

SPREAD & *circulate*

Summer 2013

Volume 26, No. 1

Letter From the (King) President

Summer officially begins June 21st. Hurray! Put on your shorts and sandals and let's dance!

Please check our new website **chitownsquares.org** for our entire dancing schedule. Thanks to Michael Wills who spent hours and hours designing our wonderful new website.

At the annual meeting in May we elected new board members for the upcoming season. Our new Board of Directors: Joe Kerouac, President; Rob Sierzega, Vice-President; Chuck Pease, Treasurer; John Wood, Secretary; and board members at large: Rich Sehnert, Richard Swanson, and DIVA (She needs no last name!)

I hope you attended our first Friends & Family Open House Dance on June 14th. Michael did a wonderful job of calling. We have two more Friends & Family Open House dances: Saturday, July 20 from 7-9 PM with Arlene and Sunday, August 18 from 7-9 PM with John.

I am so looking forward to convention in San Francisco. I see by the convention newsletter that we have several Chi-Town members who will be going. I am going with Nurse Michael just in case I get out there and need hospice services. Make sure you show up for the club photo shoot.

At convention Chuck and I will meet with Michael Wills about our new website. We will also discuss ways to get rid of Club Express and come up with a

way that members can pay for everything online through our wonderful new Web page. Anybody want to give me their credit card number?

Of course the Crossfire Committee is hard at work preparing for Crossfire Sept. 27-29 with Sandie and Kris Jensen. Thanks to Curtis and Jeff for all of the time they have put into this year's Crossfire. I am excited to see it return to our church venue. At last, we can decorate!

And we have our first ever BLAST with Dayle Hodge October 11-13. The Board is gearing up to do a big advertising campaign. You need to help us spread the word.

Chi-Town Squares has been chosen as the club to put down and take up the flooring at this year's state convention. We volunteered because we are the largest club in the state with the youngest members. I need all you youngsters to volunteer to do this task. By youngster I mean anyone under 60 years of age.

And please be careful when you post something on Facebook. Remember our Facebook has gone public and everyone will read what you post.

Enjoy summer and get out and DANCE!

Joe Kerouac, President and King of Chi-Town Squares and soon to be CEO

Chi-Town Squares Web page: <http://chitownsquares.org/>

Chi-Town Squares Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/2407302962/>

Pride Parade June 30 and Banner Update

By Rich Sehnert

Chi-Town Squares will be participating at this year's Pride Parade. Plan to meet somewhere north of Montrose on Broadway around 11 AM, in time for a 12 noon kick-off.

Once again we will have use of Chi-Town members Aaron and Randi Montecki's truck for the parade. We have decorations for the truck. Music might be provided by Melody Mart of Homewood. Plus we plan a royal throne for King Joseph with a court of many members to participate in the parade!



Membership Renewals Due

Chi-Town's fiscal year ended May 31, so your membership renewal is due by June 1. You should have received an email notification via Club Express to this effect. You can renew and pay online at the Club Express website cts.clubexpress.com. Alternatively, forms will be available at summer sessions so that you can pay in person.

There will be a grace period until at least September, as we explore alternate ways of online payment as we phase out Club Express. But for now, Club Express is still the preferred payment method.

This year, we will be dancing and just walking and enjoying the parade. The only missing part is "YOU". Please come out and join us this year. Water will be provided. Bring your own sunscreen!

As banner Chairman, I would like to thank everyone for helping us to retrieve all of our banners! Bob Sundal has volunteered to help create new banners, replacing the outdated ones we had. (After all we are the only GLBT club in the association, so our banners should be FAB-ulous!)

Get Ready to BLAST Off!

By now you have all heard about our first ever BLAST. This is a concept that Rob Sierzega researched. The idea behind the BLAST concept is to teach new dancers all of Mainstream in one weekend instead of an entire semester.

Our BLAST weekend will be **October 11-13, 2013**. Our BLAST caller will be Dayle Hodge. Dayle has called this concept for other east coast clubs.

The BLAST schedule is Friday 7-10 PM; Saturday from 9-12 noon and again from 1:00-4:00 PM; and Sunday from 1:00-4:00 PM.

I need everyone in the club to bring at least one person to the BLAST. That would give us over 100 new dancers. There will be a prize for the club member who brings the most people to the BLAST. And if a club member stays all day Saturday, you will be given lunch but you must stay for both the morning and afternoon session. And we need all the angels we can muster!

If you have ideas on how to advertise, please contact me. I need you to make the BLAST weekend a success. -Joe Kerouac, President

Spread & Circulate is the newsletter of the Chi-Town Squares.

