

## SQUARE AND ROUND DANCING IN MANITOBA

Condensed from the Official Journal of MANITOBA SQUARE & ROUND DANCE FEDERATION (Eastern Division) originally known as FOLK DANCE FEDERATION OF MANITOBA (Eastern Division). By Eva Blyth 1984

\*\*\*\*\*

According to an article written in the late 1940s by the late Dick Carson, a caller and a former President of the Federation, two enthusiastic Manitoba dancers, Charlie Ward and Don Campbell, took their vacations in different parts of the United States at square dance vacation camps. When they came back they taught what they had learned to friends in basements and living rooms. The enthusiasm caught on so well they started clubs.

Charlie Ward started the Circle Four Club, and Don Campbell started a group at the Y.W.C.A. which eventually became the Whirl-i-Peg Club. Soon club rooms were too small, more clubs were started and in 1952 the Winnipeg Junior Chamber of Commerce organized the first Square Dance Jamboree held in the city. Twenty one clubs participated, nine of which were still active in 1967 when Dick Carson wrote his article for the 1967 (January) issue of Sets in Order.

The Jamboree resulted in a decision to organize a coordinating group in the area. The group was called the "Folk Dance Federation of Manitoba (Eastern Division) and Charlie Ward was the first President.

Somewhere, in someone's basement, attic, lost in the flood, lost in a fire, or simply thrown out to the garbage, there are or were four volumes, plus seven issues of the Journal. The first ones I have are No. 8 and 9 of Volume 5. Each volume is a year. It is a pity they are lost, especially the first few issues. They would have held (I think) so much information about the early days of the Federation, and I would not have had to read back and forth over so many 'news letters' trying to glean bits of information to fill in some of the blanks. For instance - jumping ahead to April 1959, Ida Fleming gives a report of the Circle 4's tenth windup. The club paid tribute to Charlie and Edith Ward for their ten years of selfless devotion to the club as Instructors. Charlie brought up nostalgic memories of the Circle 4's inception in his basement, with more and more enthusiasts coming, friends of friends of friends, until at length the crowd grew too large and they moved to St. Mark's Hall and still growing much too large, ending at the 4th Scout Hall. It was the first Square Dance Club in Greater Winnipeg. Charlie was the Federation's first President - could be said he was the Father of the Square Dance revival in Winnipeg."

In 1957 there were five divisions in Manitoba and one Central Executive, The Eastern Division with Maurice Lansdown as Past President, Trevor Wignall President, Scotty Thompson Vice President. The Western Division listed Franklin, Boissevain, Virden, and Brandon. Southern Division had Pilot Mound and Cartwright. (Can only go by where their Executive members were from) Precambrian Division - Flin Flon, and Northern Division - Dauphin .

The Central Executive consisted of Past President Hart Deveney, of Toronto; President Maurice Lansdown, Winnipeg; Vice-President Jim Blencowe of Brandon; 2nd Vice President Ivan White of Crystal City; Secretary Treasurer Edith Ward, Winnipeg; Work shop Al Rutherford, Winnipeg; and Presidents and Vice-Presidents of each division and one appointed representative from each division.

Maurice Lansdown was the Editor and George Simpson the Publisher, Circulation was 550 copies. A note in the Annual report (1957) of the Newsletter. . "After your publisher, George Simpson, had run off about 14,000 sheets by hand for our March edition, your Executive decided the "Federation" should procure an electrically operated printing machine. . ." In 1957-58 the newsletter consisted of about 14 pages of club news, a list of coming events and items of interest, a Directory of Square Dance Clubs in Manitoba, and a list of callers in the Eastern Division has also been published. The Workshop notes (included with each issue) has had about five pages of square and round dances as well as a review of the latest records tried out by the Workshop Committee and at the monthly Workshops.

A T.V. show "Allemande Left" originated through the efforts of Jack Webb, a former president of the Federation. Jack drew up a format of a suggested show which was adopted by the C.B.C. A list of all the clubs was supplied to the C.B.C. and pinpointed on a map. The picking of a club and the dancers was done solely by the producer, as was the caller. Four clubs from various parts of the city had appeared on the show, and it was hoped that in the following season C.B.C. would again put on another series.

4th Annual Beach Hoedown, featuring Ed Gilmore of California, sponsored by the Whirl-i-Pegs, June 8, 1957 Winnipeg Beach Pavilion. In 1958 it was Cal Golden for the Beach Hoedown. Whirl-i-peg's 6th Annual Beach Hoedown advertised as "Mystery Caller" and others. Never did find out who the callers were. 1960 the Caller was Buzz Brown from California. May 27, 1961, it was to be Cal Golden again, but on Page 1 of the May issue there is a FLASH? FLASH! - Whirl-i-Peg Beach Hoedown will be held in the R.C.A.F. old Drill Hall, Sharp Blvd. entrance. So it must have been that May, 1961, that the good old Dance Hall burnt down. No more Beach Hoedowns -yet that must have been a wonderful evening!

In 1957 - eight Workshops were held, one in Kenora with some 25 squares in attendance. The Workshop Committee, with Gordon Hill as Chairman, included Gwen Lansdown - secretary, Bob Pitch, Hugh Popham, Jim Irons & Harold Gandy. They met and considered the new dances, rounds, and records and decided what to present at the monthly Federation Workshops.

There had been 35 guest callers representing as many clubs as possible, but as there were well over 100 callers, it was impossible to have them all on the Federation program.

Under the direction of Dick Carson, Special Events Chairman, the Federation held a T.V. dance at Sargent Park School.

President Trevor Wignall did a commendable job handling the T.V. Show "GRAPHIC".

From June 11 to September 4, 1957, there would be 8 dances at Rainbow Stage, sponsored by the Parks & Recreation & the Folk Dance Federation of Manitoba. Dancing at Rainbow Stage had evidently started in 1955. Dancers must have ushered at the various show productions, as in the summer of 1959 "square dancers have again been asked to donate their time as ushers for the Rainbow Stage shows produced by the Winnipeg Summer Theatre". A letter of appreciation was received from the Winnipeg Summer Theatre Association for the volunteer services of the square dance clubs in taking over the assignment as ushers at all the summer performances.

Something different seems to have been tried at Rainbow Stage in 1960 - June 14 & 15 there was a Manitoba Mosaic - songs and dances of Nations, and on June 17 - was a Square Dance Festival. In 1961 the Workshop Committee's report. . "although there were only 4 dances held at Rainbow Stage last summer, the attendance was very good and everyone enjoyed themselves in spite of the floor conditions, as the callers did an excellent job".

In early 1962, there is an entry in the journal ". . . Following last year's Mosaic, it was expected that the Federation would again participate in the 1962 Folk Festival at Rainbow Stage. To that end, several meetings of the Festival Committee- of which we are a member- were attended. This year, however, the format and nature of the program proposed does not appear to be conducive of the Federation's participation as a unit. All arrangements and programming are not yet complete, with a further meeting to be held this Monday, May 15th. It may well be, at this point, to suggest that the Federation withdraw its connection with the Festival Committee.

At the 1957 Annual meeting, it was suggested that the workshop committee bring their wives to their meetings so that new "rounds" and "squares" could be assessed before the Workshop.

The round dances to be kept to a level suitable to the majority.

In 1957, the Annual Meeting and election of Officers was held April 27th, with the Annual Executive Dance being held the same evening in Weston School. Bruce Johnson was the featured caller at the 6th Spring Jamboree at the Provincial Normal School. Seventy five squares in attendance.

Interesting to note that Bob Osgood, Ed Gilmore, and Bob Ruff were all on staff at the Banff Square and Round Dance Institute.

In October/57 Membership fees to the Federation were \$5.00 per club plus 10 cents per registered member. Affiliated members paid \$1.00.

There was an "Inter-Mountain" Jamboree May 11 at Dauphin Airport. Bob Van Antwerp & Nita & Manning Smith were to be on staff at the Naval Base the end of May in Minneapolis - the 6th Annual Convention of the Folk Dance Federation of Minnesota. Also, June 13 - June 17 was the 6th Annual National Convention held in St. Louis.

At the Workshop on Dec 14/57 Thord Spetz gave a workshop on the various types of "Square Thru" figures.

Socials seemed very, very popular in those days with clubs visiting each other all around the city. The clubs took pains in having "themes" and decorating their clubs accordingly at least once a month.

Ethel McQueen's orchestra was used for most special dances. Hers seemed the only orchestra that could play what the callers could call to. McQueen was still playing for some of the clubs for Jamborees etc. in the middle 1960-'s, but as the callers gradually got their own equipment and records, she seems to fade out of the picture.

Constitution for the Eastern Division, adopted Sept. 26, 1953, revised to April 30, 1957.  
Such a nice simple constitution - only two pages.

CONSTITUTION FOR THE EASTERN DIVISION WITHIN THE FOLK DANCE  
FEDERATION OF MANITOBA

I. NAME; The name of this organization shall be the Eastern Division of the Folk Dance Federation of Manitoba.

II. PURPOSES;

A. To further, promote and encourage square, round and "folk dancing.

B. To discourage the promotion o-f competitions in square and round dancing and square dance calling.

C. To provide for and conduct festivals and jamborees.

D. To promote uniformity in traditional dance forms and to make available information on same.

E. To assist in the -formation and development of square, round and folk dance groups where such assistance is requested.

F. To compile and maintain a directory of all interested groups.

G. To encourage among square, folk and round dance groups, instructors and leaders the mutual cooperation and exchange of ideas.

III. ORGANIZATION;

A. This constitution is basic for the Eastern Division and may be added to by the Division as the need arises.

B. Membership shall be open to groups or individuals interested in square, folk and round dances.

C. The Officers of the Eastern Division Executive shall be Past President, President, Vice-President, 2nd Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Chairman of all Committees. The Past President is nonvoting.

D. Signing Officers shall be any two of the following, President, Vice-President and Treasurer. (to be ratified).

E. 1) An annual meeting of the Eastern Division shall be held in April; a semiannual meeting shall be held in October.

2) The Executive shall meet at least once a month.

3) Special meetings of the Eastern Division Executive or of the Eastern Division may be called at the discretion of the President or upon written notice of the majority of members of the Eastern Division.

F. A nominal yearly fee of five dollars \$5.00 per club plus an additional yearly fee of ten cents \$.10) per registered member as of October 1st shall be paid upon affiliation with the Eastern Division. Fees are due October 1st of each year and must be paid not later than December 31st.

G. This Constitution may be altered or amended if the proposed change is submitted to the President in writing one month prior to a regular meeting of the Eastern Division, providing that all clubs receive a copy of the proposed change from the Executive prior to the meeting and that two thirds of the ballots cast at the meeting concur with the adoption of any change.

H. The bylaws of the Eastern Division shall be based upon the provisions of this constitution.

## BYLAWS

I. A Quorum for any Executive Meeting shall be on the basis of a simple majority of members present.

II. The election of officers shall take place at the annual meeting and they shall take office at that time.

III. The Executive shall appoint a nominating committee to prepare a slate of officers to be voted on at the annual meeting.

IV. Each member group will be allowed one vote for every eight bona fide club members registered with the Eastern Division. Affiliated members shall not have a vote.

V. Method of voting shall be by written ballot or by show of hands at the annual or semiannual meetings, as requested by the proposer of any motion in question.

VI. Vacancies must be filled at the discretion of the Executive at their next meeting.

VII. The following order of business at all meetings shall be adhered to as closely as possible.

- |                                    |                        |
|------------------------------------|------------------------|
| a) call to order                   | f) President's report. |
| b) Roll call                       | g) Committee reports.  |
| c) reading of minutes              | h) Treasurers report.  |
| d) business arising out of minutes | i) New business        |
| e) Correspondence                  | j) Adjournment.        |

VIII. Any member whose dues have not been paid prior to January 1st shall be dropped from the roll until re-instated. Re-instatement shall be made upon payment of all outstanding dues.

IX. Specific Duties of the Executive are as follows:

1. To run the business of the Eastern Division.
2. To promote and hold a monthly workshop from October until April inclusive, and to publish workshop notes. Other workshops may be held as the need arises.
3. To promote and hold an annual Eastern Division Jamboree.
4. To provide for the promotion and good public relations of the Eastern Division .
5. To publish a monthly bulletin.
6. To appoint auditors to investigate and report upon the financial condition of the Eastern Division in time for a statement to be prepared for the annual meeting of the Eastern Division.

ADOPTED SAT SEPT. 26, 1953

Revised to April 30, 1957.

\*\*\*\*\*

DIRECTORY OF FOLK DANCE CLUBS (1958-59)  
 Eastern division FOLK DANCE FEDERATION OF MANITOBA  
 (A) GREATER UINNIPEG

<u>NAME OF CLUB</u>	<u>MEETING PLACE</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>
Allemande 8's Bourkevale Calico Couples Cardinal 8's Champlain Corner Capers Charleswood Stompers Circle Four	Crescentwood C.C. Bourkevale C.C. East Kildonan C.C. River Heights C.C. Champ lain C.C. Roblin Park C.C. 4 <sup>th</sup> Group Scout Hall	Rockwood & Corydon Ferry Rd. at Assiniboine Ave, Bronx Ave. & Henderson Hwy. Haskin & Oak Pepperloaf Crescent St. Mary's Rd. St. Vital

East Kildonan 8's Fortnighters Earl Grey Glow Worms Gay Garrys Glenlee Glenwheelers Kildonan Swingsters Lazy Eights Local Yokels Les Allouettes Northern Twisters Oriole 8's Pairs & Squares Promenaders Rhythm Ramblers Riverview Roundelay R.D. Club Ruffs & Ruffles Sashay 8's Sconawhirls Silver Stars Squareways Swing Y's Varsity View V.V. 8's Victoria Whirlaways Wagon Wheel Whirl-i-Peg Whirlwindsors Woodhaven Westerners Wildwood Whirlers Y Squares	East Kildonan C.C. St. Martins Parish Hail Earl Grey C.C. Parish Halt Glenlee C.C. Glenwood C.C., West Kildonan C.C. Norwood C.C. Deer Lodge C.C. Cercle Ouvrier North End YMCA Orioles C.C. Sir John Frank 1 in C.C. St. Patrick's Parish Hall East End C.C. Riverview C.C. East End C.C. Nor berry C.C. Maple Leaf C.C. Silver Heights C.C. College & Silver Ave. Y.M.C.A. Varsity View C.C. Victoria C.C. Sinclair Park C.C. St. James Halt Killarney & Springside Woodhaven School Parish Hall Y.M.H.A.	Bronx Ave. & Henderson Hwy, 160 Smithfield Aynsley & Garwood St. Paul's Anglican Church St. Anne's Road Overton & Dunraven Perth & Powers Bruce & Lyle, St James St. Joseph & Cathedral Burnell & St. Matthews Renfrew & Wellington Cresc, Spruce & Riddle Transcona Ashland & Eccles Transcona Margaret Ave. St. Vital Whittier Ave., Transcona Ness & Conway St. James Vaughn St. Roblin Blvd. Byng Place & Thurso Church & Sinclair 1845 1/2 Portage Ave. St. Vital Woodhaven, St. James St. Paul's Anglican Church 370 Hargrave
--	--	--

CLUBS NOT AFFILIATED

Harrow Oxford United Church Triple C's	Harrow Church Hall Oxford Church Hall Christ Church Hall	Fleet & Oxford Lanark & Corydon
--	--	------------------------------------

SOUTHERN DIVISION

Cartwright Clearwater Valley Twisters Circle Cee's Darlingford Killarney Manitou Mather Starlight Club Treherne Triple T's	Cartwright, Man. Clearwater, Man. Crystal City, Man. Darlingford, Man. Killarney, Man. Manitou, Man. Mather, Man. Pilot Mound, Man. Treherne, Man
--	---

PRECAMBRIAN DIVISION FLIN FLON

Belles & Beaux Do-C-Do Ross Lake Sashay Merry Minuettes Round Dance Club	Birchwood School St. James Hall Ross Lake School McIsaac School Parkdale School
--	---

NORTHERN DIVISION

Dauphin Quicksteppers Merry Mixers Kenville Mafeking Do-Si-Dos Togo	Town Hall Odd Fellows Hall	Dauphin, Man. Grandview, Man. Kenville, Man. Mafeking, Man. Roblin, Man. Togo, Sask
--	-------------------------------	--

\* We understand there are clubs also operating in Reston, McGregor & Richview

WESTERN DIVISION

Circle Eight West End Intermediates Southern Twirlers Park Beginners Jubilee 64 S.D.C. Brookdale Turtle Mountain Twisters Hartney Minnedosa Neepawa Ninga Sunshine Squares Sr. Sunshine Squares Jr.	East End C.C. West End C.C. South End C.C. Park C.C. Legion Hall Legion Hall Town Hall Town Hall Town Hall I.O.O.F. Hall Arcade Dance Hall Town Hall Legion Hall Legion Hall	Brandon, Man. Brandon, Man. Brandon, Man. Brandon, Man. Boissevain, Man. Boissevain, Man. Brookdale, Man Deloraine, Man. Hartney, Man. Minnedosa, Man. Neepawa, Man. Ninga, Man. Virden, Man. Virden, Man.
--	---	---

Belles & Beaux Roblin S.D.C. Russell S.D.C. Foxwarren S.D.C. Binscarth S.D.C.		Shoal Lake, Man. Roblin, Man. Russell, Man. Foxwarren, Man. Binscarth, Man.
---	--	---

LIST OF INSTRUCTORS AND CALLERS WINNIPEG\_1957 -58

Anderson, Doug W. Barfoot, Al Bernes, Art Brattston, Walt Carson, Dick Crockett, Al Dayton, Joe Downie, Ron Elwick, Ursula Gandy, Frank Cross, Harry Holmes, Joe Hugo, Irene Kostuck, Ellie Lansdown, Maurice Livingstone, Thora Martin, Doug Moran, Les Nelson, Reg Popham, Hugh Scrimgeour, George Spetz, Thord Tough, Lil Weeks, Tom	Almond, Ralph Barkwell, Stew Bingham, Clint Brattston, Kitty Casper, Bill Croome, J.Gord de Wolf, Jack Donald, Phil Fisher, Don Gandy, Harold Griffin, Cliff Home, Bill Hill, Gord/Isobel Kostuck, Paul Latta, Bob MacDonald, Roy Martin, Hazel Morton, Harold O'Sullivan, Jerry Ritch, Bob Shandre, John Thompson, Jim Van Every, Jack Wignall, Hilda	Angus, Bert Battley, Stan/Alma Blythe, Alan Bush, Hector Collins, Will Dale, George Dick, Bob & Marg Dowton, Ed Fleming, Ted Grauls, Gus Henwood, Lorne Huggins, Margaret Jones, Cy Lammiman, May Leitkie, Chuck MacGuire, Bruce Martin, Ken McCullough, Reg Pearson, Bob Ritch, Jessie Sharp, Wilf Thompson, Scotty Ward, Charles Wignall, Trevor	Bailey, Ralph Bayley, Ken Brattston, Walt Calthorpe, Norm Corder, Emil Daycock, Wm. Dobie, Eric Elwick, Neville Fromson, Mort Gray, Ed Hill, Don Hugo, Colin King, June Larkin, H. Little, Jack Malenfant, Vie Montgomery, Don McNeill, Ted Place, Bob Rutherford, Al Smith, Bill Thompson, Ara Webb, Jack Woodman, John
--	---	---	---

COUNTRY POINTS

Cutting, Anne James, Ron Neely, Sammy Douglas, Bob Stuart, Mrs. C Snider, Elsie Stevenson, Dave Buggy, W.R. Moxham, Dwight Frederick, Albert Perry, Edna Lanigan, George Nostedt, T. N.	Carman Carman Ericksdale MacGregor Fort Frances Portage Portage Portage Oaky me Transcona Transcona Transcona Treherne	Cutting, Earl McFadyen, Dan Jackson, Fred Steele, J M. Murray, Martin Smith, Marjorie Demman, Jim Chesney, Thos. Boyer, Al Johannson, Joe Lamoureux, Albert Turriff, Stan Lynch, P.L.	Carman Ericksdale Mac Donald Fort Frances Portage 1a Pr, Portage Portage Portage Stonewall Transcona Transcona Transcona Treherne
---	--	---	---



Note that in 1958 Transcona was considered a "country point" - only 6 miles from Winnipeg

To place caller with club would take too long, and I doubt if I could be accurate. Some clubs had as many as ten callers in those days. Gordon Hill would be carrying a supply of the latest Square and Round dance records. Rounds being danced - Penny Waltz, Bonita Two Step, Dreaming (waltz), Mannita Waltz. Round dance chosen -for Dec. 1957 - "ECHO"

In 1957-58 there were 14 officers on the Federation and of them nine were listed as square dance Callers. I think I've already pointed out that the Folk Dance Federation (eastern division) was organized by square dance callers.

