

BUGLE

Square and Round Dancers of South Western Ontario Inc.

WEBSITE: www.swosda.ca **E-MAIL:** bugle@swosda.ca



March 2020
Volume 58 Number 7
President's Message



Greetings fellow dancers!

With the month of February behind us, we're beginning to really appreciate the lengthening hours of daylight. It gives us hope for a bit more sunshine and warmer weather. To all who head for warmer climates at this time of year, the very best from us all for a fun time of relaxation in the sun! We'll be happy to welcome you back!

A special thanks to Dan Roy, our Bugle Editor for staying the course and keeping us up to date with all the interesting happenings in our dance circle. We know you have a full load of responsibilities, and appreciate the fact that in spite of all, you manage to compile a great publication. Well done you and your "proof reader"!

Dancers, on this subject, we encourage you to make a habit of going online each month and truly reading the Bugle. It contains news from all our clubs, with pictures and articles of interest to us square and round dancers. It is for our benefit this magazine is produced, and well worth the read. For any who are not online, look on your flyer table at the club level and peruse this publication. Or, ask a friend to share his or hers with you.

As the dance season of 19/20 marches on, we look back over the last several months of SWOSDA dances, and are grateful to those clubs who have hosted us. Attendance has been increasing and we are enjoying good participation from some newer dancers. Please impress upon your club members the exhilarating experience of these monthly dances. We are able to dance to talented Callers and Cuers who generously give of their time for our enjoyment. SWOSDA dances are always held on the fourth Saturday.

Mark Ackersviller looks after enlisting all clubs to share the experience of hosting. This is a repeat request of the last month or two, as Mark works to fill up the program for the coming year. Don't be shy about asking for details, we need more clubs to take a turn. It is an easy task and very gratifying. Just ask any member of Royal City Squares in Guelph who hosted January, or Thames Valley Squares in Woodstock, hosts for February. We'll all head to Strathroy in March, when Swinging Duos will welcome us.

The last full dance of the season will be held in Kitchener, hosted by Guys 'N Dolls. This is the also the date of the Annual General Meeting, to which two couples from each club are encouraged to attend. It is not a long meeting, and your input is always appreciated. It is for you the dancers that the board exists.

Again we would like to urge dancers to give some thought to serving on this board. Some of our executive members have given an enormous amount of time over the years, and deserve a respite for a while. We are especially looking at this time for a secretary and a treasurer, although there is always room for other committee members. Our kind folks in these positions are only too happy to “shadow” you during a learning curve, so – come on down! Please speak to any of the board, particularly Austin and Avril Hayward who are busy these days scanning the horizon for prospective candidates. It is an enriching experience to be sure, and a pleasure to be part of growing and improving our excellent art form.

Yours in Square and Round Dancing,
President Couple
Jim Ferris and Dot Mitchell



Saturday February 22, 2020

Hosted by Thames Valley Dance Club

Saturday, February 22, 2020 was a special day for the Thames Valley Dance Club, as we hosted the latest Swosda dance. The church facilities had been booked for months in advance and our enthusiastic group of volunteers got busy early, putting out signs, setting up the hall and the executive meeting room with tables and chairs, and brewing coffee.

This was a great experience for our club, cooperating to make everything come together to host a welcoming and successful dance.

The executive met at 11 am. The premier decision made was to invite Tom and Jo Kohnert to present their “Grow Opportunities for your Club.” The Strathroy Swinging Duos have had great success in growing their club in recent years. Everyone is welcome to take in this presentation scheduled for 1:00 pm. In the Strathroy and area seniors Centre on March 28th, but certainly every club is encouraged to have representation there.

Dancing got underway at 1:00 pm. With Stan McKeen cueing a half hour of phase 3/4 round dancing. After a warm welcome from Swosda president couple, Dot Mitchell and Jim Ferris, our host caller Ed Dolson squared us up. 78 dancers and 5 callers and cuers from 13 clubs enjoyed the afternoon of alternating rounds and squares. Many thanks go out to our callers and cuers who donated their time and talents for the afternoon: Stan McKeen, Dave Pauline, Brian McIsaac, Gail Mottashed, and our very own Ed Dolson, the host caller.

Just before the final dance our president couple thanked everyone for coming and expressed hope to see us all at the next Swosda dance on March 28th in Strathroy.

We feel this was a great opportunity for us to grow as a club and we highly recommend every club consider the possibility of hosting in the future.

Hoping to see you all in Strathroy and elsewhere in your dancing shoes.



Find us on
Facebook

www.facebook.com/swosda



REMINDER

The Annual General Meeting will take place at the April SWOSDA Dance. Plan to attend!

- Find out what is happening
- What will the new Executive consist of
- Who will be on the 20-21 Executive
- All these answers and more....

Gone ... But Not Forgotten



Fred Dixon has passed away in his 90th year. Both Fred and Marion were great contributors to the Round and Square Dance activity for many years. Fred cued for many years and taught many of us in this area how to Round Dance! He will be remembered by many in the Square & Round Dance Community.



SWOSDA has learned that Egbert Jacobs passed away on Monday February 17, 2020 at the age of 82. Egbert called for Egbert's Scramblers for many years and he and Mary contributed significantly to the square dance movement in South Western Ontario. We offer our sincerest condolences to Mary and family.

