

METRO MATTERS

DECEMBER 2004



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METRO SQUARE AND ROUND DANCE ASSOCIATION
Edited by
DOTTIE WELCH



METRO ASSOCIATION ACTIVITIES

Summer Dancing 2004: Last summer we tried a new format of longer evenings including an early Round dance workshop followed by a two-hour Square dance with easy rounds between tips. That proved to be quite popular and we extend our thanks to Alex Ritchie for his loyal attendance that made it possible. The consistent attendance combined with our beginning Fund-raiser and ending Live Music dance, made it a very successful summer.

New Year's Eve Dance, December 31, 2004, Sponsored by Metro Association:

Potluck Supper at 7:30 p.m. (Coordinate your contribution through Dottie)

Dancing 9 p.m. to Midnight plus a tip **Caller: Kerry Fletcher**

Saint Andrew's Presbyterian Church Hall, School Street, Dartmouth, NS

Tickets \$12 per person, for tickets or information contact:

Dottie & Gary Welch, 435-4544, dwelch@orion.stmarys.ca

Or Ron and Dot Connell, 434-3023, ronconne@supercity.ns.ca

Heart Fund Dance 2005: This year Metro Association will host its annual Heart Fund Dance in support of the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Nova Scotia at South Woodside Community Centre in Dartmouth on Friday, February 25th, 2005. This dance will feature live music by the Metro Fiddlers with Dottie Welch calling. It is open to the general public who will have an opportunity to try square dancing. Invite your friends to come hear and dance to this toe-tapping music. We hope the entry fee of free-will donations to the Heart Fund will better our past records for generosity to this worthy cause. Square Dancing is strongly recommended as an excellent activity for maintaining a healthy heart.

DANCING IN THE SCHOOLS

Continuing to promote Square Dancing in the public schools, we have made another presentation during the October Teacher's Conferences to teachers interested in using dance as a part of physical activity. This year the workshop featured our newly completed first edition of *Ideas for Youth Dancing*. This booklet provides written instructions describing easy dances appropriate for use in schools. The dances are matched to an available and affordable CD containing 20 pieces of square dance music.

MARKETING SEMINAR

Are you a dancer, caller or cuer interested in finding new ways to market Square and Round Dancing in Nova Scotia? Do you have some ideas or suggestions? We are planning a seminar-brainstorming session to be held during Winter 2005 at a time and place to be arranged when we know what is convenient for those interested. Contact either Bob Ruohoniemi, 757-3884, bobruoho@ns.sympatico.ca Or Dottie Welch, 435-4544, dwelch@orion.stmarys.ca

SRDFNS AWARDS PRESENTATIONS, CENTRAL REGION

Cole Harbour Place – June 2, 2004	Bloomfield Centre – November 13, 2004
<p style="text-align: center;">Dancer Longevity Awards presented to dancers of</p> <p style="text-align: center;">COORDINATORS Mildred Carmichael - 50 years Hilyard & Freda Shaffer - 34 years Don & Joan Embree - 30 years Laura Carter - 22 years</p> <p style="text-align: center;">LAKE CITY SWINGERS Stu & Marg Brink - 37 years Doug & Shirley Walton - 28 years Mary Sargeant - 22 years Rose Caborn - 22 years</p> <p style="text-align: center;">SAIL SETS Wilfred & Ethel Logan - 37 years Margaret Yorke - 36 years Bob & Shirley Beaver - 35 years Les & Maxine Cross - 30 years Gary & Dottie Welch - 31 years John & Valerie Pinks - 22 years</p> <p style="text-align: center;">STARDUSTERS Fran O'Leary - 34 years Bennie Slade - 34 years Ron & Dot Connell - 30 years Junior & Pauline Arsenault - 27 years Bill & Jean Milne - 25 years Frank & Marlene Higgins - 24 years Roy & Yvonne Kline - 24 years Don & Marion McCormack - 20 years</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Dancer Longevity Awards presented to dancers of</p> <p style="text-align: center;">METRO MERRY MAKERS / OCEAN WAVES</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Frank & Janet Geitzler - 33 years Ken & Jewel Spence - 33 years Bob & Mary Cooke - 33 years Graham & Sue Skerrett - 29 years Don & Shirley Bellefontaine - 27 years Harold & Edie Young - 25 years Laurie & Georgina Naugler - 24 years Allison & Esther LeBlanc - 21 years</p> <p style="text-align: center;">FUN SQUARES</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Merle & Audrey Crawford - 35 years Mark & Jackie Savage - 34 years Ray Goyetche - 25 years Bruce Savage - 24 years</p>
<p>Club Longevity Awards presented to: Sail Sets - 20 years Fun Time Rounds - 21 years Lake City Swingers - 22 years Caller Service Award presented to: Dottie Welch – 21 years</p>	<p>Caller Service Awards presented to: Mark Savage - 30 years Wade Savage - 28 years Kerry Fletcher - 28 years Bruce Savage – 20 years</p>

WE REMEMBER

Dave Johnson, (died 13 October 2004)

Dave was a long time member of the Stardusters and continued dancing until his health prevented it. Dancing as a single he enjoyed being an Angel for the new classes.

Al LeBlanc, (died 29 September 2004)

Al and Esther danced for 21 years with the Metro Merry Makers and the Ocean Waves. They enjoyed traveling to dances in the Maritimes, especially the Maple Fling and Blueberry dances in Amherst. They were also faithful members of the Bluenose RV Squares.

