

# SPREAD & circulate

Spring 2015

Volume 27, No. 1

## Letter from the President: CTS Springs Forward!



By Rob Sierzega

Well, we have made through another Chicago Winter with lots of fun dances and workshops to keep us warm! Chi-Town has plenty more to keep you busy and on the dance floor throughout the Spring and Summer. Remember that we will be dancing in Air Conditioned comfort in the 1<sup>st</sup> floor Dining Room for all dances scheduled between Memorial Day through Labor Day. Check out the calendar for our summer dance schedule.

Our monthly **1<sup>st</sup> Thursday Dance Party – “No Experience Needed”** has been attracting new dancers to spend the evening with us laughing and twirling! We will continue this popular event throughout 2015. The next one is **Thursday May 7<sup>th</sup>** from 7:00 to 9:30pm with Arlene Kaspik calling. This exciting event is open to all, so invite your friends.

**Saturday May 9<sup>th</sup>** is our Annual Meeting, Potluck, and Dance - free to all members—Club Attire encouraged! It starts at 5:00 PM with a Potluck dinner, 6:00 PM Annual Meeting & Elections, and 7:00 PM all level dancing with our trusty club callers, all in the Dining Room. Bring a dish or dessert to share. We can always use volunteers to help set up at 4 PM. We will also be electing Board members for the 2015-2106 season.

Remember that our By-Laws were changed so that the Board will now have 5 members. Jim Cosenza, Joe Kerouac, and I are continuing our second year terms. Bob Siegel has offered to step down and continue to be

our newsletter editor. Chuck Pease and John Wood are both running for office again to fill the two open positions. If you are also interested in running, please notify me at [president@chitownsquares.org](mailto:president@chitownsquares.org) by **May 1<sup>st</sup>**.

I am so excited about IAGSDC convention this year in nearby St. Louis, **May 22 – 25** <http://swingmeinstlouis.com> If you have never been to convention, you have missed an incredible experience dancing with 800 to 1000 square dancers from the LGBT and friends community. A lot of Chi-Towners will be taking Amtrak since the Convention is being held in the historic St. Louis Union Station hotel.

Don't miss our Pride dance on **Saturday June 20<sup>th</sup>** from 7:00 PM to 10:00 PM featuring Aaron Wells. He sure had us dancing some great tips at the Grand Rapids Fly-in in April!

The Illinois State Square Dance convention will be held **July 24 - 26** in DeKalb, IL, co-chaired by our own Rich Sehnert. For more information and how to lend a helping hand, check out their website <http://ilsdconvention2015.shutterfly.com>

### May Dance Schedule Changes

Because of conflicts with other groups in the church that we share space with, we will need to use alternate rooms on selected dates. Also, we are canceling some of our dances in the days proceeding the St. Louis Convention. Here is a summary.

**May 4 A/C = Dancing will be in the Education Center – Church basement, enter through Red door in courtyard**

**May 7 Dance Party = 2nd floor Auditorium is scheduled**

**May 9 Annual meeting = Dining Room and Kitchen only – We will hold our Pot luck, Annual Meeting and Silent Auction, then clear the tables and dance in that room.**

**May 11 A/C = Education Center – Church basement**

**May 14 Mainstream = Education Center – Church basement**

**May 18/May 21/May 25 = NO DANCES—St. Louis here we come!**

**May 28 Mainstream = Dining Room**

All summer dances from Memorial Day through Labor Day will be in the Air-conditioned Dining Room!

Remember that we have the Larry Burke Scholarship fund available for any Chi-Town member that would like to dance, but is having financial difficulties. Just ask a Board member and we will be glad to work with you.

See you on the dance floor!

# Plan to Attend the Annual Meeting on May 9

Let this serve as official notice that Chi-Town Squares' Annual Meeting, as prescribed by the club's by-laws, will be held on **Saturday May 9** at Ebenezer Lutheran Church. We will start the festivities with a potluck dinner beginning at 5:00 PM, followed by the annual meeting, "fun and games", and all-level dancing. All events are free of charge for members and guests, although only paid members as of March 1, 2015 can vote in the Board elections.

