



**EOSARDA Board of Directors Meeting**  
Sunday, Oct 18<sup>th</sup>, 2009 Ottawa Citizen Building

**ATTENDANCE**

David Western, Andy Himberg-Larsen, Gerry & Jim Sawtell, Billi & Chuck Langtry, Gavin Currie, Linda & Bruce Warner

**Regrets:** Jean & Don Clingin, Bob Summers, Ann Christensen, Carol & Bob Milne, Ziggy Segstro

1. Call to Order - 1:37 pm
2. Agenda - add 5(d) Request for bursary from Sunshine Squares
3. Minutes of May Board mtg - Moved by Bruce Warner, Seconded by Andy Himberg-Larsen - Approved
4. Reports
  - a. Operations Committee
    - Registrar's Report - Bruce Warner - See Attached
  - b. Finance Committee
    - Financial Report - Bruce Warner - See Attached
  - c. Dance Committee
    - Report on Committee Mtg - Gavin Currie - See attached
    - The August Affair - Bruce warner - See attached
    - Preliminary Fall Fest Report - Peter Courdin - See attached
  - d. P,P and P Committee
    - Preliminary report on SRDW 09 - Dave Western - See attached
    - Square Time - Nil Report
  - e. Club Liaison Committee
    - Bob Summers - See attached
  - f. IT Committee
    - Bob Summers - see attached

- g. Festival 2014 report
  - Wendy VanderMeulen - See Attached
- h. OACA
  - Andy Himberg-Larsen - See attached report & Letter from OACA re: Fees
- i. RDTA - Nil Report

## 5. Old Business

- a. Free List for EOSARDA Dances - after discussion it was decided to defer the issue to the dance Committee.
- b. Volunteer Recognition Award - after discussion it decided to not proceed with this item.
- c. Caller/Cuer Remuneration for EOSARDA Dances - a letter was submitted to the Board from the OACA - Dance Committee will discuss and report back to Board
- d. Trillium Foundation Grant Application - after discussion it was decide to bring this item to the Council of Dancers.
- e. Use of EOSARDA Equipment at EOSARDA dances - MOTION "for all EOSARDA dances, one set of EOSARDA equipment would be available for the Callers and the other set would be available for the Cuers, except for unusual circumstances. OACA and RDTA will inform their members of this policy." Moved by Gerry Sawtell and seconded by Linda Warner. Carried.

## 6. New Business

- a. Hearing Assistance Systems - after discussion it was decided that Dave Western would write an article for club broadcast and Square Time, to inform all clubs and Callers/Cuers that EOSARDA has two transmitters and six receivers (hearing assistance equipment) for loan to clubs for evaluation purposes. The equipment will be controlled by the EOSARDA newly created equipment manager, Andy Himberg-Larsen. The priority for the equipment will be given to the EOSARDA dances.
- b. Dance floor "damage issue" - Citing the experience from the Trackers club, Dave Western gave the Board an all clear on this issue.
- c. Agenda for COD - Three items were mentioned- Trillium Grant, Hearing Assistance and New Board members. It was also decided that Board members would bring desserts to the next COD meeting.
- d. The Treasurer mentioned that he had received a request for funds from the Sunshine Squares under the Board's recruitment bursary program. He will action accordingly.

Motion to adjourn by Bruce Warner - 4:13 pm

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

### REGISTRAR'S REPORT AS OF OCT 18/09 FOR EXECUTIVE MEETING

This is the first report for the new dance year and only 16 clubs and 2 associations have reported. Now I am awaiting the flood of registrations to pour in. Our deadline for reporting was Oct 15 and of course you can see the numbers received. For those who have completed the task, their certificates have been prepared and cards assigned and it was expected that many of them would be picked up at Fall Fest yesterday. For information purposes 24 clubs and associations still are unaccounted for, let's hope these get in before the end of the month or we could be looking at serious repercussions from the insurance company.

Respectfully submitted  
Bruce & Linda Warner  
Registrars  
[linro@rogers.com](mailto:linro@rogers.com) or 613-737-3687

TREASURERS REPORT AS OF OCT 18/09 FOR  
EXECUTIVE MEETING

As of this date the bank balance is \$ 10,605.32 with O/S cheques of \$2587.96

This results in a book balance of \$ 8,017.36

Included in the outstanding cheques are caller/cuer fees for Fall Fest Oct 17<sup>th</sup> in the amount of \$ 1500.00. There is no offsetting revenue reported as of this time.

