# BUGLE

Square and Round Dancers of South Western Ontario Inc.



## **February 2023**Volume 61 Number 6 President's Message



#### 'Keeping in Touch' - PRESIDENTS' MESSAGE

#### Greetings Fellow Dancers:

We are more than a third through the winter season. However, don't count Mother Nature out yet, as the snowy and colder weather will occur. This is a good reason to visit square dance Clubs and enjoy the social aspect of our activity.

A number of square dance Clubs have started up again to the gratitude of many dancers. We would like to congratulate your Club's leaders and Callers and Cuers for making this happen.

As many Clubs are learning, the last two and a half years have played havoc with various Clubs as a number of members have been faced with various health challenges with knees and hips being the big causes preventing people from dancing. Looking at this challenge from a positive point of view, it also gives our Clubs an opportunity to attract new dancers and grow the Club memberships.

Recognizing that SWOSDA, is a not-for-profit organization which trickles down to our many Clubs, Clubs need a consistent revenue stream to address our main costs being – Caller Fees and Hall Rentals towards the main goal of 'breaking even'. New members fill that void nicely.

February brings another celebration being *Valentine's Day!* This occasion allows everyone another opportunity to finish the chocolate stash which has been stored since December! Remember, it's the 'little things' that count and going square dancing is a key activity for Valentine's.

Our next 'SWOSDA Regional Dance' will be hosted by the Strathroy Swinging Duos Square Dance Club on February 25, 2023 at the Strathroy East Christian Reform Church Hall from 1:00 pm to 4:30

pm. Please 'circle' your calendars for this event which will also represent two-thirds of the way through the winter season!

Remember to consider volunteering your talents with our SWOSDA Executive Committee, as we pursue the common goal towards the continuing growth of square dancing. *We Want You!!* Stay in touch with your dance friends and keep warm!

Tom and Jo Kahnert, SWOSDA Presidents



#### Saturday January 28, 2023

Hosted by your SWOSDA Executive

Fellowship Church, St. Thomas

For the first SWOSDA dance of 2023...

SWOSDA hosted a fun dance at the Fellowship Church in St. Thomas on Saturday, January 28.





Round dancers enjoyed a wonderful half hour cued by Dan Roy. He gave us a great range of dances, including rhumbas, two steps and waltzes. Following the round dance party, square dancers were treated to Mainstream and Plus tips provided by host caller Tom Charlton and other callers Ed Dolson, Brian MacIsaac and Merv Reid. Interspersed with the square dances were more round dances provided by Dan Roy and Ed Dolson.





Sixty-one dancers had a very enjoyable time dancing and socializing with friends who had come from a distance. It was heartwarming to see eleven clubs represented at this dance.

Everyone is invited to join us at the next SWOSDA dance hosted by Swinging Duos at the Fellowship Church in Strathroy on Saturday, February 25!



Square & Round Dancers Of South Western Ontario

# MONTHLY SPECIAL IN STRATHROY FEBRUARY 25, 2023

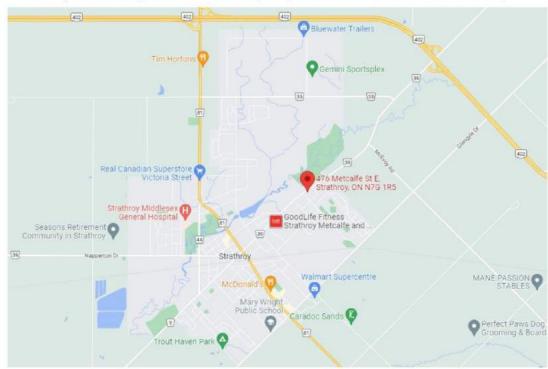
Afternoon Dance  $1:00 - 4:30 \sim $7.00$  per dancer

Hosted by - Strathroy Swinging Duo's

Location - Strathroy East Christian Reformed Church

476 Metcalfe Street East, Strathroy, ON - N7G 1R5

(Take Hickory Drive Exit off Hwy 402; 6.8 km to 476 Metcalfe Street East)



For further information or program details Please visit: <a href="www.swosda.ca">www.swosda.ca</a>
Or Contact:

