



Yay! A Square & Round Dance Festival is Coming Your Way

The dancers of BC will be receiving a special gift in July - a square and round dance festival to enjoy. Thanks to the hard work of co-chair persons, Wendy Krueger and David McVige, and their committee members, a 3 day dance festival will be held in Cloverdale on July, 6, 7, 8, 2017. This is a chance for you and your friends to dance to a variety of callers and cuers and to dance with people from all over BC and other areas.

Wendy Krueger describes the dance festival as “the fun you never knew you could have! A festival is like going on the rides at the fairgrounds when you are a kid. There is so much going on of all the things you love to do. The people are all happy. Everything you do is about the fun. And you can make some great new friends there, too. Not only will you meet people you’ll be so glad you got to know, but there will be some people there who turn out to be VERY pleased to have met you, too.”



Have you registered yet?

Registration is open now. It is important to register early so that your dancing preferences can be indicated to the committee and they can work to include them in the program they plan.

The registration forms are available online at BCFestival2017.squaredance.bc.ca. Click the “Register Now” button. You can download the form from the website and print it with blanks and fill it in by hand. Mail it in with your cheque or money order. Or you can fill in the form online and email it to us, and just send in your payment to the registrar by snail mail.

If you have any questions, you can email the committee at BCFestival2017@gmail.com. You can ask for someone to phone you, or ask your question by email.

Come on Cariboo dancers, let’s get a group together and travel to Cloverdale for some great dancing fun.

We know that it is difficult to get people to volunteer to host events such as this these days. Let’s not miss this great opportunity for some dancing fun.

BC FESTIVAL 2017



SQUARE & ROUND DANCE

MINI FESTIVAL

JULY 6, 7, 8

**Cloverdale Rodeo Grounds
60500 176 St., Cloverdale, B.C**

www.facebook.com/bc.festival.2017

bcfestival2017@gmail.com or David: 604-864-7435

Sponsored by: BC Square & Round Dance Federation

Hosted by: Fraser Valley Square & Round Dance Association and
Vancouver & District Caller Teachers Association

Live Lively!



Square Dance!





BC Square and Round Dance Federation

(if you paid your fees, you are a member of this organization.)



From the President's Desk - Ken Crisp, President BCS&RDF

The BC Square and Round Dance Federation has arranged with the Province of BC to have the 3rd week in September declared as "Square and Round Dance Awareness Week" for several years and some Regions have planned activities to promote our recreation during that time. This year a group of non-affiliated old-time square dancers arranged with the CBC for promotion of their event. Some of our members have noted that **poor research and misinformation did not show modern square dancing in a very positive light.** An article on this is available at:

<http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/british-columbia/square-dancing-making-major-comeback-on-west-coast-1.3758224>

Vancouver area caller, **Brent Mawdsley**, wrote to **Brian Elmer** of SquareUp BC and asked, "Can Modern Square Dancing get this kind of publicity?" In his reply Brian quoted surveys and studies that give some information to consider:

- Old time square dancing with live music meets a need for "time-pressed" people who don't want to make a commitment to lengthy learning programs.
- Traditional square dance attire may be part of our image problem.
- Touching, looking at each other, moving to music are less common in the information age of social networking and computers.
- We need to bring fun, casualness and accessibility back to square dancing.

The publicity that the old-time square dancing received is not necessarily a bad thing for modern square dancing. We do need, however, to ask ourselves how can we make better use of the opportunity to use square dance awareness week. If they can do it, so can we. **In every Region of the Province we should be planning activities that are visible and using whatever media we can to get the message out.** If you need help dealing with the media, contact Brian Elmer at SquareUp BC. brian@squardance.bc.ca



*The B.C. Square and Round Dance Federation
wishes you and yours
a very Merry Christmas
and a happy New Year !*

Ken Crisp, President
Bill Wood, 1st VP
Bill Morey, 2nd VP
Pat Zeeman, Treasurer
Carla Gyle, Secretary
Norm Cox, Past President



REGION REFLECTIONS

Williams Lake Stampede Whirlaways

by Gil McCall

Firstly, our hearty thanks to all of you who attended our "Once Upon a Time" Jamboree in May. We had dancers come from many areas of the Province, including Courtenay, Langley, Mission, Prince George, Dawson Creek, Vanderhoof, Vernon, Kelowna and Penticton. Our guests included **Ken** and **Sally Crisp** of Port Coquitlam. Ken is president of the B.C. Square and Round Dance Federation. A lot of people traveled to Williams Lake in their dry-camping units and were able to park within steps of the hall. As usual, **Mary Anne** and her crew did a tremendous job on decorating the Longhouse....and the food committee provided a delicious variety. The audience appreciated the skits. They were lots of fun and were well done.

