

BUGLE

Square and Round Dancers of South Western Ontario Inc.

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



November 2023

Volume 62 Number 3
President's Message



President Couples Message...

Fall greetings from Avril and I, and welcome to our thoughts and ramblings for this, the November issue of the Bugle.

We would like to congratulate the Thames Valley Dance Club on their 25th Anniversary and again thank them for hosting a wonderful SWOSDA dance event on October 28 in Woodstock.

I would like to return briefly to the last couple of dance seasons and applaud a major initiative brought about by our immediate past President couple, Tom and Jo Kahnert. More Specifically, the leadership and dedicated attention to increasing club memberships through encouragement, marketing ideas, teaching strategies and club involvement. All key components in the program we know as "Introduction to Modern Square Dancing". This program has been cancelled this dance season by the Strathroy Swinging Duos Club due to lack of interested participants, however, Tom and Jo continue to promote this initiative as it has proven to be successful and beneficial to many clubs within SWOSDA. We want to thank and recognize Tom and Jo for their outstanding contributions toward fulfilling SWOSDA's mission to add and sustain a lucrative number of memberships enhancing the rebuilding of clubs following the Covid years. We look forward to their support moving forward, to ensure we continue to focus on this mission in support of the entire family of square dancers within SWOSDA. All our clubs have the capability, the desire, and the need to grow and now is the time.

In addition to membership growth, we need to enhance caller and cuer learning opportunities. We need to create incentives and encourage involvement in leadership positions as clubs and the SWOSDA executives need new ideas and support to continue.

In conclusion, as summer has ended and we move on into the season that promises colder weather, the expectations of snow, ice and frigid temperatures, we should be thinking of winter safety. winter tires, safe driving practices, checking our Co2 and smoke detectors and replacing batteries, slips and falls and many other seasonal hazards that may contribute to what could be a great winter for you or a not so good winter. Stay safe.

If you are able, the United Way and the Food Banks in your area are dependent upon donations to provide the necessities of life for those in need.

Hugs to all

Stay Safe, stay healthy and keep dancing

Austin & Avril Hayward

(SWOSDA President Couple 2023-2024)



Saturday October 28, 2023

Hosted by Thames Valley Dance Club

Our 2023-2024 dance season is upon us, and there are more and more dancers attending the SWOSDA Regional Dances as time goes on.

We had a great turnout for our Regional Dance on Saturday, October 28, 2023 which was held in Woodstock. Thirteen Clubs were represented from across the area with 65 dancers attending. At one time there were seven squares on the floor, and many couples participated in the rounds as well! Ed Dolson was the Host Caller for the afternoon, followed by Jeff Priest and Merv Reid. Our Cuers included Andrea Priest, Dan Roy, Ian Hulley and Ed Dolson.

Three certificates were presented to the Thames Valley Dance Club in recognition of that Club's 25th Anniversary, a well-deserved milestone. Ed and Nancy Dolson were the founders of the Club. The Certificates were presented on behalf of SWOSDA, the Ontario Square and Round Dance Federation and the Canadian Square & Round Dance Society. Of course, without the talents of the Callers and Cuers, we would not be reporting on this event.



Our next SWOSDA Regional Dance will be held in Mitchell, Ontario, which also promises to be a lot of fun for all who attend. Our hosts for the event will be the "Country Squares".

We encourage everyone to speak to their Club members, and plan to attend this event in Mitchell. Consider car-pooling as an option to encourage dancers to attend.

Keep laughing and having fun!

Tom and Jo Kahnert,

Past-Presidents

SWOSDA Executive News, November 2023

Federation Technology Grant \$\$\$

The Ontario Federation has a new grant available for dancers who want to improve their abilities to serve their clubs using Information Technology. The **Information Technology Grant** is available to any member of OSRDF who shows strong evidence of the need for support in the Web and/or electronic areas.

The successful applicant will be awarded a maximum of \$100. There is \$1000 available on a first-come-first-served basis. For more information please visit:

<https://squaredance.on.ca/funding/technology-grant/>

Planning for Calgary

Momentum is building for the 2024 Canadian National Square Dance Convention in Calgary. The latest News Flash from organizers warns that registrations are expected to sell out long before July. As of the time this is written, there are 537 dancers registered which leaves only 213 spaces. Make sure one of them is yours! For more information and to register, please visit:

<https://squaredance.ab.ca/festival-2024-canadian-square-and-round-dance-society/>

Never too early to think about Award Nominations

SWOSDA Recognition Merit Award. This Award is dedicated to recognizing any deserving SWOSDA club members who contribute significantly to their dance Club. *Nominations must be received by the SWOSDA executive by March 15.*

The Federation **Award of Merit** recognizes those Ontario dancers, callers, and leaders who have made outstanding contributions to the square and round dance movement.

The Federation **Trillium Long Service Award** recognizes those Ontario dancers, callers, and leaders who have devoted years of faithful

service to the dance community of Ontario. *Nominations must be received by the SWOSDA executive by February 15.* Please, visit: <https://swosda.ca/awards/>

Club Visitations

You can expect a SWOSDA executive member to visit your club this dance season. In addition to providing information about the regional organization, we would like to hear your ideas of how SWOSDA can best serve your club. Take some time to discuss your needs and gather some suggestions on how SWOSDA and the regional dances might be improved. Remember- SWOSDA is a member-run organization. We need to hear from you.