Hosts: Ed & Mary Faber, Presidents

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

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

**SWOSDA** is a member run organization!

## SWOSDA DANCE - February 25, 2023

Hosted by: Hosted by – Strathroy Swinging Duo's

Location – Strathroy East Christian Reformed Church

Note: Afternoon ONLY Program

1:00 – 1:30	<b>Round Dance Party</b>	Andrea Priest
1:30	Welcome	SWOSDA President
1:30 – 1:45	Mainstream	Tom Charlton - Host Caller
1:45 – 2:00	Mainstream	Ed Dolson
2:00 - 2:05	1 Round	Ed Dolson
2:05 - 2:20	Plus	Jeff Priest
2:20 - 2:25	1 Round	Andrea Priest
2:25 - 2:40	Mainstream	Merv Reid
2:40 – 2:45	1 Round	Andrea Priest
2:45 - 3:00	Mainstream	Tom Charlton
3:00 - 3:10	2 Rounds	lan Hulley
3:10 - 3:25	Plus	Ed Dolson
3:25 - 3:30	1 Round	Ed Dolson
3:30 - 3:45	Mainstream	Jeff Priest
3:45 - 3:50	1 Round	Andrea Priest
3:50 - 4:05	Plus	Merv Reid
4:05 – 4:10	1 Round	Ed Dolson
4:10 – 4:15	Announcements	SWOSDA President
4:15 – 4:30	Mainstream	Tom Charlton - Host Caller

Thanks for joining us! Your support is appreciated! See you on March 25, 2023 – In Owen Sound!

**SWOSDA** is a member run organization!

### SWOSDA Executive News, February 2023

#### **Exciting Award Season...**

...and I don't mean the Academy Awards! What could be more exciting than the opportunity to nominate a square dance hero for one of three awards to honour outstanding square dancers? The newest award is The SWOSDA Recognition Merit Award for a club member who has contributed above and beyond in their local club. There are also two different Ontario Federation Trillium Awards: The Trillium Merit Award for an individual or couple who has made a significant contribution to square dancing in Ontario; and The Trillium Long Service Award to celebrate an individual or couple who has danced for 20 years and who has served in a leadership capacity in their club. The deadlines for nominations are fast approaching. There may be someone in your club deserving of the honour. Give it some thought. Guidelines, deadlines, and nomination forms can be found on the SWOSDA website (swosda.ca). Click on "About" and choose "Awards".

#### **Hug a SWOSDA Executive Member**

We are fanning out to visit clubs in the next couple of months to learn about your club and to share information about how you can enjoy being part of a larger community of dancers, callers and cuers. We also just want to have a great evening out dancing with you. If an unfamiliar person walks in the door, give them a hug- it might be one of us...

#### **Reviving Flyers**

As we gathered on Saturday in St. Thomas for the January regional dance, there was a sense of returning normalcy after almost three years since the pandemic hit. One thing that has not yet returned, however, is the table full of flyers. SWOSDA dances are a great opportunity to advertise your club's special dances to a wide audience. Dancers have time between tips to peruse the flyers and plan for upcoming events with their friends. The website, of course, posts flyers, as well. Dancers are on the move again and

willing to travel. A flyer on the entrance table at a SWOSDA dance might bring them to your club.

#### **Friendly Larceny Returns**

Dust off your banners, my friends, and prepare your club for a rascally raid. It's high time we got back to banner stealing! Banner stealing is a great way to take your club on the road and to entice other clubs to come visit you. I heard tell of a club who sent out a square to multiple clubs, stealing banners as they went, and then held a pie night at their own club inviting all the victim clubs to retrieve their banners that evening. What a blast! Have a look in this issue of the Bugle for the Banner Stealing Rules and start putting together a travelling square.

#### **Dance and Dine-Strathroy**

Thirty dancers gathered at Boston Pizza for supper after the SWOSDA dance on Saturday. What a great way to keep the party rolling! Plan to come out for dinner with us after the February 25<sup>th</sup> SWOSDA dance. Please let me know if you'd like to come- our numbers may determine the restaurant. (secretary@swosda.ca) Breaking bread together is a great way to make new friends. Hope to see you there!

#### A Call for Bodies

At the AGM in April, several of our long-serving SWOSDA executive members will be leaving the executive to spend their energies serving their local clubs. I'd like to quote Tom Charlton by saying "We just need bodies to do some things." There is no special skillset required aside from your willingness to attend monthly pre-dance meetings and "do some things". The benefits are that you will be part of the friendly team that helps to gather our clubs into a larger community of dancers, callers and cuers. Contact secretary@swosda.ca today. Besides, who else is calling for your body?



# SWOSDA Remember When...

#### Looking Back 23 – 02 – Prepared by Dorothy Dahm, SWOSDA Historian.

Following my usual routine of pulling the relevant issues (in this case, Feb. issues by 10 year jumps) I decided to start this time with the earliest issue.

1973 –I was amazed to find the following **callers** mentioned who were already active at this date but we still had the privilege of enjoying their talents after Nick and I started dancing in 2001. **Denny Howlett, Harold Clark, Les Greenwood, Egbert Jacobs, Garth Calvert, Norm Wilcox, George Watson.** I'll be interested to see how many more I can add in the later issues.

