

The Banana Benders Bugle

February 2007

My Scribble

Calendar of Events

By the time you read this, 10% of this year will have past. Time really does fly. During this year we should see the culmination of the work of a couple of Society sub-committees and a huge input from a group of interested individuals.

Coming up with a new constitution took time, but arranging suitable insurance to go well with all areas of dancing was a complex and exacting procedure which is almost complete with a very good result, I am led to believe. The fruits of these endeavours should make the latter part of '07 very interesting, and should invigorate our movement.

The December Special Meeting to discuss the future of square dancing was attended by many who would describe themselves as 'just club members'. It was well worth being there to hear the different points of view.

Those of you who have previously read my 'written meandering' would realize that I tend to look for wide spread opinions on a number of matters particularly if it is to do with the 'social life' of Square Dancing. It is extremely difficult to get the members involved in such discussions. It would be wonderful to see more people take that easy step and voice their opinions within their own dancing surroundings and or to their Society delegate.

The time has come to look at the positive aspects of Square Dancing. Most of us have observed and complained about the falling numbers in the Clubs, but we do not realise how fortunate we are to have those who still turn up regularly at all Club functions. It is this nucleus that is the foundation of the future of Square Dancing whose opinion is valuable and should be heard.

Thinking Callers are looking at their part in this movement. Some Clubs are considering varying their Club night programmes and others have made changes. It would be interesting for all of us to observe these Clubs and see if their method of conducting an evening would be worthwhile for other Clubs.

2007 Calendar of Events

February

- 10 Logan City Square Dancers Inc. Anniversary Dance
- 17 Society General Meeting
- 23 Rambling 8's 21st Birthday
- 25 Q.C.A. General Meeting
Caller training session

March

- 3 Heritage City Hoedowners
18th Birthday
- 9 – 11 Storm King Clogging Camp
- 10 Logan City Square Dancers Inc.
Meeting, AGM & Sat. Dance
- 16 – 18 Rambling 8's Camp
- 17 Heritage City Hoedowners
St, Patrick Day Dance
- 23 – 24 Rockhampton fun dance
Glenn Wilson Calling
- 31 Pine Rivers Saturday dance

Contact The Bugle:- burtrax@bigpond.net.au

Noel Miller, 29 Bluegrass Crest. Eight Mile Plains
4113 Ph. 3841 6619

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CONVENTION BUS TOUR SEATS AVAILABLE

TRAVEL ADELAIDE / BRISBANE and RETURN for the 2007 NATIONAL SQUARE DANCE CONVENTION.

TWO reserved seats are there for you to enjoy on a 20-day Coach trip.

Very experienced Tour Organiser. Great group of fellow travellers.

Cost includes travel, accommodation, a wonderful sightseeing itinerary through NSW, Victoria and South Australia (including two nights on fantastic Kangaroo Island) and day meals. Evening meals at own expense.

You leave Brisbane on the 1st June and arrive back in Brisbane on the 20th June.

FULL COST? \$1,250 PER PERSON = only \$62.50 PER DAY!!

CONTACT JEAN ALLEN

on 3397 3412 or 0417 756 796 today for full details.

APRIL 6TH – 8TH 2007

**SUNSHINE COAST SQUARE DANCE CENTRE
Buderim, Queensland.**

EASTER FESTIVAL

**With SPECIAL GUEST HOWARD COCKBURN
AND Nev & Bev McLachlan**

Week-end Dance Ticket Mainstream Only \$ 20.00

Full Week-end Dance Ticket \$ 35.00

Includes Bottomless Tea/Coffee and Saturday night Supper

Reservations for Caravan/Camping sites \$ 5.00 per person per night and
Saturday/Sunday Lunch \$ 8.00 each served at 12.30 p.m.
and Saturday/Sunday Evening meals \$ 10.00 each served at 5.30 p.m.

**For Caller Registrations and Reservations for Meals & Sites,
which close on the 31st March 2007**

**contact Sunshine Coast Square Dance Centre
Nev & Bev McLachlan**

**Phone (07) 5445 1238 Fax (07) 5445 6742 or write to
PO Box 248 Buderim 4556.**

Email NevBevMcLachlan@bigpond.com

Queensland Round Dance Association Inc.

