

The CARIBOO CONNECTION

ISSUE # 63

EDITORS: MARY ANNE & NICK TURNER



Thank you to our Region 5 Callers, Cuers, Dancers and Club Executives. You are greatly appreciated!

Mary Anne Turner
President R5CCDA

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We Didn't See That One Coming !

(A note from the editors)



Throughout our region, and indeed across the world, square dancing has come to an abrupt halt due to the arrival and spread of the CoronaVirus. Many festivals, conventions, jamborees and other dance parties have been cancelled - sad but socially responsible decisions.

For us, as editors of the Cariboo Connection, we realized that there was little point in printing hard copies of the April newsletter since the clubs are closed down and would not have the means to distribute them. However, we felt that, in these stressful and rather lonely times, it might be helpful to keep our square dance family in touch with each other and thinking of happier thoughts.

So, here is the April edition in digital format. Due to the shortened dance season, there isn't as much news as usual or posters for upcoming events. However, we hope that you will find something of interest to read and will be reminded that your square dance friends are still around.

We are hopeful that most of you will have internet access and will be able to use it to read this newsletter. We know that not everyone will be able to do so, but this is the best we can do at this time. Perhaps some of you could print a copy of the newsletter to give to a friend that needs one at a later date.

We would also like to encourage the Region 5 dancers to stay in touch with each other by what ever 'socially distancing' means you have available. A phone call, an email, a Facebook message or a Skype conversation might really make a person's day. We are all in this together.

Our thoughts are with all the dancers and leaders in our region. We are looking forward to having you on the dance floors again - happy and healthy. Fingers crossed that it will be soon!

REGION REFLECTIONS

Vanderhoof Drifting Squares

by Sandi Jespersen

We have had a great winter dancing and only needed to cancel dance once in January. Our new dancers have progressed well and have completed all the basic moves. We spend our time reviewing and sure-ing up the more complicated moves. Well done dancers!!

Lorna and Rick Beatty have had their share of medical issues. Rick has fluid on his lung and has had it drained several times. This week he is down in Kamloops (providing the pandemic doesn't prevent his procedure) for tests and possible procedures. Lorna is dealing with her own vertigo issues and doesn't get to dance (her fave thing to do) as much as she would like.

Laura Ruiter had a mishap on the ski hill and she has been off the dance floor for a few weeks. Nothing is broken, but she was unable to put weight on her knee. We've been lucky that more people haven't come down with colds and the flu.

Our Hat dance in January was so much fun. Thanks to all for their efforts and wonderful hats.

Valentine's and St Patty's dances were well attended. The Prince George dancers have been very supportive of our club. Twice there has been 4 or 6 (for our Valentine's dance) dancers join us. So nice to have so many smiling faces and 2 squares on the floor all night. And on the flip side....

Terry and Jerita, Dave Risky and Terri-Anne Houghton have regularly gone into PG to dance there. One day we will take 8 dancers into PG and "swipe" their banner.

This April our club will be 17 years old. I never thought back in 2003 that were going to be going more than a few years. Now we have 2 caller/cuers and many dedicated dancers. It has been

so worthwhile. And thanks to **Gys Koops** for calling for our special dances.

Thanks again to the dancers that haul equipment to the hall from our cars, help with setting up speakers and all that stuff and those that set up chairs, tables and bring treats and beverages. "Many hands make light work."

Now with the Corona Virus making its rounds, we have put our dances on hold until after Easter. We will re-evaluate the situation and go from there. We wish all dancers good health, remember to self isolate and keep washing your hands. It's hard to dance when we are told to stay 2 meters apart.

Maybe we could come up with a Virus Dance and get a dangle for that. Stranger things have happened.

We'll see everyone in the fall or on a dance floor this summer if things change.
Keep smiling.

For information on dancing around the province, remember to use the website provided by the BC Square and Round Dance Federation

www.squaredance.bc.ca

or call the InfoLine at

1-800-335-9433

Prince George Northern Twisters

Julie Skead

Please note that the Prince George Jamboree that had been scheduled for May 1-3, 2020 has been CANCELLED.

It has only been 2 months since I wrote for the last Cariboo Connection. Gys Koops, our Square Dance caller, and Gary Dean, our Round Dance cuer are greatly appreciated.

