



BETWEEN TIPS

“BETWEEN TIPS” is the official bulletin of the
SQUARE & ROUND DANCE FEDERATION OF NOVA SCOTIA
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OCTOBER 2006 — Number 131

Editor's Comments: Another dance season has begun with most clubs holding open houses and beginning their regular programs. It's to be hoped that clubs are successful in capturing “New Dancers” in order to keep our numbers up! Your Federation has been working to promote the activity at various venues. A significant investment was made to take part in the 50+EXPO in Halifax. Volunteers at the booth were pleasantly surprised to have individuals and couples approach and ask for information, because they said: “they wanted to learn how to square dance”! They were all given information for their local areas. In total, there were several hundred visitors to the booth who had a chance to see square & round dancing by video and receive dance information.

HALIFAX NATIONAL FESTIVAL 2010

The FESTIVAL 2010 volunteers who attended this year's National Convention in Montreal had a great time promoting Halifax, Nova Scotia, & the Maritimes. It was very pleasing to have several dozen couples submit their registrations for FESTIVAL 2010. As the registrations roll in, it is very encouraging for the committee members. To make FESTIVAL 2010 a success, dancers will be invited to volunteer to serve in various groups. One of the nice things about our activity is to be working with people who are willing to pitch-in with their talents to benefit all dancers. When you are invited to join FESTIVAL 2010, please approach it as an opportunity to have fun, meet interesting people, and contribute to our own benefit as true Nova Scotians!

The FESTIVAL 2010 organizing committee met again on 16 September in Bridgewater. The highest priority item discussed was to recruit a volunteer as chair for the Ways & Means Committee. In addition, it was proposed to begin work on a F2010 Cookbook if a volunteer can be found to head up this project! If you have worked on this kind of money-raiser, please contact Inge Ruohoniemi, 757-3884, bobruoho@ns.sympatico.ca Plans were also made for promoting F2010 at major Maritime dances, noting that the registration price increases after 1 January, 2007.

NEWS FROM THE SUMMER FEDERATION BOARD MEETING

The Federation Board members met on Sunday, 2 July at the Ardoise Community Hall. Items discussed:

The president will send a letter to all clubs & leaders inviting them to submit the names of dancers & leaders who are eligible for NS Federation awards. It was noted that these can be sent anytime prior to 30 March. It was noted that the CSRDS will present Awards of Excellence to Laurence & Alice Harrison and Gary & Dottie Welch at the Montreal National Convention. (This was done in front of a large audience there) Society Long-Service Awards were also given to Jack & Delores McArthur and Alex Ritchie. It was reported that MCCA had decided to reinstate the Basic Program as a locally recognized dance program. MCCA leaders may graduate dancers as Basic dancers once they have learned the basic program list (1-53). The Board decided to organize the next bi-annual NS Festival 2007. Dottie Welch volunteered to chair the organizing committee. Further details will be discussed at the first organizing meeting.

The Federation Annual General Meeting (AGM) will be held on 30 September at the Bible Hill Fire Hall at 2pm.

Dancers & Leaders from every club in the province should be in attendance!

WEBMASTER'S REQUEST

The Federation Webmaster, Alex Ritchie, asks clubs, regions, and associations to review their information on the Fed. webpage www.squaredance.ns.ca and send him updates and corrections at: alexr@eastlink.ca

An incorrect/outdated entry is worse than no entry at all! There are over 3,000 visits to the NS webpage every month!

NEWS FROM THE LaHAVE RIVER RAMBLERS

The LaHave River Ramblers Square Dance Club had a successful 2005 / 2006 dance season. With a winter that produced very little snow, all scheduled dance nights were held without storm delays. Our two major dances, Harvest, & Friendship, were well attended, with Kerry Fletcher & Wayne Isles respectfully, doing the Calling. The Club closing dance was highlighted by a graduation ceremony. Five couples began the season as class members, with three seeing the season to an end. Under the leadership of Club Presidents Martin & Mien Vissers, graduation certificates were presented to: Jean & Clyde Mossman; Rosie & Mike Touesnard; Jeanette & Bruce Herman. The graduates were instructed by Caller Barry Bendle, and in his absence Pat Matheson continued teaching the class members.

Our Club began the new 2006 / 2007 season 21 September. New dancers were welcomed to the first two nights, at no cost, to see the fun and comradeship to be had as square dancers.



In the photo are, L to R: Jean & Clyde Mossman; Rosie Tousevard; Presidents Martin & Mien Vissers; Mike Tousevard; Jeanette & Bruce Herman.

South Shore Region Plus Graduation

On the 29th of May, 2006, a group of enthusiastic Square Dancers were presented their Plus Graduation Certificates by Caller John Medicraft & Taw Marcella Medicraft.

Although John Medicraft retired from calling some years ago, his talent for calling and his will to call had never left him. In 2004, dancers from Shelburne to Lunenburg came to John & Marcella's home on alternate weeks to be instructed at the Plus level. With John at the mike, and Angels Frances Dalziel & Leslie Smith on the floor, he began leading the dancers through the Plus moves.

