

CROSS TRAIL NEWS

Official Publication of the
Vancouver Island Western Square & Round Dance Associations

Serving Square and Round Dancers in the Lower and Upper Vancouver Island Regions
(British Columbia Square & Round Dance Federation Regions 1 and 8)

June-July-August 2026



Cover by Bruce Roger

CROSS TRAIL NEWS

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June-July-August 2026

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Advertising Sizes & Commercial Rates

Ad Size – Width x Height (Approx.)	Per Issue	Five Ad Block
Full Page 7.5" x 10" or 10" x 7.5"	\$38.50	\$173.25
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Only dance-related advertisements, and paid commercial ads from businesses associated with callers, cuers, or dancers, will be accepted for publication.

There is no charge for non-commercial advertising by the CSRDS and provincial square dance federations, and by Canadian dancer/caller/cuer associations, festivals, clubs, callers, cuers, and dancers.

Please submit ads to be made up at least one week prior to the above deadlines.

For more information please see the submission guidelines and deadlines later in this issue or online at region1.squaredance.bc.ca/cross-trail-news/.

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CHANGES AT CROSS TRAIL NEWS

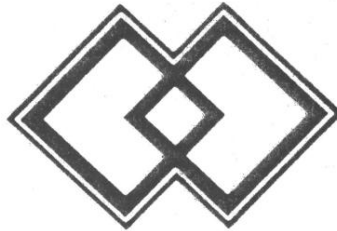
As many of you know, Alex Wotherspoon will be stepping down as Editor of the Cross Trail News after publishing the current issue. This will be his 50th issue. During his time as editor, he has taken the publication from the paper version to the online version that can now be found on the LVIWSRDA website.

Most of you have experienced Alex being on your case to get your articles, club information, and posters in to ensure each CTN publication is interesting and informative. Joan proofreads each edition before it is published. I stepped in for Joan when she was away and believe me, it is a big job. I would like to thank Alex and Joan for their diligence and dedica-

tion to ensure each issue is published with accurate information and on schedule.

The LVIWSRDA executive has appointed Vanda Stocks as the new editor of the CTN. Alex will continue to perform the duties of the CTN Treasurer. Vanda's first issue will be the September-October-November 2026 issue to be published in August 2026. The LVIWSRDA is grateful to Vanda for taking over the publication of the CTN and we look forward to reading her first issue later this summer.

Carol Young
LVIWSRDA President



EDITOR'S PAGE

This is my 50th and final issue as editor of the Cross Trail News. I took on the job following the retirement of Vic Marshall as Editor and Molly Spencer as Assistant Editor after the June-July-August 2015 issue was published.

At that time I had been on the Cross Trail News committee since late 2008 and CTN treasurer following the passing of Joyce Marshall in September 2014.

I thank the island dancers, clubs, and associations for working with me and providing content for the magazine during my time as editor.

I wish the incoming editor, Vanda Stocks, well in her new role. I will be helping her with the transition over the next few months.

I won't be disappearing completely as I will continue as treasurer for the Cross Trail News as part of my role as treasurer for the LVIWSRDA.

Cross Trail News - Email Address

The email address for the Cross Trail News will be changing to crosstrailnews@gmail.com. Messages sent to the old address will be forwarded to the new one for the foreseeable future. The old address will also still be used for auto-deposit e-transfers.

CSRDS Long Service Award

Joan and I thank all those who nominated us for the Canadian Square & Round Dance Society's Long Service Award. This recognition was totally unexpected and very much appreciated.

Alex Wotherspoon
Editor

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DANCE DATES – LOWER VANCOUVER ISLAND

MAY 2026

- Star Twirlers Plus/A1, 8:00-10:00 PM, Colwood Community Hall Mon. 25
(See poster page 38)
- VDCTA Colwood Hall Benefit Dance, Mainstream with Rounds, 8:00-10:00 PM,
Colwood Community Hall Wed. 27
(See poster page 39)

JUNE 2026

- Star Twirlers Plus/A1, 8:00-10:00 PM, Colwood Community Hall Mon. 1, 8, 15, 22
(See poster page 38)
- Rainbow Rounders Summer Round Dance, 7:30-9:30 PM, Colwood Community Hall..... Tues. 9
(See poster page 42)
- VDCTA/LVIWSRDA .. Mainstream with Rounds, 8:00-10:00 PM, Cordova Bay United Church Hall..... Wed. 3, 17
(See poster page 39)
- VDCTA/LVIWSRDA .. Mainstream with Rounds, 8:00-10:00 PM, Colwood Community Hall..... Wed. 10, 24
(See poster page 39)

JULY 2026

- VDCTA/LVIWSRDA .. Mainstream with Rounds, 8:00-10:00 PM, Cordova Bay United Church Hall..... Wed. 1, 29
CANCELLED for Canadian National Festival 2026, Penticton, BC ~~Wed. 15~~
(See poster page 39)
- Rainbow Rounders Summer Round Dance, 7:30-9:30 PM, Colwood Community Hall..... Tues. 7
(See poster page 42)
- VDCTA/LVIWSRDA .. Mainstream with Rounds, 8:00-10:00 PM, Colwood Community Hall..... Wed. 8, 22
(See poster page 39)
- CSRDS 24th Canadian National Festival 2026, Penticton, BC Wed. to Sat., Jul. 15 to 18
(See poster page 47)

AUGUST 2026

- Rainbow Rounders Summer Round Dance, 7:30-9:30 PM, Colwood Community Hall..... Tues. 4
(See poster page 42)
- VDCTA/LVIWSRDA .. Mainstream with Rounds, 8:00-10:00 PM, Colwood Community Hall..... Wed. 5, 19
(See poster page xx)39
- Salt Spring Island Swing 'n' Wheel 2026..... Fri. & Sat. 7 & 8
(See poster page 52)
- VDCTA/LVIWSRDA .. Mainstream with Rounds, 8:00-10:00 PM, Cordova Bay United Church Hall..... Wed. 12
(See poster page 39)
- VDCTA Cordova Bay United Church Hall Benefit Dance, Mainstream with Rounds,
8:00-10:00 PM, Cordova Bay United Church Hall Wed. 26
(See poster page 39)

DANCE DATES – UPPER VANCOUVER ISLAND

JUNE 2026

UVICTA-UVISDA Joint Dance with Caller-Cuer Heather Reynolds, 2:00-4:00 PM, Nanoose Place.....Sun. 7
(See poster page 41)

JULY 2026

Ocean Waves Catch the Wave Weekend, Union Bay Community Club Fri. 24 & Sat. 25
(See poster page 50)
CSRDS 24th Canadian National Festival 2026, Penticton, BC Wed. to Sat., Jul. 15 to 18
(See poster page 47)

AUGUST 2026

Star Dusters Across the Pond Weekend, Powell River Thu. 20 to Sat. 22
(See poster page 53)

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Please Note – Dance dates information is compiled from a number of sources and is believed to be accurate, however these details are subject to change depending on hall availability, Public Health Orders, and/or other factors. If in doubt please confirm particulars including dates, times, and locations with the event organizers. Association and club contact information appears on the Contacts and Directory pages in this issue. The Cross Trail News cannot be held responsible for any errors.



CONVENTIONS, FESTIVALS, DANCE WEEKENDS, & SPECIAL EVENTS

This information is compiled from a number of sources and is believed to be accurate, however event details are subject to change. We recommend that you confirm all particulars including dates, times, and locations with event organizers prior to registering and/or arranging transportation and accommodation.

2026	
May 15-17	Ripple Rockets – Blast-Off Weekend – Quinsam Hall, Campbell River, BC (see posters pages 35-36-37)
May 27	Colwood Hall Benefit Dance – Colwood Community Hall (see poster page 39)
May 31	Vancouver & District CTA – Spring Fling Plus Dance – Kennedy Hall, Surrey, BC (see poster page 40)
June 7	UVICTA-UVISDA – Joint Dance with Caller-Cuer Heather Reynolds – Nanoose Place (see poster page 41)
June 12-13	Mainstream Dancing Getaway with Brent Mawdsley & Gary Winter – Columbia Valley Centre, Invermere, BC (see poster page 43)
June 21-24	50th Annual ROUNDALAB Convention – Waco, Texas – www.roundalab.org
June 24-27	75th US National Square Dance Convention – Waco, Texas – 75nsdctx.com
July 10-14	BC Square & Round Dance Federation – Callers School – Penticton, BC festival2026.squaredance.bc.ca/callerschool/ (see posters pages 45-46)
July 15-18	24th Canadian National Square, Round & Clog Dance Festival – Penticton, BC – squaredance.bc.ca/festival2026 (see poster page 47)
July 19	Guys ‘n’ Gals Square Dance Club – Festival 2026 Trail Out Dance – Aldergrove Heritage Hall, Aldergrove, BC (see poster page 48)
July 19	Kootenay Corners Club – Festival 2026 Trail Out Dance – Harry’s Hall, Castlegar, BC (see poster page 49)
July 24-25	Ocean Waves – Catch the Wave – Union Bay Community Club, Union Bay, BC (see poster page 50)
August 3	Vancouver & District CTA – BC Day Blast – Kennedy Hall, Surrey, BC (see poster page 51)
August 7-8	Salt Spring Island – “Swing ‘N’ Wheel” – 734 Upper Ganges Road, Salt Spring Island, BC (see poster page 52)
August 20-22	Star Dusters – Across the Pond Weekend – Powell River, BC (see poster page 53)
2027	
March 21-24	52nd CALLERLAB Convention – Indianapolis, IN – www.callerlab.org
June 22-24	BCSRDF Round Dance Mini Festival – Nanoose, BC
June 23-26	76th US National Square Dance Convention – Loveland, Colorado – 76nsdc.com
2028	
June 28-July 1	77th US National Square Dance Convention – Daytona Beach, Florida – 77nsdcfl.com

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Newsletter #4 **2026** July 15th - 18th **PENTICTON** British Columbia, Canada Canadian National Square, Round & Clog Dance Festival

Canadian Square and Round Dance Festival 2026 Catering and Transportation



Catering

We have now been able to arrange snack catering for the event which will be available from 9:30 am to 5:30 pm. It will be run on a concession basis with the menu and prices now posted on our website—squaredance.bc.ca . From the landing page, click on the Festival sub link.

This is in addition to the evening meal which must be booked in advance with the information and order form available on the BC Square and Round Dance Federation website



Transportation to and from Kelowna Airport

Kelowna airport to Penticton is approximately a 60 minute drive most of which follows the scenic west shore of Lake Okanagan. We have reviewed the bus services which are available and the options are noted below. Using these services requires advanced booking. They run directly from the airport to the hotels and reverse. We have been requested by the bus lines to advise them of the expected demand as they operate vehicles of varying sizes.

For most shuttle providers a deposit is required at the time of booking (usually 50%) with the balance 2 weeks before travel.

The choices are:

Public Shuttles which leave the airport every 60 to 90 minutes from Zone 7, just outside the Arrivals door. Cost is \$75 per person each way or \$150 round-trip

Private Transfers which are designed for groups of varying sizes, usually in the 12-15 or 20-24 passenger range, are rather cheaper, being approximately \$48 and \$27 respectively one way or \$96 and \$58 for the round-trip. This may be ideal for groups travelling together or at times which closely match. Or it might be possible for us to pool independent travelers arriving close to same time. These leave from the same location as the Public Shuttles.

