

NEWSNOTES

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FROM THE PRESIDENTS DESK

Hi Club Presidents and Club Delegates,

Amazingly, the summer of 2004 has come and gone. We hope it was a healthy and fun time for you. Did you do any dancing? I sure hope so. Though we wanted to dance more, we truly enjoyed the State Conventions we attended, in Illinois and Wisconsin. If you haven't been to our State Convention recently - like this past July - make it a plan you attend the 2005 Illinois Convention in nearby DeKalb, Illinois on the campus of Northern Illinois University. Barry and Anita Johnson, secretary of MCASD, are chairing this event, and it should be tremendous. We need your help, and the help of all your club members to make next July a spectacular event.

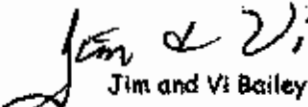
If you haven't registered as yet, do so ASAP, and enjoy the three best days of square dancing and fun activities that you, your club members, and your recent graduates can experience. We'll be looking for MCASD Club Presidents at the 2005 Convention, look for us. If you see us there (we're registered, of course), step up and say HI!

REMEMBER, club delegates indicated at the April 18th General Meeting how your club will participate in the coming years MCASD activities - by sponsoring a Student Dance, working at the Great Pumpkin Ball, working at the Sweetheart Dance or a combination of the preceding. As the number of clubs has decreased, it really helps when several clubs volunteer for more than one activity.

On the matter of new students, I encourage you to review not only the instructor callers role in greeting and motivating first time students to continue with lessons, but to reexamine YOUR role in this exceedingly important phase of lessons. Sad to say, some students never get to know the President of the club sponsoring the lessons, or any officer other than lesson coordinator. In this election year of 2004, emulate the politicians and "press the flesh" at the student lessons, letting them know YOU think their attendance is important.

The MCASD Board has encouraged our Directors to communicate with the President's of the clubs they have been assigned, and request that they be allowed to visit a club business meeting - for the purpose of lending assistance to local clubs, not to spy. This is voluntary on your part. Our Directors do have expertise in square dance matters, and could possibly contribute valuable aid to your club. Please consider it if asked.

Sincerely Yours,


Jim and Vi Bailey
President, MCASD

9/4/04

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Vice Presidents Message

NEW SQUARE DANCERS WANTED!! Encourage new people to take lessons in 2004/2005. Look elsewhere in this packet for the list of clubs offering lessons, and refer interested people to another club if your club isn't having lessons this year.

Plan to attend several of the New Dancer Dances sponsored by MCASD. They usually turn out to be a fun time, and you help the new dancers by being an "angel" while they learn.

Squarely Yours,
Duane and June Bradley
MCASD Vice Presidents

Sweetheart Dance 2005

Mark your calendars - Sunday, February 13, 2005 - MCASD presents the Sweetheart Dance. Callers will be Ken Burke and Bobby Poyner, cuer will be Bob and Angie Hucceby. Sweetheart couples will be honored at the dance. There will be a hall for the new dancers, so make plans to attend. Tickets and job assignments will be given to club delegates in December, at the General Meeting on December 5, 2004.

Linda and Gary Marron
SWEETHEART DANCE CHAIRMEN

REPORT FROM SCISDA

This year's Convention in Macomb was great. Approximately 631 dancers attended. Everyone seemed to enjoy the facilities and the great callers and cuers. Macomb is a great town, and we look forward to returning there sometime in the future., Now on to our next location.

EAR YE! EAR YE! The 2005 Illinois State Convention will be held in DeKalb, Illinois, home of Northern Illinois State University. The chairmen for this Convention are our own Barry and Anita Johnson, and co-chairs are Tim and Donna Cardwell, also members of MCASD. The Convention set-up will be similar to what we had in Macomb, but much closer. **MANY NEW IDEA AND FEATURES** will also be included on the 2005 Convention. Tom Miller will be the featured caller. Registration forms are available. Register now and get in ahead of the rush.

Gary and Linda Marron are the registration chairmen, so if you see them at a dance, you can register with them and get your ribbons to wear immediately - no waiting. We will also have a table at the Great Pumpkin Ball and Sweetheart Dances, so look for us.

During the SCISDA meeting in Macomb, new officers for SCISDA were elected. New Presidents are Larry and Ruth Wehmeier, Northern Region Vice- Presidents are Curtis and Maria Bremer (MCASD Past Presidents). Curtis and Maria are working on getting square dance flyers placed in Illinois Rest and Information areas around the State. They will also be working with Bob and Donna Carpenter in checking sites for future conventions. If you know or hear about any places that could host an Illinois State Square Dance Convention, contact them.

MCASD Delegates to SCISDA
Linda and Gary Marron

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1) RECOGNIZING MCASD BOARD MEMBERS AT DANCES

From time to time members of the MCASD Board visit MCASD clubs, usually to square dance, but sometimes for an official visit. In either event, it would be appreciated if ALL BOARD MEMBERS visiting your club were introduced. Some square dancers never get to see or meet Board members as they are never introduced. Sometimes Board members have been instructed to make an announcement or two to the clubs they visit. Your introducing them will facilitate their task.

Jim and Vi Bailey - MCASD President

2) DELEGATES BADGES

Delegates and Club Presidents are reminded that it is their responsibility to maintain control of the Delegates Badges. Many clubs have lost or misplaced badges, and a badge **MUST** be worn at all MCASD General Meetings.

Reluctantly, MCASD will henceforth impose a \$5.00 replacement fee per badge - **PAYABLE IN ADVANCE** - when a club's Delegate badge turns up missing. The fee preferably should be paid by check to the Treasurer when requesting a replacement.

DATES TO REMEMBER 2004 - 2005

GENERAL MEETINGS -

THIRD SUNDAY IN SEPTEMBER - SEPTEMBER 19, 2004

FIRST SUNDAY IN DECEMBER - DECEMBER 5, 2004

THIRD SUNDAY IN APRIL (depending on Easter) - APRIL 17, 2005

SPECIAL MCASD DANCES

Third Sunday in October **GREAT PUMPKIN BALL - OCTOBER 17, 2004**

Second Sunday in February **SWEETHEART DANCE - FEBRUARY 13, 2005**

2005 ILLINOIS STATE SQUARE AND ROUND DANCE CONVENTION

'EAR YE! 'EAR YE! will be the word for the coming square dance year, as it is the theme for the 2005 Illinois State Convention to be held in nearby DeKalb, Illinois. New plans, new ideas, and vigorous leadership are working full blast to make this Convention one that we will all remember. Square Dancing will never have been so much fun for us when we join other square dancers from around our state and from neighboring states of Iowa, Wisconsin, Indiana and Michigan. If all goes well, others states will be represented, too. Barry and Anita Johnson from our own Association will spearhead this great event, and we are hoping all the Chicago-land clubs will make a special effort to make the Convention spectacular.

registration forms and making them available to your club members; and by including Convention information and providing flyers to all the dancers attending your dances. Additionally, it will help if representatives from MCASD are allowed to say a few words at your dances when announcement time comes.

Geographically, this is the closest Convention to be held to us since our State Convention began. Travel can be on the Interstate 88 route, so it will be convenient and easy traveling. Plus, the facilities at Northern Illinois University are beautiful, and all located in one building. Most of the dancing will be done on wooden parquet floors, with country-western/line dancing and perhaps youth dances being held on flooring compatible to dancing. No dances will take place on carpeted floors. Dancing will be held at all levels, for dancers at whatever stage of dancing ability level they have reached, and the callers will be specially instructed to MAKE DANCING FUN! You can also help by wearing your 'EAR YE! 'EAR YE! pin as requested above.