Our featured caller again was **Dustin McGifford**. Dustin celebrated his 25th. birthday during the Jamboree. He called the Saturday afternoon and Saturday evening squares while **Nick Turner** called Friday evening and **Mary Anne** did the weekend round dance cueing. A good time was had by all!

The theme for the 2017 Jamboree will be JUNGLE SAFARI. Wow, imagine the fun we'll have with that! It will be held May 26, 27 and 28, 2017.

The Whirlaways' next special event will be our annual Christmas dinner on December 10th. Please bring non-perishable food for the special basket. These items will be distributed to those in need and are very much appreciated.

The ever popular March Merriment (Pie Night) is scheduled for March 4, 2017. For this event, club members bring pies. At the end of the dance, we have tea or coffee...and guess what...delicious pies. THEN, pies not consumed are auctioned and those monies go to the Child Development Center. They use the funds to help with necessary additions and improvements. It's a great cause and we're delighted to work with this organization. Last year, over thirteen hundred dollars were raised. Out-of-towners are especially welcome to attend.

We are happy to tell you that we have about a dozen new dancers at our Monday evening learning sessions. I'm told they pick up the basics quickly and are very enthusiastic. The square dance game cannot go on without fresh blood, so we're delighted to have the newcomers.

We have a new feature at our regular Thursday evening dances. **Bill Cave** has been playing guitar and singing since he was an itty-bitsy kid and now has taken up calling, and he does a tip each week. Bill says it helps him understand the art of square dancing and is thoroughly enjoying it. Way to go Bill...keep it swingin'.

During the summer, a lot of our members travel here and there. In June, **Madge and I**, along with other members of her floor-curling team, ventured to Edmonton for a tournament. I have two kids in the Alberta capital city and they took us to a surprise entertainment special as a Father's Day celebration. It was called 'Rock Around the Clock' and live performers did Buddy Holly, Chuck Berry, Elvis and on and on. In total they did 125 songs. It was special to me since I had played all those 'ditties' as a young disc jockey. It brought back many great memories!

Last, but certainly not least, a belated happy birthday to **Mary Anne Turner**. This lovely lady celebrated her #@th year on October 18th. She was born in the beautiful city of Halifax in 19#@. Hope you had a great one!

Note: Our caller, Dustin, was rather 'wild and wooly' looking this year. He was growing his hair to donate to the cancer society for the manufacture of wigs for cancer patients.



Kindly, several of the dancers at the jamboree donated some money to the cause and Dustin donated that along with his hair. Thanks, dancers!



Merry Christmas

Join the Stampede Whirlaways
for their

Christmas Dinner and Dance

Saturday, Dec. 10, 2016

Child Development Center
690 North 2nd Avenue
Williams Lake

Dinner at 6:00 PM - Dancing will Follow
Mainstream and New Dancers

Whirlaway Members - \$5.00
Guests - \$8.00

Donations to our Food Hamper collection would be welcome

Dana
Nick

dball@telus.net
nmturner@telus.net

(If possible, let us know you are
coming so we can be sure to have the
right amount of food available.)

THANK YOU - Once again we should all thank our club treasurers and our Region 5 treasurer, Bill Cocker. They have been working hard to fill in the necessary forms and complete the fee collections for this dance season.

After receiving the money and forms from each club, Bill Cocker (Prince George) has to complete over 20 forms and submit them to the BC Square & Round Dance Federation treasurer, Pat Zeeman (Victoria.). Pat submits all of BC's information to the Canadian Square and Round Dance treasurer, Beth McGifford (Penticton.)

We seldom stop to think about it, but we are so lucky to have people that volunteer to take on tasks like this on our behalf so that we can all dance knowing that our clubs, our dancers and our executives have 3rd party liability insurance. Yay, Treasurers!

