



BETWEEN TIPS

"BETWEEN TIPS" is the official bulletin of the
SQUARE & ROUND DANCE FEDERATION OF NOVA SCOTIA
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Editor's Comments:

The "heart" of the dance season is with us as clubs enjoy regular dances and the annual winter specials. New dancers are learning lots of moves while having a fun time each week. We are so lucky to be enjoying this activity. This month there is news from the Federation meeting, club events, Heart Dances, the Canadian Society, & a bit of history too! Please ensure that the club copy is available to all club members. Why not make extra copies for your club dancers? The **deadlines** for the future editions are: **15 Mar., 15 Apr., 15 May.**

NEWS FROM THE FEDERATION

- The Winter meeting of the Federation Board was held in Melvern Square on 27 January. The main items were:
 - The Director of Dance NS, Dianne Milligan, made a presentation regarding the annual International Dance Day always held on 29 April. Details are shown further on in this newsletter.
 - Acting Secretary, Dottie Welch, issued updated editions of both the By-laws & Executive Guidebook.
 - It was noted with concern, that the Federation still needs a **Secretary, Publicity Officer, & DANS representative.** As well, the Finance committee needs two members.
 - It was decided to again publish the **Summer Brochure** to be placed in tourism locations for visiting dancers. Dottie Welch volunteered to collect the information. Clubs/Callers/Cuers should send it to her by **1 April.**
 - The Board again decided to take part in the **50+ EXPO** at the Halifax Exhibition Grounds on **8&9 June.** Bob Ruohoniemi volunteered to chair this project. In order to have suitable information in handouts, he needs the contact names/info and dates/times for clubs' **Open Houses** if they will be accepting New Dancers by, **1 May.**
 - The NS Canadian Society Directors, Bob & Inge Ruohoniemi reported that there were 33 clubs and over 700 dancers registered in the Federation. The decline in numbers of dancers is also a national trend. The Society will take special recognition of those dancers who have attended every National Convention including 2008 in London, Ontario, which is the 30th anniversary of the CSRDS.
 - The Acting DANS rep., Inge Ruohoniemi, noted that all clubs can receive administrative support from Dance NS Nova Scotia (DANS) with photocopying in both black and colour, & glossy at very low rates. They can also make posters. The office is at 1113 Marginal Rd., Halifax, (behind the Via train station). 422-1749, office@dancens.ca
 - The next Board meeting will be held at 1:30pm., 21 April, in the Bridgewater Sobeys' Community Room.
 - The SRDFNS AGM 2007 is now scheduled for Saturday, October 13, at the North Woodside Community Centre.

NEWS FROM HALIFAX NATIONAL FESTIVAL 2010

The FESTIVAL 2010 Committee met on 24 February, so watch for more information in the next Between Tips. In the meantime, dancers should be collecting their favourite Maritime recipes for the FESTIVAL 2010 Cookbook. Check the Federation website at: www.squaredance.ns.ca click on the square **2010** for the latest information. If you haven't yet registered, please do so!

SRDFNS FESTIVAL 2007

This fund-raiser for Halifax National Festival 2010 will soon be here! Readers should mark their calendars for July 20 & 21, 2007. Festival 2007 will take place at Cole Harbour Place, Dartmouth with tile floors & full air-conditioning! Callers & Cuers from ANSSRDT & MCCA will provide Basic, Mainstream, Plus, & Rounds. Early registration prices end on 1 May so dancers should pick up a blue flyer at their club or off the Federation webpage, and save some money by sending it in now!

INTERNATIONAL DANCE DAY

Background

In 1982 the International Dance Committee of the International Theatre Institute (ITI UNESCO) founded International Dance Day to be celebrated every year on the 29th of April. The date commemorates the birthday of Jean-Georges Noverre, who was born in 1727 and was a great reformer of dance. Every year a message from a well known dance personality is circulated throughout the world. The intention of International Dance Day and the Message is to bring all dance together on this day, to celebrate this art form and revel in its universality, to cross all political, cultural and ethnic barriers and bring people together in peace and friendship with a common language – Dance.

