be a fun day. JOIN US! See the flyer at [Ring the Bells](#) or in this edition of Square Time.

December will also see Meri Squares celebrating the completion of the first SSD program and our first Christmas Party, with all levels, since before the pandemic. We will not be having our usual fully catered dinner this year, but we will all be together, dancing and enjoying our square dance friendships.

Our next SSD program starts [January 10, 2023](#)....spread the word!

We are certainly thrilled to be back together dancing.

Mainstream and Plus ghouls and spooks



Whoever could this Mrs. Claus be?



A scary bunch of SSD dancers!



Don't want to meet these folks in a dark alley!



These two look too happy to be scary!



Brian Crawford with a full dance floor at the Fall Frolic on November 5 – Join us again on December 3!



How Meri Squares Promoted our new Social Square Dance (SSD) Program

**By Michelle Gravelle and Patricia McLachlan,
Co-chairs, Meri Squares Publicity Committee**

In May of 2022, Meri Squares set up a special publicity committee, consisting of 8 members, including our Caller. Our aim was to bring in new dancers to our new SSD program set to begin in September 2022. We also wanted to focus on attracting a younger age group of 45+. The committee met weekly via Zoom, with each member taking on specific tasks.

Social media: We set up a new Meetup group, revamped our Facebook site, and rewrote sections on our website.

The new Meetup group was aimed at a younger age group. As well, we leveraged the reach of our own Meetup group, by reaching out to other local Meetups to share information about our new SSD program.

Print publicity: We made new, lively posters and distributed them throughout the community in August. We placed paid ads in seven local Ottawa community newspapers to be published a few weeks ahead of our first free open house dance. Our President wrote a publicity article that was widely used on our Facebook page and website, as well as being published in two community newspapers.

We stressed to club members the importance of getting the message out to friends and families and we provided copies of the new posters to them. We asked local city councillors to place our poster in their weekly e-newsletters starting in August.

We arranged for a free TV interview on Rogers Community Channel. The interview aired the day before our Kick-off dance, was recorded and we placed a link to it on our social media sites.

We made a detailed budget at the outset and applied to both EOSARDA and the Ontario Federation for available recruitment grants once our expenses were in. The budget was substantially more than in past years but was seen as an investment in the future of our club. The costs were fairly substantial for the newspaper ads and for setting up our Meetup group.

We promoted the first open house as a free Kick-Off Dance, open to anyone, with or without a partner. The emphasis was on having fun. We asked for proof of Covid vaccination and for masks to be worn. Once lessons started, we required payment in full for the 12-week session at time of registration.

So how did we do? Our first 2 nights were highly successful with about 3 + squares of new dancers attending. Each new dancer was asked to indicate where they heard about our club, and it seems each publicity stream had some takers with the "Friends and Family" referral being number one! One other feature of the SSD has been asking our regular club dancers to attend the SSD program as Angels. This has been important in making the 24 new dancers feel welcome, comfortable and connected to our Club.

Club News Opeongo Squares

The club is alive and now consists of 12 dancers with a possible few more coming in. This club by the choice of the members, accepts new dancers anytime without reservations other than being a member of the hosting Seniors Centre. We have been operating this year since September 13.

Because this is a weekday afternoon session, we do have missing members due to appointments but we manage well. The program at this time is Basic but we do expect to climb up to Mainstream. Time is of no consequences to us. Visitors are welcome anytime. Tuesday, 14:00 to 16:00 hrs.

Roger Moreau



Successful Recruiting

By J.M. Robichaud, President Ottawa Date Squares

It probably doesn't come as a shock to anyone that recruitment is a very important part of our favourite activity. We will always lose dancers for various reasons and unless we're actively replacing the outgoing dancers, our clubs will slowly dwindle and disappear. Indeed, several have.

In my 27+ years of square dancing I've been involved in more than a dozen recruitment campaigns; some successful and some not so successful.

This year the Ottawa Date Squares had the largest group of new dancers in its history and I was asked to try to explain what we did that was so successful.

It was probably a combination of several things but I think that shifting our club to use the Social Square Dancing (SSD) paradigm played a major role.

SSD is not just a different set of calls to teach (it's a subset of Basic and Mainstream) it's also a very different mindset, a different approach.

