



CHIEF OF CHATTER Claudia Littlefair

I'm pleased to introduce a new column in this issue, called *"The Lighter Side of Darkness"* by Dee Jackins. Dee shares her humor with us as she describes what it is like to be visually impaired in a sight-reliant world.

For most of us, the dance season is well underway. Did your promotional efforts pay off? What would you do differently? The biggest question now is: How will you continue to advertise even though new dancers cannot join until a later date? I hope you'll find some helpful ideas in the next article. If you have any of your own to share, please send them to me so I can put them in the next newsletter.

SIGNS SPEAK VOLUMES

One of our chief marketing problems is that the majority of people do not know we exist! They believe that square dancing happened sometime in the past. CALLERLAB, the international association of callers, coined the phrase: **"Nobody's talking about it because nobody's talking about it!"** Most of our advertising takes place during early fall for 4 to 6 weeks. That means there is next to nothing about our recreation for 85% of the year.



Merv & Sandy Meyers, caller/cuer couple from Kamloops, have used their vehicles as "portable billboards" for the past two years. They have two sets of magnetic car door signs, so they can put them on whichever vehicle they are driving. When they purchased



their van in 2014, they made the decision to put on some permanent advertising. Wherever they travel, people "read" their vehicles.

This fall they took the signs one step further. They put up a large banner on the front of the Community Centre.

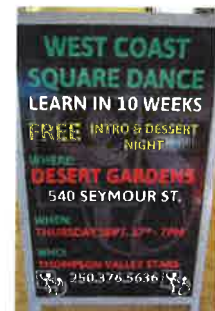
INDEX

Signs Speak Volumes	1
About the Meyers	2
The Lighter Side of Darkness ...	3
Who Is SRDIAA?	3
Chatter Close-Up:	
Claude & Debbie Vachon, Edm	4
Barbara Rehn	4
Chatter Kudos – Murray Few ...	6
Sewing Corner	6
Alberta Convention 2016	7
Festival 2016	8



They put up a double-sided sandwich board sign in front of the building.

Their home happened to come with a ready-made, large signboard in the corner of their lot. The previous owner had built it to advertise his business, and left it behind when Merv and Sandy purchased the home. It was perfect for putting up another banner, especially since it faces a major road





The result? 28 people came to their free dance, and 19 joined up for lessons. Each attendee filled out a survey about what influenced them to attend (some ticked more than one answer):

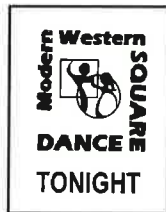
- Community Calendar – 4
- Friend Recommended – 12
- Demo at “The Bay” – 3
- Banner at Community Centre – 2
- Newspaper Article – 8
- Own Web Search – 4
- Banner on Home Lot – 1
- Van Decals – 1

Not only did the signs make the public aware that we exist, but they also worked to bring people in.

What Happens After Lessons Start?

Even though our dance season is underway, it is to our benefit to continue to “advertise” our presence.

- Put out a sandwich board in the dance parking lot, with a message like “Modern Western Square Dance Tonight”. It’s easy to do and effective.
- Write articles on an on-going basis for the community newsletter or paper to let non-dancers know about us. A topic suggestion could be how much fun the new dancers are having.
- String up a banner on the side of a building that faces a main roadway, for a negotiated rental fee, which declares our presence to anyone using that road.
- Collect food once a month for the food bank, or any other service project, to become known in the community.



Probably the worst we can do, is what we usually do - nothing! Instead of repeating this, look for ways your club can continue to market itself throughout the year. **Let’s get everyone talking about it because WE are talking about it.**

ABOUT THE MEYERS

Sandy & Merv Meyer, caller & cuer couple for ‘Thompson Valley Stars’ club in Kamloops and Chase, BC, are very passionate about square & round dancing, having traveled as far south as Spokane, west to Hawaii and north to Fairbanks, Alaska to dance, call & cue.