International Dance Committee, International Theatre Institute/UNESCO

Comité de Danse International de l'Institut International du Théâtre/UNESCO

World Dance Alliance – WDA • L'Alliance Mondiale de la Danse

Dance Nova Scotia is part of a national effort to use International Dance Day to help raise public awareness of dance and the benefits that it brings to individuals and communities. We are encouraging our members to undertake projects that highlight the theme and involve the general public. Since this year's theme is children, one project idea is to partner with a church or community group to hold a family dance on a the Sunday afternoon.

Dance Nova Scotia will help groups and organizations to wish to participate, by providing posters, flyers, media releases and public service announcements. DANS will also contact local recreation directors to let them know about the day and the projects that are happening in their communities.

We ask that clubs that plan to participate contact the DANS office by March 19th.



Dianne Swinemar, Edna Myers, Kristin Schmitz

Edna Myers, longest-serving member of Scotia Dancers, presenting \$1,246.27 from her annual penny-collection to Feed Nova Scotia in December of 2006.

Want to Add 5 Squares to Your Club?

by Ron & Dot Connell

Sounds good. But will it work? Before you assume it won't, read on --

Two aspects should be considered. What advertising approach should be used?; and has it been tried? The Federation Publicity Seminar critically examined proven methods of recruiting and also looked at known methods that have worked. Successful methods have been described in the American Square Dance Magazine, and a club in New Zealand that we attended had 10 squares in class. It can be done. Contact your Federation – but only if you're really interested.



West Kings Twirlers held a successful Winter Wonderland Dance – 27 Jan. 2007

We Remember: Basil Griffin who passed away December 8, 2006, in his 88th year, in Burlington Ontario. He was the caller for Hightide Twirlers 1982 to 1988. The following is taken from an article written by Marion Atkinson and printed in *Between Tips* February 1989. (Square Dance Archives)

“A Fond Farewell to the Griff-Inns.

The “Griff-Inn” is up for sale, (may already be sold), their square dance shoes will be cooling off and as of their 6th graduation this past May, Madeleine and Basil’s mic will be hung up for a time. The Griffins will head south to Arizona in the fall for sun and fun. They will take with them the love and best wishes of all their friends and fellow square and round dancers everywhere.

Six years may not seem very long in the role of teacher but Basil did not take up the calling aspect of the activity until his retirement from the work force. Up until then Madeleine (affectionately known by the dancers as “Maddie”) lived in Burlington, Ontario and danced with clubs in Burlington and Toronto. They were members of the National Campers Association and traveled and danced extensively in Canada, USA and Hawaii. They were off every weekend from May to November. Basil attended one summer of caller school with the Toronto District Square Dance Callers School.

In May of 1979 the Griffins left Ontario for Basil’s hometown of Kentville. There to settle down and enjoy their retirement. No rocking chair for this vibrant couple. Besides their home in Kentville, they acquired 30 acres of woodland in Black Rock and there established the “Griff-Inn”.

That same summer Maddie and Basil went further down the valley to the House of Roth to attend Gloria’s Caller School. They returned for a second year and in the meantime joined the Haley Dancers Club. Their friendly manner and willingness to please soon made them a big plus to the Haley Dancers. Maddie, who is able to turn her hand to anything, took on many club projects.

The Griffins also attended DANS Caller School at Acadia University in 1981, ’82 and ’83. They were also involved in Federation roles.

In the fall of ’82 they started a class of 8 couples in Avonport. From there the Hightide Twirlers has grown to a club of 53 couples. They were also members of the K & M Valley Rounds and remained members of the Haley Dancers. They were also active members of MCCA.

With Maddie and Basil you are never a stranger for long. Fun and friendliness is the name of the game. Once the weather allows the Griff-Inn is a busy spot with square dancers from all clubs in the area being invited up for fun, food and games. Their evening campfires are something to be remembered. If anyone in the area has troubles or illness the Griffins are the first at your door to offer help and comfort. They are never too busy to lend a helping hand. Their club will certainly miss this attention but wish only the best for this couple. We all wish them well in the future, hoping their warm winters will keep them in good health. When they return to Nova Scotia, we hope to square up with them again.”

