

Editor's Comments

The new dance season in Nova Scotia is well underway with most clubs into their regular schedule. Those clubs lucky enough, (or through successfull recruiting), to have new dancers join them, have their classes started. Perhaps those clubs that are still looking for those precious newcomers might consider trying to advertise and recruit for classes to begin in late January? This was one of the suggestions from last Spring's Marketing Seminar.

This edition has a variety of information and news, with reports from the summer activities and the Federation AGM. Readers are reminded to submit news/articles/suggestions to the BT Editor by the 15th of each month. This newsletter is yours to use and share your thoughts with fellow dancers and leaders.

NEWS FROM THE FEDERATION AGM 05

- The Treasurer & Finance Officers reported on a successful financial year 04-05 for the Federation. One of the reasons for success was a generous donation from the Federation Publications officer and Webmaster, Alex Ritchie. It was noted that the earned interest from investments will be considerably lower during the next fiscal year.

- The FESTIVAL 05 committee reported on a very successful event with 33 squares in attendance, including 20 out-of-province dancers.

- The Publicity Officer reported that the Canadian Society has renewed the Canada-wide square dance, toll-free number, for another 2 years. This number (1-866-206-6606) is monitored and inquiries are promptly refered to the appropriate provincial organization. The Society has registered the phrase "Fun, Fitness, & Friendship" and encourages its use on advertising.

- The Federation Parade trailer was not used this year. Associations and clubs are urged to look at using this valuable promotional tool at festivals and parades next summer. Make your plans and reservations as soon as possible.

- The Alquire Memorial Callers School was successfully held in August with 3 teachers and 11 students. The next school is scheduled for August 2007. Dancers should note that both the Society & Federation have bursaries available to help potential callers and cuers attend Caller and Cuer schools.

- The 2006 Maritime Square and Round Dance (MCCA) Convention will be held in Fredericton, NB, 10-11 Nov. 06.

- Regrettably, the Cape Breton Region has declined the invitation to host FESTIVAL 07. It was agreed that the Central Region would be invited to host it.

- All clubs & associations were invited to submit their information for the Federation annual Summer Brochure before 1 April 2006.

- The annual election of officers was held, and their listing is provided elsewhere in this BT. A vote of thanks was passed for the many hours of work volunteered by retiring Executive members: Paul & Rita Blades, John & Beth Dickinson, Laurence & Alice Harrison, Bill & Gertie Oldford, and Francis Delziel & Leslie Smith.

- AGM 06 is planned for either the South Shore or Valley Regions in conjunction with an ANSSRDT dance.

- The most important and exciting news from AGM05 has to be the decision taken by the NS Federation to submit a bid to host the Canadian National Convention in 2010! The President outlined preliminary survey information regarding dates, locations, volunteer interest, and costs. Based on past experience and this information, the attendees voted to submit the bid. The Society will be informed as soon as possible.

NEWS FROM THE OCTOBER 05 BOARD MEETING

- Plans for the 29 Oct. Federation Plus dance were abandoned.

- The Past President, Ron Connell provided copies of a new "Handout for New Dancers". These will be made available free to new dancers. Other dancers wishing a copy may purchase them as well. Contact Ron Connell 434-3023.

Only 15 NS clubs have submitted their Federation and Society registration forms and monies. It is important that these are sent NOW. The liability insurance that accompanies Society membership is very important should YOU and YOUR CLUB be sued by anyone. The risk is too great to ignore in these days of frequent lawsuits for damages or injury. Send them in to Alex Richie 58 Oakdale Cres., Dartmouth, NS B3A 2L8. Don't say you weren't warned!!!
The next Board meeting is tentatively planned for the Valley Region on 28 January.

REGION AND CLUB REPORTS

Region and Club reports are available on the Federation webpage at: www.squaredance.ns.ca

NOTE: The Rainbow Dancers have moved to a new location - Windermere Hall in South Berwick. They have a new caller - Fran Archambault. They dance every second Monday from 24 Oct. The Berwick Belles and Bows now have Tommy Collins as their caller. The Admiral Dancers are now a Plus club.

_____ THANK YOU _____

The Alquire Memorial Callers School 2005 was held at the Debert Hospitality Centre. During the week of August 21 through August 26, three highly qualified square dancers, namely, Jack MacArthur, Dottie Welch, and Kerry Fletcher spent the week teaching the skills and techniques of square dancing. Paul and I, being one of the student couples, would like to thank each of these individuals. It was a week of intensive learning and learn we did for certain. Each of these instructors imparted their skills and knowledge upon us. To all of those who attended , from beginners like ourselves, to others who revisited the school, we thank you for your support, patience and high morale. We also appreciate the hours spent by the visiting volunteer dancers who squared up for us to practice. For any dancer who may think of calling in the future, don't miss the excellent opportunity to join the next Alquire Memorial Callers School. It is an incredible week of active learning, music, dance, high morale, and just plain fun! We can verify the fabulous time we had there.

Thank you everyone Paul & Reta Blades Halifax Region

SQUARE DANCE PROMOTION

A group of enthusiastic Metro dancers joined Caller Dottie Welch to try to teach Cyril, of ASN/ATV Breakfast TV, how to do Modern Square dancing. It was a hoot for all involved at the July session. It provided an opportunity to promote FESTIVAL 05 that was coming up soon after the demonstration. It turned out that both Cyril and co-host Maria had no trouble at all in picking up the basic moves presented by Dottie! It's to be hoped that there will be more opportunities in the coming year to put our activity on such a popular TV program.



UPCOMING MAJOR EVENTS

36th Maritime Square & Round Dance Convention - 11/12 Nov. 05 - Charlottetown, PEI - Hosted by MCCA
48th New England Convention - 28/29 April 2006 - Springfield, MA - www.nesrdc.org
55th US National Convention - 21/24 June 2006 - San Antonio, Texas - www.55thnsdc.org (Editor has more info)
15th Canadian National Convention 2006 - 13/15 July 2006 - Montreal, QE - www.geocities.com/convention2006

Check the Federation webpage for other events - www.squaredance.ns.ca

Cherry Carnival Dance

On Friday 15 July 2005 the Club of Four Season Squares hosted the Fifth Annual Square Dance to Kick-Off The Bear River Cherry Carnival. This was held at the Bear River Fire Hall and the Guest Caller for the evening was Ken Ritucci, from Massachusetts. Cuer, Beth Dickinson, from Amherst, provided the Rounds and she was accompanied by her husband, John. Following the introductions, a Rose Corsage was presented to Beth. There were sixteen squares in attendance and a number of spectators. Dancers came from many parts of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick. There were also dancers from British Columbia and California. Half-way through the evening a number of "Cherry" related prizes were drawn. Spectator, Hannah Inwood from Ontario drew the first name to start the prizes. Also, spectator Courtney Lucas from Nova Scotia drew the name for the "Out of Province Dancer" prize and the winner was Barb Lowe from New Brunswick. The Presidents Wayne/Diane Burns and Vice-Presidents - Ralph/Valerie Brown of the Square and Round Dance Federation of Nova Scotia presented Nova Scotia Federation pins to the five Out of Province Dancer Couples. Before serving the lunch a blessing was given by Club Member Bill Troupe. The evening concluded at 10:30 PM with the Friendship Ring. Everyone then socialized and enjoyed "Cherry Pie" and "Cherry Vanilla Ice Cream" before heading off for the night.

Plans for a 2006 dance are in the works with a different time frame and a different location. Please refer to your Calendar of Events for the date and place as it becomes available.



