

# Convention *Chatter* 2009

Toronto and District Square and Round  
Dance Association

Spring 2009

The 48<sup>th</sup> International  
Square & Round Dance  
Convention

May 7, 8, 9 2009

Brock University  
St. Catharines, ON Canada

## A word from the Convention Chair Couple

As this is being written, we are in the midst of a Spring thaw and it brings to mind that soon it will be Niagara Blossom time and the weather will be warm and sunny as we all attend the 2009 Convention in May. Your Convention team is hard at work organizing all the details to make it an affair to remember, and you can help simply by registering early so that we have time to make plans for accommodating everyone.

Again we have been able to find an outstanding Caller and Cuer staff for your enjoyment. There is nothing quite as much fun as dancing to a Caller or Cuer who has a different style and patter from the ones you are used to following. Read through the following pages of *Chatter* to discover some of the early news and if you are reading a hard copy and have internet access, follow the advice below to "key in" to our electronic service. By doing so, you will help us become more efficient.

### John and Roberta Wrigglesworth

Convention Chair Couple

## Bruce Trail Walk - NEW!

Did you know that the Bruce Trail runs right past the Brock Campus? Ed & Audrey Doucette will lead a walk along the Bruce Trail on Friday morning, beginning at 9:00 a.m. The one hour walk will be just the thing to get us limbered up for a day of dancing! More details and sign-up will be available at the registration desk.

## Chatter is now On-line

Yes, *Chatter* is on-line at the T&D website! Do you have an email address? If you provide us with your email address, we can email you a pdf copy when *Chatter* is published and you won't have to look for it on the T&D website. To sign up, send an email to Jerry Callen at: [jerry.callen@sympatico.ca](mailto:jerry.callen@sympatico.ca) with the word "*Chatter*" in the Subject line. **Keeping in touch is your key to knowing what is going on!**

## A fabulous staff for 2009!

### Betsy Gotta from New Jersey

Betsy has been calling since 1961 and teaching at Caller schools since 1973. She calls all programs from Basic through C3. She is a founding member of the Callers Council of New Jersey, has 3 Caller-run clubs and calls and teaches for 5 local dancer-run clubs. Betsy has called and taught throughout the US, Canada, & Europe and she currently records for Desert Gold Records. In 2006 she received CALLERLAB's highest honor, the Milestone Award.

## **Jerry Jestin from Alberta and Arizona**

Jerry grew up in Alberta and has been calling since 1967. In 1979 he moved to Texas where, in 1980, he married Janice, whose father was a Caller. In 1984, Jerry and Janice, became established as square and round dance and clogging instructors in Yuma, Arizona. He has travelled throughout the USA, Europe, Australia, New Zealand and Canada. In the spring and fall, he also works on the family grain farm in Alberta. He has recorded on several record labels and has recorded tapes for various dance levels. He is a Board member of CALLERLAB. Jerry is well-known for his creative choreography, high-energy presentation, and use of a wide variety of music.

## **Mike Jacobs from New Jersey**

Mike is a full-time Caller who travels extensively calling the full range of levels from Beginner to C-4. Based in Hamilton, New Jersey, he is a CALLERLAB member and an accredited Caller Coach.

## **Charlie McClure from Ontario**

Charlie and Betty began their Square Dancing journey in 1988 with the Sound Steppers in Owen Sound, ON. Four years later, Charlie began doing an occasional singing call and he began calling seriously in early 1993 when a new Club was formed in Flesherton, ON. In 1994, a new Club in Mono Centre hired him as their Caller and two years later he became the Caller for the Owen Sound Club. Charlie is a member of Callerlab, T & D, and SWOSDA Caller Clinic, and he and Betty are Past-Presidents of SWOSDA (South Western Ontario Square and Round Dance Association). He calls and teaches Basic through A1 and cues Phase 2 Rounds, and has called at five Canadian Conventions and one U.S. State Convention.