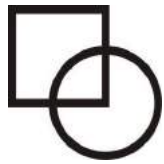


We are saddened to share news of the passing of SWOSDA's square dance caller and friend, Bob Miller. Bob and his wife Estella have spent many years promoting square dancing and providing calling and teaching in our Association. We offer our condolences to Estella, friends and family of Bob. He will be missed.

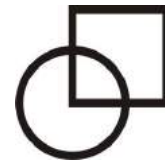


GROWTH OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUR CLUB!

- **Square dance clubs today are facing the same challenges as many organizations. Membership is declining, health issues are prevalent, age is creeping up and costs are increasing. The methods by which clubs used in the past to attract new dancers are not working today.**
- **We all know that if memberships increase, clubs will grow and continue to thrive.**
- **At 1:00 pm on March 28th at the next SWOSDA dance hosted by Strathroy Swinging Duos, (Strathroy Senior Centre) Tom and Jo Kahnert will give a presentation and demonstrate to SWOSDA executive and club representatives on how to easily increase your club's membership.**
- **Tom and Jo together with their club committee will share their marketing ideas which helped the Strathroy club attract 29 new members over the last two years with a program entitled "Introduction to Modern Square Dancing"**
- **Please have a club representative attend this half hour informative session.**



SWOSDA



Square & Round Dancers Of South Western Ontario

MONTHLY SPECIAL IN STRATHROY

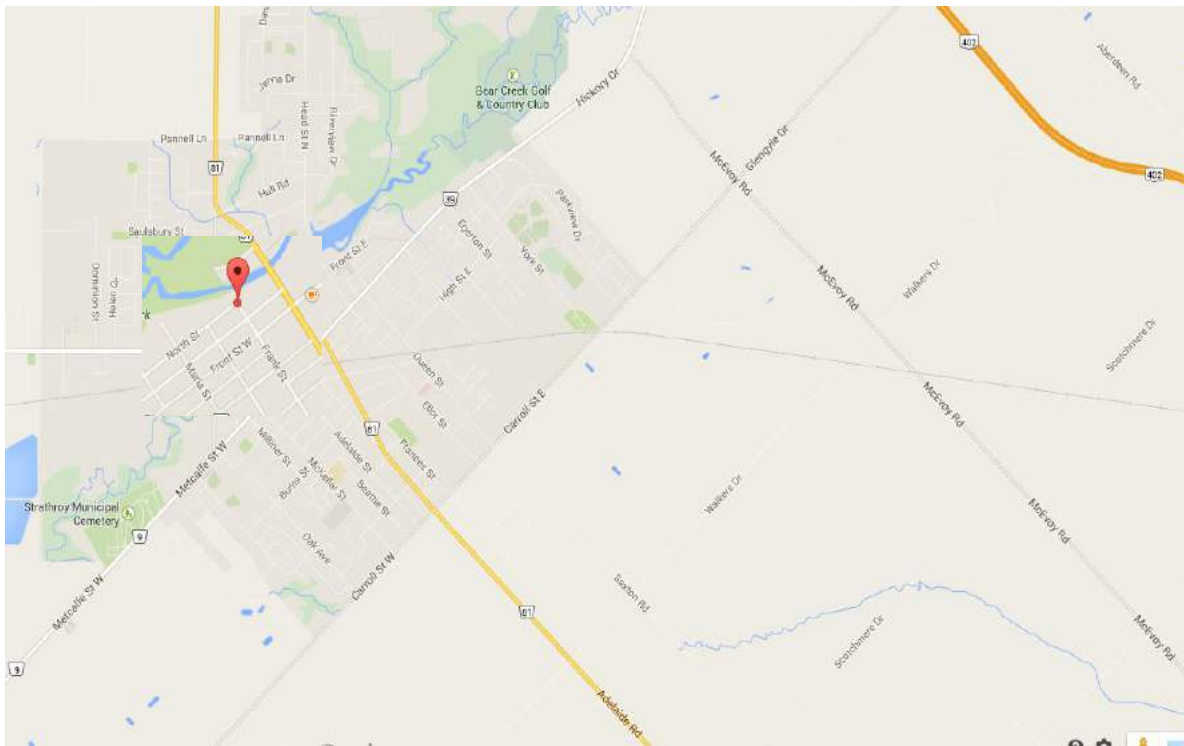
MARCH 28, 2020

2:00 – 5:00 & 6:30 – 9:30 ~ \$7.00 per dancer

Hosted by – Strathroy Swinging Duo's

****Location – Strathroy and Area Seniors Center****

137 Frank St., Strathroy, ON N7G 2R8



For further information or program details Please visit: www.swosda.ca

Or Contact:

Hosts: Ed & Mary Faber

e-mail: edandmaryfaber@gmail.com ~ Ph: 519-245-1758

SWOSDA Contact: Jeff & Andrea Priest ~ jeff@jeffreypriest.com

SWOSDA is a member run organization!

Caller's Clinic Presents....

