



Otonabee Squares Newsletter

December
2015

Our fall dance season will be over in a few weeks. We are so fortunate to have many enthusiastic new dancers. Basic level is the most difficult level to learn because you are learning a new language and often the names of the calls have no relationship to what you actually do. However everyone is having a good time judging by the smiles one sees on the dancers. Square dancing is not only a good physical exercise but also a mental one. Most of all - we do it for fun!

Highlights of the past few months. Seeing new dancers learn the moves and have fun doing it. Our “angels” who come every week to help guide our newbies and in the process learn to be better dancers themselves! Participation in our Halloween night—lots of thought gone into the costumes. Two great mainstream Sunday dances called by Dave Williamson and Don Moger.



Christmas Party will be held on Monday, December 14. **This will take place at St. Anne's Parish Hall, 859 Barnardo Ave.** (Our usual location

is not available on that date). Wayne will do a fun evening for everyone. We will dance from 6:30-8:30 and then enjoy refreshments. Please bring a small plate of finger foods to share. Dress up in your Christmas attire if you wish! This is our last club dance night for 2015.

*May your home be bright
with love and happiness
this Hanukkah.*



New Year's Eve Dinner/Dance



The evening will start at 6:30pm, with some social time. Then a catered roast beef dinner followed by musical entertainment by some of our talented musicians. Then dancing until shortly before midnight.

Tickets available from Suzanne - \$27.50pp. New dancers are welcome to attend but should know that there will be limited dancing at your level.

Wayne will do some fun dancing for everyone, in addition to square dancing.

We start up again on Monday, January 4th. See more info on page 3..

Sunday, January 24th is our Frosty Fling Dance.

This is our “big” invitational dance for everyone in the club. We invite other clubs to join us. This takes place at Westdale United Church hall, 1509 Sherbrooke St. West. Dancing from 2-4:30, followed by refreshments. All our members are asked to help with this and hopefully **everyone will attend.**



Every club or social activity has some customs and courtesies they observe. Page 4 has some information on “Square Dance Etiquette”. Below, taken from our Bylaws is a list of our expectations of all club members.

10.0 CLUB MEMBERS’ RESPONSIBILITIES

- 10.1 Be socially courteous and pleasant.
- 10.2 Be sure visitors are included in squares and make them feel welcome at your Club
- 10.3 Know and adhere to your dance level
- 10.4 Talk to the executive about any problems and desires for the Club.
- 10.5 Volunteer to perform Club functions without having to be asked.
- 10.6 Be willing to take your turn as a committee or an executive member
- 10.7 Assist the leaders in the set-up and clean-up of the hall for all dances

- 10.8 Participate in area dances, conventions and other events
 - 10.9 Wear your badge at all square dances
 - 10.10 Dancers will refrain from using alcohol or illegal drugs when participating in Club activities.
 - 10.11 Perfumes and scents can be offensive to others so dancers will refrain from using scented products.
 - 10.12 Good personal hygiene is important for the enjoyment of all the dancers.
- You can read our complete Bylaws on our webpage:
www.otonabeesquares.org



- If you have questions, concerns, etc. please contact one of the executive.
- Co-presidents:**
Fred Olson 705 743 4582
Howard Lander 905 342-5450
- Vice-president:**
Doris Buttar 905 342 5644
- Co-treasurers:**
Anne Hare 705 743 3077
Suzanne Barker 705 799 1319
- Co-social Convenors:**
Antoinette Mylan 705 749 2282
Olga McQuay 905 728 4242
- Secretary:**
Marian Olson 705 743 4582
- Co-registrars**
Margaret Kean 705 749 6284
Wayne Hare 705 743 3077
- Publicity:**
Jean Lander 905 342 5450

Wayne has been coming early and teaching some line dancing and the Gay Gordon. If you are interested in joining in, come just after 6pm. However Wayne may not be able to be early every week but you can take your chances! Many thanks to Wayne for doing this!!!



Mainstream Sunday Dances

Sun, Feb 21— Joe Uebelacker
Sun, Mar 20—Doug Holmes

The object of hosting these events is to give our mainstream dancers more floor time and the opportunity to dance to other callers. This is a way to improve your dance ability. Each caller has their own way of putting together sequences. Our own club members have not been supporting these dances very well. We thank those who have come out and also the dancers from other clubs. However if our own members are not interested, we may have to reconsider holding them. It is extra work and time for our executive. We would appreciate feedback from our mainstream dancers.

Question: As a mainstream dancer, do you wish these dances to continue and will you support them?

email
otonabeesquares@gmail.com

Dance Program starting January 4th.

All our dancers will be together for the whole evening. Basic teaching will take place from 6:30 to 7pm but will also continue during the evening. Between 7-9pm, Wayne will mix basic and mainstream levels. This way our new dancers will experience more club style dancing with more singing calls. There will be no basic teaching after 8:30 so for those who only want 2 hours dancing, you won't miss anything if you leave early.



New Dancer Class

In past years we have started a new class in the new year. This was held for a 6-week period on a separate night. However due to the cost we will not be doing this unless we have sufficient numbers to make it financially feasible. In previous years we had more people attending Monday nights which help subsidize the cost of these lessons.

If you know of people who are interested in joining us, please give their names to Fred or Howard. We have a few names now. We need to grow the club and having two intake times a year is a way to do this.

It is always a challenge to give all dancers enough time at their level.

We are always looking for ways to reach people to tell them about square dancing. If you have any ideas, please speak to Jean Lander. If you know of places where we can do demonstration dances with the view to recruiting, please tell us.

Better still if you are able to help with publicity please let us know.

You can email at otonabeesquares@gmail.com

Live Lively



Square Dance

This is the new logo to represent the square dance movement. We are looking into getting t-shirts or polo shirts printed. T-shirts come in men's or ladies styles and cost \$12 each. There are long-sleeved t-shirts and polo shirts, price tba. If you are interested, please speak to Jean Lander.

I will be putting in an order in January.

Our membership list is attached. This is for club members use only.

Please go to our webpage frequently — <http://otonabeesquares.org/>. Click on the links for lots of information.

Many thanks to Jill Cobb for organizing the used clothing sale. \$74 was raised which will go to a local charity.

We need more angels to help with beginner teach sessions. If you can help, please come out at 6:30pm. Remember the angels who helped you learn—so this is your chance to give back!

New year's resolution - "lug a mug"!

Last but certainly not least—many thanks to our caller Wayne, for a great dance every week. Also, thanks to our executive for their hard work. Thanks to all who help with jobs to be done every Monday; putting chairs out and away, helping with refreshments, helping Wayne with his equipment, etc.