When things are back to normal, **Dolores Young**, **Jolanda Van Dyk**, and **Maurice Mingay** get opportunities to call at **Lorne Paulson's** during Plus square dance practice. Lorne continues to coach and keep A1-2 and Plus dancers 'dancing by definition', a pretty heavy agenda I say. Dolores calls and has cued, and Jolanda calls alternately at Monday Mainstream. Intermediate Round Dance instruction is weekly, from Gary Dean, and his wife, **Barb**.

As always, we are grateful for volunteers, our Executive (President - **Dolores Young**) as well as other dancers who take on tasks to make regular dance nights and supper and dance nights with themes, go smoothly. (Special dance moments are sealed with photos by **Neil** and **Susan Hunter** and **Emery Cawsey**. **Glenda Matthews** is our decorations organizer.)

Valentine's Dance - our stash of special dance decorations tubs were iced-in in our treasurer's shed. Thank goodness for Dollar Stores! The sweets, the music of love sentiments and our dancers in red seemed to give our 3 squares and 10 round dance couples over-the-top energy. (**Gys Koops.**, **Dolores Y.**, **Jolanda V.** calling/ **Gary Dean** cueing)

Family Day Dance- again great that 10 couples danced Two Step and Waltz Rounds (Gary Dean cuer). With the 2 young guests, **Eric** and **Karen** we had 4 squares, which felt good, too. (We tried not to gasp at how quickly they caught on, and of course we hope to see them again. And... there was

Steve and **Cindy's** toddler granddaughter joining them in round dancing 2 step....so cute.) I hope all family and friends who came felt welcomed and saw the joy of dancing.

Sadie Hawkins Dance - (new for us...Leap Year Girls ask the boys.) Well is that much different than usual? Think... L'il Abner, Daisy Mae comic strip, Beverly Hillbillies, and a backwoods setting if you wish, and picture gingham, peasant blouses, straw hats, overalls, red handkerchiefs, old jeans, binder twine belts, work boots and wool socks/ odd socks/ or none, with cornbread, oatmeal cookies, punch, sarsaparilla drink. (We had the similar, root beer from sassafras.)

Gateway Lodge Assisted Living and Jubilee Lodge - again we were invited to entertain residents with square dance.

I think getting up to 10 Round dance couples and having 3 squares out most winter Mondays before Covid-19 is good, considering most miss here and there due to driving conditions, other events/ commitments popping up, sickness, injuries, being 'drained' from an overfilled week, and snowbird vacations. (Travels include Mexico, Vegas, Lower Mainland, The Island, Okanagan, Dawson Creek, Grande Prairie, Edmonton.)

If you haven't experienced Miracle Theater's annual production, (locals **Ted Price**, Director and Designer and **Anne Laughlin**, Producer) consider learning of their inspiring, heartwarming, funny plays. (Recently... 'The birds And The Bees'.)

Proceeds go towards funds that grow, for local non profit organizations. Our cuer, **Gary Dean**, is Lead Carpenter and club members **Neil** and **Susan Hunter** are part of the Fit-Up, Painting and Striking Crews and Front of House.

Gary and Barb Dean are hosts every year during the February March performance run at Artspace, above Books And Company. Also, we are proud of the over 60 Prince George business

(continued on next page)

supporters private donors and numerous volunteers who help make this production a success.

Now for Covid-19. Things went awry at first gradually then quickly, as we were filled in on the spread of what would indirectly then directly affect everyone.

A St. Patrick's Day Dinner and Dance, Goofer's night, 50's- 60's theme night, will have to wait for next year. Also our May 1-3 **Jamboree** with well known caller, **Steve Edlund**) and **Connie Ritchie** cuer from Victoria has been **cancelled**.

Under other conditions, if health danger issues were resolved somehow, we would encourage dancers to experience any Square and Round Dancing they can with their own and other clubs, e.g. the 21st Canadian National Square and Round Dance Festival, July 29 - August 1, 2020 at the Sheraton Guildford, Surrey has not been cancelled at this time. Check out their website to keep up to date.

<https://www.squaredance.bc.ca/2020>

We look forward to the health danger passing and times being better and 'a handle' on Covid-19, then to the go ahead for all kinds of activities, interaction and well-being in our communities. Perhaps we'll see you somewhere, sometime on a dance floor.