I was intrigued by the ad for the **4**<sup>th</sup> **ANNUAL BIG 4**, hosted by Galt Swinging Eights in Cambridge, The rest of the Big Four were Woodstock Y Promenaders, Simcoe Star-A-Naders and Brantford Square-A-Naders. I'll be watching for the report next month, as the bulk of our early dancing was done with these 4 clubs even though there were changes in their names by that time.

I admire the **creativity** of these earlier clubs, without the aid of modern technology, they posted some eye-catching flyers and slogans, e.g **Bring your Pretty Maid to the Forest City Festival Square** complete with a pencil sketch of such a maid, The BIG 4 mentioned above created with combination of the clubs' names, and Prince Charles club posted all their relevant info in the form of a callers

1983 – Add to the above caller list – Bruce Payne, Lorne Lockrey, Jim Lee, Al Calhoun, Dave Williamson, George Clark.

Advertisement for the upcoming Windsor's Rose City 15<sup>th</sup> International Square and Round Festival sounded promising. Were you there?

Quotes from this issue. Many of us would enjoy the day more if it didn't start so early. Some girls don't object to a bad egg, as long as he isn't broke.

1993 – More callers -Bob Miller, Don Teskey, Currie Burchill, Neva McVittie, Dave Alway, Doug Anderson, Jeff Priest, George Clark. You'll notice that cuers are not listed because we never mustered up the courage to take up round dancers. We did enjoy watching and listening and tapping our toes to some super cuers through the years and making friends with the spouses of all.

Included in this issue is a commentary from American Square Dance May 1986 entitled, "Who's Gonna Pull the Wagon When All the Horses Want to Ride? I'm sending a copy separately to Dan so he can include it in the Bugle at what he feels is an appropriate time.

Lighthouse Squares were promoting **Jamboree 93** to be held in July at the Coliseum in Southampton. I would be interested to get more history on this event. Neva & Dunc, or anyone who attended this, could you fill me in for archive records. – Maybe a picture or two, or a brief write up. DD familypatchwork.dd@gmail.com.

This could be the start of another display binder about Special Club(or Group) Inspired Events. Forest City Festival, Friendship Circle are two others I can think of offhand but I know there are many other noteworthy occasions./

2003 – More callers – Charlie McClure, Ed Dolson, Stan Down, Marie Fretz, Tim Crawford, Tom Charlton, Colin Aram, Harry Vander Giessen, Bryan Henry, Doug Holmes (for a total of 31) Smiles & Chuckles - Too many people confine their exercise to jumping to conclusions, running up bills, stretching the truth, bending over backwards, sidestepping responsibilities and pushing their luck.

Included in this issue is a poster and promo from the callers. I was only able to square dance in Canada and the US. It must be wonderful to travel abroad, and know that you can still dance. I'd be interested to know how many of our members have had that opportunity and where they danced. Let me know and I'll keep track and share at a later time.

2013 – **Dave Paulen and Nick Dahm** were added to my list of callers mentioned in these Bugles that we had danced to through our dancing career. I likely have missed some as I skimmed through these Bugles but I still feel we were lucky to have learned, and enjoyed dancing with such a list of skilled callers. Thank you all for your efforts to provide us with a good time.

Using February as my key, I'm going to try summing up the reports in this issue with aspects of square and round dancing, starting with  $\mathbf{F}$ . Frosh Dances, Fun Times, Friendship, Food, Formal Dances, Florida Snowbirds, Foxtrot, Freshman Frolic, Family Nights, Fitness, Fragrance Free. Do you think I've missed anything?

I'm hoping to visit with many of you at the SWOSDA Dance in St. Thomas. My cold has mostly cleared up. Here hopes the weather does too. Stay healthy.

Dorothy Dahm. SWOSDA Historian.

Please feel free to contact me with photos, questions, corrections, info bits that you think others might want to know, or ideas that should be researched. Don't forget that my email address has changed familypatchwork.dd@gmail.com



Hello Fellow Dancers,

As many of you know the publishing of the Bugle has had a floating date lately. By that I mean I am not always publishing on the same date each month. I will try to keep you informed as best I can, with regards to deadlines.

Now that Covid is less of an issue, Rhetha & I have started to travel more, thus the issue of a floating date. I apologize for any difficulties this may cause, and I will make every effort to make sure all your submitted information is included at time of publication.



The February Issue was a bit early, because Rhetha & I are travelling to Mexico on Feb 1.

The March Issue should on-time for March 7

The April Issue will be a bit late, publishing on April 12

May – no regular published bugle

The June Issue (Summer Edition) should be published on-time on June 7

I will continue to send out regular reminders. I appreciate any and all comments, and I look forward to hearing from you.

