

BUGLE

Square and Round Dancers of South Western Ontario Inc.

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



April 2026
Volume 63 Number 8
President's Message



Warmest greetings to SWOSDA membership. Remember, the cow? “What do you call a cow that square dances? Answer: A moo-ver and a groover”! We are happy to be part of such an amazing human part of moo-overs and groovers in this Association.

There is one more SWOSDA Dance Special ahead on April 25 in Owen Sound that includes the AGM and one more SWOSDA Round Dance party on May 23, 2026. The seasons move along quickly, it seems. We’ve moved through this season, a strong beginning of dance to nearing the end now, ready for the summertime break, one step at a time, one day at a time. Every day a new day for new opportunities.

There are many ribbons to be seen at our club dances as our dancers have donned the “We’re Going” ribbons! There’s still time to join these excited travelling dancers to travel to Penticton, B.C. for the 24th Canadian National Square, Round, and Clog Dance Convention. Easy registration is online at the Canadian Square & Round Dance Society website.



There’s good news through our Association in so many areas. From new callers to new dancers, to welcoming clubs hosting SWOSDA dances to club executives and leaders, and to opportunities for Association support in promotion and building clubs. We wish you all a very special Easter season and amazing, lovely days throughout the warming up and pretty days of springtime.

With kindest regards,

Tom & Linda Charlton, Association President & Secretary

SWOSDA Executive – 2025-2026

President	Tom Charlton	president@swosda.ca
Past President	Linda Charlton	secretary@swosda.ca
Vice-President	John Stemmler Norma Kahn	johnnystemmler@gmail.com khannorma91@gmail.com
Secretary	Linda Charlton	secretary@swosda.ca
Treasurer	Stephen Kilbridge	treasurer@swosda.ca
Visitation	John Stemler	johnnystemmler@gmail.com
Square & Round Dance Section Leader	Jeff Priest Andrea Priest	jeff@jeffreypriest.com andrea@jeffreypriest.com
Bugle / Web	Dan Roy	dan.roy1950@gmail.com
Registration & Door Receipts	Earl Jacques Joan Jacques	earljacques@gmail.com joanarmjac@hotmail.com
Halls & Refreshments	Don Proctor Anne Melady	donproctor21@gmail.com jamelady@icloud.com
Publicity & Bugle Corr.	Ian & Debbie Hulley	ianhulley157@gmail.com

Representing SWOSDA on the Ontario Square & Round Dance Federation

Merv & Janice Reid

Doug & Lois Turvey

A full list of the Executive, along with a summarized list of their duties
can also found on the SWOSDA Website

<https://swosda.ca/executive/>

Anyone wanting to know more about the SWOSDA Executive, it's duties, or its functioning
can approach any Executive member directly or by email.

Your Comments and Suggestions are always Welcome.

Help us to make this Dance Movement great again!

SWOSDA'S EXECUTIVE NEWS – APRIL 2026

SWOSDA's next Monthly Dance Special

Saturday, APRIL 25, 2026

First United Church,

435 21st Street W., Owen Sound, N4K 4E5

1:00 – 1:30 p.m. Round Dance Party

1:30 – 4:30 p.m. Mainstream & Plus Squares
including Rounds, 4:30 – 5:00 p.m. AGM

\$8.00/person

Details: www.swosda.ca

Special thanks to our Hosts

The Sound Steppers

2026-27 SWOSDA MEMBERSHIP FEE

The Annual Fee Information Letter is included in the cover email for this edition of the Executive News.

