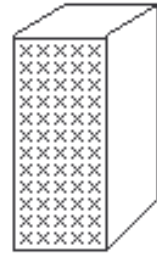


ANSSRDT NEWSLETTER



SEPTEMBER 2008

DATE OF OUR NEXT MEETING: September 27, 2008

LOCATION: E. H. Horne School in Enfield. Off Highway 102 take exit 7 going towards the Irving Big Stop on old route 2. The school is a large brick building on the left opposite the cemetery.

SCHEDULE:

9:00 – 9:30	Meet, greet, and setup, Second hand record box time
9:30 – 10:00	Planning a class and/or club evening – Ralph MacDonald
10:00 – 11:00	Teaching a move – practice with precise descriptions
11:00 – 12:00	ANSSRDT Business Meeting
12:00 – 1:30	Lunch
1:30 – 2:30	Cueing a Mixer – Lionel and Janet Crowe
2:30 – 3:15	Quick Teach when needed
3:15 – 4:00	Review of Sight Calling for Beginning Dancers – Dottie Welch

First Canadian Mini-Lab, 13-15 July 2008, London, Ontario

Thirty Leaders and nineteen Partners attended the first Canadian Mini-Lab. It was held prior to the London Canadian National Convention at the Best Western Stoneridge Inn & Conference Centre just outside London, Ontario. There was a wonderful sense of camaraderie beginning with an extended Meet and Greet event on Sunday evening and extending through an extra dinner on Tuesday night for all those waiting until Wednesday before moving into the London Convention site.

Barry and Pam Clasper organized an interesting set of workshops on Voice Care and Enhancement, Definition Details, Computer Choreography Creation Aids, Steal a Peek into Current Record Cases, Teaching, Simple Sight, Partners Issues, Digital Music, Winning Ways, and Showmanship. We also enjoyed a banquet and a dance featuring Duets and Hexagon Squares as called by Clark Baker.

During the closing session we discussed many issues of concern to those across Canada and it was suggested that we should have more meetings of this type for Canadian Callers.

Canadian National Convention Update

About 1800 dancers attended the 16th Canadian National in London, Ontario. From the first notes of the lively ragtime music playing in the hallways as we picked up our registration packets to the final singing call, "Turn Out the Lights" it was a delightful and successful event. They offered all of the usual square dance halls from Basic to C-2, 3 Round Dance halls which were all full all of the time, 2 clogging halls, a contra hall, as well as wheelchair and line dancing. We had clear skies for the Banner Parade, there was a well-organized fashion show, an interesting sewing room and heritage displays, and a beautiful ice sculpture for the closing day.

The Nova Scotia presentation enticing dancers to "Promenade to Halifax in 2010" was received with a standing ovation. Many thanks go to the four squares of dancers who participated. Look for repeat performances.

Teaching Beginners

The emphasis of our September 2008 meeting will be on teaching new dancers. Recommended reading includes the "Mainstream Teaching Tips", "Plus Teaching Tips", "Teaching Order Design Principles", and "Mainstream Non-Program Teaching Items" available on the Callerlab website under Dance Program Documents / Teaching Resources.

There's no magic solution to our declining numbers, but it is extremely important that all new dancers have an enjoyable and successful experience during their first weeks and months of dancing.

Alguire Memorial Callers School 2009

We are planning the 4th Alguire Memorial Callers School to be held during the week of August 23rd to 29th, 2009 at Elm River Campground. Barry and Pam Clasper from Ontario have agreed to be our guest instructors. They have 20 plus years of international calling experience, and consistently demonstrate great enthusiasm, and a serious commitment to the square dance activity.

MIXERS FOR NEW DANCERS

Island in the Sun

Original By Stew Shacklette (This is slightly modified)

Formation: Partners in a double circle (couples) facing counter clockwise

- - - - , - - **Walk 8 and Face Partner**
- - - - . - - **Back Away 4**
- - **Forward 4, - - 4 Side Touches** (begin toward Line of Dance)
- - - - , - - **Star Right**
- - **and Gents move forward, - - (Walk)**

Lasso Mixer

By Dottie Welch, June 2008 (a modification of Lighted Sconce Mixer)

Music: Cowgirl's Sweetheart

Formation: Circle of couples all facing the center, lady on right side of her partner

Lasso: Raising and maintaining the joined partner handhold, the designated dancer walks in front of their partner and on around back to place as if the partner was swinging a lasso.

- - - - , - - **Circle Left**
- - - - , - - **Lasso Lady** (maintaining partner hand hold, lady walk in front of partner and on around)
- - - - , - - **Circle Right**
- - - - , - - **Lasso Gent**
- and a bit more to put him in Center, - - Push Into Center (4)**
- - **Back out (4), - - Dosado**
- **and move to left, - - Two-hand turn**
- and girls roll into Circle, - - Forward and Back**

The ANSSRD NEWSLETTER is usually published twice a year by the Association of Nova Scotia Square & Round Dance Teachers. The opinions expressed are those of the authors and not necessarily those of the Association.

Your comments and articles are encouraged. Please forward to editor: Dottie and Gary Welch,
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