



Tualatin Valley Council (TVC) Council Meeting Minutes for 03-25-2013

Called to order at 7:00

<http://www.tualatinvalleycouncil.org>

Attendees:

Delegates:

Eager Beavers: Dick Pesek, & Jim Rogers
Hayshakers: Sylvia Davis, & Kathy Worthington
Hoedowners: Marion Kehoe
Mix N Mingles: Bonnie Patty
R Square D: Lonnie Sycks & Linda Sycks
Sunset Promenaders: Pete Schettek, & Ray Sullivan
Toe Draggers: Peggy Lance
Tri Squares: Vida Eppich, & Frank Collett
Valley Squares: Rhoda Reinking & Karen Martiny
Wave Steppers: Bob Allen, & Carolyn Hindman

Officers, Elected & Appointed:

President: Kay Rogers	Vice President: Judy Schnase,
Treasurer: Lalani Radford	Secretary: Tom Sminia
State Delegate: Jim Rogers	Past-President: Debra Welch
Caller Advisor:	Cuer Advisor:
PAC Representative: Verna France	Alt. PAC Representative:
Webmaster:	OFN Editor:
Sunshine Chairman: Dorothy Sullivan	

Visitors:

Janice Sminia, Sharon Schettek (Sunset Promenaders); Nadine Collett (Tri Squares); and Dan Danielson (Happy Hoppers), Daryl & Yvonne Clendenin (Hoedowners); Kathy Roberts (Toe Draggers).

Total of 33-attendees at the meeting.

Last Meeting Minutes: 2013-02-25 Meeting minutes approved without change.

Officer Reports:

Presidents report: Kay

Nominations were asked for and the results were a ticket of Kay Rogers for President, Gary Clark for Vice-President, Tom Sminia for Secretary, Lane Clem for Treasurer, Kathy Roberts for State Delegate, and Linda Curtis for Alternate State Delegate. There was a unanimous vote by hands of the delegates for the total ticket. This all took less than 7-minutes. These officers will take office at the May meeting which will be on the third Monday May 20th (the fourth Monday the normal meeting day is Memorial Day holiday).

Nothing new on the Youth Dance, Kathy Roberts needs to meet with the Sunset Promenaders to see what can do done to set up a day time dance at the Hillsboro Odd Fellows Hall.

Vice Presidents report: Judy

Tri-Council Dance is this Saturday, please come for a good dance in a great hall. The donation is \$7.00 and the Crew (Daryl C., Les S., Randy D., Jim H.) are calling and Jim Hattrick is cueing. Be sure to sign in as TVC because we compete with the Evergreen and Portland councils to see who can get the most dancers to the dance. This year's dance is hosted by the Evergreen Council.

Judy will be working with Gary to get him knowledgeable of the next year's schedule and what needs to be done as Vice-President.

Treasurer report: Lalani passed out the report and it was accepted as there were no questions.

Secretary report: No report from Tom, last month's minutes were accepted.

State Delegates report: There was no State Meeting and so no report.

Past-President report: Debra says no report.

OFN Editor report: Ferrous (report sent via email)

Each club in the TVC has a club reporter who writes an article about their past and future club activities for publication in the OFN each month.

We have a new reporter to welcome to our family, Peter Schettek for the Sunset Promenaders. He has written and submitted the Promenaders report for the last 3 months. Good job Peter!

The submission deadline for the May report is April 1st (no joke!!), and I have already received three of the club reports.

If your club has a new OFN reporter, please let me know so that I can revise my reporter list.

Here is the current list of OFN reporters for the TVC clubs:

Eager Beavers - "Rachel Nettleton" <rachelnettleton@hotmail.com>

Hay Shakers - "Sylvia Davis" <s.m.davis@charter.net>

Hoedowners - "Debbie Olson" <birddog3@frontier.com>

Mix 'N Mingle - "Patty Bonney" <pattybonney@hotmail.com>

R Square D - "Arlene Evanson" <dna.evanson@q.com>

"Chris Seward" <cseward@ellisontechnologies.com>

Sunset Promenaders - "Peter Schettek" <pschettek@yahoo.com>

Toe Draggers - "Peggy Hults" <peggyhults43@q.com>

Tri-Squares - "Anita Woodside" <anitawoodside@aol.com>

Valley Squares - "Karen Martiny" <ckmartiny@frontier.com>

"Bill Calder" <billene@earthlink.net>

Wave Steppers - "Carolyn Hindman" <jesmesintoo@yahoo.com>

OFN Area Editor - "Ferrous Steinka" <ferrouss@frontier.com>

Caller Advisor report: A guest caller Daryl Clendenin gave the TVC a presentation at the meeting about a subject he calls "B-51". The following is his presentation:

We have met the enemy and it's us.