Skeena Squares (Terrace)

by Diane Weismiller

It was a beautiful summer in Terrace and we were very busy in our garden. Art and I managed to attend the 58th William's Lake Jamboree and enjoyed dancing to **Dustin McGifford** with the Whirlaways and their guests. We admired all the decorations and the skits created for the "Once Upon a Time" theme by **Mary Anne** and her crew. You can see the newspaper article and video of the skits on the Whirlaways' Facebook page.

At the end of July we attended the National Festival in Regina. More than 860 dancers were registered and we had fun dancing with couples from Ontario, North Dakota, New York, New Brunswick, Saskatchewan, Alberta and BC. It was good to see several BC callers there. We enjoyed visiting and dancing with **Ken and Sally Crisp**. **Ray Brendzy** and his children **Caitlin and Nicholas** all did great tips and caller **Gordon Ruedig** was there with his wife **Yvette** and friends from Powell River. They were a jolly group and we had fun with them.

Many of our dancers spent some time away traveling on holidays or attending to family business. **Milt and Shirlee**, **Judy and Kelly** holidayed outside of North America while **Ron and Kathryn** spent time at their gold claim, visited family in BC and camped on their road trip north to Yukon and Alaska. **Gordon and Bertha** were busy with family matters and made a trip to Hawaii. **Alma and Jim** stayed close to home while Alma spent a few weeks in the hospital. Happy to report that she is making a good recovery after her surgery. **Pat** was busy helping her mother move but was able to spend some time enjoying the outdoors and capturing photos of bears.

We started dancing on October 17th but haven't had more than one square out yet. Some of our regulars are still away and others who have showed interest have not been able to attend so we are hoping for better luck in November.

Vanderhoof Drifting Squares by Sandi Jespersen

Our Square Dance club ended last season with a small group for our final dance and potluck. **Dolores and Gys** led the group in squares and rounds. **Sandi** was south with her parents, taking care of her dad in his last days.

In June we danced to LIVE MUSIC!!! A fiddler/caller (**Bob Fyfe**) from Alberta was passing through and asked to call. We met at Riverside Place Sr. home and danced for over an hour. Great fun.

In June, **Dolores, Jerita and Terry** went to Williams Lake for their Jamboree. They had a great time. (**Jerita and Terry's grand daughter** is out of hospital but goes into Vancouver for regular check ups. She is doing well. Meds are being adjusted.)

We danced once again at the Nechako Fall Fair (Vanderhoof Fair) in August and had some dancers from PG helping us out. Thanks so much for making it possible for us to have 2 squares. We also had a table at the Vanderhoof Rec. Fair.

In August **Dolores** led some square dance nights to keep her calling skills up and to give some of us some dancing time.

This September we have 4 new dancers and a total of 22 dancers on our register. If all the Mainstream dancers come out, we will have 2 squares! Welcome to **Heather Stephens, Jackie VanZandbeek, Marissa Hall (youth), and Don Summerskill.**

We will once again invite youth and their families to an evening on October 20th to introduce them to square dancing. We've had success with this..... from 3 students showing up to whole families and we had 3 squares on the floor. We hope for the best.

In early November we are attending the Seniors' Health Fair. Time to find something to do with your "free" time and get your flu shot. **Heather and I** will be there to talk to people about square dancing. After 13 years we still get "I didn't know there was a square dance group in Vanderhoof!" Never fails to bring a smile to my face.

Reminder: we dance every Thursday night - 6:30 rounds; 7:00 New Dancers; 8:00 we blend into Mainstream and dance until about 9:30 or until we run out of dancers. Exceptions would be pot luck nights.

The summer was a time for some to travel and dance. **Dolores** attended the "Chase the Fun" in Chase BC and Prince George's Jamboree, went to Alberta and helped the family build a mini house - A SeaCan. 8' x 70' x 9.5' - tiny - for their daughter. **Dave** danced at the **Prince**

George Jamboree and traveled to Dawson City to spread his dad's ashes.

In the fall, **Dave and Dolores** started up a new square dance group in Fort St James. They are struggling to keep a square on the floor but giving it the old try. We offered them support on their first night (they had 6 dancers show up) so that they would be sure to have a square and now they will continue on their own.

Sandi spent time going back and forth to Chilliwack to care for her Mom and Dad. Her dad passed at the end of June. **Bob** traveled with his mom in early June to Washington, and **Sandi and Bob** took weekend travels in the motor home with a trip to Prince George with their group "BC Bus Nuts." In late August, **Sandi** taught a couple of youth beginner squares at the Bulkley Valley Fall Fair in Burns Lake, and attended a wedding in Chilliwack for Sandi's niece in mid September. (We are glad to be home to clean up the garden, winterize the motor home, dig spuds in the snow - and put our feet up.)