## **Peter and Chris Lawrence from Ontario**

Peter and Chris started teaching Round Dancing in 1981 and have taught all levels at conventions and weekends across Canada and the northern USA. They ran a Carousel club in Winnipeg, two large Rhythm Rounds clubs (Basics to Phase III and Phases IV to VI) in Ottawa and (2001-04) the Melody Rounds club (Phases IV to VI) in Burlington. At the 1998 Canadian National they were Round Dance Program Coordinators and, prior to the 2002 National, they shared in conducting a Leaders' school. They have choreographed some twenty dances at Phases II to VI, several receiving commendations. "Where Is Your Heart?" was chosen as ROUNDALAB's Phase VI Round of the quarter in 2008. They continue teaching at a tape club in Tonawanda, NY.

## **Randy and Marie Preskitt from Washington State**

Randy and Marie started dancing in the late 1960s with teen square dance clubs in the Seattle area. Even at an early age Randy had the microphone bug and started calling in 1971 and got his first club in 1977. They met in 1978 at a dance festival and have been round dancing together ever since. Randy and Marie have two Round Dance clubs: The Monday Bunch dancing Phase 5 & 6 and the Happy Rounders dancing Phase 3 & 4. They have choreographed many dances, including the classic waltz "Laurann", and the popular dances "Almost like Being in Love" and "Beat of Your Heart". They have taught dances and clinics at festivals and weekends in BC, Saskatchewan, Ontario, Washington, Oregon, California, Missouri, Utah, Colorado, North Carolina and Arizona. This is their fourth time on staff here at the T&D Convention.

## **Want to help?**

Our Registrars, Ken and Rose Marie Robinson, would like to hear from anyone who might like to help out in any way during the Convention. One of the simple tasks includes staffing the Registration Desk (everything is organized so it is easier than it sounds!).

We always need the help of "short-term volunteers" during the Convention. If you often like to sit out a tip or two during your stay, you might relax and help for an hour or so on Thursday, Friday or Saturday.

Ken and Rose Marie may be contacted at: 905 549 0489 or at [rwoodley000@sympatico.ca](mailto:rwoodley000@sympatico.ca)

## **Fashion Show 2009**

Due to unforeseen circumstances we must postpone the Fashion Show to next year. Plans are under way for 2010, but we need you! If you can help us with modelling, publicity, soliciting doorprizes, decorating, music, sewing expertise or organization, please contact Rose Marie Robinson at [rwoodley000@sympatico.ca](mailto:rwoodley000@sympatico.ca) or (905) 549-0489.

Be sure to "stay tuned" to Chatter on the T&D website for updates. If you'd like to participate in any way, please let us know.

## Square Dancer Boutiques

The Square Dancer boutiques are located at one end of Gym 2 (the Plus Gym) behind the Callers' stage. Take time to browse. You may find that little thing you have been looking for - or a great trip abroad with fellow square dancers! The boutiques will open one hour before dancing starts each day.

All boutiques will be **CLOSED** on Thursday & Friday between 5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. On Saturday they will be open through dinner, close at 9:00 p.m.

## Register NOW!

You can register for accommodation and dancing now for **1 day**: either Friday or Saturday; **2 days**: Friday and Saturday; or **3 days**: Thursday, Friday and Saturday. Please refer to the registration form for the complete range of package choices. Remember, when you send in your Registration Form, tell Ken and Rose Marie how you would like to give them a hand (Did you read the article above?). You can also register to dance only. Why not make it a group activity with other dancers from your club? Get your group together now and sort out your times and dates so that you can all be there together.

### Cancellation Policy

If you find it necessary to cancel, refunds for dance registration and meals are available until April 15, 2009 and for accommodation until noon on May 6, 2009. Contact our Convention Registrars: Ken & Rose Marie Robinson By phone at: 905 549 0489 or by mail at:

**54 Kensington Ave. South, Hamilton, ON L8M 3H2.**

### PLEASE NOTE:

2009 RIBBONS MUST BE WORN WITH YOUR CLUB BADGES AT ALL DANCE SESSIONS DURING THE CONVENTION.

## Welcoming Ceremonies

This year the Welcoming Ceremonies will be held on Friday evening in the Walker Complex Gym 2 (**the Plus room**). It starts at 8:00 p.m. right after the first dance period which starts at 7:00 p.m. To allow dancers in other rooms to attend, all other dance rooms will be closed at the same time.

