

Dudes & Dolls

SQUARE DANCE CLUB
Lynnwood WA



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**Second, Fourth, and Fifth Friday Dances at
Cedar Valley Grange / 20526 – 52nd Ave. W
Lynnwood WA**

Info at: www.DudesAndDolls.org

Thank Them All Around ...

It is the end of the year 2008, as most of us are aware, and it is half way through the Square Dance Year, we should thank our present slate of officers for a job well done.

Csaba and Enikoe Orban are ever-present with their help in every area. They are a dedicated, hardworking President couple, and they work well together. When the going gets tough, they get going.

Right alongside them is the Vice-President couple, Pat and Bruce Anderson. Keeping the Duty Roster up to date, and being sure the responsibilities of their office are carried out, and the rules and regulations of the club are followed to the letter is a difficult job. They have to delegate the duties and be sure all is in order. They do their job efficiently, yet with subtle authority. And, at times, not so subtle.

Our Secretary, Judy Bierlink, in her second term as Secretary, is the club scribe and has a Lake named after her. You heard of Scriber Lake, no? Her job is to keep the records of Dudes and Dolls in order, and to keep up with the correspondence. Seemingly small talk, but important for the upcoming members, to have all papers in order and up-to-date.

Our bean counters, Kay and Roger Mahan, have the task of being sure all is in order, money-wise. The books must balance and be sure the money is well spent. Kay and Roger are doing a fine job. You will see Kay and Roger in many other capacities in and around the Grange Hall. Kay has been appointed Captain of the Yard Guard for Cedar Valley Grange

These, the 2008 slate of officers make the club run and grow stronger. You, the members, fill the duty roster of all the committees. Many people are involved in the day-to-day operation of Dudes & Dolls, with some doing many bits and some doing just a bit. Put all those bits of doing, and the club runs, and things get done.

A special **Thank You!!!** to those that do more than their share, and a special **Thank You!!!** to those that do their share. If we all do a little, a lot gets done.

Square Dance Clothing Sale ...

Here is how it works: When a square dancer has too many dance costumes, or has a chance to get new square dance duds, the old items are donated to Dudes & Dolls Square Dance Club. The goal is to have the club sell these at a reasonable price to square dancers in our club, so they can use them and then donate them to the club so the club can sell them one more time. It gets quite a bit of mileage out of the clothing, and allows the newer members a chance to get the basics at a reasonable price.

Vera Adamson along with Jean Hughes and who knows who else, have added over \$300 at the November Sale of Square Dance Clothes.

So, if that shirt shrunk around the middle, or the crinolines will no longer fit into the closet, consider donating them to the next sale.

Merry Christmas ...

At this time of year, it is a special time and Christmas means different things to different people. To me it means we are celebrating the Birth of Jesus Christ, and all he brought and brings to me and my family and everyone in the world.

There is no simpler way of saying it than "Merry Christmas". And along with that "Have a Happy and as prosperous New Year as possible, considering the state of our economy."

Lessons in Square Dancing ...

Our Class of '09 is well into the list of square dance calls they will learn by Graduation Day. They all seem to be doing very well, and should have no problem graduating in March. The coordinators are doing a fantastic job! Sharman and Tom, along with Leanna and Craig, **Thank You!!!**



This is a scene from the Graduation Celebration 2008. Aneta and R-R-R-Rumen Zdravkova receive their Certificate from Scott Coon. Charlotte, on the left, and Flo on the right, are celebrating with them. Beth and Jake are catching their breath in the background.

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See the following page for some words written about a poor sap that got involved.

The Last Chance ...

He had had the thought cross his mind many times: to have more fun. All his life, his time and efforts had been to court a girl, and get married, and buy a house, and have a family, and get the family through their education, and buy cars, and have good stuff, and work, work, work.

And now, it was time. All three kids were gone, on their way in life. The dog died, and there is none that could replace Old "Rags". The friends had dwindled down to the tried and true, but they too were in their own worlds, with grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and rightly so. It had been twenty-years since we met any new friends, only to find they wanted us to join this "fantastic multi-level corporation, where you could earn millions and millions of dollars." And so the new friends were avoided, just because of the chance of being asked to join up.

The house was really quiet, and the two voices remaining, echoed with the few words spoken.

On the radio Elvis sang so mournfully, "And now, the end is near," and the final curtain is about to fall.

He asked himself, "Was this life? Was this to be how it is from now on? I feel good, not too bad shape, need more exercise, could use some excitement in our lives. Travel was just watching TV in a strange place at \$287 per day plus lunches. Sitting on a beach for hours was out of the question. The sun was too bright, and dangerous."

"There must be something, anything, out there."

And now there is someone bugging my wife to get me to go square dancing. I thought those people were friends of mine. I did not ask them to join Amway when we were involved, just because we were friends.

"Square Dancing?! Not on your life. There is no way I'll be out there ala-manning left with old left hand, kickin' in the straw with right and left grand." And so the excuses started. "I can't dance. I have two left feet. That's for the old folks. I would look so dumb out there; I would not be able to catch up to the group. I can't dance!! No. No!!!" He told his wife, again, "No, No, No. A thousand times NO!"

He doesn't remember how it happened, or what exactly happened in between, but after what seemed like an instant, he found himself at the first night of a free lesson, on a real wood floor, in the Grange Hall, with his wife next to him, his former friends across from him, listening to a caller on a microphone explaining what he was in (A Square) and who he was (A Head), and what he would be doing. "This is not going to last. I will go through with it this first lesson, but there is no way I will be here next week at the next lesson."

After an hour, during a break time, he noticed there were people being called Angels. Their title was angelic because they knew how to square dance. "Maybe this was a test,

and I would go to heaven as an angel if I square dance well," he thought.

The Angels cliqued together in small groups; and he also noticed they were greeting each other with hugs and handshakes, and talking friendly. "Maybe I died and went to heaven," had crossed his mind.

In the second hour, he learned a few more descriptions, some square dance lingo, and some moves that took him around in circles and back and forth. All the time he noticed the Angels, and the new students, smiling.

At the end of the first lesson, around 9:30, he noticed his face was sore. His jaws felt as though he had been holding a trapeze artist in his teeth for a few minutes on the swing, high above, in the circus tent.

"My face hurts," he said.

"Oh, didn't anyone tell you the chance of an injury to your face?" the Angel asked.

"No, no one had the time. We were too busy dancing," he explained.

"Well, it will go away by tomorrow. Your face is sore because you were smiling so much, and your face muscles were not used to it. Next week you will not even notice it," said an Angel.

At the end, they made lines of people, facing the caller and shouted a great big "THANK YOU" to him.

The next lesson day came and he was a little more anxious to see if he remembered anything from the week before. He got into a square, and found that as the caller called the calls, the steps and movements came back to him, almost instinctively--almost naturally, as though he had been square dancing all his life.

Today, he is learning the rest of the sixty or so moves he has to learn He and his wife have attended at least two level dances. That is where the calls are made to the level of the moves the class has learned.

And so, another person realizes that there is something out there; that there is an activity that is good for you. It is an exercise routine; it is a great meeting place; it is a great social event. And you smile all the while meeting the best people on earth.

I know the story is true because "He" was me.

And the advice I give to you now is to get into square dancing sooner, as soon as you can. Don't wait until age creeps up on you. Give it a try and give it a chance. You'll soon find that you are learning to square dance.

I am imploring you to just do it.

It is not like I am asking you to join Amway.

Share the above story with some of your friends that may be interested in Square dancing. It is not too early to get new people interested in the Class of 2010.