Lorna and Rick spent the spring, summer and fall tending the garden and heated greenhouse and had fruits and veggies that most of us buy only at the grocery store. They also are caring for her dad who continues to live so much longer than expected. Thoughts and prayers with you both.

Katherine and Mike had her dad's memorial this summer. They took their motorcycle to Smithers and Terrace. The summer was spent at their cabin on Fraser Lake. **Rachel McCully**, had a baby boy in the Spring, and is continuing to stay at home and be a mom.

Stephen made his annual trip to Prince George for the Jamboree. He also traveled to Maple Ridge to his brother-in-law's. He was pleased to go visit his old home at Websters Corners. Last fall **Norman** and his partner bought a HUGE house in downtown Vanderhoof and they are spending this summer sorting and moving into all their rooms and spaces. A gorgeous house!

Note: A Callers' School will be held in
Wetaskiwin, Alberta - July 16 -21, 2017

For full info and a registration form - go to

[http://www.centralalbertadancing.com/
SRDIAA/SRDIAA-CallerSchool-2017.pdf](http://www.centralalbertadancing.com/SRDIAA/SRDIAA-CallerSchool-2017.pdf)

Prince George Northern Twisters by Julie Skead

Here we are back, September 12th, to square and round dancing on Mondays at 7:00 p.m. at Knox United Church, 5th and Brunswick. Plus (Tuesdays) and A dancers (Thursdays) in the afternoons dance under the direction of **Lorne Paulson**. We're glad to welcome 4 new dancers this Fall to our club. **Gys Koops** is our caller and **Gary Dean** is our cuer.

Back in April our club danced demo squares twice for Gateway Complex. Also that month, **Phillip** came back to dancing, an important part of recuperating from a serious motorcycle accident. Elections brought us some dependable people returning for duty and some relatively new dancers taking on some positions.

Graduation: 5 new dancers graduated at a nice ceremony to honor their accomplishments. 'Angel' dangles for name badges were presented to members who, for up to 19 years have been willing and positive helpers for new dancers. We also acknowledged our 7 'Four Score And More' members, 6 who come out regularly to dance!

Our June Jamboree, "Under The Sea", was a full weekend with well known caller, **Murray Few** from Edmonton. We enjoyed a catered, delicious roast beef and ham dinner with backdrops of vertical streamers of blues and greens moving with the hall's fans like waves and dance wear that represented ocean colors, mermaids, pirates, sailors, seashells, seaweed, and sea creatures.

Neil lent his expertise once again, making small treasure chests for center pieces and a large one for a display...all loaded with 'gold' coins. Our thanks to **Susan and friends**, who took on 'Under The Sea' decorating with such gusto.

Visitors included dancers from Williams Lake, Dawson Creek, Fort St. James, Vanderhoof, and Kamloops. Honorary Member and one of our Four Score And More dancers, **Irene Rigler**, had a cast and sling on her arm from a fall and wasn't able to get out to the Jamboree.

A rhumba round dance workshop by **Gary Dean** was a treat.

On the Saturday morning, **Mary Anne Turner** presided over the Region 5 AGM for all dancers, callers, and cuers, to share information, ideas, concerns.

At our end of June summer dance night a barbeque supper was shared by four squares as a send off for **Rob** the minister at our church venue and an upbeat personality in our club, who was transferring to Ontario.

We were saddened to hear that **Carol Panter** lost her battle with cancer at the end of June. I wonder if we can understand the depth of this tragedy. Our hearts go out to all the family. Carol, with husband, **Ben**, was such an energetic and positive influence on our club.

Eight of our dancers attended the Quesnel Annual Blue Grass weekend. Great venue and a variety of bands and music.

Kevin and **Pearl B.** write: 'We had a great time square dancing at the Williams Lake Jamboree. Thank you for providing such excellent hospitality and talented callers **Nick and Mary Anne Turner** with guest caller **Dustin McGifford**, and at least 6 volunteer callers on Sunday morning.