In SSD the focus is on the social aspect of dancing rather than the technical side. Dances should feel more like a social event where there happens to be some dancing, rather than a dance class where there happens to be some socializing.

In particular, the focus is on fun... If not a single call was taught in the evening but everyone left with

a big smile, I would consider that a success and it's important for your caller to buy into this different approach.

This includes calling only standard application calls (no hinky left-handed backwards stuff) and keeping the dancers engaged with lots of opportunity to practice what they're learning so they never feel pressured or rushed. They should always go home smiling and looking forward to the next dance night.

One thing that seems to have come out of the pandemic is a need for social contact. And knowing this, we were able to target your advertising efforts to meet this need.

Our latest recruitment included demo/intro dancing in the street at Ottawa Pride as well as a "Pride Disco" night where we brought in special lighting and set an atmosphere reminiscent of a high school dance. It was very well received and we got lots of positive feedback from it.

I wish every dance night could be like that and I encourage you to try to set mood and lighting whenever you can. There's nothing like cold hospital-room fluorescents to suck the atmosphere out of a room. Veteran dancers might not care but a newcomer probably will.

As in past years, we paid for Facebook ads targeting the Ottawa area and we included some video clips in the ads of people dancing and having a great time.

The ad text was carefully planned out to reach those who have spent the last couple years on Zoom meetings wishing they weren't stuck at home:

"Looking for something to do that lets you make new friends and shed some COVID weight at the same time? Social Square Dancing may be just the thing!"

We also purchased a subscription to the Meetup app (Meetup.com) where more and more people are going to find things to do in their city. The price tag may give you sticker shock (\$100+ for six months) but we got eight new dancers from it the first time we used it. I consider that money well spent. Our Meetup group has over 120 members as of today. Not all of them have been to our dances but they're all interested in one way or another.

Of course, your mileage may vary. Just be sure to include very welcoming imagery and video clips and a very focused message. Be generous with photos and videos; hire a professional photographer if you need to and stage some dance poses that will look great. Keep your texts short and to the point. Keep the focus on the social and the fun.

Make sure your posts/messages are going out through as many channels as you can.

Facebook page and group and also association group(s). Instagram (post, story and reels). Twitter and website too. Make some videos for TikTok and make sure they're catchy, cute and friendly. Post often. At least once a week leading up to your intro dance(s).

Not savvy on the current apps and technology? Find a young person to give you pointers.

It's a lot of work but firing off a single post and waiting for someone to show up hasn't worked in the past so it's time to roll up your sleeves and put some real effort into it.

Just as important as your messaging is your intro night. Plan it carefully.

It should be in a welcoming and comfortable location where people will feel at ease. The first dance night surrounded by a bunch of strangers can be very intimidating for some people. Make everyone feel welcome.

Rent some lighting and set a mood. Also make sure your caller is a good entertainer and that they don't cover too many calls during the intro. It's not about seeing how much the dancers can learn in one night. It's about how much fun you can make them have and a skilled caller doesn't need a lot of calls to do that.

Make sure they go home having had the time of their lives and having made some new friends at the same time. They'll call all their friends and get them to come out too.

Make sure you get everyone's contact information and be sure to follow up with messages of encouragement.

We use MailChimp. Its free tier has everything our club needs to manage email distribution of newsletter and bulletins and it allows us to target our messages to specific demographics. ie. interested people, current students, no longer dancing alumni, specific dance levels, etc.

Recruitment is a lot of work and it can seem overwhelming but the more work you put into it, the more new dancers you'll get and the more active your club will be so don't be afraid to try new things and keep at it!

JM



The Ottawa Date Squares - What it's like to dance with an LGBTQ+ square dance club

by J.M. Robichaud, president of Ottawa Date Squares



It's been 27 years since my partner (at the time) and I started the Ottawa Date Squares and during that time I've been witness to a great deal of changes in acceptance and understanding of the LGBTQ community.

No longer are we treated as second-class citizens and we've found support from family members and friends in ways I never thought we would.

The same holds true in the square dancing community where our own special brand of styling has become popular at events the world over. We often get told that we're having more fun than everyone else and it's the joy of dancing that's kept me coming back week after week to friendships that have spanned decades.