The SWOSDA Club Membership Fee remains unchanged at \$20 per club.
Deadline April 25, 2026

Ontario Federation

Annual General Meeting date is Saturday, May 2, 10:00 a.m. (Virtual Zoom Meeting). Everyone is welcome to learn about the work of and opportunities through Ontario Federation of Square and Round Dancing. Register online. <https://squaredance.on.ca/> or by contacting Dan Roy <https://swosda.ca/executive/>

Thank you! SWOSDA Dance Hosts 2025-26

Flesherton Denim
'n Lace,
Country Squares
Rostock,
Waterdown Village
Squares,
Silver Streak
Squares
Woodstock,
Royal City Squares
Guelph,
Sound Steppers
Owen Sound



SWOSDA Round Dance Hosts 2025-26

ShadowLight Dance
Rhythm Rounds Lambeth

National Square & Round Dance Convention

July 15-18, 2026, Penticton, British Columbia. Website is active, registration can be sent online or by downloading a pdf form found here: <https://csrds.ca/news-26/>

You'll be noticing increasing numbers of "We're Going" ribbons worn by SWOSDA dancers. Would you like to join in the fun?
Please register ASAP
to enable better event planning.

SWOSDA AGM Voting Delegates And Membership Attendance

Please see the information outlined on
page 2
before attending AGM
April 25, 2026
Owen Sound

SWOSDA'S EXECUTIVE NEWS – APRIL 2026

Frosh Dance for Beginning Square Dancers Provided by Caller's Clinic

All are very Welcome
Dancing is geared toward newer and early level square dancing
April 11, 2:00 – 4:30 p.m.,
Ingersoll Seniors Centre,
250 Ingersoll Street S., **Ingersoll**
Callers Neva McVittie, Jeff Priest, and
Wesley Knierim

Dance Promotion – Growing Your Club

It's likely that dance promotion is on your radar as you plan for your Club's programming and growth next season.

"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. Tom & Jo have begun contacting SWOSDA clubs individually now to offer ideas and a start for new promotion planning for next season. Don't hesitate to reach out to them too.

Email Tom: tomk2005@gmail.com

Email Jo: jokahnert24@gmail.com

CLUB INFORMATION REQUEST

Please keep the SWOSDA Secretary up to date with club changes:

- ☑ Club Contact person(s) including contact information
 - ☑ Club changes
 - ☑ Club Anniversaries
- secretary@swosda.ca

** SWOSDA Member Clubs please take note of the following regarding the upcoming April 25, 2026, AGM, 4:30 – 5:00 p.m.*

Although only delegates vote at the Annual General Meeting discussion and ideas from **all members are welcome. Please note that each Member Club shall elect or appoint four persons from their Club who are not members of the Association Executive to be their voting representatives at the AGM.**

To have a vote each Club Representative must register. Voting representative please register at the Welcome Table when arriving at the dance.

With appreciation we thank those who have offered and agreed to let their name stand for nomination for SWOSDA Executive 2026-27.

Nominations for Executive will also be opened at the AGM. For information about SWOSDA's Executive please send a message to the SWOSDA Secretary (acting Past President & Nominations) at secretary@swosda.ca

SWOSDA Executive Positions:

Past President Plus 6 Elected:

President, Vice President

Four Members at Large

Appointed by Executive:

Secretary, Treasurer, Bugle Editor/Web

On recommendation of SWOSDA Executive voting is required indicating support of membership for:

Corporation Directors

SWOSDA Reps to Ontario Federation

SWOSDA Historian

AGM VOTING:
SWOSDA Constitution and ByLaws Updates



We are now at the end of March. Only a few more dances, and the regular dance season comes to a close.

That does not mean you can put your dance shoes away and forget about them till September.

Think about taking part in the many Summertime dance activities. Many clubs have socials, picnics, pot-lucks, all including a dance. Do some visiting with friends, or maybe even make some new ones.

There is NO May Bugle, but there is a June “Special Summer edition”. Here is where you’ll find all the information on Summer activities, and ‘get togethers’.

Another option is to attend the Canadian National Convention in Penticton, BC. As of now, they are at 515 registrations; should be quite a party! Why not join in!

All the registration information can be found on the [Convention Website](#).

Hope you all have a great summer and we’ll look for you in the square.

To All Clubs

Please send me information on Summer activities your club may be hosting. I can include the information in the June bugle for all to take note of

**Thanks
Dan Roy**



Ontario Square and Round Dance Federation Zoom Meeting



AGM meeting on Saturday May 2, 2026 at 10 am

In order to attend you must register at
squaredance.on.ca

The TOP of the Home Page has a link.
Click the link and enter your information.