Merv started square dancing in 1982 and has been calling & teaching square dancing for 17 years in the Thompson/Shuswap region. He has previously called and taught for ‘Kamloops Square Dancers’, ‘Chase Square Dancers’ and ‘Ashcroft Cactus Squares’.

Sandy started square dancing in 1978, dancing until 1986 when she took a 22 year break, happily returning in 2008. During her break she took up ballroom dancing for 12 years, played in the ‘Kamloops Symphony Orchestra’ for 5 years and in year 2000, she joined the ‘Kamloops Rube Band’, playing percussion (which she still does). Sandy loves cueing, and started this in 2009. She & Merv choreograph many of their own round dances.

Every year Sandy & Merv host a ‘Banana Island Canoe Trip’ in August, where they paddle down the South Thompson River, stopping on Banana Island to square & round dance. They have also been the featured caller & cuer for the Prince George ‘Snowflake Dance’ in November, on 4 different occasions. They love doing singing-call duets; calling a square dance and cueing a round dance simultaneously, using the same music; and recently Sandy has taken up yodeling square dance calls. (She used to sing in a Rock ‘n Roll band).

They are both enthusiastic about promoting square and round dancing and were presented the ‘SILLERY AWARD’ in 2014 by the BC Square & Round Dance Federation, ‘In Honour & Recognition of Outstanding Service to the Square Dance Community’.

Sandy & Merv invite you to attend the annual ‘Chase The Fun’ event in Chase, BC on Father’s Day weekend,

June 17, 18 & 19, 2016. Steve Edlund of Surrey is the featured caller, Sandy Meyer and Mariann Sanford are the featured cuers.

THE LIGHTER SIDE OF DARKNESS

- by Dee Jackins

Dee is an avid square and round dancer, and enjoys writing. She shares the lighter side of some of her experiences, challenges and near disasters as a visually impaired person.



Here it is, the end of October and that always means it's Flu Shot season. This reminds me of a time a few years back when I called my Volunteer Lady, Donna, and asked her to take me for my flu shot.

As we entered the clinic, they had a gentleman directing us where to go to pick up the necessary forms. I could hear paper rustling and it seemed to go on forever, with the odd words spoken, "Here", "O.K.", "No", etc. Finally the shuffling stopped and we were on our way. I asked her, "What was that all about?"

Donna chuckled and said, "That poor guy was totally baffled. He looked at you, then at me, back and forth, each time pulling back on the papers. You were using your white cane and I was wearing dark sunglasses. He didn't know for sure who was blind!"

Every day brings new experiences . . . never a dull moment.

DID YOU KNOW . . .

Many years ago in Scotland, a new game was invented. It was ruled "Gentlemen Only, Ladies Forbidden". And thus the word GOLF entered into the English Language.

If you were to spell out numbers, you would have to wait until "one thousand" to find an "a".

Each King in a deck of playing cards represents a great king from history: Spades - King David; Hearts - Charlemagne; Clubs - Alexander the Great; Diamonds - Julius Caesar.

Coca-Cola was originally green.

In Shakespeare's time, mattresses were secured on bed frames by ropes. When you pulled on the ropes, the mattress tightened making the bed firmer to sleep on. Hence the phrase, 'Goodnight, sleep tight'.

In the 1400's a law was set forth in England that a man was allowed to beat his wife with a stick no thicker than his thumb. Hence we have 'the rule of thumb'.

WHO IS S.R.D.I.A.A.?

- by Lorne & Barb Smith

S.R.D.I.A.A. – Square & Round Dance Instructors' Association of Alberta - was formed in 1975 to create a forum for networking and education for the calling and cueing community within the Province. Membership is open to all instructors wanting to connect with a peer network. Today's membership now includes instructors from both British Columbia and Saskatchewan.

The Association currently meets 3 times per year for educational workshops and business meetings. The first meeting of the year occurs in September, just as the dance season starts. This initial event encompasses dance nights in Edmonton, Calgary and Red Deer with seminar sessions occurring over Saturday and Sunday. The seminars and dances have been conducted by members as well as instructors from other parts of North America. The other 2 meetings of the year are primarily educational based with sessions covering topics of general interest, calling specific and round dance related.

