



# Otonabee Squares

## April 2013

Still hoping for Spring but with this kind of weather the best thing to do is dance! Recently, browsing on some square dance websites, I found this in a BC square dance link:

**“We do not grow too old to dance. We grow old because we do NOT dance.”**

Please take note of the following and also mark your calendars for these important dates.

Saturday, April 20 - **Spring Spree**, Crestwood Secondary School starting 2pm. More information below.

Monday, April 29 - **Celebration of New Dancers** 2012/13 - fun night

Monday, May 6 **OPEN HOUSE** - Please invite friends, neighbours, etc., to join us for an introduction to modern square dancing. Free night for all. Flyers are available for you to pass out to people.

Monday, May 13 - **Pot luck, annual meeting and final dance** of the regular season. Note **6pm** Dinner, followed by the Annual meeting and then dancing for all until 10pm. Please bring your own eating utensils, plates, etc.

Monday, May 27 - First Summer Dance - NOTE LOCATION: St. Anne's Parish Hall, 859 Barnardo Ave, Ptboro. This is an air-conditioned hall. Flyer available for summer dance schedule.

Saturday, June 15 - 1-2 pm. Volunteer dancers needed for a demo at the Strawberry Social, Eastern Star, Hilliard St. Sign up sheet will be available shortly, 16-24 dancers needed. Square dance attire requested. Speak to Bill Holley for more information.

Monday, July 1 - **Canada Day Celebrations at Hastings.** 1-2pm. Suggested attire - red and white casual. Joe Uebelacker will be the caller and he will be inviting the public up to try square dancing so in addition to doing some tips with our members, we will be helping others. Easy basic dancing so everyone can do it!

Sunday, July 28 - **Otonabee Squares Summer Picnic and Driveway Dance** – Starts 3pm - Home of Howard and Jean Lander, 5109 Tower Manor Road, Hamilton Township. (4km east of Bewdley on the south side of Rice Lake). Map on page 4 of this newsletter. Wayne will be calling. Please bring a lawn chair.

Sunday, September 8 - 3-5pm. Pavillion at Isabel Morris Park, 20 Concession St, Lakefield. (near the Community Centre). We will be doing a fun dance/demo and hope many will come. Bring potential new dancers too. We will be doing a publicity blitz prior to this and hope we get people out to try square dancing. Easy basic. Please sign up so if any changes necessary, we can contact you.

Monday, September 9 – Regular dance seasons starts. New dancers welcome.

Saturday, Oct 5 - Afternoon and Evening dance in co-operation with Lift Lock. Two halls- full basic/mainstream/plus. Callers Wayne and Joe. Please mark your calendar. More details later.

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The addition of 1/2 hour each week was ratified by the executive. Many clubs dance for 3 hours (Lift Lock is one) so it is not unusual. If you dance mainstream and find 3 hours too long, come a little later each Monday. This extra time enables the mainstream to have more time and for Wayne to introduce a more in-depth look at the mainstream program. The basic dancers still get their 2 hours from 7-9. In the Fall we will essentially have 4 levels on club nights so this extra time will be necessary. We will be teaching new dancers and be calling full basic; there will be a mainstream teach each week for those who want to learn it and Wayne will continue to expand upon the full mainstream by teaching the moves from all different positions. At this time we have **no** plans to do a one day Mainstream Blitz. Please remember that if you do not wish to learn the mainstream program, that is fine; no one should feel pressured to dance a level just because others are doing it. Remember- this is a fun activity!

Hearing Device. We encourage you to try this. Don't miss some fun just because you don't hear what was called. Speak to Gord Moore. (Howard is trying to find a more affordable option for the receiver).

*Over the year the executive has organized some fun activities to provide variety and interest, in addition to organizing the regular dancing. Members have stepped forward volunteering their time on the executive and like all organizations, after a few years they would like to step down and take a break. To keep things running smoothly we need others to take their place to fill these positions. Our Bylaws allow co-sharing of all positions. We need some people willing to join us on the executive to help out. Positions being vacated at the end of May include the following: secretary (one person) and social convenors (2 people). The secretary's main work is taking minutes at meetings and distributing them. We have about 4 executive meetings per year. The social convenors are required to purchase refreshment supplies but are not required to make the tea/coffee each week. **Everyone is required to help with this.** Ingrid is stepping down as co-treasurer and we need another person who will help Anne Hare who is the other treasurer. We need a co-registrar. This job requires work at the beginning of the dance year and then again in January but for the rest of the year, there is not a lot to do. Howard and I have one more year on publicity as our Bylaws have a maximum time in one position of 4 years. We would like to have another person who would learn the job to take over next year. Having said this however, all positions are open for anyone to volunteer for. The fact that some incumbents are willing to stand again does not preclude anyone else standing for election. However those listed above have to be filled. If everyone does their share it is not a big job for any one person. If no one steps forward, you run the risk of the few people on the executive getting burned out and walking away from the job. So please speak to anyone on the executive if you want more information. Email me at [hjlander@gmail.com](mailto:hjlander@gmail.com) if you would like a copy of the Bylaws which lists the duties of each position. If you go away in the winter that is not a problem because with co-sharing, one can do the job for half the year and the other for the remainder. Above all else however we need new ideas and input from you all. Our club is a vibrant one, full of enthusiasm and energy and we hope to keep it this way for many years to come.*

