



FREEWHEELERS NEWSLETTER

JUNE / JULY 2010



PRESIDENT'S CORNER:

As summer approaches and spring is in full swing; the Freewheelers have a full calendar schedule of dances and events. As a club member, everyone needs to support our dances. We have special events coming up in May, June, July & August and I would like to see **GREAT ATTENDANCE** this summer. Our dances need support in setting up and tearing down and kitchen help. E-mail or talk with Ron Mitrovich about setting up and tearing down and also email or talk with Anita Needham to sign-up for kitchen help. We also have a calendar sign up at the front table at every dance. Let's all do our share to support our club. The Spaghetti Dinner is on June 6th. This is a fundraiser for the kids and the Scramblin' Squares are caravanning in to this dance. Our 25th Anniversary Dance & BBQ (and Bob Wright's Retirement Party) is on July 18th and is very special because Bob and Shari Wright are retiring and this will be Bob's last dance calling for us. We would like to have everyone there to make it a festive event. Thank you in advance to all of the club members for supporting our Club and Square Dancing. We look forward to seeing you on the dance floor. Sally Buckingham, President e-mail: sally.buckingham@yahoo.com

SPOTLIGHT ON: Chris Anderson was born at Swedish Hospital in Seattle, but his first home was in North Bend, Washington. One of his earliest memories occurred on a visit to an aunt and uncle who lived on a farm. Chris was about three at the time and had gone into the barn to watch his older cousin milk a cow. He had never seen such a large animal before, and when the cow turned and looked at him, he was terrified and backed into the corner until the cousin "rescued" him. Chris lived near his grade school and enjoyed playing with the neighborhood kids. There were eleven boys and one Tom-boy in the group. She was the only girl in the neighborhood and luckily the boys accepted her in many of their activities. Their favorite game was baseball, but a tree house in a vacant lot was the favorite place to hang out. When he was 11, Chris' parents divorced and he went to live with his grandparents in Centralia until his mother was able to find a new home there for the two of them.

Chris went to Junior and Senior High School in Centralia. He played the baritone in the high school band and later took up the valve trombone in college. His favorite subjects were math, chemistry and physics. When he went on to Centralia College, he majored in math. In 1975 he joined some mountain climbing friends on a summit climb of Mt. St Helen's. He remembers setting out for the summit at 2:30 in the morning - by flashlight. When they got to the top, it was an absolutely clear day; they could see all the mountains from Mt. Baker in northern Washington to Mt. Lassen in California - a view he will never forget. And he will always remember Harry Truman, who lost his life when he refused to leave his home near Mt. St. Helen's when it was threatening to erupt. Harry was a friend of the family and Chris had met him on several occasions. After getting his AS degree he transferred to the University of Washington. An event from his college years that stands out in his memory was an evening at the home of one of his history professors. The professor had just returned from a sabbatical in South Africa and invited the whole class to a spaghetti feed and slide show. Chris is still in contact with one of his dorm mates, a die-hard Husky fan. Chris sometimes joins him and his family for a game and tailgate party.

After graduating from the UW with his degree in math, his first job was shuttling paperwork between lawyers and the courts. Three years later he started working for a title insurance company. His desk was in the county recording office, but he was working for a private company. He traveled as often as he could. Among his favorite trips were skiing vacations in Aspen and Sun Valley. When he was returning from a trip to NYC and Portland, Maine, he called his mother promising her dinner if she would pick him up from the airport. She accepted, knowing he would be bringing a fresh lobster. After he was laid off from the title insurance company, he took a course in travel planning and got a job working for the Princess Tours. (Continued on next page.)

It involved helping travelers on the Princesses lines make all their land arrangements – air travel, hotel, transit to and from the airport, and land tours. While working there he went on a one-week cruise himself - to Bermuda – on the “Love Boat.” He was really impressed by the non-stop food. This job was mostly seasonal, so he found a better one with a travel agency specializing in business travelers. He enjoyed the challenge of meeting their last minute tight schedules and worked there until 2000 when he took early retirement.

Chris began square dancing in 1973 in Centralia at the behest of friends. And he has been dancing ever since! The first clubs he danced with were very much family oriented, including the Bonnets and Bows in Ballard where he danced when he first moved to Seattle in 1976. Then he danced with an off-shoot of this club – the Looney Toones – whose members were the younger set from the Bonnets and Bows. This club only lasted three years, but several of the dancers are still active, including Rem Remington and Mike and Linda Mock. Chris took round dance lessons from the start and went through Plus and then later Advanced with Jack Hardin. He danced regularly with the Single Stars and the Freewheelers for years. However, he has only recently joined the Freewheelers. Welcome, Chris; we’re glad you have made it official! By Donna Franklin

SUNSHINE REPORT:

Anita Needham is having foot surgery. Ken Sharp had the cataracts removed from both eyes and is seeing much better now. We wish them both a very speedy recovery. If you know of someone in need of our special thoughts, call Millie at 425-259-8110 (Millie’s new phone number). We do care!

ITEMS OF NOTE:

MEMBERS: On June 6th and July 18th, because of the Spaghetti dinner and the BBQ, we need people to get to the hall at 5:00 to help set up the tables and chairs. Please come and help!

GREETERS: See Brenda Torrey if you would like to be a greeter at a future dance. It doesn’t take much of your time just get to the hall a little earlier. The greeters for the June and July dances will be: June 6th - Jo Anne Hardy and Al Walker July 18th - Ken and Audrey Sharp

KITCHEN SIGN-UP. If you need to know what it entails, see Anita Needham. Also, let her know if you can’t do kitchen duty the night you signed up for. Signed up for June & July dances are: June 6 – Ruth Jester July 18 – Carol Harris & Penny Schultz

COMING EVENTS:

Sunday, May 23rd is Mt Baker Council’s Spring Dance “Spring Promenade” hosted by the Skagit Squares. It is being held from 2:00 – 5:00pm at the Skagit Valley Grange - 21273 Cook Rd., Sedro Woolley (I-5 N. Exit#232). Tom Clymer is calling & Bob Berka is cueing. Shirts-N-Skirts Teen Club will be selling pie, ice cream and root beer floats. Tickets are \$7.00 each.