Since education is a primary mandate, S.R.D.I.A.A. sponsored Callers' Schools have been conducted on a regular basis throughout the Association's history. The schools have traditionally been geared to the new caller and conducted by experienced caller members. Over the past 10 years there has been a shift to not only provide education for the new caller but also to offer learning opportunities to the experienced callers to expand their knowledge base. As a result the last 2 schools have been two-tiered. The Association has also brought in Callerlab Accredited Caller Coaches (Daryl Clendenin and Tim Marriner) for 2 of the schools. This added expertise has been valuable to both the students and the member instructor.

The Round Dance leaders of the Association coordinated a Round-a-Lab Mini-Lab for one of the September Weekends with Irv & Betty Easterday as the instructors.

The Association has been and continues to be an opportunity for instructors across the province to educate, share ideas, build/renew friendships, and tie the province together.

It's impossible to lick your elbows!

CHATTER CLOSE-UP

Editor's Note: Our Dance Community is an interesting mix of people, each with a story to tell. If you know of someone you would like to see featured in this section, email me and I would be happy to contact them.

CLAUDE & DEBBIE VACHON, Edmonton



LHS: Claude & Debbie Vachon
RHS: Alan & Carola Ellis

Our Enjoyment of Square Dancing started in the early 1990s when our friends Rose and George introduced us to the Belle's and Beaux's Square Dance Club in Bonnyville. Tom Campanelli was the Club Caller. We both

instantly fell in the love with Square Dancing. Our children, then ages 4 and 2, were regulars in the audience to cheer us on. In 1993, we went on a family vacation to Honolulu Hawaii. While we were there, we had the opportunity to represent our club by dancing with the Honolulu Double Rover Square Dance Club. We have many fond memories and mementoes of this special trip.

In 1994, we moved to St. Paul and enjoyed raising our two children. As the Town did not have a Square Dance Club, our dancing had to end. After our children's graduations they both moved to Edmonton and our home became very quiet. Our day to day activities weren't as interesting without the close bond of our children. In May 2014, we decided to take the leap and put our family home of 20 years up for sale. We sold our house and officially became residents of Edmonton on July 1st, 2014. As soon as we were settled into our new lifestyle living in a new city, our daughter would text us pictures of billboards advertising Square Dancing Clubs and our son introduced us to his neighbour, Marika, who danced at the Edmonton Singles Square Dance Club.

We attended our first dance with the Edmonton Singles and realized our hearts' passion was still drawn to square dancing. We really enjoyed dancing at the Singles Club. It was at the EDSA Bus Trip to Red Deer where we met Alan and Carola Ellis. We instantly became friends and with their extensive club participation, also became members of the West End Promenaders and St. Peter's 2x4s. With our great

friends, Alan and Carola, at every possible opportunity we started touring other clubs. So far in the past year, the four of us have danced at the USA West in Helena and in Lolo, Montana. We also danced in Nanaimo and Radium, BC. Our Alberta square dancing adventures have taken us to Calgary, Red Deer, Lloydminster, Camrose, Lacombe, Olds, Rocky Mountain House, Leduc, Bon Accord, Morinville, Fort Saskatchewan, and many other towns. We participated in many Square Dancing campouts where we socialized under the moon and around bonfires. Now we have even started to learn round dancing with Glen and Audrey Eliasson.

We cannot thank Alan and Carola enough for all their guidance, support and laughter on all our journeys. The enjoyment of having found a couple with similar interests has blossomed into a very dear and special friendship. We are also so thankful and appreciative of the warm welcomes we received from all the clubs we visited and look forward to attending many more square dancing events in the years to come. Our ambition is to attend as many square dance events as possible. We have already marked the July Regina National Convention in our 2016 calendar. Our biggest dream of all would be to participate in an International Square Dancing Event in Japan as soon as the opportunity arises.