We continue to cater to a smaller, more select group of people? The program levels are so well established that callers are no longer attempting to create new moves. They are finding new and interesting ways to use the existing moves within each level (DBD). Our existing dancers would say that this is a good thing. Well, maybe so. But, if our current dancer population is accustomed to a huge variety in the application of the movements, it makes it more difficult for new dancers to join their ranks. We can't continue to make the mountains higher and expect very many new climbers to meet us at the top. These days we seem to insist that the new dancer comes up to meet our level of dancing than us dropping to meet theirs. Can you imagine the pressures that can put on new folks are already lacking confidence?

Why B-51?

When **Square dancing ceased being a social recreation and became a hobby our problems began.** The difference between recreation and hobby is the difference between just going bowling or being part of a tournament league. The first requires little the second requires a lot. The idea of **B-51 is to re-create a social program of dancing.**

It has been said, "Most of us callers call material that is far too difficult for the recreational dancer." "Today's dancers are survivors." "It is evident that the recreational dancer has not been intrigued with the challenge and has left the activity. Movements 1-51 on the list make up the Basic1 & 2 Programs of square dancing. Notice that B-51 is only 17 movements fewer than the 68 that make up Mainstream. There was a time in our activity when the clubs and callers would relax their dance level at the end of classes to accommodate the new folks.

How can the clubs and callers help?

My opinion (along with many other caller leaders) is; **we need to get a quicker, easier entry level** established and accepted.

I'm not suggesting that we change the dance level at our clubs to B-51 but our area could benefit from local dances at an easier level of difficulty. Keep the club level at Mainstream and when your in-class dancers reach the 51 Basic level, they can have some real dances to attend till they finish their Mainstream lessons and join the club. For the dancers that we are losing, frequently the ones slower to learn, the ones that need to angel the next 2 sets of lessons, the ones that make it through ten lessons and never get any further and mainly those that we are losing because it's too much too quick, it creates a program where they can survive till they can make it at the Mainstream level. You know to whom I refer.

Something you might consider; Think about last year's students that made it through the full set of lessons but aren't dancing. You can just about consider them a total loss. Let them know about this more relaxed dance program. Without the pressure of anything beyond a ten lesson level knowledge, they can comfortably dance. That's right, ten lessons as an entry level for real dancing. As they get comfortable at B-51, they'll be

looking for a good Mainstream club to vary their dance experience. Everyone wins; the dancers and the clubs.

I'd be ecstatic if **each club** would establish a B-51 regular dance along with their Mainstream dances. That way, the in-class students would have a place to enjoy what they have learned while they are learning Mainstream. The students that find the Mainstream too difficult can stay at

B-51 till they decide it's time to move up.

1. Wave Steppers (outside metro area)
2. Eager Beavers (Plus, no beginners class)
3. Hayshakers (outside metro area)
4. Hoedowners (class)
5. Mix & Mingle (Plus, no beginners class)
6. R Square D (class, outside metro area)
7. Sunset Promenaders (class)
8. Toe Draggers (class)
9. Tri-Squares (class)
10. Valley Squares (class)

I think if you look over your classes for the last few years you'll find that quite a few new people have at least begun the square dance lessons. Which is to say that we're not doing that bad a job of recruiting but where are those people today?

Has your club had square dance lessons each of the past three years?

Of those, lessons how many of the graduates actually joined the club and are still dancing? Let's take it a bit further, how many of them actually survived through the full set of lessons to graduate and are dancing in the Mainstream club? I'd be willing to bet the percentage of survivors is less than twenty five percent. Tim Roberts has the files that reflect our dancer population via the federation dancer insurance over the past five years.

According to Tim Roberts, Oregon Federation membership numbers since 2009 are:

2009: 3,064 -

2010: 2,835 - 129

2011: 2,698 - 137

2012: 2,458 - 240

2013: 2,264 - 194

These numbers don't just take into account the folks that have dropped out of dancing but also includes those that have started. Tim says "That's a very linear progression that will take us to zero by 2024".

What can clubs do?