JUNE (At our summer dances, dress casual to stay cool!)

Saturday, June 5th – Caravan to Happy Hoppers’ Strawberry Dance (See Caravans)

Sunday, June 6th is our "Honor the Flag" dance with Roger and Debbie. The kids from the FBS’ 4 Squared will be putting on a Spaghetti dinner for us at 6:00 at a cost of \$6 each as a fundraiser for them. The dinner is well worth the price and is for a good cause. Please come and support the kids. We will need people to come early to help set up the tables. Dress casual to stay cool, if you wish. The Scramblin’ Squares will be coming in, so do bring extra treats to share!

The next board meeting will be 7:30, Thurs., June 10th at Carol Harris’ home - 655 N. 138th St., Seattle. She lives on a dead end street. For directions, her phone number is 206-362-3734. All members are invited, but carpooling is suggested as parking is limited.

59th Washington State Square & Folk Dance Festival - Ellensburg, WA - June 18 - 19

The Freewheelers dance on Sunday, June 20th is cancelled because of the State Festival. All of you dads have a very "Happy Father's Day". Our next dance will be the July 18th Anniversary dance.

59th National Square Dance Convention - Louisville, Kentucky - June 23 - 26

JULY

THERE WILL BE NO JULY BOARD MEETING.

There will not be a dance on Sunday, July 4th because of the 4th of July weekend. Have a safe 4th!

42nd Annual State Leadership Seminar - July 9 - 11 - Circle (8) Ranch, Cle Elum, WA

Saturday, July 17th – Caravan to Jet Steppers’ “Too Pooped to Pop” Dance (See Caravans)

Sunday, July 18th is our "25th Anniversary” BBQ Dance and Bob Wright’s Retirement Party with Bob & Debbie. The BBQ is at 6:00 & the dance is 7:00 - 10:00. The club will furnish hamburgers, hot dogs, buns, condiments and Anniversary cake. All members bring something to share for the BBQ (such as salads) and also for the break. Come celebrate your club’s 25th birthday and Bob’s last dance calling for us. We will need people to come early to help set up the tables.

Free Mainstream square dance at the Seattle Center House from 7:30 - 9:30 p.m. on Friday, July 23rd with Mike DeSisto, Kevin Thomaier and Wayne Easton calling and Randy Preskitt cueing.

Saturday, July 24th is the date for the Aqua Sox Demonstration and baseball game. See Carol.

CARAVANS:

I don’t know how many went to Whirlybirds dance on May 15th, as the newsletter was printed earlier in the week. The next caravan out will be to Happy Hoppers’ Strawberry dance on June 5th with Gaylen Sauve. They dance at the Stillaguamish Senior Center – 18308 Smokey Point Blvd. (I-5 Exit 206), Arlington. The Mainstream dance is from 7:30 – 10:30. For people who want to go direct, there is a Plus dance from 3 – 5. Then on July 17th we will caravan to the Jet Steppers “Too Pooped to Pop” Dance at Cedar Grange - 22531 SE 218th St., Maple Valley from 7:30 – 10:30. We will meet at the Lynnwood Civic Center - 191st & 44th Ave. SW to share rides at 6:30 sharp for both dances. Thank you to all of you who have supported the caravans. I will be setting up more caravans for us to go on in the future. Joe Clein, Caravan Chairman

*****Remember to share dances at caravans and club dances even if you come with a partner.**

3RD TIP AT ALL OF OUR DANCES IS LADIES CHOICE, SO LADIES CHOOSE YOUR PARTNER EARLY!

LOOKING AHEAD:

Our new Mainstream classes will start on Wed., Sept. 8th at the Lake City Community Center from 7:30 - 9:30p.m. Dennis Webb will be doing the teaching. This is the start of doing the classes a different way. We will run them for 8 weeks and then start a new class, such as Sept. 8th, Nov. 3rd, Jan. 5th & Mar. 2nd. We will need lots of students, so pick up some flyers and start passing them out to friends, neighbors and family who might be interested in learning to square dance. Also, leave them at different places where you are allowed to. We will need lots of angels, too. Please help! There will be Plus classes the same night from 6:30 – 7:30. The cost of the classes is \$5.

OFFICERS:

SALLY BUCKINGHAM	PRESIDENT	425-293-4510
RON MITROVICH	CO-VICE PRESIDENT	425-514-0527
JOE CLEIN	CO-VICE PRESIDENT/ CLASS COORDINATOR	425-774-6574
TRISHA PORTER	SECRETARY	206-523-1769
RANDY LEWIS	TREASURER	206-367-9219

COMMITTEES:

Caravans:	Joe Clein
Council Delegates:	Carol Harris and Ella Simmons
Decorations:	Penny Schultz, Anita Needham, Dick Nicholson & Dick & Brenda Torrey
Footnotes Editor:	Ruth Jester
Hospitality:	Brenda Torrey
Kitchen:	Anita Needham
Membership:	Ken & Audrey Sharp
Newsletter:	Audrey Sharp
Publicity:	Karen Johnson and Audrey Sharp
Sunshine:	Millie Hecht
Telephone:	Dorothy McReynolds with Joe Clein, Donna Franklin, Trisha Porter, Ella Simmons & Jean Wilson