Submissions and correspondence should be sent Bob Siegel at brompton98@yahoo.com.

Editors: Bob Siegel & Richard Swanson, Communications Chair

Contributors: Joe Kerouac, Rich Sehnert, Diva Mihelic, Jeff Hutchins, Joel Iott

King Joseph Declares Chi-Town Graduation a Success!

On May 18, Chi-Town Squares held its 26th annual meeting and graduation ceremonies at Ebenezer Lutheran Church. We began downstairs with an ample potluck dinner, featuring many culinary selections from our creative dancers. Then president Joseph Kerouac (aka King Joseph I) opened the annual meeting by reviewing the past year and sharing some of Chi-Town's bold future plans, in his own inimitable style. The centerpiece of these plans is our first ever BLAST in October, which will teach prospective square dancers the entire Mainstream program in one weekend. This will be supported by weekly Club nights (Mainstream/Plus dances) to hone those skills for the new and returning dancers alike.

Next up was treasurer Chuck Pease, who reported a lean but decent year for Chi-Town this year, and then introduced the new fiscal year's budget. After a preview of our upcoming fly-in by co-chairs Curtis McMillan and Jeff Hutchins, new board candidates were introduced. We welcomed John Wood and Diva Mihelic to the board, who joined current members Joe, Chuck, Rob Sierzega, Richard Swanson and Rich Sehnert. (In a later board meeting, Joe was re-elected club president, with Rob becoming vice president, Chuck staying on as treasurer, and John voted in as secretary.)

After the elections, it was time for awards. Rich Sehnert passed on the prestigious Eric B. Calimag Yellow Rock award to Kate Reed, for her many years of contagious enthusiasm and contributions to our club. Bob Siegel then announced various membership awards:

5-year (swing bar): Cameron Synnestvedt, Claudine Kastner, Michael Mosier, Rich Sehnert, Richard Weindorfer

10-year (special "star" badge): Jean Alesi, Jean Paul Leduc, Michael Pemberton, Pat Kurauski, Rich Jentzen, Thomas Nickel.

15-year (swing bar): Ed Siegel, Rich Rathmell, Scott Hawkins, Tom Wilborn

20-year (pins): Brian Treglown, Rob Sierzega

25-year (special badge): George McCorry

After a short open forum, the meeting adjourned, and we moved upstairs to the auditorium for the commencement exercises, for both our BMP and Advanced classes. Teachers Arlene Kaspik and Michael Maltenfort conducted the usual initiation games. I am happy to report that no injuries were incurred, only excessive laughter. The new graduates received their diplomas, and were joined by all of the "old-timers" for all-level dancing throughout the night. We remembered to cut the cake this year, so all was well, and another successful year was in the books for Chi-Town Squares.

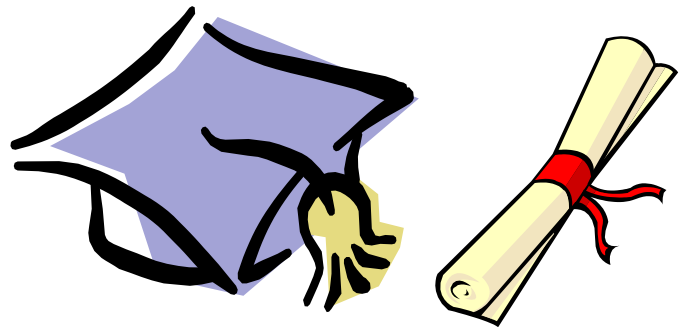
Congratulations Graduates!

BMP graduates:

Mike Mihelic
Héctor Cortés
Chad Wilkinson
Twila Jones
Rich Jentzen
Byron Scott

Advanced graduates:

Ed Siegel
Devery Schmidt
Therron Ricks
Gerri Upshaw
Leslie Chew
Paul Damian
Steven Moore



Where's Our Stinkin' Badges?

Due to a reported issue in obtaining the silver metal material, our usually reliable badge maker was unable to deliver our order in time for Graduation. But Chuck Pease is working with the company, and hopes to have the badges ready for all the new members, 10-year members and others who ordered badges before Convention in July. We'll keep you posted.

Fall Into Crossfire September 27-29

By Jeff Hutchins

Crossfire 2013 is fast approaching! This year the location has changed from the Center on Halsted to a new location that is a familiar place to Chi-Town dancers. Ebenezer Lutheran Church will be the venue for Fall into Crossfire 2013, at **1650 West Foster Avenue** in the Andersonville neighborhood of Chicago. There will be some great dancing, as we know our callers will provide a good time for all. Sandie Bryant and Kris Jensen are our featured callers, as well as some of our club callers.