(Some day back to Mondays at 7 Trinity United Downtown, 5th and Brunswick/ side parking lot ground level door to basement.)

*Check out our website if you wish. www.northerntwisters.ca for posters, still photos, and videos.

A Note to us from Bernie and Jean Smith

Mile Zero Grand Squares - Dawson Creek

Hope all is well with you, we are doing well. We had to cancel the last two dances of the season because of the virus.

We had a fair turnout this year, gaining one more couple. On our best evenings we had three squares.

A good time was had by all, and we may plan a camp-out this summer, if there is some interest.

Bernie has been busy at the Senior Hall, playing cards, floor curling etc. The Hall is now closed due to the Virus.

He is now busy working in his wood shop, building wishing wells. After finishing four, he is now building a green house for me.

He was in a ten-week crib tournament every Sunday. He was lucky to win second place, and came home with a nice trophy.

He refuses to sit idle so he was on the road again to Beaverlodge in Alberta, to attend a floor curling tournament last Saturday. His team won second place again, I guess I could call him a Two-timer.

Right now we are staying close to home to try and keep healthy. We hope to be able to attend the Prince George and Williams Lake Jamborees. (if they are not cancelled and our legs will let us).

We are looking forward to spring so Jean can get into her garden and green house. We know spring is coming, we have a wild bunny rabbit in our yard, it has a few dark spots, so Spring is not here yet.

We have a campsite on the farm in an old yard site. The price is right. The yard is on a hill with a good view. So peaceful and quiet. We also look forward to our family trip to Carp Lake for about ten days. This has been our annual trip for many years.

That's it for now. Hope to see you soon.

Stampede Whirlaways -Williams Lake

by Mary Anne Turner

Do any of you remember Joe Btfsplik? He was a character in the Li'l Abner comic strip created by cartoonist Al Capp. Joe was well-meaning but was a jinx to anyone around him. A dark rain cloud followed him wherever he went.



Well, since the last issue of the Cariboo Connection, the Stampede Whirlaways have felt like they had their own personal Joe Btfsplik following them around. So many things happened at once that it was hard to believe !

One dancer took a tumble on the ice, broke ribs and ended up in the hospital. Two dancers were very sick with a long lasting version of the flu. One went to the dentist for a simple cleaning and came home on dance night with several teeth missing. One dancer had surgery on his hand which put him out of commission for quite a while. Three were involved in 2 separate car accidents resulting in concussions, and two dancers were flooded out of their apartments by broken water pipes. They had to spend 6 weeks in hotel rooms away from all of their belongings and eating restaurant food.

At the same time as all this was going on, 5 lucky dancers were away on holidays (we envied them) and so the attendance on dance nights has been very poor. We had to cancel our annual fund raiser auction due to the lack of dancers and bakers.

Finally, when we hoped to get back to normal, the Coronavirus hit and all had to be cancelled. Good grief!

On the bright side, we did manage to have a nice Valentine dance and enjoyed the riddle game that some of the club executive had arranged. The men were given a tag with a riddle on it. The ladies were given a tag with an answer on it. Dancers had to find the tags that matched so they had a partner for the next tip.

Example - riddle was “What starts with an E but only contains 1 letter? Answer - An Envelope!

Continuing with the bright side, 3 dancers from Prince George arrived one night before our shut down and danced with us. They sure were welcome and it allowed us to finally be able to put 2 squares on the floor - quite a novelty for us lately. Thanks **Ben and Tonya and Philip.**

We did have a wonderful time this season with our 3 young new dancers. They were such fun to dance with and we were amazed at how quickly they learned new moves. We were very worried when we heard that 2 of them had been in a serious car accident, along with other members of their family. It was good news to hear that, although they suffered from concussions for a while, they are both well now and are looking forward to joining us on the dance floor again.

Also, we offer our congratulations to Whirlaway dancer, **Ordell Steen** on the publication of his book “The Scout Island Story: From First People’s Home to Nature Centre”. Scout Island is important to Williams Lake for its nature centre and trails.



Ordell researched and wrote about Scout Island’s history from the time it was part of a Secwepemc village site to when it was used as a campground by the Boy Scouts and up to the nature centre it is today.