To proceed further, we need to be able to estimate demand for each option. Attached is a short questionnaire which, if you wish to consider using a shuttle service, will help us to understand requirements. Please return the questionnaire to Dennis Sutton by email at dsutton9@telus.net no later than Sunday, 14th June, 2026. Earlier greatly preferred.

Based on the information we receive, we shall then be in a position to inform you of possible arrangements.

Wendy Krueger and Dennis Sutton
Co-Chairs, Canadian Square and Round Dance Festival, 2026



Note: See next page for transportation information questionnaire.



Canadian Square and Round Dance Festival 2026
Transportation Information Questionnaire
For Arrivals/Departures from Kelowna Airport only

- a) Name:
- b) email address:
- c) Number of persons in your party:
- d) One Way or Round Trip:
- e) Which hotel/ motel in Penticton have you booked:
- f) The scheduled date and time of your arrival:
- g) The scheduled date and time of your departure:
- h) How many suitcases per person:
- i) Are you considering the Public Shuttle - Yes/No:
- j) If your answer is "yes" to the question above, would you be interested if it is possible pool travelers arriving and/or leaving close to the same time?
- k) Are you interested in a Private Shuttle for your Group - Yes/No. If yes –How large is it?
- l) Anything else or comments?

Please note that responses later than Sunday, June 14th 2026 cannot be accepted.



2026 SUMMER NEWSLETTER



The BC Square Dance community is working on several initiatives to further our activity and to celebrate it. We held a successful provincial festival and put on a callers school in July 2025. A few new clubs are in their beginning months. At the same time, some clubs and 2 associations have ceased operations, sadly, and our membership is down 3% from last year. Our elections in fall 2025 returned Frank McNeil as President, Mae Fawcett as 1st Vice President, and Wendy Krueger as Secretary; with Pat Zeeman retiring from her treasurer service of many years, Vanda Stocks became Treasurer.

Summer of 2026 will be memorable as BC hosts the 24th National Square, Round, and Clog Dance Festival in the jewel of a square dance destination, Penticton BC. Prior to the festival will be the BC Caller School.

Our bylaws will require modification as the board worked on redefining the roles of the 1st and 2nd Vice Presidents so that each can work to their strengths; the changes were passed at our general meeting in April 2026.

Caller School registrations for July 2026 in Penticton are currently at 22 with a maximum of 24. The Canadian National Square, Round and Clog Dance Festival registrations are at 531. The break-even point is 650 registrations. The enthusiastic committee has a great dance experience planned for each participant.

A grant for new clubs starting up has passed the final draft. We will develop an application form and get a committee of six to administer the grant. We hope to encourage new club startups and assist new clubs with expenses.

We will be working on a grant for currently operating clubs that need financial assistance to present to the membership for approval at the AGM. We recognize the higher cost of hall rentals places smaller clubs at a disadvantage.

It was suggested that the CSRDS introduce similar grants or support the Federations with grant programs for new clubs and clubs with financial challenges.

Our AGM will be on October 25th at 9:00 a.m. on Zoom.

The elections will be run by our Past President, Dennis Sutton.

Zoom info, Agenda and reports will be posted on the BCFed website. squaredance.bc.ca

Watch for T shirts and Golf shirts with the federation logo for sale to promote our activity.

Square, Round and Clog Dance Awareness week in B.C. will be late August or early September not decided as of the posting of this newsletter.

Respectfully,
Frank McNeil
BCS&RDF President

ASSOCIATION NEWS – LVIWSRDA

NEW DANCER CLASS COMMITTEE

By Carol Young

The declining number of square dancers is an issue being faced by clubs around the world. Dancers are aging out and there isn't the same number of people learning to dance to replace them. Clubs are becoming smaller or folding.

On Sunday, April 19, at the Colwood Hall several interested dancers came together to discuss new dancer classes. We looked at what is working, what isn't working, and brainstormed to come up with ide-

as for the fall. We had a good community discussion, and the results are outlined below.

At the end of the meeting, we decided to form a committee to continue to work together to address this issue. Several people had expressed interest in being on the committee. Our next meeting will be via Zoom on Saturday, May 9 at 10:00 AM. Anyone interested in joining this new dancer class committee, please contact me at lviwsrda@gmail.com.

What's Working	What's Not Working
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Posters • Word of Mouth • Retired people • Adding refreshers • Learn other side • Angels make class larger / fun • Retired caller cover for sick callers • Angels bring food for class • Callers willing to hold classes that cover costs – no fee • Subaru sign • Banner at Hall 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 intake per year • Classes for groups • Singles – too many one sex • Young people leave (group too old) • Students do not continue • Friends of current dancers want to start late • Only do first half then travel • Could not get BC Fed grant • Commitment too long • Cost?? • Music – not for everyone • Fees for dances & teaching materials • Location of halls • Cost of halls close to transportation • Callers unable to take a fee for teaching • Conversion rate to clubs
Ideas	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Web Ads • Posters • Facebook exposure • Lawn signs • Family groups • Class in January • Demonstrations • Signage 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Modular lessons • Special dance events / party nights • Other Victoria areas • Different nights • Afternoon class • The Nest – continual intake program • Free pass • Summer Dance Open Houses

ASSOCIATION NEWS – UVISDA

UPPER VANCOUVER ISLAND UPDATE – MAY 3, 2026 By Bob Chalmers

UVISDA is alive and well. We are looking forward to another good year.

UVISDA joined with LVIWSRDA in a joint dance on March 29th, 2026 at the Colwood Hall. Gary Winter joined us from Edmonton and we were very appreciative of the 49 dancers that came from the North Island to dance. The Lower Island had 59 dancers on the floor and the total dancers in attendance was 113.

Our next dance will also be a joint dance, this time with UVICTA. It will be held on June 7th, 2026 at Nanoose Place. We are very fortunate to have Heather Reynolds as our caller and cuer for the day. *(See poster page 41.)*

Looking ahead further into 2026, we have two more UVISDA dances. On September 27th, we will have Darrell Roberts call and cue for our Caller and Cuer Appreciation Dance at Nanoose Place. And on No-

vember 29th we will have a Powell River duo, Gord Ruedig and Stacey Ruegg, to call and cue for our Region 8 Clubs Appreciation Dance.

I wish to express my appreciation to all of the six clubs represented by UVISDA including the well appreciated contributions of the executive and all of the club delegates. I have attached a photo of the Upper Island dancers in attendance at the March 29th dance in Colwood.

UVISDA will continue their main objective to promote square and round dancing in Region 8. On behalf of the UVISDA Executive Committee, we wish all a very enjoyable summer period with good health or the best we can as we age. See you on the dance floor very soon.

(Photo courtesy of Bob Chalmers.)



Upper Island dancers at the Joint LVIWSRDA-UVISDA dance at Colwood Community Hall on March 29, 2026.

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CLUB NEWS

AMALGAM-EIGHTERS, Nanaimo

By Margie Cooper

Club Members were saddened by the passing of Ernie Kaesmodel in February. He and his late wife, Joan, were active members of the Amalgam-Eighters prior to Joan's decline in health. Although Ernie was no longer a member, he had continued to support our Club dances. He inspired many, as he glided so effortlessly around the dance floor with Connie, and new round dancers remember how his friendly, reassuring comments gave them hope. Our sympathy to Connie, who will miss him greatly.

The dance season is rapidly coming to a close, with our final Potluck and Dogwood Dance on May 1st. It's been a good season...one in which we could count at least four squares of dancers on the floor each time.

"Silly Hat & Talent" Night was popular, as usual. We were well entertained by vocalists, line dancers, cuers, callers, a guitarist, and even an expert instructor in "Costco Tai Chi"! You'll easily be able to spot our members in Costco now!



A beer mug, a beef taco, a crown and a fox, all have a place in an Amalgam-Eighters' "Silly Hat" square! Visible dancers from L to R: Paul Castner, Joelle Pattern, Trevor Haight, Wendie Harrington, and Connie Ritchie.

Our gratitude to Jake and Diana, for stepping in to call/cue while Wendie was hula dancing and snorkeling in Hawaii with her family. The Rings not only kept the dancing lively with old favourite tunes...but they inspired a lot of our favourite Courtenay friends to come and fill our dance floor! Thank you all for a great 50's Night!



A warm-up to Amalgam-Eighters' 50's Night! From L to R: Gayle Ricketts, Ellen Martinuk, Jackie McKinlay, Chan Thompson, and Esther Wong. (Photos by Margie Cooper.)

We look forward to seeing a multitude of our square dancing friends on summer dance floors!

COUNTRY COUSINS, Victoria

By Wendy Weeks

On Saturday May 9th, the Country Cousins (CC) welcomed all dancers to join us to celebrate our 70th birthday dance. The dance was held at the Colwood Hall from 3 to 5. We celebrated The Way We Were with Kirk and our guest callers Stu Hemmings and Dennis Kirkpatrick. We hope you were able to join us.

On April 25th, at the CC AGM, Marion van't Riet and Bruce Walker were declared our Dancers of the Year. I would like to thank our caller, Kirk, all our guest callers during the year, the many volunteers, and the dancers who make the dances so much fun!

As we head into the summer months, we can look forward to the weekly Wednesday night dances, a few Plus dances and many opportunities for out-of-town dances. See you on the dance floor!

(Continued on page 13)

CLUB NEWS (CONTINUED)

(Continued from page 12)

FRONTIER TWIRLERS, Victoria

By Darrell Roberts

Once upon a dance floor – specifically the one at Colwood Community Hall – the Frontier Twirlers spent another season proving that square dancing is not merely alive in Victoria... it is thriving, laughing, sashaying, and occasionally wearing questionable headgear. On the first and third Saturdays of each month, the hall transformed into a whirl of music, motion, and mild mayhem, and we loved every minute of it.

March 7 – The 67th Birthday Beach-Party-But-Not-Really-Beachy Bash

To celebrate 67 years of Frontier Twirlers fun, dancers arrived dressed for a tropical getaway — despite the fact that it was March, indoors, and very much still Victoria. There were leis, sunglasses, and enough floral prints to make a hibiscus blush. Mercifully, the Speedos remained mythical creatures, spoken of but never seen. The dance floor, however, was pure sunshine.

April 4 – Bunnies, Bonnets & Boot Scootin’ (Chaos Edition)

Easter weekend brought out bonnets of every shape and ambition. Some were elegant. Some were whimsical. Some defied physics. And in a delightful twist, the grand champion of the bonnet contest was one of our men, who strutted proudly in a creation that could only be described as “Easter on parade.” Chocolate bunnies multiplied on the snack table like... well, bunnies.

May 2 – Let’s Dance Around the World

For our season finale, we stamped our imaginary passports and set off on a global square-dance adventure. England! Japan! Australia! Mexico! If it’s a place with music, we’re dancing to it. And of course, no Frontier Twirlers evening is complete without the legendary post-dance goodies – a tradition as sacred as the do-si-do itself.

And now Summer...

As we wrap up another year of laughter, learning, and lively footwork, we’re grateful for every dancer, guest, and friend who helped keep the Frontier Twirlers spinning strong. Summer may scatter us across the Island, but the spirit of square dancing follows wherever we go – cheerful, welcoming, and just a little bit mischievous.