At Williams Lake, I (Julie) admired the murals of classic fairytales, the tiaras for rent, the Mad Hatter Tea Party and Glass Slipper Ball, over the top skirts, lovely meals, and the great Saturday morning round dance workshop. **Glenda M., Dolores Y., Jolanda, Laurel, Susan, Neil, Gervin** and **Cathy** traveled and took in the weekend of dancing as well. It was good to see **Penny** and **Dennis**, who are settled now in the Okanagan, and to see familiar faces from previous Williams Lake Jamboree years.

Seven from our club took part in the square and round dance jamboree in Chase, with **Mariann Sanford** and **Sandy Meyer** cuers and caller **Steve Edlund**.

Reta spent the month of May visiting her son in England. She also spent time in Scotland and Wales and she and **Dean** went to Germany.

Kevin and **Pearl** enjoyed a trip to Victoria in July to visit Kevin's mother and sisters and stopped in Abbotsford to visit some of Pearl's family and some old friends. *Continued on Pg 7*

Continued from Pg 6

I drove again to the Penticton Elvis Festival, one of 2 in Canada recognized by Elvis Enterprises, so qualifying to send winners on to such competitions as Memphis and Vegas. It is a rare singular focus for a weekend, lovely weather, friends. (Interesting that one of the Elvis Tribute Artists, **Tyler Wagner**, of Surrey, is a square dance caller.)

I also spent half of the summer in my home town of Dawson Creek.

Ray L. was on hand as conductor of the Railroad Museum's mini train for the Downtown Summer Fest, for the annual 4 day train rides in the Heritage area at our exhibition in August, and for the Hallowe'en theme night. He also plays mouth organ and guitar now and then at the Cancer Clinic, for patients, families, and staff.

Ray recently visited old railroaders and wrestling buddies over the 1500 k to Regina for the 50th anniversary of the Saskatchewan Sports Hall of Fame, of which he is a wrestling inductee for competing in the Rome Olympics, and Games in Wales, Jamaica, and the USA.

Gervin H., Maurice M., Ray L., and Pat S. rehearse weekly with the Forever Young Choir at the 10th avenue Seniors' Center. Watch for their inspiring Christmas presentations.

We're looking forward to our Snowflake weekend November 4th, 5th at Knox United with **Merv Meyer** and **Sandy Gregson-Meyer** from Kamloops, bringing encouragement, challenge, and genuine warmth.

So....have you heard? Our club will celebrate next year, our **60th anniversary**. Plans are in the works for a gala 'Looking Back' June 2-4th Jamboree at the Hart Pioneer Center. Caller / cuers returning to challenge us and make us laugh, will be **Murray Few** from Edmonton, and **Jerry Jestin** from Alberta and Yuma. We'd sure like to hear from past dancers, many of whom have moved from Prince George over the years. My email address is **juliamcgowan@gmail.com** for anyone out there who is, or knows of, someone we should contact and invite.

**Prince George Northern Twisters
Snowflake Dance**

Featuring Caller **Merv Meyer** and Cuer **Sandy Meyer**



Bringing many elements to a dance, such as duets, yodeling, demos, mixes mainstream and plus, mainstream and rounds, 6 couple squares!

Come and join us **November 4th and 5th** at Knox United Church

Itinerary:

Friday	7-10pm	Mainstream Dance with Rounds	\$10
Sat	11-2:30	Mainstream dance with Rounds Lunch from 12:30-1	\$10
Sat	6pm	Potluck dinner	\$6
Sat	7:30-8pm	Pre Rounds	
Sat	8-10pm	Mainstream with Rounds	\$10

Billing is available; phone Reta @ 250-962-2740



Web page: www.northerntwisters.ca
Or Facebook
<https://www.facebook.com/Northern-Twisters-Square-Dance-Club-889393164415323/>



CONVENTION 2018

London, Ontario, Canada
July 19, 20, 21, 2018

Make The Scene In 2018



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Phone: 519-396-9877 or 519-396-7228
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E-mail: convention2018@squaredance.ca
Post Office Mail: Convention 2018, c/o Lee & Sharon Cox
12 Anne Marie Crescent, Kincardine, ON N2Z 2M9

20TH Canadian National Square & Round Dance Convention

Mile Zero Grand Squares (Dawson Creek)

by Bernie & Jean Smith

We had a good summer until the rainy season started. We attended the Prince George Square Dance Jamboree and had a great time dancing and visiting. A big thank-you to everyone that did all the work setting it up.