We are not sure what to say about our Jamboree yet. It is scheduled for May 22-24, 2020. That is 8 weeks from now. We certainly hope that the square dance world will be back to normal by then but then Joe Btfsplik has not been very cooperative to us lately. We will be sure to notify the region when we know for sure one way or the other and we hope for your support when things are back to normal.

Thoughts from the Williams Lake Stampede Whirlaways

by President Dana Ball

I sit here wondering what I can write about that would be uplifting and make us smile during these trying times.

I'm trying to picture what a Square would look like if we all stood 3 to 4 feet apart and didn't touch hands. Think about some of the calls and try to imagine it!

When we do get to dance again maybe we should try a tip just for fun--! **Nick, Bill, Dolores** and **Gys** if you get bored maybe you could think about what calls might work.

The Whirlaways enjoyed having 3 dancers from Prince George visit on what would have been our annual March Merriment (pie night and auction) but sadly too many of our members that bake were away and we couldn't have the fund raising auction. We did get to enjoy some exceptionally good treats with our coffee.

I was really excited about the May Jamboree's -"Spring Is In The Air" with the Twisters in Prince George and "Planes, Trains and Things That Go" with the Whirlaways in Williams Lake. It would be nice if this Covid-19 was under control by then. We will keep up with preparations for the Jamboree and set our future dates so we will be ready to resume dancing when it is.

Till then let's all try to keep in touch by phone, snail mail, email or Facebook, It will help pass the time.

I hope you all have a good supply of toilet paper – I stocked up on soap and hope I don't run out of water.

Roses and No Raspberries !

• from **Orist** and **Elsie Sharun** (former Whirlaways)
We would like to send a big thank-you to Nick and Mary Anne! Thanks for always delivering the Cariboo Connection to our door. We so appreciate you both! Don't forget the door is always open to come for a cup of tea!

• Roses to **Glenda Matthews** for taking the February issue of the Cariboo Connection from Williams Lake to Prince George for us. We also enjoyed the coffee break chat with you.

• Roses to **Ben Panter** from Prince George. Thanks for making us a cute balloon mascot during your surprise visit to the Williams Lake Whirlaways.



•Roses to **Ben, Tonya** and **Philip** who travelled from Prince George to Williams Lake to dance with the Whirlaways one night in March. With all the difficulties the Whirlaways had been having lately, your company was very much appreciated.

•Roses to **Bill Cave** (Stampede Whirlaways) who is representing our Region at the British Columbia Square and Round Dance Federation level. He has been on the committee responsible for drafting documents resulting from the BCSRDF's re-registration under the New Societies Act and has participated in many meetings. He is also a Director-at-Large for the North Regions - (that's us).

Square dancing is a team sport. When all 8 players in a square have developed Mainstream Muscle (knowing how to confidently and correctly execute each and every call) a square dance TIP can be a thing of beauty.

March 2020 Footnotes Magazine from Square and Folk Dance Federation of Washington.

Bits n' Pieces

All for the Love Of Round Dance

by Jordie Guri (Williams Lake)

When I'd started square dancing with the Williams Lake Stampede Whirlaways last season, I remember looking on with curiosity at all of our round dancers that would dance in between our square dance sessions. This was all completely new to me. Our cuer **Mary Anne**, would call out each round dance step to the dancers as they danced. The dancers would then perform each of these dance steps on the fly as the music played. I'd never seen anything like this before. It was marvellous, I thought. But at the time I was faced with the large challenge of trying to learn all of the square dance steps which were still very new to me.

"Oh well ... Maybe one day for this 'round dance' stuff. If even I can do it.", I thought. I remember trying to dance with **Karen**, during an introductory round dance workshop at the Salmon Arm Festival, last summer. What a flop that was for me. I did not think that this old dog would have much hope in learning to round dance.

Then our 2019/2020 square dance season started last September. As in the previous season with my having to learn to square dance for the first time, **Nick** and **Mary Anne Turner** offered my dance partner, **Karen Piffko** and I, two-step round dance lessons at their home dance studio. Yikes! What a deal! There was no squirming my way out of this one. So Karen and I took the plunge and committed to their dance lessons last October. After learning to square dance the previous season, this seemed like another very uneasy first for me.

In the beginning we danced 2 days a week during most Mondays and Fridays, and just after lunch for an hour each lesson.

