

## **Region 5 Caller, Cuer, Dancer Association (R5CCDA) Report for BC Federation Board of Directors' Meeting, April 7, 2018**

Delegates: Jan and Bill Cave, Dana Ball, Karen Piffko

### **General Information**

Our region is geographically large and therefore our clubs do not interact very often. We do keep in contact, however, with email bulletins sent out by region president, Mary Anne Turner. These bulletins are also posted on our Region 5 website at [www.r5ccda.squaredance.bc.ca](http://www.r5ccda.squaredance.bc.ca)

Additional information is passed on to us in the Cariboo Connection Newsletter which Mary Anne and Nick Turner publish 3 times a year. It contains input from those clubs in our region who wish to contribute. Hard copies are delivered to our clubs and the newsletter is also posted on the internet.

Region 5 is experiencing the same difficulties as many of the other regions. We have clubs that have folded, few new callers committed to becoming club callers and a great need for more dancers. We have approximately 140 dancers in the Region this season.

### **Caribooters Square Dance Club Lac La Hache**

Caller - Dave Abbs      Cuer - Helen Hall

They had 17 dancers registered in the fall but are having difficulty putting a square on the floor this season. They have adjusted their schedule to dancing only twice a month and only if enough people phone to confirm that they will be attending. They have not danced very often this season.

### **Northern Twisters Square Dance Club, Prince George BC**

It is my pleasure to report our Club has 13 new members, and that we have 47 mainstream/nightly dancers along with 8 honorary 25-year members for a total of 68 paid-up members. We have 7 four-score members, nearly a square!

Our new dancers are coming along fine thanks to Gys Koops, our wonderful caller. Gys offers extra "lessons" at his home on Sunday afternoons to help new folks along.

We also have other members who call for us occasionally, such as Jolanda Van Dyk, Maurice Mingay, Dolores Young, and Cuer Gary Dean.

We celebrated our 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary last May. It was a well-attended, successful event and so it was nice to catch our breath over the summer.

We held one of our end-of-the-month summer dances at the band stand in Lheidli T'enneh Memorial Park. We enjoyed a lovely evening, generated some interest from the public, and finished before a thunder storm went through.

We had a good start to the dance year in September and so far, have been able to keep the momentum going. In addition to our regular events, such as Snowflake, and Robbie Burns, we were invited to be "entertainment" for a large Seniors Tea held in our Civic Centre. Two squares in full square dance dress, danced on the stage, to Gys' calls and the audience really enjoyed the show. It was good fun. Our Club also dances at seniors' care homes through the year for entertainment for shut-ins and practice for us.

Guest callers/cuer at our annual Snowflake dance, were Sandy Gregson-Meyer and Merv Meyer. It was a weekend event early November and the first potluck dinner of the season. This was followed by our Christmas dinner/dance which was well attended. Our Robbie Burns dinner fell on a very busy Saturday in Prince George, so unfortunately attendance was light. However, there were rave reviews of our guest caller Heather Wallace.

We are preparing for our Spring Jamboree on May 4, 5, 6, 2018 which will feature Murray Few as caller/cuer. The theme is Across Canada and we are looking forward to a great time.

Respectfully submitted,

Beverly Rein - Club President

### **Skeena Squares Club, Terrace, BC**

Terrace Skeena Squares have been unable to dance this year. Two of our senior members are over 80 and felt that they could no longer dance due to health issues, two of our other couples also have long-term health problems and the healthy ones seem to be travelling as often as possible.

We did not get any response to the Facebook advertising and feel that it is not worth making an effort to recruit beginners when we do not have a core group to work with. If I was younger, I

might consider it but when much more experienced callers are retiring, I am not ready to take on a new project unless I receive a special request from a group.

We are sorry that we are not dancing and the 5-7 of us who are able when we are all here considered getting together from time to time but that hasn't worked out so far. Too bad all the other clubs are so far away. None of us want to face the challenge of a 7-8 hour drive down Highway 16 to attend dances during the winter.

Regards,  
Diane Weismiller

### **Vanderhoof Drifting Squares, Vanderhoof, BC**

Callers - Dolores Young and Sandi Jespersen. Gys Koops from Prince George travels to Vanderhoof on alternate weeks to call for the club.

This has been the 15th season for The Drifting Squares. They dance 1 or 2 squares each week. Sandi Jespersen maintains a Facebook page for the Drifting Squares at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/VanderhoofDriftingSquares>

### **Stampede Whirlaways, Williams Lake**

President Dana Ball      Caller - Nick Turner      Cuer - Mary Anne Turner

We are having fun with new caller Bill Cave. He calls 2 tips each week, and is really improving -- or maybe we're just paying more attention!

Our club has 29 registered dancers, two being teenagers. We also have other teenagers that attend when school and work permits. We were happy when we finished the first new dancer session (September - December) with a full square, but work schedules and our harsh winter kept the new dancers away after the holiday break.

The 10 members of our club that attended Prince George's 60th anniversary last May really enjoyed their hospitality and had fun looking at the picture wall, and reminiscing. Unfortunately the wild fires kept us from doing many summer activities or traveling to other clubs.

The club is excited about our Annual Mainstream Jamboree, May 25th, 26th and 27th as it is our club's 60th year, our caller Nick Turner's 40th year, our cuer Mary Anne Turner's 26th year and guest caller Dustin McGifford's 10th year calling the Jamboree. The theme this year is "UNDER THE BIG TOP". If you have ever been to one of our Jamborees you know that our cuer Mary Anne Turner goes above and beyond with the theme decorations and program. We look forward to seeing you all there.

Respectfully submitted,  
Dana Ball, President

### **Mile Zero Grand Squares, Dawson Creek**

We started dancing on the last Monday in September. About twelve dancers showed up, several of our dancers are farmers and they were still busy in the fields.

It has now grown to three squares on most nights. The family of eight children have returned to dance with us, plus six new dancers joined us after the new year.

We had a potluck Christmas supper followed by square dancing until nine o'clock. Then everyone joined in a Chinese white elephant gift exchange, fun was had by all.

The evening ended with a delicious lunch that was brought by all the ladies. Then a two week break was taken as there were several people were going away to be with their families.

Respectfully submitted,

Jean & Bernie Smith