

Report to the B.C. Square and Round Dance Federation 2017 Board of Directors Meeting

From: Region 1 – Victoria & District Caller Teachers Association

Our last few reports have asked for feedback on how to attract new members – and this year, we are pleased to report that we have managed to do just that – increase our membership. We have welcomed John and Jean Myers, transplants to the Victoria area from Calgary – John started a class at the Panorama Leisure Centre on the Saanich Peninsula in January, and will be calling tonight's Frontier Twirler dance with Herb Fox. After an Open House a few years ago, Garry had a class the following year for some dancers who were interested in learning about calling – and that class has generated three new members: Dwight Fry, Darryl Farquhar and Joanne Perry, and Kirk Rockerbie and Debbie Young. Kirk is working with Stuart Hemmings this year to teach a class for Country Cousins. We have also decided to sponsor four summer dances (the last Monday of May, June, July and August) featuring just our new callers. In addition, Herb and Linda Fox have rejoined, and Denis and Sharon Kirkpatrick have maintained their membership. These two callers are important to our organization because of the years of experience they bring to the activity, and the fact that they are willing and able to fill in for the regular club callers when they are unable to call for some reason. We are in the process of re-writing our governing documents to allow for maintaining their membership status and I believe that will be very important to our organization going forward.

Apart from an increase in membership, our Association last year decided to expand our end of the season "Spring Roundup" to a much larger event. Normally, we hold a Round Dance party some time in the spring, and then the Spring Roundup on a Sunday afternoon early in May or late in April as a joint dance with the Dancers Association. This year, however, we are taking advantage of a fifth Saturday and Sunday at the end of April to combine with the Dancers Association to hold a Plus Dance on Saturday afternoon, April 29th, a Round Dance Soiree in the evening of the 29th, and a Mainstream Dance to welcome the new dancers to our activity on Sunday afternoon on the 30th. In addition, the Promenaders Square Dance Club is hosting their 60th Anniversary Dance and combining it with a Trail In Welcome Dance on the Friday evening (the 28th). We welcome all dancers to come and enjoy dancing in Victoria at the end of April.

See you across a square sometime!

Submitted by:

Pat Zeeman

President, Victoria & District Caller Teachers Association