Gary Weeks – Proof that square dancing grows on you!

Reminder: All dances at Colwood Community Hall
Plus: 7:30–8:00 Mainstream: 8:00–10:00. (Theme dances 8:00–9:45.)

Thank you to everyone who joined us this season and helped keep square dancing vibrant, joyful, and wonderfully whimsical in Victoria.

ISLAND GEMS, Nanaimo By Wendie Harrington

The Island Gems wrapped up their waltz classes at the end of April and Thursday night dances on May 7. We are eagerly looking forward to and are actively involved in the planning for the Festival in July 2027. Our plans for the club’s next season are now underway. Please keep an eye on the club website to see what changes may be in store for the next season. We hope to offer something for everyone!!!

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CLUB NEWS (CONTINUED)

(Continued from page 13)

MAVERICKS, Victoria By **Chrissy Torontow**

The Mavericks April and May dances were lots of fun with our regular Friday night dances as well as a wonderful Mexican Fiesta dance on April 7th. Great music by Lorne and Marilynne and super decorations by Barbara and her team! And, for our last dance of the season, the Black and White Birthday dance on May 1st, clocked us in at over 74 years young now!!

We are busy planning our Mavericks summer get-togethers – yes, plural, as it’s fun to get together, hang out, and, of course,... eat – and a lot of our members are going to the summer dances on and off the island.

We’ll see you at the Wednesday night summer dances, and at our first Mavericks dance for the fall on Friday, September 18th.

Have a great summer everyone!

OCEAN WAVES, Courtenay By **Doreen Miskae & Pat Chalmers**

Our spring season began with the Ocean Waves Talent Night on March 7, with 43 dancers attending and lots of talent shared. Our Irish Mist dance on March 21 attracted 41 people and four squares of dancers all in their green finery. The Irish theme was carried through in the decorations and music, with callers/cuers Jake and Diana, assisted by Pat Barr, Sue Deiderichs, and Dave Floyd. Special prizes were handed out in the form of lottery tickets, some of which were prize winning tickets. A special presentation was made to Sherran McWillis in honour of her 35 years of dancing.

March 18 was graduation evening for the eleven couples who had taken round dance lessons, and March 23 was graduation for all our new square dancers, complete with a final exam, hats, cake, and certificates of graduation. Jake and Diana also hosted weekly square dance workshops for the month of April.

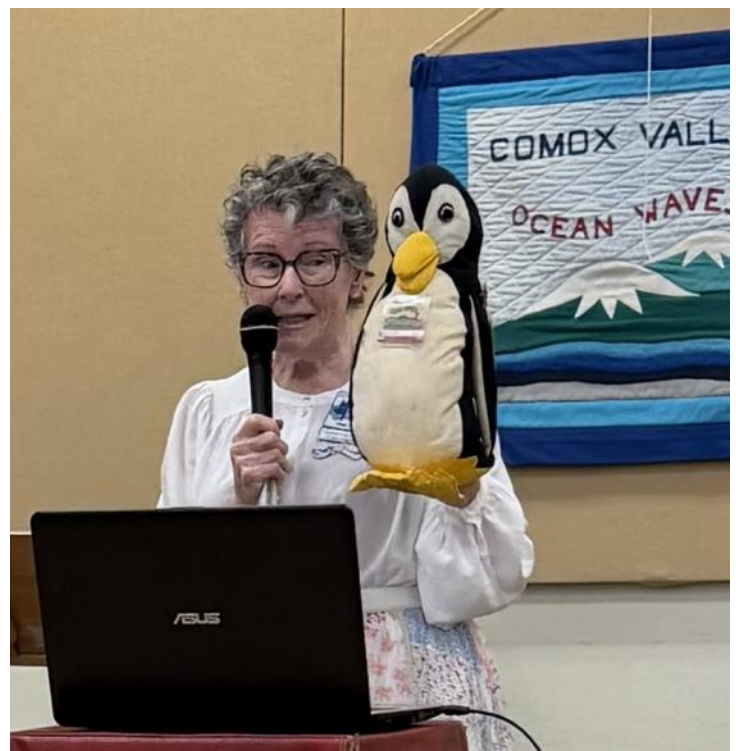
On March 29, the UVICTA/UVISDA special dance in Victoria was well attended with 113 dancers, 22 of those being from our Ocean Waves square dance club and dressed in our blue and white club colours.

On Friday, April 3, Jake and Diana were the caller/cuer couple for the Amalgam-Eighters 50s party dance, which was well attended by our club. On April 4, our regular dance with a hot dog social was held at the Filberg, and on April 18 we had a dance at the Courtenay Baptist Church venue, where Jake and Diana hosted an All Singing Calls Rock and Roll themed dance. We had 53 dancers from up and down the island, forming five squares, and everyone was costumed for the 50s/60s. Elvis even made an appearance!

On April 15, our club did another demo at the Ocean-front Village senior’s residence, which was well-received by all the residents.

May 2nd was our end of the year Birthday Bash celebrating 72 years of our Ocean Waves Square dance club, birthdays in general, and recognition of some special milestone birthdays of 80-and-90-year-old Ocean Waves dancers.

We were also celebrating the return of Penelope, our stuffed penguin, who was taken to Australia over 40 years ago and has just been sent home now. The story is that our talented Ocean Waves member, Betty Dawson, created the stuffed penguins, Percival, Penelope and Peter in 1979. At that time, Ilse and Henry Toews, from our Ocean Waves club, took Penelope



Pat Chalmers with Penelope.

(Continued on page 15)

CLUB NEWS (CONTINUED)



Dave Floyd, Sherran McWillis, (35 years of dancing), Keith Kent, & Doreen Miskae. Ocean Waves' new dancer class grad March 23, 2026.



Ocean Waves' members at the Joint LVIWSRDA-UVISDA dance at Colwood Hall on March 29, 2026.

Ocean Waves' group photo at the Birthday Bash on May 2, 2026.

(Continued from page 14)

and presented her to our sister club "Ocean Waves Noosa" in Queensland, Australia. We then received a letter from Margaret and Graham Brandon (Caller for Ocean Waves Noosa) thanking us for Penelope and assuring us that they would be taking Penelope to visit other clubs in Australia. In 1980 the Brandons, with Penelope, came to the Canadian National Convention in Ottawa and the next year, 1981, Betty Dawson and Norm travelled to Australia and took Percival to visit Penelope.

The story of Penelope goes quiet until 2026 when we received a note from Bev and Nev Mclachlan. Bev is the daughter of Margaret and Graham Brandon. In the process of clearing her parents' home they came across a little penguin called Penelope with the Ocean Waves membership badge and a Canadian flag attached to her. With that information they were able to find our club. We were delighted to hear that Penelope was in good hands, and they quickly arranged for

her to fly home. We are very grateful that they took the time to find us and send her on her way. Nev is the caller for the Suncoasters Square Dance club. Ocean Waves Noosa has closed. Betty Dawson was right when she said, "the penguins generate friendship, goodwill and merriment wherever they go and are really jolly ambassadors for square dancing for the Ocean Waves."

It was reported that the last time Percival travelled (to Campbell River) he came back with a wife (Patty) and three kids, and he has not travelled since.

Now looking forward to summer dancing – Ripple Rockets Blast Off weekend, May 15-17, Ocean Waves picnic in June, Ocean Waves Catch the Wave weekend, July 24-25, Star Dusters Across the Pond in August, and many other summer dances hosted by the Wheel Arounds. We are so fortunate to have such an active group of clubs on Vancouver Island!

(Photos by Rick Granbery et al.)

(Continued on page 16)

CLUB NEWS (CONTINUED)

(Continued from page 15)

RAINBOW ROUNDERS, Victoria

By Van Williams

Ant our Wind-Up dance on April 28th, Connie Ritchie, Kirk Rockerbie, and Darrell Roberts cued wonderful phase III/IV rounds to a small group of enthusiastic dancers. John and Lillian Nelson were honoured as the Rainbow Rounders' couple of the year. Darrell's Cha class and Kirk's two-step classes finished the following night on April 29th.

The pre-rounds at Spring Round Up dance were attended by three graduates from Kirks' waltz and two-step class, and three couples from Darrell's rumba and cha class. In addition, numerous dancers who enjoy dancing rounds between square dance tips were also enjoying the 30 minutes of the Spring Round Up pre-rounds.

The Rainbow Rounders will hold three Summer Dances on June 9th, July 7th, and August 4th. These Summer round dances will start at 7:30 PM and feature our three dynamic cuers. It would be a boon to the Rainbow Rounders if folks who enjoy round dancing would share this joy with us at the summer round dances. It's also an opportunity to maintain and hone our round dance skills. We look forward to seeing you on the dance floor.

RIPPLE ROCKETS, Campbell River

By Mireille Earl & Linda Grunewald

Ripple Rockets have had a great season 2025/2026! Graduation Day was very special with 11 new dancers! On April 26 at the Freshman Frolic we all had a great time dancing with new and old friends and experienced lots of laughter and joyful interactions.

We are now preparing and concentrating on making the Blast Off Weekend (May 15-17) a very special event for all attending with great food, great entertainment and lots of action. This year we are including a demonstration dance at Spirit Square on the Saturday afternoon (weather permitting). This is open to all the dancers attending.

We are not having summer dances in Campbell River, however, we are encouraging all of our dancers to attend as many other clubs who have organized events during this time.



Ripple Rockets new dancer grads 2026 with caller-instructor Elizabeth Hohner on right.

(Photo by Clay Schnurr.)

It is with great sadness that we have to announce the passing of Ann Justin, one of our beginners, and of Joan Smith, a former member of our club.

We want to wish everyone a wonderful summer and are looking forward to seeing all again in the Fall!

SAANICH SQUARES

See photo page 17.

STAR TWIRLERS, Victoria By Garry Dodds

It's hard to believe the dance season is almost over. Our dances this spring have been reasonably well attended considering the amount of illness and surgeries going on. Thank you so much to all of the dancers – visitors and club members alike, for keeping the club fun and going.

Our Monday Plus group has been doing well and we have looked at the new movements that are being added to the Plus program in the fall. We completed the full Plus program by February and have been working on getting used to dancing the moves from different set-ups.

Our Thursday night Advanced workshop has also continued to be successful. We completed the review of the Advanced 1 program and started working on some of the Advanced 2 moves. Just a fun group.

(Continued on page 17)

CLUB NEWS (CONTINUED)

(Continued from page 16)

We congratulate Van Williams and Angel Star who were selected as our Couple of the Year.

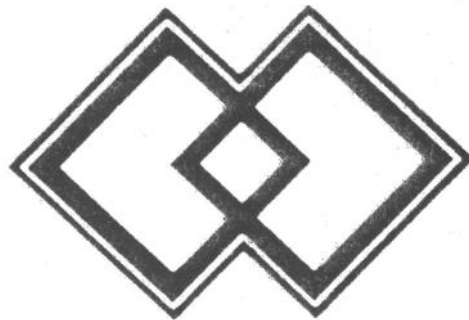
We will be celebrating our 48th Birthday Dance on Monday, May 11th. The A1 workshop will wind up for the season on May 7th.

Again this fall we will start the season with an open house and Intro to Plus on September 21 and an open

house and intro to Advanced on September 24. *(See poster page 54.)*

We will have a few Summer Plus Dances in May and June (with Advanced tips) *(see poster page 38)* and then be off to the Canadian National Convention in Penticton.