The first few times I really thought that Nick and Mary Anne would lose their patience with me, and understandably so. There are so many "two-step round dance" moves to learn. But to my

amazement not only did they have fantastic patience with me, but they were very kind and generous with their time and commitment with us both.

After each day's dance lesson, Mary Anne would lend us a "cued" round dance tune or two. Karen and I would use these for practicing each morning between our lessons.

We played these tunes using my iPhone during our practices. Later, I bought myself a "blue-tooth" speaker which connects to my iPhone wirelessly, and which sounds much better. Karen and I have had 7:30 a.m. dance practices before breakfast, almost every morning since. We've had these practices in our apartment building's main floor tea room where we had some decent floor space for dancing.

This was all very marvellous indeed. That was until February 3, when our building's sprinkler system burst in the attic and drenched most of our building and its contents. All of us tenants had to move out to hotels or elsewhere, while our building got renovated & restored. What a mess, and we no longer had a place for our marvellous morning round dance practices. How very sad ...

But all was not lost. A couple of days after our building had flooded and we had moved out, we decided to bundle-up warmly in our outdoor winter gear & boots, bring my iPhone & speaker, and make use of our building's indoor parking garage space, as our new "round dance studio".



We borrowed a tenant's parked walker and wheeled this walker next to one of the concrete pillars in the parking garage. I placed the iPhone & speaker on the seat of the walker, and .. Voila! Instant round dance studio in a parking lot of all places! And with a live security camera in the garage, we had a live audience too. :). *Continued on next page.*



Needless to say, we are still getting a few laughs whenever someone drives or enters into our building's garage and they catch us there round dancing to music at that hour of the morning, wearing our winter coats & boots. Too funny, but it works great! We were out of our building for 6 weeks and danced there during most mornings.

We are both very active and happy with round dance today. We both highly recommend it to anyone who is thinking of trying round dance. Consider using your smartphone and a blue-tooth speaker for your practices too. These are very handy when you're travelling and great fun most anywhere, and really help in learning. There are also a number of lessons & dances on YouTube that you can use for practice too.

Many thanks to both Nick & Mary Anne, for their fabulous round dance lessons and for their understanding and patience for myself (especially) and Karen, as their new round dancers.

Canadian Square & Round Dance Society Membership (Insurance) Cards

By now, the membership cards should have arrived in the hands of one of your club executive members and will be given to you when we are able to return to dancing.

Please be assured that your insurance and membership took effect on January 1, 2020 even though you had not received the cards at that time.

Pat Zeeman, the treasurer of the BC Square and Round Dance Federation has been having an extremely difficult time printing the cards for British Columbia. She had to print 1,786 cards – one for the Federation, one for each Association, one for each Club and one for each member. That's a tall order !

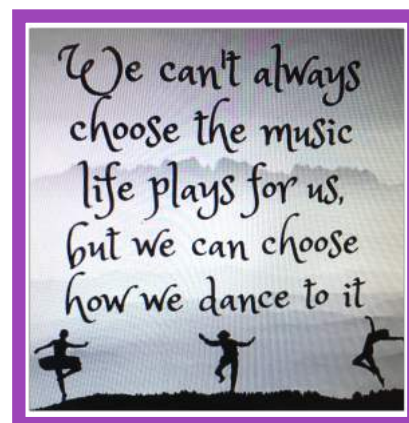
Pat was given a template to use but had nothing but troubles with it. The printing did not line up on the cards where it was supposed to. She reprinted a lot of cards, adjusted the template and ended up designing a new template from scratch. She was still not satisfied with the quality of the cards but to make a long story short – she asked me to let our clubs know that although the quality may be lacking, as long as the member's name, and the membership number are on the card, the rest is just decoration.

Now she is in the market for recommendations for a good quality colour laser multifunction printer/scanner/copier that will print on card stock in the correct spot on the cards consistently.

Being a volunteer treasurer is definitely hard work but we sure do appreciate those who sign up for the job. Thanks, Pat. And thanks to our local treasurers, too.

By the way, the BC Square and Round Dance Federation (BCS&RDF) has not had a volunteer secretary at all for this season. The President, **Jean Wood**, has had to do two jobs at once - not an easy task.