Generally this is one of the few events where we dress in our club uniform of black slacks, button shirts, brocade vests and bolo ties. So feel free to dress up if you have the druthers. *See our lovely models Patrick & Bob to the right.*

If you are coming for the potluck, please bring a dish, side, or dessert to contribute. There are sign-up sheets at the church too to ensure we have a variety of dishes.

After dinner (around 6 PM), president Rob Sierzega will preside over the annual meeting. Generally on the agenda is a president's report, reviewing the past season and previewing the next, a treasurer's report, a Crossfire report, and an opportunity for open forum discussion. In addition, various awards are given, including milestone memberships and the prestigious Yellow Rock award, to be handed out by last year's recipient Bob Siegel.

But most important, we will hold elections for two board positions. In January, the by-laws were amended to reduce

the board from 7 to 5. To facilitate this, current member-at-large Bob Siegel will step down after one year, to focus on the newsletter and communications. Current board members John Wood and Chuck Pease are up re-election and have announced their intent to run. Rob, Joe and Jim are in the middle of their terms and have one year left.

That means we have two people for the two positions, and technically do not need any new candidates. But of course any paid member is eligible to run for a board position. If you wish to run, please let a board member know by May 1 so you can be placed on the ballot. Generally candidates will make a short statement before the election commences. The board then meets once a month thereafter.



After the gavel drops on the meeting, we will officially welcome our newest members with dancing to club callers and the cutting of cake.

Also note that the Way Forward committee is conducting a fundraiser silent auction throughout the night. Look for a separate article about how to donate or bid on items starting now.

On **May 9** we also will have the option to renew your Chi-Town membership for next season via cash, check or PayPal. So be sure to bring your checkbook! We will wind down Chi-Town Squares 28<sup>th</sup> year by around 9:00 PM.

## Help Retrieve our Banner June 6 at Southside Squares

Frankie Terry from Southside Squares has invited us to attend their Annual Dinner Dance, to be held at Lexington House, 7717 W. 95<sup>th</sup> Street in Hickory Hills. The event will be on **Saturday June 6**, 12 NOON to 4 PM. Featured callers are Sandie Bryant, Herschel Tolson and Jean Morris.

This event will also serve as banner retrieval for us, as they attended one of our dances earlier this season.

Tickets are \$35 each, and are now available at the church. The deadline to purchase tickets is May 9, so they can get a firm headcount for the event.

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

Submissions and correspondence should be sent Bob Siegel at [brompton98@yahoo.com](mailto:brompton98@yahoo.com).

Editor: Bob Siegel, Communications Chair

Contributors: Chuck Pease, Jean Shamo, Rich Eide, Rich Jentzen, Rich Sehnert, Rick Simkin, Rob Sierzega

# Silent Auction to be Held, Your Help is Needed!

Chi-Town Squares is hosting a Silent Auction at the Annual Meeting and Dance on **Saturday, May 9, 2015**. As part of that event we hope to raise money for our non-profit club. Chi-Town Squares relies on the generosity of donors such as yourself and local community business partners and we are grateful for any support you might consider.

We are asking the individual or business that donates item(s) or services to give an estimated value. All donations should be "presentation ready". New and antique items are welcomed! We are not trying to have a "Tag Sale".

After you've obtained an item, please capture a photo and/or brief description of items and email to [rajentzen@mac.com](mailto:rajentzen@mac.com). Rich will create a master list of items, estimated value, and bid-sheets for the day of the event. Please let Rich know via email by **Thursday May 7** of any items. If you need a pick-up or have any questions call him at 773-275-0999. Donated items that are "presentation ready" may be brought to Monday/Thursday club nights and stored in Chi-Town Squares storage room or can be brought to the Annual meeting.

Most items will begin with a minimum \$5.00 bid with minimum increment bids of \$5.00. Bidding can be done electronically by emailing Rich at [rajentzen@mac.com](mailto:rajentzen@mac.com) with your bid amount. Electronic bidding will close on Friday, May 8, 2015 at 4 PM. All electronic bids will be posted to the bid-sheets that will be attached to the items on display at the Annual Meeting on Saturday May 9. In-person bids will continue on Saturday May 9 during the Potluck Dinner and dance. The bidding will end ~30 minutes before the end of the dance. Winning bidders do NOT need to be present to win.

