

Dots & Dashers

Newsletter
February 22, 2010

Beginner Lessons - Fall 2010

In September, the Dots & Dashers beginner lessons will move to Tuesday nights. We have asked Tom Dakers to continue to be our caller and have begun the search for a suitable hall. These unanimous decisions were made at an emergency meeting of the club executive on Sunday, February 21. This meeting was necessary because the Prairie Winds club recently informed us of their plan to combine their beginner lessons and mainstream dances on Monday nights at Sunalta Hall.

Annual General Meeting

Our AGM will be held on Thursday, May 06 at 7:30 pm at Sunalta Hall. We encourage all members and new dancers to attend.

Visitations

Our next visitation is to the Wheatland Whirlers on Wednesday, March 17. Contact Harold and Marilyn Andrews (403-256-9572) if you would like to attend. Seventeen of our members visited the Hi-Land Swingers on January 13 and twelve to the Prairie Winds on February 06. Thanks to all who have attended our visitations.

April Showers, May Flowers Dance

This dance will be held on Saturday, April 24 at Wild Rose United Church (1317 First Street NW). The dance will start at 8:00 pm, preceded by round dancing at 7:30 pm. Come and welcome our new dancers to their first mainstream dance.

C & D Spring Dance

On Friday, April 30, Dave Guille from Cheyenne, Wyoming will call a dance at Foothills Academy (745 37th Street NW). The mainstream dance starts at 8:00 pm, with pre-rounds at 7:30, cued by Frances Levitt-Byler.

Club Colours



Each square dance club has their own unique outfit, called their "club colours". These outfits are always optional, but are often worn on special occasions such as visitations to other clubs.

For men, the outfit consists of black pants, white long-sleeved shirt and black neck scarf. For ladies, the basic outfit consists of a plain black square dance skirt or a black prairie skirt and a white blouse.

In the picture above, Judy Tiessen is wearing a more elaborate club skirt. Roberta Labute has a supply of these on hand. If interested, you can contact her at 403-255-4761.

New Dancer Graduation

Our graduation ceremony and dance will be held on Monday, April 26. We usually wear club colours for this special event.

C & D Freshman's Frolic

On Friday, May 07, all the square dance clubs in Calgary & District will get together to celebrate the graduation of their new dancers. Club colours are also worn at this event. As at the New Dancer Jamboree, the callers will take turns putting us through our paces.

Fun Addicts Campout

Our campout at Torrington will be held on the weekend of June 04-06. More information will appear in the next newsletter. The organizers are Allan and Darlene Attoe (403-242-5151).

C & D Summer Dances

The format for the summer dances has changed. Rather than dancing at the Kerby Centre, each club will host one summer dance at their own location. The Dots & Dashers dance is on Tuesday, June 15 at Wild Rose United Church. These summer dances are a great opportunity for new graduates to maintain their dancing skills over the summer. The callers usually do a “workshop” review of one or more moves each night.

Robbie Burns Dance (January 23)



This dance celebrated Robert Burns' 250th birthday. Ron McIntosh again cooked the haggis to perfection. It was so popular that not one morsel remained. Our visitors were the Prairie Winds and the Banff Trailers, giving us the largest attendance of the year (eight squares).

New Dancer Jamboree (January 24)



At the Jamboree, our new dancers had an opportunity to hear the callers from most of the local clubs. Tom was unable to attend due to illness and was very much missed. What a sight to see seventeen squares dancing at this new venue! The crowd of dancers flowed off the ballroom floor onto the carpet. Six of our beginner dancers attended and had a great experience! Art McMullen gave an interesting presentation on the square dancing at the 1988 Olympic opening ceremonies.

Club History

Our club celebrated its 47th year on February 22. In 1962, more than eighty dancers graduated from the Queens and Jacks club. Among the graduates were Ken and Hilda Gill and Jim and Freda Stoner. Between the four of them and another couple, the Dots and Dashers were formed. That March, Jim won a square dance record and began his calling career. “Gentleman Jim” gave years of pleasure to countless dancers as our caller from 1963 to 1972. He is still a member of our club, as is Hilda Gill.



Valentine's Dance (February 13)



The hall was decorated with a Valentine's theme, including carnations for the ladies. Tom's music was all about love and romance, with not one country & western "hurting song".

The colourful dancers in the picture are not visitors from an alien planet. They are some of the performers who could still squeeze into their costumes from the 1988 Olympic Opening Ceremonies! Hmmm! Is Roger wearing a corset?