MARCH

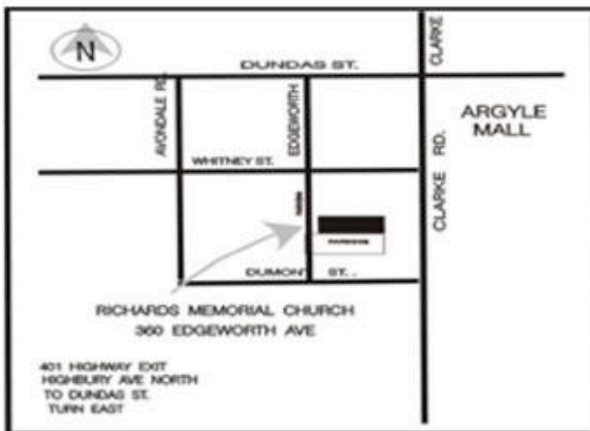
FROSH DANCE



Tom Charlton
Brian MacIsaac
Ed Dolson

Saturday, March 14, 2020

7:30 - 9:30 p.m.
\$5.00 per person



RICHARD'S MEMORIAL CHURCH
360 Edgeworth Ave.
London, Ontario



SWOSDA

Remember When...

Looking Back – 2020-03

Mar. Bugle 1970 – *I always enjoy reading the club news from the earlier issues because they offer up a glimpse of some of the unique ways they made their dancing fun over the years.*

Quoted below is a part of **Centennial Beavers (London)** report
Attendance at their regular dance night had been diminished due to the flu bug. This account describes the following night.

**“Lloyd McCallum, and Kay his mate, Invited us over to dance and skate,
Not out in the barn, this date, But under the stars, by the garden gate.
Equipment set on his V-8, With Cliff calling at his usual rate,
We even made a back-up Star, On blades like knives on a slippery plate.
Finesse, and laughter, while we skate, When the caller asked us to “circulate”
But not one dancer met his fate On the seat of his pants or with a skate”
Since the night was briskly cold, after about 3 tips they went inside to join the others who had come to heckle, and danced some more inside.**

Awawego (St. Thomas) had participated in a mystery bus trip on Valentine’s Day. The trip filled with singing, readings and games, ended up in Guelph, dancing to Johnnie Davidson.

Mar. Bugle 1980 included the following poem, entitled **Time**.

**There’s a time to get and time to give and a time to throw away,
There’s a time to do a kindly deed and that day is today.
There’s a time to sing and time to mourn, a time for joy and sorrow
There’s a time for love, but a time to hate might better be tomorrow.
There’s a time to sleep and time to wake, a time to work and play;
But the time to speak an evil thought passed by us yesterday.**

Mar. Bugle 1990 shared the following poem which originally had been published in the 1977 Bugle.

**“The time has come”, the caller said, “for me to have a say.
I try each week to teach a call, at times there seems no way.
You seem to think when I explain a call when you just blew it,
That’s just the time to take to tell the proper way to do it.
Remember I’ve been hired by you to teach your workshop night
But friends, there just ain’t no way when I’ve competition to fight.
The words above may er’er be said but dancers, lend an ear
Your caller wants you to have fun, wherever far or near.
Put yourself into his shoes, be courteous and listen,
Because it’s very hard to speak above a crowd that’ hissin’.
There is no way that he can teach when thoughtlessly you chatter
You do not mean to act as though what he says doesn’t matter.
So make the evening fun for you and for your caller too,
Talk during breaks between the tips, you’ll learn more when you do.**

Mar. Bugle 2000 Editors of the time, John and Irene Bullock had just arrived home from Florida in time to complete this issue, just in time. They had reports from a record 32 clubs waiting for publishing. Since one of the main purposes of the Bugle is the maintain communications between clubs, they were pleased that the volume of club news had been increasing since they had become editors. They would be handing over the reins to Lee and Sharon Cox in the next season but had a few tips to make the editors job easier. (I hope Dan repeats on a regular basis tips for the reporters that make his job easier)

Mar. Bugle 2010 Carol Down flashed back to Jan 22, 2005 SWOSDA which had been scheduled for the Seniors Center in St. Thomas, hosted by Centennial Beavers. Unfortunately, a severe snowstorm and bitterly cold weather dropped the attendance to 22 couples. That included callers, cuers and executive members. Brave souls that they were, they didn't close the dance until 9 pm.

At this point, I set my report aside, planning to come back to it later in order to be able to proofread with fresh eyes and avoid reading what I intended to say rather than what was actually on the page.

I opened up my email, running my eye down the page, to deal with important items first. I was taken aback by the first items on the list which came from our secretary, informing us of the deaths in the past week of three of our SWOSDA dance leaders - . Egbert Jacobs, Fred Dixon, and Bob Miller. Early in our dancing time we had met and become friends with all three. All three had retired during the last few years. They all should be honoured for their contributions to SWOSDA and the dancing community. I wish to fill out their page in SWOSDA's caller booklet, so if you have any pertinent info or pictures you are willing to share, I would be grateful to fill up their pages. Anecdotes welcomed as well.

I decided I needed some dancing therapy and yellow rocks, so this reaffirmed my intention of attending the SWOSDA dance in Woodstock on the 22nd. That was just the ticket! I didn't miss many tips and received lots of hugs. In between tips, I roamed the sidelines, greeting old friends, catching up on their news. Thanks go to the Woodstock club for hosting such a good dance. Thanks to all those who ended up in a square with me and were so patient as my rusty skills from only dancing a few times in the last few years were so evident. I promise I'll try to do better next time.