Singles Wanted!

Single dancers make up a significant proportion of club dancers. Without you, we would not be dancing. Unfortunately, singles are not represented to the same extent at the regional dances. Please, come out to the SWOSDA regional dances! Don't worry about finding a partner; square up and raise your hand and the caller will find one for you. Otherwise, you're missing out on the fun and we're missing out on dancing with you.

All Day Dances?

In recent years, SWOSDA has shifted to afternoon-only programs partly as an acknowledgement that, for some dancers, nighttime driving is a chore and, partly because the additional cost of the evening hall rental is financially prohibitive. The problem that arises from the afternoon-only format is that we no longer have room in the program for workshops/teaches. One idea that was floated at the recent SWOSDA executive meeting is that we investigate the possibility of morning/afternoon dances. What do you think?



SWOSDA

Remember When...

Looking Back – 2023 – 11 – Dorothy Dahm – SWOSDA Historian

I was really disappointed not to be able to attend the district dance in September. I had been so looking forward to visiting with my dancing friends and celebrating the 25th anniversary of the Thames Valley Club. I found out later that I missed as well the presentation of a well-deserved Trillium Award to Fred and Dianne Joyner (actually delayed till January). I hope someone who was in attendance will share some of the photographs for placement in the scrapbooks. I had planned to bring out some items from the archives to share with you so will keep that in mind for the future dances this year.

Nearly every year a picture of the executive has been added to the archive albums. I have collected copies of those into a binder so that you can appreciate those who have given of their talents and energy for the membership. New members of the executive are asked to send me a thumbprint picture of yourself for this year's collage. This is still a work in progress but I am glad to share it with you at some of the district dances. I will share a copy of the collage with you when I get it finished. My goal is to have similar ones available for the specific jobs of the executive.

I have found in the Bugles at various times the beginnings of such works. For example, Carol Down, historian in 2009, SWOSDA's **Treasurers for the Past 50 Years**. Each entry included the time that they served as treasurer, and a short bio. I have been working this past month to update this but I need your help. If you could add to this information, it would be much appreciated. I plan on including a thumbprint or collage of these folks. While I may find some photos in my files, if you happen to have a file or pertinent information, I would appreciate some help from my friends. Just a reminder, my email address is familypatchwork.dd@gmail.com.

According to the albums, **Mr. Pat Flynn**, of Preston was elected as secretary – treasurer in 1959 and **Bill Little** as treasurer in 1960. According to Carol report **Oscar Blake**, from London, was from 1961, **Flo Blake** being added by 1962 and they continued on to 1965-66. **Walt and Eunice Warner** from London managed the financial records from 1966 to 1999. In 2009 Eunice was still dancing with Rhythm Rounds and was Club Treasurer. **Peter & Bev Piazza** maintained the SWOSDA finances from 1999 until 2001 They were very active as treasurers and problem solvers for Festival in 2008 and remained very active in dancing and executive positions at the Ontario Federation and Canadian Society. In 2023 he continues to work as treasurer for the Federation & Society. **John & Irene Bullock** were very active in the dance community and held many executive positions in SWOSDA starting a three-year term as treasurer for SWOSDA in 2000. **Ron & Sylvia Soeder** were treasurers of SWOSDA from 2003 to 2007. During that time SWOSDA became Square and Round Dancers of South Western Ontario Inc and Ron became a director of the Corporation.

After serving in a number of executive positions at club and at SWOSDA level **Bob & Eleanor Clarke** assumed the treasurer's position in 2007. They were members of the Black Light Dancers that performed in Montreal and Festival 2008. After Bob's death in 2017, **Gerry & Don Richardson** agreed to fill in temporarily. Their temporary stint stretched until 2021 when **Stephen Kilbridge** agreed to take over the position of treasurer.

We experienced such a great level of enjoyment in our years of dancing that we did a lot of travelling to meet new friends at various levels. Just to name a few, we made the trek to Manitoulin for Hawberry Hoedown, visited several of the camping groups e.g. at Forest or Port Glasgow or Waterloo. In our years on the SWOSDA executives we planned our visitations so that we were able to visit nearly all the over 50 clubs active at that time and tried to attend as many special dances as possible. As I scan the Bugles regularly, I discover places I would like to have been had I known about them. Duncan & Neva, it made me curious about the Jamboree in Southampton. What can you tell me about it?

To the rest of you, tell me about some of the special SWOSDA dances or weekends that you have attended past or present. I'll compile the information to share with you.

I was so glad to see there is another national convention in the works. I have in the archive collection quite a number of ID badges from various conventions. I am printing out the list of national conventions that we had in Canada. I think it would be really neat if I could create a chart which denoted with a marker how many people from SWOSDA. We might see which ones were most popular. Then we could make a display as a border showing pictures of some of the badges and their theme. Could you reply to me with a list of ones you have attended? You can imagine how elated I felt when I googled and found a listing of all the conventions which also had their theme included and how frustrated when I came back from answering the doorbell, the page had disappeared. Despite a bunch of attempts I have not been able to relocate it!

