

# Newsnotes & Clearinghouse

Volume 37, Number 1

September 16, 2007

Happy September!

It is hard to believe that summer is over and we are ready to start another new dance season. We look forward to seeing our friends around the squares as the dancing gets into full swing.

One of the MCASD Executive Board's focus points this year will be the association's financial plan: we'll be looking at ways to increase revenues and reduce expenses. As a starting point, the Board has identified two initial areas in which we think we can improve our performance.

The first is the location of the Sweetheart Dance. As we look at the statistics of how many tickets have been sold by each club, it becomes apparent that most of the ticket buyers are coming from areas north of Palos Heights, and relatively fewer tickets are being sold in the south and southeastern areas of the metropolitan area. We've also been hit with a series of rent increases at Alan B. Shepard High School, which have nearly doubled our facilities cost in the last two years. In an effort to both increase ticket sales and reduce costs, we're going to move the dance to Downers Grove South High School this year. Please note that the date of this year's dance will be February 17th, which is the third Sunday in the month.

The second major area we're reviewing is our association's insurance costs. For many years we've carried \$125/year insurance "floater" (and extra-cost option on our existing policy) that would insure our printing machine and sound system against damages. Given the age of the printing machine and relatively low value of the sound system, it's unlikely that we would receive any substantial payout from the insurance company if this equipment was damaged. Therefore, the executive Board is dropping this floater for this year.

But a larger part of our insurance costs (\$750/year) is a rider that adds \$1,000,00 to the maximum amount that would be paid by the insurance company if a court finds that a club is liable for damages related to a dance. After reviewing this rider, it appears that this additional liability coverage actually provides virtually no additional benefit to any of our member clubs. We'll be discussing this in detail at our general meeting, but the Executive Board has recommended that this additional rider be dropped as well.

Over the past several years, our revenues have dropped while our expenses have remained relatively flat. While the association did operate "in the black" this past year, we've been getting closer and closer to operating at a loss. In order to improve our financial position,

some things will have to change - and change is always uncomfortable for some. But if we have open discussions about the matter, hopefully we can all agree on a course moving forward.

We're looking forward to seeing you in a square!

Barry & Anita Johnson  
President, MCASD

### VICE PRESIDENTS REPORT

There will be ten New Dancer Dances in the 2007 - 2008 square dance season. Please note the locations, as they may have changed from previous years.

Lions Rec. Center  
411 S. Maple  
Mt prospect, IL

St. Stephens's L.C.  
4500 W. 147<sup>th</sup> St  
Midlothian, IL

1<sup>st</sup> Presbyterian Church  
4<sup>th</sup> St. & Fairview Ave.  
Downers Grove, IL

Sat. Oct 27, 2007  
Fri. Feb 29, 2008

Sat. Nov. 10, 2007  
Sat. Mar. 29, 2008

Sat. Sept. 29, 2007  
Fri. Nov. 30, 2007  
Sat. Jan. 19, 2008

Will your club be having any New Dances this year? If the answer is yes, please contact us and we will make the particulars known to dancers attending the New Dancer Dances. Please DO NOT list dances which conflict with the MCASD New Dancer Dance dates. Send information to Robert Bradley, MCASD Vice-President, or Jim and Vi Bailey, MCASD Newsnotes editors.

### GREAT PUMPKIN BALL - *Monster Bash*

MCASD Octoberfest 2007  
**"It's the *Monster Bash*"**  
Sunday, October 21  
1:30 - 5:30 p.m.