At the beginning of this brand new year, it is time to start marking our diaries with major events for 2007

All the Round Dance Clubs commence their dancing activities during the first week of February. We look forward to renewing our friendships and removing all the cobwebs that have accumulated over the Christmas break.

Some dates to keep in mind for the early part of the year:

Valentine's 6th. Birthday Dance– Friday 16th February.

QRDA Annual General Meeting .Sat. 10th. March. Meeting then an afternoon dance to decide Showcase & Experimental Dances . Meeting starts at 2 pm. at Whites Hill College Hall .

The BIG Teaching event of this year is the return visit of Dick and Karen Fisher in September. Keep these two weekends free for this wonderful learning experience. 15th. & 16th Sept. Phase 3 & 4 22nd. & 23rd. Sept. Phase 4 & 5

Our best wishes go to two of our members who are wearing arm slings at the present time. Both Ronda Vijsma and Chris Heyworth are convalescing from shoulder surgery they had before Christmas. We hope they can learn to dance one handed until both arms are back to normal again.

I would like to sincerely thank all those who supported me during my stay in Hospital in November last year.

I greatly appreciated the wishes, cards, flowers, visits, E-mails and calls that I received during this time .

Although the 14 days in hospital was not pleasant(I lost 13 Kgs) , since returning home I have recovered at a rapid rate.

I am confident that I will be well enough to start dancing again when we commence in early February.

See you then, David Pitt.

STEPPING OUT WITH CLOGGING

Here we go again, happy as can be, who'd like to come along and Clogg with me?

Our Clubs are welcoming back dancers, refreshed from the 'break' and rearing to go.

A busy 2007 calendar of Events, Camps, Demonstrations AND The ACA National Clogging Convention in Canberra in late August/September, makes for a great time as experienced dancers and new recruits do their Happy Feet bit.

First 'Pack Your Shoes and let's Go' major event of the year is the ever-popular Storm King long weekend at Joyner (Brisbane North), second weekend in March. Edith & Jenny have the details. Call Jenny on 07 5482 1749.

Details (what, when, where and who to talk to) of future happenings in the wonderful world of Clogging will appear in future editions of the BBB. Thanks Noel.

Any news from your part of Cloggingland will be happily included in future Stepping Out articles- just let me know.

Spread the word!! Invite a friend(s) to find out how easy and enjoyable Clogging is- you get to meet and dance with a lot of great people of all ages.

“Til the next BBB (or when we meet on the dance floor),

Cheers,

Frances

Telephone: 07 3391 6526,

EMAIL: lookdonfrances@bigpond.com

Success.

A Dictionary is the only place that success comes before work. Hard work is the price we must pay for success. I think you can accomplish anything if you're willing to pay the price.

Vince lombardi

Life is about following your passions.

Steve Urwin

A Christmas Dance at Bundaberg.

Cane Country turn-on.

On Saturday night the 9th December, Bundaberg held their annual CHRISTMAS dance.

For those who missed out, you missed a terrific night.

Once again a contingent of dancers from Rockhampton loaded up a bus and headed a few (?) K's South. When you take a bus as a group and share the driving, 300km is not really far and the costs are more than reasonable. Our destination was Bundaberg, to enjoy Hospitality par Excellence at the annual Cane Country Square Dance Club's Christmas Dance.

The Rocky Ladies did us proud food-wise with a picnic lunch for Saturday which turned into a picnic Dinner Saturday night and then breakfast and lunch Sunday. Not to be outdone the Host Ladies turned on their usual fine supper and they loaded some of the Rocky Ladies up with Sandwiches and other goodies.

Unfortunately, Laurie Miles was missing due to ill health and Michael Mills had to work in Rocky. This left the Calling to Shirley Kelly, Mathew Mills, Norm Grunwald, and yours truly.

This line up was boosted by the appearance of Jill Baxter to receive her Silver Microphone Award presented by the QCA Vice President Mathew Mills. With not too much coaxing, and after rummaging through Shirley's record box, Jill was persuaded to call a bracket.