Swing Ys - callers Gordon Groome & Ed Dowton had 125 members, both beginners and advanced.

Joe Lewis of Dallas Texas -featured at the 7th Annual Spring Jamboree at Weston School April 11/58 evening dance, April 12, aft. workshop and evening dance. Tickets limited to 40 squares each evening - no tickets sold at door. Tickets were available at dubs from Presidents at \$2.00 a couple.

Dec/57 -from "Grapevine" - (which would be present day Editorial). The First Round Dance Club has recently been "formed. Thirty -five couples were present at the first dance held Nov. 23rd. That would be the Roundelay club.

No date given, but sometime in 1958 a callers course put on by Ted McNeil, Harry Clarke, Ken Martin & Al Rutherford, in Portage 1a Prairie. The course was for five weeks (assumed - one night a week) and graduated fifteen prospective callers from PORTAGE, MacDonald, and Oakville. "Who, with practice are going to be heard from".

Sept. 12/58 - Notice that there will be a Guest Caller night, third Saturday of each month starting Sept. 20/58, first caller being Ken Martin.

Comments from the workshop Chairman Nov./58 - Thord Spetz. "later figures such as; Square thru, Dixie Chain, Alt Eight Lines Divide, etc. are not being used to any extent locally. I have danced all these figures at open dances in other cities and have been much impressed with the way they were received by dancers participating. The general impression I find around the local dubs is that these figures are HIGH LEVEL HOT HASH stuff and that the caller using them is either showing off or deliberately trying to foul up the dancers. This, I feel, is an entirely wrong interpretation of these figures ... next month (at the workshop) we shall do more work on these figures". (Hot Hash"?????)

Swing Y's preparing for a demonstration at the Dominion Theatre, April/58 will include Square Dancing and Folk Dancing, part of the Program of the Y.M.C.A. Talent Night.

There had been an upward trend in square dancing in the Fall of '58. Some of the smaller dubs had been wondering if they should continue, but at new season, every club had a considerable number of new dancers.

Harold & Vivian Gates, instructors from Trail B.C. to dropped in for a surprise visit to Champlain Corner Capers. Harold was amazed to learn that all our local callers contributed their talents free. Out west it was not uncommon for a caller to receive \$25.00 a night. (Bet that report stirred up a bucket of worms!)

Allemande 8's - 8th windup May/58. Jack Webb Instructor - Ethel McQueen's orchestra.

Gordon & Isobel instructing new Basic class of round dancing.

Swing Ys - 90 registered for beginners - 40 advanced. Only singles club in Winnipeg.

## HERE - THERE - AND A-ROUND

The Square Dance movement continues to grow - in all parts of the country, more and more people are attracted to it. A good part of this attraction is due to the variety that goes into our favorite recreation. Square dancing offers something of real value to everyone, young or old, new dancer or experienced, alike.

In the overall picture, round dancing is an important part of that variety. It has been said that square dancing is still the most natural approach to round dancing. In the early days of "country dancing" the square alternated with old time waltzes, polkas and schottisches. To many informality and fun of square dancing dissolved the shyness and restraint with which most men - and a few women, too, regarded the first awesome prospect of making their feet track properly down the floor to two step or waltz rhythm. This is still so today. Squares and rounds are natural complements, each furthering the enjoyment of the other.

A steadily increasing number of square dancers are coming to realize the fact that round dancing helps you to become a better square dancer. It teaches poise and ease of movement, requires more actual skill and grace - all of which are assets to the square dancer. Round dancing also provides a personal satisfaction according to the degree of competence attained

"Square dancing may be the mortar that will bind all our little stones together, bind our groups together. Its deep folk qualities working into the cracks and interstices of our fractured lives may help to bind the nation together." This quotation from Dr. Lloyd (Pappy) Shaw is taken from his book that is to be. Gordon Hill 1959

January, 1960 - Southern Division News. . . "The Southern Division is getting back into full swing for the coming season. There are seven active clubs in the area with three to five squares. Pilot Mound started the ball rolling with a Hallowe'en Jamboree and Circle C-'s, Crystal City began swinging their partners at the same time; while Cartwright, Clearwater, Mather, Manitou and Darlingford clubs have just reorganized for the winter programme."

Coming events - Eastern Division Extra workshop Portage la Prairie Jan 30/60 1:30-4:00 and evening dance.

Workshop squares sure don't look like they did back in '57 - "Chain Reaction, Split square thru variations, Dizzy Daisy. Round - "Bye Bye Blues"

The Junior Square Dance Jamboree under the auspices of the Manitoba Arts Council and the Eastern Division of the Folk Dance Federation will again be presented at the Civic Auditorium during the Easter week. He hope there will be as many participants as last year when six hundred children took part.

Vice-President reported in the June issue that 15 children's groups, including one from Portage la Prairie took part, bringing the number of children participating up to an estimated 800. Ted McNeill, Vice Pres. thanks the instructors and Community club executives who helped stage this affair, but mentions no names as to who were the instructors and what community clubs took part.

In June, 1961, Thord Spetz reported, "Our Junior Jamboree this year had an attendance of about 1300 children, an amazing increase from 700 in attendance a short two years ago. In fact, the Winnipeg Auditorium was filled to capacity and any appreciable increase in attendance in the future would probably mean a two night affair. The Manitoba Arts Council, who are now the sponsors of the Junior week, volunteered the information that the admissions amount of take at the door came to approximately \$500.00". The amount taken in at the door was of particular interest to the Federation, because there was a possibility that this event may eventually have to be sponsored by the Federation alone, but an event that was considered one of the better and

worthwhile projects that should be promoted each year. The combined cost of bus transportation and hall rental was in the neighborhood of \$800.00. In 1962 the Manitoba Arts Council decided not to have their annual Children's Festival of the Arts. The Federation decided to take the project on themselves, as the Junior S/D Festival had always had more participants than any other event during the Children's Festival of the Arts. Those who had the pleasure of watching 1300 to 1400 children between 6-12 years old square dancing in one hall will realize it would have been a great pity to deprive the children of such a wonderful affair and will agree that it should be continued. It was however due to limited time and expense decided that it would be held on May 23 at Polo Park.

In 1963, it was Colin Hugo's job as Vice President to organize the Children's Jamboree. With no more funds coming from the Canada Council, the Federation did not have the necessary funds to rent the Auditorium. They were unable to find a hall in Winnipeg which would be satisfactory, but Thord Spetz finally arranged for a rink in Transcona, East End Community Club (Transcona Rink). How many attended I cannot find. A notice in Feb. Issue, 1965 - Children's Jamboree, Wed April 21st/65 Vincent Massey Collegiate - Children's dancing 7-9 p.m. 1st year level - Adults - 9-11 p.m. The number of children dancing had dropped again this year - 35 squares (that is only 280 compared to the 1300 to 1400 in 1962).

April 13/66 same place, about the same number of children. Out of towns represented, Beausejour, Glenboro, Portage la Prairie, and Southport. Metro clubs included Bourkevale, Kirkfield Park, Lord Roberts, Norberry, Orioles and Principal Sparling. Several Metro clubs and at least two out of town clubs had dropped out. The fact that attendance was not appreciably reduced, in spite of fewer clubs represented and extremely unsettled weather conditions, was most gratifying. In his Annual report in 1967, John Dempster - then Vice-president stated that attempts to organize the Annual event of the Children's Jamboree revealed that a number of instructors who had for years worked faithfully with a junior square dance group, had now ceased to do so. The number of children's groups active and interested in participating in a Jamboree during Easter week was down drastically. The previous location for this event, Vincent Massey Collegiate was much too large for the number of dancers anticipated. When this became apparent, attempts were made to secure alternate accommodation of suitable size, but satisfactory arrangements could not be made. Therefore, for this year it had to be cancelled.

So that was that - the Children's Jamboree seemed to have died a natural death. In '68 the new Vice-Pres Doug Beatty mentions plans they had for a "Teen-Club" in Transcona, which unfortunately failed before it got off the ground.

The first mention I can find of Square dancing at the Red River Ex is in June, 1959. "There will be Square Dancing every night at the Red River Exhibition, June 19th to June 27th, 1959. Top Callers, good floor, good sound, live music.

In 1960 - Red River Ex Dancing, June 24th - July 2nd.

Gopher S.D. Club held their first Camporee Jamboree and Fish Derby at Holiday Beach, Lac Du Bonnet, July 1st, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3rd, 1960.

Sept. 30th, 1960 - Polo Park Shopping Centre Square Dance Party - all members are invited from 9:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. Live music, top callers - all for free!

Manitoba Provincial Jamboree, Saturday, April 29th, 1961. Callers and dancers from all Divisions of the Manitoba Folk Dance Federation, Portage Collegiate, Portage 1a Prairie.

Eastern Division's 10th Spring Jamboree, April 14th & 15th, 1961. Johnny Leclair of Wyoming calling. These two are dances by tickets only.

BISMARCK, N.D. 2nd International S.D. Convention, June 2nd & 3rd, 1961.

Registrations; Gordon Hill or Ken Martin. (We would like to feature an exhibition group of dancers from Winnipeg and District contact one of the above if you would like to take part).

March, 1961 - from the Grapevine... one of the outstanding events of this month was the workshop at Gimli, Man. It must have been a great inspiration and satisfaction to the workshop committee to have worked with such an enthusiastic and cooperative group.... those of us who left Gimli at around 12:30 in the snow storm finally became bogged down in the drifts across the road three miles from Winnipeg Beach, and had to leave the cars. As luck would have it, a tow truck came along and the twenty of us managed to clamber on board and were transported to the Beach hotel, where we got accommodation for the night... the next afternoon the five cars were found on the wrong side of the road and all the snow blown clear of that part of the road. We all arrived back in Winnipeg about 4:30 Sunday afternoon, (some of the old timers will remember that hair raising experience).

In 1957, the Nominating Committee was apologizing to those they could not ask to stand for office. In 1961, the President wrote a letter urging club members to allow their name to stand.

Aug. 5th - 7th, 1961 2nd Gophers Camporee at Holiday Beach. Square and Round dancing with Thord Spetz and Joe Johannson.

Thord started dancing many, many years ago in Saskatchewan. He and Isobel used to dance three to four times a week before they were married, and have kept up the pace ever since.

#### **NOTICE**

For some time your "Federation" has been requested to hold classes at some central location for those who wish to begin Square Dancing. On October 16, 1961 under the auspices of the Winnipeg School Board Adult Recreation Section, registration of a class for beginners will be taken at Mulvey School, Maryland and Wolseley, starting at 7:00 p.m.. Classes will be each Monday for 15 weeks, Oct. 16th - Dec. 4th, 1961, and Jan. 8th Feb. 19th, 1962. The fee will be \$6.00 per couple.

Kindly inform your Club members so that they may have their friends participate in this wonderful recreation.

Upon completion of the course, they will be most welcome to join the Square Dance Club of their choice.

\*\*\*\*\*

November, 1961 - from the Grapevine... We extend a welcome to HILL TOPPERS ROUND DANCE CLUB, the newest group to join the Federation. This is a club class, and meets Monday evenings at Norwood Credit Hall in Norwood under the instruction of Gordon & Isobel Hill.

Another revised Constitution - still only two pages - revised and adopted at the Annual Meeting, Saturday May 13th, 1961.

From the Vice President's report, May, 1962 (Joe Johannson).

..This year the Red River Exhibition offered the Federation the opportunity to completely take over Square Dancing at the Ex. In other words, they were offering us a donation of \$200.00 to finance our putting on 8 days of square dancing at the exhibition. Our Executive decided to turn it down as it appeared the cost of sponsoring this event may be considerably more than the \$200.00, plus a considerable amount of work on our part. This year the Red River Ex will be running Square Dancing for the full 8 days, with Bob Dawson of Florida calling for the first four days, local callers for the last four days.

This year past, I was largely responsible for the formation of another Association in this

area. It may seem strange to some people, being on one Association executive and being responsible for the organization of another. For the past two years on our executive I endeavored to get some assistance for the callers in this area aside from the terrific workshops being presented now, but with no success. As this is primarily a dancers Association, a Federation of clubs, this is very understandable. My feeling on this was that the only way the callers would receive what they really wanted was to get together and do it themselves, which is being done. When we presented this to the meeting last year, we were told to go ahead and do it on our own....."

Joe Johansson is another dancer who has been connected with Square dancing for a long while, having called in several Eastern cities as well as in many towns in and around Manitoba. He is a very well known caller due partly to his calling on T.V. for The Red River Jamboree.

International Convention: With this convention now established as an annual affair it was felt that the Federation should make a bid for the convention to be held in Winnipeg in 1962.

1961 - One of the highlights of the year was the First Year Dancers Jamboree held April 8th in place of the usual Federation dance. A floor of almost 40 squares created a memorable evening as their spontaneous enthusiasm was caught up by the callers, all of whom measured up to the occasion admirably. There is little doubt the success of this venture will ensure similar events in the future, (and that is one venture that did not fall by the wayside - from 1961 to the present 1984, there has been, each year, a First Year Dancer's Jamboree.)

#### NOTICE

A new Association has been formed under the name of "The Square Dance Callers Association of Manitoba."

#### Purpose:

- (a) The promotion of better Square Dancing in co-operation with the Square Dance Federation of Manitoba.
- (b) Self Improvement Program for Callers and Instructors.
- (c) Acceptance of Movements.
- (d) Acceptance of Basic Instruction.
- (e) To help Callers enjoy the help and fellowship of the Callers in this area.

#### ORGANIZATION

- (a) Members shall be Callers and Instructors.
- (b) Fees shall be \$5.00 per year for Membership.
- (c) Meetings will be held the 4th Sunday of each month, in the afternoon at 1:30 p.m. at the Crescentwood Community Centre.

The Callers will not sponsor dances, but will concentrate on the education and promotion of Callers.

No member of the Callers Association Executive will be allowed to hold office on the Square Dance Federation Executive during the same year.

EXECUTIVE (elected on Aug. 15, 1961, at the Callers Meeting)

President.....Jack Van Every

Vice-President.....Bert Angus

Secretary..... Irene Hugo

Treasurer.....Hammy Morton

Anyone desiring information and interested in attending, please contact any member of the Executive.

May 31, 1962 - . June 2, 1962 THIRD INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION - New Marlborough Hotel Winnipeg. Thursday evening dancing, Friday & Saturday Workshops & dancing. Banquet Saturday evening. Dances are being held in the SKY VIEW BALLROOM and the MARLBOROUGH HALL. General Chairmen were Gordon & Isobel Hill. The Convention was a huge success.

June 21st, 1962 - The Manning Smiths at Weston School.

Aug. 8th, 1962 - Fred Bailey dance at Winakwa Community Club - Federation trying a midsummer dance.

Colin Hugo replaces Joe Johannson as Vice-President - 1962/63.

Square Dance Beginners classes going over so well at Mulvey High - two more schools allocated this year - Elmwood High and Daniel McIntyre. Workshop figures beginning to look more like today's figures, "Peel Off", "Centres In", "Cast Off".

List of Callers sent in by Clubs now number 36 - guess with the rest of the long list of a few years back they either couldn't hack it, it was only a passing fancy, or they moved away.

The May, 1961 issue of the News letter was headed "NEWS LETTER AND WORKSHOP NOTES OF THE FOLK DANCE FEDERATION OF MANITOBA (eastern Division). The June, 1961 issue of the Newsletter has changed the heading to "SQUARE DANCE FEDERATION" - The change is not mentioned in any of the reports, but it must have been decided at the Annual Meeting. Had to dig back to find that one.

Grapevine - March, 1963... there are approximately 1,800 registered members in the Eastern Division of the Square Dance Federation of Manitoba.

Grapevine - April, 1963.... The Eastern Division of the Square Dance Federation has a Round Dance Council made up of a number of couples who teach Round Dancing in this area. This group meets once a month to evaluate numerous round dances as to their suitability for club usage. There were nine couples originally - Art & Ida Bernes, Dick & Gladys Carson, Roy & Cora Haslund, Gordon & Isobel Hill, Paul & Ellie Kostuck, Albert & Marg Lamoureaux, Doug & Hazel Martin, Bob & Jessie Pitch, and Thord & Isobel Spetz.

Two meetings had been held by the Presidents of the Square Dance clubs to plan and promote a gala Square Dance Week, with a proclamation declared by the Mayors and Reeves in support of the occasion throughout Manitoba.

April 20th, 1963 - Lee Helsel called to well over 70 squares at an evening dance at the Notre Dame Auditorium in St. Boniface.

Annual Report of President Thord Spetz, 1963.....

re; School Program - This, to many of us, a seemingly worthwhile endeavor to encourage and to recruit new dancers, was not given a chance to prove its worth by the leaders in the city. Many leaders and square dancers from cities and square dance areas across the country eyed us with much envy when they learned that we had acquired schools free, and the support of the Winnipeg School Division, in a program to enlist new square dancers. This phase of our Square Dance program which is so vital to a healthy, happy and expanding activity, such as we all look

and hope for, had to be cancelled due to lack of interest by that very essential element  
-BEGINNERS.

Starting the new season in Oct. 1963 - notice of 6 Guest Caller Dances in new location - St. Andrew's Anglican Church Hall, 2690 Portage Avenue. Four Callers -Thord Spetz, Roy Hastund, Dick Carson and Ken Martin - all four calling on the 1st and 6th night.

"Acey-Deucey" and "Swing-Thru", presented at Workshop.

Grapevine - Dec. 1963.... we have been informed that Thord & Belle Spetz "new Round Dance Club has been officially named "The Merri-Mixer Round Dance Club". Registration has closed for this season with a total membership of 26 couples.