Thanks
Dan Roy
Bugle Editor



## My Love of Dance

Personally, my love of dance was inspired by my mother when I was young. Down east in late 1950's, at the old homestead in rural New Brunswick my mom would take my hand and we would dance to the sounds of "Jailhouse Rock", "Rockin Robin", "That's Amore" and many more on the creaky boards of the kitchen floor in the old farmhouse.

Little did she realize that in doing so, she had instilled in me a sense of rhythm, and a feeling of closeness by doing something together that built trust, was fun and would benefit me throughout my lifetime.

But what are some of the "other" benefits to dancing?

Unfortunately, I have a limit to what I can write in these editorials so I will try and be brief.

- A) I have found dancing very gratifying as it has included my partner Avril, our children, and our grand children.
- B) It has provided me the opportunity to listen and dance to some of the most beautiful music ever written and choreographed.
- C) Dancing has provided me the opportunity to challenge myself, to learn more and advance to higher levels.
- D) Dancing has presented itself as an avenue to widen our friendship circle to include people from all over the world.
- E) Opportunities to visit new places and see things we may never have experienced were made available through dancing.
- F) The health and wellness benefit we have all heard about associated with dancing has benefited us both physically and mentally. Improved flexibility, reduced stiffness, reduced depression, minimizes stress levels, weight loss, increased energy, improved cardiovascular health, better coordination strength and balance as well as improved social and emotional health.
- G) Dancing gives us a break from our routines of everyday life. A night out, a change of scenery and something to look forward to.
- H) Dancing provides a feeling of accomplishment.
- I) We laugh and interact with others that gain from our abilities as we do from them.
- J) We dance in an activity that provides leadership rolls and opportunities to advance, sharing our ideas and what we have to offer.

- K) Dance styling inspires creativity.
- L) Dancing teaches us compassion, patience and understanding of others, making us better people.
- M) We overcome shyness and other psychological hurdles that may hinder our ability to interact with others.
- N) Dancing relieves stress, making us forget about our problems by concentrating on what we are doing in the moment.

Yes, there are many, many benefits to dancing. Shall I go on?
You get the picture.
See you on the dance floor.

Austin & Avril Hayward Thames Valley Dance Club



"Pulling together" makes the most difficult and seemingly impossible tasks appear so easy. It is easy and fun if the attitude is proper and correct. How many times have you heard excuses instead of "Let me help you," while you are a volunteer committee chairman or club leader? "I'm tired," "I'm too busy," "I can't devote that much time" (even though it may only be two or four hours in one month), "I don't know how," "all I want to do is dance, "seems as if the excuses and cop-outs are endless. The attitude to "Let George do it" or "I just want to ride" can prevail in any organization if allowed. This attitude can consume and destroy an organization.

Every square dancer should be the first to recognize that "this is my hobby, my club, my association, and I have the responsibility to make it the best. Therefore I must do my part and carry my share of the load." We must all take our turns at pulling the wagon - everyone can't ride all the time. Take a look at the cartoon - you'll get nowhere. Volunteer to do your share before being asked. That's what makes you a real square dancer!

From <u>ASARDA NEWS</u>, Alabama Reprinted from American Square Dance May 1986

#### Think About It!

It's the time of year where we are looking to replace some people on the SWOSDA Executive. New blood bring in new ideas, and that's why we need YOU! Speak to any Executive member, and ask any questions you may have. All you need to do is spare a few hours each month. Remember, many hands make for light work.

## **CLUB NEWS**

Send Club News to <a href="mailto:bugle@swosda.ca">bugle@swosda.ca</a>

#### Centennial Beavers - London

Christmas with the Centennial Beavers was a night to remember. We had a total of 32 dancers and it was hopping all night. Some of the dancers were their Square Dance outfits and had a few laughs about the crinolines. Such good fun. We did not have a sit down dinner, instead we decided to have a "Grazing Table"; like we had at Halloween. The table was absolutely packed, as a matter of fact, we had to bring in another table to hold it all. There were a couple of spot dances and some people went home with gift cards for Christmas. Ed kept the music going all night. We never heard so much laughter and it has been a long time since we had honestly smiley happy faces for the entire evening.

We had also been invited to share a Christmas Potluck with the Thames Valley Dance Club on their Christmas Party night. Again, we had so much laughing and smiling that our faces were sore. It was a great night of dancing with a full hall and Ed again kept us hopping. These are the dances that make this activity an addiction. Just good fun with great friends. At the end of both nights we all got together in a friendship circle and everyone sang loud and clear.

We looked forward to our Friday night dancing which started up on Jan 6th. We are going to close the doors for new dancers on the on the 13th at which time we can get on with our learning.