Don't forget the summer dances and other summer activities.



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NEWS FROM HERE & THERE

JOINT LVIWSRDA-UVISDA DANCE – March 29, 2026 By Carol Young

Gary Winter did a great job of calling our Swing into Spring Joint Dance.

When Gary set up his equipment, he put some music on for us to enjoy as we gathered for the dance. While I was listening to the music, I suddenly realized that he was providing the vocals! He was walking around with a microphone singing! What a great voice. When I came onto the stage to introduce him, he offered me the microphone so I could take a turn. I told him that was a very bad idea if he wanted everyone who was in the room to stay for the dance!

Gary called a full program of Mainstream and Plus tips as well as rounds which included some rumba and cha rhythms. Gary has a wide repertoire, and it was wonderful to take advantage of this. I found myself saying a few times as he combined moves in ways I wasn't used to, "That was cool!".

Garry Dodds and Pat Zeeman presented to Alex and Joan Wotherspoon the Canadian Square and Round Dance Society's Long Service Award. This award is the highest award given by the society for anyone in the dance community who deserves special recogni-

tion. It was great to see Alex and Joan receive this honour in front of the local dance community.

A big thank you to all those that helped make the dance a success. Garry Dodds and Pat Zeeman approached Gary about calling for us and hosted him at their house. Doug Weidman and his parking crew made sure there was a spot in for parking lot for everyone who attended. Alex and Joan Wotherspoon collected admission and welcomed everyone to the dance. Thank you to the Frontier Twirlers who allowed us to use their equipment and kitchen supplies. Thank you to all the clubs who brought snacks for the event. Thanks to Darrell Roberts who designed the poster to advertise the dance.

We had a wonderful turn out for the dance which included upper island dancers and dancers from the mainland. It was great to see the Colwood Hall full of happy dancers!

The next dance with an out-of-town caller, Heather Reynolds, will be at Nanoose Place on June 7, from 2-4pm. Should be another great dance!



Alex & Joan Wotherspoon receiving the CSRDS Long Service Award from CSRDS VP Garry Dodds and Pat Zeeman.



Caller Gary Winter from Sherwood Park, AB on stage at the Swing Into Spring Joint LVIWSRDA-UVISDA Dance.

NEWS FROM HERE & THERE

UVICTA FRESHMAN FROLIC – April 26, 2026

By Wendie Harrington

What a great dance for the annual Region 8 Freshman Frolic at Nanoose Place on April 26!! There were 85 dancers signed in from nine different clubs. Ages ranged from teenagers to nonagenarians and they all danced and twirled the afternoon away. It was a real treat to see ten squares on the floor.

Jake Ring was the MC for the afternoon and panel members also included Gord Ruedig, Wendie Harrington, and Elizabeth Hohner. Connie Ritchie and Ron Ervin were kept very busy at the door. Lynette

McLeod worked behind the scenes providing refreshments and Diana Ring did a great job as the official sound checker.

The energy level was high and everyone was reflecting on how much joy and laughter filled the room. At the end of the dance everyone pitched in to clean up the hall. The members of UVICTA really appreciate the support of all the dancers who attended this dance.



Scenes from the 2026 Freshman Frolic: (left) Ron Ervin and Connie Ritchie working at the sign-in table; (above) Elizabeth Hohner (blue dress) with new dancers from Port Alberni; (below) dancers on the floor ready to dance. (Photos by Wendie Harrington.)



NEWS FROM HERE & THERE

SPRING ROUND-UP 2026

The 2026 LVIWSRDA and VDCTA Spring Round-Up was held on Sunday, May 3rd at Colwood Community Hall.

Sixty people were present for the afternoon Mainstream dance. The event began with half an hour of pre-rounds. This was followed by the grand march banner parade. Dancers then formed into squares for an afternoon of square and round dancing to a panel of callers and cuers, with Kirk Rockerbie and Garry Dodds as the MCs. *(See photos page 22.)*

Other callers and cuers on the program were Lorne Clayton, Marilynne Cunningham, Herb Fox, Stu Hemmings, Connie Ritchie, Darrell Roberts, Richard Sharman, and Pat Zeeman.

During one of the breaks presentations took place and introductions were made.

LVIWSRDA Vice President Gary Weeks presented 35 years of dancing dangles to Lorne & Barb Clayton and 25 years of dancing badges to Dorothy Ferguson and Dennis Sutton. *(See photo page 21.)*

The LVIWSRDA dancers of the year nominees for 2026-2027 were introduced by LVIWSRDA Vice-President Gary Weeks: Country Cousins – Bruce Walker & Marion van't Reit, Frontier Twirlers – Carol

By Alex Wotherspoon

Madore, Mavericks – Bob Primeau & Peggy Lane, Rainbow Rounders – John & Lillian Nelson (not present), and Star Twirlers – Van Williams & Angel Star. *(See photo page 21.)*

The 2025-2026 Dancers of the Year, Jim & Carolyn Johnson, were presented with a plaque as the outgoing Dancers of the Year. They were then asked to draw the name(s) for the Dancer(s) of the Year for the 2026-2027 season. The lucky winners were Van Williams & Angel Star of the Star Twirlers. They were presented with the perpetual Dancers of the Year trophy and will be receiving their Dancers of the Year badges and pay parade tokens once they are engraved. *(See photo page 21.)*

The executives for the two Lower Island associations were introduced. VDCTA: President – Kirk Rockerbie, Vice-President – Garry Dodds, Secretary – Pat Zeeman, Treasurer – Connie Ritchie, and Round Dance Chair – Darrell Roberts. LVIWSRDA: President – Carol Young, Vice-President – Dennis Sutton, Secretary – Gillian Bloom, and Treasurer – Alex Wotherspoon. The new editor of the Cross Trail News, Vanda Stocks, was also introduced and welcomed by LVIWSRDA President Carol Young. *(See photos below.)*



Victoria & District Caller Teachers Association executive (from left): Round Dance Chair Darrell Roberts, Vice President Garry Dodds, President Kirk Rockerbie, Treasurer Connie Ritchie, and Secretary Pat Zeeman.

(From left) Incoming Cross Trail News Editor Vanda Stocks with Lower Vancouver Island Western Square & Round Dance Association executive: Treasurer Alex Wotherspoon, Secretary Gillian Bloom, President Carol Young, and Vice President Dennis Sutton.

NEWS FROM HERE & THERE



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1. LVIWSRDA Vice President Gary Weeks (centre) presented Years of Dancing badges or dangles to (L to R) Dennis Sutton (25), Dorothy Ferguson (25), and Lorne & Barb Clayton (35).
 2. LVIWSRDA Vice President Gary Weeks (on right) presenting 2025-2026 Dancers of the Year Jim & Carolyn Johnson with their keeper plaque.
 3. The draw for the LVIWSRDA 2026-2027 Dancer of the Year (L to R): Angel Star & Van Williams (Star Twirlers), Bruce Walker & Marion van't Riet (Country Cousins), 2025-2026 Dancers of the Year Carolyn & Jim Johnson, LVIWSRDA Vice President Gary Weeks, Carol Madore (Frontier Twirlers), and Peggy Lane & Bob Primeau (Mavericks). Not present – John & Lillian Nelson (Rainbow Rounders).
 4. 2026-2027 Dancers of the Year Angel Star & Van Williams holding the perpetual LVIWSRDA Dancers of the Year trophy.
(Photos pages 20 & 21 by Michael Torontow.)



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NEWS FROM HERE & THERE



SPRING ROUND-UP 2026

LVIWSRDA BANNER PARADE



(Photos © Anne McCarthy.)

SYMPATHY & CONDOLENCES

The rose still blooms more fair beyond the garden wall.

Our condolences to the families of:



Ann Justin, a former member of the Ripple Rockets and a member of their new dancer class, who passed away in Campbell River in March 2026. Ann was predeceased by her husband a number of years ago.

Clem Poff, a former member of the Plus 4's, who passed away in Victoria on March 22, 2026 at the age of 92. Clem was predeceased by his wife, **Dorothy**, and is survived by two daughters and their families, and by his partner, **Beverly Carter**, and her family.

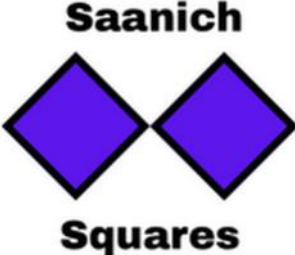

Joan Smith, a former member of the Ripple Rockets, who passed away in Campbell River on March 17, 2026 at the age of 79. Joan is survived by her husband, **Dave**, two children, and their families, and by her brother, **Vic Marshall**, a life member of the Mavericks and a former editor of the Cross Trail News.

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CLUB DIRECTORY - LOWER VANCOUVER ISLAND

	<p>Country Cousins – Victoria</p> <p>Club Email..... president@ccsdc.ca Club Website..... ccsdc.ca</p> <hr/> <p>Mainstream with Rounds – 7:30-9:30 PM 2nd & 4th Saturdays – Sep. 13 to Dec. 13, 2025; Jan. 10 to Apr. 25, 2026 Cordova Bay United Church Hall – 813 Claremont Ave., Victoria, BC 2nd Saturday – May 9, 2026 – 3:00-5:00 pm – Colwood Community Hall</p> <hr/> <p>Caller/Cuer..... Kirk Rockerbie President..... Wendy Weeks Secretary Cathy Novak Treasurer Vanda Stocks</p>
	<p>Frontier Twirlers – Victoria</p> <p>Club Email..... FrontierTwirlersVictoriaBC@gmail.com Club Facebook Page www.facebook.com/groups/1165329974731199 Club Website..... frontiertwirlers.weebly.com</p> <hr/> <p>Plus – 7:30 PM, Mainstream with Rounds – 8:00-10:00 PM 1st & 3rd Saturdays – Sep. 20 to Dec. 20, 2025; Jan. 3 to May 2, 2026 Colwood Community Hall – 2219 Sooke Rd., Victoria, BC</p> <hr/> <p>Caller & Cuer..... Garry Dodds & Pat Zeeman President..... Jim Johnson Secretary Deb Tooby Treasurer Linda Ross</p>
	<p>Mavericks – Victoria</p> <p>Club Email..... marcric@telus.net Club Website..... themavericks.org</p> <hr/> <p>Mainstream with Rounds – 7:30-9:30 PM 1st & 3rd Fridays – Sep. 19 to Dec. 19, 2025; Jan. 16 to May 1, 2026 Dark: April 3, 2026 (Good Friday) Cordova Bay United Church Hall – 813 Claremont Ave., Victoria, BC</p> <hr/> <p>Callers/Cuers..... Marilynne Cunningham; Lorne Clayton President..... Marc Dumonceaux Secretary Gillian Bloom Treasurer Van Williams</p>
	<p>Rainbow Rounders (Rounds) – Victoria</p> <p>Club Email..... con_al_r@telus.net Club Website.....</p> <hr/> <p>Rounds Phase II – 7:30-9:30 PM 1st, 3rd, & 5th Tuesdays – Sep. 16 to Dec. 16, 2025; Jan. 6 to Apr. 21, 2026 Rounds Phase III-IV – 7:30-9:30 PM 2nd & 4th Tuesdays – Sep. 9 to Dec. 9, 2025; Jan. 13 to Apr. 28, 2026 Colwood Community Hall – 2219 Sooke Rd., Victoria, BC</p> <hr/> <p>Cuers Connie Ritchie; Kirk Rockerbie; Darrell Roberts President..... Connie Ritchie Secretary/Treasurer.... Connie Ritchie</p>

