

## Region 3 OSRDA REPORT

I hope each and every one of you had a wonderful Christmas and a great New Year and have not been adversely affected with our once again unusual cold snap.

Round Dance workshops resumed in Jan. with Stella and Peter Tennant giving a jive workshop and dance to follow. There will only be 4 workshops and dances in the new year. These workshops are sponsored by the OSRDA. Remember that both these clubs will be having the usual wind up dances sometime in May.

As all of you are aware the Penticton Squares officially went dark as of December 31<sup>st</sup>. The problems the club faced were lack of new dancers and general apathy of most of the elderly dancers to the survival and rejuvenation of the club and especially the attitude toward new dancers. We must all remember that all new dancers must be encouraged and not be scowled at or kept out of squares because they make mistakes.

As I have stated before, for any programs to be successful, it is necessary for member clubs and Callers/Cuers in the Federation to be involved in the planning and operation of any initiatives that a club decides to implement.

I remind you that three OSRDA Sponsored dances held each year are *Spring Fling March 07<sup>th</sup>. 2020, Freshman Frolic May 09<sup>th</sup>. 2020 and Sing a Long October 03<sup>rd</sup> 2020.*

We are endeavoring whenever possible, to keep all events in the earlier part of the day to hopefully accommodate more dancers.

There are plans for more round dance work shops as well as making Contra more available.

Last year Round dance clubs put on additional round dance events to utilize the moves from the more advanced phases. The dancers that attended these workshops and dances indicated they were very much in favour of the events.

As many of us know from experience, our chosen activity "DANCING" offers many opportunities for social interaction, exercise, friendship, contributing to better health and mental fitness. We need to share the benefits with all our friends and acquaintances.

In closing, I repeat! Word of mouth is one of the best ways to recruit new dancers however word of mouth used negatively can loose new dancers. Remember, We need them more than they need us.

Dancers and their clubs must and need to support each other otherwise we will create our own demise.

See you on the floor.

Bill Morey. President OSRDA