Keep those photos and clippings coming in about your special events and noteworthy occasions. Future historians will really appreciate your efforts as much as I do now. I have a portable scanner so we can make arrangements to meet somewhere if you have a picture that needs scanning. Wishing you many years of dancing ahead.

Dorothy Dahm, SWOSDA Historian dndahm@sympatico.ca 519-842-9212



Recruitment Assistance Funding Available

Over the past year some clubs have received funding for dance promotion, truck/car signs, etc, but some have yet to make a request.

\$100 can be requested per club (spending plan & receipts req'd).



As mentioned in the previous Bugle, Rhetha & I were away for 3-weeks vacation to the sunny south. Many thanks for being patient while the March Edition was published a week later.

FEATURE

Response to February Feature “Traditions Matter”

Laura Chernak writes...

The February edition of *The Bugle* featured an editorial by Frank Sonnenberg on the subject of traditional square dance attire in which he planted a seed and gave me food for thought.

I agree with Frank that traditions play an important role in creating a group identity and that traditions which express a set of common values should be preserved. Where I disagree with Frank is in placing so much importance on square dance attire as a symbol of square dancing values.

I do not wear traditional square dance attire but I admire and often complement dancers who attend SWOSDA events with bright colours and full skirts, frequently sewn by hand. It is a pleasant reminder of the days when most women had the time and skill necessary to create their own and their partner's costumes.

What attracted me to square dancing, though, and what has continued to enrich my life is the sense of friendly comradery I have found here. I have often heard Dorothy Dahm quote “Square Dancing is friendship set to music” and, at its best, it certainly can be. The values shared by most of the dancers I have known are friendliness, cheerfulness, tolerance and respect for the dancers in one's square. I love to attend regional SWOSDA dances and to be greeted with smiles and hugs by the people I square up with. When the square breaks down, as it must on occasion, there are no hard feelings and we scramble to get back into place and rejoin the fun. These shared values are really cast into relief for me on the rare occasion when my square includes a dancer whose expression and body language convey a sense of unfriendliness, irritation and disapproval when someone in the square makes a mistake. For me, this is the behaviour which contravenes the important traditions of square dancing. I know I am not unique in having had this experience. A friend of mine, a relatively new dancer, recently stopped attending her local club after too many experiences of being made to feel small because of her inexperience. What a shame!

If we are to attract new dancers and to keep the ones we have, we must all recognize what it is that gives square dancing its unique identity. Our square dance culture must be welcoming toward all kinds of all people. Although the traditional square dance attire, like any uniform, can create a comfortable feeling of specialness and group belonging, it can also be a barrier to people approaching square dancing from outside the tradition. The SWOSDA decision to relax expectations of how dancers should dress has been in response to declining membership rather than the cause of it. If square dancing is to survive, we must become more inclusive. Instead of standing out from the crowd, we need to be doing our best to attract the crowd by making square dancing the socially fulfilling activity that we all love for everyone. In fact, heading down to the local community centre on a Saturday night with posters and promotional cards might be just what we need to do to keep our beloved square dance traditions alive.

See you on the dance floor. I'll be one of the many dancers who will greet you with a smiling and friendly face and likely a warm hug, too.

CLUB NEWS

Send Club News to bugle@swosda.ca

Centennial Beavers - London

February has been a great month for attendance. Weather has been decent and many of the dancers are looking to get their "steps" in. We did have a couple of casualties, John Wood had a fall on the ice and was in a walking cast all month and Karen Dingle, also a fall on the ice, messing up her wrist. Tis the season, they say!

On the UP side , Ruth Beresten, who has not been able to dance for the last 2 years but never missed a dance (just sat and watched). Well, on Friday Feb 21st, Ruth got up and danced her first square and ended it with a huge cheer and applause. We were all so proud of her! Glad to have you back on the floor Ruth.

We hope everyone will be up and running for March. Won't be long before our snowbirds will return and join the ranks for the end of the season.

Our Valentines Party, on Feb 14th was really good fun with everyone wearing their "RED ATTIRE". We had a 'grazing table' full of goodies that were quite varied. Thanks to all who brought our sweets n treats.

Some of us attended the SWOSDA on the 22nd of February in Woodstock. Good to see old friends and make new ones. It was a great dance, and our caller Ed Dolson did a wonderful job of emcee - ing the day.

This March we will have a St. Patrick's Dance on Friday the 13th and we will be wearing green and our 'grazing table' will all be GREEN foods and treats. Come and join in the fun from 7 to 9PM. We love having guests!

We are all looking forward to the FROSH DANCE on Saturday March 14th at Richards Memorial in London. Hope it will be well attended! We had 6/7 Squares at the last one so hope everyone will come again!

Clinton Wheel 'N' Dealers

27 Percival Street, Clinton

Presidents – Don and Kathy Procter 519-357-9557

Caller – Dave and Blanche Paulen – 519-348-8335

Dancing Wednesdays 7:30-9:30 pm Mainstream with announced Plus Tips

Traditional and Casual Attire welcome at our regular club dances

Regular Dances - January 8th – May 6th, 2020

We look forward to welcoming some of our snowbirds home later this month.

We will also host members of the Rostock club for a banner stealing visit.

