

The Banana Benders Bugle

May 06

My Scribble

Calendar of Events

As I walked past the TV I heard a lady speaking about pensioners and staying in the workforce. One of the penalties involved in retirement is losing that 'connection to others' one experiences while working. I paralleled this with my own experience in moving to another town at the age of sixty-five. We only knew our family in our new community and despite joining some senior activities and social clubs we missed that connection we had in our former abode. We had square danced for some years before we moved but because of circumstances we had ceased this activity.

Then we decided to go back square dancing. This simple move really settled us into our new circumstances. We had missed that companionship, the fun and the interaction that comes with this activity.

You do not have to move to experience this 'loneliness' after retiring. The simple fact of not meeting one's work mates on a daily basis has the same effect. If we could get the message out to newly retired and those about to retire that square dancing will help replace that 'connection with others' and give them a couple of free nights to enjoy the companionship of square dancing, I am sure we could 'snag' a reasonable percentage.

Looking at square dancing from an outsider's view the dancers are usually seniors. Our only chance to approach younger age groups is to creep up on them. Start with those about ten years younger than a Club's average age and if we can get these new dancers established, then lower our age aim. It is a long-term strategy but at least it is a plan, something we do not have at present.

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

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

MAY

- 26 Salad Bowl Squares Pancake night
- 31 Gumdale Celebration Night

JUNE

- 3 Heritage City Hoedowners
guest caller Andrew Reid.
- 6 ToeTappers 24th. Birthday Dance.
- 9 - 12 28th North Queensland Square
and Round Dance Convention, Cairns.
- 16/17 Heritage City Hoedowners
guest caller David Smythe.

- 24 Combined Beginners Round Dance.
- 30th Salad Bowl Squares International
Food and Dress Night

JULY

- 15 KD Round Dance Evening presented by
River City Rounds
- 21-23 Townsville Round Dance Weekend.
- 28 Rambling 8s Christmas in July.
- 28 Salad Bowls Soup Night.
- 29 Pine Rivers Christmas In July

AUGUST

- 19 Cardwell Delegates' Dance

SEPTEMBER

- 14 S-Bar- B 53rd. Birthday Dance
- 30 Strawberry Festival

OCTOBER

- 8 EZ Squares Silver & Gold Night.
- 26 S-Bar-B 54th. Halloween Dance

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Stop Press Date Claimer

EZ Squares
"Snakes Alive" Weekend
for some of the best dancing in Qld
featuring the fabulous
Brian Hotchkies !
28th-30th April, 2007

Rambling Eights
Christmas in July Party Night

Friday 28th July start at 7.30pm
St Pius Church Hall, Golda Ave, Salisbury.
Visiting Dancers and callers are welcome
to join us in this celebration.

Pine Rivers
Christmas in July Dance

Kallangur Community Centre,
Anzac Avenue, Kallangur
29th July at 7pm.
\$5 entry including supper.

ToeTappers 24th. Birthday Dance

6th June.

Rounds @ 7.15; Squares @ 7.45

*This dance will benefit Camp Quality
BAP*

St. Joachim's Hall, Crown St. Holland Park.

A LIVING WILL

A man and his wife were sitting together in the living room.

He turned to her and said: "Just so you know, I never want to live in a vegetative state, depending on some machine and fluids from a bottle. If that ever happens, just pull the plug."

His wife got up, unplugged the TV, and threw out all of his beer

COMBINED BEGINNERS ROUND DANCE.

CAMP HILL SCHOOL OF ARTS

7PM. 24TH. JUNE

CELEBRATE with us as RIVER CITY ROUNDS turns 10

RIVER CITY ROUNDS and QRDA inc.

present

K-DEE ROUND DANCE EVENING

7.00 TO 10.00pm . SATURDAY 15TH JULY 2006

ST AGNES' PARISH HALL TUDOR STREET, MT GRAVATT
(off Logan Road)
CONVENTION ROUNDS PHASES II-V

"GET UP TO TRICKS IN 2006"

CAIRNS CITY SQUARE & ROUND DANCE CLUB

invite you to attend

The 28th North Queensland Square & Round Dance Convention

The Queen's Birthday Long Weekend 9-12th June 2006

CALLER - BARRY WONSON

Venue: Darts Hall, McNamara St., Manunda, Cairns.