Keep getting more people into the classes, and once they are there, KEEP THEM! I'll go out on

a limb and say, "If we could just keep the dancers that we lose after they complete beginner's lessons, we'd be in great shape." **It has always been hard to get new people interested in devoting the time necessary to get to club level.** It seems a real shame that some of us aren't doing a very good job of keeping the ones that are recruited. As I travel around the country, I hear stories of clubs that have graduated as high as four squares of new dancers. Unfortunately, these same clubs are crying

because very few of the new graduates remained with the activity. Why is this? Why is it that someone, who has spent the time and money to learn how to dance, and seems to enjoy it, doesn't continue after graduation? Folks, we need to look at this problem real hard. Though recruiting is very important, I submit that if we were to just keep those that we graduate; most of our problems would be over.

A "B-51" dance will start the 1st and 3rd Wednesday next month at the Aloha Grange. Jim Hattrick already is doing a B-51 dance, Les Seeley is working on setting up a B-51 and Randy Dibble is working at setting up his two clubs too. Lessons can be called dances and after about 10-dances you have the whole list covered. The above is a summary of the 20-minute discussion on this subject. Thank you Daryl.

Cuer Advisor report: Absent

Sunshine Chairman report: Dorothy reporting

I sent Get Well cards to Gary Hahn (Sunset Promenaders) who had knee surgery and Janet Cason (Sunset Promenaders) who had surgery.

Webmaster report: No report.

PAC Representative report: PAC is having their fifth Friday dance at Oak Grove with Les Seeley calling, and Tami cueing.

PAC is concerned because they are having problems getting people to register for Summer Festival. They will be selling tickets at the 5th Friday and Tri-Council Dance. Ferrous and Karen Steinka have ribbons, too. Dan Nordbye of Mesa, AZ is coming to call at the B & B's on Wednesday April 24th, and call for the Tumbleweeds on Friday April 26th.

New Business:

As the clubs have their elections please be sure you update the State Federation "Club Information Form" on the website. Tom has offered to help if you have any questions on the process (503-848-3841, OR tomjan2@frontier.com). Good time to check and make sure your corporation dues and paperwork are up to date, and IRS, too.

Club Delegate Reports:

Eager Beavers: *(Dick Pesek and Jim Rogers, Delegates)*

*Club dances easy **plus** every Monday afternoon, 1:15 to 3:15 PM, at the Sunset Presbyterian Church (14986 NW Cornell Rd., Portland, OR), which features an air conditioner and excellent wood floor. On holidays we dance at the Aloha Grange (the corner of 185th and TV Hwy). George Clark is the Caller/Cuer; Jim Hattrick is the Caller/Cuer every third Monday. Dance starts with 15 minutes of easy pre-rounds.*
<http://www.eagerbeavers.info>

We danced at the Aloha Grange today.

We are celebrating our **anniversary on April 28th** and will be dancing at the Hillsboro Odd Fellows Hall. The dance will be from 1:00 to 3:30 PM followed by a chicken dinner. Calling and cueing will be by George Clark, Mike Stout, and Julie Stout. The donation at the door will be \$6.00 per person.

Hayshakers: *(Sylvia Davis and Kathy Worthington, Delegates)*

Location is at Astoria Senior Center (1111 Exchange St., Astoria, OR 97103). Start 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm. Dress in whatever you are comfortable. Caller and Cuer is Harvey Hunsucker. Hayshakers also put on the annual Seaside Sashay, a 2-day Mainstream dance on the 4th Friday and Saturday in October. <http://www.hayshakers.org>

Kathy Worthington is running for 2nd Vice-President of the State Federation against Lisa Kious, and Kathy said to vote for Lisa because she is young and has some new ideas.

Hoedowners: (Marian Kehoe and Debbie Olson, Delegates)

Dance the 2nd and 4th Saturdays at the Aloha Grange on the corner of 185th and TV Hwy. Our Caller is Daryl Clendenin. The Cuer is Yvonne Clendenin. Plus and Intermediate Rounds will be called from 7:00-8:00 and Mainstream from 8-10. 10:00 PM Refreshments and Social. Our format is informal and friendly. <http://www.hoedowners.info>

Upcoming dances:

- April 13 – Denim Dance – Oooh! We get to wear our jeans!
 - April 27 – Wild Wild West – Whoopee ti yi yo, git along little dogies
 - June 8 – Hawaiian Luau – It's a Hawaiian Luau Party!
 - June 22 – Strawberries and Cream – Yum! Shortcake and berries!
- Marian reporting.