REMINDER: All round dancers that would like to enjoy an extra round dance, Ian is cueing one piece or two pieces at the beginning of our square dance night.

Our Valentine's Day Potluck was held this year on Wednesday, February 12th. We were treated to an excellent variety of potluck dishes to enjoy followed by another wonderful evening of dancing provided by our callers Dave and Blanche and rounds cued by Ian Hulley.

We remind our club members that we currently do not have a Vice President in place. It takes us all to do our parts to keep the club moving forward. Please consider taking up this role or help encourage someone else that you feel might be able to step up to this position in our club.

Reminder that we dance in a fragrance free, nut free environment.

Ian and Debbie Hulley
Publicity Contacts 519-482-7972

[Denim'N Lace - Flesherton](#)

Our Valentine's Dance on February 12, 2020 was well attended, dancers wore their favorite Valentine outfits and shirts, we had lots of goodies to satisfy everyone's sweet tooth and Share the Wealth added to the excitement. Special thanks to Wanda Gostick and Earl Reid, who were Conveners for this Special Dance. We were happy to welcome visitors from Hanover Happy Twirlers and Owen Sound Steppers. It was an enjoyable evening of modern square dancing to caller Jim Lee. We were sorry to have to cancel our February 26 dance due to weather conditions.

Our March Special Dance will be our St Patrick's Day Dance on March 11, 2020. Sue King is the Convener. Dancers are encouraged to wear green for the occasion. We expect there will be Irish treats and a Share the Wealth will be held.

We extend a reminder to all Square Dancers that the Denim 'N Lace Spring Fling Dance will be held on Saturday, May 9 at Stothart Hall, Priceville 7:00 – 9:15 pm followed by lunch. Please mark your calendars.

Live Lively – Square Dance!

Mel Chamberlain
Bugle Correspondent

[Elora Grand Squares - Elora](#)

St. Mary School, 251 Irvine Street, Elora, ON

Caller: Jeff Priest

We had a fun Disney Night in January when Jeff returned from Disney, Florida. He took his little friends in baby chairs along for the front row of the picture. February was marked with a Valentine Dance..hence the red colours.



On March 30th we plan to have a Big Band Night, which will give us yet another opportunity to dress up! And so the fun continues! We welcome guests so come as you are able...we also have a banner that you can steal from us!

[Guys n' Dolls Square Dance Club - Kitchener](#)

February was a great month for the Guys and Dolls. We had a very successful and fun Valentines Day Dance on the 7th. Our club was thrilled to have 7 squares of dancers from a variety of locations in the area, dressed in their finest red and white outfits. We were privileged to have Mr. Tom Charlton as our guest caller for the evening after our very own Dan Weatherby put the class members through their moves. After the dancing, a wide variety of foods and treats were enjoyed by all over jovial conversations. We all left the hall with big smiles on our faces and a contented stomachs for sure. Many thanks to all who came out early to decorate, set up, and provide the food and clean up. Also many thanks to our guests who are such kind and warm friends.

Please take a moment to check out our flyer table on dance nights where Dorothy and Jim keep flyers for all the Frosh dances, the Swosda dances and all the club dances so well organized each time so no one misses out on any of them. So much is going on in the areas and before too long it will soon come to a close; wow time does fly by.

In February also we will be enjoying a variety of "Coffee Cakes" on the dance on the 21st.

In March we have 2 dances. One on the 6th, which is a regular dance night. The 20th will be "Men's Lunch" which sometimes can prove interesting and delicious.

Looking forward to the following month of April -- the 3rd is a regular dance. The 17th is "Theme Dance" -- The 60's -- and to end the season on May 1 is all Singing Calls night followed by ice cream and a variety of toppings.

We look forward to enjoying another fun night of musical exercise with you soon.

Till we meet again on the dance floor,
Donna Reed, Bugle Gal
Guys and Dolls Dance Club.

[Hanover Happy Twirlers - Hanover](#)

The Hanover Happy Twirlers are resuming dancing on March 10, following a 6-week vacation, due to illness, winter vacations and school availability; everyone is excited to get back to dancing. Let's hope for some good weather to help us out.

We will be starting to get ready for our Sundae On a Saturday Afternoon dance very soon. This dance is being held on April 18 2020 at Holy Family School Hanover beginning at 2:00 pm. Jim Lee is our guest call for this event. Watch for [flyers](#) at your club or check on the SWOSDA Events page for this event.
See you in a square soon.



Eric and Joyce Fatum
Bugle Correspondents

[Huron Bruce Swingers - Lucknow](#)

The Huron-Bruce Swingers send out their condolences to "taw" Mary Jacobs and family in the passing of her husband /caller Egbert Jacobs. Egbert was the first caller the Huron-Bruce Swingers had when organized in 1969. Egbert continued with the club until 1975. Although a few members today do not know him, many remember him well and have attended many dances over the years where he was calling. Rest in peace Egbert - there will be square dancers waiting for you to come and do a singing call.

Did you know that the middle of March brings on spring? Yes, March 19 is the first day of spring - yeh! But really the winter has not been too bad as we have cancelled only one dance.



With our "old time square dance caller" Murray away for awhile, we have another "old Time caller" in our club - President Tony, so we still get an old time square dance in. Look at the pictures and see the attire for the Robbie Burns dance! We even had live music to accompany him thanks to Harvey and his accordion. You never know what talents other people have!