Further details available from Ron Moon (07) 4045 1737 or
Jenny Behrendorff

STEPPING OUT WITH CLOGGING

They may have felt "21 Today" at the start of events on the afternoon of Friday 21st April, but come late night and sheer exhaustion well-and-truly set in for a group of Queensland Cloggers. Read on.

Invited to help promote the Urban Country Music Festival set to be held in Caboolture on the May Day weekend, the group did Clogging proud as they danced on stage in the Queen Street Mall, Brisbane. Entertaining hundreds of shoppers, office workers and strollers-by with two brackets of six numbers, they drew shoppers away from the stores lining each side of the Mall. Brochures were made available, and many audience members came up and complimented the group on their talented performance.

THEN THAT NIGHT most of the group fronted up to help Del Sutcliffe and her Hooked on Clogging Club celebrate their 1st Anniversary. What a night as dancers showed what fun, friendship and good times can be had in Clogging. Thanks to Donna Farry and husband Phillip for driving up from Nimbin for the event. To those who know Donna you can imagine what part she played in making it such a hilarious evening. As the saying goes- CLOGGING, the most fun you can have without getting arrested!

On the night, best wishes for a safe and happy holiday were extended to Maureen and David Miller, off for six months Caravanning this great country of ours.

A follow-on from the demo. in the Mall was further promotion of the Festival and Clogging with the opening and closing segments showing off our great activity on Friday night's edition of Channel Nine's 5:30 pm BRISBANE EXTRA programme.

On to the Festival in Caboolture with multiple dance sessions over the weekend, plus Let's Try Clogging with Stephen Hope, Dian Gingell and yours truly. Dancers, spectators and Festival organisers were very pleased indeed with everyone's energetic efforts.

The Ipswich Show and Brisbane Eisteddfod are exciting parts of our busy schedule.

A number of Queensland Cloggers will be making the journey to Vision Valley and Vicki Dean's wonderful weekend. Past reports rate it as a top time.

Weather watchers in Queensland have been checking out the temps. in Tasmania as National Clogging Convention time creeps closer. No matter what the temperature gauge says, we know we will get a warm,

We welcome to our wonderful World of Clogging, two new Clubs- Amigo Cloggers, Leader Carol Murdoch, dancing Wednesday and Friday at Howard (in the Hervey Bay region), and Brisbane City Cloggers at the 50 + Club, dancing every Monday morning in the beautiful Sherwood Room at the Brisbane City Hall, under the combined Leadership of Olive Borovsky, Dian Gingell and myself.

Keep Dancing, Keep Clogging
Frances

This Snakes Alive article should have gone in the last Bugle but I 'lost' it. My apologies.

Noel M.

"Snakes Alive" Weekend

EZ Squares "Snakes Alive" 2006 was a wonderful event. Brian Hotchkies, in his inimitable style, created a relaxed fun filled atmosphere while calling highly original combinations of moves.

The weekend had something for everyone. Fri. was St Patrick's Day. Thanks to those who made it special with theme dressing. Sat a.m. gave everyone, who thought they knew M/S well, a hilarious look at how ordinary moves can be made very interesting.

Sat Plus really challenged dancers while creating much laughter. This was followed by Rounds with Phyllis Armstrong who always puts on a well balanced program for all levels.

Sat night was as brilliant as ever, ending in a 12 Square Progressive. Dancers were amazed to find themselves back in their own Square after progressing all over the hall and dancing with dozens of people.

Cloggers were not forgotten with a session from 2-8pm Sunday at the Caboolture Showgrounds Hall with the dynamic Stephen Hope.

Sunday morning was 3 hours of laughter, fun, & unusual moves. Beginners & experienced alike always come away from this session having learned something new. We ended with a Sausage Sizzle lunch enjoyed by all.