On Graduation night, dancers were in for another surprise treat when retired Caller Ivan Doggett stepped up to the mike to do a couple of Tips. It is unfortunate these talented Callers are on the inactive list, as this leaves much of the South Shore area without the ability to attract new dancers. A hearty lunch was enjoyed by all following the presentation of certificates. Respectfully submitted by Paul & Carol Conrad.



In the photo front row are L to R: Carol Conrad, Taw Marcella Medicraft, Marilyn Huskins, Ruth Murray, Amy Sarty, Irleen McKiel, Helena Burke.
Back row L to R: Doug Hill, Gerry McKiel, Joe Burke, Caller John Medicraft, Warren Sarty, David Oickle, Marion Oickle, Lyman Huskins, Paul Conrad.
Missing: Ray & Ruth Harris, and the Angels for the group Frances Dalziel & Leslie Smith.

UPCOMING MAJOR EVENTS

37th Maritime Square & Round Dance Convention - 10/11 Nov. 06 - Fredericton, NB - Hosted by MCCA

49th New England Square and Round Dance Convention – 27/28 April 07 – Springfield, MA www.nesrdc.org

For complete information about Square and Round Dancing in Canada visit:

www.squaredance.ca

NOTE TO ALL DANCERS:

Dancers should check with their Caller/Cuer/President/Leader to ensure the club membership has been sent to the Nova Scotia Federation. Only clubs and dancers registered with the Federation are covered by the Liability Insurance policy or are eligible for Federation awards or to benefit from Federation activities and policies.

Square Dancers Support Nova Scotia Dance Troupe

On June 24th. 2006 Square Dancers from all over Nova Scotia came to the Waterville & District Fire Hall for the European Excursion Square Dance.

This dance was held to help raise funds needed to send the Mary's Islanders Dance Troupe to Italy where they have been invited to represent Nova Scotia and Canada at the International NATO Bazaar in October of this year. Other countries being represented are: Spain, Turkey, United Kingdom, USA, Netherlands, Greece, Germany, Romania, France , Hungary, Italy, and Belgium.

This will indeed be an exceptional educational experience for these young dancers who are already proud ambassadors for Nova Scotia and Canada. While there, they will participate in five shows and will proudly display their Canadian flags and banners while performing seven different dance disciplines. Their favorite being a Maritime Step Dance to the song, "Clearly Canadian".

When not performing they will have an opportunity to sample the different cultures and lifestyles of all the Nations attending this prestigious event, Side trips will include a visit to Pompeii, Mt. Versuvio, A city tour of Naples, the Vatican City, Tomb Of The Unknown Soldier, Trevi Fountain, the Spanish Steps and the Coliseum.

On their trip home, they will take a two night stop over in London, England, where they will get the opportunity to visit Buckingham Palace (Changing of the Guard), Trafalgar Square, Big Ben, Westminster Abby, London Tower, St. Paul's Cathedral, Tower Bridge and the London Eye.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who supported our fundraiser. A special thanks to Kerry Fletcher, Nelson Labor, and Pat Labor for volunteering their time to call at this dance. We would be remiss if we didn't include the LaHave River Ramblers for their very generous donation and the personal presentation by Carol and Paul Conrad where they congratulated the dancers and wished them the best. Thank you also to those of you who couldn't make it to the dance but sent a donation. Your support is so very much appreciated.. Total money raised was \$822.50. Thank you again for your support. We will keep you posted on our progress and trip.

Mary and Larry Dunlop For Mary's Islanders Dance Troupe



IN MEMORIAM

DON ROBAR

On March 25, 2006 we bid adieu to a well-loved Valley dancer, Don Robar. Don began his dancing career with the Fundy Squares in Nictaux. He and his wife Maud, were very active members. When Maud passed away, he took a brief break from dancing. However, one day while paying a service call to Earle Kinsman's farm in Welsford, Earle encouraged him to come to Somerset to the Rainbow Dancers and renew his dancing, which he did. (Don always said that was one of the best moves he ever made.)

As time went by, Don met Amanda. Love blossomed and they were married. Square dancers were able to share in their joy. Over the years, Don and Amanda travelled to many Canadian destinations and such places as Hawaii and Japan, meeting new friends wherever they went. They loved to go to Five Islands to the square dance campout where Don always rushed to help other people get set up.

Don and Amanda served as Valley Representatives with the Nova Scotia Square and Round Dance Federation for a number of years. They were the Valley Square Dance King and Queen during one Apple Blossom Festival.

Don was a strong supporter of dancing. He made a special effort to make sure people without partners had an opportunity to dance and often joked about dancing with his "corner".

Don Robar is missed by his many square dance friends who are comforted to know that he died outdoors doing what he enjoyed. Don will be remembered for his positive outlook on life, his humble personality and his enthusiasm for square dancing.

Submitted by: Mary Magee.