CLUB DIRECTORY - LOWER VANCOUVER ISLAND

	<p>Saanich Squares – Victoria Club Email Club Website..... saanichsquares.weebly.com/</p> <hr/> <p>Basic-Mainstream Teach – 7:00-9:00 PM Sundays – Sep. 14 to Dec. 14, 2025; Jan. 4 to Mar. 29, 2026 (except Oct. 13) Cordova Bay United Church Hall – 813 Claremont Ave., Victoria, BC</p> <hr/> <p>Caller..... Lorne Clayton President..... Lorne Clayton Secretary Barbara Clayton Treasurer Lorne Clayton</p>
	<p>Star Twirlers (Plus & Advanced) – Victoria Club Email garryd@dz-dancing.com Club Website..... startwirlers.squaredance.bc.ca</p> <hr/> <p>Plus Review/Teach/Dance – 8:00-10:00 PM Mondays – Sep. 22 to Dec. 15, 2025; Jan. 12 to May 11, 2026 Dark on Holiday Mondays: Oct. 13, 2025, Feb. 16, 2026, Apr. 6, 2026 Colwood Community Hall – 2219 Sooke Rd., Victoria, BC</p> <hr/> <p>Advanced Review/Teach/Dance – 8:00-10:00 PM Thursdays – Sep. 25 to Dec. 18, 2025; Jan. 15 to May 7, 2026 Colwood Community Hall – 2219 Sooke Rd., Victoria, BC</p> <hr/> <p>Caller..... Garry Dodds President..... Garry Dodds Secretary/Treasurer Garry Dodds</p>

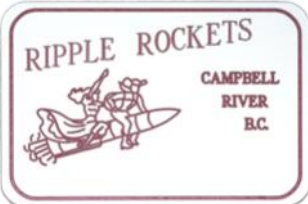

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	<p>VISIT YOUR REGION'S WEBSITE</p> <p>Lower Vancouver Island - Region 1 region1.squaredance.bc.ca</p> <p>Upper Vancouver Island - Region 8 region8.squaredance.bc.ca</p>
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CLUB DIRECTORY – UPPER VANCOUVER ISLAND

	<p>Amalgam-Eighters – Nanaimo Club Email amalgam-eighters@squaredance.bc.ca Club Website.. amalgam-eighters.squaredance.bc.ca</p> <hr/> <p>Mainstream (with Rounds) – 7:00-9:00 PM (Social 9:00-9:30) 1st & 3rd Fridays – Sep. 19 to Dec. 19, 2025; Jan. 16 to May 1, 2026 Lantzville Community (Costin) Hall – 7232 Lantzville Rd., Lantzville, BC</p> <hr/> <p>Caller/Cuer..... Wendie Harrington President Bonnie Haapala Secretary: Margie Cooper Treasurer May Wagner</p>
	<p>Island Gems (Rounds) – Nanaimo Club Email wendieh@shaw.ca Club Website..... islandgems.squaredance.bc.ca</p> <hr/> <p>Rounds – Phase 3+ – 7:15-9:15 PM Thursdays – Sep. 11 to Dec. 18, 2025; Jan. 8 to May 7, 2026 Wellington Hall – 3922 Corunna Ave. (off Norwell Dr., off Island Hwy.), Nanaimo, BC</p> <hr/> <p>Cuers Wendie Harrington & Connie Ritchie President..... Wendie Harrington Treasurer Connie Ritchie</p>
	<p>Ocean Waves – Courtenay / Comox Valley Club Email oceanwavesquaredance@gmail.com Club Facebook Page www.facebook.com/groups/1836797209669410 Club Website..... www.comoxvalleyoceanwaves.ca</p> <hr/> <p>Mainstream with Rounds – 7:00-9:00 PM 1st & 3rd Saturdays – Sep. 6 to Dec. 20, 2025; Jan. 3 to May 16, 2026 Filberg Centre – Rotary Hall – 411 Anderton Ave., Courtenay, BC <i>(Also Native Sons Hall & Courtenay Baptist Church – check Dance Dates pages.)</i></p> <hr/> <p>Caller & Cuer..... Jake Ring & Diana Ring President..... David Barr Secretary Christine Kent Treasurer Janet Livingstone</p>
	<p>Rings Squares & Rounds – Campbell River/Courtenay Club Email jakediana.ring@gmail.com Club Website.....</p> <hr/> <p>Round Dance Classes – Two Step – 7:00-8:45 PM Wednesdays – Oct. 1 to Dec. 3 (or 10 TBA), 2025; 2026 TBA St. John the Divine Anglican Church Hall – 579 5th St., Courtenay, BC</p> <hr/> <p>Cuer & Caller..... Diana Ring & Jake Ring President..... Jake Ring Secretary Diana Ring</p>

CLUB DIRECTORY – UPPER VANCOUVER ISLAND

 <p>The logo for Ripple Rockets is a rectangular badge with a red border. It features the text 'RIPPLE ROCKETS' at the top, 'CAMPBELL RIVER B.C.' on the right side, and a central illustration of a person riding a rocket.</p>	<p>Ripple Rockets – Campbell River Club Email campbellriverripplerockets@gmail.com Club Facebook Page www.facebook.com/groups/706981097880584 Club Website..... ripplerockets.wixsite.com/campbellriver</p> <hr/> <p>Mainstream with Phase II Rounds – 7:00-9:00 PM 2nd & 4th Saturdays – Sep. 13 to Dec. 13, 2025; Jan. 10 to May 9, 2026 United Church Hall – 415 Pinecrest Rd. (at Birch St.), Campbell River, BC</p> <hr/> <p>Caller/Cuer.....Elizabeth Hohner President.....Linda Grunewald SecretaryJennifer Coolen TreasurerMarti Alkana</p>
 <p>The logo for Star Dusters is a rectangular badge with a light blue border. It features the text 'STAR DUSTERS' in large, bold letters at the bottom, 'POWELL RIVER B.C.' at the top, and five yellow stars arranged in an arc above the main text.</p>	<p>Star Dusters – Powell River Club Email staruegg@telus.net Club Facebook Page www.facebook.com/groups/1843039715769741 Club Website..... westcoastsquaredance.com</p> <hr/> <p>West Coast with Rounds – 7:00-9:00 PM Thursdays – Sep. 11 to Dec. 2025; Jan. to May 7, 2026; also May 9, 2026 Timberlane Rancho – 5399 Timberlane Ave., Powell River, BC</p> <hr/> <p>Caller.....Gordon Ruedig Cuer.....Stacey Ruegg President.....Stacey Ruegg SecretarySandy Graham TreasurerTricia Andrews</p>

CLUB DIRECTORY NOTES FOR BOTH LOWER ISLAND AND UPPER ISLAND

The Sooke Squares of Sooke and the Wheel Arounds Square Dance Club of Nanaimo are not member clubs of the Cross Trail News and do not appear in the club directory, dance dates pages, club news, and other listings.

Dance dates information is compiled from a number of sources and is believed to be accurate, however these details are subject to change depending on hall availability, Public Health Orders, and/or other factors. If in doubt please confirm particulars including dates, times, and locations with the event organizers. The Cross Trail News cannot be held responsible for any errors.

*Club badge photos (except Saanich Squares) © Michael Torontow.
 Saanich Squares badge © Lorne Clayton.*

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DANCER & CALLER TEACHER ASSOCIATIONS

LOWER VANCOUVER ISLAND WESTERN SQUARE & ROUND DANCE ASSOCIATION (LVIWSRDA)

President.....Carol Young
 Vice President.....Gary Weeks
 Secretary.....Gillian Bloom
 Treasurer.....Alex Wotherspoon
 Past President.....(vacant)

LVIWSRDA e-mail...lviwsrda@gmail.com

VICTORIA & DISTRICT CALLER TEACHERS ASSOCIATION (VDCTA)

President.....Kirk Rockerbie
 Vice President.....Garry Dodds
 Secretary.....Pat Zeeman
 Treasurer.....Connie Ritchie
 Past President.....Pat Zeeman
 Round Dance.....Marilynne Cunningham

VDCTA e-mailkirkbradrock@gmail.com

UPPER VANCOUVER ISLAND SQUARE DANCE ASSOCIATION (UVISDA)

President.....Robert (Bob) Chalmers
 Vice President.....Esther Wong
 Secretary.....(vacant)
 Treasurer.....Keith Kent
 Past President.....(vacant)

UVISDA e-mail.....one_blue_mustang@yahoo.ca

UPPER VANCOUVER ISLAND CALLER TEACHERS ASSOCIATION (UVICTA)

President.....Gord Ruedig
 Vice President.....Al Jonsson
 Secretary.....Wendie Harrington
 Treasurer.....Connie Ritchie
 Past President.....Fran Archambault
 Round Dance Chair....Connie Ritchie

UVICTA e-mail.....wendieh@shaw.ca

WEBSITES & SOCIAL MEDIA

WEBSITES

Canadian Square & Round Dance Society csrds.ca
 BC Square & Round Dance Federation..... squaredance.bc.ca
 Lower Vancouver Island – Region 1 region1.squaredance.bc.ca
 Upper Vancouver Island – Region 8..... region8.squaredance.bc.ca
 CALLERLAB – International Assn. of Square Dance Callers callerlab.org
 ROUNDALAB – International Assn. of Round Dance Teachers roundalab.org
 Taminations (*animations for square dance calls*) www.tamtwirlers.org/taminations
 Video Square Dance Lessons Online..... videosquaredancelessons.com/lessons/

ONLINE DANCE CALENDARS

BC Square & Round Dance Federation..... squaredance.bc.ca/dance-calendar/
 Lower Vancouver Island (Region 1) region1.squaredance.bc.ca/calendar/
 Where's the Dance (Dance, Dance, Dance) wheresthedance.com

SOCIAL MEDIA

BC Square & Round Dance Fed. – Facebook www.facebook.com/BCSquareAndRoundDanceFederation
 BC Fed Dance News – X (formerly Twitter) twitter.com/bcfeddancenews
 BC Fed Live – X (formerly Twitter) twitter.com/bcfedlive
 Canadian Square & Round Dance Society – Facebook..... www.facebook.com/CSRDS.ca/
 Canadian Square & Round Dance Society – Pinterest www.pinterest.ca/canadiansquarea

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BC SQUARE & ROUND DANCE FEDERATION CONTACTS

BOARD OF DIRECTORS – 2025-2026

President.....	Frank McNeil	Surrey – Region 2	
1st Vice President	Mae Fawcett	Lumby – Region 3	
2nd Vice President	<i>(vacant)</i>		
Secretary	Wendy Krueger	Abbotsford – Region 2	
Treasurer	Vanda Stocks	Sidney – Region 1	
Past President.....	Dennis Sutton	Sidney – Region 1	
Directors-at-Large.....	Kirk Rockerbie	VDCTA.....Victoria – Region 1	
	Gary Weeks	LVIWSRDA	Victoria – Region 1
	John Corrigan	V&DCTA.....	Delta – Region 2
	Dianne Wilson	FVS&RDA.....	Chilliwack – Region 2
	Brian Elmer		West Kelowna – Region 3
	Roslyn Garnet		West Kelowna – Region 3
	Ray Schmidt & Deb Schmidt		Castlegar – Region 4
	<i>(no dancer/caller/cuer association)</i>		– Region 5
	<i>(vacant)</i>	UVISDA	– Region 8
	Denise Jensen	UVICTA	Courtenay – Region 8
	Steve Stent		Kamloops – Region 9
	Wendy Trudel		Kamloops – Region 9