Madeleine Griffin designed and made the first Federation banner, about 1982, which was in use until it was replaced in 1999 by a banner made by Royce Porter. - Submitted by Archivist couple Harold and Clara Redden .../4

NEWS FROM THE VALLEY ASSOCIATION

The seven clubs located in the Annapolis Valley hosted the annual Dance For Heart benefit on 17 February in the Waterville Fire Hall. With over 10 Squares in attendance, the Valley Callers and Cuers had a full floor for every tip! Mary's Islanders Dance Troupe provided a wonderful entertainment show with new routines prepared for this summer's performances in Halifax, for the Parade of Sail.

Attendees at the dance provided a performance of their own at the door with donations to the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Nova Scotia. After adding in half from the 50/50 draw, the Foundation received a donation of \$1300! Everyone enjoyed the healthy lunch provided by the Valley club members. Another successful event!

THE DANCE AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTION TO DANCE IN NOVA SCOTIA

This award is the highest award offered by Dance Nova Scotia. It will be presented as merited, to an individual who has given exceptional service to the development of dance as a cultural, educational, artistic, and healthy activity for Nova Scotians at the provincial, national and/or international level. The proposed individual must be recommended by at least three people who are members of groups within the DANCE organization. In making recommendations, the fullest possible information must accompany the application, including but not limited to: a resume of the nominee, photocopies of newspaper/magazine/ newsletter articles, photos, statements by individuals both in and outside of the dance community attesting to the contribution of the nominee.

Submissions should be submitted through Federation Regional Representatives to the Federation President.

A NEW HALIFAX DANCE SCENE WEB PAGE

Post your latest dance events for free on the new "Scene" webpage for Halifax: **Info Monkey**. The site address is www.infomonkey.net More information is available from: Ted Sutcliffe ted@infomonkey.net

ALGUIRE MEMORIAL CALLERS SCHOOL 2007

This week of training for would-be and current callers is scheduled for Sunday evening August 26th through Friday evening August 31st with a special dance on Friday Evening (place TBA). This third Alguire Memorial Callers School will have Ken Ritucci, an accredited Callerlab Caller Coach from Massachusetts leading a team of 3 teachers with Kerry Fletcher and Dottie Welch. Anyone interested in becoming a caller should seriously consider attending this school. The Alguire Callers Memorial Fund, the NS Federation, and the Canadian Society offer significant financial support to any Nova Scotia attendees. dwelch@orion.stmarys.ca www.squaredance.ns.ca

FESTIVAL 2008 - "MAKE A DATE FOR 2008"

The 16th National Convention to be held in London, Ontario, 17-19 July, 2008, has over 700 registered dancers. Those dancers who have not yet made hotel reservations should soon be doing so! The yellow Registration Form has all the information you need to both register for the Festival and make accommodation arrangements. Most clubs have the form, but if readers visit the Festival 2008 website www.swosda.ca/2008 the forms are available there. There are two campsites available with shuttle service provided. As well, University accommodation will be available with reservations accepted at the University of Western Ontario after February 2008.

London, Ontario websites of interest are: www.london.ca and London Convention centre www.londoncc.com

UPCOMING MAJOR EVENTS

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

46th T & D International Square & Round Dance Convention - 10-12 May 07 - St. Catharines, ON www.tddance.ca/

56th National Square Dance Convention - 27 - 30 June 07 - Charlotte, NC www.56thNSDC.com

38th Thunder Bay Sq. & Round Dance Festival - 5/7 July 07 - Thunder Bay, ON Email: donduduck@hotmail.com

Harvest Ball 2007 - 28 - 30 Sep. - Ottawa, ON www.iagsdc.org

38th Maritime Square & Round Dance Convention - 9/10 Nov 07 - Wolfville, NS Email: nkdorey@ns.sympatico.ca