Canadian National Square & Round Dance Conventions have been hosted in the following locations:

1978 Edmonton, Alberta	2002 Saint John, New Brunswick
1980 Ottawa, Ontario	2004 Calgary, Alberta
1982 Halifax, Nova Scotia	2006 Montreal, Quebec
1984 Winnipeg, Manitoba	2008 London, Ontario
1986 Calgary, Alberta	2010 Halifax, Nova Scotia
1988 Hamilton, Ontario	2012 None
1990 Vancouver, British Columbia	2014 Ottawa, Ontario
1992 Winnipeg, Manitoba	2016 Regina, Saskatchewan
1994 Halifax, Nova Scotia	2018 London, Ontario
1996 Edmonton, Alberta	2020 Surrey, British Columbia (Cancelled)
1998 Ottawa, Ontario	2022 Fredericton, New Brunswick
2000 Vancouver, British Columbia	2024 Calgary, Alberta

Have a great month. I hope to see you in Strathroy

Dorothy Dahm

Familypatchwork.dd@gmail.com



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).

Any funds remaining after March 31, will be made available to any club.



Bursaries & Grants

A reminder to all clubs that bursaries are available from the Ontario Square and Round Dance Federation for recruitment expenses and for caller training. Go to the webpage for all the information. <https://squaredance.on.ca/funding/recruitment-bursary-program/>.

Technology Grant

A new initiative is now being offered by the Federation to help clubs with costs incurred in technology development (Facebook, Website, etc.) for recruitment purposes. An amount of \$1000 has been allocated; \$100 per club on a first come first served basis. Each application will be considered on its own merits.



Yes, I'm sorry to say this, but we are bailing out on you once again. Rhetha and I will be on vacation for a while, and will not be around to put out the December Bugle. As such the Executive has decided to **cancel the December publication**. The January issue will be there to carry all your Christmas & New Year's news.



FEATURE

Inspiration / Motivation

Are you thinking you should do your part to help rebuild your club? Is there a part of you that knows deep down, that you should dig a little deeper and do your share to help? Does the thought excite you and stimulate your mind to thinking that "yes" I can do this.

Humm? Who do I know that would like to dance? Who do I know that would appreciate meeting new friends? Who do I know that would benefit from the health advantages our activity has to offer? Ok, so then, what is stopping me from reaching out to others? Am I assuming that they wouldn't be interested? Am I too shy to approach friends and neighbours to involve themselves in something you have found to be exciting, beneficial and healthy?Lots of questions.

To be inspired is to be stimulated. It pokes, digs, prods, and invigorates us into charting a course and executing the plan through to the end. Inspiration is energy and it goes hand in hand with creativity, and creativity generates new ideas and helps you discover ways to accomplish any tasks you set out to accomplish.

So, let's begin by creating a "vision" or a listing of those friends, co-workers and neighbours you believe may be interested in joining your club. Begin by carrying a notepad and jot down names as you hear or think of them. Be reasonable and realistic with your plan, making it within what you know are capable of. It has been proven that "word of mouth" is the most productive way to acquire new members to our activity so the probability of you being successful is very good.

The next step of your plan would be to find a date for a dance that your caller or club executive has set aside for new dancers. New dancers should not be charged admission for their first night and this should be cleared beforehand with your club.

Approaching those candidates, you have selected as possible new members, should be done face to face. Questions like “What are you guys doing Friday night?” or “Guess what we have been doing Friday evenings?” are a great approach. Be prepared to tell them all the benefits you have received from square dancing as they will probably ask lots of questions. Tell them you could pick them up and they could go with you is always a positive.

Teaming up with another club member has been found successful in recruiting new members. Sharing ideas and becoming motivated with that person inspires and excites the possibilities. If you need more ideas, remember the SWOSDA “Helping Clubs Grow” Committee is there to help you. I personally have found that if I get out of my comfort zone and break my routines of daily life, it encourages the flow of ideas which can provide insight into achieving success.

Stop doubting yourself and get on with what your mindset is telling you. Stay positive and excited about what you are going to accomplish. Be a leader. Employ your passion and perseverance to succeed with a “never give up” attitude. You got this.

You will encounter resistance. There will be nay-sayers, obstructions, roadblocks and trials and tribulations, but isn’t that the fun and pleasure of success by overcoming these traits? Repute the mindset that your abilities are fixed and know that if we put in the effort, our skills and abilities can be pushed beyond the boundaries of your expectations producing amazing results.

Know that the power of positive thinking can lead to maximum results and something you can be proud of.

I am inspired by Elinor Smith who once said “It has long since come to my attention that people of accomplishment rarely sat back and let things happen to them. They went out and happened to things”.

I know and feel that the best days for square and round dancing are ahead, and it excites me to think that we will be dancing far into the future with the numbers far exceeding those post Covid.

Feel the satisfaction and pride within yourself knowing you gave it everything you could in accomplishing what you set out as your goal.

Austin Hayward (Thames Valley Dance Club)

Something to Think About...