Respectfully submitted

Bruce & Linda Warner

Treasurers

[linro@rogers.com](mailto:linro@rogers.com) or 613-737-3687

**Square and Round Dance Week 2009**

Square and Round Dance Week 2009 took place as planned from September 12 to 19<sup>th</sup>. The week kicked off on Saturday, September 12 with the Hospice Dance in Kemptville, put on by the Grenville Gremlins. Although the club changed the time of the dance from the afternoon to the evening and up-graded the venue to the North Grenville Community Centre, attendance was disappointing, (seventy-two dancers paid). However, almost \$900.00 was raised for the Beth Donovan Hospice, a very worthwhile cause. The Hospice Centre has already sent out Charitable Donation receipts to all those who paid \$10.00 or more as admission. The attendance was less than expected, presumably because many dancers were not yet ready to start the Fall dancing session. On Sunday, September 13, demo dances were conducted at both Bayshore and St. Laurent Shopping Malls. As there was last year, there was a fair bit of public interest in the dancing. Most of the participants at Bayshore found the day overly long and many said that they would not do it again. (The Mall insists on our being there from opening to closing which makes for a very long day). It would seem that the Demos have run their course at least for the foreseeable future. During the course of the week, most clubs in the region ran Club Open Houses, Chili Suppers etc. Anecdotally these events were well attended, but we do not yet know the final results. On Saturday, September 19 the week wrapped up with Taste of Dance II. While there was ample support from club members and the Board, the turn out of dancers was, to say the least, very disappointing. Whereas last year 111 people registered for Taste of Dance, this year there were only 18 registrants. 11 registrants are already members of an EOSARDA Dance Club while 7 are not affiliated with an EOSARDA Club

4 people registered for the Square Dance Workshops

13 for the Round Dance Workshops and 7 for Line Dance Workshops

2 people did not identify which workshops they were interested in and

1 person said he was an "Observer"

1 person registered for all 3 workshops, 7 registered for 2 workshops, 7 registered for 1 workshop

Once again this year, Helgi Goodman coordinated Square and Round Dance Week advertising. Ads were placed in: the August edition of "Forever Young" at a cost of \$525. (The magazine also ran a very good article on SRDW). A55 Plus@ at a cost of \$787.50, the Ottawa Citizen on September 5 and 10 at \$567 for a cost of \$1,190.70. Total cost = \$2,503.20 So, did Square and Round Dance Week 2009 work? Did it do what it was supposed to, ie increase membership? Until all of the registration numbers have been received, we will not know for sure. But, while many people worked very hard to plan, organise and run events, in my opinion, the week failed to spark the kind of enthusiasm that we witnessed last year from both the general public and the dancing fraternity. In addition, public attendance at Taste of Dance would seem to indicate that our ad campaign was not effective this year. In my opinion, not advertising in the regional press (both the ORMG and the EMC) was a mistake. In addition, if we are serious about targeting a younger demographic, we need to stop advertising in magazines such as Forever Young and 55 Plus and go after the youth market through such papers as 24 Hours and Metro. We also need to be present in Ottawa Today and other magazines aimed at a younger market and to profile the younger members of our movement. Larger ads would also be a definite plus.

Dave Western, Chair P P&P

## **Fall Fest Interim Report**

Fall Fest came and went with mixed results.

Here is a summary. This is preliminary as I am still sorting out all of the numbers. Overall, the highlight of the night was the Dance Off. Nine squares participated and fun was had by all. It ended in a draw between Mississippi squares and Gypsy squares. Well worth doing again and promoting at club parties. Attendance was up a little from last year, but disappointing to the organizers as we were hoping for a lot more dancers. There were 210 paid dancers at Fall Fest this year, plus another 12 or so Freebees for a total of 222. Preliminary figures show a loss of \$185 for Fall Fest 2009 (including \$36.50 of unclaimed share the wealth).