The Ceremonies will be brief and the second hour of dancing will start at 8:30 p.m. and dancing for the Friday night will be extended to 10:30 p.m. so that dancers will have their regular full dance time.

**Clubs are invited to bring their banners and to register your club banner**, NO LATER than MAY 1, 2009, contact the Convention Business Manager IN WRITING (letter, email or fax):

**Jeff and Andrea Priest**

28 Hawthorne Lane

Brantford, Ontario, N3R-6R2

Fax: (519)-752-8355

Email: [jeff@jeffreypriest.com](mailto:jeff@jeffreypriest.com)

**Please note:** ALL CLUB BANNERS MUST BE READY WITH DOWEL IN THE TOP AND STRING ATTACHED FOR HANGING.

## The 2009 Dance Program

**Thursday** (Trail in Dance):

3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

**Thursday** (all Dancing):

7:00 p.m. - 10:30 p.m.

**Friday** (Squares & Rounds):

9:30 a.m. - 10:30 p.m.

**Saturday** (Squares & Rounds):

9:30 a.m. - 10:30 p.m.

Suitable dance attire must be worn **at all evening sessions.**

**Guests are welcome to watch at all times.**

### **DANCERS WITHOUT PARTNERS**

Solo ribbons will be available at the registration desk. Meet at the "Solo Connection" sign in each dance room.

### **TRAIL IN DANCE**

Come early on Thursday to the Trail in Dance where scheduled volunteer callers and cuers will call a program of 2+2 relaxed squares and rounds. All Callers and Cuers are welcome to participate on the program. Please bring your music (turntable and mini-disk player will be available). Callers: don't miss the Clinic on Saturday morning in Lowenberger 134.

The full dance program with staff callers and cuers begins at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday in all halls; Squares from MS to C1, Rounds from Phase II to V, and Contrás.

There will be DBD sessions, workshops and lots of interesting and challenging dancing.

**Check out the Contra room too!** Join in and learn a new dance - no experience is necessary.

### **GRADUATE FESTIVAL**

New dancers will be joining us on Saturday for Contrás at 1:00 p.m. and Squares in the afternoon and evening in the **upper level of the THOMPSON ATRIUM**. At 10:00 p.m. all square dancers will be in Gym 2 for the Grand Finale.

Contra dancers will be able to join the Contra Room in the afternoon and evening.

### **ROUND DANCERS**

A Round Dance Syllabus and a CD (in limited numbers) containing all the cue sheets for the programmed dances will be available at \$3.00 each. There will be several clinics and workshops, including a Phase II Classic which will be taught in the Dance Studio and a Phase IV Classic taught in Gym 1. There will be a Phase III workshop conducted in Gym 1 and an advanced level workshop for leaders and dedicated dancers in the Dance Studio. Since space is limited here, come early.

The Round Dance Grand Finale for all levels will again be held on Saturday in Gym 1. Videotaping of the Round Dance showcases will be allowed on both Thursday and Friday evenings at 9:00 p.m. However, only hand-held, battery operated camcorders will be allowed; no tripods and no power cords. No videotaping of any other sessions will be permitted.

PLEASE DO NOT USE WAX ON YOUR DANCE SHOES

## **Campus Accommodations**

The Lowenberger Residence has 2 beds per room with private bath. Every two rooms in the Residence are adjoined by a full bath. All rooms are clean, comfortable, and AIR CONDITIONED. All campus accommodations are part of a package deal (Options A or B on the Registration Form), which also includes meals, dancing and parking.

During the Convention Brock's Front Desk is open 24 hours a day. Their staff is more than happy to help with any housekeeping needs. They are only a phone call away at ext. 3369. The following **items are supplied in each room:** towels, face cloths, bed linens/pillows, soap, plastic drinking cups, and clothes hangers.

The following are suggested **personal items you may want to bring:** extra pillows, extra towels, shampoo, an alarm clock

### **SMOKING POLICY**

There is NO smoking permitted in any of the buildings including the Residences.

## **TOWEL EXCHANGE**

Please return used towels and facecloths on a regular DAILY basis to the Lowenberger Lobby and receive clean replacements. Please note that Brock does not supply dishes, utensils or tea towels. You must bring your own if you plan to hold after-parties.