After the jamboree we traveled to Vernon to visit with Jean's sister and her husband. Then it was time to travel back to Williams Lake to attend their jamboree. We had a great time dancing, visiting and feasting. The hall decorations were something out of this world. Thank you **Nick and Mary Anne** for all your work and preparations.

We spent a beautiful sunny, warm week at Carp Lake with all our family, children, grand children & Great Grand daughter. We had a good time relaxing and fishing. We were able to bring home our limit of rainbow trout.

Later we visited Bernie's cousin and his wife in Calgary. We spent a few days touring and visiting with some square dance friends. On our way home we stopped at Sandholm to attend their Square Dance Camp out week-end. We had a lot of fun dancing and visiting with some of the people that traveled with us in the Alaska Highway Square Dancers Caravan to Dawson City, Yukon.

About the time we returned home the rainy season started: We were planning to use the rest of the summer quading and camping but as it turned out we were only able to camp out twice. Oh well, there will be another chance next year. There is always a good side, we have a wonderful green lawn (which needs mowing every third day) and the flowers are beautiful.

We started our new season of square dancing at the end of September with two squares. We have four new dancers at present and hope they will stay with us.

Winter has arrived early here, there are a lot of grain crops still in the field. It is too bad as they had bumper crops this year, but could not get them combined and in the bin. The excess rain degraded the wheat to feed and there is no market for it at the present time. (sometimes we just can not win).

We were invited to do a square dance demo at the Sweet-water Music Festival. We got enough volunteers for two squares. It was a rainy day but they had a covered band shelter for us to dance in. There were several brave spectators that seemed to be enjoying our performance. We invited some of them to join us on stage for a bit of a lesson on square dancing. Some took the chance and enjoyed their experience.

Summer Trip up Stewart Cassiar Highway

by Kathryn Blezard, Ron Murphy (Skeena Squares)

This route from highway 16 just east of Terrace to the Alaska highway just west of Watson Lake is full of interesting sites, great camping spots and spectacular scenery. There are many totem poles to view at Kitwanga and Kitwancool. Grill 37 in Kitwanga is a good place to eat, but closed on Mondays. Further up the road just after you cross the Nass River, take a left turn off the highway and see the Meziadin River Fish Ladder where sockeye and chinook leap in the air as they navigate the fish ladder in late summer. Meziadin Lake Provincial Park has lots of camping spots with great views of the lake. At the junction turn left and drive into Stewart BC and Hyder Alaska. The Salmon Glacier is a drive on a gravel road that should not be missed. Be sure to carry your passport.

Further up highway 37, Kinaskan Lake Provincial Park is a good camping spot. Another side trip, just south of Dease Lake is into Telegraph Creek and Glenora. Check on the road conditions first. Large motor homes should not do this trip. Dease Lake has fuel, groceries and an ATM machine. Jade city is a good spot to pick up some souvenirs and is right on the highway just south of Boya Lake Provincial Park. Before Boya Lake a left turn off the highway will take you to the former Cassiar townsite where you will see a number of derelict vehicles, a few buildings and a huge tailings pile.

Once you reach the Alaska Highway you can head up to the Yukon or east to Watson Lake, Fort Nelson and eventually to Prince George.

We made the trip in mid August with two other couples and the campgrounds were quite busy. Insects were not a problem in August.

Bits n' Pieces

As I See it by Nick Turner

One of the biggest obstacles to keeping Square Dancing alive is the Age Gap. We - the current club dancers in B.C. are almost all over 60, many are in their seventies. We have a badge for the 80 year olds and now an additional dangle for the over 90.

Good for us! Square dancing has kept us young. But - and there is always a but - where are the 20, 30 40 and 50 year olds who could be dancing with us?

Square dancing needs to be *multi-generational*. We need the majority of our club dancers to be between the ages of 40 and 80 with a healthy sprinkling of 20 and 30 year olds and families with kids aged 12 to 19 and yes, the active over 80s.

Problem is, we mostly talk to people who are watching our demonstrations and we talk to friends and acquaintances, as 'word-of-mouth' is accepted as the best way to recruit. Do you really think 20 - 40 year olds are going to be enthusiastic when a pink-panted octogenarian or an elderly lady in a big flouncy skirt totters up and tells them to try Square Dancing "because it's so much fun."

