

SWOSDA'S EXECUTIVE NEWS – FEBRUARY 2026

SWOSDA's next Monthly Dance Special

Saturday, February 28, 2026

Maranatha Christian Reformed Church,
735 Frontenac Cres., **Woodstock**

1:00 – 5:00 p.m. \$8.00/person

Details: www.swosda.ca

Special thanks to our Hosts

Silver Streak Squares

HOW IS SWOSDA WORKING FOR & WITH CLUBS?

1. **Ontario Trillium Awards** – nominations are still open, please submit nominations to secretary@swosda.ca
FORMS: <https://swosda.ca/awards/>
2. **SWOSDA Merit Award** – honour your club member contributing with a minimum of 10 years of exceptional service to your club. Nominations are still open, please send a request for this award to secretary@swosda.ca
FORMS: <https://swosda.ca/awards/>

Notice of Change to the SWOSDA Constitution

Executive Approved Changes will be emailed by the SWOSDA Secretary to Club Reps by **February 24** for distribution to Club Members.

Notice of Change to the SWOSDA Bylaws
Executive Approved Changes will be emailed by the SWOSDA Secretary to Club Reps by **March 26** for distribution to Club Members.

Each document is to be member approved at the **SWOSDA AGM April 25, 2026**, Owen Sound, ON
Same Location as the SWOSDA Dance.

3. **Dance Promotion – Growing Your Club**

“Growing your square or round dance Club is more critical today than ever,” explains Tom and Jo Kahnert, Strathroy Swinging Duos Executive and Past Presidents of SWOSDA. “Another way to look at growth is EXISTING, and often Clubs and organizations may not have paid enough consistent attention to this key trend.” Tom and Jo share their program knowledge freely with any SWOSDA Club with vision for growing and the desire ‘to exist’ in the future within the Association. SWOSDA Executive will provide more information soon, but you can make your new beginning in promotion today by contacting Tom & Jo.

Email Tom: tomk2005@gmail.com

Email Jo: jokahnert24@gmail.com

4. **Recruitment** - The Ontario Federation Recruitment Bursary is available to any member club in SWOSDA as members of OSRDF (Square, Round, Line, and/or Clogging club) by showing strong evidence of a well-organized recruitment program and going beyond the call of duty. Through SWOSDA's membership in OSRDF our members can receive help from Provincial funding.
5. **Ontario Federation Caller/Cuer Schools & Clinics including information on SWOSDA, Federation, and Society Bursaries** – Please contact Jeff Priest to learn about calling and cuing training opportunities. Jeff and Andrea are long-time SWOSDA Executive members and SWOSDA Square and Round Dance Programmers, including Canadian Callers School owner (a division of ShadowLight Dance Club) jeff@shadowlightdance.com
6. **Bursary Links for Clubs**
SWOSDA <https://swosda.ca/funding/>
CSRDS <https://csrds.ca/bursary/>
OSRDF <https://squaredance.on.ca/funding/>
7. **Special Club Anniversary Dates** – please share news of your special event. Email secretary@swosda.ca An Executive member will be pleased to attend and present a Special Anniversary award certificate at your Club

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Special Event or help plan a special recognition at a SWOSDA event.

8. Dance Club Cancellations due to Inclement Weather – Please contact Dan Roy (Web) (bugle@swosda.ca) Dance cancellations can be posted on the front page of the SWOSDA Website.

9. SWOSDA Monthly Dance Special Hosting – The 2026-27 Dance Season will soon be confirmed. Speak to Executive Member Don Procter to volunteer as a future event host. Highlight your club on a bigger scale in your community when hosting a SWOSDA event. Email: donprocter21@gmail.com

10. Ontario Federation – The Annual General Meeting date is Saturday, May 2 at 10:00 a.m. (Virtual Zoom Meeting). Special thanks to Doug Turvey and Merv & Janice Reid, our SWOSDA representatives to OFSRD, and SWOSDA members Dan & Rhetha Roy, Presidents of OFSRD (Reps of Canadian Square & Round Dance Society). Everyone is welcome. Register online. <https://squaredance.on.ca/> or by contacting Dan Roy <https://swosda.ca/executive/>

11. National Square & Round Dance Convention 2026 – July 15-18, 2026, Penticton, British Columbia. Website is active, registration can be sent online or by downloading a pdf form here: <https://csrds.ca/news-26/>

12. SWOSDA Visitations – It is a privilege for us to visit your club, to dance and share the good news about our Association and SWOSDA Monthly Dance Specials. Email: John Stemmler johnnystemmler@gmail.com or Norma Khan khanorma91@gmail.com

For all those interested in History, please Contact a SWOSDA Executive Member OR SWOSDA Historian Dorothy Dahm familypatchwork.dd@gmail.com

Training is available to help with a transition period into the SWOSDA Historian Position

Coming Soon!
Frosh Dances for Beginning Square Dancers
Provided by Caller's Clinic
Everyone is Welcome
Dancing is geared toward newer and early level square dancing.
March 14, 2:00 – 4:30 p.m.,
Richard's Memorial Church, **London**
Callers Ed Dolson, Doug Turvey, and Tom Charlton
April 11, 2:00 – 4:30 p.m.,
Ingersoll Seniors Centre,
250 Ingersoll Street S., **Ingersoll**
Callers Neva McVittie, Jeff Priest, and Wesley Knierim

Membership in the Canadian Square and Round Dance Society (CSRDS) gives us immediate and free access to Promotion visuals. Other resources are highlighted on the following link too. Use it well!



<https://csrds.ca/promotion/>