For that February 12 Valentine Dance, those men did a pretty good job of putting on the lunchmmm? They did set up the table nicely and we had a real luncheon. And we got to R-Villa to entertain the residents. Our former member, now resident there, Donelda, was asked to dance and she has not forgotten the calls. Lots of fun. And in February, Duncan's ?? birthday was celebrated.

We are back at Brookside PS for all the dances in March except for March 18 - the school March break. We will be dancing at Nine Mile Villa in Lucknow that day to entertain the residents. There will be a lot of "green" that day.

Yes, time marches on.

Sharon McDonald
Bugle Correspondent

[Huron Happy Hearts - Clinton](#)

Well March 6 was suppose to be the start of another dance season (after a short winter break), but after a survey of club members, turns out too many were under the weather. We'll be trying again this week on Friday March 13. Hopefully the folks are taking their extra vitamin 'C', and popping a few Tylenol till then. As usual, check the web site for cancelations, or give Dan Roy a call 519-396-9877.

The Bugle Guy

[Jubilee Rounds - St. Jacobs](#)

Greetings from Jubilee Rounds in St. Jacobs:

We hope you had a very special Valentine's Day and now we are looking forward to a fun St. Patrick's Day!

The weather this month has had some challenges but we have had only one cancellation. We very much appreciate the support from our members during the winter months as we know sometimes you would rather

stay home on those cold nights. But we also know that, once you get to the dance, the atmosphere is so warm and welcoming you are glad you went.

Saturday February 29th: Our Introduction to Cha Cha was a great afternoon! It was so nice to see new Round Dancers on the floor. We taught a number of figures from the Cha Cha list and left all the dancers with a few nice dance routines they can use on a regular dance floor when the opportunity arises. Judging by the smiles and gracious goodbyes at the end of the afternoon, all attendees had a very enjoyable time.



Saturday March 14th – Afternoon: We will be hosting a Rhythm Concepts clinic for Waltz and Rumba at St. James Lutheran Church in St. Jacobs from 1:00 to 4:15. Register for one or both sessions. These sessions are designed for dancers who are dancing these rhythms at phase 3 as we will introduce some phase 4 figures. **As space is limited Pre-Registration is required!** Be sure to pick up a flyer and send in your registration. If you can't find a flyer, visit www.swosda.ca or our website: www.shadowlightdance.com or give us a call!

Jubilee Rounds is still at St. James Lutheran Church in St. Jacobs - dancing on Thursday evenings. Visitors are always welcome! If you wish to join us, please feel free to come out Thursdays at 7:00pm. **In the event of cancellations due to bad weather or other schedule changes, check our website after 4:00pm.**
www.shadowlightdance.com

For info: Andrea or Jeff at: 1-519-752-2172 or andrea@jeffreypriest.com
Printable flyers are on our website: www.jeffreypriest.com

Happy Dancing,
Jeff Priest ☺

[ShadowLight Dance Club - SW Ontario](#)

Good Bye to Valentine's Day... Hello St. Patrick's Day...

Visit our website Calendar page for ALL our flyers www.shadowlightdance.com

Squares:

Monday Afternoon: Cambridge Advanced - A-2 Dance with Review.

Friday Afternoon: Komoka Kickers - A-2 Dance with Review.

We are involved in four evening groups as well...

Monday Evening: Grand Squares, Elora – Plus Teach with alternating Plus Dance Tips.

Tuesday Evening: Royal City Squares – Guelph - Class followed by Mainstream Teach.

Wednesday Evening: Royal City Squares – Guelph - PLUS Teach followed by Full PLUS Dance.

Thursday Evening: Jubilee Rounds – St. Jacobs – Phase 2/3 Rounds.

Dance Parties:

February was a quiet month for dance parties this year. The weather sure has been a challenge! We had only two events this month and each one was a great success. Private parties are always fun when introducing people to Modern Square Dancing - it is great to see the smiles and hear the laughter as they learn this new activity!

Keep us in mind if you know of a group that might be interested in a “Square Dance Party”. We do many private parties for Birthdays, Anniversaries, Weddings, Pre-wedding parties, as well as Corporate events and “just because parties”

Special Dances:

Our Introduction to Cha Cha on Saturday, February 29th was a great afternoon. It was so nice to see new Round Dancers on the floor. Judging by the smiles and gracious goodbyes at the end of the afternoon, all attendees had a very enjoyable time.



That evening we held our Annual Sweetheart Swirl – a bit late but it’s never too late for love!

This was an evening PLUS dance of Love Songs. It was also Sadie Hawkins Day so the Ladies were in charge. In addition, we had a birthday girl who gets to celebrate her birthday only once every 4 years. This year she was 12!

Saturday March 14th – Afternoon: We will be hosting a Rhythm Concepts clinic for Waltz and Rumba at St. James Lutheran Church in St. Jacobs from 1:00 to 4:15. Register for one or both sessions. These sessions are designed for dancers who are dancing these rhythms at phase 3 as we will introduce some phase 4 figures. **As space is limited Pre-Registration is required!**

Be sure to pick up a flyer and send in your registration. If you can’t find a flyer visit www.swosda.ca or our website: www.shadowlightdance.com or give us a call!