This dance should be continued with some tweaks to accepting the fact that numbers are going to be reduced to around the 200 mark. However, we need a Volunteer to Chair the Fall Fest for 2010. We will prepare a full report including recommendations for the Board, the Dance Committee, the COD and Square Times before month end.

Peter & Karen

## **DANCE COMMITTEE REPORT**

### **18 October 2009**

#### **AUGUST AFFAIR 2009**

Once again EOSARDA hosted the annual summer dance which precedes the Ontario Federation meeting. This year the event took place on August 15<sup>th</sup> at the Richmond Memorial Community Centre. Seventy-two dancers attended and danced to the calling and cueing of Geoff Clarke and Gerry Sawtell. The dance was a financial success with net revenue of \$205. The dance was organized by Bruce and Linda Warner, Peter Courdin and Karen Remy. A full report is attached.

#### **FALL FEST 2009**

Fall Fest was held yesterday and was organized by Peter Courdin and Karen Remy. A report will be provided later. An organizer for Fall Fest 2010 is required.

#### **FROSTY FLING 2010**

Frosty Fling will be held at Mother Teresa High School on Feb 6 and is being organized by Billi and Chuck Langtry.

#### **JAMBOREE 2010**

Jamboree will be held at St Patrick High School on Apr 24 is being organized by Jean and Don Clingin.

#### **DANCE COMMITTEE MEETING**

The Dance Committee met on Aug 12. A number of issues were discussed including:

- fees for callers and cuers at EOSARDA dances. After the meeting, Peter Courdin canvassed other associations in Ontario to determine their policies. The issue will be addressed again at the next meeting of the Dance Committee.

- ideas for making the EOSARDA dances more appealing to our membership.

Ideas included the dance off which took place at Fall Fest yesterday, the length of dances, whether dances should be run with different halls for square and round dancing and different levels or whether there should be combinations in one hall, and whether we should try and establish themes for dances. The issues will be explored further at future meetings.

- Organizational issues

For example how advance ticket sales should be handled.

#### **August Affair 2009**

Once again EOSARDA hosted the annual summer dance which precedes the Ontario Federation meeting. This year the event took place on August 15<sup>th</sup> at the Richmond Memorial Community Centre. It was a beautiful hot day (outside) and this year the guarantee that the air conditioning would be performing to its max left some to wonder what that was. There were many wet brows which I will assume was from concerted dancing. We had 72 dancers including the Federation guests and of course our caller, Geoff Clarke and cuer, Gerry Sawtell who showed their expertise as they maneuvered the squares and rounds with mainstream, plus tips and easy rounds. My thanks goes out to all those who took the time during their summer break to help make this dance a success. Sincerest thanks to Peter Courdin and Karen Remy who

not only were the MCs but also provided an awesome job of ensuring everyone had cookies as well as tea, coffee and lots of cold water. As a result of the financial success of the day, it is contemplated that we will hold this event again in on August 21, 2010 barring any unforeseen events.

Submitted by  
Bruce and Linda Warner  
EOSARDA Dance Committee and EOSARDA Treasurer

The financial portion is given below.

72 paid dance fee of \$6.00 at the door for a total of	\$
432.00	
10 Federation guests	
3 Caller couple + cuer	

Share The Wealth - \$56.00 won-remainder to EOSARDA

<u>57.00</u>	
Total revenue	\$
489.00	

Expenses Caller/Cuer fees	\$
200.00	
Hall rental	
151.74	
Refreshments – Courdin	
<u>40.65</u>	
<u>392.39</u>	

Excess of revenue over expenses	\$
96.61	

Note: 1.) Deposit of \$ 200.00 was made from prior year's funds and has been received

2.) Rental fee has been renegotiated at \$ 43.07 which will generate a refund of  
108.67  
which has been requested

Resulting in a revised revenue over expenses of	\$
<u>205.28</u>	

## **Club Liaison Committee (Bob Summers)**

- Commercial blank certificates (heavy paper with blue border embossed with gold color) have been purchased for use when printing EOSARDA certificates of recognitions rather than using plain paper with a printed border.
- David Western presented an EOSARDA certificate to the Harbour Lites Square Dance Club at their 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dance in Prescott on Oct 3, 2009.
- The Riverside Gypsy Squares celebrated 15 years this past September. There was no EOSARDA recognition. Perhaps this can be made up at their mid winter dance in 2010.
- It appears that the Spinettes (Basic only club) also would have celebrated 35 years this fall; they have merged with the Spining Spurs (MS Club) to form a single Basic/MS club.