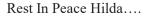
We are looking forward to our FROSH DANCE in March and April. Watch the Bugle for the flyers. 2023 is going to be a New Year, with exciting and more dancing, being happy and carefree and being a friend to all we dance with. Wishing you all a Happy New Year.



Hilda Abel was One of the original square of Centennial Beavers.

She danced in Cliff Beavers Basement along with 3 other couples. Hilda last danced with us at our 50th

Anniversary of the Centennial Beavers. She finally gave up all her square dance attire at the age of 96. She came to a few of our summer bbq's and had a great time. She was a true pioneer in our square dance history. She lived an amazing life, and danced her way through our activity from the start.





#### Clinton Wheel 'N' Dealers

Clinton Public School 27 Percival Street Clinton Presidents Fred and Deb Hakkers 519-525-8640 / 519-955-7277 Caller Dave and Blanche Paulen 519-949-8336

Clinton Wheel n Dealers started the new year with their first week back on January 11th. We are missing some of our members who are travelling south.

We are looking forward to our Valentines Potluck on February 8th at Clinton Public School beginning at 6:30pm. Come and join us with your favourite potluck dish, plates and cutlery. Valentines decorations for the table are welcome. We will be treated to a night of delicious food and fun dancing.

We remind everyone when planning your potluck dishes to be mindful that we will be in a peanut free facility.

#### Denim'N Lace - Flesherton

January 2023 is competing with Christmas 2022 for record snowfall leading to the cancellation of many community events including square dances. Our January "Western Dance" scheduled for January 25th was canceled due to a snow storm; we hope to hold it on February 1st. The good news is our dances on January 11th and 18th were well attended and enjoyed by all.

The special dance for February is of course a Valentines Dance in February 15th. The Conveners are making the plans; there will be lot of red outfits and Valentine treats, possibly even Yellow Rocks!

Our newer dancers are now learning Mainstream calls and we have several Plus Tips for the more experienced dancers.

Best Wishes to all and Happy Valentine's Day.

Mel Chamberlain Bugle Correspondent

#### Guys n' Dolls Square Dance Club - Kitchener

Guys 'n Dolls moved location in January 2023 to: Forest Hill United Church, 121 Westmount Rd. E. Kitchener. N2M 4Y6



Two squares of dancers came out to our first night on January 6. Dan Weatherby, our caller, was very pleased to have use of an elevator for his equipment and he was pleased with the acoustics of the hall in the new church. His calling was very clear, even though we couldn't always get it right.

At present we do not have the beverages and treats after the dancing but that is being discussed and may be available shortly. Our next dance is on Jan 20th and you might want to bring your cup just in case there is tea and coffee available.

We are most grateful to continue to have the executive we have that is taking such good care of all the details of running the club so well. It is still a strong recommendation to wear a mask during the dancing and using the sanitizer that is provided.

Our club warmly welcomes all dancers to join us on any of our dance nights..

#### Jubilee Rounds - St. Jacobs

#### Greetings from Jubilee Rounds on Zoom:

We are home safe and healthy from our Vacation and looking forward to Zoom Dancing again.

Our January was wonderful! We had a very good time in Florida with our RV and saw some really great things including two SpaceX launches - one with a "land" landing as well.

This year we went to Disney for one day and enjoyed ourselves very much. We had lunch at the Living Seas in Epcot. Great fish and seafood offerings while looking at an aquarium wall.

Employment application blanks always ask who is to be notified in case of an emergency. I think you should write, 'A Good Doctor'!

The RV park we spent half our time in was on Cocoa Beach at Port Canaveral. We enjoyed watching the cruise ships go out most days. There were several Disney ships as well!





**Now back to reality...** Jubilee Zoom dancing started February 2<sup>nd</sup>. Be sure to join us. If you have been attending regularly then you will receive your code by February 1<sup>st</sup>. If not, go to our website and register to join us.

#### **ShadowLight Rounds:**

If you are attending **In Person dances**, we are having a Teach on Phase 2 Twostep in Cambridge starting Thursday February 2<sup>nd</sup> at 10:00 am. To join us, sign up on our website <u>HERE</u>

Stay safe & healthy....

Check out our website and sign up for Virtual Dancing: <a href="www.shadowlightdance.com">www.shadowlightdance.com</a>

Happy Dancing,

Jeff Priest

#### Rhythm Rounds - London

What an exciting year we have planned for the Rhythm Rounds. To start with we welcomed a new beginner group which started on Jan 11th. We have had a tremendous response from new, past dancers and people who have never danced rounds before. It is going to be a challenge but the Rhythm Rounds are ready for growth and some new faces. They are all on board to help and to welcome all the new dancers. Our numbers have been dwindling due to health issues, covid after effects and just plain tiredness. We thought to put it out there, thinking we could get maybe 3 or 4 couples but we were overwhelmed with the response of 12 couples. It will take a bit of adjusting to get all levels covered but Ed says we can do it, so we will do it. If it goes as well as we are hoping, we may have to look at a separate night. Wouldn't that be just magic!!! We are all looking forward to the next few months and we hope that if you or someone you know wants to Round Dance (or Choreographed Ballroom) please make them aware by giving them encouragement or the email address to register for September. The next time they will be able to get into a class will be in September.