All winning bids and the total amount raised will be announced at the final announcements of the dance. We kindly request all winning bidders that are present to settle the bid on site. Emails/phone calls will be made the next day for winning bids that are not present.

To make this a success we do need your help. We need two or three volunteers to help 'run' the auction on day of event: set up the tables and make them pretty, answer questions, make sure there are enough pens/bid sheets, monitor the process, encourage bidding, etc. Tables will also need to be set up in the dining area ahead of the meeting.

We need also need club members to donate items and/or solicit business to donate goods or services. This is a real opportunity to "get our name out". If you're going to a business, consider asking if there is a way to post our Monthly Dance Party events. Bulletin Board? Employee Lounge? Include in their e-mailings?

Finally we need club members to bid on items/services! Bidding is NOT limited to club members. However, we ask all bidders to name the club member with whom they are associated and provide all contact information: Name, street address, e-mail, phone, and contact person with club (if they are not a club member).

Look for pictures of selected items up for bid in this newsletter. Thank you!

*"I must do something" always solves more problems than "Something must be done."*  
- Author Unknown



## Dance Party May 7th @ 7p No Experience Needed

The Dance Party is open to the public & no experience or commitment are needed! You can come and learn the basics and maybe a little more in this fun evening of dancing. We'll find a dance partner for you! Feel free to bring a friend!

Registration begins at 7pm. Experienced square dancers will provide some demonstration dances from 7-7:25p. Arlene Kaspik is a very experienced Square Dance Caller/Instructor and will show you how much fun it is to strut and twirl and you'll be doing it yourself in no-time-flat with Arlene's warm and gentle guidance. Teaching will begin at 7:30p.

Complimentary snacks & soft drinks.  
Dress code is casual.  
The cost is only \$9.

Ebenezer Lutheran Church community center  
1650 W. Foster Ave - Chicago, IL

Learn more at [www.chitownsquares.org](http://www.chitownsquares.org)





# Some of the Fabulous Items up for Auction!



description Thanks, Phil Kouchoukos! Glass Vase  
Estimated Value: \$25.00



description Thanks, Phil Kouchoukos! Glass Bowl  
Estimated Value: \$35.00



description Thanks, Patrick Pruitt! Collapsible Insulated Cooler on Wheels with Retractable Handle  
Estimated Value: \$70.00



description Thanks, Patrick Pruitt! Emerson AM/FM/CD Programmable Stereo Table Radio with Rosewood Finish Estimated Value: \$130.00



description Thanks, Patrick Pruitt! Brookstone Emerald Green Patio Table Torch (Outdoor use with citronella or standard lamp oil) Estimated Value: \$130.00



description Thanks, Patrick Pruitt! Silverplated Chippendale 12"x14" Serving Tray Estimated Value: \$130.00



description Thanks, Father & Son Barbershop! Gift Basket #1 with Certificate for Haircut and Hairproduct Estimated Value: \$35.00



description Thanks, Tedino's Pizzeria! \$25 - Gift Card



description Thanks, Nookies! \$25 - Gift Card

# Get Ready for Crossfire XXV!

Planning for Crossfire XXV, **October 11 - 13**, is well underway! Sandra Bryant and Aaron Wells are our featured callers, as well as our club callers and guest callers. Co-chairs Brad Savage and Jean Shamo, with excellent assistance from last year's co-chairs, Jeff Hutchins and David Stewart, are on schedule to meet the timelines for each month.

The event will take place at the Ebenezer Lutheran Church, starting with a potluck dinner Friday evening at 6 PM. Brunch on Sunday will also be held at the church this year and be catered by Eat!, who provided us with such tasty choices in 2014. Norm Cratty, Parish Administrator, has graciously cleared the church's calendar to allow us use of both floors for the brunch and afternoon dancing on Sunday.

You may now register and pay thru IAGSDC.org, or download a flyer at our website and send a check. Registration forms are also available at the weekly workshops and dances where you can pay as well if you prefer. The current rate for the full weekend is only \$80 until May 15, when the rate goes up to \$95. So register today and

save money!