Ron Fjeld



Ron Fjeld passed away on February 02. He and Maureen were our club presidents in 1999-2000. He will be remembered as a true Norwegian / Scotsman who often assisted to bring in the Haggis at our Robbie Burns dances. When our caller, the late Dennis Levitt, called "wiggle up to the middle and back", Ron would put on a real show with his patented "wiggle" move. We enjoyed delicious breakfasts at their beautiful summer home when our club made an official visitation to the Radium Square Dance Club. Ron, being a "chef", along with Maureen really cooked up some fantastic food for us all. He was also very proficient in making "lefsa", a Norwegian Christmas delicacy. Thanks for the memories, Ron. May you rest in peace!

Bob Brander



Bob Brander is a past caller for the club from 1989 to 1999. On January 25, he carried the Olympic torch on the section between Oliver and Kelowna, BC. Congratulations Bob!

Christmas Charity

Our charity this year was the Mustard Seed which celebrated its 25th year of helping Calgary's less fortunate citizens in 2009. We collected \$183.35 in donations. The club topped this up to \$400.00. Thanks to all who contributed.

In Appreciation



Clay and Marion Schnurr

Thank you, Clay, for the great job you are doing as club photographer! We will miss you both when you make that move out to Vancouver Island.

Stampede Volunteers

As a fund-raiser, our club assists the Kinsmen club by providing volunteers to work at their booths at the Calgary Stampede. If you are able to work a shift, you can contact Allan and Darlene Attoe at 403-242-5151.

Cards & Flowers

- Jan. 26/10 Sympathy to Barrie McCombs
- death of mother
- Jan. 27/10 Get well to Jeanette Bosch
- surgery - gall bladder
- Jan. 30/10 Sympathy to Ilda Robblee
- death of brother-in-law
- Feb. 05/10 Sympathy to Maureen Fjeld
- death of husband, Ron
- Feb. 07/10 Sympathy to Marj & Denis Twaddle
- death of brother-in-law
- Feb. 09/10 Get Well to Ted Kornak
- parathyroid surgery
- Feb. 10/10 Get Well to Tom Cloghesy
- hip surgery
- Feb. 13/10 Sympathy to Henry & Sonja Rieder
- death of brother-in-law
- Feb. 14/10 Get Well to Ken Butterworth
- hospitalized - pneumonia
- Feb. 14/10 Get Well to Jeanne Butterworth
- heart concerns
- Feb. 14/10 Thinking of you to Chris Simpson
- cancer struggles

Dots & Dashers Website

(<http://www.calfolk.ca/square>)

Visit our club website to read or print a full-color version of this newsletter

Date	Day	Time	Event	Location (Visitors)
2010-02-27	Sat	7:30	Mainstream Dance	Wild Rose (Rockyview Ramblers)
2010-03-13	Sat	7:30	Mainstream Dance	Wild Rose (Swinging Singles)
2010-03-17	Wed	7:30	Visit to Wheatland Whirlers	Strathmore
2010-03-27	Sat	7:30	Mainstream Dance	Wild Rose (Rainbow Country)
2010-04-10	Sat	7:30	Mainstream Dance	Wild Rose (Wheatland Whirlers)
2010-04-14	Wed	7:30	Visit to Swinging Singles	Winston Heights
2010-04-24	Sat	7:30	April Showers, May Flowers Dance	Wild Rose
2010-04-26	Mon	7:30	New Dancer Graduation	Sunalta
2010-05-06	Thu	7:30	Annual General Meeting	Sunalta
2010-05-07	Fri	7:30	Freshman's Frolic (C & D)	Carriage House
2010-06-04	Fri	7:30	Fun Addicts Campout (June 04-06)	Torrington
2010-06-04	Tue	8:00	Summer Dance - Banff Trailers	Highland Park
2010-06-15	Tue	8:00	Summer Dance - Dots & Dashers	Wild Rose
2010-06-29	Tue	8:00	Summer Dance - Prairie Winds	Sunalta
2010-07-06	Sat	7:30	Stampede Dance	Sunalta
2010-08-03	Tue	8:00	Summer Dance - Swinging Singles	Braeside
2010-08-10	Tue	8:00	Summer Dance - Rockyview Ramblers	Balzac Hall
2010-08-17	Tue	8:00	Summer Dance - Queens & Jacks	Braeside
2010-08-24	Tue	8:00	New Dancer Round-up	Carriage House (tentative)

There will be no "summer dances" during July. Several clubs will host Stampede dances. The "Round-up" for prospective beginner dancers is tentatively scheduled for August 24 at the Carriage House.