Questions and registering for September contact info is beginnerdance@hotmail.com

Wishing you all health, happiness and of course lots of dancing in 2023

Birds of a feather flock together . . . . and then poop on your car.

#### Royal City Squares - Guelph

January has been a slow month at Royal City Squares, with Jeff Priest away and our first dance night of the new year, featuring Brian MacIsaac and Wesley Knierim, snowed out.

We will be back on track in February with our Wednesday night MS and Plus classes at Paisley Road School Gym, at 7 pm. Drop by!

And, we hope to run a short 6-week Introduction to Square Dance class beginning Tuesday, January 31st, 8:15 - 9:45 pm, if we get sufficient enrollment.

Submitted by Lorna Irwin (dancing bee girl, currently parked at Myrtle Beach State Park and dancing - with club members Frank and Vicki Brisbin - with Sand Dollar Squares!)



#### ShadowLight Dance Club - SW Ontario

We are home from Florida and refreshed and ready to go!

#### In Person Dancing!!

#### **New Beginner Square Dance Class in Guelph!**

Tuesday Evenings at Paisley Rd School. 8:15pm – 9:45pm
This session will run for 6 weeks only January 31 – March 7, 2023\_
If you know of anyone who would like to join in, please bring them along.
Cost is \$60.00 person for the whole session.

#### **Regular Clubs:**

Wednesday Afternoons: A-2 1:00pm – 3:00pm in Cambridge. Sign up on our website <u>HERE</u> Wednesday Evenings: Mainstream and PLUS dancing in Guelph. Royal City Squares 7:00pm - 9:30pm Thursday Mornings: Phase 2 Twostep Teach – Cambridge. Sign up on our website. <u>HERE</u>

#### **Zoom Dancing Continues:**

Thursday Evenings: 7:00pm – Phase 2/3 with the occasional phase 4 Sign up on our website HERE for the Zoom code.

Happy Valentine's Day!

Hope to see you on a dancefloor soon!
Stay Healthy and Safe!
Happy Dancing and More – Much More!
Andrea & Jeff Priest
ShadowLight Dance Club
Check out our website for all our events. www.shadowlightdance.com

#### Sound Steppers - Owen Sound

Hello fellow dancers and friends.

Winter has seemed to return to us, but we have had it a lot better than some winters up here in the north. Most winters come in with a vengeance around end of October and stays around till March. This year we have been fortunate and have been spared from a lot of the storms and accumulations of old man winter.

Dan and Rhetha Roy paid us a visit at the club and gave us the pleasure of watching them doing some steps of round dancing. They also informed us of what is happening in SWOSDA with upcoming events and

dances. Our Owen Sound club will be hosting a SWOSDA dance in March. Details will be in our next edition of the bugle.

We had our Hawaiian night this month. Didn't have a lot of members being able to attend this one due to bad weather but the ones that were able to be there had a great night, dressing up and helping us feel warmer to take the chill off of what was happening outdoors.

Our February specialty dance is our Valentine's dance on Thursday Feb. 9th at 7pm. It will be our dress-up dance so bring your special someone, dress-up for date night and join us with Neva and Dunc leading us in a night of fun and themed dances.

For more info on our club and its upcoming events, follow our facebook page. Take care of each other and hope to see you all on the dance floor.

Linda Wedow Bugle Rep



#### Strathroy Swinging Duo's

With this mild January weather, we have had excellent travelling to our dances. This balmy weather does make the winter seem short.

We are sorry to hear that Caroll Reichheld is home recuperating from a broken arm and Arnold Reichheld is suffering with shingles. We pray they have a speedy, and complete recovery.

While Tom and Linda Charlton were away visiting relatives, Merv Reid called for the Introduction to Modern Square Dancers on January 9. Considering our new dancers have had a few weeks off, they did really well! On January 17 everyone dressed in their best clothes for our Semi Formal dance. We had a fun evening with glitz and glamour on the dance floor. After the dance fellowship was shared over a delicious lunch.