But I'm not writing this to reminisce. I have a specific message to pass on.

The '+' in LGBTQ+ is for our straight allies and it's those people I want to speak to today.

I sometimes get asked, by these very allies, what it's like to dance with the Ottawa Date Squares and because I've been around quite a while I guess I can call myself an expert in the subject.

Our unique dance club has changed a lot over the years but it's always been a very diverse group

with people from many races and backgrounds, from a very wide range of ages (from early twenties to well into eighties) and, of course, from gay, lesbian, trans, non binary and yes, straight lifestyles. And we all get along fabulously!

Let me state right up front that you don't need to be gay to dance with us, but you do have to be tolerant of other people's lifestyles. We come from all walks of life and we often dance a role that's different from our gender and that's totally okay because we're here to dance, not to find dates – even though our club's name sometimes makes people think otherwise.

Our group is made up of couples and singles and it's never hard to find a partner when we square up. If you're single and you dance girl, get up on the dance floor and hold up your left hand and someone who dances boy will step in to take that hand and be your partner for the tip. It's really as simple as that.

So now let's address the elephant in the room...

Are you uncomfortable dancing with someone of the same sex? That's not at all uncommon but I would suggest that it may be only because you haven't had that privilege of doing so before now.

I think you're only uncomfortable because of unfamiliarity and once you've had a chance to discover how much fun we have and how much we have in common because of our love of dancing, you'll have found kindred spirits and new friendships that you might never have known otherwise. Your discomfort will melt away and you'll wonder what all the fuss was about in the first place.

I would point out that in straight clubs, there have often been a shortage of men and I've seen my share of women dancing with "Man" badges on their blouses. You don't see the women getting all icky when dancing as same sex couples; so why would it be any different for men?

That's how I feel about it and I hope the next time you have an opportunity to join us at a local dance event, you'll square up with us and see how much fun it is to dance with such a diverse, talented and fun group as is the Ottawa Date Squares.

And if – no, make that when – you decide it was really fun after all, don't hesitate to join us on our regular dance nights because the more, the merrier after all.

But don't wait too long because Ottawa will be hosting the International Association of Gay Square Dance Clubs' yearly dance convention at the Westin conference centre from July 5 to 8, 2023 and we have amazing internationally renowned callers bringing you over 150 hours of amazing dancing and it's open to ALL square dancers, even our '+' allies and we'd love to square up with you.

See you on the dance floor!

JM.



Club News Riverside Gypsy Squares:

Hello, it's been a long time since we have written to all of you! The Gypsies were dancing this last summer for the whole of our summer season of camping trailers to a new "home". We are staying at the Lower Beverley Lake Municipal Campground in Delta. We now bring our "rigs," actually various sizes and types a in Rideau Lakes Township south of Smith Falls. It traces its roots back to the 1794 when the first settlers arrived from Vermont. The Old Stone Mill is a museum that traces the development and changes time brought to this enterprise and is a designated National Historic Site. Volunteers provide guided tours of the mill and there is also a pamphlet that provides information about the range of architecture in the buildings around the area.



The campground hosts both seasonal and temporary campers. The seasonal sites do not become available very often as people love the ambiance, facilities, and activities available at the campground. The temporary sites go very quickly in July and August. The campground also has a number of small cottages and bunkies that you can rent for a short stay most months although they are a weekly rental in the high season of July and August.

The Management has offered to set aside enough sites for the Gypsies for the weekends that we camp out. Most of our members now arrive on a Thursday and leave on Monday or some on Tuesday. For those members who need a shorter stay that isn't a problem either. Most of the Club will park in an area that offers water and electrical service. Some smaller trailers can fit into sites near the creek that runs into Lower Beverley Lake. For those who larger trailers there are a few more sites closer to the entrance and the snack bar. There are lots of trees throughout the areas where we camp. If you are near the creek you often see the heron or the Canadian geese. I have occasionally heard the call of a loon as well.

This past summer we have danced in the open-air pavilion while still taking precautions to keep everyone as safe as possible. We now dance on Friday night and Saturday afternoon. There is still a chance to spend some time together and visit at a special meal such as the corn boil, strawberry shortcake dessert or a slow cooker potluck. A campfire is lit in the central area where most of the rigs are and everyone is welcome to join us there. We have been delighted to have the company of extended family members come to camp for the weekend. Some grandchildren have come out

to watch us dance or their families have joined us for a meal.