And do you think the 20 to 40 year olds will be enthused by the out-of-date music - especially Hoedowns - that many of us play? Take a look at Square Dancing as so often portrayed on You Tube and Facebook. It's oldsters tottering around with nary a soul under 60 or 70 tottering with them. The Image we portray of our favourite activity does not enthuse the 20 - 50 group.

So what can we do? First of all, if we are 70 and older, don't recruit friends and acquaintances who are 70 and older. Instead recruit 60 year olds and younger. If you are 60 and younger, recruit only people who are at least ten years younger than yourself.

Callers, for heaven's sake invest in some new music. There's nothing wrong with old songs but the older music does not use modern

instrumentation and older hoedowns are hokey. Go to the website "Music For Callers" and listen to what is available. A lot of old songs have been newly released with modern sounding instrumentation.

Prices range from US\$6.00 - \$9.00 - pay with PayPal. Find new music on iTunes at \$0.99 - \$1.29 a tune that you feel comfortable using for your patter - easy immediate download to your digital device using an iTunes card.

Treat your dancers to something new! Entice the not-yet dancers with something exciting! Spice up your entertainment value.

**Look - An Event in Burnaby for
Plus Dancers**



SWEETHEART GALA

Sponsored by the Fraser Valley Square and Round Dance Association

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2017
CONFEDERATION SENIOR CENTRE - 4585 Albert Street, Burnaby



Don Moger..Calling
Ellen Robertson..Cueing



PRE - ROUNDS at 7:00 PM
PLUS DANCING FROM 7:30 PM - 10:00 PM
DOOR PRIZES REFRESHMENTS PARKING
TICKETS: \$15.00 TEENS \$7.50

NO TICKETS AT THE DOOR
"SINGLES BOARD"



"SPECIAL PLUS WORKSHOP"
2:00 to 4:00 on Saturday
\$3.00 at the door with proof of Gala purchase

Tickets from the people with the "ASK ME" badge or contact
Mary Cox at 604 584 5506 or email marymcox@telus.net

Do Sa Do or Don't Sa Do?

by Nick Turner

Do Sa Do is probably the most familiar call in Square Dancing but it is also one of the most awkward and overused calls. Its flow is terrible - it's a double reversal of body flow and that is why few dancers do the actual call, preferring instead the waist swing that is more comfortable.

Some of the world's top callers no longer use Do Sa Do - it interrupts the flow of their choreography. Unfortunately many callers seem unable to call Swing Thru without preceding it with DSD. The DSD is totally unnecessary.

Have you noticed that in a singing call Grand Square is often a scramble to get back home to start? This is because a singing call figure is exactly 64 beats and sometimes 68 or more beats. If callers would omit the Do Sa Do in the figure, dancers will have an extra 6 - 8 beats to get home ready to start the Grand Square -and other 'Grand' calls - on the first beat.

Callers, do smooth dancing a favour - limit Do Sa Do in your choreo or omit it altogether.

So why would any caller want to call this:

GRAND SASHAY

From a Right And Left Grand Formation (e.g., after Allemande Left).

Dosado, right pull by;

Seesaw, left pull by;

Dosado, right pull by;

Seesaw, left pull by.

Ends in a Right And Left Grand Formation.

Note: See Saw was dropped by Callerlab as meaning "Left Do Sa Do" and is now only used with 'Walk around your corner, See Saw (Left Walk Around) Partner.'

We now call Left Do Sa Do.

Williams Lake Jamboree Fun

by Tom Bingham



There comes a fine day, later on in May,
When we gather with friends near and far.
We are here to have fun, dancing with everyone
Arriving by plane, motorhome and car.
We rent a big hall that is central to all
Where we all can camp out or tent.
For a place that's too small is no good at all,
And motels just want too much rent.

The first day we start, before it gets dark,
With round dances cued by the best.
At the end of the rounds, square dancing calls sound
Until ten thirty at night there's no rest.
Then we retire for the night and we're up at first light
To have breakfast as all our friends do.

After this, schedules are planned and if you like,
you can sign up for a workshop or two.
If not, it is fine to go sightseeing for a time,
Getting back to get dressed by five.
At six the dinner bell sounds,
and at seven thirty it is rounds,
This evening is very much alive.
There is entertainment, too that starts half way through
The square dancing after the rounds.
In our club are a few that worked very hard too
To give entertainment that knows no bounds.