## **MEALS**

Anyone staying in Lowenberger will receive “all you can eat” meal cards to be used ONLY in the Lowenberger Dining Hall. There is a \$5.00 fee for lost meal cards. A limited number of cash-only meals are also available.

## **Lowenberger Dining Hall Hours**

**Breakfast:** Friday & Saturday: 7:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.

Sunday: 7:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.

**Lunch:** Friday & Saturday: 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

**Dinner:** Thursday, Friday, Saturday: 4:30 p.m.- 6:30 p.m.

## **Special Meal Considerations**

The SODEXHO Catering Dept. will be happy to accommodate those with food allergies or dietary restrictions. Please contact them in advance at Brock University at 905-688-5550, extension 4516 or email: [foodserv@Spartan.ac.brocku.ca](mailto:foodserv@Spartan.ac.brocku.ca)

## **Other Food Venues**

The Walker Food Court, Mr. Pizza, The Sub and Tim Hortons are available on campus. They accept cash only and will have special hours for our Convention.

## **CHECK-OUT TIME**

Lowenberger residents must drop their keys at the front desk in the Lobby by 11:00 a.m. on Sunday. Please note: there will be a \$125.00 charge for keys not returned.

## **EMERGENCY NUMBERS**

On campus, first dial 9 then 911. For calls from home, call Brock at (905) 688-5550 extension 3369. All Residence rooms have phones.

## **PARKING**

Temporary parking while checking in is available in Parking lots B and P (by the Lowenberger Residence). Residence guests will be given a parking pass for Parking Lots S or M. Dancers who are not staying in Residence can ask for a \$10.00 Parking Pass which provides in/out privileges for the full three days.

Daily parking passes with **NO** in/out privileges are available for \$6.00.

NOTE: Brock campus police, on a 24 hour / 7 day basis, will ticket vehicles not having the appropriate Parking Lot pass displayed.

## **RVs ON CAMPUS**

Parking Lot S has been designated for RV parking. We ask that you use discretion; this lot is not a campground. Awnings and lawn chairs are NOT to be setup. There will be a \$20.00 Parking Fee collected per RV for the weekend.

## **Directions to the Convention**

### **From the Peace Bridge:**

Cross the Peace Bridge and take the QEW. At Exit 32, turn onto Thorold Stone Road West and continue through the Thorold Tunnel where the road becomes Highway 58. Take the St. David's Road West Exit and follow until you reach Glenridge Avenue. Go straight through the stoplight at Glenridge Ave. into the Brock University Campus. Go around the traffic circle and exit right on to Lowenberger.

**From the Rainbow Bridge:**

After passing over the bridge, follow Robert St. to the QEW (Toronto bound). Exit the QEW at Thorold Stone Road (Exit 32) and follow the directions above.

**From the Queenston/Lewiston Bridge:**

Follow Highway 405 to Stanley Avenue (the first Exit). Go south on Stanley Avenue until it meets Thorold Stone Road. Turn right on Thorold Stone Road and follow the directions above.

**From Hamilton:**

Take the QEW east towards Niagara Falls. At Exit 49, turn onto Highway 406 and continue until you reach St. Davids Road. Take the St. David's Road West Exit and follow it until you reach Glenridge Avenue and the University.

**If you have GPS in your car, set it to:**

500 Glenridge Avenue  
St. Catharines, Ontario, Canada  
L2S 3A1

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*If you have broadband access* to the internet, see the **FULL colour Chatter** with graphics on-line at:  
[www3.sympatico.ca/jerry.callen/td/](http://www3.sympatico.ca/jerry.callen/td/)

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## Vendors at the Convention

Vendors who have registered to date:

Bruce Windsor  
Box 96  
Omeme, ON K0L 2W0

McCulloch's Dancewear Centre  
1140 Dundas Street,  
London, ON N5W 3A8

Hay's Travel Tours Inc.  
Box 20104  
Barrie, ON L4M 6E9

Dancing Princesse  
27 Estelle-Mauffette  
Notre Dame, Ile Perrot  
Quebec ,J7V 9R8

Rosemary Clark  
585 Scottsdale Drive  
Guelph, ON N1G 3E7