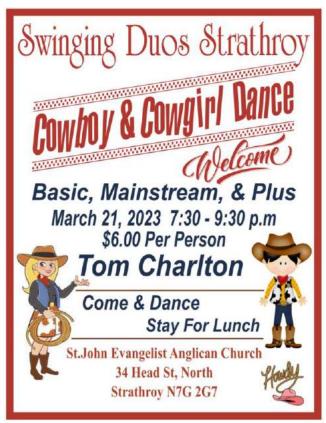


Our Valentine dance will be on Tuesday, February 14. Tom Charlton will be our caller for the evening. We invite everyone to come join us and wear red and white. Stay and enjoy a valentine treat after the dance. Merv Reid will be our guest caller on Tuesday, February 28. Like always, we will have a lunch after the dance. Yum!

Till next time,

Jake and Jean





#### Thames Valley Dance Club – Woodstock

Thames Valley Dance Club has started the new year in a square! We came back after the Christmas season on Jan 9, to smiles and laughter, fun and friendship, learning and enjoying.

On Jan 16, we celebrated "Plaid"! The dance floor was a sea of plaid - so much pattern! We had 3 squares on the floor all night, and as you can see in the photos we had a lot of fun!









In February, we will celebrate Valentine's Day and Family Day, and we will end the month with our Annual General Meeting.

We look forward to continuing to dance each Monday night in Woodstock. If you'd like to join us, we are at College Ave Church, 22 Wilson St. from 7:00-9:00pm. We have lots of room in the hall for another square or two, and lots of room in our hearts for more friends! We are on facebook, too – Thames Valley – check us out!

Lois Turvey
The Bugle Correspondent for Thames Valley Dance Club

#### Waterdown Village Squares - Waterdown

Waterdown Village Squares reopened September 2022 in our pre-Covid location at St James United Church in Waterdown, Ontario. We offer weekly dances; Tuesday evening features Plus and Thursday evening features Basic and Mainstream and welcomes new dancers. We are fortunate that Jim Lee and Bill Everett have returned as our callers.



Waterdown Village Squares maintains both a website <a href="http://www.waterdownvillagesquares.ca">http://www.waterdownvillagesquares.ca</a> and Facebook page Waterdown Village Squares

#### Every month in 2023, we will feature a special Dance.

JANUARY, it has been a tradition at Waterdown Village Square to celebrate Robbie Burns DAY which was scheduled for Thursday January 26 and Tuesday January 31. Our Dancers wore Scottish Attire, kilts, shirts, plaid shirts, skirts, ties socks or hats. In order to be inclusive for those very few dancers who happen to own nothing in plaid, we offer another wardrobe option: to



wear the colors of the Scottish Flag, the cross of St. Andrew, BLUE AND WHITE. It is fun to dress up in different outfits and everyone had good time.

Robby Burns Day commemorates **the life of the bard (poet) Robert Burns**, who was born on January 25, 1759. The day also celebrates Burns' contribution to Scottish culture. His best-known work is Auld Lang Syne



#### **Future Special Dances at Waterdown**

FEBRUARY Valentines Dance: Thurs Feb 9 and Tues Feb 14 -- red and white

FEBRUARY/MARCH Surprise Special Dance: Tues February 28 and Thurs March 2 --details TBA.

MARCH St. Patrick's Day: Tues March 14 and Thurs March 16 -- green and white

**APRIL** Saturday April 1, Waterdown Village Squares will host a joint dance with Toronto & District Square and Round Dance Association.

Mainstream, Plus and T&D AGM

Squares 2:00-5:00 pm Callers Jim Lee and Wayne Hall

We always welcome dancers from other clubs to come visit and dance anytime, especially on our special dance nights. Guests should be vaccinated, masks are optional, sanitizer solution provided, free parking in St James United Church lot. Our venue is a nut and peanut free facility.

Contact information: email <u>publicity@waterdownvillagesquares.ca</u>

phone Presidents: 905-823-7622 Publicity: 905-628-4143

Waterdown Village Dancers are happy to be back to weekly dances after far too long break from this

wonderful activity. "Square Dancing is Friendship set to Music."

#### **Seniors Blessing**

Blessed are they who understand my faltering step and palsied hand.

Blessed are they who know that my ears today, must strain to catch the things they say.

Blessed are they who seem to know, that my eyes are dim and my wits are slow.

Blessed are they that stop to chat with a cheery smile for a little while.

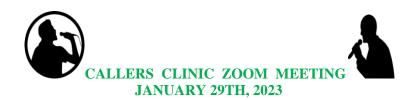
Blessed are they who never say, "You've told that story twice today".

Blessed are they who make it known that I'm loved, respected, and not alone.

Blessed are they who know the way, to bring back memories of yesterday.

## **Caller's Clinic News**

Meeting Summary...



Callers Clinic had its first meeting since Covid. So many things have changed.

Our list of Callers has gotten smaller and smaller. We hope that an effort goes out with our callers to be on the lookout for dancers that would make great callers. It might be a good idea to get back to the "Be A Caller Night" They used to be so much fun and that's how a lot of us got started.