There is a small beach where you can swim and the fishing is good as I often see the boats heading out in the early morning.

We will be camping again next year beginning with our first weekend May 11 to 15th.

If you would like to join us for a day or for the weekend you can contact Helen Mac-Callum at 1-613-330-4873 or helenmaccallum@sympatico.ca

Mary Anne Reinhard

Riverside Gypsy Squares



Club News Square Dance Ottawa

www.SquareDanceOttawa.ca

Wendy VanderMeulen

Square Dance Ottawa has been dancing monthly since March of this year. We dance on the 4th Sunday of the month, 2:30 – 4:45. At the most, there were 4 squares in attendance; at the least, there were 2 squares. My main method of attracting people has been through Meetup (<https://www.meetup.com/square-dance-ottawa-meetup-group/>).

I started the program trying to teach a specific number of calls between 2:30 and 3:15, leaving the “just dance” portion to an hour and a half. After a few sessions of that, I found that the dances were more fun for the attendees if I just added calls from time to time throughout the afternoon. I’ve stuck with that arrangement for the last 3 months. It works well.

The program is set up so people can come every month or just come once to try it. There is NO commitment, as there is not a progression in the calls taught. So, every dance includes the very first simple Basics (Circle Left and Right, Stars, Do Sa Do, Right & Left Grand, Arm Turns, Promenades, Swing). After that, I try to use a variety of things, depending on the group – Ladies Chain, Back-track, Wheel Around..... Once, I tried Grand Square and it worked just great! So, I tried it again a couple months later – different group and it just didn’t work at all! And because the idea of the dance is focus on fun, I didn’t force them to learn it. We just moved on to other things.

I always get a variety of ages in the attendees. And I always get a variety of ethnic backgrounds. However, everyone gets along, and they all leave thanking me for a great time.

Several people DO come back more than once. Some I never see again. And NINE people who started dancing at SDO are now registered with either the Ottawa Date Squares or the Meri Squares! That was definitely an important part of my reason for starting SDO.

The MAIN reason was to give people who could not commit to weekly lessons a place to dance with no commitment. I had visions of filling a hall with 10+ squares (forever the optimist! ☐) but I am very satisfied with how it has worked out. Of the 113 people who came to try dancing for the first time, 1 has come 5 times (and now dances with the Ottawa Date Squares), 2 have come 4 times, 4 have come 3 times, and 16 have come 2 times.

Another reason for SDO is to accommodate people who decide in the middle of the dance season that they want to start dancing. Now, they don’t have to wait until next September to start. They come dance once a month at SDO and have a head start for when they join your club in September!

I’m not doing this just for me. I’m doing it to build the square dance family in EOSARDA. Feel free to send (take) your non-dancing friends to SDO any time! The last dance of the 2022 season is on Sunday, November 27th. We are currently dancing at Heron Road Community Centre, 1480 Heron Road, 3rd floor. All are welcome.

Club News Sunshine Squares

Plus level)

Canterbury Community Centre, Ottawa

Wednesdays (7:30 – 9:30) pm

The last 2 years have been a challenge for all of us. Our club managed to maintain some social activities, even though we were not able to have our weekly dances.

We had a picnic with our fellow dancers in September 2021 in Mer Bleue. It was very nice to see everyone doing so well during this difficult period. The weather was beautiful and we had a great turn-out.



We had another picnic in May 2022 in Hogs Back Falls. We were very eager to get back into square dancing in the Fall, hoping that the health situation then will allow to do so.



We are able to resume our weekly dance in September 2022. On the first night of dancing, most of us felt very rusty after more than two years, but it did not take long for us to get back into the swing of things. Some of our dancers are still reluctant to resume dancing, but several new faces have joined us so that we have had 2 squares or slightly under each night. Bob Summers has been ably blending Mainstream and Plus calls so that the two levels can dance together.

More Mainstreamers and Plus dancers are still welcome to come and dance with us.

We would love to see you!