The Zoom link and required reports will be sent to you
the day before the meeting



Saturday March 28, 2026

Hosted by Royal City Squares

SWOSDA was hosted by Royal City Squares at Duff's Presbyterian Church in Puslinch on March 28th. The church hall was packed with 72 people present representing 15 clubs. We were treated to the talents of 7 cuers/callers and their spouses.

The afternoon began with the round dance party cued by Dan Roy. We danced to a wide variety of music that kept the large circle of dancers engaged.

Following welcoming remarks by our SWOSDA Presidents Tom and Linda Charlton, the fun started with Jeff and Andrea Priest calling the first Mainstream tip. Wesley Knierim called a Mainstream and Plus level tips. There were 7 squares on the floor. Bob and Betty Beck took over next with 2 rounds. We continued the square dancing with 2 Mainstream tips called by Doug and Lois Turvey. Dan Roy cued 2 rounds. Nora Kent continued with Plus and Mainstream tips. Ian and Debbie Hulley brought the round dancers back to the floor with 2 rounds. Wesley Knierim called a Plus tip. Bob and Betty Beck cued 2 rounds followed by Doug and Lois Turvey calling a Mainstream tip. Ian and Debbie Hulley cued our final round dance of the afternoon. Jeff and Andrea Priest called a Plus Tip followed by announcements. Jeff and Andrea Priest called the final Mainstream tip for the afternoon.

It was particularly inspiring to have 3 of our newest callers participating in this month's dance. They all did a wonderful job and we look forward to dancing to their calling again soon.

A table was set up in the kitchen with an amazing array of lunch for everyone to enjoy. There was a wide selection of both savoury and sweet for our enjoyment.



Our next SWOSDA dance will be hosted by the Sound Steppers on Saturday, April 25 th. We will dance at First United Church 1:00 - 4:30 pm. Our annual meeting will follow from 4:30-5:00 pm. We invite everyone

to make the trip to Owen Sound for this dance and annual meeting. Delegates will be asked to sign up prior to the meeting for voting rights.

Moments Remembered

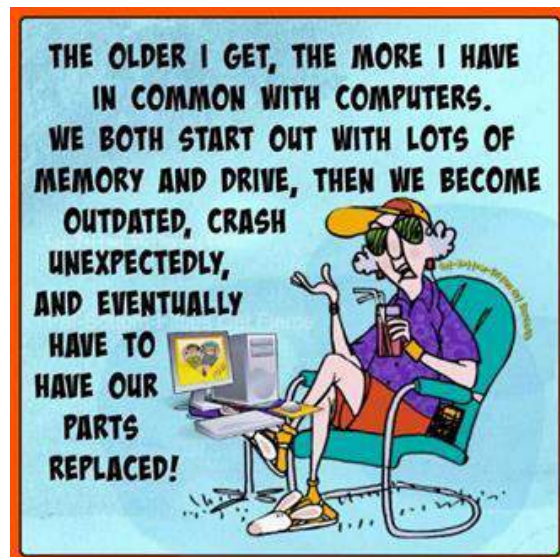
(Check out the [Gallery](#) on the SWOSDA website for more memorable pics)

Staff for the
March 28, 2026
SWOSDA dance
Hosted by
Royal City Squares

Duff's
Presbyterian Church
Puslinch



www.facebook.com/swosda



CLUB NEWS

Send Club News to bugle@swosda.ca

Clinton Wheel 'N' Dealers

Location Clinton Public School Perceval Street Clinton
Wednesday nights 7:15-9:15pm
President Couple Ian and Debbie Hulley (226-222-7972)
Callers Tom and Linda Charlton (519-765-4620)
Neva and Duncan McVittie (519-797-5623)
Donna Fielder (519-955-0850)

Please Lug a Mug

Clinton Wheel n Dealers were only able to dance a couple of times during the month of March with winter holding on, and the school closed for March Break. We made the most of the nights we were dancing.

Donna Fielder called for the weeks we were dancing and led us through the Mainstream program. We had two squares dancing and hope to have a few more couples back to join us next month.