Even more importantly, volunteer sign-up sheets are also set out and Brad may be prodding you to add your name to one of them and perhaps even to chair a committee. Please consider where your talents can best be contributed.

We have already placed the first order of T-shirts, and they are now available at the church for purchase, so you can wear them at the St Louis convention over Memorial Day weekend. Thanks to Chuck Pease for preparing the sleek, silkscreen design for the printer. The design has silver letters/numbers on black shirt. We will use silver and black as the theme for the

Saturday night dance, so start looking for fancy silver and black clothing to get in the mood!

The next Crossfire committee meeting will be at **May 13, 7:00 PM**, at Jean's place: 5415 N Sheridan, #4606. If interested in participating, she can be reached at [jeanshamo@rcn.com](mailto:jeanshamo@rcn.com), or call 773.907.0665 for directions.



Arlene (with Kate) displays the new Crossfire shirt in Grand Rapids!

## Meet Me for Swing Me in St Louis

Swing Me in St Louis, the 32<sup>nd</sup> Convention of the IAGSDC, will be held **May 22-25** in St Louis. By now most Chi-Towners have made their plans to attend this not-to-be-missed event, only a short drive from Chicago.

Unfortunately, the AMTRAK group outing that was planned has been cancelled, due to insufficient numbers. But tickets are still available for a good rate at AMTRAK.com, and many people will still be traveling via train, leaving Friday morning May 22 at 9:25am on train 303.

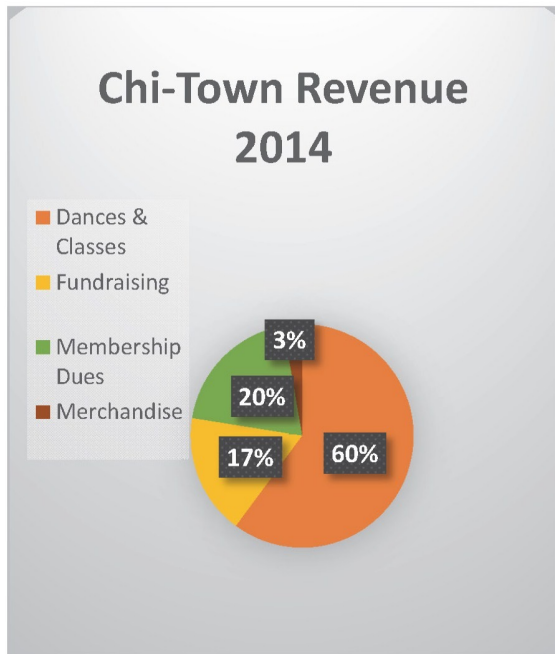
All the information you need about the convention can be found on line at <http://swingmeinstlouis.com> including the full dance and event schedule. One thing to note is our club photo time, which is scheduled for **Saturday May 23 at 1:00 PM, Club attire requested** directly following the opening ceremonies. We also use this opportunity to meet directly after our photo at the memorial panels, to pay our respects to club members we have lost.





## What do I get for my membership dues?

This is a question that is asked often by Chi-Town members and it is even more pertinent since the dues will increase to \$50 in the coming year. In 2014 Chi-Town Squares had Revenue of \$21,804 and Expenses of \$23,627 which created an operating loss of \$1,823. The Dues increase is being used to partially offset this loss. The graph below gives a simplified visual of where the Club Revenues come from and what they are used for.



Revenue		
Dances & Classes	\$13,110	60%
Fundraising	\$3,793	17%
Membership Dues	\$4,310	20%
Merchandise	\$591	3%
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$21,804</b>	<b>100%</b>



Expense		
Caller	\$12,216	52%
Rent	\$7,725	33%
Operating	\$3,686	16%
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>\$23,627</b>	<b>100%</b>

There are only two ways to balance a budget, one is to raise revenues the second is to cut expense. In the Expense Area 85% of the budget is for Rent and Callers so to cut in this area means to reduce the amount of dances, classes and workshops that are sponsored. The Board has decided that at this time activities will not be cut in the coming year.

Revenue comes from three areas, Dances, Dues and Fundraising. The Board has decided not to raise cost to attend dances and classes but to increase Dues and to do more Fundraising activities.