Annual Meeting. May/64 - After being on the executive and Editor for ten years, Maurice Lansdown, owing to present pressure of business, resigns the position of Editor. Merle & Ralph Almond succeed Maurice.

Round Dance Teachers Council announce their 2nd Round Dance party - Queen Elizabeth School May 29th, 1964. Program planned for newer dancers as well as the more experienced.

Oct. 23rd & 24th, 1964 - Fort Garry Hotel - Winnipeg's first Annual Fun Fest. Friday: Dinner & Dance. Saturday; Afternoon Workshop, Evening Banquet & Dance. Callers; Earle Park of Yorkton, and Ken Martin of Winnipeg. Round Dancing; Thord & Isobel Spetz.

Camping Square Dancers - June 6th at Rock Lake, July 4th at Crookston, Minn., July 17th & 18th at Thief River Falls, August 1st at Kenora, Out., August 29th at Gimli. As often as possible, dancing will be free, only when necessary to rent a hall will there be a charge. Among the well known callers who have offered to assist in the programs are; Bill Agnew, Thord Spetz, Art Bernes, Roy Haslund, Joe Johannson, Bert Angus and John McDonald. Interested camping square dancers should contact "Bus" Kenyon for information. In the October 1964 issue, Bus reported that an average of 12-13 squares attended the mentioned Camporees.

Notice: "Help us to help others at Christmas". Your Square Dance Federation and Radio CKY present a Square Dance Night in the Mall at Polo Park, at 8:00 p.m. on Wednesday, December 16th, 1964. Admission: one can of food per person. For further details, watch daily papers or listen to CKY 580 on your dial. Bill Grogan – CKY.

Colin Hugo - Federation President.

Fortnighters holding a New Year's Dance, Saturday January 2nd, 1965, at St. Martin's Parish Hall.

Workshop figures - "Dixie Style to an Ocean Wave", "Spin the Top". Round of the month; "Kentucky Home".

Newsletter down to 400 copies now. Only 1,195 registered club members now in the Eastern Division, with 33 clubs registered.

The Lansdowns and the Simpsons received "Life Memberships" in honor of their years of work as Editor and Publisher.

March 13th, 1965 - Evening dance at lesson School - PAST PRESIDENT'S NIGHT. They will be calling dances that were popular during their term of office.

April 3rd, 1965 - Callers Association - Spring Dance Jamboree at Vincent Massey School.



May 28th, 1965 - Round Dance Festival - sponsored by the Winnipeg Round Dance Teacher's Council. The program will include squares and contras. Queen Elizabeth School.

Bus Kenyon reported that all Camporees had again been most successful - Rock Lake, Clear Lake, Thief River Falls and Kenora. More clubs starting to use up Saturdays for extra Jamborees, and looks as though Joe Johannson is putting on a workshop once a month at Arthur Day School in Transcona.

Only 8 squares at the November workshop, and 19 at the evening dance - quite a drop from the old 35-40 squares.

7th Annual Jamboree for Belles & Beaux with Joe Johannson & Bert Angus calling - Miles MacDonell Collegiate, March 5th, 1966.

Meri-Mixer Round Dance Club now dancing every second and fourth Sunday evening in Crescentwood Community Club.

That nasty old Department of National Revenue, Customs and Excise..... "this publication in the condition as sample examined, without conventional Magazine format, i.e. without a masthead and carrying a distinctive title and dateline showing the month and year of production, is subject to sales tax, whether or not advertising is included". This then told us that we should change our masthead immediately and give our publication a name, which we have done - "The Manitoba Square Dancer" official organ of the Square Dance Federation of Manitoba (eastern division). There is no longer a Southern Division of Square Dancing in Manitoba, so we are wondering if the Eastern Division should be dropped.

At the January 1966, Executive meeting, it was moved that a donation would be sent to the Sing-Ezy Disaster fund in Keokuk, Iowa. Sixteen people lost their lives and a great many were injured at the end of November, when an explosion collapsed the building they were square dancing in. Clubs are also urged to make a donation.

In Memorium - We mourn the loss of our Immediate Past President, Colin Hugo who passed away February 3rd, 1966. Donations may be made to the Manitoba Heart Fund, if desired.

Joe & Shirley Johannson's Ring A Round round dance club dancing at ?? on Tuesday nights started.

Nov. 6th, 1966 - Manitoba Square Dance Jamboree and Workshop Saturday at Portage la Prairie. Callers from the Western and Eastern divisions of the Square Dance Federation.

In President Dick Carson's annual report in 1966, Dick remarks that being tied up from Wednesday to Saturday calling, does not leave much time for visiting member clubs. He suggests that the President of the Federation should perhaps be a dancer rather than a caller and instructor.

Federation quite fortunate to have a chairman of the calibre of Don Hill, who took over after the demise of Colin Hugo as Chairman of the 8th Annual International Convention to be held in Winnipeg.

Only 300 copies of the newsletter being printed now, the number of dancers has dropped considerably since the late 1950's. The cost of the newsletter has been raised to \$1.50 per season.

Round dancing commencing at Orioles Community Club every Wednesday for the summer months.

Presidents and representatives from 20 square dance clubs met Sept. 14th, 1966. Two pages of minutes, many problems discussed, but not too many solved.

6 guest caller dances to be held - same callers, Dick, Ken, Thord and Roy - new location:

St. James Anglican Church.

THE STETSON STRUTTERS SQUARE DANCE CLUB, OTTAWA, ONT. are sponsoring a square dance train tentatively scheduled to leave Halifax June 24th, 1967, and return to Halifax on July 8th. WOW! some of us remember that train - will be referring to it at a later date.

Camporees in 1966 were held at Rock Lake, Thief River Falls and Kenora (Rabbit Lake).

You could buy a crinoline at Howell's for \$15.98!

Paul & Ellie Kostuck presented the Round of the Month "Desert Blues" at the Federation workshop and evening dance. Paul & Ellie started dancing in 1948 and were instrumental in organizing the Champlain Corner Capers. Paul was also president of the Northern Twisters for three years. This club danced at the north end "Y" and at one time was one of the largest clubs in the city.

At the evening dance on Nov. 12th, 1966, only 17 squares were in attendance; Multiple callers (Ernie Knecht, Les Moran, Bert Angus, Marg Huggins and Ken Martin). Don & Shirley presented the lovely round "Mexicali Rose" - it is still with us.

I still continue to pick up little bits here and there that I would have had on hand had those first few volumes of the Newsletter not been missing - for instance:

Merle & Ralph Almond started dancing back in 1948 with the Laura Secord club.

A long letter in the December issue written by Lena & Charlie Vogt and Madeleine & Bill Dick, describing their Square dances tour of Europe. They were the only Manitobans on the trip, but everyone seemed to have the most glorious time dancing and seeing the sights all over Europe and London, England.

Round of the Month for Dec/66 was "Marie" presented by Peggy & Charlie Waksdale. "Pass to the Centre" and "Cloverleaf" being work shopped. Some of the smaller dubs amalgamating because of falling membership.

The answer to the "Why" of the Tartan ribbon used to advertise the 8th International to be held June 1st to 3rd, 1967. . . . . "This is the official Manitoba tartan approved by the Lord Lyon King at Arms, Guardian of Scottish Heraldry, and registered in Scotland as the Official Tartan of the Province of Manitoba. Each colour has its own significance:

**DARK RED SQUARE AREA** - for the Red River Settlement (1912) and for the fur trading posts from which developed many of Manitoba's urban centres.

**GREEN SQUARES** - for the rich natural resources of the Province - farmlands, forests, minerals, fisheries and water power.

**AZURE BLUE LINES** - for Thomas Douglas, 5th Earl of Selkirk, founder of the Red River Settlement (Winnipeg) and where the lines intersect, the forks of the Red and Assiniboine Rivers, site of the first permanent settlement.

**DARK GREEN LINES** - for the men and women of many races who have enriched the life of the Province.

**GOLDEN LINES** - for the grain crops and farm produce which makes up a large segment of the economy of the Province.

Everyone, the host & hostesses, the committee members, etc., will be wearing one of these ribbons.

On looking back and reading all the information in our Journal, 1967 being Canada's Centennial year, was quite a year. Seems as though every province and so many of the clubs were holding "Centennial Jamborees". Here in Manitoba we are coming closer to our own big "International Convention", and waiting final word on the Centennial Ottawa Stetson Strutters Square Dance Train. First it was on schedule then off schedule, then back on again!

Annual Meeting coming up and it seems as if more are "stepping down" this year, and getting harder to get a fair distribution of candidates from a greater number of clubs to allow their names to stand for nomination.

George Simpson, after being Publisher for twelve years, due to pressure of business, writes his final Publishers report. He will be missed, as he and Maurice Lansdown as Editor had done a marvelous job for years, they both gave their wives great credit for the help they had given, and George gives sincere thanks to Ralph and Meryl for their valuable assistance in putting the Newsletter together. Looking ahead in the Journal, Hammy Morton took on the job as Publisher in the fall of 1967, and of course Meryl had taken over as Editor in 1964.

I have looked high and low, back and forth trying to find the exact time we lost two of the people who did most for square dancing AND round dancing in Manitoba - Thord & Belle Spetz. The closest I can come is in a Meri-Mixer club report by "Bus" Kenyon - in the June 1967 issue....."Yours truly was called upon to make a presentation to Belie & Thord with mixed emotions, as in all probability these two stalwarts will have moved to Saskatoon by the time this newsletter is printed."

The highlight of our Canadian Centennial year was, of course, the 8th International. After two years of planning, it was suddenly here - June 1st, 2nd & 3rd - Dick Carson's report said that in his opinion it was the best International to date. 510 couples registered. The breakfast on Memorial Blvd. was something special. We were there, and I swear we fed half the people of Winnipeg. They kept coming and coming, and I am sure we had more than the 510 dancing couples. But the able ones in charge kept bringing more supplies as several cooked pancakes, sausages and bacon. This big effort was put forth by Irene Hugo and her team of Paul Kostuck, Milo Shepherd, Jack Warburton, Tom Kinney and Dick Carson. Fifteen callers kept the dancers on their toes for two hours while they waited their turn to be fed or danced after they ate - Dick Carson was M.C. and Roy Haslund and Ernie Corder set up the sound. Even the cleaning up was a huge success, not a grease spot left!

Now to the Stetson Strutters Centennial Train - no-one that I can find wrote up a summary of the event after it happened, though lots was written before - so I'll have to go mostly from memory. On the way west it was supposed to have arrived in

Winnipeg for a stopover of half an hour, arriving at the C.N. station at 10:30 p.m. As I recall, it was closer, to midnight, but the new President, John Dempster and wife, and enough dancers met them to have the scheduled half hour dancing in spite of the late hour. Coming back they were supposed to be in Winnipeg at 3:30 p.m., and we were to feed them out at the R.C.A.F. Drill Hall where a smorgasbord supper was being supervised by Paul Kostuck. All of us who were helping with this effort were out at the hall early and had supper ready to go the minute they arrived. We waited and waited - got word the train was running "late - we waited some more - finally got word it was running too late to bring them all out to the drill hall to be fed. So we went ahead and ate anyway, had a good feed too, because there was PLENTY - we had

expected to feed over four hundred. We had no sooner finished and started to put the food we had brought back out in our cars - when we suddenly got word again - the supper was on again - they were not only coming - they were HERE, and very hungry. What a mad scramble behind the scenes - scraping the bottom of bowls, praying to Heaven the food would last out. It did, maybe some at the tail-end didn't have much choice, but they were satisfied - we had a great dance after - not as long as planned - then they went back to the train by bus.

By the way, one of the reasons this train of Square dancers travelled across Canada was even then, as early as 1967, to promote the possibility of a Canadian Federation of Square and Round dancers from coast to coast!

The Editors (Almonds) were spending their summer at "Almond Acres" Husavik Road near Winnipeg Beach & Gimli. They invited square dancers to bring along their camping equipment and join them.

Manitoba Centennial Jamboree - at Portage la Prairie - Stu Fox from the Western Division and Ernie Corder from the Eastern - Workshop Chairmen Oct. 28/67.

First Round Dance Teach-in; Sept. 30th and Oct. 1st, 1967, at Crescentwood Community Club - geared primarily at teaching the caller how to instruct round dancing at the square dance club level.

Labour Day Weekend Callers Clinic - Instructors Joe Johannson and Bert Angus. First weekend institute in the history of square dancing in Manitoba.

Boo-boo made at the December Christmas dance - the idea of a "mixer" to set up partners for the coffee party did not go over at all. The idea had been to mix the rural dancers with the city dancers, but the idea did not go over - partners did not like the idea of being split up, those who did stay enjoyed themselves - but many did not plan to stay for the Coffee Party.

Marg & Alex Wallace took over as instructors for Meri-Mixers after Thord and Belle left - still dancing Sunday evenings at Crescentwood Community Centre.

"Sweet Thang" was the round dance of the month for January 1968, Workshop figure; "Fan the Top".

First all day Workshop, Dance & Smorgasbord sponsored by Western Federation and Western Callers Association on March 2nd, 1968 - in the Elks Hall, Brandon.

Result of the Stetson Strutters Trip across Canada, a steering committee with Earle & Jean Park of Saskatoon as Chairman, Vice-Chairman Art & Garrie Jackson of Ottawa. Secretary Jean & Don Rutherford. Representatives from each province, Shirley & Don Hill for our region. OBJECT - to enable dancers from across Canada to get to know one another. To promote a Canadian Square and Round Dance Convention staffed by Canadian leaders. To establish a Directory of Canadian Square and Round Dance clubs and the names and addresses of Canadian Callers and Round Dance instructors.

PINAWA No-Sno-Blo Saturday March 30th, 1968 - Tour of Atomic Research Centre. Workshop with Joe Johannson, dinner, dance, and after party. Fee \$6.50 for the day.

March, 1968 - First mention of Centennial "70" Festival - approximate dates April 30th - May 2nd, Winnipeg, Canada. (this for Manitoba Centennial).

Another new Constitution to be discussed at the Annual Meeting - last one was revised to May 12th, 1962. (only two pages).

Time -for nominations again - Meryl and Ralph Almond wish to step down as Editors. It is also suggested that a new position be added, that of "Subscription secretary". This has been one of the Jobs of the Editors - -Fairly heavy at the beginning of the year. So far only six nomination forms have been returned with names. One of the nomination forms has been received from Morden, signed by Ruth Petland. Secretary Treasurer, with the following notation "Judging from the "mass evacuation" of city club members just before the final dance of the Christmas party, (which was a mixer and required eating lunch with outside dancers) I'm sure that whatever opinion the country clubs might have on this matter will not carry any weight". Which goes to show you that country folks have long memories. Although dear Dick' Carson tried to smooth things over - saying that it was the fault of the Federation in trying to split up COUPLES, and NOT the fault of the individual dubs - that there had also been a 25th Anniversary of a popular square dance couple which a great many of the square dancers slipped away to attend after taking part in the Workshop and evening dance. They thought they were helping the Federation by attending part of the evening, but it seems some took exception to this. Dick winds up by saying "Oh well, you can't win them all".

April 68 - Dick Carson has a long article in the Newsletter about the Round Dance Teachers Council and the Round dance clubs in Winnipeg. The oldest club, the "Roundelay" organized in 1954 with Gordon & Isobel Hill as first President. The Meri-Mixers Club - started by Thord & Belie Spetz, who now reside in Saskatoon, currently being instructed by Alex & Marg Wallace. St. Vital Tuesday Nighters -instructors Bob & Jessie Rich. The Happy Pairs - Hammy & Hattie Morton are the leaders of this group. The St. James Dance-A-Rounds started at the request of square dancers wanting to learn round dance basics - Dick & Gladys as instructors in the St. James Anglican Hall. The Ring-A-Rounds in Transcona under Joe & Shirley Johannson, beginners from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. - regulars from 8:30 to 10:00 p.m.

Manitoba Camping Square Dancers - Camporees at Rock Lake in June, Almonds Acres, Husavik, in July, Thief River Falls the beginning of August, Kenora/Rabbits Lake the end of August. Some of us found Almonds Acres for the first time and settled there each summer for years. To begin with it was primarily a square dance crowd. Square dancers had laboured with Ralph & Meryl to turn it into a good camping area - swings for the kids - sand boxes - a round wooden platform for dancers, and every Saturday night Ralph would set up his equipment and light a huge bonfire. The kids had their hot dogs and marshmallows, while we adults had fun dancing. Then, like anything else, the atmosphere began to change - more young people came in, they wanted their kind of music. It gradually got too much for Ralph & Meryl, I guess, and they sold out. With the new owner it was strictly business, and you could step out of your trailer and shake hands with your neighbor - you could no longer choose where you wanted to camp, and sometimes you were stuck out in the blistering sun. I think some of the Paws N Taws still have a bit of a Camporee there each year yet - but many of us gave it up - too bad - it was one of our happiest memories of square dancers having fun.

April 1963 - First Year dancers Jamboree - attendance 38 squares - the best attended dance of the season.

Where there used to be 550 copies of the Newsletter printed in 1957, by 1968 the number was down to approximately 275, cut in half in just over ten years. Gordon Windatt did a bang up job on Publicity, his Newsletter covers with pictures of Callers, etc. couldn't have been better. He went to a lot of trouble. Irene Hugo's name down on the Executive as Subscription Secretary for

1968, and Al Golding as new Editor.

The Newsletter also notes that the Hilltoppers Round dance club, formed in January 1959, has been instructed from its inception by Cordon & Isobel Hill. It started as a club class in Round dance basics, but it now dances in rec rooms of members, working on intermediate level rounds with emphasis on technique and styling.

**NEW FORMAT FOR FEDERATION DANCES** - Each monthly Federation dance will feature one or at the most, two callers, instead of eight as has been the regular practice for many years. The featured caller, or callers, will be selected by the Workshop Committee and will be topflight callers from our own area. The caller(s) will be responsible for the whole of the evening's square dance program. On occasion, as opportunity permits, it is proposed to feature an out-of-area caller on the program for one of our regular Federation square dances.

To invoke a greater participation of our member clubs in Federation activities, two of our member clubs will be invited each month to sponsor that month's Federation dance. These two clubs will be responsible for advertising, staff at the dance to look after admissions at the door, and to assemble and disassemble our sound system etc. Paid admissions in excess of 18 squares will be split equally between the two sponsoring clubs.

Nov. 23rd, 1968 - Annual joint Workshop and Dance - sponsored by the Eastern and Western Manitoba Square Dance Federations to be held at Treherne.

Monday, October 7th, 1968 - Meri-Mixers Round dance Club started off their evening in St. James Anglican Church Halt. Alex & Marg Wallace unable to continue instructing due to the illness of Alex. Dick & Gladys taking over, bringing with them their own Dance-A-Long Round dance club.