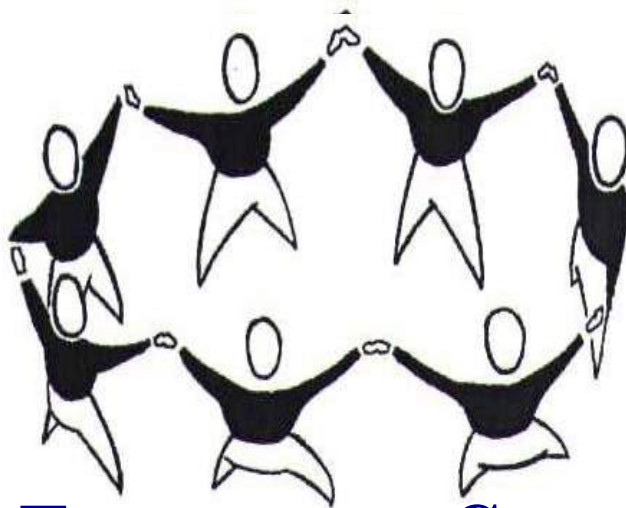
The SWOSDA Executive represents YOU, the dancers in Southwestern Ontario. They have 1 meeting per month, prior to the dance. They have a short business meeting, mostly about our finances, then try to propose suggestions that might bring good things, events, and positive happenings to help promote our wonderful activity. Sometimes it’s difficult to come up with anything new.

That’s why We Need You!



A new person on the Executive can bring new ideas. The commitment is small, but the reward is great! If you are approached, please consider it carefully. If you are not approached, then think of coming forward. We need YOU!

ECMA



EMERGENCY CALL for MEDICAL AID

- 1 When a dancer goes down, a second dancer attends to him/her
- 2 The remaining couples join hands and take a step backward.
This will allow the injured person and the attendant air and room
- 3 Raise joined hands as high as possible in the form of an arched circle
- 4 On seeing this signal, the caller or hall monitor will immediately respond and place an Emergency Call for Medical Aid if required.
Caller and Dancers should continue as usual while aid is administered.

CLUB NEWS

Send Club News to bugle@swosda.ca

Centennial Beavers – London

The Centennial Beavers are dancing strong. We are a club of laughter, friendship and fun. This Halloween we had a big dance and most of the dancers enjoyed getting dressed up. We had a grazing table that would knock your socks off; tons of goodies and yummy treats. We were looking for original costumes and these were our winners.



Dr. Disheveled (Ken Stratton)
and his nurse assistant
(Mary Stratton)



Ladies Winner..
Jeannie Davidson



Our Group of Halloween Dancers!

We are looking forward to having our 'NATIONALITY DANCE' where we will dress in the costumes or outfits that match our family heritage. This will be held on Friday November 17th. Come on out if you like. Our goodies that night will also reflect foods from the country that our parents, grandparents or great grandparents came from. This will be a 'new' Special Dance for us and we hope to get lots of good input.

Soon, December will be here and we will have our Christmas Dance on Friday December 8th. This will be our last dance at the East Lions Community Center for 2023. We invite all to come and attend this dance with us. There is always room for another square or two.

On Monday, December 11th we've been invited by the Thames Valley Dance Club to come and join them for their Christmas Potluck and Dance at College Ave United Church in Woodstock. They are the same kind of Club we are; full of fun, laughter and good comradery. We look forward to dancing with them again this year (as last year was a blast).!

CB Squares will be back in action after the holidays. Ed gets back from Scotland on Jan 7th so we will be back on Friday Jan 12, 2024.

My, how time flies in the face of square dancing friendships.

Wishing you all a blessed Christmas, with your loved ones close.
Wishing you also a Happy, Healthy and prosperous 2024!



[Clinton Wheel 'N' Dealers](#)

Clinton Public School
27 Percival Street Clinton
Celebrating 60 years 1963/4 - 2023/4

Presidents - Fred and Deb Hakkers 5195258640 / 5199557277

Shared Callers - Neva and Duncan McVittie 5194772028
Tom and Linda Charlton 519-763-4020

Dancing Dates - October 4th to December 7th 2023.

Note - Please Lug a mug and dress is casual.

Clinton Wheel n Dealers celebrated an early Halloween with a Black and Orange night October 25th. We will be able to enjoy dancing an extra night in November as there are 5 Wednesday Nights this month. It is great to have the variety of music and dances provided by our shared callers.

We are very pleased to have Donna Fielder trying her hand at calling and doing a wonderful job under the guidance of both Neva and Tom.

The first snow is falling in the air as this is written which means we can look forward to the Christmas season. We will host a Christmas potluck dinner this year on Wednesday November 29th at 6:00. The turkey, dressing and gravy will be supplied by the club with members bringing sides and dessert.

Please bring your dinnerware and cutlery. We will enjoy dancing to our Christmas favourites following the meal.

Our annual meeting will be held before the December 7th dance at 7 pm.

Please remember that we dance in a peanut free and fragrance free facility.

[Denim'N Lace - Flesherton](#)

Our Halloween dance held October 25th was a Club highlight for the Denim 'n Lace Square Dance Club. Thanks to Sue King for convening the event which was enjoyed by six squares of dancers. The hall was fittingly decorated in the Halloween theme, dancers dressed in Halloween attire, there was a



pumpkin carving contest, and a Bingo Quiz prepared by Sue.