So to finally answer the question of "What do I get for my dues?"

Your dues are a vital component of the Revenue that is needed to operate Chi-Town Squares. It provides you with a membership in a vibrant club of over 100 people that has over 100 dances and classes a year. Chi-Town is an active and participating member of both the IAGSDC and the MCASD with some of our current members sitting on both those Boards. It trains and supports both dancers and callers from very beginners to the upper levels of square dancing and most important provides you with a venue to meet and make lifelong friends. These are some of the things that your Dues are used for and without this source of Revenue the Club could not support the current level of activities and involvement that we have in the Square Dance Community.

## Take a Trip Down Memory Lane in DeKalb By Bob Siegel and Rich Sehnert

The 32<sup>nd</sup> Illinois State Square & Round Dance Convention will be held **July 24-26, 2015** will be held at Northern Illinois University, Holmes Student Center, 340 Carroll Avenue in DeKalb, Illinois. Will you be there? Rich Sehnert is chairing this event, working with many friends of Chi-Town like Janice Cha and Anita Johnson, and hopes that Chi-Town Squares can make a good presence.

I have been to several State conventions and always have a great time. It is a friendly group that appreciates good dancers, for which Chi-Town has a good reputation. There are many specialty halls and after parties, including a DBD/Advanced & Challenge room which offers some great high level dancing. And while square dance attire is requested during the evening sessions, the day sessions are more lax, and even in the evening, nobody will be asked to leave as long as they are dressed neatly.

Daryl Lipscomb from Texas is the featured caller, and he calls all levels of dancing Mainstream through Challenge. But then there are dozens of other callers rotating through rooms at a furious pace, including our own club callers Arlene, John and Michael. Only the featured caller is actually paid, so the rest are volunteering their time, which keeps costs very low. The cost for the entire weekend is only \$35, a great deal for three days of dancing.

Registration forms and hotel information can be found at <https://ilsdconvention2015.shutterfly.com>

Rich can personally take your payments via Square, PayPal, check or cash. You can also order T-shirts for \$10 or Polo shirts for \$20, provided by Shirts Illustrated on Belmont.

Right now there is an urgent need for Decorations Committee Coordinator. There is a budget for this committee and what you choose to do would be completely up to you, as long as it goes along with the theme of *"A Dance Down Memory Lane"*. Wouldn't it be great if someone from Chi-Town could provide our flair for decorating for this convention? Think about it!

If transportation getting there is an issue, there is a bus leaving on Friday morning from 87th and the Dan Ryan to go to the convention. Round trip fare with shuttle passes to various hotels is \$60.00.

And last but not least, the 2016 Convention will be held back in the Chicago area in Itasca at the Westin July 28-31. Featured caller is Jet Roberts of California, who is popular among the gay fly-in circuit. The theme next year is *"Flying Into the Future"*

So do you want to help on this convention, or get more involved with MCASD, or even help out at the State organization? We need new people to bring dancing into the future. If interested in any of these items, you call Rich @ 708-209-0901, or email [midlorich@yahoo.com](mailto:midlorich@yahoo.com)



Spread & Circulate



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Spring 2015

# Chi-Town Squares Calendar

## April/May 2015

All events held at Ebenezer Lutheran Church,  
unless otherwise indicated.  
Therron & Ken conduct a MS Review  
each Thursday at 7 PM

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
26	27 A2/C1 WS John Oldfield 7:30 PM	28	29	30 Mainstream WS Arlene Kaspik 7:30 PM	May 1	2
3	4 A2/C1 WS Lynette Bellini 7:30 PM	5	6	7 DANCE PARTY! Arlene Kaspik 7:30 PM	8 Recyclers Michael Maltenfort A2 7:30 PM Deerfield	9 CTS Annual Meeting & Dance 5 9 PM
10	11 A2/C1 WS Sandie Bryant 7:30 PM	12	13	14 Mainstream WS Michael Maltenfort 7:30 PM	15	16 Pollywogs Sandie Bryant C2 3:00 /C3A 7:30 Deerfield
17 Chicago's Original Country Dance 4-8 PM The Call, Bryn Mawr	18 NO DANCE	19	20	21 NO DANCE	22 Swing Me in St Louis, 32nd IAGSDC Convention	23
24 Swing Me in St Louis, 32nd IAGSDC Convention	25	26	27	28 Mainstream WS John Oldfield 7:30 PM	29 Recyclers Sandie C1 7:30 PM Deerfield	30 Queer Contra Dance 6 PM St. Luke's Lutheran Church, 2649 N. Francisco