March 14th – Evening: Join us in the evening for the “Wearin’ O’ The Green” This is a PLUS Dance and all PLUS dancers are welcome. For Flyers, visit www.swosda.ca or our website www.shadowlightdance.com

Camp & Dances: It’s not too early to start thinking about camp and dance weekends. Our May weekend, May 7-10, 2020 The Trillium Spring Fling (aka “The Puddle Jumper”) for PLUS dancers, at The Rock Glen Family Resort in Arkona, is filling up!! This will be our last Trillium Spring Fling. After 50 years we are

closing down this dance at the end of the weekend. Rock Glen has cabins too, so not just for campers, this is a great facility!

We will also be hosting our “Advanced Extravaganza” for Advanced dancers September 10-13, 2020 – it too is filling up; we only have a few spots available so get your registrations in. If you would like to join us for either of these weekends, the flyers are on our website www.shadowlightdance.com or www.swosda.ca or contact us and we will get you registered.

Have a great St. Paddy’s Day and enjoy some green beer!

We look forward to seeing you on the dance floor soon!

Happy Dancing and More – Much More!

Andrea & Jeff Priest

ShadowLight Dance Club

Check out our website for flyers - www.shadowlightdance.com

519-752-2172

[Sound Steppers - Owen Sound](#)

Hello fellow dancers, hope everyone had a good month of dancing.

The Owen Sound Club had a busy month with lots of visitors from Hanover Happy Twirlers, Flesherton Denim and Lace, and Blue Mountain Promenaders. We are happy to have a couple of new dancers as well join us and looking forward to our many snowbirds that are returning in the coming months. We also had special guest visitors Dan and Rhetha Roy from Swosda to give us the up to date info on dances and the upcoming convention and cruise in BC this year. Dan also called a few round dances for us to enjoy.

We had a fun valentines dance with lots of love themed dances, prizes, treats as well as entertainment from our in-club musicians.



The club had a snow day outing at Keith and Violets house, and everyone enjoyed snowshoeing, a bonfire in the woods, roasting marshmallows, hot apple cider and pot luck supper.

Our next specialty dance is our St Pat's dance on Thurs March 19th at 630pm, come out in your favorite green and whites and enjoy some fun Irish dances and treats. Everyone welcome.

For more info and upcoming dances of our fun club check out our facebook page at www.facebook.com/owensoundsteppers

Hope to see you all on the dance floor.

Linda Wedow - Bugle Rep

[Strathroy Swinging Duo's](#)

With the fair winter weather, we have been getting a large number of dancers every week. Our new dancers are now dancing Mainstream and our caller, Tom Charlton, is currently teaching them Plus. Stan McKeen continues to teach round dancing weekly and we have a large circle of dancers on the dance floor every week.

We had a full hall with 6+ squares at our Valentine dance on February 11. We welcomed Dave and Blanche Paulen as our guest caller. Dave kept us happily dancing to the beat of the music from his "old records." Thanks Dave for sharing your story about the records!

We will have guest caller, Neva McVittie on March 3. Stay for lunch following the dance. Wear green and join us for our St. Patricks' dance on March 17. Then on March 24th Dan Weatherby will be our guest caller. We will have time for food and fellowship following the dance.

We are anticipating hosting SWOSDA on March 28 at the Strathroy and Area Senior Centre and looking forward to meeting many of you in a square.

Happy Dancing,
Jake and Jean Hamstra



[Swing'n Canadians C028 & Horseshoe Squares 'N' Wheels C112 - Port Glasgow](#)

Summer is just around the corner, and there will be a great line-up of callers and dance dates coming soon. We are looking forward to another wonderful summer of camp & dance. Stay tuned!

Thames Valley Dance Club – Woodstock

One of the highlights for TVDC this last month was our Valentine dance. Decorations and festive tablecloths set the tone! We welcomed guests, and of course, our regulars! More than 3 squares of ladies and gents dressed in dance attire of reds, with accents of white, and black, graced our dance floor! There was a warm feeling of ‘love’ in the air! Lunch was served during our break while Jack and Aurelia made their presidential announcements.



Our hosting the February 2020 SWOSDA was a great success with many dancers ‘swinging’ to the calls and music! Our plans and preparations were worthwhile! Thank you for your efforts and your cheerful presence!

Last night after dance, we sat joined for our annual meeting.....putting our ‘heads’ together as we discussed ways to ‘grow’ our club and at the same time, how to feed/keep our main stream and plus dancers learning and enjoying their skills.

Our caller, Ed, will be hosting a mainstream ‘teach’ this summer in London at Richard’s Memorial church. We look forward to setting in motion, plans for TVDC’S Twenty Fifth anniversary celebration in 2021. You will be invited to join with us in celebrating this great event.

Till next month, keep dancing!

Agnes for TVDC.

