



EOSARDA Board of Directors Meeting

Sunday, March 8th, 2009

Ottawa Citizen Building

ATTENDANCE

Jean & Don Clingin, Chuck Langtry, Gavin Currie, Andy Himberg-Larsen, Dave Western, Gerry & Jim Sawtell, Bob Summers, Carol & Bob Milne, Zig Segstro

Regrets

Laurie & Ken Ingram, Linda & Bruce Warner, Anne & Brian Gibbs and Billi Langtry

1. Call to Order - 1:35 PM
2. Agenda - one addition - 8 e
3. Minutes - clarification of item 6.a. Registration - Add the phrase "to all those which applied" after "...have all been distributed."

Minutes approved - Chuck/Gavin

4. Reports

a. Operations Committee

EOSARDA has been registered with the Ontario Trillium Foundation (OTF) as a non-for-profit organization. Swinging Swallows is registered as a sub-unit of EOSARDA. We have been assured that this will not impact on our application for a grant.

4. Reports (continued)

b. Finance Committee - no report

c. Dance Committee - no report

d. IT Committee

Board Minutes and Minutes of Council of Dancers meetings now on the website, beginning with January Board Minutes and last COD minutes.

Calendar of Events on website now includes Board Meeting and COD dates up to 2010.

Website logo changed to use current EOSARDA logo

e. PPP Committee - see attached

SRDW facility/demo dance update

- insurance certificate for St. Laurent Shopping Centre has been issued.

- Brian Crawford and Geoff Clarke have agreed to call at Bayshore

- Bayshore location - the space provided last year (in front of the Bay (main floor) is not available. Space in front of Zellers (main floor) has been offered. It appears small. An alternate location in front of Zellers (seating area) has been requested.

- Club participation and dancer sign-up sheets have been distributed to teaching clubs

- remuneration for callers/cuers has to be determined

4. Reports (continued)

f. Club Liaison, Recognition & Awards Committee

- **Recognition Awards for 2009:**

- o SunShine Squares 50th Anniversary (done at fall Ann Party)
- o Meri Squares 40th Anniversary (Feb 28 2009 Party)
- o John Charman 40th Anniversary of calling (Feb 28 2009 Party)
- o Seaway Squares 20th Anniversary (*Yet to do -- belated*) Planned presentation by Carol & Bob Milne on Feb 16 did not happen because Seaway Squares did not have the use of the school that night.
- o *Swingin' Saints 45th Anniversary (yet to do)*
- o *Harbour Lites 35th Anniversary (yet to do)*
- o *Spinettes 35th Anniversary (yet to do)*
- o *Riverside Gypsy Squares 15th Anniversary (yet to do)*

- **Recognition of Anniversaries:**

Using the club start-dates shown with the club listings on website, an Excel spreadsheet has been developed to show the anniversary milestones of each club. By entering the current year into a reference field, those clubs who are celebrating an anniversary milestone that EOSARDA recognizes (5, 10, 15, etc years) are highlighted. This gives us an early heads-up on anniversaries for the coming year.

At the moment, we have no such information on callers and cuers. A start date for a caller or cuer can be a bit fuzzy and is open to interpretation. We would have to set up rules to govern when, for example, a caller "becomes" a caller in order to do this consistently. At the moment, we rely on a caller or cuer announcing their own anniversary date before we can recognize them.

- **Graduation**

Clubs have been sent emails to ask for the names of new dancers who will be completing their first year of dancing. A number of clubs have responded. Fall Fest coupons will be printed and handed out at their Graduation/Celebration ceremonies.

4. Reports (continued)

f. Club Liaison, Recognition & Awards Committee (continued)

· **Liaison**

Initial Club Information sheet has prepared by Brian & Ann Gibbs. Board Members are adding and commenting on what is needed. A revised information package is in the works which will incorporate the comments received.

g. OACA

Summer dancing will most likely be on Wednesday evenings and waiting for confirmation of Carleton Heights.

Discussed EOSRADA dances and their length - Even though some people leave after two hours it was felt that enough dancers stay to warrant the present length.

Having a square dance competition between the universities and colleges was tabled as away to get young dancers involved. Callers would teach of set of moves and then have a dance off. The hopes being that some of this group would want to continue dancing.

There were no volunteers to join the Dance committee, however if there is need for caller input the committee can contact Andy and he will get the required info.

Wendy and John will hold a new caller info session if there is interest.

4. Reports (continued)

g. OACA (continued)

Addendum to OACA Report

Caller Recruitment & Training

I met with John Charman and Wendy VanderMeulen today over the lunch hour. They advise that they already have 3 potential candidates for Caller training and that they will have a preliminary meeting with the candidates at John and Wendy's residence on March 22. If anyone knows of anyone else who may be interested they should be advised to contact John and Wendy as soon as possible.

To help defray training costs, there will be a charge to the candidates, however, it is anticipated that additional funds will be needed. John and Wendy are looking for a maximum of \$500 for this purpose, although it may be much less. They will have to make a business case to the Board once their estimated costs have been established.

