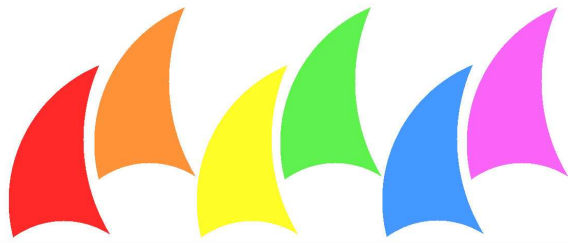


FINE LINES

San Diego Finest City Squares



Summer 2007

A Message from the President

Greetings one and all!

So much has happened since our last installment of the Fine Lines, and I want to thank everyone for your participation in all of the activities. The thing I most appreciate about this club is the fact that I, as president, am not feeling in the least that I have to “do it all.” We have an EXCELLENT board, and the work required to run this organization has been well distributed, and not just among the board members but throughout the membership!



As I am sure you are all aware (if you follow the volumes of email updates), we went through the process of finding a new club caller after Pat announced that he would be leaving us after this year’s class graduated. We, as a club, got a lot of praise from both members and the prospective callers regarding the process. At one point, someone pulled me aside and said that of all the clubs he’s been associated with, he has never experienced a caller selection procedure as deliberate and democratic as ours. Kudos to all who participated by attending the caller try-outs and by sending feedback!

I think one of the square dancing high-points for many of us over this last season was going to the IAGSDC convention, Red Rocks and Purple Mountains, in Denver. Of course, I am still working on forgiving those FCS members who saw fit to have me thrown me in jail not once, not twice, but three times! And YES I do know who you are! At least the jailors were cute! I was proud that Finest City Squares as a club was so well represented. We got lots of oohs and ahhs over our bejeweled badges and our fabulous new club shirts. A special thanks to Terri O. and Diana B. for organizing the badge beautification project, to David S. for taking charge in the effort to select and produce the new club shirt, and to all of membership at large for participating!

Now that we are well into Summer, it is time to start thinking about recruiting for next years class which will start in September. Of course, one way to go about this is to approach your non-square-dancing friends and drag them if you need to to one of the first classes so that they can experience it first hand. I know it can be a hard sell (the term square dancing comes with a lot of baggage), but as we all know it is really so much fun. In addition to hitting up all of our friends, we have the opportunity to do some “cold call selling” at San Diego Pride. Please sign up to help staff the booth or dance on the float or both! We need your help!

I am sure there is something I am forgetting, but hey, there is always e-mail :-).

See you at a dance soon!

Richard Bass
FCS President

FCS Bids a Fond Farewell to Pat Carnathan

After graduating many classes over the past seven years for the Finest City Squares, Pat Carnathan has decided to retire as our club caller. We'll miss his lively humor, challenging tips, rigorous approach to teaching, and of course we'll also miss his shorts and flip-flops. Pat still calls Sunday nights with Ruffles & Beaus and Monday nights with his high-level A2 dance, so you can still get a good Pat-fix if you're feeling withdrawals. We all wish the best to Pat and Monica, and we look forward to attending his dances around town.



. . . . and Welcomes Andy Allemao

We now welcome our new caller, Andy Allemao. After searching far and wide for a new caller, Andy won us over with his high energy, fun choreography, interesting mix of music styles, and his patient and clear style of instruction. After calling at a very successful Anniversary Dance last January, Andy takes over calling for the club on July 11, and he will start our new class this Fall. Look for a more detailed bio in the next edition of the newsletter. Welcome aboard, Andy!

Show Your Pride in Finest City Squares

San Diego Pride is fast approaching and Finest City Squares will be there. As in past years, we will have a float in the parade and a booth at the festival. This event is particularly important, since it is our major opportunity to introduce the club to people who might be interested in joining the new class. We're still looking for volunteers for both events. The parade is Saturday morning July 21 and the booth needs to be staffed all day Saturday and all day Sunday, July 21 and 22. There will be sign-up sheets at the dances on Wednesday 7/11 and 7/18 as well as our July 2nd Saturday dance, on 7/14. You can also email our president, Richard Bass, at finestcitysq@nethere.com to sign up for a slot. The people who sign up for the most pride booth shifts (2 hours each) will get free passes into the festival (we only have a very small number of passes). It's always a lot of fun—Come out at 8:30 on Saturday morning 7/21 to help us decorate the truck and then dance on the float during the parade and hand out beads at the festival.





2007 Convention – Red Rocks & Purple Mountains

At the end of May, the Rocky Mountain Rainbeaus hosted the 24th annual IAGSDC Convention in Denver, Colorado. Forty-eight members of the Finest City Squares made the trip to the Mile-High City and enjoyed the warm hospitality of both the Rainbeaus and the city of Denver. We shared the city with a convention of gay volleyballers and a convention of gay bowlers, so the city was filled with gay visitors. At the IAGSDC convention, we had the chance to dance with upwards of a thousand people from the US, Canada, Japan, Sweden, Denmark and Australia. And there were so many choices for dancing: levels from Basic to Challenge, a dozen internationally known callers and even more IAGSDC callers-in-training, a fun badge tour around Denver, and a host of specialty tips for dancers of all shapes, sizes, ages, and fashions. The new club shirts and bejeweled badges were a big hit – thanks to David Spence for organizing the club shirts and to Terri O’Barski and Diana Barrows for organizing the bejeweling of the badges! After 5 days of dancing, everybody left with sore feet and big smiles.