The costume contest judged by Jim Lee and Beth Hamer was won by Dorothy Hiltz and Mel Chamberlain, the pumpkin carving contest was judged by Olive Stickwood and Joan Boyce, winners were Ila Pinella/Jim Lee and Sam Lemon and the bingo contest winner was Al Boyce. Prizes were presented to the winners by Shirley Chamberlain.

An evening of selected Halloween calls by Jim Lee were enjoyed by the all dancers. Thank you, Jim!
Of course, special Halloween treats were enjoyed by all, thanks to the members who donated them.
Our November special dance will be Ice Cream Night on November 22nd. Conveners are Sam & Marilyn Lemon and Bruce and Marg Saunders; obviously Chapman's ice cream will be served.

Mel Chamberlain,
Bugle Correspondent

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

This fall we are excited to welcome several younger couples to our Guys N' Dolls dance club. It's a pleasure sharing our love of square dancing with folks new to the game. Seems to give us "seasoned" dancers energy and we're getting a lot of positive feedback. While some cannot commit to regular attendance, they assured us they would come out as often as possible. They were surprised at how quickly they picked up the various moves, as Dan Weatherby put us through the steps.

Speaking of Dan, he and Fran have been down with Covid recently, so we cancelled our Nov. 3rd. dance to give him time to recoup.

We wish them a good and speedy recovery, Covid is not fun for anyone!

We are saddened to report that after a time of failing health, our member Ken Seidall passed away on Nov. 3rd. We will miss him. We hope in time, his partner Maureen will come out with us once again.

Due to the unavailability of the hall on Nov. 10, we have moved our Nov 10th dance to the 17th.

Please note the change.

The church is holding a Christmas Bazaar on the 11, and need to set up.

Although we had to move our dance date, the church has invited our club to have a table at the Bazaar, to introduce folks to our dance program.

Fingers crossed it will reap rewards, as well as simply to meet the congregation of this lovely and welcoming place of worship.

Perhaps even if not in the immediate, some may consider joining us.

Guys N' Dolls Club continues to dance at the new location on Westmount, where our next dance will be on Nov. 17th. The theme is "Canada/Maple Leaf" night.

Always enjoy visiting dancers, so join us when you can!

See you on the dance floor!

Guys and dolls

[Jubilee Rounds - St. Jacobs](#)

Wow ... hard to believe this will be the last Bugle before Christmas!

Jubilee Rounds on Zoom continues to enjoy many dancers each week who attend from the comfort of their own homes - no driving, no worry about traffic or weather, no rush to get out after dinner. It is such a treat to

continue to see folks from all around North America joining us each week. Our program is Phase 2/3 with the occasional 4.

Thursday evenings 7:00pm – 8:00pm Eastern Time Canada.

If you wish to join us, you don't have to have a lot of space to dance! Please click [HERE](#) to sign up or simply visit our website www.shadowlightdance.com and sign up from there.

We have been having some great “in person” events each month that have given folks the opportunity to enjoy the social side of Round Dancing too. We have had a **Welcome Back** relaxed dance, as well as a **Tango Clinic** along with the “**The Fall Flirt**” in October and “**Falling Leaves**” in November and we will have our **Annual Christmas Dance** on December 2nd



October 14th - The Fall Flirt was very well attended. We had a sold-out floor and all had a wonderfully “Flirtatious” Time

November 5th - Falling Leaves Round Dance was a great afternoon of Relaxed Phase 2 Waltz & Twostep with a few Phase 3 Rumbas added for extra variety. It was sooooo nice to see our newer dancers on the floor and we would also like to give a big thanks to the more seasoned dancers who attended to give their support!! Lots of fun dancing for everyone!



November 12th – Gala by the Grand is a **VIRTUAL** elegant affair again this year. Join us for an afternoon of Round Dancing with the program shared between Andrea and Dan Roy. (We are working hard at getting this lovely dance back to an “in person” event – keep your fingers crossed for 2024!)

[Flyer](#) – [Registration](#)

December 2nd - Christmas Special in person dance in Cambridge

[Flyer](#) – [Registration](#)

Plan ahead!!

Mark these dates for Round Dance Specials and watch for our flyers and registration information!

Saturday February 10, 2024 – Look for our Valentine's Dance Special

Saturday March 2, 2024

Sunday March 17, 2024

Saturday April 13, 2024

Sunday May 5, 2024

Andrea also cued at the October 28th SWOSDA in Woodstock and was very pleased to help Thames Valley Dance Club celebrate their 25th anniversary. There was great attendance and Andrea shared the Round Dance Party with Dan Roy. 😊

December 2nd “Christmas Special” Join us for our annual phase 2/3/4 Round Dance in Cambridge to celebrate the season!

[Flyer](#) – [Registration](#)

Andrea and I wish you a Very Merry Christmas and all the best for this Holiday Season.

For info: Andrea or Jeff at: 1-519-752-2172 or jeff@jeffreypriest.com

Printable flyers are on our website: www.jeffreypriest.com

See you on Zoom or in person!!!

Jeff Priest 😊

Rhythm Rounds - London

Rhythm Rounds is going so well that some of our new beginners are starting to be able to join in the dancing with the regular dancers. We had high hopes for these dancers and they are learning in leaps and bounds. They are waltzing really well, rumba really well, and the two-step is coming along very nicely. They are practicing and it shows.