By Sophie and Peter Kwok

Club News Swinging B's

Well, after a LONG break from square dancing, the Swinging B's are up and active again. We started on September 9 and September 16 with 2 Open House events, which were very successful! Our Club Caller again this year is Don Moger. And our Guest Caller is Bob Summers. We are looking forward to reviewing our Basic and Mainstream moves with both of these Callers.

We have a full Executive looking after the workings of the Club and we are planning for a full year of dancing at Basic and Mainstream levels. We have started from the beginning and are working through the Basic calls and then will move on to Mainstream, so there is some review each evening.

We held our Country Howdown/Hallowe'en dance will be on October 28, and had an excellent crowd. "Farmer Bob" did a wonderful job finding music with a Hallowe'en theme and adding some of his own sound effects. That was a great addition to the evening.

The Swinging B's are planning already for our Tartans & Kilts Dance on November 27. It will follow the same format as other years. And, we are hoping that many of you will join us for that event. It seems that there are not many Special Dances for dancers to attend this year, so this is an opportunity for you to get out and dust off your dancing shoes!

Our Club Christmas Dance will be on December 16. This is not a Special Dance, but we would look forward to receiving any visitors who would like to join us for that Friday evening.

For both events, don't forget your Travel Sheets to collect your signatures for your Travel Badges. And, for our Christmas Dance, we will be looking forward to Clubs coming to "nab our banner".

Respectfully submitted,

Helen MacCallum & Bob Cameron
Presidents



Swinging B's Round Dance Group in Cornwall

In June this year, a group of people very interested in learning to Round Dance gathered and began lessons to learn to Round Dance. Mr. Kim Hamilton is the leader and a wonderful teacher. We started out with 8 people. Starting on January 11, 2023 we will be dancing on Wednesday afternoons from 1:30 PM-3:30 at the Cornwall Senior Citizens Club Inc (upstairs) at 119 Pitt Street. We learned positioning, like "sidecar" and "banjo", and steps like "basket ball turn" and sliding doors". The class is looking forward to strutting their stuff at the Swinging B's Tartans & Kilts Dance on November 27 in Cornwall. At this time, we will be taking a break from dancing and we are looking forward to starting up again soon.

Our Group will be starting over again from the beginning on January 11, 2023 for Phase 2 Teach". If anyone is interested in Beginner Round Dancing, this would be your opportunity to join the existing group. We will be starting from the beginning and continuing to learn dance moves, progressing through the list of calls from Beginner to Phase 2. So if you are a dancer who dances at the Phase 2 Level and would like some practice or review, please join us and practice your moves.

We look forward to growing Round Dancing in this area including Montreal and Ottawa as well. Without beginner teach classes to teach new dancers to round dance, there will be fewer and fewer dancers to progress up the levels of round dancing and support their activities in the future.

For more information, please contact Kim Hamilton (cell # 613-349-5808 text) or Helen MacCallum (cell # 613-330-4873 call or text).

Helen MacCallum
Mr. Kim Hamilton

Club News Swinging Swallows



SQUARE DANCING

Swinging Swallows

The Swinging Swallows – back in the nest!

The Swallows, like many clubs, are trying!

Trying to find our dance shoes and badges;

Trying to remember the moves;

Trying to stay safe and away from COVID germs;

Trying to bring new dancers out to try it just for fun!

Our recruiting efforts will continue through the first part of January. Like many other clubs, we lost dancers -- about two squares, for various reasons -- during/after COVID mandates. We will continue to encourage folks to come out to see what square dancing is about.

Meanwhile, the Swallows are having fun – Hallowe'en party time! Our Décor Diva (Norma) set the mood with her decorations: there were spiders and webs all over the tables, rats and other scary figures, bowls full of eyeballs; not to mention the huge cat that sat in the corner just watching all of us, waiting to pounce! We had individually wrapped goodies, and we had some interesting dancing.