Thank you again to everyone we have met, laughed, danced, enjoyed refreshments, and shared wonderful memories with. We look forward to continuing our awesome square dancing adventure with everyone in clubs near and far.

- Yellow Rock, Claude and Debbie Vachon

BARBARA REHN, Edmonton



My name is Barbara Rehn and I have been President of the Edmonton and District Square Dance Association for the 2015 year. Last year I was asked to act as Vice President – I deliberated on it for some time before I accepted the position because I knew it meant that I would be expected to take on the role of President for the following year. I did accept and here I am. I took on this role because I

feel it is important that, from time to time, we accept Executive positions or act on Committees with the Associations in which we are involved if we want these activities to continue.

Dancing has always been my physical exercise of choice so in 1998 when I saw a small ad in the Edmonton Journal offering square dance lessons – no partner required - I joined the Edmonton Singles Club. They had about five squares and danced at Northgate Lions at the time with Andy Pennock instructing. My mentor was a lady named Mary who has since passed away. She took me out to Sherwood Park Country Cousins where I also took lessons. I can still hear the instructor Wayne Russell's voice as I go through some of the moves – "swing thru – half right, half left". During that season I also took part in the Community Dance Program at Fulton's with Dave & Evelyn Patterson. In the summer I started taking country dance lessons at the Wild West Saloon in Edmonton. That is where I met Walter Levesque. He had been square and round dancing since the early 1980's so I was very excited to have met someone with whom I could continue my square dancing in the fall. We attended the provincial convention the following year where Walter was able to guide me through some basic round dance waltzes. So that fall we started round dance lessons with Norm and Doris Simons (Tait's Twirlers). The steps learned in round dancing have been a great asset in my social dancing and would have helped me a great deal to learn country line dancing.

Back then I was dancing 4 or 5 nights a week – either square dancing, round dancing, country dancing or social dancing at various clubs in and around Edmonton. Now it is only about twice a week – mostly because I devote some of my time to my other hobbies which are playing music, singing and the sport of rodeo. I grew up in a farming family and shortly after I moved to Alberta in 1969 had a mixed cattle/grain farm near Mundare and had a boarding stable near Leduc (not at the same time!). I have ridden horses most of my life competing in English and Western pleasure events but mostly trail riding in various areas of Alberta – Kananaskis with its great campsites and horse stalls as well as Ram River where we woke up to snow on the long weekend in August.

The first couple to be shown in bed together on prime time TV was Fred and Wilma Flintstone.

During all of my time in Alberta I worked as a legal secretary for the same lawyer for over 45 years before retiring in 2010. To prepare myself for retirement (that is living without a regular pay cheque) I took three months off and during that time I did a tour of Europe. I was fascinated by the history – it brought home to me that we live in a very young country where we think a building that has been standing for 100 years is old!! Since retiring I have travelled by truck and trailer to the Maritimes every second year, heard the bagpipes in Scotland, joined in the music and step dancing in Ireland, took a horse-drawn carriage ride around Central Park in New York as well as taken many cruises –one of the most interesting being to and through the Panama Canal – what an engineering marvel.

My first interest in square dancing actually came about because of my love of horses when, in the 1990's I watched a square dance on horseback demonstration which included Murray Few. I thought this can't get any better – riding a horse while dancing – wonder if I could do that? Should I put it back on my bucket list?

The highlight of my square/round dancing was the trip to the National Convention in St. John, New Brunswick in 2002. This was my first trip to the Maritimes and I was absolutely amazed how a boat could be sitting on sand when I went to a dance and when I returned eight hours later it was floating in water as high as the docks. For a prairie girl from

Saskatchewan the tides were a wonder to behold. After the Convention we toured New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, PEI and took the ferry to Newfoundland where we spent ten days on the Island along with other couples from our Country Sunshiners Club in Edmonton who had also travelled out to the



Convention. As a memory of that great trip I had a square dance outfit made with the tartans from each of NB, NS, PEI and Cape Breton and wore this outfit in the fashion show at the Alberta Convention in Ardrossan.

