



NEWSLETTER – SPRING 2012



The days are getting longer and the sun stronger and all our dancers are much more confident than six months ago! . We need to celebrate the fun we have every Monday night and love to see so many people come out regularly to have great fellowship along with some physical and mental exercise!

Besides weekly dancing our club has accomplished so much the last three months –a pizza party which generated rave reviews; demo at Lansdowne Place; our Mainstream Blitz and the success of our new dancers' class, our Sunday mainstream dances and our Valentine Ice-cream social and of course another successful Frosty Fling.

Again many thanks to all of you who made this Frosty Fling a great day. Special thanks to Clara Manning for all the work she did putting together the door prizes and baskets. She approached various places to request donations of free items, show tickets, etc. which went into these prizes. Thanks to those who donated to door prizes; for bringing food, for help before and after the event. A special thanks to our callers Wayne Whatman and Dave Williamson; without our callers, we would not have such fun square dancing!

A representative from “Our Space” will be attending a club night dance to receive our donation of \$450 raised from our clothing sale. Thanks to all of you.

In April we will be putting out a survey to get some feedback on various aspects of the club. This will be on line for those of you who can respond this way and we will have some hard copies too. However please, if you are online, answer electronically because it makes it easier to tabulate the responses. The hard copies have to be input manually. Your co-operation in doing this survey is appreciated because it helps planning for the future direction the club will take. It is your club and we value your input.

In April our nominating committee will be contacting you to ask if you will stand for an executive position. This year we are introducing co-sharing of executive positions. It is hoped that more people will come forward if they know they can share the responsibility for the job. Many thanks to Lorraine Hotton who volunteered and was voted in as co-treasurer. Thanks too to Donna VanDrunen who has stepped up to be interim social convenor until the end of the dance season.

Please try to get out to some of the special dances other clubs will be hosting in the next couple of months. Besides the fun you will have dancing to other callers and meeting more square dancers, it is important to support these dances. Many dancers from out of town supported our Frosty Fling so now let's get out there and support them! You will also improve your skill at dancing the more floor time you get. Remember our club pays .22c per km to assist in your gas costs if you take two or more passengers with you. We also ask passengers to give the driver \$5 each for the pleasure of being driven to a dance. The list of upcoming dances is on line or in the red binder.

Spring Spree on April 21 is an event you should not miss because not only is it right here in Peterborough but there will be four halls (basic, mainstream, plus and A1) and four great callers! Howard Lander and Wayne Hare can sell you a ribbon which is cheaper if bought in advance. I have posted more information about this event on our website – otonabeesquares.org

In honour of Lift Lock's 50th Spring Spree, the Mayor of Peterborough and the city council will make a proclamation declaring the week of April 21 to 28 to be SQUARE DANCE WEEK IN PETERBOROUGH.

With **SQUARE DANCE WEEK IN PETERBOROUGH** – April 21-28 we are looking for opportunities to raise the profile of square dancing in Peterborough and would like to find a venue where we could dance and be more visible to the public. Please give us some ideas. We will be asking for some volunteers to do a demo at Rubidge Retirement Residence, 246-270 Rubidge Street on Friday 27th April from 2-3pm. Sign up sheet will be out shortly.

On April 25 you will have an opportunity to be introduced to Plus level of dancing. Lift Lock Squares invite you to their club night at St. Anne's Parish Hall, 859 Barnardo Ave from 7-9pm. You should be a competent mainstream dancer to attend this. If you have questions about your dance level, speak to Wayne Whatman.

Don't forget the **Toronto & District Square and Round Dance Convention** coming up May 4-6. Flyers are available and see the link to it on our webpage. Sandy Martin is trying to organize some car pools to Guelph so speak to her. There is mainstream dancing all three days. Unfortunately no basic level.

On April 2 we will have a "Crazy Hat" dance. (We didn't think Easter Bonnet day would get the men too inspired). So see what creation you can come up with and earn a dangle! Profit from this dance will be donated to a local charity. Either Dream Players or Best Buddies. Both are involved with intellectually disabled people. If anyone in the club has any connection to these groups, let us know.

April 30 will be our Open House. Bring friends, family, etc. and we will introduce them to square dancing.

May 7 we will hold graduation for all new dancers who have joined since Sept.2011.

May 14 will be our last dance of the regular season. At 6pm we will have a Pot Luck Supper followed by our Annual General Meeting. Following this we have a wrap up party dance until 9:30pm.

There will be summer dancing starting Monday May 28th. There will be a dance every two weeks. It will be held at St. Anne's Parish Hall, 859 Barnardo Ave because this hall is air-conditioned. We need to find another hall for the June 25th dance. If any of you know of an air-conditioned hall, please let Sandy Martin know. We want to keep the two weekly schedule so would rather find another hall than change the date. Wayne Whatman and Joe Uebelacker will alternate calling for these summer dances.

Have you thought about becoming a caller?? Our club offers a scholarship to help towards the cost of attending caller school. Give it some thought – we need more callers! If you want more information about where to attend caller school, speak to Howard or Jean Lander.

Unfortunately ABC Squares is not continuing at this time due to low attendance. Joe hopes to try again in the Fall. If we know people who want to learn square dancing please get their contact information and we will contact them when we start lessons again. Or if they are only interested in occasional dancing, we will pass that info onto Joe.

If you are on email please subscribe to receive automatic notification when anything is added to the webpage. This will keep you informed. Open otonabeesquares.org and on the HOME page fill in your email address in the place "email subscription".

Sharon Ingrid Lorraine Sandy Eileen Orren Jean Howard