Dec. 1968 - **GUEST CALLER SERIES CANCELLED.** It is with regret that the Guest Caller Dances which have been a third Saturday feature in this area for the last eight years or so has had to be cancelled by the Carsons & Hastunds. Always a four couple participation affair, it had cut down to three when Thord & Belie Spetz left for Saskatoon, and the injury to Ken Martin a year ago will keep him and Fran off the dance floor. This will force them to quit, as Ken feels you must dance to keep the timing etc. of the new movements. It was felt that the two couples left could not do justice to the after party portion of the dance, which had come to be a tradition with the group. They would like to thank all the dancers who have made this night such a party-like affair. With the St. James Anglican Hall booked for the season by the Guest Callers and not being used, the Winnipeg Round Dance Teachers Council decided to take over those nights in January, February and March (the third Saturday of each month) to run a two plus two dance - i.e. - two Squares and two Rounds, with various callers from the Teachers Council.

Though the following statistics may not be gospel, they are, however, the numbers listed on the yearly Club Data sheets from 1963 to 1968, as noted by Editor Al Goldin

1963- 37 clubs, 1515 dancers, 66 callers.	1964- 40 clubs, 1675 dancers, 48 callers.
1965- 36 clubs, 1390 dancers, 45 callers.	1966- 44 clubs, 1611 dancers, 66 callers.
1967- 29 clubs, 983 dancers, 55 callers.	1968- 31 clubs, 1067 dancers, 40 callers.

Also noted in the statistics changes in the Eastern Division. Not operating (or as Al says "in darkness") ALAMO CALICO SQUARES, COUNTRY COUSINS, GAY SQUARES, GLENWHEELERS, HI HATS, JET SQUARES, KING MEMORIAL SQUARES, MERRY MAKERS, NAVY SQUARES, NORTHERN TWISTERS, PAIRS & SQUARES of Winnipeg, PLANET 8'S, POPLAR POINTERS, STARS & BUCKS, TANGLEFOOT 8'S, TRIPLE C'S,

WAGON WHEELS, WESTRIDGE SQUARES.

CHARLESWOOD STOMPERS now dancing with HEADINGLY-HOE-DOWNERS, DANCE-A-ROUNDS now with MERI-MIXERS RDC, PROMENADERS & WHIRL-I-PEGS now with WHIRL-PROMS, RED RIVER REELERS & SQUAREWAYS now with AIRWAY REELERS.

The following are private clubs not associated with the Square Dance Federation of Manitoba (eastern division), and operating on an if, as, and when they feel like it basis; HAPPY PAIRS, HILLTOPPERS, RING-A-ROUNDS, and the TUESDAY NIGHTERS. Further, Mr. Golden says "We note for the current year that there are ten clubs who are not enjoying themselves, have no news of any interest, are keeping their activities highly classified, or their Club Reporters have gone on strike."

Workshop and Dance - Saturday, February 8th, 1969 - Thor Sigurdson and John Molter calling.

18th Annual Jamboree - Arnie Kronenberger from Los Angeles, California - 44 squares on the floor at the evening dance - largest crowd since I don't know when.

Saturday, April 19th, 1969 - the "RETIREMENT" dance of Bert Angus and Joe Johannson. Bert never came back - but Joe couldn't stay away from calling - he was back a few years later - bigger and better.

Alex Wallace died April 13th, 1969, (He and wife Marg had been instructing Meri-Mixers RDC prior to Alex's illness).

Hammy & Hattie Morton - married 50 years on April 12th, 1969. Hammy says he first square danced at their house warming at "Long Acres" their summer home, in 1933 - but Hattie had been dancing long before he met her!

June, 1969 - Doug Beatty the new President of the Federation. That was the year I went on as Secretary - a greenhorn - little did I know what I was getting myself into.

In October of 1969, Bus Kenyon pulled down the curtain on the Manitoba Campers (square dance campers, that is). After five years he thought the interest had waned. That's what he thought? The Callers Association decided to take it on, and I think by then I was Secretary of the Callers too, and it fell on my shoulders to arrange the Camporees. We had fun for quite a few more years. We had a great Camporee at Husavik July 11th to 13th, even if it was the hottest weekend of '69. Friday night square dances were called by Paul Kostuck, Peter Blyth and Elite Kostuck. Saturday night, Roy Haslund was the lone caller, but being so hot square dancing was once again curtailed. Who remembers "Walking to Kansas City" or "Ka-lu-a Shag"? Wow!

East West Jamboree - November 15th, 1969 - callers - the BEST of the two Federalions.

Emerson Boundary 8's - Saturday January 31st, 1970 - Callers Thor Sigurdson and Phil Roy. Was that the year we got snowbound and had to spend the day at Sigurdsons'?

A newsletter from the Swinging 69ers reminding us that they are the former Swing Y's - having changed their name because they are no longer dancing out of the "Y" but now out of St. Patrick's Church Hall.

June 4th, 5th & 6th, - the 11th International at Bismark - quite a few from Manitoba attended.

Part of President Beatty's comments - or as it was called "Beatty's Break".... The federation is somewhat disappointed in the reluctance of clubs to co-sponsor the Monthly Dances. This situation was discussed at our last meeting, and apparently there are two or three contributing factors which prompted clubs to lose interest. Due to the shortage of callers in this area who can carry on a full evening's program it was impossible for us to have a club co-sponsor and also be in a position to use their caller the same night. Secondly, it was very unfortunate that only a few of the clubs received any remuneration for their efforts in co-sponsoring a Federation dance which brings us back to the same old story, that the caller is the drawing card, but we must bear in mind that the good callers started at the bottom and without our support, and I am speaking as a dancer, we would be without callers. In view of the circumstances, the Federation will sponsor the remaining dances for the current season. In closing, may I draw your attention to the fact that each and every Executive member gives up many hours of his time working on Federation affairs in an effort to keep square dancing alive and it seems too bad that certain clubs cannot donate a few hours of their time to support their Federation. Perhaps next season will be different, as we are at present in the process of revising the entire constitution.

February 21, 1970 - OUT OF RETIREMENT for this dance only - Belles & Beaux Jamboree - Caller Joe Johannson, Miles Mac Collegiate!

DANCING TO BEAT 70 - Manitoba's big Centennial Dance - week end with Dick Jones and Johnny Leclair. It was a great success, but, so far, I have been unable to find any notation of the number attending. The Round Dance Teachers Council put on a demonstration half way through the Saturday evening dance and I remember my knees knocking - that Skyroom in the Marlborough seemed such a huge floor when there was maybe only a dozen couples out there all trying to remember to do the right steps at the right time?

MINUTES of the monthly meetings had been published by the Editor for several months, but was suddenly pointed out to him that according to the Constitution only the ANNUAL minutes should be made public. Speaking of Constitutions - there is a new one published in the May/70 issue - Four pages this time, but whether it is the one they are revising or if it is THE revised, I have no idea - nothing to indicate.

Square Dance Callers Association appointed a committee to organize summer camporees. Roy Haslund, Chairman; Eva Blyth, Secretary; Thor Sigurdson, Wilf West & Ron Johnston, Callers Reps. and Bus Kenyon as Rep. from the Federation. Rock Lake, Almonds Acres and Thief River Falls - possibly one more are on the agenda for the summer.

ALLEMANDE 8's - due to low attendance decided to become a "Beginner" dub. Other clubs to send their beginners to Allemande 8's for a year then we would return them to their Mother dub. Worked like a hole in the head - we got one square - clubs too afraid we were trying to "steal" beginners, then keep them.

PROCLAMATION: September 13 to 19, 1970 as SQUARE DANCE WEEK IN CANADA.

MAY 9, 1970 HAMMY & HATTIE MORTON PRESENTED WITH LIFE MEMBERSHIP CERTIFICATE for their devotion to the Federation over the years.

PASSED AWAY - Hugh Tate - 60 years, died doing what he enjoyed most in life -Square Dancing. (He dropped dead during the first tip of the evening at Dancing to Beat 70.)



July 15, 1970 COMMAND PERFORMANCE - Probably the most colorful and impressive of all the shows staged before the Royal Family during their tour of Manitoba and the Northwest Territories was witnessed at the Winnipeg Arena during the evening of July 15, 1970.

This performance, sponsored by the CBC and broadcast across the national television network in colour was simply entitled "Manitoba 100". It featured Manitoba talent mostly in the Western mode. For approximately one half hour Joe Johannson put some 96 dancers through their paces, before the Queen's arrival, but in the presence of Gov. General and Mrs. Roland Michener, Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau, Premier and Mrs. Ed Schreyer, CBC President & Mrs. George Davidson, provincial cabinet ministers and dozens of other dignitaries. There were an estimated 9000 Manitobans in attendance. The colour telecast commenced with Joe calling and all the square dancers performing to a "live" orchestra, as the Royal Party entered. About midway through the show, Joe Johannson and one square performed on the special stage set in the centre of the arena. At the conclusion of the show, the Royal family met all the performers who were lined up by the stage but we the "poor relation fill in" so to speak, were not to join the rest of the performers, but were allowed (only after we raised merry old h" with the powers that be behind or should I say underneath the stage because that was where we were) were begrudgingly told that we could stand quietly behind the stage from where we could, at least, watch the Royal Party as they walked their arrowed path around the arena. I think we all stopped breathing when the Queen spied us behind the stage forgot her "arrows" and cut straight across to us Joe Johannson, Chris & Doug Beatty, Ernie & Grace Corder, Bus and Gladys Kenyon, and Peter and Eva Blyth. The whole family shook hands with us and asked any number of questions about our dancing. All the hours we had "sweat", and I do mean sweat, practicing and practicing in Joe's basement in order to be perfect, were well worth while! That one evening paid for all the work we had ever done for the Federation. On June 30, 1970, there was a great variety of outdoor entertainment on the grounds of Manitoba's Legislative Buildings. An estimated crowd of 2000 watched. The square dancing started out with a whoop and a holler at about 9:45 p.m. Had supposed to start at 9:30 but everything was running a bit behind. Thirteen squares from several clubs, at 1 members of the Square Dance Federation of Manitoba (E.D.). The time chosen for the Square Dancers to perform proved to be choice time, as it was just about time up for the dancers when the Prime Minister stated he would like to see another tip. Needless to say, he was obliged. It would take pages to describe the whole of the evening. It was something. Towns and cities all over Manitoba celebrated Manitoba's 100th birthday!

For the season of 1970 - 71 the Federation monthly dances will be held in St. James Civic Centre. After years of dancing in Weston School, where there was lots of floor space, and the sound was good AND there was a balcony that was great to watch from, it was finally decided to move to new quarters where there was no parking problem, smoking was allowed, there was a canteen and a kitchen we could use. It had one drawback for several years the sound was poor, needless to say, we got lots of flak about that!

OCTOBER, 1970 saw our newsletter with a brand new masthead, used to this day MANISQUARE. I don't know whether it was done with the approval of the Executive or if Mr. Editor took it upon himself to change the name. Anyway we were stuck with it.

There was a Centennial Round Dance Ball, an EAST/WEST Jamboree at Treherne, a "Farewell to Centennial" "Woodhaven Westerners" annual Jamboree etc. etc.

1971 - The Two plus Two Round and Square monthly dances continued at St. James Anglican Church Halt. Emerson Boundary 8's had their annual Jamboree in January in March the Up N Atoms Annual Jamboree (Pinawa) Meri-Mixers back round dancing with Roy and Cora Haslund instructing and Peter & Eva Blyth assisting.

Just found a page in Manisquare that I wish I had found months ago, should have started at the front instead of the back of the Journal, as this is written in November, 1970. I have already recorded the majority of the article till we get down to this.

Unfortunately, not too much history of square dancing in Canada (especially Manitoba), was recorded. In the 1930's square dancing with paid admission became popular. In the 1940's square dance clubs in Manitoba were initiated. In 1952 the first official Folks Dance Federation of Manitoba Jamboree was conducted. That statement is wrong because it was the Junior Chamber of Commerce that sponsored the Jamboree but it was such a success it was decided to then organize the Folk Dance Federation of Manitoba.

On April 18, 1953, the 2nd Annual Jamboree was held in the Winnipeg Civic Auditorium with the following callers featured; Al Rutherford, Charlie Ward, Dave Walker, Ed Gray, George Senyk, Hart Devenny, Jack Wegg, Joan McCaree, Joe Holmes, Ken Martin, Ron Downie, and Walter Grattston. The following year, on April 24, 1954, the 3rd Jamboree was held in Prince Charles School Auditorium at Portage 1a Prairie, featuring Al Rutherford, Dave Walker, Ed Downton, Ed Gray, George Senyk, Jack Van Every, Jim Blencow, Joe Johannson, Ken Martin, Les Brooking, Lyle Hume, Norm Elwick, Scotty Thompson, Ron Downie, Walter Brattston and Vera Kipling. When the Jamborees were conducted, apparently, nothing could stop the overenthusiastic dancers from attending. Hoe downs, mixers, and contras were the "Big Three". In 19 of all the aforementioned callers, the only ones known to remain fairly active are Joe Johannson and Scotty Thompson.

December 31, 1970 NEW YEARS PARTY Square and Round Dancing, Pot Luck Lunch - NO LIQUOR - M.C.s Thor Sigurdson and Peter Blyth. Allemande 8's. A dance was conducted at the Nordale School, November 6, 1970 with admissions of voluntary donations. This enabled friends to buy Dick and Gladys a colored T.V. along with a monetary gift. Dick and Gladys have been largely responsible for thousands of people learning to square and round dance. Unfortunately, without warning, Dick was struck with ill health, which will probably preclude his wonderful calling, teaching, and dancing indefinitely. Dick Carson died the following summer.

MANISQUARE EDITOR TO RESIGN as of the December issue, 1970. Mrs. Helen Curry is taking over as of the January, 1971 issue. Much easier to read now.

THE WORKSHOPPER - A dance designed to present material that would not normally be presented at all clubs. It is hoped that it will become an intermediate level. First Dance will be held Saturday, March 27, 1971 at Crescentwood Community Club.

MANITOBA SQUARE/ROUND DANCE CONVENTION NEWS - Just a short report from your General Chairman, Peter Blyth. People are asking what it is all about. Well, all we are trying to do is promote square dancing in Manitoba. We feel that our Manitoba Callers and Round Dance Teachers are as good as any in Canada. This convention will be staffed by Manitoba callers and round dance teachers from both Eastern and Western Divisions. WE hope not only to upgrade our callers and round dance instructors but also enable these wonderful people to gain further experience which could make them refreshing staff members in future

international conventions and other jamborees.

Our convention has received full support and endorsement from both East and West Federations, callers Associations and Round Dance Teachers Council.

The idea behind this new convention was exactly as stated, to upgrade the callers who never got a chance on Federation Dances. WE thought that if the callers knew a year ahead of time that they were going to be on staff that they would practice like mad to improve. Well, we had eight of them. The first was in the Garden City Collegiate. Fortunately we had a dance as a trial run, with all the callers. We all had to go home and bring back as many blankets as we could find to line the walls to improve the sound. We had two rooms for callers - at times one caller would have, say, two squares and the other would have ten or twelve. One of the Round Dance couples tried to teach a round so difficult even their own club members walked out shaking their heads. Oh dear - but all in all, the first Square/Round Dance Convention was successful enough to keep it going.

The second one was in Gladstone, third in Portage la Prairie, Vic & Marg Hayward were General Chairman of the Gladstone Convention, and Alvin & Audrey Hewitt Chairman of the Portage la Prairie Convention. No one seemed anxious to take it on again in Winnipeg (we had agreed it should alternate between East & West Divisions) so - Peter and I were again Chairmen, and this time we held it in the Marlborough Hotel. The 5th was held in Brandon but they were getting away from our original idea of the "newer" callers, and had cut down to five, all were known callers. The 6th Convention, November, 1976, came back to Winnipeg, again in the Marlborough Hotel and sponsored by the Airway Reelers, Bourkevale, and Whirlaway Westerners - this time, we were back to a couple of top callers, and the rest had not been heard very often.

Manitoba's 7th, in 1977 was sponsored by Neepawa. They did a bang up job, and it was there that our son, Mitch Blyth, then just 16 years old, created quite a sensation. Even the round dancers stopped dancing on Saturday night to come into the main hall to hear him or dance to him, and Elton McDonald generously gave up half of his time so that the dancers could hear more of Mitch. We were proud parents that night. Nobody - but nobody wanted to host the 8th which was Winnipeg's turn again. In the end, Peter Blyth and Syd Lentle took it on, Peter being Vice Chairman this time, and it was held in the St. James Collegiate. The two day Convention in itself was fine, in "fact, we thought we would be able to pay the callers and instructors a good stipend. However, a few days after the convention was over, we, the committee, thought we might all just have to dig down into our own pockets to pay the school a ridiculous sum -for the "damage" done to their floor. Peter met with the powers that be and in the end we were able to come to an agreement, but the staff received practically nothing but exposure.

We had decided before the "floor" episode, that this was the end of the Manitoba Square and Round Dance Convention". Dancers were getting too demanding - they only wanted Top Callers and no club or clubs wanted to take on the responsibility unless they could use only top callers - which would, of course, defeat the purpose of the original idea. So one more great ideas fizzled out as so many others had down through the years.

Back to 1971 - Two summer dances, both well attended - In June, Beryl Main from Colorado, and August 4th - Cal Golden from Arkansas.

The Camporee at Glenboro - where the camp "GESTAPO" came down on us like a ton of bricks, Just as we were all about to sit down around Thor Sigurdson's and Joe Johannson's trailer and have our usual after party. Back to our trailers and go to bed "or else". (the "or else" was we could pack up and be escorted out of the park). We had never been treated like that before and

never since, and believe me, we have never been back. Aside from the miserable park guards, we managed to have a fun weekend the trip up to the "desert" and the dancing in the sand was an experience in itself. I believe some of us still have badges for that effort. I remember well, I had to be pulled up with the dog harness around my waist. Coming down was easy, I just sat down and slid.

Helen Curry - Though filling in as Editor for such a short time - at least accomplished one good thing - brought in a "Fashion Page" for the ladies.

The Workshop - an afternoon, that years ago was considered the most important and well favored of the month, was now being so poorly attended that Ernie Knecht, the Workshop Chairman, recommended to the new Executive that it either be scrapped or turned over to the callers to run.

SUBSCRIPTIONS to Manisquare were down to 233 - this included exchanges and copies to Club representatives.

Tickets - Where once Federation Dances had to be by "ticket" only, and once they were sold, too bad - no more room, there was no longer any need for tickets - you could pay at the door and there would be lots of room on the dance floor.

1971 Camporees - Rock Lake in June with Thor Sigurdson as M.C. - Fargo-Moorhead with Bob Pearson as M.C. - that one in July and well attended because the ladies like to shop in the States. We were very well treated with a portion of Lindenwood Park set aside for us. We danced in the Y.M.C.A. with Don Littlefield as our host, and danced in the picnic shelter on Sunday. The only thing that marred those week-ends were the mosquitoes!! August was the Camporee at Husavik with Wilf West as M.C. At all three camporees it was "All Callers Bring Records".

Canadian Dancers News now well established- 4 copies a year - articles by a National Editorial Board made up of recognized Canadian Leaders from coast to coast. Also a Calendar/Directory containing "up to date" listings of over 350 Canadian Callers and Round Dance leaders, 540 dubs, and 50 Associations across Canada. Our listings were never up to date, and East and West Federations very mixed up. No fault of Canadian Dancer News - they did their best - it was our Federation simply not interested enough to send them the proper information.

PETER &: EVA BLYTH knocked out a wall between their living room and large dining room - moved out most of the furniture once a week and started a basic Round Dance Class.