2008 Convention – Touch A Quarter Century



I'll bet you were just saying to yourself, "I wish I had an excuse to go to Cleveland!" Well, your wish has been granted. The 2008 IAGSDC convention will be held in Cleveland, Ohio. This will be the 25th IAGSDC convention, so the hosts, The Cleveland City Country Dancers, are sure to put on a fabulous event. It's not too early to register or to start that vacation fund. Check out the link below for more details.

<http://www.taqc.org/>

FCS Picnic

Finest City hosted a picnic in Balboa Park on May 9th that was a rousing success. Everyone brought a potluck dish to share and we had a grill for barbecuing hot dogs. Several members were successful at bringing non-dancing friends with them to join in the fun. We set up a volleyball net and played several games (the object of the game is to hit the parked cars as many times as possible, right?). We hope to have more events in the coming months. Come out and join us in the fun!



ABBAMANIA at the San Diego Pops

Several Finest City members got together on July 7th to attend the ABBAMANIA concert at the San Diego Pops. The group got seats on the lawn area and had a picnic dinner before the concert. Rumor has it that Bob M. brought killer BBQ! The preconcert show consisted of oldies songs performed by InAccord, a gay men's choir. The Pops played ABBA's greatest hits and there were four ABBA lookalikes that sang as the audience sang along and boogied down memory lane. Also, there was a fireworks show as the band played "Dancing Queen". Special thanks go out to Pam and Christine for organizing the event!

New Member Gallery

The new member gallery is up on the FCS website. Here's the URL:

<http://www.iagsdc.org/finestcity/Gallery0407/gallery.htm>

Please take a look at it. If you aren't there and want to be, contact Richard Bass. Alternatively, if somehow you are in the gallery and have changed your mind, don't hesitate to tell Richard and he'll remove your picture ASAP.



Member Spotlight

By Diana Barrows

This issue, the member spotlight shines upon Ed and Kay Jackson. Ed is the fabulous cook that has brought so many delicious dishes to our Saturday monthly dances. He also regularly brings some scrumptious homemade treat to the weekly dances. Thanks, Ed!

Ed was born in Illinois. He attended Olivet College where he received a B.S. degree in ancient/church history. He almost completed his masters degree. Ed had originally wanted to teach, but he discovered that it required a PhD. He has done many different jobs through the years, including catering, painting, and working for the government.

Kay was born in Jacksonville, Florida where she lived until she went to college in Illinois. That's where she met Ed. An "old" (at least 30 years old!) friend introduced them in the cafeteria at the college. It was NOT love at first sight: Kay thought Ed was stuck up. They eventually married in 1970. They have a grown son, age 32.

They moved here ten years ago because Kay had a job transfer with ATT. They own a lovely home in PQ, (Penasquitos) which they share with Sammy, their Cocker Spaniel.

Ed and Kay started square dancing about nine years ago. They read in Dear Abby that square dancing was good exercise and good mental activity. They called the telephone number in the article, and were referred to several classes. They started taking lessons with two clubs simultaneously: Ray Holmes' Ranglers and Ramona Squares (now defunct). They both dance at the A2 level and are learning C1. Kay's favorite call is Promenade Home. Ed's is Yellow Rock.

Kay enjoys reading; Ed prefers cooking and gardening. They are involved with Pomerado Christian Church, and they also dance with Ruffles 'n Beaus and Magic Squares.

Kay is proud that she married well. Ed is proud that he married Kay. [They were separated when asked these questions.] Kay hopes to retire in two years. Ed wants to retire to someplace warm, warmer than San Diego.

Ed and Kay want everyone to know that they really like dancing with FCS. They think we are a very friendly group with good energy. So members, go up and "Yellow Rock" Ed, "Promenade" Kay, and thank them for their contribution to our club.

Early Dancing on Wednesdays

At 6:00 on Wednesdays, Richard Bass hosts half an hour of dancing with up and coming club callers. Come on out and give these new callers some practice moving dancers around the floor.

A/C Weekend in Phoenix

A group of FCS members are planning on driving to Phoenix in August (I know, just where you wanted to be in August) for **Trip the Sunset – West Coast A/C Weekend**. This flyin is for levels A and C only. Callers for this event will be Sandie Bryant, Vic Ceder, Anne Uebelacker, Randy Dougherty, Michael Kellogg, and others. The FCS group is planning on renting a van (or two depending on interest). If you'd like to drive 700 miles with a bunch of rowdy square dancers, contact our co-vice president David Spence to get in on the fun!

Anyone Seen Diana's A1 Instruction Videos?

FSC member Diana Barrows is trying to locate her A1 video instruction tapes. She loaned them to someone this past year and can't recall who that was. If you have them, please return them to Diana at your earliest convenience. Thanks!

Calendar of Events

Ever been to a flyin? Why not plan your next vacation around one of these fun get-togethers? It's a great way to see a new city, make new friends, and do a lot of square dancing. Check out the link below to see what's coming up.

<http://www.iagsdc.org/main/event/page/eventindex.php>



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Co-Vice President..... Jim Blair
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Class Representative..... John Griffin

Club CallerAndy Allemao

Finest City Squares Web Site:
<http://www.iagsdc.org/finestcity>

Have an idea for a newsletter article?
Want to write one yourself? Contact
Bill and Dave at gsq@cox.net