



B.C.S. & R.D. FEDERATION
April Newsletter – 2019

The very first thing that I must do is extend a heart-felt thank-you to the Swinging Singles Square Dance Club. For those of you who are not aware, the Swinging Singles made a very generous donation of \$100,000.00 to the BC Square & Round Dance Federation. This donation came from the building fund that many Swinging Singles dancers have, through various fund raisers and donations, contributed to for many years. After much thought, the Swinging Singles have foregone the dream of having their own building and have decided that, in gratitude for all everyone does for square dancing, some of these funds could be put to good use by the BCS&RD Federation. In my opinion, this embodies the true meaning of our purpose; *To preserve, promote, and perpetuate Square, Round, Contra, Clogging and other related dance forms in the province of British Columbia.*

Thank you to all the members, past and present of the Swinging Singles Square Dance Club.

The Board of Director's meeting was held in Victoria this year. This was a great meeting with a lot of input from your delegates. If you haven't had the chance, please take a few minutes to read the minutes and the reports submitted for this meeting, as well as any previous ones posted on our website. squaredance.bc.ca/bc-federation/bod-reports-minutes.html

Although there are clubs who have celebrated milestone anniversaries this season; Ripple Rockets (65). Ocean Waves (65), Frontier Twirlers (60) and the Swinging Singles (50), we will see the end of two clubs in the BCS&RD Federation; the Penticton Squares and Blind Bay's Ta'Lana Twirlers. I would hate to see any more clubs go the way of these two. What can we do to reverse the downward trend?

After the Board of Directors meeting, we held a short workshop on recruiting and retaining new dancers. This is of utmost importance to every association, club, leader and dancer in BC. When there are no new dancers, clubs cannot grow. I feel that we need to find ways of working together to share our ideas, successes, and yes, failures too. What might not work for one club could be very beneficial to another. A package was handed out at the workshop and, as this consisted of a lot of material, only one packet of printed material was given to each region. However, you can find all of that material, and much more, online at wellroundedsquare.com/downloads/. There are a lot of documents on this page and you will find some of it not pertinent to your situation BUT, if you only find one little nugget of information, it's a place to start.

An item of great importance is the storage of BCS&RD Federation documents and other property. Much of this has been stored in the homes of members throughout the province. This makes it difficult to be aware of what has accumulated over the years. If we want to move everything to a central storage area and/or put it into an electronic format, we need volunteers to take the job on. If possible, and you feel that it's within your realm, please contact me at jeanwood@telus.net

As a result of the changes to the BC Societies Act, the BCS&RD Federation is going through many changes in its constitution, bylaws and the structure of the Federation. To the average person, much of this is very confusing and we hope this will be as painless as possible but, as with anything else, there will be growing pains. A committee consisting of Dennis Sutton, Bill Cave and Bill Wood are working on the bylaws and rules that we eventually must adhere to. This also means that the handbook must also be rewritten. Please have patience with us as we get all of this into place.

As part of the changes to the rules, etc, we must elect some new directors for the BCS&RD Federation. Some of the executive may also need to be re-elected to conform to the new bylaws regarding the terms of service. For the unforeseeable future, Norm Cox has been temporarily appointed to stand-in for Ken Crisp who, due to health issues, is unable to fulfill his duties as Past President. Norm will be accepting nominations for directors to be elected at the AGM in July. The AGM will be on Friday, July 12th at BC Festival 2019 in Salmon Arm, BC.

I remind everyone that the BC Festivals are fund-raisers for the BCS&RD Federation. Even if only half of the dancers in BC register for BC Festival 2019, it will mean a very successful festival for everyone concerned.

Be aware of scam email! The executive of the BCS&RDF does **not** send requests for money through email. We do not ask you to send personal e-transfers to any member of the executive. Check the email address carefully and do not respond to any of these emails. When you do respond to the sender, you are verifying your email address which can open you up for further scams. As a result of the recent hacking and scams, the BCS&RDF website has made improvements in its security. The email addresses of the executive are no longer posted on site. If you need information, please contact me at jeanwood@telus.net or use the blind contact forms on the website.

Some of you are still asking what the BC S&RD Federation can do for you. To start with, there are bursaries available for new dancer classes, caller and cuer training, and education & leadership grants. The guidelines and forms may be found on the BC S&RDF website: squaredance.bc.ca/awards-bursaries.html. The Sillery Award, named in honour of Doreen Sillery and her extraordinary contribution to square dancing, is for outstanding service to square, round, contra, clogging or line dancing extending well beyond club level endeavours. Guidelines and forms for this award may also be found at the above site.

If you have any ideas about how the BC Square & Round Dance Federation can better help the members in BC, please let us know! Let's open those lines of communication and work together for the betterment of dancing in BC.

Live Lively-



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Dance!