We look forward to a night of Easter fun with Neva and Duncan McVittie to start next month on April 1st. We will also be practicing for our demo at ONE CARE on April 28th.

Mark your calendar for our annual end of season potluck supper and dance on May 6, 2026. Everyone is welcome to join us for our potluck meal at 6:30 and dance with Neva and Duncan McVittie to follow.

We dance in a peanut and fragrance free facility.

Respectfully submitted by Ian and Debbie Hulley
Bugle Correspondents.

Country Square – Rostock

Just a touch over three squares of dancers joined each other at the Rostock Hall Tuesday April 7th to have an evening of fun and fellowship. We were all quite proud of our Easter bonnets and wore them most of the evening.



To help add some excitement to the evening, our caller, Neva McVittie with the help of Duncan McVittie supervised a wind-up toy race. After a bit of gentle coaxing from Rose Dankewitz, her little buddy (a duck) came in first! The highlight of the evening was a visit from the Easter Bunny. Mr. Bunny went around and passed out chocolate eggs and hugs to all! To finish off the evening, we all enjoyed some fellowship time

with yummy snacks and coffee/tea.



On April 21, our club has been invited to dance for a local seniors retirement home in Stratford. We have danced there previously. They liked us so well from past entertainment that we were invited back again for this year.

Our last dance time, (until we start back again in September), will be held at the home of Dave & Joanne Foster with a potluck supper. Rumour has it that there is going to be something special happening that evening so stay tuned until the next bugle!

[Denim'N Lace - Flesherton](#)

Now the better driving weather has arrived we are enjoying having our members out enjoying lots of good dance fun. Great to see the bright and happy faces showing the joy of square dancing camaraderie. St Patrick's was a tough driving day but two square still made it out. Cheers to all.



[Jubilee Rounds - St. Jacobs](#)

Greetings from Jubilee Rounds on Zoom & "In Person"!!

We hope you all had a very Happy Easter and are looking forward to a nice Spring. The weather seems to be really undecided these days. Two days ago, the temp hit 19c with sunshine and today it is 5c with rain and snow flurries every now and then. What a change!

Saturday March 14th

We hosted our St. Paddy's Day Round Dance Special and it was Fabulous!!

We had a full house with 19 couples attending in our new hall in Cambridge. There was lots of great Irish music and green was everywhere. The social was terrific and the food was good too.



Up Coming Events!

Sunday April 12th

Spring Serenade is a Phase 2/3 Round Dance Special in St. George, ON
There are a few spaces left if you would like to join us.

Saturday May 9th

We are hosting an “Intro to Rumba” Everyone is welcome. This session is available to anyone who would like to learn to Rumba. No dance experience required. We will teach you what you need to know to have an enjoyable afternoon. We will also give you a couple of sequences you can learn and memorize to look good on the dance floor at social dances. Even those with two left feet are welcome to join in the fun. Visit our website to sign up!

Summer Sounds Rounds A Phase 3/4 Round Dance Party. Monday evenings in Woodstock, ON. Great May & June dancing for 8 weeks only! Excellent floor time and in an air conditioned hall.

Registration required, please visit our website to sign up!

Visit our [Website](#) to sign up for any of our special dances. Or to see flyers of upcoming dances!

***Remember to check out more dance happenings in the write-up from our sister club, ShadowLight Dance

We look forward to seeing you on Zoom or in person!!!

For info: Andrea or Jeff at: 1.519.752.2172 or jeff@shadowlightdance.com

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

Jeff Priest

Royal City Squares - Guelph

Our Club Dancing is soon done for the season. Our Disney Singing Call Night was great fun especially for our newer dancers.

Join us for our last PLUS Singing Call Night of the season - Tuesday, April 21- Movies and Musicals – at Paisley Rd Public School, Guelph.



Thank you to all that came to the SWOSDA square and round dance in March. It was a great success. Nice to see the young people learning to round dance. Learning to Round Dance will also help you on the Social Dance Floor.



Thanks to Jeff Priest who got everyone up square dancing when we only had a square and a half. Learning to square dance with 12 people in a Rectangle can be challenging but lost of fun and everyone gets to dance.