Not only did I enjoy the Convention, the sights of the Maritimes but many wonderful friendships were made. **This is the greatest bonus of dancing – the friends we meet and keep along the way.**

CHATTER KUDOS



Congratulations to **Murray Few** on 50 years of **Calling and Cueing!** A celebration of this momentous milestone is being hosted by the Country Sunshiners Club on **SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 2015 from 1-4pm**, SEESA, 9350 – 82 Street

NW, Edmonton. Dancing with emcees/callers Wayne Russell and Gary Winter, with cake cutting at 2pm. Cost is \$5/person.

Murray began his calling career at the early age of 15 when he was hired to call for the Edmonton Swinging Singles. Murray was a member of one of Edmonton's teen square dance clubs and when the resident caller went off to Europe for a year, he was asked to step in and call for the Club. That was in 1966 and that was the year that his wife-to-be, Barb started dancing with the Club.

Murray and Barb have called in various places in Alberta, British Columbia, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Ontario, Nova Scotia, the Yukon and North West Territories, Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Ohio, Kentucky and Arizona. In the middle of all these "normal" calling activities, both Murray and Barb were members of the Edmonton Klondike Square Dance Riders with Murray as the caller and Barb as one of the horse riders.

Murray is a member of Edmonton's and Alberta's Caller Associations. He has been on the staff of numerous caller's clinics and continues to assist new and not so new callers whenever asked.

SEWING CORNER

- by Marie Brothers

LAYERED SKIRT

(Can Be Square Dance, Round Dance or Prairie Skirt Length)

First you need to measure your waist and then the length you wish to skirt to be. How many layers do you want? I have one prairie skirt with 4 layers, all the same fabric and other with 3 layers with different fabric for each layer.



Take the length you want the skirt and divide it by the number of layers you want to determine the length of each tier. Add 1" to the measurement for each tier. There will be a 1/2" seam on the top and bottom of each layer.

For example, a 4 layer skirt that is 40" long would require 4 tiers of 11" each. Next you need to determine how much fabric to purchase.

A standard width of most poly-cotton fabric is 112cm or 44/45". We will use the 44" as our measurement. If your waist is up to 40", you can get away with 2 pieces of fabric the length of each tier, or a total of 22" for the first tier of the 4 layer skirt (measurements are just estimated - you must go by the measurements of the skirt you want). If your waist is more than 40", you might want 3 pieces of fabric for the first tier.

Decide if you want the same fabric for all tiers and if so, you will need at least 3 pieces of fabric (if you used 2 pieces for tier 1) for tier 2. I like a fuller skirt and double each tier. So, for my skirts, tier 1 has 2 pieces, tier 2 has 4 pieces and tier 3 has 6 or 8 tiers, etc.

If you are using the same fabric, tier 2 is 22", tier 3 is either 33" or 44" and tier four is either 44", 55" or 66", tier 4 is 55", 66", 77" or 88" - depending on how full you want each layer.

The waist is 1 tier (up to a 42" hip). If your hip is more than 42", you may need to add a full width of fabric or a portion thereof, in order to get the skirt on. Make the width of this layer twice the width of the elastic you intend on using plus 1/2" for the seam.

Now that you have the general idea of the layers, and how much fabric you will need, buy the fabric, wash it, and straighten it.

Next article - straightening the fabric, tearing your tiers and putting it together. If you need any assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me directly at mariebrothers@yahoo.ca.

In English pubs, ale is ordered by pints and quarts. In old England when customers got unruly, the bartender would yell "Mind your pints and quarts, and settle down." It's where we get the phrase, "Mind your 'P's' and 'Q's'."

ALBERTA CONVENTION 2016 HIGH RIVER - SEPTEMBER 3-5

Meet the Committee! We're excited to be working together to deliver GREAT DANCING in HIGH RIVER!