OTHER BCSRDF CONTACTS

CSRDS Directors.....	Garry Dodds & Pat Zeeman	Victoria – Region 1
Round of the Month.....	Connie Ritchie	Nanaimo – Region 8
Coordinator		
Webmaster	Frank McNeil	Surrey – Region 2
Four Score & More Badges ...	Connie Ritchie	Nanaimo – Region 8
Zoom Meetings Coordinator..	Alex Wotherspoon	Victoria – Region 1
Sillery Award Committee	Dr. Blair Wallace (Chair).....	Surrey – Region 2
	Wendy Krueger	Abbotsford – Region 2
	Gordon Ruedig	Powell River – Region 8

For contact details go to: squaredance.bc.ca/about-the-federation/

TOLL FREE NUMBER

BC Square & Round Dance Federation..... 1-800-335-9433

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CANADIAN SQUARE & ROUND DANCE SOCIETY CONTACTS

President.....	Laurie Illsley	Nova Scotia
Vice President.....	Garry Dodds	British Columbia
Secretary	Rosalie Beamish	Manitoba
Treasurer	Terry Hebert	New Brunswick
Past President.....	<i>(vacant)</i>	
BC Directors	Garry Dodds & Pat Zeeman	British Columbia
Webmaster	Dan Roy	Ontario

For a complete list of the CSRDS Board of Directors and their contact details go to: csrds.ca/board-of-directors



CANADIAN SQUARE AND ROUND DANCE SOCIETY

Offering Canada Wide Support to Square,
Round, Line, Contra, and Clog Dancing.

csrds.ca

CALLERS & CUERS BY CLUB

SQUARE DANCE CLUBS

Amalgam-Eighters – Nanaimo
Wendie Harrington
Country Cousins – Victoria
Kirk Rockerbie
Frontier Twirlers – Victoria
Garry Dodds & Pat Zeeman (cuer)
Mavericks – Victoria
Marilynne & Alan Cunningham
Lorne & Barb Clayton
Ocean Waves – Courtenay
Jake & Diana (cuer) Ring
Rings Squares & Rounds – Courtenay/Campbell River
Jake & Diana (cuer) Ring
Ripple Rockets – Campbell River
Elizabeth Hohner

Saanich Squares – Victoria

Lorne & Barb Clayton
Star Dusters – Powell River
Gordon Ruedig
Stacey Ruegg (cuer)
Star Twirlers (Plus & Advanced) – Victoria
Garry Dodds

ROUND DANCE CLUBS

Island Gems – Nanaimo
Wendie Harrington
Connie Ritchie
Rainbow Rounders – Victoria
Connie Ritchie
Kirk Rockerbie
Darrell Roberts

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DANCE HALLS

VICTORIA

Colwood Community Hall
2219 Sooke Road

Cordova Bay United Church Hall
813 Claremont Avenue

SOOKE

Royal Canadian Legion Branch #54 Sooke
6726 Eustace Road

NANAIMO & LANTZVILLE

Lantzville Community (Costin) Hall
7232 Lantzville Road

Pleasant Valley Hall/Social Centre
6100 Doumont Road

Wellington Hall
3922 Corunna Ave. (off Norwell Drive,
off Island Highway)

NANOOSE BAY

Nanoose Place Community Centre
2925 Northwest Bay Road

UNION BAY

Union Bay Community Club
5401 Island Highway South

COURTENAY & ROYSTON

Courtenay Fellowship Baptist Church
2963 Lake Trail Road

Fallen Alders Community Hall
3595 Royston Road

Florence Filberg Centre – Rotary Hall
411 Anderton Avenue

Native Sons Hall
360 Cliffe Avenue

Royston Community Hall
3902 Island Highway South (at Royston Road)

St. John the Divine Anglican Church Hall
579 5th Street

CAMPBELL RIVER

Campbell River Seniors' Centre
1414 Ironwood Street (inside Common Mall)

Campbell River United Church Hall
415 Pinecrest Road (at Birch Street)

Quinsam Wellness Centre (Quinsam Hall)
2005 Eagle Drive

POWELL RIVER

Star Dusters Dance Hall (Timberlane Rancho)
5399 Timberlane Avenue (across from track)



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BC Square and Round Dance Federation

To preserve, promote, and perpetuate Square Dancing,
Round Dancing, Contra Dancing, and other related forms
of dance in the Province of British Columbia.

squaredance.bc.ca

CROSS TRAIL NEWS – SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

Digital submission of letters, club news, event reports, articles and advertisements is preferred. Suggested lengths are up to 250 words for letters and up to 1000 words for club news, reports, and articles of interest to square and round dancers. Advertisements that include copyrighted images and/or registered trademarks used without permission will not be accepted.

Our page size is 8.5” x 11” (letter size) with a 0.5” margin on all four sides. When preparing an advertisement please note the ad sizes on page 2. If your “camera-ready” copy is not the same as our ad size we can adjust the size to fit our page but it will become distorted if the aspect ratio (ratio of width to height) is significantly different. In most case we will email a proof to you.

We recommend that you check all proofs for accuracy and confirm by replying not later than the submission deadline for each issue. Changes are not possible once an edition is published online.

We can handle most document formats including doc, docx (preferred), odt, ppt, pptx, pub, rtf, txt, and wpd. Paper submissions will either be scanned or retyped. You can also type your submission in an email.

For images we can handle most graphics formats. Please do not resize photos or embed them in a document or email. A minimum resolution of 300 dpi is recommended. For ads we will accept graphics files (including pdf) but we can’t edit them to correct any typographical or formatting errors unless you also send us the original document file.

Please include your personal, club, or business name at the beginning of your file names so we can identify files without having to open them. Please attach your files to your email and send to: crosstrailnews@shaw.ca.

All submissions must be received by the deadline for each issue.

Commercial Five Ad Block Details

In order to received the 10% discount for a five ad block, payment of the full five ad amount must accompany or precede the initial insertion. The five ads to not have to be in consecutive issues but are to be used within two years (ten issues). The ad copy may be changed for each insertion.

CROSS TRAIL NEWS – SUBMISSION DEADLINES 2026-2027

Issue	Deadline	Dance Dates	Other Information
September-October-November 2026	Sunday, August 2, 2026	September 2026 to August 2027	Directory information form including list of dances and event dates.
		September, October, & November 2026	Fall start-up dates, new dancer class dates & ads, special dances ads, club news, sympathy.
December 2026-January 2027	Sunday, November 1, 2026	December 2026 & January 2027	Special dances ads, Christmas dance, season’s greetings ads, first dance in New Year, club news, sympathy.
February-March 2027	Sunday, January 3, 2027	February & March 2027	Special dances ads, summer weekend event ads, club news, sympathy.
April-May 2026	Sunday, February 28, 2027	April & May 2027	Special dances ads, windup dates, summer weekend event ads, club news, sympathy.
June-July-August 2027	Sunday, May 2, 2027	June, July, & August 2027	Special dances ads, summer dances ads, summer weekend event ads, new dancer class ads, club news, sympathy.

Publication Dates: within about one week after each deadline.

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THE FOUR SCORE AND MORE CLUB



Active square and/or round dancers who are 80 years of age or older and who are members of the BC Square & Round Dance Federation may receive **The Four Score and More Club** badge courtesy of the Federation. There are also badges for active dancers who reach 90 and 100 years of age.

Optional name bars are available at cost (\$4.50) plus postage. The LVIWSRDA purchases the name bars for its members. UVISDA members are billed for their name bars (or their club if the club places the order).

To request a free badge, and to purchase a name bar if desired, please submit the name (as you would like it to appear on the name bar), complete date of birth, club name, and contact information to your association's **The Four Score and More Club** badges contact person:

Lower Vancouver Island Western Square & Round Dance Association

[Gary Weeks](#)

Upper Vancouver Island Square Dance Association

[Bob Chalmers](#)

ADVERTISERS IN THIS ISSUE

COMMERCIAL

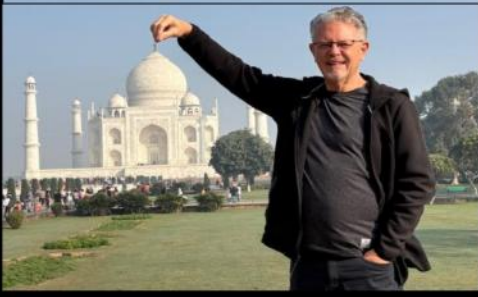
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I welcome you to join me



Discover the World with Travel Specialist

Ron Booiman / TravelwithRon

Former Square Dance Caller (for 30 years)

**40 Years in Designing
Inclusive Tour & Safaris**

Join Ron's Inclusive Customized Tours

Tanzania

Amazing Wildlife Safari

October 14, 2026, Tanzania Safari

Four Safari Game Parks: Lake Manyara National Game Park

Amazing Ngorongoro Crater, Famous Serengeti

Tarangire National Park, where the lions climb trees

All Meals as per our itinerary & Guide, & Driver Gratuities Are Included

Kenya

Wildlife Safari beyond your dreams

October 01 2026, Kenya Safari

Amboseli views of Mt Kilimanjaro + Famous Tusker Elephants

Aberdare Mountains, Lake Nakuru plus Lake Naivasha

In addition, visit the Famous Kenyan Masai Mara

This safari also includes Feeding Giraffes & a Wildlife Walk

All Meals as per our itinerary & Guide, & Driver Gratuities Are Included

India

January 28 2027

All the must-see + the Taj Mahal

Old & New Delhi, Varanasi, Aarti Ceremony, Sunrise Boat Ride on the River Ganges, Kandariya Dance Show, Iconic Taj Mahal, UNESCO Agra Fort, Mohabbat Taj Show Jaipur City Tour, Boat Ride on Lake Pichola, Mumbai (Bombay) & much more.