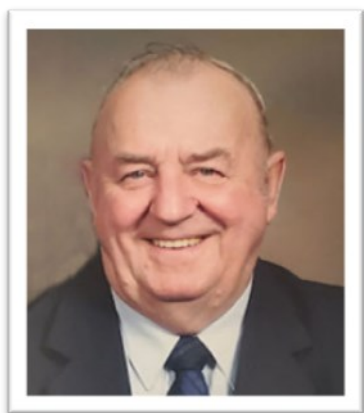
Fun, fitness, food and friends

Submitted by Gloria Bateman

Gordon Hildebrandt's Legacy

A number of years ago, in fact, it was to honour The Swallows' 30th Anniversary in 2017, I wrote "A Swallows' Tale", the history of our club. I had heard the name Gordon Hildebrandt, but I had never met him. At the time the Swallows club began, my husband and I were dancing with the Valley Squares in Petawawa and visited the Swallows a couple of times before we had to stop dancing for health reasons. He deserves a lot of credit for what he accomplished with the Swallows! We can only strive to do as much.

The following is written by Renton Patterson, who knew Gordon and Eileen and was one of the original members of the club.



"This is to advise dancers of the passing of Gordon Hildebrandt on October 16, 2022.

Gordon and Eileen Hildebrandt started the Swinging Swallows Square Dance Club at Wesley United Church's Fellowship Hall in 1987. On moving to Pembroke, they joined Wesley United where they became active participants. Already committed square dancers, they started our Club in Wesley's Fellowship Hall.

Gordon was a very quiet person, but very intelligent. He knew every call in the book, along with square-dance patterns, so if he had been a socially out-going person, he probably could have made it as a Caller. He was successful as a veneer buyer because he could, on the spot, make complex financial calculations in his head. Likewise, he had a firm knowledge of square-dance calls and patterns.

Eileen was the spark of the pair, she arranged to hire Mel Wilkerson as our Caller. Eileen was the talker and could be seen circulating at the Club to speak to all participants. It was a period when modern square dancing was popular, so dance nights would see the Hall jammed full, with squares dancing just inside the back entrance doors. Chairs were lined up around the hall for short rest periods. There was no room for tables.



Mel Wilkerson had an exceptionally fine singing voice and a masterful connection to the music. Mel presently lives in Australia and connects now and then with a square dancer of his period with us, Bettyanne Brown, who is now the Secretary at the church."

This photo shows the first banner, created when Gordon first started the Swinging Swallows; the other is one that Swallow Wendy Shields made to replicate the original, well-worn banner.

"Many thanks to Gordon, now remembered to us as one of the pair that started the Swinging Swallows. May he rest in peace."

Submitted by Gloria Bateman

**OMG !
THAT LOOKS
LIKE LIKE FUN.**



Modern Square Dancing in Ottawa, Ontario, Canada



**COME
JOIN US**

- Singles welcome
- Casual dress
- Wear comfy shoes
- Make new friends
- No experience required

Get Social!

**Modern Square Dancing is
the thing to do!**

Have a partner? Great!!

No partner? No Problem!!

Come and have fun with us -

Try it out at our FREE Kick-Off Dance:

Tuesday, January 10, 2023

7:00 PM, J.A. Dulude Arena

941 Clyde Ave.

14-week dance program will begin on

Tuesday, January 17, 2023

More information is available here:

www.MeriSquares.ca

lamarmason4@gmail.com

Proof of 3 vaccinations required. Mask to be worn at all times.

Photo by
www.freepik.com

Photo by Windows on Unsplash

Ring the Bells



**Caller:
Dave Hutchinson**

**Saturday, December 3
Westminster Presbyterian Church
1:30 - 4:00 : Plus with A and C tips
6:30 - 9:00 : SSD with Mainstream tips
\$10 per session, \$15 for both**



Hosted by



Swing into Spring

May 5 – 7, 2023

Please remember that we are making plans for 2023 and hope you will plan to join us.

Callers:

- Ken Ritucci



- Tom Miller



Cuers

- JL and Linda Pelton



Watch the [*Swing into Spring*](#) webpage for the most up-to-date plans for 2023!

