



## B.C.S. & R.D.FEDERATION



### Newsletter – September, 2015

I welcome the Square and Round dance community to a new season of friendship and fun and hope that you have had a good Summer. Many of you will have enjoyed festivals, campouts and a variety of summer dances. Whatever you did, I hope you are ready to return refreshed, invigorated and ready to enjoy and promote our activities.

I read recently that the Eastern Cougar and the Sumatran Rhino have been declared extinct in areas where they use to roam freely. This could also be the fate of Square and Round dancing if we don't do something to encourage new people to join us. Hopefully you are thinking about and taking action on programs in your Region. It may not be enough to just run a class the way we used to run a class. I believe it was Albert Einstein who said something to the effect that the definition of insanity is to do things in the same old way and expect different results. We need to consider change. Some of the changes that are being tried with varying success are:

- Relaxing or removing costume restrictions and accepting non square dance attire
- Encouraging more upbeat, modern music and using less hoedown music
- Modifying the program making it quicker and easier to feel like you are dancing

There is an organization called Alliance of Round, Traditional and Square Dance (the ARTS) that is working hard to re-image our activity. Why not check them out at:

[www.arts-dance.org](http://www.arts-dance.org)

The B.C. Square and Round Dance Federation had their Annual General Meeting on August 7, 2015 in Penticton. The Minutes and Reports are on the website at [www.squaredance.bc.ca](http://www.squaredance.bc.ca)

A small discrepancy was noticed in the Treasurer's Report between the amount collected and the amount paid for Canadian Society dues. The Treasurer was unable to attend the meeting due to a death in the family and I agreed to find the reason and advise the membership. Treasurer, Pat Zeeman advises me that there was an entry input error and that the \$6935.00 paid out is the correct number. There is no change to the bottom line and a revised Profit and Loss Statement will be provided to Dennis Sutton who has agreed to do a review of the books.

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Square Dance!

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**Club and Caller/Cuer Special Anniversaries:**

Please advise us well in advance if your club or caller/cuer has a special anniversary celebration. The BCS&RD Federation looks forward to the following events in 2015:

- Amalgam-Eighters (Nanaimo) 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on September 25
- Sand Dollars (Parksville) 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on October 16
- Garry Dodds (Victoria) 50 years Square Dance Caller on October 18
- Town and Country (Maple Ridge) 55<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on November 14
- Surrey Square Wheelers 55th Anniversary on November 28

**Liability Insurance coverage for New Dancers:**

Dancers who have started for the first time after September 1<sup>st</sup> are covered, for free, for the remainder of the current calendar year only if they have been registered with the CSRDS. The Society requires the number of new dancers in the class. They do not require a list of the new dancer's names. The club, however, must maintain a list of those who are registered in the class to back up the numbers provided.

The numbers are to be sent to:

|                           |                     |
|---------------------------|---------------------|
| Eric McCormack            |                     |
| Chair, Membership, CSRDS  | (506) 738=2161      |
| 6 Harmony Road            |                     |
| Grand Bay-Westfield, N.B. | ericmcc@nbnet.nb.ca |
| ESK 1P8                   |                     |

All others are not insured if they are not registered and have not paid the requisite fees. In order to be insured you have to have paid for your membership and obtained a membership number.

**Problems with our Website:**

We have had some problems with our website recently. This is related to changes that are required on the server in order to update our website. The interruption of service could not have happened at a worse time as SquareupBC had arranged a program for us in social media at some expense and potential new dancers may have been unable to reach us. Please check the information that represents your Region, club, etc. to ensure it is up-to-date and advise your regional webmaster of any changes or updates that may be required at this time.

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**Square and Round Dance Awareness Week:**

September 13 to 19, 2015 has been declared as Square and Round Dance Awareness Week in the Province of British Columbia. Please make an effort to make our activity more visible to the public during this week and at every opportunity.

A group in Region 2 (Vancouver and Fraser Valley) is working on organizing a Provincial Festival in 2017. Details will be available soon. We would love to see you there.

Your Federation executive is interested in promoting our activity and providing you with the best services we can. In an effort to minimize costs and increased membership fees we ask for your cooperation. If you have ideas that may lead to a more efficient operation please share them with your executive. For example, if you are aware of ways we can use social media, modern technology or access funds such as grants we would welcome your feedback and involvement.

Ken Crisp, President  
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