*** Yes – Daily Breakfast, 11 Dinners, 3 Lunches, Guide / Driver Gratuities Included**

Visit our website: TravelwithRon.ca or Call for Details

TravelWithRon.ca ron@travelwithron.ca

**The Travel Group
TravelwithRon**

Call us at: 604.575.7788 / 1.800.946.0091

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CPBC # 81868



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Call Tim: 250-383-9217
lmmover@telus.net
lastminutemover.net





Blast Off 2026

with the

RIPPLE ROCKETS

May 15, 16 & 17

Join us for a fun weekend of

Square & Round Dancing

**Quinsam Hall
#102 - 2005 Eagle Drive
Campbell River**

Blast Off 2026

Blast Off
May 15 16 & 17 2026

Friday May 15

Registration	3:00 – 5:00 p.m.
	6:30 – 7:00 p.m.
Pre-Rounds	6:30 – 7:00 p.m.
Square Dance	7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

Saturday May 16

Registration	10 - Noon
Introduction to Plus Dance	10 – Noon
Registration	6:30 – 7:00 p.m.
Pre-Rounds	6:30 – 7:00 p.m.
Square Dance	7 – 9:00 p.m.
Panel of Callers & Cuers	

Sunday May 17

Crib Tournament	10 – Noon
Round Dance	1:30 – 3:30 p.m. Phase 2 +
Registration	6:30 – 7:00 p.m.
Pre-Rounds	6:30 – 7:00 p.m.
Square Dance	7:00 - 9:00 p.m
Panel of Callers & Cuers	

Blast Off 2026

REGISTRATION \$45 per per person for weekend

\$10 per night for camping

Please print

\$40 if pre-register before April 15, 2026

Last Name

First Name

Address

Phone Number

Your Club

Caller or Cuer

**Self contained RV parking (dry camping) showers not available
If camping please Pre-register by end of April**

Please send cheque or etransfer to June Carlson

jhobbshouse@gmail.com

2929 York Road, Campbell River, BC V9H 1A3 250-923-0229

For billeting options please contact Marti @ 250-201-1366

martialkana@hotmail.com

Fragrance free event

Shirts required (long or short sleeves)



STAR TWIRLERS SQUARE DANCE CLUB

SUMMER 2026 PLUS/A1 DANCES

MONDAYS

MAY 25

JUNE 1, 8, 15, & 22

Colwood Community Hall

~8:00 to 10:00 PM

Caller: Garry Dodds



Two Plus tips to start then every third tip A1
(if there are enough A1 dancers attending)

For information email: garryd@dz-dancing.com

SUMMER MAINSTREAM DANCES

Victoria, BC – 2026

Wednesday Evenings – 8:00-10:00 PM

Date	Hall	Program or Caller/Cuer
May 27	Colwood	Hall Benefit Dance (<i>Admission by Donation</i>) Panel of Callers and Cuers – MC: Garry Dodds
June 3	Cordova Bay	Lorne Clayton
June 10	Colwood	Garry Dodds & Pat Zeeman
June 17	Cordova Bay	Garry Dodds & Pat Zeeman
June 24	Colwood	Stu Hemmings
July 1	Cordova Bay	Canada Day Dance - Panel of Callers & Cuers
July 8	Colwood	Kirk Rockerbie, Darrell Roberts, & Connie Ritchie
July 15	Dark	Cancelled for Canadian Festival 2026 – Penticton, BC
July 22	Colwood	Darrell Roberts
July 29	Cordova Bay	Marilynne Cunningham
August 5	Colwood	Richard Sharman & Connie Ritchie
August 12	Cordova Bay	Lorne Clayton
August 19	Colwood	Kirk Rockerbie
August 26	Cordova Bay	Hall Benefit Dance (<i>Admission by Donation</i>) Panel of Callers and Cuers – MC: Kirk Rockerbie

Colwood Community Hall – 2219 Sooke Rd., Victoria, BC
Cordova Bay United Church Hall – 813 Claremont Ave., Victoria, BC

Admission at the Door – **\$7.00** per Dancer
(Exact amount appreciated.)

Sorry...no refreshments provided. Please bring your own beverage.

Scheduled callers and cuers are subject to changes and additions.

Dances may be cancelled due to excessive heat and will be cancelled if the Air Quality Health Index is 8 or higher.

Remember to check your email for dance updates.

Sponsored by the Victoria & District Caller Teachers Association and the Lower Vancouver Island Western Square & Round Dance Association



THE VANCOUVER & DISTRICT CALLER/TEACHERS ASSOCIATION
PRESENTS

SPRING FLING PLUS DANCE

SUNDAY, MAY 31, 2026

**THERE WILL BE A PANEL
OF CALLERS AND CUERS
COME OUT FOR A FUN AFTERNOON OF
PLUS DANCING WITH PHASE II & III ROUNDS**

**KENNEDY HALL
8870 120TH STREET,
SURREY BC**

Doors open 1:30 p.m.

PreRounds Phase II and III 2:00 to 2:30 p.m.

Plus dancing 2:30 to 4:30 p.m.

Tickets \$10 each at the door

COFFEE | TEA | WATER | COOKIES

**HEARING ASSIST | 50/50
SINGLES BOARD**

For more info. contact Wendy 778-878-4244

**UVISDA & UVICTA
JOINT
MAINSTREAM DANCE
Sunday, JUNE 7th, 2026**



**Recording Artist, Caller/Cuer
Heather Reynolds
Abbotsford Grand Squares**

Sunday June 7, 2026

Time: 2:00 to 4:00pm

Nanoose Place

2925 Northwest Bay Rd.

Mainstream Dance with Rounds

Admission: \$10.00 per Dancer

Light Refreshments



Rainbow Rounders Summer Dance Series

Phase II / III Round Dancing

**Featuring Waltz, Two-Step, Rumba, Cha Cha,
Slow Two-Step, Foxtrot, Tango, Jive & Bolero**

June 9 • July 7 • August 4
7:30 – 9:30 PM

**Where: Colwood Community Hall,
2219 Sooke Rd**

**Cuers: Connie Ritchie, Kirk Rockerbie &
Darrell Roberts**

**From our dance classes—come practice, build confidence, and
enjoy dancing what you've learned.**

Let the music move you...

Mainstream Dancing Getaway June 12 & 13, 2026 Invermere, BC

Schedule of Events

Friday

- 8:00 pm-10:00 pm Mainstream Dance

Saturday Morning

- 9:00 am-11:00 am "FUN" Shop
*at the Mainstream level

Saturday Afternoon

- 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm Choreographed Ballroom Dancing with **Arlene McLafferty** and **Deb Schmidt** (Phase 2-3) * Additional \$5/person
- Or Choose your own Adventure

Saturday Evening

- 7:30 pm - 8:00 pm Pre-Choreographed Ballroom Dancing
- 8:00 pm - 10:00 pm Mainstream Dance

Saturday afternoon open to:
Choreographed Ballroom Dance,
Golf, Swim, Explore the area, Relax,
Visit with Friends....

Radium Hot Springs 15 min drive
Fairmont Hot Springs 20 min drive
Many Golf Courses in the area
Scenic areas to explore



Brent Mawdsley & Gary Winter
(Surrey,BC) (Sherwood Park,AB)



**All Dances will be held at the
Columbia Valley Center,
646 4 St, Invermere, BC**



Hosted by the Columbia Valley Twirlers Alumni

2026 - REGISTRATION INFORMATION

To register **Scan QR Code** with your smartphone camera open link to fill out google form
(no special app required on most smartphones)

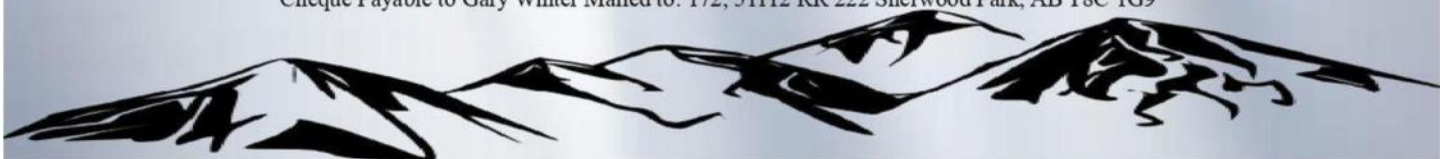
Or contact for the link/more info: Text Gary Winter (587) 784-3369 Email Trish Winter at twinter702@gmail.com

****Square Dance Weekend Cost \$35 per Adult or \$15 per Youth (under 18)**
Choreographed Ballroom Dancing **\$5 per person****



Payment required with Registration

E-transfers accepted (preferred) to twinter702@gmail.com or
Cheque Payable to Gary Winter Mailed to: 172, 51112 RR 222 Sherwood Park, AB T8C 1G9



Accommodation Suggestions

Based on Dancer Feedback

Invermere Area

- Canterbury Inn
- Invermere Inn & Suites
- Cleland
- Local Airbnb's
- YPC Fitness and Accommodations

Radium

- Kanata Inns
- Copper Point
- Lake Windermere Campground
- Red Streak Campground
- Inn on Canyon
- Lido Motel
- Crystal Springs
- Local Airbnb's
- Canyon Campground

SUMMER DANCING 2026 KENNEDY HALL SUNDAY EVENINGS

From 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm

Venue Address: 8870 Scott Road, Surrey, B.C.

Cost : \$10.00 per dancer

Date	Level	Caller	Cuer
July 5th	Plus	Wendy Krueger	Cheryl Salter
July 12th	SSD	John Corrigan	Rosalie Passmore
July 19th	Mainstream	Heather Reynolds	Heather Reynolds
July 26th	Plus	Brent Mawdsley	Brent Mawdsley
August 2 nd —DARK see below			
August 9th	Mainstream	Yvonne Hebein	Wendy Krueger
August 16th	Plus	Ray Brendzy	Nick / Caitlyn Brendzy
August 23rd	SSD	Mike Rohde	Brian Penny
August 30th	Mainstream	John Corrigan	Cheryl Salter

DARK on Sunday, August 2nd—Please come to the **BC Day Blast Dances** featuring special guest Internationally acclaimed caller Tony Oxendine with Ray Brendzy at Kennedy Hall. Plus dancing 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. Join in the dinner plans; call Ray 778-875-8727. Pre-rounds 7:00 p.m. and SSD dancing 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. \$15 per dance or \$25 for both/youth ½ price



B.C. Square & Round Dance Federation



Callers School

July 10-14, 2026

Featuring



Barry Clasper
Toronto, Ontario
(Callerlab Accredited Coach)



Dottie Welch
Lawrencetown, Nova Scotia
(Callerlab Accredited Coach)



4 Instructors - 2 Rooms - 2 Programs (For the Newer & Experienced Caller)

For the New Caller:

- Mechanics of Choreography
- Formation Management
- Teaching
- Resolution Techniques
- Using Music
- Singing Calls
- Voice and Communication
- Timing and Body Flow
- Smooth Delivery of Patter

For the Experienced Caller:

- Improve Teaching Skills
- Additional Resolving Ideas
- Creative Choreography
- Develop Entertainment Skills
- Calling beyond Mainstream
- Lots of Mic Time!!
- Catering to Your Individual Needs and Interests
- Mentoring New Callers

THE FACILITY

Okanagan College, 583 Duncan Avenue West, Penticton, B.C.

THE PROGRAM

The School starts on Friday July 10 at 7:00 pm and ends Tuesday (evening) July 14.

THE ACCOMMODATIONS

See B.C. Festival website for discounted rooms and Camping Information.

festival2026.squaredance.bc.ca

Co-ordinator Contact:

Garry Dodds garryd@dz-dancing.com or (250) 516-6525

Enrollment is limited, please register early!

Registration Deadline June 30, 2026:

Name: _____
(first) (last)

Partner: _____
(first) (last)

Address: _____ City: _____

Province: _____ Postal Code: _____

Phone #: (____) _____ Email: _____

Include \$500.00 (Five Hundred Dollars) for each caller attending with no charge for partners.