AL & CAROL MOODY, Chair



Al has danced for 30 years and this is his 7th Convention Committee. He considered calling but likes dancing more. He was employed by Calgary Co-op for 20+ years, owned a DJ company, played drums in many different bands, and is now retired. Carol has danced for 8

years, plus 2 years of old-time square dancing when she was a teenager. This is her second Convention Committee. Prior to retiring eight years ago, she was a Pediatric Nurse.

Al's Favorites: TV Show – 'Blue Bloods'; Book or Movie – none; Food – lasagna, veal cutlets and good soups.

Carol's Favorites: TV Show – 'Big Bang Theory'; Movie – 'Sound of Music'; Food – Chinese.

JOHN & ANNE GODSMAN, Registration

John & Anne have been dancing for 29 years. This is their 5th Convention Committee (including one National). Anne has instructed clogging for ten years. Prior to retirement, Anne worked with the Royal Bank and John was in Life Insurance.



Favorites: TV Shows – 'Jeopardy' and British Sit-coms; Movie – none; Anne's Books – 'Five Smooth Stones' and all of Diana Gabladon's (eg. 'Outlander' series), John's Books – Any Jeffrey Archer books; Food – cheese and butter chicken.

LARRY COX & KELSEY O'BRIEN, Treasurer



Larry & Kelsey have been dancing for 17 years and this is their first Convention Committee. Larry is a public accountant and Kelsey is a bookkeeper.

Larry's Favorites: TV Show – 'Mash'; Movie – 'Spiderman'; Book – 'Lord of the Rings'; Food – lamb chops.

Kelsey's Favorites: As she works two full time jobs and with young grandchildren, she doesn't have enough free time for books, TV or movies, therefore no favorites. Favorite Food – always exploring new flavours and cuisines.

*I wondered why somebody didn't do something.
Then I realized, I am somebody.
- Lily Tomlin*



DAWN GILCHRIST & MURRAY CHRISTENSEN, Secretary

Dawn danced with Twirling Teens for three years, and then came back in 2005 – 14 years total. She'd love to try calling but her chronic cough holds her back. Murray has danced for 10

years and is "caller blind". This is their first Convention Committee. Dawn is in project accounting for an engineering company and Murray repairs automotive diagnostic equipment.

Dawn's Favorites: TV Show – 'Big Bang Theory', 'Top Chef', 'Hell's Kitchen'; Movie – 'Sound of Music'; Book – 'Misery' by Stephen King, 'Pet Cemetery' by Dolores Claiborne, and anything by Dean Koontz; Food – she's a candy-holic!

Murray's Favorites: TV Show – 'Big Bang Theory', history documentaries; Movie – Monty Python's; Book – aviation, history magazines, biographies of musicians, 'Hitch Hiker's Guide to the Galaxy'; Food – pizza & beer, borscht (Dawn makes the best!).

DAVE SYMINGTON, Programming - Squares MARLENE SYMINGTON, Facilities

Dave has been dancing for 40+ years, and calling for 15 years. This is his third Convention Committee. He works as a chef in a Calgary hospital. Marlene has been dancing for 17 years, and cued rounds part-time for 2 years. She is the Controller at the Carriage House Inn in Calgary.



Dave's Favorites: TV Show – 'Gilligan's Island' and 'Star Trek' (original series); Movie – 'Dune'; Book – 'Archie' Comics; Food – chicken.

Marlene's Favorites: TV Show – 'Carol Burnett Show'; Movie – 'Grease'; Book – 'Garfield' Comic Strips; Food – ice cream cones or sundaes from Dairy Queen.

DAVE LITTLEFAIR, Programming - Squares CLAUDIA LITTLEFAIR, Promotion



They have been dancing for 21 years, calling for 8 years, and cueing (Claudia) for 7 years. This is their 3rd Convention Committee. Dave is a sales rep. for a food import company based in Toronto and Claudia is an administrative assistant at RE/MAX in Strathmore.

