



Square Dance Minnesota, Inc.

www.squarecemn.com

February 24, 2017

Winter Festival

The SDM Winter Festival was held on January 29, 2017, at the Whitney Center in St Cloud, MN. Thanks to the nine squares of dancers that came and enjoyed the afternoon. A special thanks to all the callers and cuers who donated their time and talent to call the squares and cue the rounds.

Awards presented were:

- #1 Most-Active Dancer – Evonne Herman
- #1 Most-Active Dancer – Clem Herman
- #2 Most-Active Dancer – Barry Downs
- #3 Most Active Dancer – Susie Oachs
- #4 Most Active Dancer – Willard Leinonen

Live Lively Award – Dean Brotherton

Live Lively Award – Jerry Hartman

2nd Traveler Award – Willard Leinonen

4th Traveler Award – Evonne Herman

4th Traveler Award – Clem Herman

15th Anniversary – F-M Square Dancers Assoc

30th Anniversary – North Country Plus

35th Anniversary – ETTA Square & Rounds

Board Meeting

The last SDM Board meeting was held in conjunction with the SDM Winter Festival. Forty members were present. The next SDM Board meeting is scheduled for April 24, 2017, 10:00 a.m., at the Ridgedale Library, 12601 Ridgedale Dr, Minnetonka, MN. Please try to be there; we welcome your comments/suggestions.

Next Festival

Due to scheduling problems, there will be no SDM Spring Festival. The next festival will be the Summer Festival on July 23, 2017. Dancing from 1:00-5:00 p.m. General membership meeting at approximately 3:00 p.m., with awards presentation to follow. Membership meeting includes election of two new board members. Potluck meal during the dance. These festivals are a great opportunity to dance to different callers. Copy of the festival flier is attached to this update.

Recognition Programs

Most-Active Dancer program is ongoing for the period January 1 through June 30, 2017.

Live-Lively nomination, to recognize our chronologically enriched, can be submitted whenever someone meets a new milestone.

Traveler program forms should be submitted whenever the travel requirements are met.

Information on these programs is available on the website above.

Annual Report

The “Financial Statement” and “Annual Report and Financial Certification” are due March 15, 2017. Thanks to those that have already submitted the documents. If the operating procedure or the forms are needed send an e-mail to squaredancemn@aol.com.

New Dancers

Welcome to all of the new dancers that have already completed their classes. Dance every chance you get to improve your new skills – floor time helps tremendously. Hope to see you in a square soon.

Organization Schedule

Attached to this update is a copy of a new six-month SDM Organization Square and Round Dance Schedule. Use legal size paper to print and then fold four times.

Most-Active Organization

Need your input on an idea for a new program mentioned at the last board meeting called the “Most-Active Organization.” Purpose is to recognize the most-active organization(s) for the six-month periods – either January through June and July through December or April through September and October through March.

Suggestion at the meeting was to have three levels. Similar size organizations would be competing against each other. There are 11 organizations with 25 or fewer members; 8 with 26 to 60 members, and 3 with 61 or more members.

Another suggestion was to focus on the organization in relation to its community and beyond in order to enhance friendship and connection within the organization and to promote square dancing as well.

Criteria could include:

Charitable contributions to the organization’s community (Salvation Army bell ringing; food drives to support local food banks, obtaining a stretch of highway for clean-up, etc.).

Advertising/marketing of the organization and square dancing in general (participating in Telethons, State Fair, County Fair, advertising on local community calendar, newspaper article, up-to-date organization website or Facebook, news articles and schedules submitted for the SDM website, current “Where’s the Dance” information, anything “outside the box”).

New members (how many new members were you able to enlist within the six month time frame).


Participation at dances, classes, blasts, ABC dances, demonstrations, parades, workshops, festivals, board meetings, area state and national conventions, banner raids, special weekends, etc., (either your organization or another organization).

The Most-Active Organization could be determined by either anecdotal evidence or a point system. Organization(s) could be presented with an individual banner and/or certificate to display until the end of the next six-month period.

Any ideas/suggestions will be considered as this initiative moves forward. Please send your input to squaredancemn@aol.com, by March 15, 2017, to allow time to implement the program by April 1.

If you know a dancer that doesn’t have e-mail, please share this update with them.

Live Lively – Square Dance!


LeRoy Elfmann
Chair, SDM