When this evening is done we will wish everyone
The very best for their trip back.
Most will stay the night, leaving at daylight.
Some will stay for the breakfast snack.
And if they do, they will dance a bit too
As they work their way out the door.
Fondly thinking without fear of the up coming year
When they will all come back for more.

It's Fun Looking Back

Roads Snowed in? Light up Your Bucket of Sawdust!



In a recent edition of the Country Dance & Song Society OnLine Newsletter, I was amused to read an account of square dancing in the 1950's in the rural west.

Rosamund Burgess from Idaho explained that in the winter they never knew when the roads were going to be closed and so in their vehicles they would carry a bucket full of sawdust saturated with oil. When they found themselves snowed in as they travelled, they would stop in the middle of the road and set the bucket on fire. As other cars came along, they would gather around the bucket and soon they had enough people for a square dance - right in the middle of the road. They would dance by the light of the fire and the light of the moon.

When one bucket went out, someone else would get their bucket out for the dancers to use.

A Popular Singing Call Figure from 1961

It was pretty busy and probably danced at 132 BPM

Ragtime Melody on Western Jubilee

Open Break Close

Allemande Left, Grand Right and Left, Promenade, go Red Hot, RH lady right, Partner Left, Corner Right, Roll Promenade Partner, Swing

Figure

Heads Circle Four 3/4, California Twirl, Split Sides to line of four, Forward eight and back, Pass Thru, Ends turn in, Dive Thru, Pass Thru, Star Thru Square Thru 3/4, Bend the Line, Square Thru 3/4 Promenade Home, Swing

We've Come a Long Way, Baby!

Do you remember those old, really thick 78 rpm records and the old wind up victrola we played them on? Can you imagine the caller or cuer lugging around a case full of them for the evening dance?

Dropping one was a disaster because the shellac they were made from was brittle and the record could crack or break.

The vinyl 45s introduced in the 1960s certainly made things easier but many callers still preferred the old ways and continued using the 78s. (Sounds familiar doesn't it!)

A caller calling a weekend Jamboree would need perhaps 30 to 40 records. Even with 45s, that was still a load to carry.

I remember Mary Anne selecting the 40 or more Rounds needed for a weekend event. She had to look up their number in her RD catalogue, find them in various storage boxes, place and arrange them in the order in which they would be used in a carrying box, lug them off to the dance and then the whole process repeated in reverse when she got home. Tiresome.

CDs helped as these could be burned at home and 20 or so tunes would fit one CD. Still tiresome and now a variable CD player was needed to play them.

Now with the magic of computers 10,000 and more songs can be stored on a laptop, ipad, or other device and quickly arranged in a play list ready to call.

We've come a long way, baby!



REGION 5 DANCE SCHEDULE 2016/2017

(We have tried to be accurate but suggest phoning to confirm the event before travelling.)



WHEN	WHERE	EVENT	CALLERS/ CUERS
Nov. 4-5 2016	Prince George	Snowflake Dance	Merv & Sandy Meyer
Dec. 10, 2016	Williams Lake	Christmas Dinner and Dance	Nick & Mary Anne Turner
Dec. 8, 2016	Vanderhoof	Christmas Potluck and Dance	Gys, Sandi, Dolores
Dec. 12, 2016	Prince George	Christmas Dinner and Dance	Gys Koops
Jan. 21, 2017	Prince George	Robbie Burns Dance	Ken Sipe
Feb. 13, 2017	Prince George	Valentine's Day Dance	Gys Koops
Feb. 27, 2017	Prince George	Theme Night	Gys Koops
Mar. 4, 2017	Williams Lake	March Merriment & Pie Night Dance	Nick & Mary Anne Turner
Mar. 13, 2017	Prince George	St. Patrick's Potluck and Dance	Gys Koops
Apr. 3, 2017	Prince George	Goofer's Night	Goofer Callers
May 26-28, 2017	Williams Lake	59th Spring Jamboree -Jungle Safari Theme	Dustin McGifford, Nick and Mary Anne Turner
June 2-4, 2017	Prince George	Spring Jamboree Weekend - 60th Anniversary !	Murray Few and Jerry Jestin
July 6-8, 2017	Cloverdale	BC Festival 2017	Many Callers & Cuers
July 19-21, 2018	London, Ontario	Canadian National Festival 2018	Many Callers & Cuers

If you wish to submit an article to the Cariboo Connection, contact us at nmturner@telus.net The deadline date for the February issue is **January 18, 2017**.

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