Campus Show Down

The Callers' Association has endorsed in principle the idea of having a competitive dance off in the Fall, involving students from Algonquin, Ottawa U and Carleton U. John Charman and Wendy VanderMeulen are going to contact Jerry Storey, a West Coast Caller with some experience in competitive Square Dancing, to seek his advice on what works and what doesn't. Following the dance off, attempts will be made to start a weekly youth dance group.

Wendy will also attempt to contact the various student organizations on the 3 campuses to determine the level of interest.

The estimated cost of the "Campus Show Down" is \$1,500. It is expected that user fees will account for half that amount, with the balance coming from EOSARDA. Again a business case will have to be presented to the Board once a better cost estimate is available.

Dave Western

h. RDTA - no report

5. Old Business

a. Free List for EOSARDA Dances

After inquiries to several Associations all across Canada about this policy, all respondents indicated that "any callers or cuers who are not working at the dance pay their own admission." Many respondents indicated that while the free admission policy used to be in effect, due to current economic times, most callers and cuers realized that they had to support their Associations by making the minimal payment required when attending Association dances.

This generated considerable discussion. The Board decided to defer a decision at this time. The current policy (Sept. 2005) applies. "We offer free entrance to EOSARDA dances to all callers, cuers and their partners." However, payment of the entrance fee on a voluntary basis is appreciated.

b. EOSARDA Dangles

Considerable discussion took place with the result that attendance at nine dances is required for a dangle as follows:

Three of four EOSARDA Dances, Three Special Dances and Three Club visits

Motion - Bob/Zig Carried

This subject is to be brought up at the upcoming COD Meeting

c. Promotional Postcards

10,000 to be ordered

Motion - Zig/Bob Carried

d. Volunteer Recognition Award

Deferred to May meeting

5. Old Business (continued)

e. Taste of Dance - follow up with callers/cuers

PM only? - basic/beginner only?

Referred to the SRDW Committee

f. Club Reporting Requirements

Initial proposal generated some suggested changes. These will be incorporated and re-circulated to Board members.

The EOSARDA flyer/brochure is to be updated and provided to graduates; time permitting

g. Round dance club in Kingston

It operates under the Limestone Dancers umbrella

6. New Business

a. EOSARDA Dances

A free ranging round the table discussion was held. It was decided to continue with the four dances.

Caller/cuer remuneration was also discussed. The Operations Committee will initiate discussions with OACA and RDTA.

b. Annual Calendar of Events/Dances in Square Time - see attached

Decision to include this in Square Time and Website was deferred to the September meeting.

c. Board of Nominations for 2009/10

Board members to mention April COD Meeting with the view of encouraging club members to attend.

6. New Business (continued)

d. Council of Dancers Meeting

Book Hall - Andy - April 19th - 1:30 - 4:00 PM

Refreshments - Karen & Peter

e. Convention 2014

Manitoba may be holding the 1012 convention. It has been suggested that Ottawa host the 2014 convention. John & Wendy have agreed to head up the organization committee.

No decision was made. It was suggested that John/Wendy might consider making a presentation at the April COD.

Meeting adjourned - 4:15 PM

Next Board meeting - May 24th. Same time & location

On December 8, 2008 a Working Group of the P&P Committee met with Gavin Currie to provide him with advice and guidance on the possible contents of the draft application for a Trillium Foundation grant. From that meeting came the discussion paper that the Board will be considering under new business.

Also in December, I was contacted by Ms Paula Sherwood of the 1,000 Islands Mall, who was looking for groups to put on demonstration dances in the mall as part of their Equitation Weekend that will take place on February 19 - 21. I passed this request on to both the OACA and the RDTA, with a strong recommendation that dance clubs in the area participate in this event and a request that they poll their members to see which Callers and Cuers would like to take part. Passing this request on to the two Associations was consistent with the advice that I had previously received from the Caller and Cuer reps as to how such requests should be handled. I also requested feedback from both groups on the results of the request.

When I hadn't heard anything further from either group by early January, I initiated follow-up action and included two people from the SVSRDA in the follow-up action.

I have now been advised that the Good Time Squares and Harbour Lites will be taking part in this event and that the Swingin' Saints and the Rock and Roll Squares are also considering taking part. I have requested to be kept apprised of developments in this regard.

Over the lunch hour today, the Square and Round Dance Week '09 Organizing Committee met to begin planning for this year's event.

The Organizing Committee is pleased to make the following recommendations to the Board:

- Square and Round Dance Week '09 should take place between September 12 and 19, 2009

- Square and Round Dance Week '09 activities should include:
 - the Grenville Gremlins' Hospice Dance (Saturday, September 12)
 - Demo Dances at St. Laurent and Bayshore Malls (both on Sunday, September 13)
 - Demos dances in as many of the major regional malls in Eastern Ontario as possible
 - Taste of Dance II (Saturday, September 19)

- All EOSARDA affiliated dance clubs should be encouraged to run events during the Week.
- EOSARDA should both coordinate and publicize as many Square and Round Dance Week-related club events as possible
- EOSARDA should conduct a regional advertising campaign in late August and early September aimed at publicising Square and Round Dance Week-related events

Dave Western

Chair

P&P Committee