Square Dance Clubs

Bay Waves

Basic/MS Friday 7:30pm - 9:30pm

Northwind Community Centre

262 Len Purcell Dr,

Constance Bay

Caller: Ron Gardner

Contact: Ron Gardner

613-878-7712

bay.waves@live.ca

Crazy A's

A1 Friday 7:00pm - 9:00pm

Alexander Community Centre, 960 Silver Street, Ottawa

Caller: John Charman

Contact: Wendy VanderMeulen

613-282-0575

WendyGVanderMeulen@gmail.com

Glengarry Tartans

Beginners + Basic

at every dance Most Sundays

Check schedule 2:00pm - 4:00pm

Usually La Fraternité Hall

49 St Paul St, Alexandria

Check Schedule

Caller: Lynn Trepanier

Contact: Carole & Bernie Lauzon

613-931-1783

clauzon55@sympatico.ca

Grenville Gremlins

Basic/MS Monday 7:30pm - 9:30pm

Check their website location change for Oct 17 and 24

North Grenville Municipal Centre

285 County Road #44,

Kemptville, ON

Caller: Geoff Clarke

Contact: Peter & Geraldine Matthews
613-258-3690
kemptvillesquaredance@gmail.com

Harbour Lites

Basic/MS Wednesday 7:00pm - 9:00pm
Presbyterian Church
Center & Dibble Streets, Prescott
Caller: John Charman
Contact: Gerald & Marlene Casselman
613-652-4232
gm.casselman@gmail.com

Kanata Squares

Basic/MS Thursday 1:30pm - 3:30pm
Dick Brulé Community Centre
170 Castlefrank Rd, Kanata
Caller: Bob Summers
Contact: Bob & Marguerite Summers
613-258-7511
summers_bob@yahoo.ca

Limestone Dancers

Plus/Advance
No dancing until further notice Monday 7:00pm - 9:30pm
To Be Determined
Caller: Dave Hutchinson
Contact: Shirley Brown
613 767 6650
colshirl35@gmail.com

Limestone Dancers

Basic/MS
No dancing until further notice Thursday 7:00pm - 9:30pm
To Be Determined
Caller: Dave Hutchinson
Contact: Shirley Brown
613 767 6650
colshirl35@gmail.com

Lockits

A2

A1 Wednesday A2 - 9:30 to 10:30am

A1 - 10:30am to 12 noon

Brunton Community Hall

1702 9th Line, Beckwith (Carleton Place)

Caller: Geoff Clarke

Contact: Geoff & Teena Clarke

613-724-8438

caller.geoff@bell.net

Meri Squares

SSD* Tuesday 7:00pm - 9:00pm

J.A.Dulude Arena, 941 Clyde Ave, Ottawa

Caller: Wendy VanderMeulen

Contact: Lamar Mason

613-221-9188

lamarmason4@gmail.com

Meri Squares

MS/Plus Thursday MS: 7:00pm - 8:15pm

Plus: 8:00pm - 9:30pm

Westminster Presbyterian Church

470 Roosevelt Ave, Ottawa

Caller: John Charman

Contact: Lamar Mason

613-221-9188

lamarmason4@gmail.com

Mississippi Squares

Basic/MS Tuesday 7:00-7:30pm Full MS

7:30pm - 9:30pm B/MS

Brunton Hall

1702 9th Line, Blacks Corners (Carleton Place)

Caller: Brian Crawford

Contact: Vince and Debbie Guthro

613-257-2480

Mississippi Squares

Plus, Plus Teach Friday 7:30pm - 10:00pm
Brunton Hall
1702 9th Line, Blacks Corners (Carleton Place)
Caller: Brian Crawford
Contact: Vince and Debbie Guthro
613-257-2480
Napanee Pioneers
Basic/MS/Plus Friday 7:00 pm
Southview Public School
18 Golf Course Lane at Cty Rd 8, Napanee
Caller: Dave Hutchinson
Contact: Muriel Brough
613-354-4595
brough@kingston.net

Opeongo Squares

Basic
some MS teach
No dancing until further notice Tuesdays 2:00pm - 4:00pm
call to confirm time & date
Opeongo Seniors Centre
19 Stafford St, Barrys Bay
Caller: Roger Moreau
Contact: Roger J. Moreau
613-628-6626
jrmoreau@distributel.net

Ottawa Date Squares

SSD*/MS
LGBT friendly Wednesdays 6:30 pm - 8:45pm
Room 202, Jack Purcell Community Centre
320 Jack Purcell Lane, Ottawa
Caller: Wendy VanderMeulen
Contact: Jean-Marc Robichaud
613-424-2992
OttawaDateSquares@gmail.com