If you know of someone in our square dance world who would be willing to help out by taking on the position of Secretary, please let Jean Wood know. She would be very pleased to get some help.



(Thanks for this thought, Julie.)

OKAY - SO WHERE ARE WE NOW?

1. Williams Lake has not cancelled their Jamboree at this time. There are still 8 weeks to go before the Jamboree. The Williams Lake executive members are going to see what April brings and probably make a decision in early May. So, keep your fingers crossed for us.

<p>Beep Beep! Uroom Uroom! May 22-24, 2020</p> <p>Weekend Package \$50.00 Each (Includes the supper)</p> <p>LOCATION The Long House (Upper Left side of Stampede Grounds, near the Curling Rink)</p> <p>At intersection of Hwy 97 and Hwy 20, turn on to Hwy 20.</p> <p>Take first exit right on to Mackenzie Avenue.</p> <p>Turn right on to 7th Avenue and go up the hill. Turn right on Pinchbeck St.</p> <p>Go almost to end of street and the hall driveway will be on your left.</p> <p>For Info Dana 250-392-3066 dball@telus.net Nick 250-392-2432 nmturmer@telus.net</p> <p>Free dry camping at the hall but the WL Stampede Campground is located very near by. Reservations are likely needed. See www.williamslakestampede.com/campground</p>	<p>Theme Planes, Trains and Things That Go Choo Choo!</p> <p>Williams Lake - 62nd Mainstream Square and Round Dance Jamboree</p>		
	<p>Friday Night - Start Your Engines - \$8.00 each</p> <p>7:30 PM Pre-Rounds 8:00 PM Mainstream Dancing Caller: Nick Turner Cuer: Mary Anne Turner</p>		
	<p>Saturday Morning 10:00 - 11:30 AM Round Dance Social - next exit with Mary Anne and Nick Turner Phase II+ \$6.00 Each</p>	<p>Saturday Afternoon 1:30 PM Buckle Up For Fun Special Treats and Mainstream Fun with caller: Heather Reynolds \$10.00 each</p>	<p>Saturday Evening 6:00 PM Supper at the Whirlaways Truck Stop \$18.00 each</p>
	<p>Saturday Night - All Aboard - \$12.00 each</p> <p>7:30 PM Pre-rounds with Mary Anne Turner 8:00 PM Mainstream Dancing with featured caller Heather Reynolds</p>		
<p>Guest Callers and Cuers welcome on Sunday Sunday - Have a Great Trip Home. Come again. Enjoy a Continental breakfast and casual dancing before leaving. \$6.00 each 8:30 AM - 10:00 AM - Breakfast is Served 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM - Mainstream Dancing</p>			

2. The Canadian National Festival 2020 in Surrey July 29 - Aug. 1, 2020 is still on at this time. The festival coordinators have been in discussion with the venue owners. They have given the 2020 coordinators until the end of April to make a decision. Should the Convention be cancelled by that time they will receive a 60% rebate of deposits. After that date, no refunds guaranteed. You can go to the Festival website to check updates. <https://www.squaredance.bc.ca/2020>



21st Canadian National Square & Round Dance Festival
July 29 - Aug 1, 2020
Surrey BC

Hosted by Region 2 Fraser Valley Square & Round Dance Association

Venue & Accommodation
Sheraton Vancouver Guildford Hotel
15269 104 Ave Surrey BC
Reservations 1-888-627-8063
Ask for Festival 2020 rate!

Tynehead RV Camp (3.1 km)
16275 102 Ave Surrey, BC
www.tynehead.com
Reservations: 604-589-1161

Additional Dances Open to All:
Trail In Dance: Wed. July 29 "Canada Theme"
at Sheraton Hotel
15269 104 Ave Surrey BC
Trail Out: Sun. August 2, 1:30-4
Hosted by Abbotsford Grand Squares, ASAA Hall, 33889 Essendene Ave Abbotsford BC

Dance Offerings:
Squares: Mainstream Plus A1 A2 C1 C2
Wheelchair
Rounds: Phase II III IV V

Festival Website www.squaredance.bc.ca/2020
Facebook: Festival 2020 - 21st Canadian National Square and Round Dance Festival
Festival Colours: Blue Green White

Contact for more Information
Steve: edlunds@live.com Norm: marymcox@telus.net

3. Prince George has **cancelled** their spring Jamboree that was scheduled for May 1-3, 2020 We hope that you will remember to support them next year if all goes well.