## June 2015

All events held at Ebenezer Lutheran Church,  
unless otherwise indicated.  
There will be no MS Review session in June, July  
or August

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
31	June 1	2	3	4 DANCE PARTY! John Oldfield 7:30 PM	5	6 Southside Squares Dinner Dance 12 PM Hickory Hills, IL
7	8 A2/C1 WS Sandie Bryant 7:30 PM	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18 Mainstream WS Michael Maltenfort 7:30 PM	19	20 PRIDE DANCE Aaron Wells 7-10 PM
21 Chicago's Original Country Dance 4-8 PM The Call, Bryn Mawr	22 A2/C1 WS Lynette Bellini 7:30 PM	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				



# Chi-Town Squares Calendar

## July 2015

*All events held at Ebenezer Lutheran Church,  
unless otherwise indicated.  
There will be no MS Review session in July .*

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2 DANCE PARTY! Arlene Kaspik 7:30 PM	3	4
5	6 A2/C1 WS Sandie Bryant 7:30 PM	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16 Mainstream WS Lynette Bellini 7:30 PM	17	18
19 <i>Chicago's Original Country Dance 4-8 PM The Call, Bryn Mawr</i>	20 A2/C1 WS M. Maltenfort 7:30 PM	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30 Mainstream WS Arlene Kaspik 7:30 PM	31	August 1

## August 2015

*All events held at Ebenezer Lutheran Church,  
unless otherwise indicated.  
There will be no MS Review session in August*

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
2	3 A2/C1 WS Sandie Bryant 7:30 PM	4	5	6 DANCE PARTY! Sandie Bryant 7:30 PM	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16 <i>Chicago's Original Country Dance 4-8 PM The Call, Bryn Mawr</i>	17 A2/C1 WS John Oldfield 7:30 PM	18	19	20 Mainstream WS John Oldfield 7:30 PM	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29 CTS Social Dance Eric Henerlau 7-10 PM
30	31 A2/C1 WS Lynette Bellini 7:30 PM	September 1	2	3 DANCE PARTY! Caller TBA 7:30 PM	4	5

# Summer Schedule 2015

With the May annual meeting close upon us followed by the St. Louis convention, it will soon be time for Chi-Town to switch to our summer schedule, when we generally dance each program every other week.

Beginning on May 28 and through August, all Chi-Town dances are scheduled in the air-conditioned dining room, and will only two hours long, 7:30-9:30 PM.

The exception will be the "No experience necessary" Dance Parties, which will continue on the first Thursday each month, where the doors will open at 7:00 PM as we currently do, with a warm up Mainstream tip before we get the newbies on the floor. Hopefully we will have generated enough interest in people to join us for the

BLAST weekend, which is scheduled for **September 11-13** with Arlene Kaspik.

In addition, we have two Social dances scheduled this summer. Our Pride will be **June 20** with Aaron Wells. Then on **August 29**, we have a new out of town caller scheduled, Eric Henerlau, who will call for us for the first time. Both of these dances will be three hours, alternating Mainstream through Advanced.

Thanks go to secretary Joe Kerouac for doing the scheduling. He also has completed the Social Dance schedule for the 2015-16 season., which are now listed at our web site at [chitownsquares.org](http://chitownsquares.org).