Upcoming recognitions:

- Keith Watters (50 years of calling to be celebrated on Nov 7, 2009)

## **IT Committee (Bob Summers)**

- Square and Round Dance week information was added to the home page of the website in advance of SRDW. Also included were links to a special events page of activities was added as well as a page of links to advertising materials for the clubs' use. The advertising materials supplied by Helgi were fairly substantial and addressed the needs of both the square and round dance clubs. The home page has now reverted back to our normal home page.
- Some issues arose where the domain name (EOSARDA.CA or .COM) was occasionally being routed to another site. Work by Pat and her support people seems to have paid off with no one reporting problems over the last two or three weeks.
- March Board minutes added to website (they had been forgotten). April Council of Dancers meeting was posted, but with wrong year. Corrected now.
- Some cleanup and updating of web information (eg, broken links, etc) has taken place recently and is ongoing
- A variety of club and association information has been updated to reflect changes in the board and club leadership teams as well as dance schedules and special dances happening throughout the region for the new term.
- The bulk of the maintenance on the site is dance schedules and special dance announcements and flyers.

**Festival 2014**  
**A Canadian Square and Round Dance Convention**  
**July 16-19, 2014**

Report to EOSARDA, October 2009, Wendy VanderMeulen, Chair

It was the end of last dance season when EOSARDA approved the proposal to pursue hosting the biennial Canadian Square Dance Convention for 2014. I thought I would use this report to explain how that all came about. EOSARDA has previously hosted the Convention twice: the 2<sup>nd</sup>, in 1980, and the 11<sup>th</sup>, in 1998. At the end of the 1998 Convention, I was tasked with the job of being the person who should suggest to EOSARDA when we should next host a convention. At that time, I remember thinking, "probably 2012 or 2014." Now, to re-cap: 2006 was in Montreal; 2008 in London; 2010 will be in Halifax. Notice the recurring theme? These are all cities in the East end of the country. So, I started thinking, 2012 will go to the West, and as soon as that is announced, I will approach EOSARDA about hosting 2014.

THEN, I was at a BBSRDA meeting in Montreal in February of this year. I was floored when I heard that Halifax was considering a publicity campaign of "Come to the last Canadian Convention!" February 2009 was 3 ½ years prior to what should have been the dates for the 2012 Convention, and generally it is accepted that 4 years are required to organize the Event. Maybe Halifax thought that if it hadn't been proposed by now, no one was interested in hosting it! Well, I wanted to bring it back to Ottawa, but I didn't think it should be in the East end of the country AGAIN. And I thought that if we could get the 2014 up and running, that someone in the West would be encouraged to pick up 2012. So, I went home to John and we talked about it. He approved of the idea. I approached Lorne Bowerman, the Chair of 1980 and 1998, and he was very enthusiastic. We started, very tentatively, to start looking into a few things that are necessary to get the ball rolling toward a full-fledged event. A few weeks later, John and I had a meeting with David Western to talk about a couple other items, and I brought the subject up to him. He agreed to take the suggestion to the EOSARDA Board, and their reaction was a careful approval to look into it further.

To get things moving, a Steering Committee was set up (Me, John, Lorne, Dave Western, Peter Courdin, and Karen Remy) and we've looked deeper into facilities, budgets, dance programs, and Board structure, among other things. At the April Council of Dancers' Meeting, we were thrilled that our recommendation to host "Festival 2014" was enthusiastically approved, after some good discussion, and that was subsequently also officially approved by the EOSARDA Board. Since then, the Ontario Federation has approved our bid as well, and now it is just a matter of getting the stamp of approval from the Canadian Society, which will happen sometime this fall.

Lots of exciting things have happened since that Council of Dancers' Meeting:

\$ A registration form was produced, and we started accepting registrations. We are very pleased to announce that as of August 20<sup>th</sup>, we had 69 registrations, which includes 5 Callers and 1 Cuer!