All in all we had four squares on the floor for most of the night.

Anyone who missed this FREE DANCE missed a fun night. Put this dance on your Calendar for next year- you won't be sorry.

Shirley, Mathew and Cane Country Squares- well done, and thank you from the team (and me) from Rocky.

Once again, team work and cooperation win out.

Rob Fry

Co Caller Rocky Twirlers & Promotions Officer
Square Dance Society of Qld. Inc.

PINE RIVERS SENIOR CITIZENS

A wonderful night was had on Saturday 30th 2006 for our "Clayton's New Year's Dance," with 111 people coming through the door. We danced 11 sets and still had 10 sets on the floor for the final bracket. We had the pleasure of the company of Leighton and Sandra Bloomfield, Sandra's sister Lyn and Evie Johnson who very kindly did a call for us.

A big surprise was when David Cox and his wife from Port Macquarie walked in (I don't think David will let me forget that I covered my face when I saw him). I am still getting over the shock.

We had 12 callers in all that night, and they all did a great job. It was the 40th fifth Saturday night dance I had hosted, so to celebrate, each caller received a certificate of appreciation plus a glass for the males and a coffee mug for the ladies, with our insignia on them.

It was good to have Kay Walker there also as a guest caller. Other callers were: - David Cox, Glenn Wilson, Gary Petersen, Kay Walker, Evie Johnson, John Casey, Tom Philip, Toivo Kaper-nan, Bruce McKenzie, Peter Storey, Jan Hay and yours truly.

Unfortunately David Pearce with shingles and Corinne Bradshaw the flu were unable to attend. We wish them both a speedy recovery. It was a real fun night with more or less continuous dancing.

David Cox and Gary Petersen did a very interesting 'plus bracket' with 6 sets dancing.

It was a wow of a night and I would like to thank all the callers for their participation, which helped make the night a great success.

A BIG thank you also to all the dancers who attended. Our next dance is "Magical March" (31st), which allows a great imagination of ideas for this theme, i.e. wizards, conjurers etc.

Happy New Year to you all.

Yours in Square Dancing,
Margaret Baines

GUMDALE GRANDSLIDERS SQUARE DANCE CLUB inc.

Valentine Night of Dancing. 7.30 14th. February.

Alexandra Hills Community Hall. Cnr. Windemere & Funnican Rd.
Lucky Door. Prizes. Raffles. Admission \$5 BAP would be appreciated.

DECEMBER SPECIAL MEETING.

In excess of forty Square Dancers accepted the open invitation to discuss promotion and other subjects at the Baptist Church Hall, Innis St. Geebung on 2nd Dec. '06.

One has to realise that such a meeting could only be a forum-type gathering. Both the SDSQ and the QCA enlightened the gathering about their various roles in the scheme of things. The dancers were given ample opportunity to air their thoughts and this was appreciated. The fact that people got up and had a say was great.

We heard about the technical side of calling, and now that these explanations have been given some of us may have a little more patience with the complexity of calling. Unfortunately a number of callers who would have liked to attend were unavailable due to prior commitments. This was disappointing for those callers but prior commitments have to be kept.

Some thoughts were put forward about getting new dancers. Recruitment, retention, programming, and successful Club nights were discussed.

Although I am particularly interested in recruitment, I found Sid Layton's explanation of how his Club conducts their club nights the most interesting dialogue of the day. Wavell Whirlaways normally has about five squares on Club nights. Sid's simple message was that today dancers want entertainment and some simple competitions included in the night's activity, not just dancing. The complicated choreography that some callers offer as necessary for a good night was probably not the popular thing to do today.

Many eyes were opened and some dancers realized how far their Clubs were off the mark.

Comment was also made about callers getting sets on the floor ready to dance and then proceeding to tell them their (the callers) recent life story or some lengthy, unnecessary, uninteresting explanation about something or other. This was roundly endorsed as very annoying and unwelcome conduct.