The dates for Crossfire 2013 are September 27-29. Dancing will begin on Friday evening at 6:00 PM - 10:30 PM, with heavy hors d'oeuvres. On Saturday dancing will resume at noon with snacks. The Saturday afternoon session will end at 4:00 PM. Dancing will again resume Saturday evening at 7:00 PM and end at 10:30 PM. Free time is scheduled between the Saturday sessions. During this time you may want to explore the neighborhood and find some dinner at one of the abundant restaurants in Andersonville and Edgewater.

On Sunday, there is a brunch scheduled at Sidetrack, which will begin at 11 AM and end at 12:30 PM. Sunday dancing will resume at Ebenezer at 1:30 PM and

end at 4:00 PM.

If you have not already registered for Crossfire, you may do so at our website, which is www.iagsdc.com/chitownsquares or register at one of our scheduled dances this summer. In addition, you may contact our Crossfire Chairman, Curtis McMillen at curtismcmillen@gmail.com or call him at 773-888-3019. Fees for Crossfire are \$90.00 through Aug. 15 and thereafter will be \$100.00. The cost of registering at door will be \$100.00 as well.



Crossfire T-shirts can be ordered while registering. They are an additional \$20.00 for sizes small - XL, and \$25.00 for larger sizes. If you wish to purchase a T-shirt without registration you may contact Jeff Hutchins at jeffrey.h@comcast.net or call him at 773-294-4710.

The next scheduled planning meeting for Crossfire will be held at the home of Rich Jentzen on August 7th at 7 PM. Plus also look for volunteer time sheets at our summer dances.

Fall into Crossfire will be loads of fun, and we are excited about having the event at Ebenezer. Join us and help make Crossfire 2013 a huge success!

Contra Dance at Crossfire!

Chi-Town Squares is pleased to announce that we will be hosting a Contra dance as part of our Crossfire Event this year. Queer Contra Chicago has been dancing in Chicago for a few months now, and has become very popular.

On Thursday evening September 26 we will kick off Crossfire with a Contra Dance, with Kris Jensen calling. Kris is also one of our featured callers for Crossfire. There will be a short lesson at 6:30 PM with a Contra dance from 7:00 to 9:30 PM. This is not part of Crossfire registration. Donations are on a sliding scale from 0 to \$10.00.

A live band will provide the music. As square dancers, you will not find it hard to pick up Contra. It is fun, and fast! No experience is needed at all. Come and start your Crossfire weekend a bit early and dance Queer Contra. Location is at the same venue as Crossfire, Ebenezer Lutheran Church, 1650 West Foster Avenue. See you there!

***Spread & Circulate* is back!**

by Bob Siegel

After a yearlong lay-off, we are pleased to bring back *Spread & Circulate* in print form. Through the efforts of communication chair Richard Swanson and myself (who served as newsletter editor 1999-2004), we hope to produce a quarterly issue that will be informative, practical and entertaining.

But after such a long lay-off, we have to question if it still serves a purpose. Over the past year, most active members were able to keep up with club events through club announcements, emails, club web site and Facebook posts. Of course, these modern vessels of communication still need someone dedicated to providing the posts, which Richard and the board have committed to do.

But I personally believe a newsletter still has a purpose, at the very least as an archive of the history of the club, through pictures and stories. It also helps connect less active and out-of-town members, who may not be able to attend club events to hear the nightly announcements. Plus it still serves as one of the few “tangible” membership benefits to give people a reason to pay their dues, besides simply supporting the club.

Before we started this endeavor, Richard stated to the board and me that if we're all on the same page about the need to reboot/re-invent *Spread & Circulate*, we would like to access the collective wisdom and experience of our membership for ideas for producing a 21st-Century version. If you or someone you know has the skills and interest to produce a “modern” *S&C*, let Richard know. And of course most importantly, we have to have content, which means the whole club has to support the project. Richard is also keen on social media, which owns the future, so any ideas about integrating FB, Twitter, etc. are really welcome!

Finally, and perhaps most important, we need to preserve our club history through PICTURES! Almost everyone these days has access to a digital or phone camera. But we need someone willing to take on the role of club photographer, who not only can take pictures of club events, but also organize and gather digital images in one place to be used for the newsletter, Facebook page and web site. If you would like to take on that role, please talk to or drop a note to Richard at rswanson@gtgconsultants.com.