Thanks to all who helped, to EZ Squares Members for donating 22 prizes to the Monster Raffle, to the Ballet Mothers for an excellent canteen & making Sat supper for us. Also to the enthusiastic dancers who came from as far as Capricorn Coast & Gold Coast. We loved having you all.

See you next year ! Gillian Axelsen

Heritage City Hoedowners, Maryborough.

Several members attended the Nationals in Gosford, and all returned with praise and admiration for the many who worked and presented a really wonderful experience in the different forms of dancing. The Callers excelled themselves. Jason and Leanne. and their Committee must be very proud of their endeavors. Who will ever forget the 'Pied Piper and the Rats', the 'Three Blind Mice' (several of them) and all who added to the atmosphere of the whole Convention. Who will ever forget the grand finale of the week with all the Callers on stage wearing the dancers out with "sides up to the middle and back" until we could no longer move.

The decorations were really outstanding and well worthy of mention by all and sundry. We bought a few home to grace our hall when needed.

At home the members were carrying the 'fort'. We had a 'Mother's Day' dance and though poor in numbers we danced with enthusiasm.

The vases of flowers made by Jeanette Polinski from tissue paper and the Stage decorations presented by President Daniel McCarthy added to the atmosphere of 'Mothers Day' theme.

David Habler, our very patient resident Caller takes us through some very intricate moves to improve our dancing.

Until next time, Helen Meyer, Secretary.

Hervey Bay Square Dance Club Seventeenth Birthday

No expense was spared when we had our Seventeenth Birthday Dance on 1st April at Dan Dinna House. The hall was very nicely decorated in a square dance and birthday style and the balloons were set to explode intermittently throughout the night, just to keep everyone on their toes. At 7.00pm David Smythe, the popular caller from the Sunshine Coast, settled down to some serious 'mainstream' calling with three sets dancing the night away. The ladies prepared a scrumptious supper and then David had everyone back on the floor dancing again, until the end of the evening. All who attended, including our learners and members of the Heritage City Hoedowners from Maryborough, enjoyed some marvelous dancing. Thank you David for an excellent night.

Neville Went

GUMDALE GRANDSLIDERS CYCLONE LARRY APPEAL DANCE

Square Dancers are a generous mob when the chips are down. Although there was not a lot of opportunity to organise a night Gumdale, with the help of other clubs, put on a great night on 26th. April for a Cyclone Larry appeal dance. All attending had a very enjoyable time. Lucky spot dances and the drawing of over 20 raffle prizes all added to the fun of the night. All prizes were generously donated by our club members.

During the evening our resident caller, Alan Evans assisted by guest callers, Jason Dean, Gene Medford and Graham Brandon put us through our paces each in their own individual style. Thanks to all these gentleman who so generously donated their talent to this cause. A supper was served at the end of a very enjoyable evening.

It was good to see quite a few visitors and thanks to everyone's kindness we were able to pass on a donation of \$500 to a very worthy cause.

The new Executive Committee for the Club are
President Harold Liley ,
Vice President Kevin Mahoney ,
Secretary David Rodger
Treasurer Carol MacKenney .

**Yes, you can read it.
Oiny srmat poelpe can.**

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I am forever thankful for the 'Spell check'.

Moreton Bay Squares

Time does fly past! Already we have been to Gosford for the National Convention and a great time was had by all. We Joined the Bus load going with Graham Rigby. Comfortable coach, very good Motels, and great company made for a wonderful trip. Top Marks to Graham and Val for their efforts and hard work. Most of us have booked to go by coach with Graham's group going down to Adelaide in June 2007.

Rocky is our next big venture in September and the excitement is growing, as we have booked to be on the First Dancing on Water Cruise, combined with dinner on board- looks like being an exciting and different experience. We look forward to meeting you all up there.