Lorne Tyler, (died 8 September 2004, age 82)

Lorne began calling in Montreal before moving to Dartmouth in 1963. He called some traditional square dances for the Gralorne Squares and the Maurianna Whirlers. In January of 1964 he and Audry began exploring Modern Square Dancing with the Tartan Twirlers who danced 21 years until January of 1985. His basement experimental workshop group became the Eager Eights, the first Plus Club in the Metro area, which danced from 1979 to 1988. Lorne was also a founding member of MCCA.

Joe Goldston, (15 September 1919 - 27 April 2004)

Sail Sets, Motivators, Eager 8's, Haley Dancers, Heart of the Valley Twirlers, Sues & Ques, House of Roth, Valley Rounders.

Joe and Vera Goldston were very active square dancers for more than 25 years starting in the Valley where they brought up their family and moving to Dartmouth in 1979. Among many other accomplishments they were members of the Board for the 1982 Halifax National and very important founding members of the Motivators. After Vera's death, Joe continued to dance with Mildred Carmichael until heart problems prevented it.

Maurice Reginald Hennigar, (died 9 April 2004, age 85)

Maurice Hennigar called for the Maurianna Whirlers square dance club in Dartmouth from 1954 to 1964. In the square dance world, he's best known for a contra that he wrote called the Nova Scotian, which includes a right hand high, left hand low turn.

Joe Francis (2 October 1950 – 17 March 2004)

Joe Francis passed away suddenly in Regina, Sask. on the morning of March 17, 2004. Joe and Paulette joined the Stardusters Club in 1981 to learn square dancing under the direction of callers Mark & Wade Savage. Junior & Pauline Arsenault were the Presidents and Harry & Betty Lofgren were the class couple who welcomed them to the club. Graduating in 1982, Joe quickly became fully involved in promoting square dancing to the friends he met at work and drew several couples to the activity. As a couple, Joe & Paulette served as Treasurer for two years for the Stardusters Club. They were always willing and able to assist in any way to promote the fun, fellowship and friendship aspects of dancing. Joe was a fun-loving dancer who was constantly "up to no good", assisted quite aptly by Doug Arklie, Frank Higgins, Lyall MacGregor and Junior Arsenault!

Joe and Paulette were transferred to Regina in 1993 as his military career was very important to Joe. This would be his first in-land posting since he joined the Armed Forces. They danced for a short time but his work there would not allow enough time for enjoying the activity the way Joe liked. In 1997, Joe retired and he started a new career as a tractor-trailer driver, a longtime dream. A short time later, Joe was injured in Winnipeg while driving long-haul and his recovery was nothing short of a miracle. Last year Joe & Paulette returned to their square dancing activities in Regina with The New Square Dancers Dance class. Joe was "home", as Paulette calls it! Dancers here in the Metro area will remember Joe Francis with a smile and a chuckle. Joe will be missed by several former dancers of the Stardusters and some Stardusters who continue to square dance today.

Bev Reid (Bayley), (died 8 March 2004, age 60)

Rag Rounds, Scotia Dancers, Metro Merry Makers / Ocean Waves, Stardusters, Fun Squares, Metro Association Treasurer

Bev was a relatively new member of our dance community who was always eager to learn and to participate. She was a ready volunteer willing to help and always very organized. We sincerely regret the early loss of her sparkle and enthusiasm.

UPCOMING MAJOR EVENTS

Look for registration forms at your club for these very special events.

12th Federation Festival in Yarmouth, Nova Scotia, August 5 & 6, 2005 "Keep it Alive in 2005".

The biannual Federation Festival cycles around the 6 regions of Nova Scotia on odd number years, The South Shore Region is hosting the 12th Festival scheduled for next summer. Dancing will be on all non-carpet floors at the Nova Scotia Community College, Burrige Campus, corner of Hibernia and Pleasant Streets in Yarmouth. The Callers will be Neil Dorey, Kerry Fletcher, Wayne Isles, Nelson Labor and Dottie Welch. The cuers will be Pat Labor and Alex Ritchie.

Prior registration for the Festival is encouraged to help the committee with planning and their preliminary finances. Early registration to May 1, 2005 is \$20 per dancer. Send it to Festival '05, 26 Nauss Avenue, Bridgewater, NS, B4V 1V7

Metro area dancers are invited to consider joining a group traveling by van or bus to the Festival. Contact Pauline Arsenault, 434-3648, paulinearsenault@hotmail.com

15th Canadian National Convention in Montreal, July 13 – 15, 2006 Montreal Convention Centre, "Lets All Mix in 2006"

Montreal's latest newsletter lists 24 Nova Scotians among the 756 now registered. The Come to Montreal Presentation in Calgary included a wonderful 10-minute demonstration of traditional Quebec square dancing using their long wool sashes to weave intricate patterns. If that flawless folklore dance performance is any indication, the coming Montreal Convention is a must-attend event. Begin planning now and make sure you save the dates. (The website for Convention 2006 is: <http://convention2006.tripod.com>)

For more information and updates check these Web Sites:

Square and Round Dance Federation of NS: <www.squaredance.ns.ca>

Dance Nova Scotia (DANS): <chebucto.ns.ca/Culture/DANS>

Canadian Square & Round Dance Society (CSRDS): <csrds.ca>

DANS STRATEGIC PLANNING SESSION

On November 21st Dance Nova Scotia held an all day Strategic Planning Session. Some items recommended for continuing and future action were:

- 1) Assist Recreational dance forms with succession planning including maintaining their organizational structure and successful recruitment in an aging and declining market.
- 2) Assist in finding affordable venues for recreational dancing.
- 3) Encourage a popular view of dance as a positive life style choice.
- 4) Continue efforts to promote dancing in the schools by developing teaching kits and promoting workshops for school teachers.