Thanks, everyone!

Upcoming Dances

Summer A2/C1 Workshop
Mon, Jun 24, 7:30 PM (John O)

Summer MS/P Workshop
Thu, Jun 27, 7:30 PM (Michael M)

Summer MS/P Workshop
Thu, Jul 11, 7:30 PM (Arlene K)

Summer A2/C1 Workshop
Mon, Jul 15, 7:30 PM (Michael M)

Friends and Family Dance
Sat, Jul 20, 7:00 PM (Arlene K)

Summer MS/P Workshop
Thu, Jul 25, 7:30 PM (John O)

IL State Convention, Oak Brook
Fri Jul 26-Sun Jul 28
(multiple callers)

Summer A2/C1 Workshop
Mon, Jul 29, 7:30 PM (Sandie B)

Summer MS/P Workshop
Thu, Aug 8, 7:30 PM (Arlene K)

Summer A2/C1 Workshop
Mon, Aug 12, 7:30 PM (Lynette B)

Friends and Family Dance
Sun, Aug 18, 7:00 PM (John O)

Summer MS/P Workshop
Thu, Aug 22, 7:30 PM (Sandie B)

Summer A2/C1 Workshop
Mon, Aug 26, 7:30 PM (Sandie B)

A2/C1 Workshop
Mon, Sep 9, 7:30 PM (Sandie B)

A2/C1 Workshop
Mon, Sep 16, 7:30 PM (Sandie B)

A2/C1 Workshop
Mon, Sep 23, 7:30 PM (Sandie B)

The Great Chicago Crossfire 2013
Fri, Sep 27- Sun, Sep 29
(Sandie Bryant, Kris Jensen plus club callers)

IL State Square Dance Convention July 26-28

The 30th Illinois State Square and Round Dance Convention will be held July 26-28 at Chicago Oak Brook Hills Marriott Resort, 3500 Midwest Rd., Oak Brook, Illinois. The featured caller is Tom Miller, with another 46 callers from 11 states who are donating their services, including Chi-Town Squares' John Oldfield and Arlene Kaspik.

Arlene is also teaching a styling class. Last year, a small room was provided. But it proved so popular that a larger room will be used this year for the class. Everyone wanted to learn how to style!



including information about registration, schedule, discounted room rates, and local tours .

Square Dance attire is requested for Friday and Saturday evening: i.e. skirts, dresses, kilts, and long sleeve shirts for men. On Saturday evening there is a theme dance called "King Neptune's Ball", where costumes are OK.

Mainstream, Plus, Advanced and DBD "Hot Hash" Plus will be called. There may also be some Challenge, plus Round dancing. There are daily rates available online or pay at the event.

The theme of this years dance is: Pearl Promenade: Dancing Under the Sea. You can find more information at the Convention website: www.Illinois30.com,

CTS is the largest club in Chicago, so let's have a large group of members attend this convention.

Dixie's Style by Diva

Welcome to the first edition of Dixie's Style, where I keep you up to date on the happenings in the club. We had a great turnout for friends and family Friday the 14th. Michael entertained us with dancing in mini squares of four. There was a great turnout and who surprised us but one of our own evil twins! That made the night complete!

Rumor has it, after the Andersonville Midsomerfest several of our members heard "The Call" and ended up at the bar by the same name. Then a few more Chi-Town members spontaneously stopped by and a good time was had by all.

By the way, I hope you all are getting ready to march in the parade on June 30. King Joseph, has been asking for suggestions for his royal attire so if you have any suggestions please let him know. Also, a few of us were talking about going to the Pride North festival later that evening at Morse and Glenwood. The band 16 Candles is playing. They really know how to work a crowd. They play 80's music and are so good, they are met with much enthusiasm. There's a lot of singing and dancing and craziness so let me know if you want to come and we'll look for you.

Well, last Thursday, Jean brought the most delicious nut clusters to the Thursday dance. Everyone was raving about them so I got the secret recipe for you guys.

12 oz chocolate chips (about 2 c.) - can be semi-sweet, bitter or whatever chocolate you prefer
6 oz butterscotch chips (about 1 c.)
2 c. dry roasted peanuts

In a microwavable bowl, mix the chips. (I use a 1-1/2 quart Corningware bowl.) Put in microwave on high for about 1 minute, stir thoroughly and put in for another minute, stir again, which should completely blend chips into a smooth mixture. Add peanuts and mix thoroughly. Drop onto lightly greased cookie sheet like cookies. Put in refrigerator. They should be hard in about 10 minutes.