NEW EDITOR - Gerry Tenberk. Irene Hugo to do the typing of Manisquare. Federation, under Bus Kenyon started up a "Membership" card system. For \$2.50 you got a membership card and a subscription to Manisquare. If you did not have a membership card to show - you paid an extra \$1.00 to get into the Federation dance.

DANCING AT GOVERNMENT HOUSE! - Square dance week was ushered in at Government House when the Lieutenant Governor of Manitoba, the Honorable W. John McKeag and Mrs. McKeag entertained seven squares of dancers representing some 18 clubs from Winnipeg and five rural dubs from Emerson, Carman, Portage 1a Prairie, Treherne and Pinawa. Bob Pearson and Phil Roy called a fine program and the Lt. Governor and Mrs. McKeag, former dancers with the Cardinal 8's enjoyed dancing in most of the tips. A fine evening was had by all!

LES ALLOUETTES ANNUAL PEA SOUP NIGHT - caller, Roy Haslund, Nordale School. Habitant or Centennial dress optional.

#### **A bit about the INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION.**

Some fifteen or sixteen years ago (this is written in Dec., 1971) Earle Park journeyed to

Minot and Bismark, North Dakota on a number of occasions to call square dances. Several times he was accompanied by square dancers from Yorkton and other localities, and these visits were returned by our American friends. Someone suggested that these small congenial visits be expanded so that more square dancers on each side of the border could get to know one another better and enjoy dancing together to the many fine American and Canadian Callers in the area, and so it all began. A small committee was formed, with personnel from both sides of the border. Estevan was the meeting place - plans were made - and the Dipsedoodle Square Dance Club of Estevan with Bill and Laura Grimson as their caller couple agreed to host the first International Square and Round Dance Convention in May, 1960. Since that time, there have been eleven more of these annual get-togethers each time in a different location, alternating between the U.S. and Canada. Regina played host to the 5th, Saskatoon to the 7th, Moose Jaw to the 10th. Winnipeg has been host twice, Bismark twice, Grand Forks, Glendive and Glasgow (twice) Regina will be hosting 1972.

SUNDAY SQUARE DANCING at the COPA CLUB - featuring Phil Roy and Bob Pearson - Sunday afternoon Jan. 23/72 - 2 - 5 p.m. \$2.50 couple, including lunch. Those of us who attended certainly enjoyed it very much, but like so many other ventures over the years, it was short lived - evidently the two callers did not think the time and effort (plus lunch) put into it was worthwhile for the very few squares that came out.

SPRING FLING - The first of the Square Dance Callers Association of Manitoba (E.D.) Benefit dances, which was to become an Annual affair. This one was March 17/72 - all proceeds going to the CANADIAN CANCER SOCIETY in memory of Square and Round Dancers who had suffered this dread disease. Panel of SDCA Callers.

THE YOUNG RANDY DOUGHERTY - Caller at the March/72 Federation dance. At the age of 20 he had called for 5 years and was fantastic. His start in calling came in a most unusual way - he had been dancing with his parents at the time and he broke his leg (I don't mean he broke it while dancing with his parents?) during his long recuperation he took up calling, and already, by 1972 had called at 3 Nationals - been on the teaching team - and called at the Minnesota, Wisconsin and Iowa State Conventions.

"SPRING FROLIC - D/J DAYS" April 27, 28, & 29, 1972 Marlborough Hotel. That was Dick Jones - and what a caller he was, a great week-end.

MERI-MIXERS R.D.C. Windup of both the Meri-Mixers and Meri-Mixers 2 & 4s, - the latter being an eager group of dancers coming out every 2nd and 4th Monday to improve their round dancing and to learn a few new basics under the instruction of Peter and Eva Blyth. We were dancing at the Woodhaven Community Club.

ANNUAL MEETING - Minutes of 1971 Annual Meeting - a year behind put in now, but the reports are current - most confusing. Constitution to be changed again!

Membership - (individual) thrown out on motion of Joe Johannson/Elie Kostuck and reassess the Club Fee of \$10.00. Club members would then automatically become members of Federation - carried.

Amendment - Peter Blyth/Jim Attonby - that the clubs be assessed \$15.00 in order to cover expenses based on last year's Financial Statement. Carried. Workshop Chairman deleted -from Executive as Callers' Association has accepted the responsibility of operating the normal afternoon workshop in the same location as the monthly Federation dance.

But stepping down after just one year and Ernie Corder taking over as President of a Federation which looks as though it is in trouble - sound of the hall - dancers don't like two callers etc. etc. My those dancers should have danced in the 1950s ten and twelve different

callers a night! Also at the 1972 Annual meeting - Eva Blyth gave up the job of secretary to Jack Allston and took on the Job of Publisher. As I had used a Gestetner, in fact had a hand run one, I figured that job would not be too difficult

Aug. 16 - 20 - Transcona's Hi Neighbor Festival - Phil Roy & Joe Johannson calling a Square Dance Jamboree Aug. 17/72.

Summer /72 Camporees again - Rock Lake, Husavik and Fargo Moorhead. Treherne Triple T's also had a Camporee in July. Emerson's June Camporee was now an annual affair.

SQUARE DANCE DEMONSTRATIONS at Polo Park, Thursday, October 19 - Paul Kostuck, Ernie Knecht & Vic Southall. Friday, 20th - Eva & Peter Blyth - Saturday 21 - Roy Haslund, Bob Pearson & Ralph Bailey. Must get more people interested in learning to square dance. Funny how the crowd starts to disperse like magic when you start handing out pamphlets!

November 4, 1972 "EAST/WEST JAMBOREE at Treherne - workshop and evening dance.

VERN PARLIAMENT had a full window display re: Square Dancing in the Public Library on Portage Avenue during Square Dance Week.

JOE JOHANNSON back calling in 1972 - Unicity Squares in Transcona. Joe calling -for December Dance (Federation).

RAMADA FROLIC 1973 - March 30, 31, and April 1 - A great weekend with Joe Johannson and Thor Sigurdson calling.

April 19, 1973 - Treherne's Triple T's 20th Annual Jamboree with Earle Park calling.

April, 1973 - A report by Ernie Corder - Chairman of the U.R.D.T.C. on the Nina and Charlie Ward week-end Teach-in. The purpose of the teach-in was to familiarize the Round Dance Teachers and Instructors in the new figures that are in the more advanced rounds.

News Letter from Fort Richmond's brand new club, Frontier Flutter Wheels - Ron & Joyce Johnston callers.

April 7, 1973 Shilo Prairie Schooners - their 5th Annual Spring Trek, featuring Bill & Audrey Isaac of Regina.

Square Dance Callers Association trying something new - Saturday afternoon workshop - FREE - increased caller participation - old basics and new basics.

ANNUAL MEETING. On reading over the minutes from the 1972 annual meeting, I read the Federation started off the 1973 season with the large sum of \$231.11 - several dances lost money and Manisquare in the hole \$435.28. W.R.D.T.C. presented a Round Dance Party for Square Dancers, October 20, 1973. Congratulations to Grand Squares -first club to have 100% subscription to Manisquare. Doesn't say how many members they have though.

November, 1973 - a letter was sent out to all Community Clubs and Church groups throughout the city to find out if there is any interest in learning Square dancing, and to set up in co-operation with the Federation and the Callers Association.

Federation, due to requests - has decided to print just the high-lites of the Executive meetings - so the very first one reads "Hi-Lites of Executive Meeting of October 14, 1943 - by Jack Allston. A typing error I assure you. Total assets now \$471.99.

Federation now having two callers each dance - still running into a bit of a problem - one or two callers do not want to call if they have to share the program.

Callers for the December CHRISTMAS PARTY - Ernie Corder - Wilf West - Les Moran -Ernie Knecht - Eva & Peter Blyth. (hmm, forgot about that) Irene Hugo presented with a LIFE MEMBERSHIP in the Square Dance Federation. This was done during intermission.

January 24th, 1974 - Grand Squares held a Robbie Burns Haggis Night - caller was "Wee Wilfie MacWest" .

February 23rd, 1974 - Les Attouettes 1974 Pea Soup Jamboree featuring Roy Haslund. This dance was always in conjunction with the Festival du Voyageur and Roy always dressed as a Voyageur, as did whoever wished among the dancers. Roy told jokes with a French accent, and yes, they did actually serve French Pea Soup. (this information for readers 50 years from now).

Thanks to Irene Hugo, Crescentwood Community Club is donating the use of their two lounges for the Spring Fling Benefit dance. No notation at later date as to how many turned out - never too well attended because of multiple callers - yet they, the callers, all donate their time.

March 9th, 1974 - Federation dance with Bill Isaac from Regina calling. There were more than 21 squares out to that one.

WINNIPEG'S CENTENNIAL FROLIC - Marlborough Hotel -April 18th, 19th, and 20th. Dance more in 74 - featuring Johnny Leclair, Singing Sam Mitchell and Randy Dougherty, with the Johannson's, Latvalas and Pickfords on rounds.

Grand Squares all set to start their Caravan trip to the 21st B.C. Jamboree at Penticton. Leaving Polo Park 10:00 a.m. August 3rd. Dances being arranged at Regina and Calgary along the way.

One of the most conscientious workers on the Federation is Bill Deberson - Special Events - he always crossed the last "T" and dotted the last "I".

In May, 1975 - annual report Eva Blyth gives brief report on Manisquare. For the past three years Manisquare has been put together by a "Committee" or rather a "team". Gerry & Caroline tenBerk (Editor), Irene Hugo (typist) Peter & Eva Blyth (publishers) Jack Allston and Bev Carriere, and their official title should be "Carriers" - pun - get it - they spend so much time carrying information and stencils etc. between the Blyths and Irene, because Jack and Irene live so close to each other, and Jack carries the bundles of finished, addressed and stamped bundles of Manisquare to the Post Office.

New business at Annual meeting May, 1974 - due to callers preferring their own equipment, it was decided that the Federation would get out of the equipment fund, bids have been invited for the purchase of the equipment in previous Manisquares. At this point, the sealed bids were opened. Fred Weber of Kenora, Ontario was the successful bidder on the Amplifier, two speakers and the monitor. \$315.00 brought the kitty up a little. Electrovoice mike went to Wilt West for \$25.00.

May 24th, 1974 - the Square Dance Callers Association presented Tommy Stoye of California for a workshop and dance at Ryerson School. What a flop - his workshop was nothing - he sat and talked about himself, and at the evening dance he seldom hit his corner - said it didn't matter!! We never hear of him today - so guess he discovered that to remain a caller it did matter.

WORKSHOPPER in 1974 & 1975 to be on Wednesdays instead of Saturdays - every second Wednesday at Margaret Park Elementary School.

Notice in November, 1974 Manisquare - "At a recent meeting it was decided to disband the Winnipeg Round Dance Teachers Council". Balance of money on hand divided equally between the Square Dance Callers Association and the Federation. The function of selecting the Round of the Month will now be carried out by the Square Dance Callers Association. Reason for quitting? I think we just got tired of all the bickering - we were very small in numbers, and there were too many "chiefs".

Two clubs, A9ers and Grand Squares with their callers Paul Kostuck and Wilf West devote much of their time visiting, and dancing for Senior Citizens homes. Federation calling for

more clubs to give thought to putting aside even one night a month to bring happiness to some of our shut in Seniors.

MERI-MIXER ROUND Dance club - because of too many toes being stepped on if you dared to sit out a dance (the hall was long and narrow) we were getting a few grumbles so we moved to Oxford United Church Halt. It was a mistake - great for some dancers but we left a few behind who decided it was too far to come - we had been handy for them at Woodhaven. Oh well - as Dick Carson had once said - "You can't please them all!"

April 19/75 - Mini International Jamboree - Dominion City with Thor Sigurdson, Don Littlefield and Phil Roy.

New Camporees - Cavalier in June, Guest Callers. In August - Lake Irwin Camporee Neepawa, Man. Thor Sigurdson and guest callers.

Cancer Dance this year at the Ryerson School, March 22/75

"Captain" West and the crew of Grand Squares reserved the upper deck of the River Rouge - 10:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m. \$5.00 couple including lunch. Speaking of Boat cruises - I must have missed it, or perhaps it was not advertised in Manisquare - the Belles and Beaux reserved both decks of one of the boats and it must have been one of the Centennials because we were all in costume. What a mob we had that night!

September 17 1974 - Airway Rectors - FIRST ANNUAL DONKEY DANCE. They had this until they folded I believe - never- did find out what it was all about - I never went as I didn't want to make an ASS (?) of myself!

THE WINNIPEG CROCUS FESTIVAL, The first purple sheet to appear in Manisquare. Back in June, a group of 8 couples got together with the express purpose of forming a committee to bring to Winnipeg some of the top level callers in North America. We feel that if we bring some of these name callers, they will attract, not only local dancers, but dancers from many parts of Canada and the United States and in doing so, help to put Winnipeg "on the map" in the square dance world. We received the blessing of the Federation, although we are not committed to on in a financial way, but are counting on the dancers to give their support and make these dances successful. The committee members are; General Chairman The Beatty's - Doug & Chris; Vice-Chairman and Program Co-ordinator - The Corders - Ernie & Grace; Secretary - Audrey Orange & Vic Southall; Treasurer The Kenyons - Bus & Gladys'; Publicity - The Kitchings - Ed & Nancy; Registration The Claspers - Olive and Bill; Hospitality- The McFarens - Jack & Marge, Special Events - The Roys - Phil & Marilyn. The first Winnipeg Crocus will be held at the Marlborough Apr 29, 30 & May 1st, 1976. Beryl Main of Colorado, and Gary Shoemake of Nebraska.

BOURKEVALE HARD TIMES DANCE Jan 16/75 - bring your own can and spoon, blanket or gunny sack to sit on!

ROUNDS OF THE MONTH for 1974-75 season - Be My Honeycomb; Please Release Me; Walk Right Back; Tips of My Fingers; My Wife's House; and Slipping. All very nice easy rounds.

INTERNATIONAL SQUARE & ROUND DANCE CONVENTION - 16th held at Brandon June 12, 13, & 14/1975.

"SWING MASTERS" Phil Roy & Thor Sigurdson planning something new - a monthly



dance, National Canadian & American callers - There will be a workshop when possible. Starting Sept. 20/75 with Bob Yerrington of Iowa. Federation presented Frankie Lane from Colorado at the Edmund Partridge Junior High - October 8th/75 - in place of regular Federation dance at the Civic Centre.

S.D.C.A. decided to turn the Saturday workshop afternoon workshop into a 50 Plus Basic workshop year to help the first dancers. Admission - small donation to Cancer Society - "Brush Up Afternoon",

GOLDEN RULE (Senior Citizen group) was invited to demonstrate Square dancing at Central Park Lodge.

KENORA COUNTRY COUSINS sponsored the first of their Autumn Frolics - a week-end of dancing, eating and partying with Joe Johansson and Dick Rueter of Duluth. Dancers practically took over the Kenricia Hotel. It was not too large a room for dancing, so had to be limited to twelve squares I think. To begin with there was a waiting list - those who were there put their names down for the following year. As time went on, as with everything else, prices went up - hotel rooms, gas, food etc. It became rather an expensive week and the final one was in 1983.- They sure were great white they tasted. Joe and Dick complemented each other and the dancing was so much fun.

SWINGMASTERS presented Ed Fraidenberg from Michigan at Edmund Partridge School Jan. 30/76.

PAWS-N-TAWS JAMBOREE with Phil Roy at Windsor Park Collegiate Jan 30/76. I was teaching the beginners with Peter's help then and having a ball. 50 Plus basics not being too well attended - almost dropped altogether, but President Paul Kostuck asked Eva & Peter Blyth to try it for another month or two and he would get the callers to urge their dancers (first year) to attend. The attendance did pick up and we kept it up for several years. It was quite an effort sometimes - driving 10 miles across town to instruct three to six squares - but we had some who never missed. We had "last year's" graduates come out until the end of December to brush them up in some of the figures they were having trouble with (we had them list the figures they wanted and we tried to workshop them all in the two hours). They really worked but we had fun and quite a few laughs. Just a few years ago the Civic Centre decided they were going to have to charge us extra for the Saturday afternoons, and it would have meant having to charge the dancers far too much to cover. Saturday afternoon up until then had been thrown in with the rent of the hall for the evening dance, that was how we were able to give all the money that the dancers donated to the Cancer Society. Reading the above - it is incomplete - after the New Year we had the current new dancers come out and we went back to square one. This was our format as long as we ran it.

THE BENEFIT DANCE - which we now called SPRING FLING CANCER DANCE was being very poorly attended - your multiple callers again - only notice that I wrote a report in the April/76 issue noting that in a hall big enough to hold at least 30 squares we only had nine out.

SUMMER DANCING 1976 camporees - Kenora, Husavik, sponsored by the S.D.C.A. Others at Cavalier N.D. Thor Sigurdson. Thunder Bay S/D Festival - This has developed into quite a large and popular Festival. Dave Taylor calling. Thief River Falls - Joe Johansson and

Dick Rueter. Sioux Lookout - All day round dance session, evening square dancing - Thor & Marv Sigurdson. Neepawa - camping at Lake Irwin. Thor Sigurdson in charge.

Dancing at Paws-n-Taws every second Tuesday during June, July and August.

OCTOBER 23, 1976 - SASHAY 8's SILVER ANNIVERSARY dance - Norberry C. C.

WEST-WIRLERS Round dance club - dancing Sundays at St. Johns Community Club. During Square Dance Week, Sept. 1976 - Demonstration in Polo Park -Phil Roy calling - 2 squares dancing. Sept. 21 - Grant Park, Mitch and Peter Blyth calling - 3 squares attended. Sept. 22 OPEN HOUSE at Crescentwood C. C. All clubs who have beginner classes were in attendance with pen and paper to take down names of those wishing to S/D. There were 12 squares on the floor and approximately 10 of these were visitors to the open house. We had advertised in the two local papers twice -cost had been \$707.40, T.V. coverage (announcements) were free, donation to Crescentwood C.C. for use of the hall \$50.00.

ALL CLUB PRESIDENTS (or representatives) invited to attend a Public Relations meeting Nov. 13, in the afternoon in Civic Centre lounge.

CARAVAN being planned to attend the FIRST CANADIAN NATIONAL S/R DANCE CONVENTION in EDMONTON, Alberta, Aug. 17, 18, 19, 1978. Thor Sigurdson planning the "Yellowhead" Caravan.

2nd CROCUS FESTIVAL coming up with Gary Shoemake and Jerry Helt, at the Winnipeg Convention Centre.

OUR HAMMY MORTON passed away on November 11, 1976, a great man in both square and round dancing. Even when he had to have a leg removed he didn't let it get him down, but continued to help square dance callers and round dancers. Many (including Peter and myself) owe much to him.

WILF WEST leaving at the end of November, returning to his home town of Hardisty, Alberta.

MITCH BLYTH to be new caller for Grand Squares.

Saturday, April 2/77 CALLERS COURSE PLANNED registrations will be received until March 15. For would be callers and for those callers who want to improve their technique.

ROUND DANCE BASICS - May 9 - June 27/77 Oxford United Church hall - Peter & Eva Blyth instructing.

