

Nova Scotia CSRDS Directors' Report to AGM16

The Nova Scotia Directors prepared 9 Dancers' Anniversary certificates during the past year. The Directors danced with 5 Nova Scotia Square Dance clubs and 2 Contra clubs.

In September 2015, the Directors helped organize a one week long Contra Dance Festival in Halifax and two other locations outside of the city.

Halifax's two contra groups teamed up to place a bid to host one of the seven stops on the Country Dance and Song Society's North American Centennial Tour. The U.S.-based society is the leading organization supporting traditional dancing in North America, and last fall shared the good news with the Halifax groups that they had won a stop on the tour. The week-long Contra Fest provided a cross-pollination of contra skills between the American staff and Nova Scotian participants.

During Contra Fest itself seven workshop sessions were held for callers as well as five school events, where they were welcome to attend, and most attendees at the Saturday morning Styling workshop were callers. Ten callers attended as many of the workshops as possible and three attended at least one school session. Four performed at the Friday evening dance.

All of the callers involved came away from Contra Fest with a new supply of dances, a wealth of information about teaching dances efficiently, and some useful ideas to help when working with school children. The CSRDS Directors assisted with obtaining funding grants from various sources, including CSRDS.

The finale dance had over 300 dancers enjoying their newly found dance form and fresh skills for those who had contra danced previously.

After 10 very enjoyable years on the CSRDS Board, with Inge serving as Historian for 6 years, and Bob as President, for 4 years, they are resigning as Nova Scotia Directors. However, they are pleased to announce that The Nova Scotia Square and Round Dance Federation have nominated volunteers, Laurie and Wilma Illsley to serve on the CSRDS Board in 2016 -18.

Submitted By:

Bob and Inge Ruohoniemi
Nova Scotia Directors
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