Our meeting was orchestrated by Dan Roy and we sincerely appreciate his time to help us, when we know how busy you are. Thanks Again Dan. We will record the meeting for those that did not make it to the meeting. Just ask and we will send it to you.

To open the meeting we had Dan Weatherby's Callers Clinic financial report. Not many changes there but we appreciate the info, Dan W. Our membership dues are due to be sent to Dan for this year. Its \$20 and you can pay by cheque or direct deposit or e-transfer. Also, Dan sent out the copy of Direction from Callerlab.

Our discussions surrounded "the new dance experience" with the callers. Many are back full time and noted changes in the logistics of the Clubs. We all have new dancers and are calling to 3+ squares. We have decided once again to do 2 FROSH DANCES (we dropped February due to poor attendance at that time of year) Both dances will be at Richards Memorial, in London. The first one is an afternoon dance, from 2-4 pm, on Saturday March 18th. The second one will be on April 15th from 7-9pm (a night dance). We are still awaiting Callers for sign up. We are hoping all the new dancers come out and enjoy their 1st big dance. The price for the Frosh Dances are \$7 per person.

We went over the instructions for our Entandem Licensing with the new rates that have been negotiated by the CSRDS, which will give out callers and cuers a realistic amount to pay. It is also time for our SOCAN membership to be paid.

All of the Callers shared stories about how we can recruit new callers to our activity. We are down to about 10 callers in the SWOSDA area. We have lost many great callers over the years and we need to find dancers that would make good callers. If you know of anyone that would be interested, please talk to your Club Caller so he/she can be aware.

The flyers for the Frosh dances will be done by Dan Roy, with thanks. Our next Callers Clinic is TBA.

Ed Dolson Chairman of Callers Clinic

#### I'm Fine, Thank You

There is nothing the matter with me, I'm as healthy as can be. I have arthritis in both my knees, When I talk, I talk with a wheeze, My pulse is weak, my blood is thin **but I'm awfully well for the shape I'm in.** 

Arch supports I have for my feet or I wouldn't be able to walk on the street. Sleep is denied me night after night but every morning I look a sight. My memory's failing, my head's in a spin, I practically live on aspirin **but I'm awfully well for the shape I'm in!** 

I think my liver is out of whack, and a terrible pain is in my back
My hearing is poor, my eyes are dim, and most everything is out of trim
My doctor says my days may be few, for every week there is something new.
The way I stagger sure is a crime, I'm likely to drop at any time.
I jump like mad at the drop of a pin, but I'm awfully well for the shape I'm in.

My fingers are ugly and stiff at the joints, my nails are impossible to keep nice points. My teeth have eventually all come out, my diet I sure have to think about, I'm overweight, but I can't get thin, my appetite's such that it's sure to win **But I'm real good, for the shape I'm in.** 

How do I know that my youth is all spent? Well, my get-up-and-go has got up and went. But I really don't mind, when I think with a grin of all the great places my get up has been. Old age is golden, I've heard it said but sometimes I wonder as I get late to bed With my ears in a drawer, with my teeth in a cup, my glasses on the table until I wake up, As sleep comes over me, I say to myself, "Is there anything else I should lay on the shelf?"

When I was young, my slippers were red, I could kick my heels right over my head.
As I grew older, my slippers were blue, but I still could dance the whole night through.
Now that I'm old, my slippers are black, I walk to the store and puff my way back!
I get up each morning and dust off my wits, pick up the paper and read the obits.
If my name is still missing, I know I'm not dead, so I get a good breakfast and go back to bed!

The moral is, as this tale unfolds, that for you and me who are getting old. It's better to say I'm fine, with a grin, than to let folks know the shape we're in!

Unknown, reprint from SWOSDA Bugle, Feb. 1973



#### www.facebook.com/swosda

#### MARRIAGE SEMINAR

While attending a Marriage Seminar dealing with communication,

Tom and his wife Grace listened to the instructor,

'It is essential that husbands and wives know each other's likes and dislikes.'

He addressed the man,

'Can you name your wife's favorite flower?'

Tom leaned over, touched his wife's arm gently and whispered,

'It's Pillsbury, isn't it?

## **Looking For Something Fun To Do?**

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## SQUARE DANCING



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  EVERYONE IS WELCOME
- > COME ALONE OR BRING A FRIEND/PARTNER
- > NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY
- > CASUAL DRESS
- > DANCE, LAUGH & MEET NEW FRIENDS

## January 31st - Mar. 7th

8:15 – 9:45pm Paisley Rd. Public School- *back entrance* 406 Paisley Rd. Guelph

For More Info or to Register 519-843-3371 or kentonvale.ted@gmail.com