Summer Camporees - Emerson, Cavalier N.D. Neepawa, Husavik, and Thor calling every other week, May 24 to Aug. 24 at the home of the Paws-N-Taws.

ANNUAL MINUTES of 1976 printed in May issue 1977 - This printing of the minutes a year late has been done since we stopped printing the June issue, and also to freshen up everyone's minds as to what had been said and done a year ago. Guess we were doing alright because the bank balance in /76 showed as \$2,081.81. Jerry Lomenda had been the treasurer and he questioned every penny before it was spent, he was not going to let the finances get as low as they had back in /73. We also were not putting out \$15.00 for each months cover as we had been doing when Al Golding was Editor.

PATTY BARRY had taken on the job of preparing a cover, and IRENE HUGO who

had moved over to East Kildonan was going over to the Crescentwood C. C. each month to run it off on their Gestefax, along with the round of the month. Only those that have worked on Manisquare know of all the extra Jobs there are.

Still discussing the "sound" at the Civic Centre - some wanted to try schools, as the clubs did, but the one or main drawback there was you could be bumped at the last minute, there would be no guarantee that we could have a school for every second Saturday of the month for nine months of the year.

Paul Kostuck stepped down as President and Syd Lentle became President. Syd had obtained 2 parachutes and they had been carted back and forth, hung on the back wait to help with the sound.

Ed Kitching at the /76 Annual had brought forth the suggestion that ALL teachers should call at the First Years Dancers Jamboree - so in 1977 we were all on - tight squeeze but we managed it - 27 squares out. A note from Irene in the May issue.... "a thank you to Bob & Ev Geyson for averting a small disaster. Bob was contacted moments after he had arrived home from a week away on business, to round up all the donuts, drinks, ice, serviettes and cups. This was done about 9:30 p.m. They had to go from one end of the city to the other gathering up supplies. Many thanks to Paul Kostuck who noticed there was no lunch arriving, and he took over from there. Paul always liked to run a tight ship - the rest of us had forgotten the lunch entirety!

After six years - Gerry tenBerk retired as Editor - guess who took it over - Peter Blyth became "publisher" (well - after all it had been him all this time who ran the gestetner) - I did the organizing and laying out, and Eva Blyth became the Editor - a real family affair, with Irene not too far away to do most of the typing.

Federation decided to have a "Brush-Up" dance at the St. James Collegiate on Oct. 1/77 for all the Spring Graduates - thinking it would be appreciated after the long layoff of summer months. Bob Pearson & Ernie Knecht did a bang up job of calling to FIVE squares that turned out. After the full house of First Year Dancers at their Jamboree in April we did expect a much larger response, When you rent a school Auditorium on a Saturday night for \$118.00 you need quite a few squares to break even. Thought we had lost Joe Johannson from the calling field - he had bypass surgery this last year. He came back the - you can't keep a good caller down?

**CALLERLAB** - In 1971, a group of today's callers/leaders who were members of the Square Dance Hall of Fame gathered to discuss the direction that Square Dancing was taking. From this meeting emerged a new organization whose desire was to share with the new callers some of the philosophies, techniques and abilities of the veterans. This group became known as Callerlab. The goals of Callerlab are many. Its purpose is to provide leadership and direction for the calling profession while lending strength and direction to the square dance movement as a whole. Membership, which is on a personal invitation basis, requires that potential members be actively engaged in calling on the average of at least once each week for a period of the three most recent years, that he or she be personally nominated for membership by a present member, and, having been invited, that he attend a Callerlab Annual Convention. In 1977 there was a membership of 900 callers, from all parts of the world. Growing gradually on a strong foundation, CALLERLAB has accepted the responsibility of providing professional guidelines for square dance callers. It has accomplished a number of important goals and established a number of precedents. Among the most noteworthy accomplishments was the establishment of a Quarterly Movement Clearing House. With several hundred new movements coming into the

activity every year, a definite need existed for some universal system of evaluating the movements and recommending a limited number for use in Mainstream dancing. The Clearing House Committee, made up of Callerlab members scattered throughout the square dance world, accepted the challenge and each quarter it recommends one, two, or perhaps no new movements to be used during the coming three months. On occasion, it also has suggested that an older, proven basic be reintroduced and used by callers everywhere.

THE MAINSTREAM BASICS ; A representative committee from Callerlab has taken the pulse of a large number of callers to determine those movements currently in use in the square dance activity. These Mainstream movements provide an up-to-date guideline to the "fundamental choreographic terms in use in the mainstream of square dancing today. In addition, it provides an important tool for the use of callers who train the new participants in this activity.

Each Spring, Callerlab members gather from all parts of the world for the Annual CALLERLAB Convention. Here progress reports are presented and plans laid for the coming year. Site for these annual membership gatherings, which involves both husbands and wives, is customarily a midwestern city equally accessible to those on the east and west coast with highway, air and rail connections.

Don Littlefield - Fargo-Moorehead and his dancers were on T.V. and it was without a doubt one of the best demonstrations of what square dancing is all about that I have ever seen on T.V. Plain ordinary square dancing without all the frills and double timing you so often see dubbed as "Square Dancing". Don's presentation made it took very easy to learn - he gave a tip over entirely to "beginners" - how he would teach a brand new class.

Ralph & Merle Almond introduced square dancing to a senior group in Gimli in 1972 - "The Gimli New Horizon Square Dance Club" - started with 30 members and have continued with pretty much the same number ever since. A set of their dancers in 1974, and again in 1975 were chosen to participate in the Golden Ages Show in Winnipeg, and as a result were asked to join the Golden Ages show as they travelled about the country entertaining in the different centres.

HARRY MARTIN and his RAGTIME GALS have appeared on Channel 13 several times also - Harry with his banjo, a gal banging it out on the piano, and a couple of senior gals singing some of the oldies. Reminiscent of the old days when Harry Martin and his "Sunny Boys" - played for dances in and around Winnipeg. He was professional for 32 years - sixteen of them at the old Normandy Ball Room. Now Harry and his gals entertain at Senior Citizens Homes.

Christine-'s Square Dance Fashions has changed hands - Lil & Bill Paseznak have taken over the business from Chris Beatty.

ROUNDALAB - The International Association of Round Dance Teachers held their first Annual meeting in Memphis, Tennessee on October 24, 25, 26, 1977. The purpose of ROUNDALAB is to promote, protect and perpetuate the general Round Dance movement as a compliment to the overall Square Dance picture. At the January CALLERS' MEETING it was decided that the Benefit Dance in March/78 would be for the Heart fund, while the monies taken in each month at the "Blyths" Saturday afternoon workshop will still be donated to the Cancer Society.

With the new CALLERLAB Basics, and Mainstream figures, instructors are finding it almost impossible to bring new dancers up to club level by the time they graduate in the spring, no matter how long their classes last. Some clubs used to graduate their new dancers in February, which meant the mother club would have to drop their level of dancing, which did not make for a happy club. All callers agree we need many more weeks to teach. Callerlab recommends 42 - we are lucky if we get 27 weeks to teach. Bill Peters to be invited here for March 16 - 17, 1979 to conduct a weekend Callers workshop and dance.

WHATEVER HAPPENED TO STYLING? - An article in Manisquare hits the nail on the head - dancers are too busy learning new figures and paying little attention to styling - perhaps it is the callers fault - how well or how gracefully you are able to dance seems to have taken a back seat to how fast you can move and whether you can do the left triple variation of the latest gimmick. (Manisquare 1978).

BOARD OF DIRECTORS ; It is the wish of your Federation that ALL clubs be represented in the running of the affairs of the Federation. With the present set up, and the way our Annual election of officers is held each Spring, it is not at all unusual to have two or three from one club on the executive or committees, and none at all from other clubs. Right now the two largest clubs in the city are not represented. The idea of a Board of Directors would correct this situation. Your Vice President, Bob Geyson has given long and careful thought in drawing up a new constitution, which will be published in Manisquare, and we hope one and all will study it and come out to the Annual Meeting to vote on this new document. Your executive has taken what we think is a positive step to make the "Federation of Square and Round Dance Clubs" reality that, with each club having a voice in the operation and future of square dancing in Eastern Manitoba.

TRIPLE T SQUARE DANCE - TWENTY FIFTH ANNIVERSARY. Mar. 23/78 T.V. DANCING -Thanks to Frank Mikuska, who dances with Paws and Taws, and had been in our class the year before, the "BLYTH" family appeared on C.B.C.'s 24 hours as a novelty, more or less. Frank happens to work for C.B.C. and found a producer who was interested that Mother, Father and Son had been involved in teaching and calling for several years. Mitch was the drawing card I think because at that time most nineteen year old boys were interested in many things far far from square dancing. It was an exciting night -took all of three hours - the heat from the big lights was something fierce. I would say three quarters of the tape ended up in the cutting room - it is utterly amazing how they can cut and splice to come up with the final production - about eight minutes on the air - after three hours work! That was Feb. 2/78.

March/78 - A cheque for \$241.00 was sent to the Heart Foundation - this was the result of the Benefit dance sponsored by the SDCA - good dance, good turnout, good callers this year. A cheque for \$112.44 was also sent to the Cancer fund - proceeds from six workshops.

SUMMER ROUND DANCING; WINAKWA Community Club - Home of the Paws and Taws - May to August - Mainstream, Experimental, Plus. Thor Sigurdson - May to August - Oriole-Community Club - Extended - some Mainstream - Joyce Johnston.

EMERSON CAMPOREE & WORKSHOP, open dance - pot luck dinner - Thor Sigurdson and Norm Cross.

Kampfire Kamporee - Killarney - Smorgasbord - contact Willard Riddell. Thunder-Bay

Festival - Dick Rueter, caller.

PENT ICTON, B.C. Twenty Fifth Square dance Jamboree  
TURTLE DERBY SQUARE DANCE JAMBOREE Boissevain, Man. John McDonald  
and guests calling.

FIRST CANADIAN SQUARE AND ROUND DANCE CONVENTION,  
EDMONTON . August 17, 18, and 19. A group of dancers leaving *with* Thor & Marv  
Sigurdson will be travelling as a Camping and Dancing Caravan across "Northern Canada" to  
Edmonton; the plan to the present time.

August 10, Winnipeg, Man. 11th Neepawa, 12, Yorkton, Sask. August 14 Saskatoon,  
Sask Aug. 15 Lloydminster , Alberta; August 16 Edmonton. Join us in Winnipeg, or anywhere  
along the Yellowhead Highway. Each night we shall dance with dancers and callers from the  
local area as well as those on the caravan.

CAMPOREE HUSAVIK Sept. 2, 3, 4th.

SATURDAY, MAY 13/78 FIRST Board of Directors meeting St. James Civic Centre.  
Syd Lentle stepping down and Bob Geyson new President to oversee the new Board of Directors.  
Annual meeting changed this year to April 15/78.

MAY 4, 5 & 6 CROCUS FESTIVAL at the University of Manitoba. Gary Shoemake and  
Dick Jones. Rounds - Joyce & Bob Apostal from Grand Forks, N.D.

THOMASSON Square Dance Specialties Square Dance and Round Dance records.  
Hannes and Kristin have taken over from Gerry Hawley of Saskatoon.

#### FIRST BOARD OF DIRECTORS May 1978

Past President	Syd & Edna Lentle
President	Bob & Ev Geyson
1st Vice-President	Bob & Lorna Mack
2nd Vice-President	Elmer & Eileen Greenslade
Treasurer	Linda & Allan Hayden
Secretary	Doug & Dorothy McLaren

#### COMMITTEES

Special Events	Colin & Joan Lewis
Publicity	Paul & Elite Kostuck
Subscription Secretary	Irene Hugo
Manisquare	Evan & Peter Blyth

#### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Airway Peelers	Frank & Gladys Wheeler
Allemande 8s	John & Lorraine Kozera
Belles & Beaux	Doug & Dorothy McLaren
Bourkevale	Bob & Lorna Mack
Cardinal 8's	Fred Chernoff and Norm Currie
Carman Bar 8's-	Alan & Ollie McCullough
Frontier Flutterwheels	Allan & Linda Hayden
Kenora Country Cousins	Bert Alcock
Meri-Mixer R.D.C.	Peter & Eva Blyth
Paws-N-Taws	Colin & Joan Lewis
Portage Pairs & Squares	Elmer & Eileen Greenslade
Red River Wheelers (Selkirk)	Fred Barnett & Loraine Bilinski

Sashay Eights	Bill Bateman & Harry Gunnlaugson
Swinging 69'ers	Paul Kostuck & George Ricard
Treherne Triple T's	Lyle & Mabel Marks
Unicity	Joe Johannson & Ernie Corder
Whirlaway Westerners	Bob & Ev Geyson
Whiteshell Whirlers	Kathy & Bill Woodbeck
Federation Life Member	Irene Hugo
Liason Office - Alvin & Audrey H - Portage la Prairie	

BOB OSGOOD - Editor of Square Dancing (Sets In Order) giving a good push to the 1st Canadian National Convention ... "ever since the then Princess Elizabeth travelled through the Provinces some quarter century ago and took part in a square dance that created headlines throughout the world, Canada has been very much in the thick of contemporary square dance scene, Over the years our travels have taken us into Canada many times where we have always been impressed, not only by the enthusiasm of the dancers and the pride they show for their dancing, but also for their warm and generous hospitality. " If any group is able to retain these feeling and inject them into a major convention, it will be these people."

Authors note - it was 1951 that Princess Elizabeth and Prince Phillip travelled across Canada, and it was after her picture was shown in papers enjoying herself in a square - (costume and all) that there was a terrific trend upwards in square dancing!

There were 6400 dancers who attended the National at Edmonton. It was an exciting, colorful spectacle - and a huge success. The Northwest Territories had 46 members from one club present at the convention, and one club from Calgary had 70. There were dancers from Tennessee, Nebraska, Ohio, California, New Zealand, Australia, England, and one of the highlights was the calling of Lofty Yamasad from Tokyo, Japan.

Art and Garrie Jackson of Ottawa finally got their wish - a CANADIAN SQUARE AND DANCE SOCIETY was formed and Thor Sigurdson of Emerson and Alvin Wilson will represent Manitoba on the Board. Thor was elected to the executive board which consists of 16 members 12 elected and 2 appointed from the current convention committee and 2 from the next convention committee - (Ottawa - 1980).

Nov/78 - The Federation welcome the "Rhythm Rounds" - the latest dub to join the Federation. They dance every Wednesday evening in Lipsett Hall, Ken & Donna Gibson instructing. This is an intermediate club, the do not teach basics.

Oct./78 Federation dance Joe Johannson had 30 squares out. Postal strike on difficult to get Manisquare to the clubs on time.

ROUND DANCE BASICS - Jan 11, 1979 - Mar 15, 1979 ~ Learn to two-step and waltz in ten weeks of round dance lessons. Varsity View Community Centre Charleswood - Ken & Donna Gibson Instructors.

WESTERN MANITOBA Federation and some members of their Callers Assoc. met and discussed extended dance club within the Federation, the aim of such to be "expose dancers to Mainstream, Quarterly Selections and the Plus family to he extent that they would feel at ease when confronted with these calls at Festivals, Conventions etc. The club will be on a trial basis

and only be continued as long as financially feasible. Callers for the club will rotate in the Callers Association.

HALF WAY JAMBOREE afternoon of Jan 13, 1979 - from 3-5 p.m. Civic Centre for all dancers who are in the process of taking square dance lessons now. Eva and Peter Blyth - instructors. Seven plus squares of new dancers and angels attended. The \$46.00 donated at the door, instead of going to the Cancer Society, this time went to the Lions Telethon.

RING A ROUNDS – Joe and Shirley Johannson – dancing at Westview School Transcona - Square dance rounds, intermediate rounds and Classics will be taught.

BEGINNER CALLER COURSE, starting Feb. 11, 1979 - Roland Michener Arena Transcona; -a big vote of thanks to BILL O'BRIAN who dances with the Paws N Taws. His company decided to turn to Xerox so he offered the Federation not only a more up-to-date Gestetner machine, but a Gestafax at a most nominal cost. Are we blessed -we just couldn't afford a *new* model and were seriously thinking of renting, which would have been expensive also. All club callers are beginning to realize that there is a crying need for more instruction between class and club. It has been suggested that a summer program for first year dancers be established, setting up a Callerlab list and progressing at each dance. Members of the Callers Association to take turns teaching.

A welcome to the newest square dance club - St. Claude Prairie Squares being taught by Roy Haslund. 40 keen members there.

Federation sorry to learn that Bob & Ev Geyson are being transferred to Dauphin. It would have been nice if he could have been President for another year, as the new constitution and the Board of Governors was his baby.

More about CALLERLAB by Cal Golden .... "They afford effective working tools and guide lines for callers in making up a program for any given dance. They have further provided a universal-standard -for teaching square dance movements. For instance, if a dancer learned "Stroll and Cycle" in Bangor, Maine, he can expect to dance it the same way all across the country and around the world. When the CALLERLAB Quarterly Selection Committee selects a quarterly movement, the definition and THE CORRECT WAY TO TEACH this movement, along with the several calls of the movement, are provided to all CALLERLAB members, callers associations and all square dance publications throughout the country. There is also a recommended date to begin teaching this quarterly movement. This enables all the callers to teach it THE SAME WAY AT THE SAME TIME - giving it a universal introduction."

WESTERN MOTOR INN WEEKEND - Crookston, Mn. Nov. 30 Dec. 2, 1979 - Beryl Main from Golden, Colo. & Thor & Mary Sigurdson.

A PRESIDENTIAL PLEASURE-...Bob Geyson

The Board of Directors voted unanimously in favor of granting Eva & Peter Blyth a Life Membership in the Manitoba Square Dance Federation (e.d.) for their outstanding contribution to square and round dancing in our area. Bob goes on to list our "qualifications". I won't go into it here - but it was a great surprise and a great honor

ANNUAL MEETING - 1979 - Accomplishments - currently our attendance at the monthly Federation dance is about even with fast years, and up 35% over 76-77. East/West Division Jamboree; There will be a one day program in Treherne. We hope to foster East/West participation by reviving this once popular event. International Square and Round Dance Convention. The Board endorses Winnipeg's bid for the one in 1981. With Bob Geyson having



to leave Winnipeg, Elmer Greenslade from Portage now President.

THE CANADIAN SQUARE AND ROUND DANCE SOCIETY is making a concentrated effort to organize a National identity for square and round dancing and needs one governing body from each Province to make it work. Therefore, one Federation in Manitoba with a Joint board and chairman setting policy is desirable. Each division could still operate independently with its own President and executive committee.

RHYTHM ROUNDS having summer round dancing. 20 weeks of Round Dance Basics will start up in Lipsett Hall Sunday Oct. 21, 1979, for those who want a little more than square dance level - dancing in Lipsett Hall on Wednesdays.

OCTOBER - 1979 - thanks to DAVE PAGET we are trying something new in Manisquare -two pages of advertising. Maybe we can get the old newsletter out of the red, although, since the beginning of the Federation way back when, the Newsletter has always been subsidized by the Federation. Simply taken for granted - that was one reason we had a Federation - to get news out to the clubs.