We had a small Halloween party on the 25th of October and the custom costumes by Roland and Wendy Hofner won the prize for most original. We had a table of goodies brought in by the dancers that was varied and delicious. Everyone had a good time dancing with no workshopping.

Our season continues through November, and on to December. We will have our Christmas Dance on Wednesday December 13th. Again, we will have the group bring in some Christmas goodies for all to enjoy. This will be our last dance in 2023.

We will resume our schedule on Wednesday January 10th, once all the Christmas & New Year's things go on within our families.

We wish you all a very Merry Christmas and an exciting and dance filled 2024!



Please feel free to come Round Dancing with us any Wednesday night at the Lambeth Public School. Easy rounds at 6:15PM and higher dancing from 7:15PM.

Royal City Squares - Guelph

A small but mighty group of two to three squares continues to dance weekly at Paisley Road School Gym. Tuesday evenings are Basic and Mainstream, Wednesday evenings offer Plus classes.

Themed Singing Call nights for November and December have been set:

Wednesday, November 29 is *The Wonderful World of Disney*

Tuesday, December 12 and Wednesday, December 13 (last nights of dancing till January) are *Winter Wonderland*.

Singing Call nights in the new year will feature *Love & Romance* (in February, of course), *Irish Eyes* (in March), and *The Music of this Millennium* (in April). Please drop in for seasonal treats and dancing. Everyone is welcome, of course.

November is a busy month for a lot of Royal City dancers who also enjoy traditional square dancing. The [Olde Tyme Square Dance Association](#) is hosting its popular multiple caller fall dance with a live band, featuring Bruce Woods on fiddle, in north Etobicoke on Saturday, November 11th at 1 pm. There are rumours that our own Wesley Knierim may be calling at that dance. The next day is the traditional square dance competition at the Royal Winter Fair (with some of our own Club dancers on the stage). It's always a joy to watch the young dancers and their Callers from 4H and other groups compete. The monthly Olde Tyme dance at Duff's Church (south of Guelph at the 401) is Saturday evening, November 18 - easy for modern square dancers to learn, lots of high energy squares and more, including potluck social after the dance.

We are considering hiring Guest Callers for January dancing. Stay tuned! And it looks like the new year may bring changes to our traditional Wednesday dance night at Paisley Road School, due to scheduling "opportunities" with the school board. We'll know more about that soon.

Submitted by Lorna Irwin
Royal City Squares Dancing Bee Girl

[ShadowLight Dance Club - SW Ontario](#)

Greetings! It is hard to believe the first part of our season is almost over. After Remembrance Day, Christmas is next! Wow....

We have been enjoying a great season thus far and look forward to the next several weeks before we head south for 6 weeks.

Many of our annual youth groups are back in full "swing" again and our dance calendar is quite busy at this time with school, camp and church functions.

Our A-2 dance group has been great this season and many folks have been able to attend regularly every week. We still have folks that have been travelling so they haven't been as regular but attend when they can. We do appreciate the support.

We have been asked again to offer a **Intro to A-1** session, so we have set up a start date of Monday February 5, 2024. This will be an 8 week only intro session - Monday February 5, 2024 to Monday March 25, 2024. This is not designed to replace the current Plus club that you are dancing with. It is simply an introduction to explore a bit of what Advanced dancing is all about and we strongly encourage you to keep up with your current club.

Space is Limited to 10 Couples - **Registration is Required** - [Flyer](#) - [Registration](#)

Squares:

Daytime A-2 in Cambridge: Wednesday Afternoons 1:00pm – 3:00pm.
Registration required. Visit our website to register [Flyer](#) – [Registration](#)

**** *New Opportunity!!* ****: *A Gentle Introduction to A-1: An 8 week session*
Monday Afternoons 1:00pm – 3:00pm Starting February 5, 2024

Royal City Squares: Tuesday Evenings: **Basic** – 7:00pm – 8:15pm **Mainstream** 8:15pm – 9:15pm - Paisley Rd School

Royal City Squares: Wednesday Evenings: **Plus** – 7:00pm – 9:15pm - Paisley Rd School

Rounds:

ShadowLight Rounds dances on Thursday mornings and is offering **Introduction to Phase 3 Waltz**. Dancers should know Phase 2 Waltz. To join in **November 9th – to December 7th** - [Flyer](#) – [Register](#)

ShadowLight Enterprises is involved in introducing Square and Round dancing to various new groups all through the year. Keep us in mind if you know of a group that might be interested in a “Square Dance Party” or a group that may be interested in a Rumba or Cha-Cha afternoon clinic. We do many private parties for Birthdays, Anniversaries, Weddings, Pre-wedding parties, as well as “just because parties”

We wish you all a very Merry Christmas and all the best in 2024!

Happy Dancing and More – Much More!

Andrea & Jeff Priest

ShadowLight Dance Club

Check out our website for flyers - www.shadowlightdance.com or phone: 519-752-2172

Sound Steppers - Owen Sound

Hello fellow dancers and friends.

Hope you all had a great Thanksgiving with family and friends.