Waterdown Village Squares - Waterdown

A brief history of the Waterdown Village Squares in celebration of its 50th Anniversary in 2019

The Waterdown Village Squares celebrated its 50th anniversary at a special dance on November 16, 2019. Certificates and congratulations were received from the T & D Square and Round Dance Association, SWOSDA, and the Ontario Federation and over 100 dancers from all over southern Ontario enjoyed the calling and cuing of Jim Lee, Bill Everett and Bob Beck. Peter Hill, a longtime member of the WVS, provided a history of the Club, as follows:

Ron and Mary King started square dancing at the Skyway Squares club and then in 1960 started a new group in their basement with two squares dancing. In 1961 they moved to Woodview School (now the Woodview Children’s Centre) on Flatt Road just off Waterdown Road near Highway 403 where they had the “*Circle 8s*” and the “*Whirlaways*” dancing on Saturday nights. Ron called the Square Dances and Margaret cued the Round Dancing.

When their Club folded in 1969, eight couples from the club decided to form a new club - our very own “*Waterdown Village Squares*” - which then started dancing at Memorial Hall in Waterdown. The “*Whirlaways*” gave their remaining funds (some \$35) to the new club. Ron was still the caller and Marg still cued the round dancing for the “*Waterdown Village Squares*” until 1975 when they retired and moved north.

At that point, Jim Lee took over the calling responsibilities from them. Over fifty years later, he is still the club's caller and has been honoured time and again locally and provincially for his services to Square Dancing. Bill Everett, who has a magnificent singing talent, has called the dancing for beginners, now held on Wednesday nights, for 43 years as of this writing.

The club grew very large in the late twentieth century and there were dances at different experience levels three nights a week. Due to the growth, the club moved to the gym/auditorium at St. James United Church on Parkside Drive in Waterdown and it has been there ever since.

New dancers are always welcome and classes for beginners start in September so that there is no feeling of inadequacy - everyone is learning and the more experienced dancers volunteer to dance with them and guide them through the many varied steps.

Interestingly, there are no "steps" in square dancing! You may move your feet as you wish (but preferably in time to the beat of the music) and most of the effort is actually in arm movements. This is very good for people with "two left feet." You can also come without a designated partner and experienced dancers will partner up and quite literally give you a hand.

Always active in the community-at-large, the club has participated in the Waterdown Christmas Parade and the Dundas Cactus Festival parade, dancing on a flat-bed semi-trailer as well as at other special events.

The club holds many special dances but two stand out in particular.

The Beef à la King dance originated in 1965, over 50 years ago. But, you say, the Village Squares has only been in existence since 1969. How can that be? Well, WVS member Marvin Lane was there from the start and he told us some years ago that the dance has an interesting heritage. Ron King was the caller and it so happened that he owned a meat-packing company and that's how the dance got its name "Beef à la King." With a steady supply of meat and a large barbecue at his disposal, they served roast beef on a bun with coleslaw. When their Club folded in 1969, they gave their "Beef à la King" dance to the new club.

The Snow Bunny dance, held every January/February originated in 1970 and I believe that Jack Bennett and his wife, Jean, came up with the idea of a special dance for beginning dancers after they had learned a number of calls. In those days they actually danced in the snow outside and they had a bonfire up to, at least, 1975! Dorothy Lundy, wife of Butch Lundy of Lundy's Marine, did ceramics and she created many small bunnies. These bunnies were draw prizes for several years.

The club is doing well with a current membership of 84 dancers, not including those who regularly come from afar.



Caller's Clinic

Next Meeting – TBD – see Website

See Website for Minutes of last meeting

Frosh Dances are Scheduled for – [March 14](#) & [April 18](#), 2020

These dances are specially held for the newer dancer

Callers Clinic News



This month has brought us all such sad news as we say goodbye to three great Leaders.

Fred Dixon was a Cuer from the Essex/Windsor area. He and his wife Marion travelled North America to dance and Cue.

We also lost a true "trooper" in Egbert Jacobs, one of our fellow callers who spent years recruiting and teaching new dancers. His enthusiasm over the years has been his beacon. Always a smile and a chuckle for his dancers. He and his wife Mary worked tirelessly within our Square Dance world. His many years devoted to be a caller was respected and admired. Many times he shared his knowledge with newer callers at Callers Clinic, and he was not afraid to speak his mind to get his point across. The new callers really appreciated his opinion. Egbert will long be remembered and our deepest sympathies go out to his wife Mary and his family.

Lastly, Bob Miller, also a fellow caller and friend. Bob was always taking on the job of flyers for the Frosh Dances. His artistic talents were amazing. The banner for the Centennial Beavers is still in use today. Bob & Estella very rarely missed a Callers Clinic or a Frosh Dance. Bob called for the Berkshire Beavers, and other clubs for years and brought in many new dancers. He will be sorely missed in our world. Sincerest sympathies go out to Estella and family.

We are finishing up the hall rental at Richards Memorial for the Frosh Dances this year. You can print off the flyers for both dances on the SWOSDA site. On Saturday March 14th from 730 to 930PM our first Frosh of the season will have myself (Ed Dolson) Tom Charlton and Brian MacIsaac. On Saturday April 18th we will have Neva McVittie, Dan Weatherby & Gail Mottashed. We are hoping to have a Callers Clinic meeting in the afternoon of the 18th, from 2 - 4pm. This way many of the Callers coming from afar will be here already. I am really hoping that you will all save those dates and come out. I will post the news from that meeting in the summer bugle. Thanks to all.

Ed Dolson
Chairman of Callers Clinic

if you're
kissin'...
I'm Irish



May the wind at your back
not be the result
of the corned beef and cabbage
you had for lunch.



Happy St. Patrick's Day