FROM EDITORIAL OCT. 1979 .... "are we becoming so involved in square dancing that we can no longer have any friends outside of square dancing that we can persuade to come and give it a try. It is very alarming when on the first evening of classes the two largest clubs in the city have only FIVE beginner couples between them. One or two clubs have folded, and one or two others are holding together by the skin of their teeth. This is not good at all. No matter how large a club is, if it is not fed new members each year it wilt, because of transfers, illness, etc. lose members until it too will be in trouble."

NEW YEAR'S DANCE - something new for the Federation - to be held at the Masonic Temple Dec. 31, 1979 - Mitch Blyth calling. Pay as you go bar. The dance was sold out before it was advertised.

At the end of 1979 we had 22 Clubs in the Federation (e.d.) Allemande 8's, Airway Reelers (though not operating this season so far) Bourkevale, Cardinal 8's, Carman Bar 8's, Golden Rule (Sr. Citizens) Grand Squares, Kenora Country Cousins, Meri-Mixer R.D.C., Gimli Northern Lights, Paws-N-Taws, Portage Pairs & Squares, Swinging 69'ers, Treherne Triple T-'s, Rhythm Rounds R.D.C., St. Claude Prairie Squares, Sashay 8's, Unicity, Whirlaway Westerners, and Whiteshell Whirlers.

FEDERATION LEVEL Round Dance Clinic March 15, 1980 - Ken & Donna Gibson. Fort Frances Pairs N Squares have joined our Federation.

CROCUS FESTIVAL - May 8, 9, 10, 1980. "Mr. Crocus" himself - Gary Shoemake and Jerry Haag calling, Thor & Marv on rounds. At the University of Manitoba.

CAMPOREES - the same as last year pretty well, with the Sashay 8's coming up with a new Camporee of their own at Stanley Park.

Summer Dancing - pretty well the same format as last year - no excuse for the new dancers not to get plenty of practice before the clubs open in the fall.

Due to ill health Eva Blyth retired from instruction and Cliff Arnold took over her class with her blessing. The Paws-N-Taws paid us most wonderful tribute at their windup banquet in the Fort Carry, April 24/80. I, to this day miss instructing, but when you are a teacher you must turn up every week regardless of how you are feeling, and I just couldn't go on.

2nd CANADIAN NATIONAL at OTTAWA - Aug. 7, 8, 9th, 1980. Travelling in a Caravan, camping and dancing, with Doug McLaren organizing, the group hit Dryden, Ont. Aug. 1, Thunder Bay, Aug. 2nd, Aug. 3 Wawa, Ont. Aug 4<sup>th</sup>, Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario, Aug. 5<sup>th</sup>, North Bay, Ont. Doug says quite a few have registered already, some will be leaving from

Winnipeg, others will join up on the way.

Elmer Greenslade stepping down as President at the Annual meeting, as he will become the Mayor of Portage 1a Prairie and far too busy to attend to Federation business. Jim Fenton will be our new President.

MANISQUARE - has had problems with the cost of both postage and paper spiraling. Number of pages has had to be cut back, and your Editor has many headaches now that she can't just rattle on and print what she thinks will please, because what will interest some very much will be "garbage" to others. What may be interesting to a "round dancer" may be boring to a square dancer who does not round, articles for the newer dancer may be "old stuff" to the old timer, and where some are very interested in what is going on in the rest of the world, same thing is boring to the dancer who is only interested in his "once-a-week-at-his-own-club-dancing! I know of one who wouldn't subscribe to Manisquare because "he wasn't interested in what was going on in New Zealand!" To again quote Dick Carson "you can't win em all". The new Federation with a Board of Directors seems to be ironing out their growing pains but oh, how long some of those afternoon meetings are! So many people with so many different ideas. Guess it was ever thus when a large group gets together to plan a future. There are some people also who will never accept the fact that the MAJORITY rules, and will insist on bringing up discarded items meeting after meeting.

At the end of May, 1980 we required 320 printed copies of fliers for Manisquare. Subscriptions creeping back up.

JERRY RASH calling for the Federation dance, afternoon and evening.

OCTOBERFEST - 2nd east/west Jamboree Oct. 25/80 - at Treherne with Roy Haslund, Jack Lewis, Mitch Blyth calling.

ADVANCE DANCING starting up with Thor Sigurdson Sept. 21/80, St. Mary Magdalene Church.

AMERICAN INN WEEK-END on again with Thor, Beryl Main and the Apostals - Oct.

NEW MASTHEAD and Federation fliers - rather smart - thanks to the artistic hands of Frank Mikuska, of the Paws-N-Taws.

An all out effort again for new dancers during Square Dance week - demos in Grant Park Plaza - we were approached by THEM for a change - a three day affair to advertise their "Hoe down of Values" sale. Paul Kostuck and the Swinging 69'ers danced in the Southwood mall Sept. 15 - 20. Hannes Thomasson and the Sashay S's in the St. Vital Shopping Centre Sept. 15 - 20. Roy Haslund and the Whirtaway Westerners in the Polo Park Shopping Centre. Also the Elmwood Legion donated their hall, and dancers & callers raised (with help from the Federation) \$504.10 for the Terry Fox dance - donated to the "Marathon of Hope".

JERRY JESTIN a very good young caller from College Station, Texas - next Fed. dance - what he is doing in Texas I'm not sure - maybe attending college, as I am sure his home is out west. (It is - Red Deer, Alta.)

One hundred and sixty-two Round Dance leaders from twenty five states, two Canadian provinces and the Netherlands attended the 4th annual Roundalab convention in Philadelphia.

THE CANADIAN SQUARE AND ROUND DANCE SOCIETY was a major milestone in the history of the Society with over 400 supporters taking part in lively discussion at their meeting at the Ottawa Convention. A three page article as to what it's all about is in February 1981 Manisquare - far too lengthy to copy here. There will be a third meeting at the HALIFAX SQUARE AND ROUND DANCE CONVENTION (national) no doubt.

In 1980 the Federation had several dances at Edmund Partridge School. The Sr. Citizens

had got in ahead of us and reserved the second Saturday - new officers running the Civic Centre no doubt.

As of 31 October/80 there were already 11,854 registered dancers for the 30th NATIONAL Square dance convention of June/81, in Seattle. What a mob there will be there, and we are aiming for a registration of 6,000! That is for our CANADIAN NATIONAL to be held in Winnipeg in 1984.

THE WHEELING EIGHT'S SQUARE DANCE CLUB - are members who square dance in wheel chairs in Maple Ridge, B.C.

From the Vice-president's report; On Friday, Mar. 13/81 a square of dancers put on a demonstration in the Winnipeg Inn for the St. James Parks Recreation Board -maybe something will come of it. And on March 28 two squares with caller Mitch Blyth put on a demonstration (actually it was not a demo - but an opening scene for their Western theme) on the stage of the Centennial Concert Hall for the S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A." In other words - the Golden Chordsmen - the Barber shop quartet Group of Winnipeg.

Speaking of the Centennial Hall - I have searched but cannot find a record of Paul Kostuck and a group of dancers - Paul calling and an old time fiddler playing. We were there - it must have been in the mid-seventies. It was the Philharmonic Symphony Choir's Christmas Concert if I remember correctly - the light dimmed - a spotlight shone on one corner of the stage and up on their moving stage came Paul and his dancers! Mitch was one of the dancers and he said their biggest problem during their rehearsals was learning to double-time - that was the way they had to dance to the old time fiddler.

EAST/WEST MANITOBA JAMBOREE - Saturday, Oct. 24, 1981 - Back to the old popular-format - Thor Sigurdson and Willard Riddell calling - workshop in the afternoon -Dinner and evening square dancing and round dancing. Lots of summer dancing for the First Year Graduates - no reason for them to become rusty and a great chance for them to get to know the Mainstream Level.

June 4, 5, 6, 1981 22nd INTERNATIONAL SQUARE/ROUND DANCE CONVENTION at University of Manitoba

President Jim & Doris Fenton attended the 30th National in Seattle the final count was 24,379 from all over the world!

NEW PLUS LEVEL dance club - with Phil Roy - Sturgeon Creek Community Club. Phil and Marilyn invite all their square dance friends to join them at a reception and dance in the St. James Civic Centre, to help celebrate their 25th Wedding. Joe Johannson and Thor Sigurdson calling. An article in October/81 Manisquare by Ian Wilkinson, former member of the Manitoba Square & Round Dance Federation, they moved down east, is headed SQUARE DANCING - ARE WE BECOMING TOO ORGANIZED. It is a good article with much food for thought, but 1984 we are even more organized than we were then!

An evening of SINGING CALLS with Mitch Blyth, Morse Place Community Club, proved different and well liked by those who attended.

The FLECK RATING - here it is for 1981 - to enable round dancers to better evaluate a round dance - Roundalab have adopted a point system devised by Dave & Shirley Fleck - Toledo, Ohio.

0 - 60 - easy - for non round dancers

126 - 175 - easy intermediate

61 - 125 - square dance round

250 - 299 - high intermediate

176 - 250 - Intermediate

Bill Swain is calling for Grand Squares.

1981, or would you say 1982 - anyway the Dec. 31, 1981 New Year's Dance had to be cancelled for lack of support - too much competition, I guess. Just one more good idea gone down the drain.

Federation having to look for a place to dance for a few months - they had a school - but the custodian failed to show up to open for the Jan. 9/82 dance and it had to be cancelled - not a good way to start a new year!

CROCUS FESTIVAL COMING UP May 6, 7, 8th, 1982 - Gary Shoemake and Jerry Story with the Gibsons on rounds.

PAUL & ELLIE KOSTUCK made Life Members of the Federation. They have done so much for Square Dancing. One thing they do a lot of and which is not mentioned too much, is the many demos they have done for Senior Citizen Homes.

July 1/82 Kenora CENTENNIAL Jamboree - Jerry Jestin calling.

MAY 29/82 - Allemande 8's present Jerry Rash & Mitch Blyth, Civic Centre.

June 12 - BRANDON'S CENTENNIAL - Jerry Jest in calling.

June 24 - SELKIRK CENTENNIAL Jamboree - Joe Johannson & Mitch Blyth calling.

NEW ROUND DANCE CLUB - Lloyd and Joan Atkins Crescentwood Community Club. From the President's report - a thank you to Joyce Johnston and the dancers who danced in the lobby of the Centennial Hall before and after the performance of the Winnipeg Ballet.

The Rainy River District Country Squares are members of our Federation. They are holding a Camporee with Norm Cross & Thor Sigurdson calling Aug. 6 & 7/82. Lots of summer dancing again - even the Plus Squares are having 6 dances during June, July, and August. Allemande 8's - Ron & Joyce Johnston at the Oriole Club - Bill Swain -Fort Garry Community Centre.

ROUNDS now have four levels of Round Dancing. Peter & Chris Lawrence teach on Tuesdays, also Level 1 on Thursdays for Graduates and Federation level Level 2 - Ken & Donna Gibson an easy to intermediate level on Sundays and Level 3 on Wednesdays with Ken and Donna for more challenge at the intermediate and higher levels. Harmony Rounds (Lloyd & Joan Atkins) starting both Sunday and Sunday - easy intermediates, classics, and top ten.

Mitch Blyth and Sharon McDonald became Mr. & Mrs. on May 27th/82. Mitch called with Jerry Rash on May 29, and they spent part of their honeymoon attending the International.

Jim Fenton stepped down as President at the Annual Meeting, and for the first time we have a lady President - Linda Hayden from the Flutter-Wheels.

"LOAD THE BOAT" - a cruise on the River Rouge - 7 to 10 p.m. with Mitch Blyth and Fred Barnett calling. September 14/82.

A THANK YOU from Peter and Eva Blyth to the many friends who came out to the St. James Civic Centre to help celebrate their 25th wedding Anniversary also to the Kenora Country

Cousins for their remembrance.

Invitations to be sent to Western Federation, North Dakota callers, Saskatchewan callers, Minnesota callers, to attend the Ed Foote Callers Workshop, Oct. 2nd & 3rd/82. Cal Golden, due to medical reasons will be unable to conduct clinic in /83. Another caller will be approached. Round dance leaders will be attending the Callers workshop in future to help decide on the rounds to be taught. Time for showing and choosing will be at 2:00 p.m. to allow the R.D. leaders to leave before the business meeting if they so wish.

Earle Park of Yorkton Sask to hold work-shop and Dance Sept. 18/82 St. James Civic Centre.

In Halifax a number of Manitoba dancers became quite enthused about dogging classes. Betty Berglund willing to help with classes if interested.

C.R.O.W.D. (Central Registry of World Dancers) has decided to discontinue. The reason it came into being in the first place was to aid the travelling dancer who had a very limited source for the type of information we have furnished. Now, however they have the National Directory, so our service is no longer needed. For 18 years Steve and Fran Stephens sent free information as to where you could dance and who to get in touch with all for a self addressed and stamped envelope. Isn't it always the way - someone bigger and better gets into the act - The National Directory is NOT free!

HERITAGE HOEDOWERS, through the Norwood School Division, have been able to obtain the use of King George School Gym, and will take singles, couples, teens, and pre-teens.

NATIONAL SQUARE DANCE DIRECTORY wish all 1983 dubs to have their information in by November 1st, 1982. National Square Dance Directory, P.O. Box 54055, Jackson Mississippi, U.S.A. 39208.

Welcome to the ROUNDELAY ROUND DANCE CLUB WHO ARE ONCE AGAIN GOING TO BE MEMBERS OF THE FEDERATION, HARMONY ROUNDS, the new GATEWAY PEELERS S/D Club and HERITAGE HOEDOWNERS. The GOLDEN RULE CLUB (for dancers 50 - 95) are now going to be dancing in the Leisure Centre on Osborne Street, instead of in the school, and will be dancing from 1:00 - 3:00 p.m. in the afternoon - much better for the seniors who are nervous on the streets at night (not only seniors are nervous walking on the dark streets!)

CHARLIE MCCULLOUGH of Carman - caller for first time for Federation dance October 9, 1982.

COMMUNITY FOLK ART COUNCIL OF WINNIPEG. Last year the Federation joined the council for a fee of \$25.00. In order to have some contacts for our production of the Ethnic dance presentation in Halifax (The Folk Art Council is the governing body for Fo1klorama). For this nominal fee we were able to utilize the services of Ted Komar in the preparation of the music for our presentation, as well as receiving a \$25.00 reduction in his fee. The Council also provided us with the contacts for the ethnic costumes required and we were able to get a number of costumes as a result of these contacts. Thus, for the first year our membership, in effect, cost us nothing, and we received a number of benefits that would not otherwise have been available to us. This year the Federation has, again, joined the council and has already been asked to showcase square dancing with the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra in their Christmas Concert. We start back around in a circle again - I mentioned earlier that Paul Kostuck and dancers danced for the Symphony Orchestra, and we belonged to the Folk Arts Council some 25 years ago.

Many square dancers attended the memorial service for Alice Martin. We will miss her

smiling face, so will Harry Martin's Rag Time Gals.

HARMONY ROUNDS AND ALLEMANDE 8's - something new - an evening of two rounds and two squares at the Civic Centre.

A new Square Dance Club LAKESIDE RUFFLED SQUARES - Lac du Bonnet - welcomed to the Federation. FORT FRANCES PAIRS N SQUARES hosting Don Littlefield from Fargo, October 22, 1982.

A two page article about the Halifax Convention is really too long to copy, but it winds up - (written by Doug McLaren) "To summarize, we really enjoyed the Convention, a 'lot of work went into it and I hope our people will be as helpful to Calgary (who have the 1986 Convention) as Halifax was to us. I never asked them for help or information without getting 100% co-operation and assistance. I am sure that anyone going to a Canadian National Convention will continue to attend - they are great fun and you meet people from all over the world who are as interested in the activity as we are. Remember "ENJOY IT MORE IN 84". See YOU at the Convention."

From an article printed in the St. James Newspaper ...Strathmillan School had the opportunity to experience some real square dancing...the dancers were guided around the squares by Roy Haslund, a square dance caller from the Square Dance Federation. The initial student reaction was so favorable that a square dance group has been organized for interested fifth and sixth grade students. They meet Wednesdays after-school and attract enough dancers to form three or four squares. That was written in December, 1982.

OAK BLUFF TWIRLERS - new club dancing in Oak Bluff Recreation Centre. Mitch Blyth is calling.

SUBSCRIPTION DANCE for- Canadian Dancers News Magazine - Thor Sigurdson calling -Gibsons and Lawrences - rounds January 29, 1983.

December, 1983 MANISQUARE was the swan song for the BLYTHS, and Doug McLaren, bless his little pea picking heart, took over as Editor. The senior Swains will give a hand in the publishing area until Doug can persuade Mel Borody to take over.

TESTING 1..2..3.....Jamboree - a large crowd of dancers needed to test the sound in the Winnipeg Convention Centre - sponsor - 4th National Canadian Square and Round Dance Convention. Result - could certainly do with some improvement! Being only 1983 ~ still time to do something.

FEDERATION DECIDED IT WAS TIME TO GET SOME EXPOSURE TO THE UP AND COMING YOUNG CALLERS. Local veteran callers were asked to sponsor a new caller of their choice -for Just one tip during their program. In December Joe Johannson sponsored Ron Berglund, and in January Thor Sigurdson sponsored Bill Swain. Back into our circle we go - the same thing was done about seventeen or eighteen years ago - Thor sponsored yours truly, and gave me confidence to face a crowd.

75th ANNIVERSARY square dance Jamboree at Swan River - June 25/83 - Earle Park of Yorkton calling,

There is to be a YARD SALE at St. Mary Magdalene Church - St. Vital Rd. April 23/83 - proceeds in aid of Convention '84.

HEART FUND DANCE - March 19 - Ryerson School.

A QUESTIONNAIRE re; MANISQUARE as to likes and dislikes - wants and otherwise to be filled in and returned to Gordon & Jean Swain. Don't they realize that over 50% never get around to fitting in questionnaires?

CANADIAN SQUARE AND ROUND DANCE SOCIETY REPORT - by Bob Geyson.

The first society's Directors meeting was held Feb. 6, 1983 by telephone conference call. The Canadian Dancer News and Directory lost \$1,025.00 in 1982. First time C.D.N. has not done well. Board passed a motion that the C.D.N. be self-sufficient, and discussed methods of accomplishing this. The C.D.N. staff was requested to review the need for the calendars. A motion was carried to hold "Square Dance Week" in Canada from Sept. 11 to 17/83, one week earlier than /82. A motion was passed that the generally accepted starting date for future conventions be the third Thursday in July. The Society's source of income is still under study by the financial advisory committee. The proposal to levy a head tax has had little support. There seems to be support for a proposal to assess national conventions attendees \$2.00 per person. This could provide an average of \$5,000.00 per year income. Other means such as benefit dances, or club assessments would have to be used to raise the remaining amount needed. The approximate net income from the Halifax Convention is \$14,000.00. The Maritime Federation have decided to grant 75% of this to the Society for operating expenses, as have every convention so far. I am interested in what the Manitoba Federation's position is on this, as this is a Society sanctioned event. Bob reported that one Federation was a distinct possibility by the '84 Convention (we are the first province or Territory to accomplish this.)

Fred Barnett was sponsored by Mitch Blyth at the February Federation dance.

