

History of Square One Dance Club

Square One began in 1998 and danced for five years. Its purpose was to provide mike time for our budding, young caller, Trevor Grier. First, in 1998, the club met in the basement of the Grier home at 44 Mount Royal Crescent. We started with one square of brand new dancers. So, with a new caller, and one square of new dancers, we decided to call the club, Square One. For the first year, we learned Basic moves, hosted our first club visit (TJ's), and our first Association visit all in our rec room. By the second year, 1999, we needed a larger dance floor so we rented the hall at St. Bede's Anglican Church. Noticing that there was no club in the north end of the city, we opened a second group dancing at Sisler High School. This group eventually joined the larger group at St Bede's. For our final year, our club moved to Silver Heights Community Centre with its better acoustics.

Our dancers were eager to be a "real club" and were dedicated to design and make both a Caller Banner and a Square One Club Banner for display at our dances. Our first club Manisquare reporter was Dave Wood followed by Tony and Phyllis Szwaluk.

For five years from 1999 - 2003, Square One sponsored the Husavick Camporee at Idle Wheels Campground south of Gimli. Our photograph album boasts five years of fun and fellowship, at the dances, pot luck, cribbage tournament and talent night.

Not only did the club give Trevor the start he needed to launch his calling career, but also, many of our first graduates served the wider square dance community for many years after – for example, Anne Wiebe and Sam Dunn.

Respectfully submitted,

Carole Grier (2016)