Mix N Mingle: (Patty Bonney, Delegate)

Club dances Plus at the Winona Grange (8340 Seneca Street, Tualatin, OR) on 1st and 3rd Saturdays. Pre-Rounds begin at 7:30 PM (Levels 4 & 5), 8:00 PM (Levels 2 & 3) and Plus from 8:30 - 11:00 PM. Randy Dibble is our club Caller and Jeanine Norden our club Cuer. Donation is \$4 per person at the dance for members, \$5 for non-members. www.mixandminglesquares.org

Richard Lane will be calling our next dance April 6th, as Randy Dibble will be gone. We elect officers in April and will send in the information after April 20. There won't be any changes because all the officers are running for the second year in their positions.

R Square D: *We dance 2nd Friday and the 4th Saturday at the Kelso Senior Center (106 NW 8th Ave, Kelso, WA). Pre plus starts at 7:30 PM with mainstream from 8:00 to 10:00 PM and refreshments after the dance. Craig Abercrombie is the caller and Lonnie Sycks is our cuer. Our website is www.r-square-d.info Call 360-431-7553 or 360-636-3358 for more information.*

Square dance lessons are going good and there are only 2 more two-step lessons left. On March 30 we are visiting Prairie Steppers Chicken Dance starting with their famous chicken dinner. On April 6 some of us will be going down to Happy Hoppers. On April 12th we will celebrate our **60th Anniversary**. Then on April 13 you will find us at the Hoedowners. Mike Combs will be calling and Debbie Combs will be cueing our fourth

Saturday dance in April, the 27th. Teddy bears and stuffed animals galore were collected last Saturday and will be donated to an appropriate organization for children. Don't forget about Oktoberfest coming up October 4 & 5. This year it will be held at the Rose Valley School in Kelso, actually Rose Valley. Be safe and happy dancing. Lonnie & Linda Sycks delegates for R Square D

Sunset Promenaders: (Ray Sullivan, and Pete Schettek, Delegates)

Dance 1st & 3rd Saturdays. Our dance evening is scheduled to start at 7:30 with phase III round dances. Starting at 8:00 until 10:00 is our Mainstream dance with a potluck break afterwards. Our Caller is Mike (Julie) Stout and the Cuer is Ken (Dianne) Pratt. We dance in Hillsboro at the Odd Fellows Hall Upstairs on the corner of 3rd & Main Streets above LaHaies and Of Earth and Air shops. www.sunsetpromenaders.com

Please note! The Sunset Promenaders will be **DARK** on April 6th, so that we can attend the Valley Squares Anniversary Dance at the Aloha Grange.

But on April 20th the Hillsboro Odd Fellows Hall will be filled with children's laughter at our second Carnival Dance. These dances provide something special for the young club members, children of attending dancers (from any club) and the young at heart adults. Go to the clubs web site www.sunsetpromenaders.com (The Gallery page) to see last years' Carnival Dance, and we are sure you will want to come and enjoy the festivities. You will also discover that Bugs Bunny is a Square Dance caller.

Have you noticed all the Blue **Dan Preedy** dance ribbons your friends are wearing? Don't be left out come **May 4th**; national Callers don't come to town that often. Ribbons are \$8.00 per person, and can buy at the door, too.

Toe Draggers: (Peggy Lance and Natalie Schumacher, Delegates)

Dance at the Kinton Grange on the 1st & 3rd Fridays. Their Caller is K.C. Curtis; Cuer is Bev Flint. First Friday dances will have pre-rounds at 7:30. Third Friday dances start at 7:30 with a Plus learning experience. Last Tip Plus. www.toedraggers.org

There will not be lessons on Easter Sunday Dates to remember.

March 30th, Easter Egg hunt at the Grange April 5th, Ducky Dance, "Singing in the Rain"

Sunday April 7, Tri-Squares Jamboree, no square dance lessons April 7th, Round Dance lessons at Stark's Air Park April 14th, square and Round dance lessons at Starks Air Park April 19th. Toes are **DARK April 19th**. Natalie's wedding shower and hoedown **July 19th Toes are DARK!** Peggy

Tri Squares: (Vida Eppich and Frank Collett, Delegates)

We dance on the first Saturday and third Friday of each month at the historic Tigard Grange in Tigard. Terry Halley is our club Caller with Jackie Gale Cueing. We dance year around, except for the July 4th and Labor Day weekends or when the temperature exceeds 90 degrees. Hearing enhancement devices are available. We round dance from 7:30 – 7:45, dance Plus from 7:45 to 8:00 and Mainstream from 8:00 to 10:00 p.m.;

the 4th tip will be PLUS. Refreshments are served at 10:00. www.trisquares.com

Tri-Squares had a lively and enjoyable "Cowboy Campfire and Soup/Chili Potluck" on March 2nd with three squares attending. The food was good and there was a great variety. Our March 15th "Bit O' the Irish" fling was celebrated by four squares and green food. We plan a "50's Hop" on April 6th, but will be dark in Tigard on April 19th, in order to participate in the Lincoln City Dance.