Before I end I would like to send a get well wish to Jan, our new dancer. She's had bronchitis and has not been at our last two dances. I know she hates to miss a dance, but I heard she's getting better so we hope to see her soon, a whoopin' and a hollerin' at our dances. Also our sympathy to Marimonica and husband Tom on the passing of her mother-in-law.

See y'all next time!

Graduation 2013 Pictures

10 year members
Pat, Michael ►
and Jean ▼



◄ 15 year
members
Ed, Rich, Scott
and Tom

5 year
members
Michael,
Claudine,
Cameron,
Rich and
Richard ►



◄ Bob with
20/25 year
members
Brian,
George
and Rob



▲ BMP graduates Byron, Mike, Héctor and Chad

Advanced graduates Leslie, Ed, Paul, Therron,
Steve and Jerri ▼



▲ We remembered to cut the cake this year!



▲ King Joseph and Yellow Rock recipient Kate

UPCOMING NATIONAL & REGIONAL EVENTS

19-Jun-2013/22-Jun-2013

AACE - Academy of Advanced and Challenge Enthusiasts (Non-affiliated (gay-friendly) Indianapolis, IN Callers: Sandie Bryant, Vic Ceder, Barry Clasper, Todd Fellegly, Ross Howell, Anne Uebelacker, Darryl Lipscomb, David Heffron, Dayle Hodge, Michael Kellogg URL: www.ceder.net/aace Phone: 805-686-1108 Email: aace@ceder.net

04-Jul-2013/07-Jul-2013

Weave Your Heart in San Francisco (IAGSDC Convention) San Francisco Callers: Lynette Bellini * Sandie Bryant * Deborah Carroll-Jones * Vic Ceder * Barry Clasper * Rob French * Eric Henerlau * Michael Kellogg * Harlan Kerr * Jet Roberts * CJ Smith * Anne Uebelacker * Dave Wilson URL: sanfrancisco2013.org Phone: 415-637-3593 Email: info@sanfrancisco2013.org

13-Aug-2013/16-Aug-2013

Catch C2 in the Wine Country (Flyin) Sebastopol, CA Callers: Sandra Bryant URL: catchc2.redwoodrainbows.org Phone: not listed Email: contact@redwoodrainbows.org

13-Sep-2013/15-Sep-2013

Pass the Sea 2013 (Flyin) San Diego, CA Callers: Vic Ceder, Romney Tannehill, Andy Allemao, David Mee URL: passthesea.org Phone: 619 299-7813 Email: passthesea@gmail.com

20-Sep-2013/22-Sep-2013

Square Dance Women Weekend 2013 (Flyin) Silver Falls Conference Center Sublimity Oregon Callers: Anne Uebelacker and Kris Jensen URL: www.squaredancewomen.org Phone: not listed Email: not listed

27-Sep-2013/29-Sep-2013

Crossfire 23, Fall into Crossfire (Flyin) Chicago, IL Callers: Sandra Bryant and Kris Jensen URL: www.iagsdc.com/chitownsquares Phone: not listed Email: not listed

03-Oct-2013/06-Oct-2013

Mountain Mix 2013 (Flyin) Denver, CO Callers: Anne Uebelacker, Sandie Bryant, Bear Miller, and Don Furnish URL: <http://www.mountainmix.org/> Phone: 303-777-5811 Email: mountainmix@rainbeaus.org

04-Oct-2013/06-Oct-2013

Peel the Pumpkin 2013 (Flyin) New York, NY Callers: Nick Martellacci, Mike Kellogg, Tom Miller, Jet Roberts URL: www.timessquares.org Phone: not listed Email: not listed

11-Oct-2013/13-Oct-2013

Fiddle Around Puddletown (A/C Weekend - West Coast) Seattle, WA Callers: Sandra Bryant, Vic Ceder, Ross Howell, Mike Kellogg, and Anne Uebelacker URL: www.puddletownsquares.org OR www.iagsdc.org/puddletown/ Phone: 206-783-5206 Email: jwpdancer@earthlink.net

25-Oct-2013/27-Oct-2013

Scares 'N Squares 2013 - We're Still Here ...Silly Mayans... (Flyin) Portland, OR Callers: Tim Marriner, Gary Monday, Don Wood URL: www.rosetownramblers.com/SNS2013/ Phone: 503-610-8154 Email: info@rosetownramblers.com

Please refer to the IAGSDC website at iagsdc.com for more details.