## **Mondays 7:30-9:30 PM**

### **A/C Workshops**

June 8: Sandie Bryant  
June 22: Lynette Bellini  
July 6: Sandie Bryant  
July 20: Michael Maltenfort  
August 3: Sandie Bryant  
August 17: John Oldfield  
August 31: Lynette Bellini

## **Thursdays 7:30-9:30 PM**

### **Mainstream Workshops:**

May 28: John Oldfield  
June 18: Michael Maltenfort  
July 16: Lynette Bellini  
July 30: Arlene Kaspik  
August 20: John Oldfield

## **Thursday Dance Parties 7:00-9:30 PM**

### **No Experience Necessary!**

June 4: John Oldfield  
July 2: Arlene Kaspik  
August 6: Sandie Bryant

## **Saturdays 7:00 –10:00 PM**

June 20: Pride Dance with Aaron Wells  
August 29: Dance with Eric Henerlau

# Chi-Town Squares Blast 2015

[www.chitownsquares.org](http://www.chitownsquares.org)  
[info@chitownsquares.org](mailto:info@chitownsquares.org)

## Friday Sept 11 to Sunday Sept 13

Ebenezer Lutheran Church  
1650 W. Foster Avenue, Chicago

### *Learn modern square dance in a fun-filled weekend!*

Start learning to dance on Friday evening and step out as a full Mainstream Square Dancer on Sunday! Then kick up your heels on Thursday workshops, weekend dances, or travel to other cities for dance weekends to hone your skills while making new friends and really have a BLAST! All are invited, attire is casual! Dance partner is not required.

Cost is \$75 and includes snacks & lunch on Saturday!





# Chi-Towners in Grand Rapids! April 2015



**Callers Anne and Aaron**



**Nice to see Betty and Michael!**



**Rick and Chuck enjoy a Barn Dance**



**The always fabulous potluck dinner!**



**Lesley rides Side Saddle!**



Which Chi-Town Square...  
...ordered in for a tall, handsome  
police officer?  
...has now become The Girl with the  
Dragon Tattoo?

...Just what happened @ the Atlanta  
Fly-in that no photos have surfaced,  
YET!



**Vacuuming up glitter!**



# A New Dancer's View of Grand Rapids



**Chuck & Rich**

By Rich Eide

I attended Crossfire in Oct 2014 (right after our Blast), then Suncoast Squares in Feb 2015 (with a great contingent of Atlanta dancers) and Grand River Squares in Apr 2015 (with a wonderful contingent of Toronto dancers and dance royalty Lesley Gore-Tex).

Besides generous and graciously hosted lodging, amazingly tasty and beautifully prepared foods, seemingly endless beverages and snacks, and dance schedules to highlight each caller (or both) -- here a few things as a newer dancer I also noticed:

Dancing Up – I enjoyed at least 3 opportunities as a Mainstreamer to dance Plus, once with my own personal angel to guide me, another as a conjoined dancer (we each provided an arm for turns) and always with strong Plus dancers who helped. It felt like a mini workshop to experience Relay the Deucey (which I had been reviewing in Taminations)!

Caller Mischief – During a "tag team" tip... Anne Uebelacker (whispering into mic): "When Aaron gets back, no matter what he calls, dance: Sides Face, Grand Square. Remember: Sides Face, Grand Square." (Anne continues to call. When couples reach home, she turns to Aaron, now back from break.) "Your turn." Aaron Wells makes a call and watches the prank played by the dancers. Everyone laughs their heads off! Anne: "My turn!" and continues to call. When the dancers are back home, to Aaron, "Your turn." Aaron: "Heads Face, Grand Square!" Then, to Anne, "Your turn!" Everyone laughed their heads off again!

My Favorite Thing (OK, things)



Whether in St. Petersburg or Grand Rapids, is the inclusion and encouragement of everyone. A long-term Grand Squares member created booklets similar to the Taminations App – convenient for flipping back and forth between calls, and – no batteries required! I'm also thankful to longer-term dancers who are mindful about creating a good balance of fun, skill building and challenge to keep away intimidation or boredom.



**BeeJay and Rick**



**Curtis, Rich S., John, Chuck, & Rose**



# Chi-Towners in Tucson! March 2015



**Chi-Town contingent!**



**Callers Mike Kellogg and Dayle Hodge**



**The ladies of the 4th Street Market**



**Brian and George at the Pima Air & Space Museum!**



**Ted gets amorous  
with a Prickly Pear!**



**Kathy shows off her furry chaps!**



**Manuel and Phil**



**Nice Saguaros!**



# Chi-Towners at the Sweetheart Dance! February 2015



Kenny and Rick



Jim and Rich



Janine, Ted and Tom



Rob and Jeff!



