

Report from Region 5 to BOD, April 2014

Circle Eights, Quesnel

We usually dance on Tuesday evenings, from about the beginning of October to the end of December when one of our four couples go to Arizona. We dance to some Plus to tapes. We don't have any new dancers. We have just enough couples and one extra lady who can dance as a man or woman, so, as long as we only have one person away we can still dance.

Drifting Squares, Vanderhoof

We have added a Face Book group page. Open for anyone to view. We have 12 active members but a total of 15 dancers on the membership list. One of these is new teen dancer (and a new mom.) In April 2014 we will celebrate 11 years of dancing. We are glad to have Gys Kooops (Caller in Prince George) supporting us or we would have had to fold. Thanks to Dolores Young for continuing to work on her calling and cueing and to Sandi Jespersen who is working on her calling weekly. We have been excited to dance for the Bulkley Valley Fall Fair in Sept 2013 and the Nechako Fall Fair in August 2013. We will be entertaining the Northern Health gathering in Fort St James this fall. We have danced twice for extended care facilities in Vanderhoof: one in November and one in February. Its been fun to dance in different towns and venues. We struggle to keep a square on the floor but we have managed so far. Thanks to the BCSRDF for supporting us.

Northern Twisters, Prince George

57 years of square dancing...enjoying challenge, support, laughter, music, friendship, respect, physical and mental exercise....a recipe for good health. Caller Gys Kooops, Round Dance Cuer Don Hollis. Sometimes, Maurice Mingay and learner, Dillon Dawson, call. Dolores Young is becoming quite the talented round Dance Cuer. Membership: Mainstream dancers around 60 for past 3 years; Beginners 7, 9, then last Fall, a few visitors went in other directions but we welcomed 5 new members who had been dancers years ago. Mainstream dancers support any new dancers in the Fall attending together, going through a large circle formation to introduce calls. Gys and his wife Lynne, invite new dancers for extra classes in their home for the last half of the dancing season. We dance 4 squares regularly each Monday evening, often 5. A usual year includes entertaining for the Railroad Museum patrons, Hubble Historical Site, the PG Exhibition, and seniors' residences. Some members travel to take part in jamborees and special dances across BC and in Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba, as well as in 'Snowbird Territory' in the States.

Skeena Squares, Terrace

After a two year break, Skeena Squares were able to start dancing in January because our snowbirds were all at home. Eleven of our former dancers were joined by six friends who wanted to give square dancing a try. With the help of the Moving and Grooving program, video lessons, and lots of support from Nick Turner, Diane Weismiller has been teaching our beginners and reviewing with the Mainstream dancers. We rely on recorded music to dance to and have found the iPad and projector to be a big help for teaching moves and slowing the music down when necessary. So far we haven't done any public advertising for more new dancers but have heard expressions of interest from a few people, so we hope that we will be able to continue and grow as we gain confidence in the program we are offering.

Stampede Whirlaways, Williams Lake

We dance 2- 3 squares of Mainstream every Thursday evening at 7:30 p.m. preceded by a half hour teach of Phase II Two Step with Mary Anne Turner. Our New Dancers dance on Friday evenings. The Whirlaways have had a new dancer class every year -usually on a separate night from club dancing. Each year we bring enough new dancers to take care of attrition and so the club now celebrates 56 years of continuous operation and we will be celebrating our 56th Jamboree May 23rd — 25th . This year's theme is "Let's Get Nautical" so you can expect some interesting decorations and hilarious half time entertainment. Mary Anne Turner maintains a club website at <http://www.wmslk.squaredance.bc.ca>

Mile Zero Grand Squares, Dawson Creek

We started dancing the end of September with two new couples and one new student. On most regular dance nights we have three full squares and on some nights there are four squares. Our dances are held in

the Sudeten Hall every Monday at 7:00 p.m. until the end of March. We have 12 student dancers ranging from 8 to 15 years old. One family provides us with 6 children age 8 to 15. They are very good dancers and are progressing quickly. Bernie was asked to teach at the Spirit River School in Alberta. He accepted and we took 4 of our dancers (square angels) to help us. There were 5 squares of students from grade 10, 11, & 12. Bernie taught them in a Sicilian circle for the first 15 minutes then put them into squares. I must say this group of students were very well behaved and learned very quickly. It was a pleasure to teach them. The teacher who invited us said she will be calling us again in February. We think it is very important to go to the schools and teach square dancing. Perhaps the children will talk to their parents and get some adults interested in square dancing.

The 100 Mile Twirlers no longer dance but are maintaining their club membership with the BCSRDF. The South Cariboo Jamboree held its last dance in June 2013

Lac La Hache Caribooters We started dancing at the end of September with 22 members enrolling. No new members. We dance on Monday afternoons at the Senior Centre in Lac La Hache with Pre rounds starting at 1:30 and Squares from 2:00 to 4:00. We have 1 caller and 1 Cuer. We also have a couple who, when weather permits, come up from Clearwater to dance with us.(that is an 1 1/2 hour drive from Clearwater to Lac La Hache). We are really going to miss putting on a Jamboree this year and visiting with our many Square dance friends who attended it. So far this year we have entertained at the Senior Retirement home twice.