

Since attending the successful national Festival and CSRDS AGM in Regina in July, it's been fairly quiet for us.

Darcy continues as Chair of the Awards and Honours portfolio. Three Long Service Awards (2 - AB, 1 - SK) and three Awards of Excellence (NS/SK/BC) were presented this past year. We were honoured to receive this and again thank the dancing community of BC for nominating us. Please remember that bursaries/grants are available for professional development from the Society. Only two bursaries were granted to developing callers in MB and the Thompson-Shuswap Square & Round Dance Association received a grant for the Caller Cuer school held in Chase last June. Information on awards and professional development can be found on the Society's website www.squaredance.ca

Congratulations again to the following on their milestone anniversaries:

- Helen Maddeaux of Nanaimo, 35 years of cueing & teaching in October
- Abbotsford Grand Squares, 35 years in November
- Rainbow Rounders of Victoria, 25 years in January
- Connie Ritchie of Victoria, 26 years of cueing & teaching in January
- Mavericks of Victoria, 65 years in February

Society certificates recognizing these anniversaries were presented on our behalf. Thanks to Norm Cox, Ken Crisp, Pat Zeeman and Connie Ritchie for presenting these in our absence. Please remind the clubs and leaders in your areas about the availability of these certificates and to request them well in advance of presentation dates.

As we move more and more into use of social media to promote our activity, there has been much discussion on the need to ensure we are not violating anyone's privacy by using pictures or videos that they may be in. Apparently there are 3 types of release means. The Marketing Committee has been tasked with looking more fully into this and perhaps seek a legal opinion as to the type and appropriate wording for such a release that would best be used at our activities. More to come on this.

The marketing committee is also looking for those interested in social media to participate in the discussion group. Please forward names of those interested with email addresses to csrdsdarcybeth@hotmail.com and we will forward on. Clubs with Facebook are encouraged to cross-post their best postings to the CSRDS FB page. A Pinterest page has been set up as well - see links to both below.

2017 AGM to be held August 25th weekend in Cornwall,ON at the Summer Magic dance weekend. This means that we should plan to host the 2019 AGM in Sept or Oct in BC. Lots of time to think about and plan it. The idea is to try and hold the non Festival year AGM in cities that will be hosting future festivals.

Make the Scene in 2018 - the 20th National Convention to be held in London, ON July 19 - 21. We attended the convention there in 2008 and the venue is excellent. Please register soon if you plan to attend.

<u>The most exciting news from our perspective!</u> A bid for Convention 2020 to be held in Surrey July 29 - August 1, 2020 has been received and accepted. We are looking forward to this and we have already signed up as volunteers with Norm. Big thanks to Norm Cox and Steve Edlund for getting this going!

As always, we will have CSRDS logo lapel pins (\$2 each) and Dancing Across Canada badges and dangles at the BOD meeting if anyone is interested in purchasing so bring your money along. See you there!

Respectfully submitted Darcy & Beth McGifford