[ShadowLight Dance Club - SW Ontario](#)

Greetings from the ShadowLight Dance Club... We hope your St. Patrick's Day Events didn't leave you too green

Life is getting back to normal now after my little setback. I am back to calling all our regular events and then some. I am also back driving again ... Hooray!!

Saturday March 14th

Our sister club, Jubilee Rounds, held our St. Paddy's Day Round Dance Special in our new hall in Cambridge and what a great, green time it was! 19 couples attended to have fun dancing to Irish tunes and socializing.



Upcoming events!

We have a few dance events planned! Have a look....

Sunday April 12th

Spring Serenade is a Phase 2/3 Round Dance Special In St. George, ON
There are a few spaces left if you would like to join us.

Saturday May 9th Take Her Dancing on Mother's Day Weekend!

A afternoon "Intro to Rumba" event is planned and Everyone is welcome. This session is available to anyone who would like to learn to Rumba. No dance experience required. We will teach you what you need to know to have an enjoyable afternoon. We will also give you a couple of sequences you can learn and memorize to look good on the dance floor as social dances. Even those with two left feet are also welcome to join in the fun. Visit our website to sign up and Take Her Dancing on Mother's Day Weekend!

Join Jeff at Royal City Squares on April 21st &/or 22nd for the last theme nights of this season! Come out and have fun dancing to the music from Movies & Musicals.

Don't Forget the Frosh Dance by SWOSDA Callers' Clinic on April 11th in Ingersoll – [Flyer](#)

This is a Square Dance for Basic Dancers and everyone else who would like to support our new dancers!

SUMMER DANCE PROGRAMS:

Summer Sounds Rounds: Monday evenings in Woodstock: 8 weeks only - May 4th – June 22nd.

These sessions are Phase 3/4 Rounds for those Round Dancers looking for some quality floor time in an air-conditioned hall. [Registration required, please visit our website to sign up!](#)

PLUS TEACH – Wednesday Afternoons 2:00pm – 3:30pm in Cambridge: June 3rd – August 26th These sessions are designed for Mainstream dancers who are ready to learn PLUS as well as PLUS dancers looking for a solid review of the calls.

[Registration required, please visit our website to sign up!](#)

A-1 Dance with Review:

Wednesday Afternoons 12:30pm – 2:00pm in Cambridge: June 3rd – August 26th

These sessions are designed for A-1 & A-2 dancers to get some floor time with reviews as required!

[Registration required, please visit our website to sign up!](#)

Remember ShadowLight Dance if you are planning a party. We introduce 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"

See you on the Dance Floor ... Happy Dancing and More – Much More!

Andrea & Jeff Priest
ShadowLight Dance Club

Check out our website for flyers and have a look at our calendar page - www.shadowlightdance.com

[Sound Steppers - Owen Sound](#)

Hello fellow dancers and Friends. Mother Nature has been nice over the last month and granted us good traveling weather to be able to dance every week. Spring is in the air, snow is going away, which also means unfortunately a lot of flooding in our area.

Our March dance was our St Patrick's/Diamonds & Furs dance. Had a great turnout and enjoyed lots of Irish themed dances and green treats and the parade of Diamonds and Furs and St Patrick's greens. Check out our pictures on our Facebook page.

Our next specialty dance is our Spring Fling night on Thursday April 16th at 7pm. Join us in your pastels and enjoy a fun evening.



On April 16th we are doing a dancing demo at Grey Gables in Markdale from 2 to 3pm. Pictures will be on our Facebook page.



Our club is hosting April Swosda on Saturday April 25th at First United Church 435 21st Street West in Owen Sound from 1-5pm. Come out with your club banner and represent your club for an afternoon of fun, dancing, and fellowship to a few different callers and maybe you will learn a new dance call. Everyone welcome.

The Owen Sound club would love to wish everyone a very happy and blessed Easter. Hope you are able to spend it with loved ones.

Our club has had a great turnout every week (weather permitting) We have had many visitors come from Flesherton Denim and Lace club.