With Lots of rain and very nice mid- temperature fall days to enjoy walks while seeing the changing of the leaves, stocking up wood in the woodshed, going to fall fairs and parades, finishing the canning for winter, and turning the heat on for the chilly mornings. Farmers have been having a hard time getting corn and soybeans off before winter sets in but making up for our very dry summer we had.



The club has had a busy month with 2 specialty dance nights. Our first was our 50's and 60's night with poodle skirts, slicked back hair and rolled up jeans, lots of great oldie tunes with old time dances.

Daddy, How was I born

A little boy goes to his father and asks, “Daddy, how was I born?”

The father answers,

“Well, son, I guess one day you will need to find out anyway! Your mom and I first got together in a chat room on Yahoo. Then I set up a date via e-mail with your mom and we met at a cyber-cafe. We sneaked into a secluded room, and googled each other. There your mother agreed to a download from my hard drive. As soon as I was ready to upload, we discovered that neither one of us had used a firewall, and since it was too late to hit the delete button, nine months later a little Pop-Up appeared that said: 'You've got male!'” 🤪



Our 2nd night was Halloween with lots of costumes, spooky treats, Halloween themed dances, contests, prizes and a game of musical chairs. Check out our Facebook page of videos and pics to see how it all went. Great times.

[Www.facebook/owensoundsteppers.ca](https://www.facebook.com/owensoundsteppers.ca).

The club had a lot of October birthdays and anniversary get togethers which we all sang happy birthday to. We celebrated a 64th wedding anniversary for one of our favorite dance couples Cliff and Olive Stanley. Congratulations to you both.

We have had many visitors come and join in the fun with us from Flesherton Denim and Lace, the Blue Mountain Promenaders club and from the Guys and Dolls club in Kitchener.

We were saddened by the passing on October 19th of a long time member of our club, Carl Dickey. Carl, along with his wife Pat, were active and involved members of the Owen Sound Steppers for over 25 years including serving as Club President. He will be missed by all who knew him.

Our November specialty dance will be our Hawaiian night to try and bring some warm feelings back to enjoy. We will be holding it on Thursday November 16th from 7-9pm so break out your grass skirts and lei necklaces and come join for another fun evening to the calling of Neva and Duncan McVittie.

November is also a time for Remembrance to wear a poppy and give thanks to those that fought for our freedom.

Our Christmas potluck dinner and dance will be on Thursday December 14th starting at 6pm with dancing around 7pm. Everyone welcome.

Hope everyone has a wonderful and safe November and Christmas season and be blessed with friends and family.

Hope to see you all on the dance floor.

Linda Wedow

Bugle Rep

[Strathroy Swinging Duo's](#)

We have been enjoying this beautiful fall season. October has been a great month to spend outdoors with this mild weather we've been having.

Our club continues to have a great attendance and Tom Charlton keeps us swinging and promenading in a square. We continue to have our half hour review at 7:00 and we're dancing at a nice tempo. If you haven't danced for a while, consider coming for a refresher.

Thank you to Merv Reid for being our guest caller on October 10, giving Tom a night home with Linda. We had our Halloween dance on October 31. We were encouraged to either wear black and orange or in costume, as you can see in our group photo.



Dig out your sports jerseys and wear them to our dance on Tuesday, November 21. It will be fun to discover which sport teams are our favorites. Stay for lunch following the dance. Also, with December being a short dance month we invite you to our Christmas Pot Luck on Tuesday, December 12 at 6:30 sharp. Please bring a main dish or salad and your own plates, cups, and cutlery. After supper we will dance from 7:30 – 9:30 pm. We dance at the St. John the Evangelist Anglican church Hall, 34 Head Street, Strathroy.

Keep Fit, Keep Dancing!
Jake and Jean Hamstra

[Thames Valley Dance Club – Woodstock](#)

WOW! What a month October was for us! There were so many things to celebrate, but our biggest celebration happened on Sat. Oct 28th at Maranatha Church in Woodstock as we acknowledged our 25 years as a club.

“Thames Valley Squares” was started by our caller Ed Dolson and his wife, Nancy, in 1996. In 2017, we changed our name to Thames Valley Dance Club, and continued to spend our Monday nights on the dance floor. (For a more detailed history of our club, check the article in last month's Bugle.)

To celebrate our club's 25th Anniversary, we hosted a SWOSDA Dance! We had 75 people from 13 different clubs join us to dance through the afternoon to several great callers and cuers. It was cold outside, but the friendship and smiles inside warmed our hearts. It makes me wonder – how will we celebrate our 50th?



Our vice-president, Julie Budd, created a beautiful, flowered arch as a “photo booth”. Many people took advantage of the opportunity throughout the afternoon, and it seemed a fitting place for our club to make a memory. (Unfortunately, not all of the members of our club who were at the dance are in this picture.)

Our presidents, Norm and Elaine Northmore, are seen here with the anniversary cake, and accepting an award from SWOSDA Presidents, Austin and Avril Hayward, who are also members of our club. Our club also received awards from the Ontario Square and Round Dance Federation and the Canadian Square and Round Dance Society. What an honour and privilege for our Presidents, and our club!



Next celebration: Hallowe'en! Lots of people in fun costumes, and lots of fun on the dance floor!