(Optional \$100.00 Deposit) Final payments are due: June 30, 2026

Contact Garry for payment options including Cheques, E-Transfer and Credit Card (International Only)

Email or mail to: Garry Dodds, 4030 Raymond Street North, Victoria, BC, V8Z 4K8

Your CALLERLAB Accredited Caller Coaches:

Barry Clasper: Barry lives in Toronto, Ontario with his wife Pam. They started dancing in 1973, and Barry started calling in 1984. Starting at C2 he has since expanded in both directions and now calls from Basic through C4. He's called at weekends and conventions in 8 provinces, DC, and 26 states, as well as Germany, Sweden, Denmark, Japan, England, the Czech Republic, Taipei, Beijing, and New Zealand.

In 2002 Barry became interested in coaching new callers. Since then he has worked as a Teaching Assistant and Full Coach at many well known schools including the Sturbridge school, Northeast Callers School, Pocono Callers School, Alquire School, the Canadian Callers College, several GCA schools, and the GSI school. Barry has also done numerous caller clinics as well as many presentations at CALLERLAB conventions. He has written extensively with articles appearing in publications such as Zip Coder, American Square Dance Magazine, The Call Sheet, the CALLERLAB DIRECTION, Alberta Chatter, and T&D Topics.

Barry is a member of CALLERLAB, the Gay Callers Association, and the Toronto and District Square and Round Dance Association. Within CALLERLAB he is a member of the Board of Governors, served on the Executive Committee (2011-2017), and is a Past Chairman of the Board (2013-2015). In 2022 Barry and Pam were awarded the CALLERLAB Milestone Award

Dottie Welch: Dottie and Gary Welch live in the Halifax area of Nova Scotia. They have attended all but two Canadian Nationals and helped plan all five held in the Maritimes. As a math teacher and musician who had danced since childhood, Dottie began calling in 1983 for an Advanced tape group. That expanded to include beginners to challenge squares, rounds, contras, schools, and various community events. She has called in 9 provinces and 31 states.

Dottie has been an active member of CALLERLAB since 1995, including Chair of Choreographic Applications since 2004, Community Dance Journal editor since 2004 and CD Leader Seminar staff since 2007, Board Member since 2014, Executive Committee member 2017-2021, Accredited Caller Coach since 2019, Vice Chair of Definitions since 2020, and recipient of the Milestone Award in 2022. Dottie is also on the Board of ContraLab and editor of their Quarterly.

Having been involved in training Maritime callers since 1990, Dottie organized and taught at the first Alquire School in 2003 and continued that biennially until Covid and since then via Zoom. She has also taught at the Ontario Mini-Lab, for the Alberta Callers, at the Northeast Callers School, and the GSI School, as well as presenting workshops locally and at Cdn. and US Nationals and CALLERLAB Conventions.

Much of this work is focused on organizing and passing along knowledge about our world-wide recreation. We encourage you to share in and benefit from that process.

Your Assistant Instructors:

Lorne Smith: Lorne & Barb are from Calgary, Alberta and have been dancing since 1967 and a Caller and Cues since 1986. He calls from basics through to C-1 & cues Phase 2 & 3 rounds

He's worked on many Alberta Provincial and Canadian National Conventions. He served as the Program Chair for the 2004 Canadian National Convention that was held in Calgary, Alberta. Also, he was the Program Chair for the 2007 & 2012 Alberta Conventions. Recently Lorne & Barb were the chair couple for the 2024 Canadian National Convention.

Lorne is currently a member of the Calgary Callers Association, Square & Round Dance Instructor's Association of Alberta & is an Accredited Callerlab member. Lorne & Barb have received the Alberta Rose award & the Canadian Society Award of Excellence.

From 2005 to 2017, Lorne has teamed up with a number of callers to conduct 9 Alberta Callers Schools. Recently Lorne conducted monthly Caller Zoom Sessions from June-December 2025 training newer callers from all parts of the world.

Garry Dodds: Garry started calling in 1965. After moving to Victoria he got his first club in 1969. Over the years he has called provincially and internationally and currently calls and teaches Basics through Advanced.

Invited to join Callerlab in 1978, he is currently serving on several committees including the Caller Training Committee. Garry was among the early callers to earn Accreditation as a General Caller.

Garry mentored his first new caller in 1974 and after attending Bill Peters and Jim Mayo's Super School for caller coaches, he has assisted Darryl Clendenin and Jerry Junck with the Cascade Caller's School (since 1977 both officially and as a volunteer) and conducted season long Caller's Schools on Vancouver Island.

Garry and Pat are BC Directors to the CSRDS and Garry is Vice-President of the CSRDS. Garry is currently Vice-President and Workshop Coordinator for the Victoria and District Caller Teachers Assn. and Pat is Secretary.

Garry's areas of focus include smooth choreography and teaching techniques for teaching new dancers.

DANCE PARTNER IS GREATLY APPRECIATED TO ASSIST AT ALL SESSIONS.

Provincial Federation or Canadian Society Bursary may apply.

For more information contact: Garry Dodds (School Coordinator)

Phone: (250) 516-6525 Email: garryd@dz-dancing.com

B.C. Federation Callers School, July 10-14, 2026

PENTICTON

British Columbia, Canada



July 15th - 18th
2026



Canadian National Square, Round & Clog Dance Festival

squaredance.bc.ca



PENTICTON TRADE AND
CONVENTION CENTRE



Come to Penticton, with its rich history of square dancing.
Host of the Peach Festival Square Dance Jamboree for over 60 years.
Enjoy square dancing in Okanagan Lake, floating down the canal joining two
beautiful lakes, wine tasting tours, bountiful orchards and dancing
with friends old and new.

Welcome to the Okanagan!!



TRAIL OUT DANCE

Sunday, July 19, 2026

Aldergrove Heritage Hall
3015 273 St., Aldergrove, B.C.

MC & Caller: Tyler Wagner
with a panel of callers and cuers

1:00 - 3:30 p.m.

Mainstream with Phase II Rounds
3:30 p.m Plus Teach (additional fee)

The hall has A/C and wood floors

Hosted by Guys 'N' Gals

Members \$8, Visitors \$10

guysngals.squaredance.bc.ca

tywagnercaller@gmail.com

Tyler: 604-817-9350



KOOTENAY CORNERS CLUB



TRAIL-OUT DANCE

With **GUEST CALLER:**

GORD RUEDIG *from Powell River, BC*

Sunday, July 19, 2026

7:00PM – 9:30PM



**Harry's Hall, 1119 Columbia Road
Castlegar, BC V1N 4L7**



\$10 per person

Limited dry camping is available at the hall.

Please contact Deb or Ray at: ray_deb@telus.net



July 24- 25, 2026

Friday

Dancing 7:00pm – 9:00pm
Caller/Cuer: Jake and Diana Ring
\$10.00 at the door

Saturday

Dancing 7:00pm – 9:00pm
Callers: Jake and Diana Ring
Lorne & Barb Clayton
Cuers: Diana and Jake Ring
Stacey Ruegg
\$10.00 at the door

Campfire After Saturday Night Dance

Gather around the Fire
Hot/Cold Drinks and Snacks
Music and Song

**New Venue:

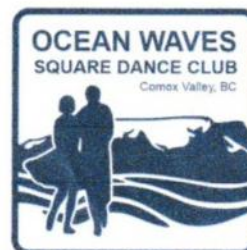
Union Bay Community Hall
5401 South Island Highway
Air Conditioned Hall Yippee

Sunday Stay and Play

- Winery and Brewery Tours
 - 40 Knots Winery
- Ocean and Forest Walks
 - Seal Bay Park
 - Kye Bay
- Visit Mt. Washington
 - Hike, Zipline, Cycle

Camping

- RV parking on site
- Bathroom available
- \$10 per night
- Please reserve your RV space and/or request billeting
- Contact: 705-930-8487 (David)





BC Day Blast

Monday, August 3, 2026

Kennedy Community Hall – 8870 120th St. Surrey BC.

TONY OXENDINE



Caitlyn & Nicholas



RAY BRENDZY



PRE - ROUNDS AT 7:00 PM

SOCIAL SQUARE DANCING (SSD) with PLUS TIP

7:30 PM TO 9:30 PM

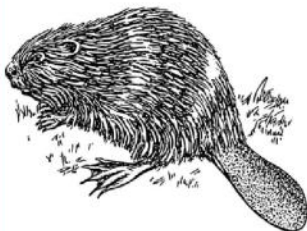
\$15 each and Youth half price

AFTERNOON PLUS DANCE

3:00 PM TO 5:00 PM

\$15.00 each and Youth half price

\$25 for both dances



Contact Ray @ 778 – 875 - 8727

SALT SPRING ISLAND SWING 'N' WHEEL 2026

Friday & Saturday, August 7 & 8 – 2:00-? PM

Cunningham Residence

734 Upper Ganges Road, Salt Spring Island

No Pre-registration Required – No Cost

Saturday afternoon contests using farm equipment (tractor and wagon) and nail driving followed by a potluck supper starting around 5:00 PM and then a barn dance.

For those who want to come for the weekend, or longer, there will be free RV parking (self-contained units only) at the home of Alan & Marilynne Cunningham. Email to almarcun@telus.net or phone 250-537-5356 for more information.

Please check www.bcferrries.com/routes-fares/schedules for the ferry schedules. Departures to Salt Spring Island are listed under “Vancouver Island” – “Victoria (Swartz Bay)” to “Salt Spring Island (Fulford Harbour)” or “Crofton” to “Salt Spring Island (Vesuvius Bay).”



The Powell River Star Dusters' Across the Pond Weekend Aug. 20, 21, & 22, 2026

Three Evenings ...

- Thurs - Panel... 8:00 to 10:00 pm
- Fri - Beach Party with Gord & Deb... Starts 7:30 pm
- Sat - Pot Luck starts at 6:00 pm
- Sat - with Kirk, Gord & Stacey... 7:00 to 10:00 pm

Day Dancing:

- Sat - Panel ... 10:00 am 'til Noon
- Sat - RD workshop with Connie... 1:30 to 3:00pm

This Year's Line Up



Kirk
Rockerbie

Connie
Ritchie

Deb
Schmidt

Stacey
Ruegg

Gord
Ruedig

Plus a Panel of Traveling Callers and Cuers

All events take place at the Star Dusters Hall
5399 Timberlane Avenue

Except: Friday Night Beach Party at the
Willingdon Beach Pavilion
4845 Marine Avenue (Hwy 101)

- No need to pre-register !
- Pay at the door when you arrive
- Cost for the Weekend: \$30.00 per person



STAR TWIRLERS SQUARE DANCE CLUB

Interested in learning the **PLUS** program?

Join us for an

Introduction to **PLUS** Dancing.

Open House – Monday, Sept. 21, 2026 – \$7.00 per person

Colwood Community Hall – 8:00-10:00 PM

Class Requirement: **MUST** have danced at least a Full Year at Mainstream

Interested in learning the **ADVANCED** program?

Join us for an

Introduction to **ADVANCED** Dancing.

Open House – Thursday, Sept. 24, 2026 – \$7.00 per person

Colwood Community Hall – 8:00-10:00 PM

Class Requirement: **MUST** be comfortable dancing the Plus Program

For information email: garryd@dz-dancing.com

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CROSS TRAIL NEWS

Official Publication of the
Vancouver Island Western Square & Round Dance Associations

Serving Square and Round Dancers in the Lower and Upper Vancouver Island Regions
(British Columbia Square & Round Dance Federation Regions 1 and 8)

70 Years — 1954 to 2024