However, the Northern Twisters are pleased to announce that **Merv and Sandy Myers** will once again be calling and cueing at their Annual Snowflake Weekend in November 2020. They ask that you watch for more details on their Facebook and Webpage.....and in the next edition of the Cariboo Connection.



Oh No, Not More Technology !! - by Mary Anne Turner

I don't know about you, but my brain is getting rather full these days. In an effort to keep up with modern times, and to help with square dance activities, I have had to learn how to make and manage 3 websites. I have set up and maintained 2 Facebook pages. I have learned how to use Twitter. I thought that would be good enough for my purposes.

And now - along comes **ZOOM MEETINGS**. Good grief! Will it never end?

Because of the corona virus, we have all been asked to stay home and avoid gatherings. Therefore the BC Square and Round Dance Federation was unable to host its yearly general meeting in Abbotsford as it usually does. Instead, they decided to meet online, using a program called **Zoom Meetings**.

In preparation for the meeting, I received emails with instructions that seemed like Greek to me. Fortunately, our delegates, **Bill** and **Jan Cave**, are familiar with the program. They agreed to attend this online meeting on behalf of Region 5 from their home in Kersley. Thank goodness! I will be interested in hearing how it went. I am hoping that the BCS&RDF executive didn't encounter all kinds of technical difficulties as they tried to conduct the Federation business.

In the meantime, I wandered onto Google and tried to find out just what the **Zoom Meetings** program was all about.

Zoom Meetings enables companies, clubs, groups, and families to hold online meetings, no matter how big or small they are. Participants can join in from a computer or a mobile device anywhere in the world as long as they have an internet connection. They can turn on their cameras so others can see them or keep them off in case they want privacy. Each individual can also turn off their microphone as well to make sure there are no background noises when someone speaks.

If, like me, you are curious about **Zoom Meetings**, I would recommend the following web sites.....

- a series of 6 easy, clear videos from Patrick Mc Hugh to lead you step by step through obtaining and using the **Zoom Meetings** program. https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC3_64fWCKz88jfR7NB4NGgw
- How to join your first Zoom meeting if you have been sent an invitation
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9isp3qPeQ0E>
- How to host a Zoom Meeting for the first time.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hI32Xk2Va7M>

So now that I am a bit more informed about **Zoom Meetings**, I am facing my most difficult challenge yet.

I am going to try and explain it all to **Nick**! Wish me luck. 😊

That's a Wrap for This Slightly Shortened Season !

This edition wraps up the 21st year of the Cariboo Connection Newsletter. Thank you to those who contributed to the 3 issues this year.

Although our season came to a rather unexpected and abrupt end due to the Coronavirus situation, we all still owe thanks to many people in our region for the fun we did manage to have. Please take the time to express your appreciation to

- * our callers and cuers for their time and dedication
- * our members who serve on executives (local and regional)
- * our members who write for the Cariboo Connection
- * those members who support the club by turning up for dances, parades, demos and to help the new dancers
- * those members who work on the refreshment/kitchen committee
- * those who help with the setup and cleanup for a dance event
- * those who help the callers and cuers with their equipment



Nick and I hope that you will continue to stay healthy and happy. Don't forget to stay in touch with each other. It really does help.

We hope that you got some enjoyment out of this newsletter and we would like to leave you with a little story that made us both smile.

Good Advice from Facebook - *Always Wear Underwear*

Always wear underwear in public, especially when working under your vehicle. From the local paper comes this story of a Brisbane couple who drove their car to the shopping centre, only to have their car break down in the parking lot. The man told his wife to carry on with the shopping while he fixed the car.

The wife returned later to see a small group of people near the car. On closer inspection, she saw a pair of hairy legs protruding from under the chassis.

Unfortunately, although the man was in shorts, his lack of underpants turned his private parts into glaringly public ones.

Unable to stand the embarrassment, she dutifully stepped forward and quickly put her hand up his shorts, and tucked everything back into place. On regaining her feet, she looked across the car hood and found herself staring at her husband who was standing idly by watching.

The mechanic however, had to have three stitches in his forehead.