Food  
Great Callers & Cuers  
Squares - rounds

Trinity Lutheran Church      Advance Tickets - \$6 @ prizes  
405 Rush Street, Roselle, IL      At the Door - \$7 @ *for best costumes!*

Pat Semple, Sweetheart General Chairman  
Jim and Vi Bailey, Sweetheart Co-Chairman

## SWEETHEART DANCE

**THE SWEETHEART DANCE IS ON THE MOVE!** The 2008 Sweetheart Dance will be held at Downers Grove South High School, 63<sup>rd</sup> and Dunham in Downers Grove. Date for the dance is FEBRUARY 17, 2008. from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m. **Mark your calendars** - Sunday, February 17, 2008. Callers and Cuers are being booked and plans are moving forward for a great dance. Sweetheart Couples will be honored - Ticket prices are \$6.00 ahead of time, \$7.00 at the door. Buy tickets early and save \$\$\$\$.

Make plans to attend. Tickets and job assignments will be given to the Club Delegates in December, at the General Meeting

## SCISDA REPORT

Plans are under way for the 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Illinois State Square and Round Dance Convention!

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS OF SQUARE DANCING FUN at our own Convention. The site of the 2008 fun-fest will be Lincoln, Illinois. Bob Schwartz is the chairman, and great plans are being made for your enjoyment. VOLUNTEER to help in the planning, and get in on the ground floor of designing and recruiting callers, cuers and all the others who will be there, plus the activity schedule. The brand new Abraham Lincoln Library will be available in nearby Springfield, among other interesting places.

## 2007 ILLINOIS STATE CONVENTION REPORT

Hello Fellow Square Dancers!

Thank you all so much for attending this year's Convention. Square dancers came from all over Illinois, Michigan, Indiana, Iowa, Missouri, Wisconsin, and Minnesota to dance to Square Dance Heaven in 2007.

Just over 900 paying dancers attended the Convention, and all seemed to enjoy themselves. We even cut down on the number of minor irritations from previous years.

We hope that you had as much fun as we did this year, and will remember all of the great dancing that was done and the fellowship that was enjoyed.

Curt & Maria Bremer  
2007 General Chairmen

## ITEMS OF INTEREST

1) Remember that the TOYS FOR TOTS PROGRAM, sponsored by the Marine Corps, will collect unwrapped toys at the December General Meeting. This PROGRAM has proven to be of great benefit to underprivileged children during the holiday season.

**REMINDE YOUR CLUB MEMBERS TO REMEMBER THE CHILDREN!!**

Bring unwrapped gifts in December.

2) Dates To Keep in Mind

October 21, 2007 - Great Pumpkin Ball - The MONSTER BASH!  
1:30 - 5:30

November 10, 2007 - Flyers due for December General Meeting

December 2, 2007 - December General Meeting

February 17, 2008 - Sweetheart Dance - 2:00 - 5:00

July 27-29, 2008 - SCISDA STATE CONVENTION -

LINCOLN CHRISTIAN COLLEGE, Lincoln, IL

**25 IS GREAT, COME CELEBRATE IN 2008**

3) Help your club save money on flyer printing! See the flyer in this packet, or call Jim and Vi Bailey for details.

**REMINDER:** November 10, 2007 is the Deadline for submitting Flyers for the December 3, 2007 General Meeting

Mailing Flyers to us is usually cheaper and quicker than hand delivery or trying to find someone to bring them to us. The regular United States Post office has FREE envelopes and boxes that will accommodate your Flyers nicely.

**CLUBS SHOULD SUBMIT FLYERS USING THIS FORMULA:**

**STAPLED - 25 packs of 10 (or fewer) for each of the clubs**

**LOOSE - 65 individual sheets for Club Presidents and Executive Board Members**

**TO BE INCLUDED IN THE PACKETS -  
ALL FLYERS MUST BE 8.5 x 11 INCHES IN SIZE.**

Submit your flyers early, if possible

**MCASD Sweetheart Dance  
on the Move!!**



**New Home:**

Downers Grove South High School  
1436 Norfolk (near 63rd and Dunham)  
Downers Grove, IL

**Moving Date:**

February 17, 2008  
8:00 to 8:00 PM

**Moving Charge:**

\$6.00 in Advance  
\$7.00 at Door

**Come visit us at our new  
location!**

Clearinghouse/Newsnotes Editors

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