

Canadian Square and Round Dance Society  
Annual General Meeting  
Lacombe, Alberta  
September 06, 2015

Manitoba Square and Round Dance Federation Report

In June of 2014, after 55 years of dancing, the International Square, Round and Clogging held their last convention in Bismarck, ND. So to keep in contact and keep dancing with our US dancers, a new group was formed, called Friends Across the Border. It was held at the International Peace Gardens. This event was a success, with a good turnout, and will be held again next year. The Come Together Jamboree held on the last Saturday in October it is hosted by one of our 3 divisions each year. This is a full day of events, Federation AGM and Board Meeting. Square and Round Dancing, a silent auction, presentation of the Crocus Awards and a catered meal. This event has been well attended over the past years.

On April of 2014, The Brandon Circle Eights celebrated their 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. This year in October, Whirlaway Westerners will also be celebrating their 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

The Eastern Division had 13 sq. dance clubs, 4 sq. dance clubs with rounds, 4 round dance clubs, 4 clogging clubs and 2 line dance clubs. With the decline of dancers 3 of our sq. dance clubs closed down. Red River Squares in Dec.2014, Winnipeg Square Revival in Feb. 2015 and Carman Bar 8's in May 2015. The Western Division has 5 sq. dance clubs and 1 clogging club. The Parkland area has 1 square dance club and 1 club that has sq. dancing with rounds. Due to the shortage of callers/cuers 2 clubs dance to recorded music. Not only are we in need of getting new dancers to start dancing at various clubs. Also, we anticipate a shortage of callers/cuers in the near future. One of our callers helps out in the winter months by call at 4 clubs.

The EMSRDA and many other clubs are having a difficult time filling positions on their executive committees. Dances at the St. James Civic Centre are hosted by the Eastern Association, are attracting less and less dancers each year. With many of our dancers and callers/cuers traveling south for the winter. This has caused some clubs to shut down for the winter months. With a shortage of dancers at this time, many clubs are participating in Banner Stealing. This is a fun event that encourages dancers to participate by traveling to other clubs.

Throughout the summer months there are special dances held, which helps to keep the dancers involved dancing. In keeping up with the times many of the clubs are posting events on Face Book. After the Sept. issue of Manisquare it will be posted digitally on the Federation Web Site. Dancers who are not on the internet will need to have someone print it out for them. Due to the cost of sending out paper copies and the cost of keeping the printing equipment up to date, it was voted that digital copies was the way to go. The Western Association have been posting their Westman Dancer news letter digitally for a few year now and find that it has worked well for them.

Respectfully Submitted by  
President Couple of the MSRDF  
Sam Dunn and Anne Wiebe