Our next theme dance will be on Nov 20th, when we will celebrate our nationalities. Club members (and visitors) are welcome to wear something that spotlights their nationality.



Soon it will be time for our Christmas Potluck – hard to believe! We have invited the Centennial Beavers to join us once again as we had so much fun together last year. It is sure to be a great evening on Mon Dec 11th!

After that night, we will take a break from dance for a few weeks to spend time with family and friends, relax in front of the fire, and wonder how it is even possible that we are at the end of another year!

Enjoy the remainder of fall, and the leadup to Christmas. May your home and heart be blessed over the coming weeks with love, peace and gratitude for all that you have.

Lois Turvey - The Bugle Correspondent for Thames Valley Dance Club

The Town Squares – La Salette

The Town Squares has returned to its namesake , The Town Square in Waterford, dancing in the upper hall of The Old Town Hall. Tuesday evenings we dance Round Dance, but Square Dance could be in the future as well.

Friday afternoons start with an hour of Round Dance teach, followed by Line Dance for Beginners. An enthusiastic group line dances to Pop, Rock and Roll, Oldies, Irish, Scottish and even some Country. We also dance to the Cha Cha and Waltz Rhythms. After Line Dance there is some English Country Dance.

Submitted by Caller/Cuer Gail Mottashed

Waterdown Village Squares – Waterdown

Waterdown Village Squares had a successful start to our fall 2023 dance season with the two consecutive Thursday evening Open Houses. We have welcomed many new members to our dance club. We appreciate that many of our Tuesday evening Plus dancers are also attending the Thursday evening Basic and Mainstream class as angels.

This fall, our Schedule will feature some weekday dances with special themes. Our first theme dance was our very favorite Halloween Dance which was held on October 24 and 26. The dancers were attired in orange and black outfits and some dancers dared to dress up in Halloween costumes. A prize was awarded for the best costume each night. Our callers choose Halloween themed music and Halloween treats were available.



Future theme nights are...

November 7 and 9	Apple Day
November 9 and 14	Experienced square dance outfits for sale.
November 14 and 26	Western night
December 12	Christmas Hoedown
January 23 & 25	Robbie Burns Day
January 27	SWOSDA monthly dance at Waterdown

We invite you to visit to Waterdown Villages Square for fun evening of dancing on one of our special theme dances.

Submitted by Susan Roat, publicity.



www.facebook.com/swosda



CONVENTION UPDATE

488 Registeredand counting

**With over 75 Caller & Leaders
Donating their time to make
this Event Memorable
Don't miss it!**



SAVE THE DATE
SWOSDA

Square & Round Dancers of South Western Ontario

MONTHLY SPECIAL DANCE IN WATERDOWN

JANUARY 27, 2024

HOSTED BY



Location – St. James United Church

306 Parkside Drive, Waterdown

details to follow

Senior Blessings

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 ease the days in my journey home, in loving ways.

Senior Road Trip

While on a road trip, an elderly couple stopped at a roadside restaurant for lunch. After finishing their meal, they left the restaurant, and resumed their trip. When leaving, the elderly woman unknowingly left her glasses on the table, and she didn't miss them until they had been driving for about forty minutes.

By then, to add to the aggravation, they had to travel quite a distance before they could find a place to turn around, in order to return to the restaurant to retrieve her glasses.

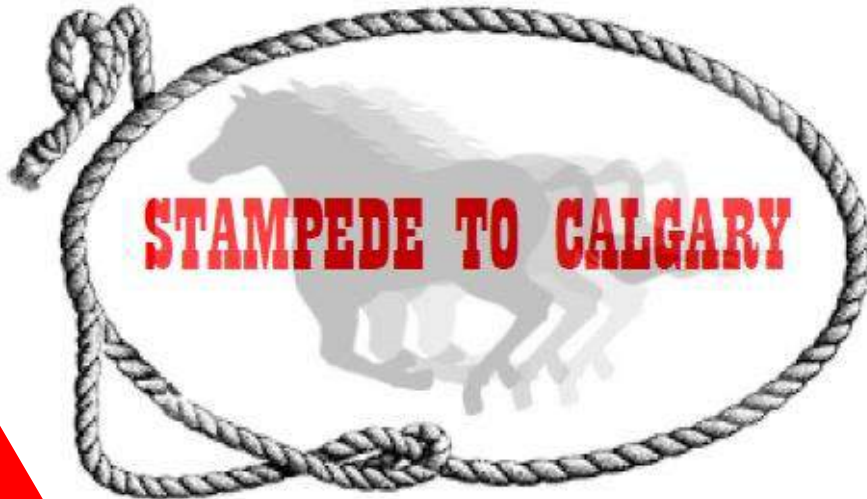
All the way back, the elderly husband became the classic grouchy man. He fussed and complained, and scolded his wife relentlessly during the entire return drive. The more he chided her, the more agitated he became. He just wouldn't let up for a single minute.

To her relief, they finally arrived at the restaurant. As the woman got out of the car, and hurried inside to retrieve her glasses, the old geezer yelled to her, "While you're in there, you might as well get my hat and the credit card."

Information & Registration: www.squaredance.ab.ca

Hosted by Alberta Square & Round Dance Federation

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