Our **new dancers Jamboree** is scheduled for **Sunday April 7th** at the Tigard Grange, from 2:30 -5:00. Our class attended the Toe-Dragger's Jamboree on March 10th and the Valley Square's Jamboree on March 24th.

Our class is consistent with 14 students.

Tri-Squares have a beach trip for associate members, former members and friends and current members planned for April 22 through 26 at Cape Kiwanda.

Our General Meeting/election of officers of the club will be held on Sunday, April 28 at a location to be announced.

Club went on a Mystery Trip with 5-other clubs for a total of 100 dancers, and they danced at new dancer level; great fun.

No one has volunteered for candidacy to the TVC board.

Vida Eppich

Valley Squares: (Karen Martiny and Rhoda Reinking, Delegates)

Dance 1st and 3rd Saturdays at the Aloha Grange on the corner of 185th and TV Hwy. Caller calls dance at Plus level with Intermediate and Phase Two rounds from 7-8 p.m. Mainstream and Phase Two rounds danced from 8-10 p.m. Refreshments served at 10 p.m. Chuck Garner Caller, Connie Clark Cuer. www.valleysquares.com.

March is turning out to be a very busy one for us. We had our "Spring Fever" dance on March 2 and "Wearin' o' the Green" dance on March 16. It was a sea of green, but there was at least one leprechaun that didn't know what color to wear.

We have nine new students who started basic lessons on March 5. They are all catching on very quickly. There are a few who danced many years ago and it has all come back quite readily for them, so a lot of our "new" dancers will be able to go to our regular dances real soon.

Our Mystery Trip on March 23 turned out to be a king-sized mystery! We had some very tight-lipped people who were planning this for a long time and they did not let on any clues about it. We all thought that it was going to be just our very own mystery trip, but no! We met up with other clubs and there were about 135 dancers from eight clubs who all converged on the Oak Grove Community Center for dinner and dancing. To say a good time was had by all is an understatement! Thank you to all the organizers, callers, and cuers, and a very special thank you to our own Nell and Connie for the work they put in to help make it a big success.

There was another big gathering at the Valley Squares Jamboree with 101 dancers and at least ten squares on the floor. There were six callers, four cuers, and eight clubs represented at our Jamboree.

We're planning a good turnout at the Tri Council Dance on March 30 with The Crew calling and Jim Hattrick cuing. This is not to be missed!

April 6th is the clubs 64th Anniversary Dance. Randy Dibble and Chuck Garner will call, and Connie Clark will cue.

April 20th the Valley Squares will be dark because they are refinishing the floor.

Wave Steppers: (formerly Coast Swingers): (Carolyn Hindman, & Bob Allen Delegates)
We will not have a dance until April. We will dance Mainstream, with one PLUS tip, every second tip on every second Saturday of the month as our normal schedule at the Garibaldi City Hall (107 6th Street, Garibaldi, OR 97118) from 7:00 to 9:30 PM. We will have guest Callers.

Wave Steppers Tillamook Bay Club is having their first dance April 13 at the Garibaldi City Hall. Mark Wheeler will call. Gwen Keel (sp?) will teach some line dancing that night, instead of round dancing. Also we are expecting a visitation from the Hayshakers. We are having our dances on different Saturdays each month so that Clubs wishing to support us with visitations may do so without it interfering with their own Club's dance nights. May 18th the Eager Beaver are visiting our dance, and we are having a food drive that night with a dollar off if you bring two cans of food.

Jim Hattrick will be here for our Class/ Dance Wednesday night 3/27 at the Tillamook Elks Club. We are hopeful of a good turnout. Bob and I will be attending the Boots in Blue Mountains Festival in Pendleton Oregon in April.

Our Club elections are taking place in April and looking forward to another year! Visit us at www.wavesteppers.org.

Carolyn reporting

Next TVC Meeting:

The next meeting will be April 22nd starting at 7:00 at the Pizza Caboose located near Sunset Highway at 185th Ave.

Because of the Memorial Day Holiday the May TVC meeting will be on the third Monday May 20th, this meeting will include installing the new TVC officers.

Respectfully submitted by Tom Sminia, TVC Secretary
Thanks for reading this.