



Square Dance Minnesota, Inc.

July 23, 2016

Happy second anniversary to Square Dance Minnesota (SDM). It will be two years tomorrow that SDM was created to become a non-profit organization to promote and teach square dancing in all its heritage forms.

Not only did SDM celebrate its first anniversary last year on July 19, it was also able to celebrate the July 15, 2016 Internal Revenue Service (IRS) group exemption letter recognizing its affiliate organizations with 501(c)(3) status as public charities.

Since receipt of the group exemption letter, SDM completed and the IRS accepted Form 990-N for fiscal/calendar years 2014 and 2015 for those organizations that were included in the annual renewal last year. (For the organizations that joined SDM since September 2015, your Form 990-N will be completed as soon as the IRS updates its data base after our annual renewal this year.)

Five organizations joined SDM this year – existing organizations Kato Plus, North Country Plus, and St Peter Squares (Riverbend Promenaders); and newly established organizations Valley Stars and Kaleidoscope Squares.

Website www.squaredancemn.com includes information about SDM, an event calendar, educational opportunities, news, fliers, links, operating procedures, fillable forms, and dance location information. The website averages approximately 1,600 visitors a month.

The SDM Board continuously reviews the existing operating procedures to ensure that they are current and reflect the best operational practices. This year we also updated all of the forms and added form numbers to facilitate their use. Most of the operating procedures and forms are on the website. If you need one that is not there send an e-mail to squaredancemn@aol.com and it will be sent to you.

Don't forget that we have established a number of programs – Traveler Program, Most Active-Dancer Program, Banner Program, Live Lively Program, New Dancer Program and Anniversary Program to encourage and recognize those active in our square dance community. If you are not familiar with these programs, all are on the website.

I would like to thank the other SDM Board members and especially Don Hanson for his two years as our vice chair, the many hours and ideas contributed to organizing SDM are truly appreciated.

As I indicated last year, one of our biggest challenges is to promote and educate the public about square dancing. Keep looking for those individuals that may be interested in our great national heritage and encourage them to become square dancers. Live Lively – Square Dance!


LeRoy Elfmann
Chair, SDM