

November 18, 2015

SDM Members:

One of the purposes of our organization is to educate the public and generate public awareness so as to promote and perpetuate growth and acceptance of square dancing in all its heritage forms. Square dancing is an all-inclusive term. Along with a formation of eight dancers in a square, it might be a round dance done by couples, a large circle dance, or it could be in long lines known as contras. If your organization needs monetary assistance to hold classes or is aware of someone that would like to learn to dance but for whatever reason cannot afford it, we have a scholarship program for this purpose.

Many of us have new dancers taking classes at our organizations. You may be asked by them when they are considered a square dancer. The correct response would be the first time they circled left and right to follow a caller's command. They may not be a Basic or Mainstream dancer but they are square dancers. Coach them whenever possible, remember when you were a new dancer and all those calls seemed like a foreign language. You learned them and so will the new dancers. Encourage them to keep dancing and practice as often as possible.


Our next dance "*SDM Fall Festival*" is scheduled for November 29, 2015, with Mainstream dancing 2:00-4:30 p.m. at the Whitney Center, 1527 Northway Dr, St Cloud, MN 56303. Awards presentations at 4:30 p.m. with dancer-provided potluck following. See attached flier for additional information.

If you know of anyone eligible for the "Live Lively" award or have forms to submit for the "Traveler" award, please send them to squaredancemn@aol.com now so that we have time to prepare the certificates.

The next quarterly Board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, December 1, 2015, 9:30-11:30 a.m. at the Ridgedale Library, 12601 Ridgedale Dr, Minnetonka, MN 55305-1908. All members are welcome and encouraged to attend.

SDM dues for calendar year 2016 are \$10 (which includes \$5 for USDA insurance). If you have already paid, thanks, but if you have not please contact your organization membership person. A member only has to pay SDM dues one time. Likewise, USDA insurance only has to be paid once. Let your membership person know if you have already paid at another organization.

Please continue to send your dance information for the "Calendar" and "News" to squaredancemn@aol.com. If you know of a member who does not have e-mail, please give them a copy of this update. Thanks.


LeRoy Eifmann
Chair, SDM