We are selling a set of two DVD's which show all position mainstream dancing. Cost \$2. This program is not available on-line. Copies of the Saddlebrooke basic/mainstream program are available for \$1. However if you have internet it is on the Saddlebrooke site. See the link on our website [www.otonabeesquares.org](http://www.otonabeesquares.org)

For your information, Lift Lock will be hosting an "Intro to Plus" night on Wednesday, April 24 from 7:30 - 9:30pm. You must be a confident mainstream dancer to consider doing plus and should know the mainstream calls well. St. Anne's Parish Hall, 859 Barnardo Ave. No charge to visitors. Flyer available.

Our bus trips appear to be popular and well supported. We are subsidizing the cost with the 50/50 money and feel it is a good use for this money. Everyone benefits from dancing to other callers, meeting new friends from other clubs and getting to know your fellow club members better. We have booked a coach to the Apple Blossom Dance in Belleville on Sunday afternoon, April 28. Leaving Ptboro around 11:45pm and returning about 6:30pm. Due to the tight time frame, we will have a sign-up sheet available next Monday. Cost will be \$12pp. Sharon has to collect the money from you next Monday night. Please email Sharon at [coolnan@cogeco.ca](mailto:coolnan@cogeco.ca) if you are interested in going. This is the time of year when all clubs host extra dances – a grand finale for their dance year. Most clubs close down for the summer at the end of April or early May.

**SPRING SPREE.** Hosted by Lift Lock Squares - this will be the 51<sup>st</sup> Annual Spring Spree. Everyone of our members should plan to attend both or at least the afternoon or evening session. There are four dance halls going simultaneously; Basic; mainstream; plus and A1. There are four excellent callers who will call and entertain. Don Moger, Dave Hutchison, Jim Lee and Joe Uebelacker. In the basic room the callers are aware that many of you are first year dancers so they will call to the level of the floor. If you are a mainstream dancer who has been able to dance competently to our visiting mainstream callers, you will be able to dance in the mainstream hall. If you found the mainstream too challenging on our Sunday dances, you may prefer dancing basic. This is a dance and in the mainstream room the callers will not stop to walk you through the moves. The first part of the evening session from 7-7:45pm, in the small gym (the mainstream room), the caller showcase will take place. This is where visiting callers (not one of the above four) are invited to get up and call a tip. The level may be basic and mainstream alternating. At 7:45pm we have the official opening ceremony and at 8pm dancing resumes in all four rooms. At 10 pm everyone gathers in the large gym where all four callers do a grand finale basic level dance for the last 30 minutes. A lunch is served in the cafetorium at 10:30pm.

C-130 Lakeshore Rolling Squares is a summer camping club, part of the National Square Dance Camper group. There are 3 or 4 such camper groups in Ontario and during the summer there are weekend square dance events. C-130 hold monthly camps at Shady Acres Campground in Keene. For non-members they have an open dance every Saturday night at the mainstream/plus level. Their first open dance of the year is on May 25. If you camp you can join as a full member; if you would like to be a social member (non campers) you can do this too and then you can participate fully in their weekend activities. You have to be a member to attend the Friday night dance and other activities. Phone Don and Marg Delorey 705 696 1569 for more information.

We only have 5 dances left of our regular season. We hope everyone will come out and enjoy these last few weeks. Let's see if we can fill that hall!

Lots of interesting articles on this site – sent to us by Lakeshore Waves <http://www.squaredancene.org/ideas/>

**The multi -dimensional approach to healthy living** is called **Square and Round\* dancing** and incorporates the three holistic dimensions – **Physical, Psychological and Social.** (Also from the BC site)

#### **DANCE:**

✓ **Have Fun ; Laugh More ; Make Friends ; Exercise More ; Reduce Stress ; Improve memory skills**

**Your Executive wish to thank all our dancers for making this dance year a great one. We also extend our sincere thanks to our caller Wayne Whatman for all his patience, teaching and calling for many fun hours of dancing.**

**Sandy, Jennifer, Anne, Ingrid, Donna, Mandy, Bill, Sharon, Howard, Jean**

SUMMER PICNIC – JULY 28 3-7PM – MAP TO 5109 TOWER MANOR RD, BEWDLEY