Dave's Favorites: TV Show – 'CSI'; Movie – 'Animal House'; Book – 'Into Thin Air' by Jon Krakauer; Food – hamburgers.
Claudia's Favorites: TV Show – 'Criminal Minds'; Movie – 'Overboard'; Books – 'Outlander' Series; Food – chocolate.

MARY & RON MILTON, Programming - Rounds

They have been dancing for 20 years, and cueing for 17. This is their 5th Convention Committee. Ron and Mary worked in the hospital industry and are now retired.



Mary's Favorites: TV Show – 'NCIS'; Movie – 'Planet of the Apes'; Books – any by James Patterson; Food – any desserts.

Ron's Favorites: TV Show – 'NCIS'; Movie – Anything with Steven Segal in it; Book –n/a; Food – any and all food.

MIKE & DONNA DAVIES, Operations



They have been dancing for 15 years, and this is their first Convention Committee. Mike was a retail manager for 32 years, and Donna manages the seasonal department for Airdrie's Home Hardware.

Mike's Favorites: TV Show – 'Mash'; Movie – Disney's 'The Castaways'; Book – Robert Heinlein's 'Time Enough for Love'; Food – Dungeness crab boiled fresh in seawater with cayenne pepper.

Donna's Favorites: TV Show – 'Blue Bloods'; Movie – 'Cutting Edge'; Book – biographies; Food – chicken.

THOM & LORIE GORDON, Accommodations & RV Parking



The first 3 out of 15 years of dancing were in Saudi Arabia. This is Lorie & Thom's first Convention Committee.

Thom's Favorites: TV Show – 'Man From Uncle'; Movie – 'The Gods Must Be Crazy'; Book – 'The Martian'; Food – lasagna.

Lorie's Favorites: TV Show – sports, sports and sports; Movie – 'The Judge'; Book – 'Mrs. Mike'; Food – Thai green chicken curry.

FESTIVAL 2016

- By Dolena Plews

In July 2016, on the 28, 29 and 30th, the 19th Canadian Square and Round Dance Convention will be held in Saskatchewan!

Saskatchewan was awarded this special event at the 2014 Festival held in Ottawa, Ontario. Festivals, also referred to as Nationals, are held every two years, alternating between Eastern and Western Canada. The year 2016 will be a memorable year as this is the first time Saskatchewan was successful in their bid. Prior to this, it was felt the population base was too small and the facilities would be inadequate. However, in the past few years we have matured, so to speak, and are ready to welcome the dance world! We have the convention sites and the volunteers to welcome square, round and contra dancers and cloggers.

The Committee of 14 different categories is made up of members from various parts of the province, headed by chair couple Bill and Shirley Treleven of Milestone, Saskatchewan. Coming from many communities will allow a true showcase of all that Saskatchewan has to offer and the expertise to promote it.

Early in the planning, a contest was held to find a logo that would best represent our province and the Festival. The winning choice was "PARTNER UP PRAIRIE STYLE". Festival headquarters are in the Delta Hotel in Regina, and there are many smaller communities nearby. We want visitors to experience the prairie hospitality these communities offer.

Our website is 'Festival 2016'. We have over 9000 hits with interest shown from around the world. There are approximately 350 registered to date. We urge all to visit the site for current updates and to register.

Be prepared to 'Partner Up Prairie Style'.

EARLY BIRD DRAW

Register by
JANUARY 31, 2016
To Enter Draw
For FREE
Alberta Convention
REGISTRATION!!

FESTIVAL 2016
July 28, 29 & 30

Hosted by
**Saskatchewan Square and Round
Dance Federation Inc.**
Saskatchewan Trade and Convention Centre
Delta Regina
Register online at
www.saskfestival2016.com

Information:
Bill 306-590-7141
tree-line@hotmail.com
Donna 306-543-6626
borrygruell@sasktel.net
Bert 306-692-7376
rnj@sasktel.net
Kay 780-875-2761
hau_hh@shaw.ca

Partner Up Prairie Style
Sponsored in part by
**Saskatchewan
LOTTERIES**