We dance every Thursday night at 7:00 p.m at our venue the Harmony Center at 890 4th Avenue East in Owen Sound (around the west side of the building). Everyone is welcome.

For pictures, videos and updates of coming events for our club check out our facebook page.
www.facebook.com/owensoundsteppers.ca.

Take care of each other and always be kind to one another. Keep on dancing!! It's good for your mind, body and soul.

A journey with dancing friends is measured in smiles.... not miles.

Linda Wedow
Bugle Rep

[Strathroy Swinging Duos](#)

The Strathroy Swinging Duos club has had a busy month of March enjoying calls from Tom Charlton as well as Doug Turvey, a guest caller who brought his unique calling and singing styles for all to enjoy. As we get closer to the end of our dance season, the club will be having a "Family and Friends" evening on April 14th to allow prospective new members an excellent opportunity to get a taste of Modern Square Dancing and the many benefits the activity brings.

Our year-end dance will commence with our traditional pot-luck dinner event on April 25th at 6:30 PM sharp followed by dancing until 9:00 PM. Guests from other clubs are always welcome.

The 'summer break' will allow the club to plan its Introduction to Modern Square Dancing program starting in October 2026. At this time, we are planning to have a 20 week program, starting with 10 weeks prior to Christmas.



Remember to smile at everyone you meet!

Tom Kahnert,
Strathroy Swinging Duos Publicity

[The Town Squares – Waterford](#)

We've had a good winter of Line Dance at The Old Town Hall in Waterford. New dancers joined us but because they either knew the steps or quickly picked them up we did not need to do beginner type dances to accommodate them.



Social time is important for this group. Unless we are dancing in a circle or doing a contra line dance there isn't any physical contact or even eye contact with other dancers while dancing the way there is with Square Dance, English Country Dance or Contra Dance. We are always looking at the backs of the other dancers. Social time is essential to gel as a group and the dancers go all in on that. Even with all the new faces it's a very social group.

As the dance leader, each week as the dancers arrive and the chatter begins it was always a dilemma for me, wondering if they want to dance or visit more first. I solved that by teaching just once a simple classic line dance and then each week when it's time to start I start the music and begin to dance the dance – The Electric Slide. It serves as a good warmup dance and since I select different music for it each week it doesn't become too familiar. By the end of it everyone has joined in and even the ones who don't know it can watch the others and figure it out.

Gail Mottashed



[Thames Valley Dance Club – Woodstock](#)

Some of our members have spent time in warmer, sunnier climates this winter. But, for those of us who stayed at home, our Monday night dances helped to brighten the winter. Two special dances in March did just that!

On March 2nd we had "Bring a Friend Night". We were joined by 13 friends and by all accounts, everyone had a great time! We had 5 squares on the floor to start the night. The group was keen to learn and quickly picked up the basic moves Ed and Doug were teaching. Hopefully we will see some of these folks joining us in September.

Our St. Paddy's "Pie Night" was on March 16th. The wearing of the green, the dancing, and the many pies to sample led to a very enjoyable evening! Ed took the night off – he must not have had any green to wear 😊 Doug kept us all dancing for the night and did a great job!



We had an early Easter visitor since we will not be dancing on Easter Monday. Thanks to our President, Julie for lining this up for us!

After Easter, we will have just a few Monday dances before we break for the summer, including our Plaid Dance on April 13th. It's hard to believe I am already talking about the end of our dance season. Until then, feel free to join us on a Monday night. We are at the Ingersoll Pipe Band Hall, 108 Wonham St. S. on Mondays from 7-9pm.

Lois Turvey



[Waterdown Village Squares – Waterdown](#)

Our March special dance was St. Patrick's Dance. The room was filled with happy dancers wearing green and white. Our caller chose Irish music and we enjoyed a treat/snack table in the St. Patrick's Day theme.

Submitted by Susan Roat,
Publicity@WaterdownVillageSquares.ca
April 2026



My wife sat down next to me as I was flipping channels.
She asked, "What's on TV?"
I said, "Dust."
And then the fight started...