Ottawa Date Squares

Plus

LGBT friendly Mondays 6:30 pm - 8:30pm

Room 202, Jack Purcell Community Centre

320 Jack Purcell Lane, Ottawa

Caller: Wendy VanderMeulen

Contact: Jean-Marc Robichaud

613-424-2992

OttawaDateSquares@gmail.com

Quinte Twirlers

Basic, MS, Plus Wednesday 7:00pm - 9:30pm

Harmony Public School

Belleville

Caller: Dave Hutchinson

Contact: david dunham

613-403-2882

quintetwirlers@gmail.com

Riverside Gypsy Squares

MS/Plus/Rounds/Lines May/Jun/Jul/Aug/Sep

Every 3rd Weekend

(Fri evening

Sat afternoon)

Lower Beverly Lake Campground, Delta, On

Caller: Various Callers and Cuers

Contact: Helen MacCallum

1-613-330-4873

helenmaccallum@sympatico.ca

Square Dance Ottawa

Beginner Sunday 2:30pm - 4:45pm

Jim Durrell Recreation Centre, 1265 Walkley Rd., Ottawa

Caller: Wendy VanderMeulen

Contact: Wendy VanderMeulen

613-282-0575,

WendyGVanderMeulen@gmail.com

Sunshine Squares

MS/Plus Wednesday 7:30pm - 9:30pm

Canterbury Community Centre

2185 Arch St, Ottawa

Caller: Bob Summers

Contact: Doug Bennett & Laura Johnson

613-730-0002

douglas.bennett2@sympatico.ca

Swinging Bs

Basic/MS/Plus/Rounds Friday Class 7:00pm - 8:00pm

8:00pm - 10:00pm

Knox - St. Paul United Church

800 Twelfth St E, Cornwall

Caller: Don Moger

Bob Summers

Contact Helen MacCallum

hm: (613) 933-4052

helenmaccallum@sympatico.ca

Swinging Swallows

Basic/MS/Plus Thursday 7:00pm - 9:30pm

Wesley United Church Hall

275 Pembroke St E, Pembroke

Caller: Ron Gardner

Contact: Andre Blais

819-689-5487

andre.cathy@hotmail.com

Round Dance Clubs

Capital Carousels

Ph 3-4

Thursday 10:00am - 12:00pm

Parkdale United Church

429 Parkdale Ave

Dancing to pre-recorded tapes

Contact Gaven Currie

613-739-9593

Limestpme Dancers

Ph 2-3 Beginner

No dancing until further notice

Wednesday Ph 2-3 6:30-8:00pm

Ph 3-4 8:00-8:30pm

Polson Park Public School

165 Robert Wallace Dr, Kingston

Susan Connors

613-634-3384

Stepping out Rounds

Ph 2-3

No dancing until further notice

Friday

2:00 - 3:30 pm Teaching New Dancers

3:30 - 4:30 pm Teaching and Dancing Experienced Dancers

St. Mark's Anglican Church

1606 Fisher Ave., Ottawa

(South of Baseline, at Normandy)

John Charman Wendy VanderMeulen

613-987-2711

Swinging Bs

Wednesday afternoons 1:30 PM-3:30

Cornwall Senior Citizens Club Inc (upstairs

119 Pitt Street

Kim Hamilton (cell # 613-349-5808 text) or

Helen MacCallum (cell # 613-330-4873 call or text).

Line Dance clubs

Capital City Lines

Beginner Beginner-Plus Starting Sep 7

Wed 1:00pm - 2:00pm

Alexander Community Center

960 Silver Street, Ottawa

(AJ) Diane Poulton

613-729-4974

clogger13@sympatico.ca

Got Lines

Intro/Beginner/Improver

No dancing until further notice

Tues 2:30 - 3:00 pm Easy Lines

3:00 - 4:00 pm Beginner/Improver

Richmond Arena

(Richmond Memorial Centre)

6095 Perth St Richmond

Dave Westerm

613-838-5428

dlwestern@yahoo.com

Got Lines

Intro/Beginner/Improver

No dancing until further notice

Thurs 7:00 - 7:30pm Easy Lines

7:30 - 8:30 pm Beginner/Improver

Upper Hall, Johnny Leroux Arena

10 Warner-Colpitts

Stittsville

Dave Westerm

613-838-5428

dlwestern@yahoo.com