\$ The Westin Hotel has been confirmed as the official site of the Festival. We have booked about 95% of their meeting/ballroom space for our usage.

\$ The Westin has *confirmed* an accommodation rate of \$189 for their Traditional room for 2014 (Deluxe Rooms and Suites slightly higher). This is absolutely unheard of, for a hotel to confirm a rate so far in advance. And, for the Westin, which is a 5\* hotel, this is a superb rate for NOW, let alone 5 years from now! Also, they will open up their reservation lines for our group 2 years in advance. That is also unheard of in hotel circles. Those of you who have registered for other Conventions know that you often cannot reserve more than 1 year in advance. Lastly, the first 10 people to book rooms in our

block at the Westin will receive an automatic upgrade to "Deluxe Parliament View" – a \$40 bonus. We hope you ALL plan to stay there!

\$ Our website is up and running: [www.Festival2014.ca](http://www.Festival2014.ca) or [www.Festival2014.com](http://www.Festival2014.com). Either address will get you to us. Check it regularly, as we will upgrade it as developments occur. It will be THE Place to go for up-to-date Festival information.

In closing, I just want to say that the most important thing for the Festival at this time is getting a Board set up so we can continue working at firming up different things. The Board will be made up of dancers who have registered for the event. If you've registered, let me or John know that you are interested in helping out. And remember, we understand that things will change between now and 2014. WE are not necessarily asking for a 5-year commitment. We are looking for a commitment to help us get moving. If you think you can do it for 5 years, great! If not, we'll still be very happy to have you help us move ahead for a year or two. Square Dancers and Round Dancers are great people. We know that there are plenty out there who would be able to help out. Would that be YOU?

Registrations are now up to 73. We have not had any subsequent volunteers to help on the Board, and that is the most important issue, at this time. I think we should also tell people that we are looking for people to help us get this thing going. If they don't want to commit to 5 years on the Board, I'm very okay with that. I expect changes to happen, so I don't want a perceived 5-year commitment to hold people back from volunteering."

## **O.A.C.A. Report Oct 18 E.O.S.A.R.D.A. Board Meeting – Andy Himber-Larsen**

Four new callers have joined our group, with a fifth joining us at our next meeting. They will receive training at each meeting. The new callers are Francois Demarais, Benoit Renault, Richard Sharman, Germain Hull and David Currie. Summer dance program a success even though numbers were down. The new dancers attending learned a great deal. The program will be run again next year.

SRDW - St. Laurent was good with the location and the help given by the staff. Bay Shore, however, was not very good. The location was not ideal and not the one that was first assigned. Also, at Bay Shore the time required to be there by the callers and cuers is way to long and requires revision, as it is way to long for two callers and cuers. Dancer participation was excellent.

Grey Cup will be held at St. Pat,s High School. It will be a basic dance with a 2 + 2 format and a caller and cuer showcase. Callers are doing singing calls only. The Half Time show will be a cheerleader show like last year.

Caller fees for E.O.S.A.R.D.A dances was discussed and it was decided to forward a letter to the board with our requirements.

October 17, 2009

To: The E.O.S.A.R.D.A. Board,  
President: Mr. David Western

Subject: Caller Fees for Services at EOSARDA Dances.

Dear David,

The subject of Callers Fees at EOSARDA Dances was recently raised at a meeting of the EOSARDA Board. The callers at our monthly OACA meeting subsequently discussed the issue and information from these discussions is included for the Board's consideration.

It was agreed that the present fee structure between OACA member callers and The EOSARDA Board is inadequate at this time, due to the increase costs in equipment, equipment repairs, music, SOCAN and Association fees, training seminars and Caller Schools, travel and meals. The requirements for callers to be skilled at presenting a program satisfactory to multi-level dances, is greater and requires more training and preparation time.

Therefore The OACA requests that member Caller fees for any two to three hour evening EOSARDA Open Dance, regardless of programs or levels, be increased to \$175.00 per Caller. This amount is meant to serve as a base and will in no way impede individual Callers or the Board from negotiating a separate agreeable contract.

The OACA takes this opportunity to thank the EOSARDA Board in advance, for their consideration and resolution on this mater.

Sincerely

Andy Himberg-Larsen  
Chairman O.A.C.A.