MANISQUARE will now be distributed in bulk to the various clubs, unless individual members (subscribers) wish to pay the postage cost of direct mailing, which is approximately 50 cents per issue at the present.

Many people fail to realize just how much promotion of Square dancing is done by some of our own square dance callers. A good example is the work of our own Roy Haslund in the schools with two groups, one of which is a group of children confined to wheel chairs!

HANNES THOMASSON and dancers called at Golden Links Lodge, and at 185 Smith Street in February /83. Many of our callers entertain the seniors, but little is mentioned of it.

Phil Roy will be calling for FORT FRANCES PAIRS N' SQUARES in June, and Jerry Rash confirmed for Sept. 8th.

In the census of dancers conducted in 1981, there were about 2,000 dancers in Manitoba. (author's note - that HAS to be both East and Western Divisions - the number seems awfully high to me, and I can't help but wonder if the fact that some dancers belong to more than one club has been taken into consideration.)

Excerpts from the PRESIDENT'S REPORT TO THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING April 9/83 Federation became a member of both the "Community Folk Art Council of Winnipeg Inc." and the "Manitoba Association of Dance". Doug McLaren and Frank Mikuska represent the Federation on the Board of Directors of these organizations.

A meeting in Brandon was attended by the Executive to begin the process of forming a "single" Federation in the province of Manitoba with the east and west becoming divisions of this "Federation". An "Incorporation Committee" was formed to deal with the legal papers which may be necessary. The Federation donated \$25.00 to the Lion's Telethon, and \$100.00 to the Heart Fund Dance sponsored by the S.D.C.A. of Manitoba.

Square Dance Week - a new Square and Round dance Promotion Committee was formed jointly with the Square Dance Callers Association of Manitoba to handle all such promotion in the future. All funds allotted for promotion by the Federation, plus profits from the First Year Dancers Jamboree will now be given to this committee for square and round dance promotion.

The Constitution and By-Laws were revised.

Federation allotted \$100.00 for a new banner for Federation dances, and a smaller Travelling banner, both designed by Gerry and Carolyn TenBerk.

Admission prices at Federation dances for students under 18 and attending school full time was set at one half the single fee.

The Executive encouraged square dancing in the schools, with the handicapped and with the elderly. The list of individuals willing to become para-callers and para-leaders to work with these groups is growing. A video tape on wheel chair square and round dancing is now available from the University of Manitoba.

Liaison with the Square Dance Callers Association of Manitoba was maintained through attendance at their meetings and through exchange of minutes.

CROCUS FESTIVAL - May 12, 13, 14/83 - Gary Shoemake & Jerry Haag - Joe and Shirley Johannson on rounds.

SUMMER DANCING - more or less the same as the past two or three years - same places - same callers. One exception, Thor Sigurdson will be calling an introduction to the advanced level during May - August - St. Phillips Church Eugenic & Tache.

Camporees - Sashay 8's, Emerson, Rainy River, can find nothing about Husavik so guess that one has come to an end. Nope just came across it advertised in the Jamborees & Special events.

2nd annual "LOAD THE BOAT" dance cruise with Mitch Blyth & Fred Barnett - Sept. 13, and before that should have mentioned Sept. 9, 10, 11th - Fall Festival Jerry Rash & Mitch Blyth on squares - Lloyd & Joan Atkins on rounds.

Oct. 1/83 2 Plus 2 dance Lloyd & Joan Atkins - rounds - Mitch Blyth - squares. Oct. 15 - PLUS JAMBOREE - Thor Sigurdson & Joe Johannson - St. James Civic Centre. Oct. 22 - East/West Jamboree - Verna Hasselfield and Mitch Blyth.

Missed one - Special dance July 21/83 Mac Marcellus of Thornton - easy level Plus at St. Phillips.

KENORA COUNTRY COUSINS 9TH and last AUTUMN FROLIC - WITH DICK & JOE. Sept. 23 and 24, 1983. Too bad - it was great while it lasted.

A lot of travelling was done over the summer to advertise '84 Convention. Bemidji, Minnesota State Convention, Swan River's 75th, Thunder Bay, Penticton, Medicine Hat' the travellers - sometimes together or two pairs, even one pair were (the ones mentioned) McLarens, Kozeras, Blyths (Jr.) Borodys, Beattys, LeBlancs, Wheelers, Kenyons, Hansons, could be there were many more.

Round Dance Improvement - Ken & Donna Gibson - easy to easy intermediate clinic on waltz rhythm basics & some of the newer international terms.

NORM WILCOX from Brampton, Ontario at the Sept. 17th workshop and dance - Lloyd and Joan Atkins on rounds.

COST OF MANISQUARE now - \$5.00 -for bulk delivery to clubs or \$7.00 for direct mailing. Advertising - full page - member \$15.00, nonmember - \$20.00 half page ad -\$8.00 Quarter page \$5.00 - classified ads \$2.00 per insert (max 5 lines x half page width)

Anniversary Congratulations go out to BEA AND JACK COOPER who celebrated their 50th wedding Anniversary.

ANOTHER TESTING DANCE at the Winnipeg Convention Centre Nov. 20/83 - as many dancers as can be mustered to test the sound.

Oct. 15/83 ORPHIE EASSON - Federation Dance Civic Centre - Roy & Cora Haslund on rounds.



Oct. 13/83 - Paws/N-Taws sponsored Stan Burdick - Editor of American Squares.

THE WORKSHOPPER - Thor & Marv Sigurdson - after many years of work shopping the Plus Level and lately the Advanced, have decided to become a club, dancing on a weekly schedule. Because of the nature of their dancing are unable to invite visitors, but will be holding advanced lessons in the Spring and summer, 1984, beginning the week after the Crocus Festival. The Work shopper will be holding a Plus dance on November 19, 1983 with NO work shopping the plus figures.

ANOTHER FEDERATION will join the Eastern and Western Federation - It will be made up of the northern area and the clubs in Dauphin and Swan River. It will be called "Park lands".

Manitoba now has ONE Federation to represent the entire province. This body was formed at the first meeting of the Manitoba Square and Round Dance Federation, which took place in Treherne, Manitoba on October 22, 1983. This new Federation is composed of Divisions - which will continue to operate basically, as they do now. The three divisions will be directed by a Board of Governors, with two representatives from each of the Divisions. The Wilsons and Wongs represent the western Division, the Goochses and Haydens represent the Eastern Division, while the Windsors and Geysons represent the Parklands Division.

THE PLUS SQUARES, Phil Roy's group from Winnipeg has thrown out a challenge to other groups in the province. During the summer months they danced demonstration dances and made \$250.00 which they have donated to Convention '84 and are challenging other groups to do the same or even better. The '84 Convention is Incorporated - for a convention of this size it is practically mandatory. Thanks to Gary Gooch, we have been incorporated since May 20, 1983. We have our own seal and all the legal papers in our possession. We hope that all of Manitoba will soon be incorporated also. Gary is working on that too. By the time this issue of Manisquare is out, a meeting will have been held at the East/West Jamboree in Treherne to decide issues such as this.

The Testing Dance on November 20th, is VERY important. It is to try out two sound systems. We will be relying on your donations again also - the last test dance only netted half the cost of the testing - this is a blow to the already tight Convention budget, but if we don't have good sound, we don't have a good convention.

We have a new artist for our Federation Fliers. "Your Editor was grateful to Norm Brown of Publicity when he offered to take on this task. I used to do them at the last minute in a fit of desperation".

THE CRAFT AND BAKE SALE at Eaton's Place was a huge success. We brought in over \$2,000.00 the one Saturday. Start getting ready now for the big Garage sale in April. RED RIVER TOE TAPPERS - Betty Berglund is looking for a few more to join her in clogging classes.

ROUND DANCE IMPROVEMENT CLINIC - on Fox-Trot rhythm basics - Ken & Donna Gibson January 24, 1984.

GOLDEN RULE SENIORS - September 8th marked the opening of the second year of square dancing being held Thursday afternoons at the Fort Rouge Recreation and Leisure Centre. Our membership stands at 58 and the average attendance is 34. We are looking forward to an active and enjoyable time of dancing in the months ahead.

Editor, Doug McLaren reports that the "Old Time Dance" sponsored by the Oak Bluff Twirlers was a dance that renewed Doug's faith in social dancing. A live band "The Nomads" played waltzes and polkas and just good music that anyone could actually dance to, and you

could also talk across the table while the band was playing without blowing your tonsils out!

A meeting of the Board of Directors decided that all Federation Dances will end at 10:30 p.m. effective as of January, 1984. Amendments to our by-laws will be necessary if changes are made, therefore, a review of our constitution will be made with proposed amendments to be considered at the next Board Meeting February 11, 1984.

PLUS WORKSHOP – 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. Civic Centre March 10, 1984 with Joe Johannson.

Round Dance Improvement Clinic with Ken & Donna Gibson - on LATIN rhythm basics February 25, 1984.

FIRST YEAR DANCERS MID-SEASON JAMBOREE - St. Vital United Church, February 25, 1984, Fred Barnett, Mitch Blyth, Charlie McCullough, Bill Swain, calling.

ROUND DANCE JAMBOREE - March 3, 1984 - Rosedale United Church - Joe & Shirley Johannson, Peter & Chris Lawrence, and Lloyd & Joan Atkins.

FEDERATION DANCE LEVEL - A new designation of dance level has been decided on in conjunction with the Callers Association, that of "Federation Level". This level will include the following: Mainstream plus Quarterly Selections and the following list as selected by the callers

Load the Boat	Teacup Chain	Spread
Relay the Deuce	Ping Pong Circulate	Chase Right
Flip the Diamond Co-Ordinate	Single Circle	Follow Your Neighbour
Track Two	Follow Your Neighbor- &	

This does not mean that there will no longer be other dance level designations, such as Mainstream or Mainstream Plus, it only means that some dances sponsored by the Federation will be labeled as Federation level. The list as recommended by the Callers will be reviewed periodically as the Mainstream and Quarterly Selections change.

Great Scott! They are proposing amendments to the Constitution By-Laws again this year - is that going to go on year after year? The Constitution is already about four pages too long and so confusing the ordinary layman finds *it* difficult to read. Why don't they scrap it and go back to the nice simple two page Constitution they had back in the '50s?

GATEWAY PEELERS HAVING STAN BURDICK as their caller April 4/84.

Joe JOHANNSON presenting a workshop 1 - 4; 00 and calling -for the evening dance in the Civic Centre March 10/84.

THE NATIONAL SOCIETY has asked all clubs to take part in a NATIONAL ACTIVITY WEEK (NPAW) in conjunction with Fitness Canada. The sum of \$10,000.00 has been allocated to the Canadian Square and Round Dance Society for the purpose of promoting this event. A letter in this regard should have been received by each club asking them to take part in NPAW. The week selected is the week of May 13 to 21, 1984. Square or Round dancers are asked to dance in different places where the general public can watch the fun as well as participate. As well as helping to draw attention to the NPAW it could be an excellent time to do some promotional work towards getting new members in the fall.

OAK BLUFF TWIRLERS JAMBOREE - Oak Bluff Rec. Centre - April 7/84 BOB NURSE calling for Shilo Prairie Schooners 16th Annual Spring Trek.

Another "OLD TIME" dance with music by the "NOMADS" sponsored by Oak Bluff in their Rec. Centre. The first one certainly was appreciated - this one will no doubt be just as good.

ST. CLAUDE JAMBOREE - Haywood Community Hall - Mar. 24/84 Charlie McCullough.

25TH INTERNATIONAL SQUARE AND ROUND DANCE CONVENTION - Their silver Jubilee to be held in the Keystone Centre, BRANDON, Manitoba.

Speaking of SILVER JUBILEES - do you realize that the Square Dance Federation of Manitoba (E.D.) should have had a SILVER celebration of some sort in 1977 - and none of us gave it a thought? Guess no-one had read the beginning of that first huge Journal or figured out when we d id get started. Well - bear this in mind, because I doubt very much if I will be around to remind you - in the year 2002 - the Federation can celebrate their 50th year in operation!

East-West WHEELERS Jamboree Sat., Mar 31/84 Yellow Quill School -Portage 1a Prairie - Mitch Blyth calling.

Just noted that DAVE PAGET was to have UPW, - or is that a V not a U ~ Channel 13 Anyway to take pictures at the Mar. 10 dance with Joe.

Jamborees, windups - summer- dancing - everyone getting into the act to get their dancers up to par before the National. Mitch - at Nelson McIntyre Collegiate starting May 7th - All position Mainstream with some of the Plus level moves. The WORKSHOPPER begins their lessons of dancing the Plus in all position, and Workshopping A-2 movements.

May 5 - FEDERATION dance with JERRY RASH calling.

CROCUS FESTIVAL ~ May 10 - 12/84 - Mr. Crocus, Gary Shoemake & Ken Bower, with Gibsons on rounds.

What with the Crocus, the International, then the NATIONAL AUG. 2, 3, 4/84 no one will be able to say that, come the end of summer, they didn't get enough dancing, because in between there are camporees at the usual spots - Emerson, Stanley Park, Husavik, one for Pinawa, and Emo, Ont! Then in the Fall - Sept. 7-9 Fall FESTIVAL - JERRY RASH & MITCH BLYTH - Lloyd and Joan ATKINS on Rounds, and the Manitoba Square Round Dance JAMBOREE in TREHERNE. Full summer and fall.

BIG GARAGE SALE - St. Mary Magdalene Church, April 14/84 to raise more monies for the '84 National.

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S REPORT TO THE ANNUAL MEETING, April 14, 1984 Board of Directors held four well attended meetings this past year, and the Executive Committee met on four occasions.

Federation is in good financial condition - income actually having exceeded expenses this past year. We will soon face a major expense however, as the equipment used to publish "Manisquare" is outdated and due for replacement. Since we have not set aside funds for the depreciation of this equipment over the years, its replacement will have quite an impact on our future financial position.

Another factor - as a nonprofit organization, the Federation was not required to pay any rental fees for the Civic Centre this past year, effective Sept., 1984, the charge will be \$35.00 per day for a custodian to supervise our dances.

Some Innovations: Provided ribbons for the first year dancers Jamboree in April/83 and will do so again this year. The program for 1984 also schedules a round dance after a square dance tip. This will allow First year dancers, most of whom do not round dance to "square up" with more seasoned dancers.

Manisquare will finally have a "Subscription Dance" - September 1984.

Federation plans to hold dances at two dance levels to satisfy the different needs of our dancers. The September, October, December and April dances will be "Mainstream - Quarterly" dances. The November and March dances will be "Plus" dances with a "Plus" workshop planned for each afternoon.

Federation plans to issue diplomas to member clubs and organizations to recognize long-term operations e.g. 5, 15, 25 years.

Federation plans to provide 500 promotional fliers to member clubs and organizations. Quantities in excess of this amount will be provided at cost.

The Federation has established categories of "sponsor" and "sustaining member" to recognize businesses/clubs/organizations/dancers that make donations to "Manisquare". These groups or individuals will be listed in each Issue of "Manisquare". This replaces our policy of soliciting paid advertisers to help defray the cost of publishing our newsletter. A \$500.00 float was also set up to cover the operating expenses of "Manisquare". We welcomed the Beausejour Swinging Squares, East West Whirlers, and the Workshopper as new members. Unfortunately we lost the Gimli Northern Lights, and the Kenora Country Cousins as both clubs folded this past year. We now have a total of 30 clubs and organizations.

The Federation plans to participate in Folklorama in August 1984. Square and Round dancing will be organized for the American Pavilion.

This brings the condensed history of the "Official Journal of MANITOBA SQUARE AND ROUND DANCE FEDERATION eastern division MANISQUARE , up to the issue of APRIL, 1984, just prior to the Annual meeting.

## Closing

One thing not mentioned, because it did not seem to be reported in the newsletter, is the fact that the Callers Association had several floats in the Red River Exhibition. In 1964 our float received THIRD prize in the noncommercial division. In 1965 we received SECOND in the same division. When I say "prize" - it was a nice big ribbon we received. In 1969 we received a huge button and ribbon - THIRD prize in the SERVICE CLUB division,

In a very old copy of Callers "Message From the President" - Joe Johansson 1983, speaking or should say "writing" about the accomplishments of the Association, after two short years of operation" under the capable guidance of Past Presidents, Jack Van Every and Bert Angus" ... is recorded "A well decorated float, colorfully staffed by callers and dancers was entered in the Red River Exhibition Parade in both 1962 and 1963. We feel that this was a tremendously effective form of public relations for Square Dancing". Whether or not those floats won ribbons I cannot say - I only have the three. How very well I remember the 1969 entry - we elected to get Square dancing "OUT OF THE BARN". If I recall correctly - Charlie Huggins drove the truck, covered to look like a barn, Ulysse Peloquin supplied the flatbed and a very nicely decorated dance floor with a platform and doorway (mock) at the back where the caller stood. It took hours of work under the supervision of Roy Haslund and was built out on Henderson Highway at Garry Hall's home (lots of room to work) I can't even begin to remember all the men who came out to help, while the women made pom poms, eyed drapes etc. etc. When the big day finally arrived we had to be out so darned early in the morning, left our cars at Hall's, boarded the float and off down town to be allotted our place in the parade - I'm not sure just where we were - I think on Graham or York - but it seemed we were there for HOURS before we finally got underway. We stopped and started all down Portage Ave - the callers took turns and in my pictures I see the Haslunds, the Dempsters, the Robertsons, the Harry Martins, the Don Hills, the Dick Carsons, the Johnstons, and the Blyths. And that year it was either Charlie Huggins or Wilf Collins driving the camouflaged truck. HOT - oh man what a hot day but It was fun, and we were TIRED by the time we got out to Halls and picked up our cars'.

The float was dismantled - pom poms and drapes put away, but I believe it was borrowed by Transcona for their big day first. The following year we again met at Hall's to put the float together again - it wasn't as handsome this year pom poms a little dingy, paint a little dull, platform and backdrop a little rickety. Time was spent on it and we were once again waiting in line to start off. I have no pictures of that year - just as well - it was nothing but problems. To begin with the callers had been smart they thought a tape had been made to call to because the needle kept jumping the year before. Something happened to the tape - what I don't recall, but only the first piece of music would play so we danced to Ernie Corder calling the same singing call over and over and over - all the way out to the Exhibition grounds. We had trouble getting into the grounds - I think we were too wide or the driver couldn't see, we hit a post, which made the "stage" even more rickety, a wind got up, as well as the wind we created driving home, our backdrop started to part company with the platform and all the way back to Hall's we had to hang on to said backdrop for dear life to prevent it from putting apart completely and flying off to create an accident in traffic. We took as many back roads as possible and did manage to arrive at Hall' -- with very frayed nerves, but no accident. So that, fellow dancers, was the end of the entries of the float in the Ex. by the Manitoba Square and Round Dance Callers Association. It was too much trouble and too much work for the same people. (I thought I'd never forget that square dance call - but for the life of me I can't remember - I wonder if Ernie Corder remembers?)

I also meant to ask if anyone remembers the PATTERSON'S BARN DANCE at the corner of Logan and Keewatin St. They square-danced there every Saturday night - we never attended so don't know what type of square dancing it was, but imagine it was the old traditional. I am glad to see that Callerlab is suggesting bringing a bit of that back. It would be a pity to forget it.