Nancy and Jean



Frankie & Rich



Bill, Tom and Phil!



Leslie and Geri won as Sweetheart Couple!

Picture Credits: Rick Simkin, Bob Siegel Rob Sierzega (Grand Rapids)



# Upcoming National Events

*Information taken from the IAGSDC.org event page.*

01-May – 03-May **Pass The Ocean, Hon! 2015**  
Callers: John Marshall, Betsy Gotta and Dayle Hodge  
Chesapeake Squares, Rehoboth Beach, DE

22-May – 25-May **Swing Me in St Louis**  
IAGSDC Convention. Callers: Saundra Bryant, Anne Uebelacker, Deborah Carroll-Jones, Betsy Gotta, Vic Ceder, Barry Clasper, Bill Eyler, Dayle Hodge, Gary Monday, Michael Kellogg, and 2 Special guest Callers  
Gateway Squares, Saint Louis, MO

17-Jun – 20-Jun **AACE**  
**(Academy for Advanced and Challenge Enthusiasts)**  
Callers: Sandie Bryant, Vic Ceder, Barry Clasper, Todd Felleggy, Ross Howell, Anne Uebelacker, Ben Rubright, Bronc Wise  
AACE Website: <http://www.ceder.net/aace.php4>

24-Jul – 26-Jul **Pioneer Promenade V**  
Callers: Derek Page Darren Gallina  
Temple Squares, Salt Lake City, UT

11-Sep – 13-Sep **Pass the Sea 2015**  
Callers: Darren Gallina, Charlie Robertson, Andy Allemao  
Finest City Squares, San Diego, CA

18-Sep – 20-Sep **Square Dance Women Weekend**  
Callers: Kris Jensen, Anne Uebelacker, and Diana Wedel  
Square Dance Women, Silver Falls State Park Conference Center

25-Sep – 27-Sep **Turquoise Trail Thru A/C Weekend - West Coast.**  
Callers: Barry Clasper, Todd Felleggy, Anne Uebelacker, Bronc Wise, Kris Jensen  
Wilde Bunch, Albuquerque Marriott, Albuquerque, NM

09-Oct – 11-Oct **Chicago Crossfire XXV**  
Callers: Saundra Bryant and Aaron Wells  
Chi-Town Squares, Ebenezer Lutheran Church, 1640 W. Foster Ave, Chicago, IL

15-Oct – 18-Oct **Star Track: An Alien Encounter**  
Callers: Don Moger and Dave Hutchinson  
Triangle Squares

16-Oct – 18-Oct **Peel Off in Palm Springs 2015**  
Callers: Darren Gallina  
Peel Off Committee, Palm Springs, CA

16-Oct – 18-Oct **Peel the Pumpkin 2015**  
Callers: Todd Felleggy, John Marshall and Nick Martellacci  
Times Squares, Iselin, NJ

13-Nov – 15-Nov **Harvest Festival Hoedown 2015**  
Callers: Ett McAtee, Ken Ritucci, and Michael Kellogg  
DC Lambda Squares, York, Pennsylvania

15-Jan – 17-Jan **Promenade Down Peachtree**  
Callers: Gary Monday, Chris Phillips and Justin Russell  
Hotlanta Squares, Atlanta, GA

05-Feb – 07-Feb **SWING THRU THE PALMS #7**  
Callers: Darren Gallina, Gary Monday, Cliff Simpson  
Boots In Squares, Palm Springs, CA

04-Mar – 06-Mar **SHOOT THE LONE STAR 2016**  
Callers: Sandie Bryant and Vic Ceder  
Lone Star Lambdas, Austin, TX

11-Mar – 13-Mar **2016 Rain Festival**  
Callers: John Marshall, Anne Uebelacker, Gary Monday  
Puddletown Squares, Seattle, WA

01-Apr – 03-Apr **It's the Great Flyin Charlie Brown**  
Callers: Mike Kellogg, Tom Miller, Betsy Gotta  
Independence Squares, Wilmington, DE

15-Apr – 17-Apr **Ropin The River 2016 - Dancing With The Thars**  
Callers: Tim Marriner & Gary Monday  
Grand River Squares, Grand Rapids, MI  
Grand Rapids, MI