One only had to stand back and listen to all the discussions going on during in the intervals in proceedings and the attention afforded to each speaker to realize how much the attendees enjoyed examining our favorite pastime. One comment was "I have never attend a meeting of dancers with such an interested, involved audience."

It was very pleasing to see so many dancers, some who travelled a reasonable distance, so interested in the future of Square Dancing.

Both the Society and the QCA heard some thoughts that are well worth remembering. The Chairman, Warwick Armstrong, encouraged attendees to voice their opinions, yet carefully kept a balanced discussion to the particular subject and very tactfully removed 'red herrings' from proceedings. His summing-up of discussions was fair and balanced. A job well done. Thank you Warwick. No doubt a report on the meeting will be available in the not too distant future.

NOEL MILLER

Growing Old & Living Dangerously (GOLD!).

Square dancing is now part of Brisbane City Council's GOLD program.

Wavell Hts. Community Centre, Edinburgh Castle Rd. Wavell Hts.,

Sunday, 25th February 2007, 2.15 - 4.30pm.

A prime time to promote YOUR CLUB. Bring your flyers and have your club members hand them out. (Others **will not** be available to do this.) There are no costs associated with the event.

Dress everyday casual "street clothes" (not square dance attire)

Please participate in the "very easy" dance level on the day.

\$2.00 a head. "Bottomless" Tea, coffee and biscuits available on the day

Glenn Wilson. Ph. 3261 4177 Mob. 0413 017778

Rambling Eights 21st Birthday

Rambling Eights Square Dance Club actually started dancing towards the end of 1985. However we have always held our Birthday Party in February. So in 2007 we will be Twenty One.

In those early years we started with a new group of beginner dancers. We started dancing in "MACH I " Centre, at Sunnybank Hills. This was a unique hall in that it was the shape of a Pentagon- it had five sides. This shape made it difficult to work out who were the Heads and who were Sides but we managed to fumble through those first few years.

We then moved to Altandi to dance at the Poloma function centre next to the Catholic Church. We had the advantage of close car parking but so did many of Brisbane's Southside commuters as they left their cars to catch trains or buses.

Our next move was to Hellawell Rd. at Sunnybank Hills to the Autistic Centre. This was a convenient and nice hall to dance in until the needs of the Autistic Association overcame the need to rent out their hall.

Our last move was to St Pius Hall, which is next the Salisbury Catholic Church and their school in Golda Ave.

We started dancing at St. Pius in 1989, and we have danced there ever since (apart from a few weeks while the hall was being renovated). During these years we promoted and taught new dancers so they could enjoy the fun and friendship of other dancers around the country and around the world.

Now into our 21st year, Rambling Eights is dancing most Friday evenings except for the Christmas/New Year break. Over the years we have held Christmas parties, Valentines Day Parties, St Patrick's Night Parties, Christmas in July and Halloween Parties.

Dancers visit other Square Dance Clubs for special functions and our dancers have attended State and National Conventions. Rambling Eights hosted the Square Dance Society of Queensland Christmas function in 2000 at Camp Hill State High School. This was one of the most successful party events held for several years.

As we move into our 21st year of dancing, Rambling Eights welcome new dancers to the activity and encourage previous Square Dancers to reconnect with our Club. for special functions and our dancers have attended State and National Conventions. Rambling Eights hosted the Square Dance Society of Queensland Christmas function in 2000 at Camp Hill State High School. This was one of the most successful party events held for several years.

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David Pearce

Logan City Square Dancers Inc.

Our New Year's Eve dance was a great night with 5 squares attending. The theme of Beauty & the Beast added to the atmosphere and the decorations and costumes were great. Having air conditioning in the hall added to the general comfort of dancers. All in all a good time was had by all.

Logan City Square Dance Centre's 3rd Anniversary will feature Caller Graham Elliott form Adelaide. A Plus session in the afternoon will commence at 2pm.. The evening session commences at 7pm with Rounds, followed by Mainstream Squares.

The monthly Saturday dance program will continue this year with a variety of callers to entertain dancers attending.