Next Tuesday 16th May our Club has been asked to participate in the Redlands Senior Expo where we will have a kiosk advertising Square Dancing. We jumped at the chance to have kiosk space as Square Dancing needs all the exposure it can get. There being such a rise in population growth in the Redlands/ Bay Islands area, we feel we must get the message out to all the new people. We can but try.

Moreton Bay recently had their Birthday dance, 1st April which once again was a great success . Many thanks to all who attended this very enjoyable day.

"Til next time, Cheers, Nellie Forbes (President)

Sun City Square & Round Dance Club Townsville

The Club recently had a short recess while club members attended the Gosford National Convention. All who attended enjoyed the experience.

We now look forward to the NQ Convention in Cairns over the June long weekend. . Quite a group of our members will travel to Cairns for this event.

We anticipate running a 10 week beginners class commencing in July.

We are starting preparations for our Birthday Dance weekend to be held on 22 – 24 Sep 06. The feature caller will be Brian Hotchkies. We will also have our club callers Kevin & Bradley and cuer Julie to add to the entertainment over the weekend. Please don't be shy, come along and join us for a great weekend in far North QLD.

We dance each Friday evening & welcome any visitors to the north.

Contact can be made by phoning either Kellie 07-4779 3513

or

Fay 07-4751 5556.

Fay Lambert
President

SALAD BOWL SQUARES invite you to the 2006

STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL

JAMES REID and JASON DEAN

LINDA Williamson (ROUNDS)

30TH. September 2006

PROGRAM

Sat. afternoon 2.30 – 3.30pm. Advanced

3.30 – 5.30 Plus

Sat. Evening 7.00 -- 7.30 pm. Rounds

7.30 - -10.00 pm. MS & Rounds

VENUE

St Agnes School Hall

Tudor St. Mt. Gravatt

The Secretary, L. Williamson

Ph. 3841 0807

Each session \$8.00 per person

Tickets at the Door

Building or Re-Building a Club

by Stan Burdick (reprinted from Mikeside Management)

Lately, in these days of general downtrend in the square dance activity, I receive a lot of requests from callers, officers and club people who ask questions about stimulating new growth, healing old wounds, putting new life into the club situation. There are no easy answers to these problems. All we can do is offer some general thoughts. Solutions are everyone's job - callers, dancers, even area leaders in related organizations.

Before answers can be determined, first, have you really analyzed the whole situation? Has the club lost members? Why? What about location and its appeal? Caller? Hospitality in the club? Program? Visitor potential? Friendliness of those in the club? Level? Structure? Changes? The best way to start is by having all member fill out a questionnaire so that some of these questions can be answered by those involved.

Then a meeting can be held in which the answers are discussed and a general profile of the club is drawn up. From this analysis, procedures and goals can be the final outcome.

A dynamic club is one that is always changing, trying new ideas, promoting, setting up special events other than just the usual club dances. How often has your club had an anniversary dance, a black cat dance (Friday the 13th), a picnic, a dutch treat dinner before the dance, a theme dance around a holiday, a white elephant party, a contest, an all-nighter, a costume party, a banner raid, a mystery trip, bing-a-friend night, bo lunch auction? Use your imagination. Use variety to avoid continual ruts.

In the matter of building and rebuilding a club, these questions are asked: What are you doing to promote new classes? New recruits for your club? Visitors from other clubs? Do you have a display in a downtown store window? Posters? Flyers? Promotional cards and handouts? A whole recruitment campaign? Newsletter? Free guest night? Parade float? Incentives for members to help recruit? Specials geared to attracting guests? A phone program?

Are you running short of money to do the programs you need to do? A raffle, if locally approved, can help. Garage sales will produce good fun as well as supplemental income. Many clubs have 50-50 drawings a each dance. All members can sell a number of pre-packaged items like candy, fruitcake and nuts.

Perhaps your whole club structure needs a little revamping. Officers elected annually? Club bylaws short and to the point? Monthly meetings short and not scheduled at dance times? Officers recognized at the end of their terms? Good financial records kept? Caller invited to club meetings? Annual dues collected early? Goals? Good advance plans? Finally, good luck.

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