DISCLAIMER

The views expressed in The Banana Benders Bugle are not necessarily those of the Square Dancing Society of QLD Inc., the Australian Round Dance Association, the Australian Clogging Association Inc. or the Editor. Articles submitted for publication may need to be edited due to space constraints. Articles submitted for publication, including anonymous contributions or those bearing a nom de plume, will not be considered for publication unless the actual name, address, contact telephone number and/or email address is included at the bottom of the finished article. This information will be withheld from publication upon request, but must be supplied to the Editor when submitting your article. The Editor reserves the right to

The Bugle

Without a doubt the most time consuming part of getting a Bugle together is collecting the CORRECT information for Coming Events. Getting a list of dates from organisations such as the Society, QCA, QRDA or the Cloggers is OK, but when Clubs send in their lists and then corrections, as well as 'imbedding' dates in articles, it really becomes a major hemorrhoid. All the room available in Calendar of Events is for a date, which organisation and what event.

So what to do:

If you want a date in the **Calendar of Events**, please supply the following information in this order:-

Name of the Club/Organisation? Club Contact? What is the Event? Where is it being held? When is the event taking place? Special features e.g. theme, callers, supper etc?

I will extract the information for **Calendar of Events** from such information and make up an advert to go on the advert page as well. Dates 'buried' in articles will be a real No! No!

If you wish to design your own advert., please make it in A5 portrait configuration in Word, Works or Publisher. We have to be considerate of Bugle receivers and their cost of photocopying pages which may contain heaps of open space basically for appearance purpose only. I know most of this goes against standard advertising practices but we are not competing for the best looking newspaper. We are interested in being a conduit for Square Dance information in Queensland.

Because of the need to protect our PCs most of us have as good a security as we can get. Last year this PC's security rejected adverts with fancy bits in them. I know most of this decoration comes from Microsoft Clip Art but it still did not get through. Scanned posters were classed as photos and rejected as well. I know the idea is to gain readers attention, but if it does not get through the protection programme you get **no** attention because there is **no** article.

We want as many articles and information to circulate as you want to supply, but there is a need to ease the work load this end. Please help.

Hopefully, a Bugle will go out in the first week of each month. To achieve this, articles, information, adverts etc. will need to be submitted only as emails, **two weeks before the end of the previous month.**

For March we would like copy by 14th Feb.

HOW TO FORWARD AN EMAIL SAFELY

The following is a terrific message I received from a friend. TRY to do this whenever you forward an email. It sure will help cut down on viruses & "Junk Mail"- let's all try to do as suggested. This excellent message ABSOLUTELY applies to ALL of us who send e-mails.

Do you really know how to forward e-mails safely? 50% do NOT. Do you wonder why you get viruses or junk mail? Do you hate it? Every time you forward an e-mail there is information left over from the people who got the message before you, namely their e-mail addresses. As the messages get forwarded along, the list of addresses builds and builds and builds, and all it takes is for some poor sap to get a virus, and their computer can send that virus to every e-mail address that has come across that computer. Or, someone can take all of those addresses and sell them or send junk mail to them in the hopes that you will go to the site and he will make five cents for each hit. That's right, all of that inconvenience over five cents! **How do you stop it?** Well, there are two easy steps:

1) When you forward an e-mail, DELETE all of the other addresses that appear in the body of the message. That's right, DELETE them. You accomplish this by 'clicking' "Forward" and you then have full editing capabilities against the body and headers of the message.

Highlight them and delete them, backspace them, cut them, whatever it is you know how to do. It only takes a second but you MUST click the "Forward" button first. If you don't click on "Forward" first, you won't be able to edit the message at all.

2) Whenever you send an e-mail to more than one person, do NOT use the To: or Cc: columns for adding e-mail address. Always use the BCC: (blind carbon copy) column for listing the e-mail addresses. This is the way that people you send to only see their own e-mail address. If you don't see your BCC: option, click on where it says To: and your address list will appear. Highlight the address and choose BCC: and that's it, it's that easy. When you send to BCC: in this manner, your message will automatically say "Undisclosed Recipients" in the "TO:" field of the people who receive it.

So please, in the future, let's stop the junk mail and the viruses!