

FREEWHEELERS' NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2011



PRESIDENT'S CORNER:

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED! The Freewheelers are going to be really busy in the next several months. Our Club is sponsoring the Mount Baker Council Spring Dance "Hat, Nose and Tail" Dance on Sat., April 30th at the Northshore Senior Center in Bothell. The Club needs the members to donate chocolate, teas, coffee and even gift cards to name a few for the Raffle Baskets to be sold at the council dance. (See Penny Schultz for ideas.) The Board and the members will be assembling the Raffle Baskets at the April Board Meeting on April 7th at Penny's house. This is our chance to make extra funds for the club at the Council Dance.

On March 13th we are having a "Saint Patrick's Day" Dance, Potluck and Elections....So let's all show our support and come to our dance. We need your favorite dish and volunteer hands to help set up tables and clean up.....Even if you are not dancing, come on out and support the club.

Most of all we need new students at our NEW lessons on Wed., March 2nd. Lesson flyers are available to hand out – see Joe Clein. Please think about whom you can invite. We all go places and see wonderful people who may enjoy square dancing. See you on the dance floor!

~~ Sally Buckingham, President ~~ Sally's e-mail address: sally.buckingham2@gmx.com ~~

SPOTLIGHT ON: Jill Spiese was born in Tacoma, Washington. Her mother and father divorced when she was four. She moved often after that because her mother was a "nomad" and liked change. Jill attended five high schools in three years. She graduated from South Kitsap High School where she sang in the concert choir. (She still likes to sing but Roger is the singer in the family.) Soon after graduation she decided to have her own adventure and moved to San Francisco where she got a job at the Emporium Department Store. Once the novelty wore off she realized she missed her family and, one day, she got in her car with \$20 in cash and drove home. She worked for a few years in the ad department at Radio KBRO in Bremerton. Jill had a friend who played in a band at a night club and she often went there to listen to the music and dance. One evening, among the fellows who asked her to dance was a young man named Roger Spiese. They were both there the next night too and they danced again and decided on a first date the following night. Six months later they married.

The newlyweds moved to Pennsylvania where Roger's family was living at the time. Jill found it a "god-forsaken country" – no trees or mountains, hot and humid in the summer, cold and snowy in the winter. She remembers an outing to the Pocono Mountains. What a disappointment! It was just a series of rolling hills with a few trees. She never complained, but Roger knew she wasn't happy. One day he decided they should move back. He sent Jill on the plane to Washington with their baby, Shane, while he settled their affairs in Pennsylvania. He arrived 2 months later, after she found a place for them to live. They had 2 more children, Bethany and, only 10 months later, Heather. Jill started working in a cooperative preschool when the girls were little. She really enjoyed working with the young children. She is delighted when former students come up to her in the grocery store – calling her "Miss Jill" and giving her a hug. After 14 years, she realized it wasn't fun anymore. The parents did not hold the same standards and the children became more difficult to work with. Next she worked in a children's clothing store. After a couple of years she decided to buy the business. It proved to be a bad idea – a short time later a Wal-Mart opened nearby and she lost too many customers and had to close the doors.

Jill had some square dance friends who wanted her to start lessons. Roger was reluctant to try square dancing, but when she told him she wanted square dance lessons for her birthday he thought that would be a cheap gift and he would be off the hook after a few lessons. Instead he found himself hooked after the second lesson and they have been (Continued on the next page.)

dancing ever since. They started round dance classes the next year. It was not long before Roger got the urge to start calling. When he suggested Jill try cueing she agreed to give it a try, but she did not want to do it if she couldn't do it right. Their round dance teacher agreed to mentor her, allowing her to teach a dance at her classes and even loaning her the records she needed when she started cueing at square dances – that was back in 1991. Jill really enjoys cueing and teaching and, as we all know, has become an excellent Cued. In 1999 Jill cued for the Montana State Festival with Jim Hatrick calling. Since then she has cued at numerous festivals and square dances. Her scariest experience was cueing in the main hall at the Washington State Festival in Olympia – she had never cued to such a large group – it went well. She is still taking round dance classes to improve her skills. She is currently cueing for Paws and Taws and Square Steppers in Bremerton and substitutes for Debbie Taylor at the Freewheelers. She and Roger won the 2005 Parker Award and the 2009 McNutt award - a highlight of their lives. Only one other couple has won both awards. Jill feels fortunate to have a wonderful husband who supports her.

Daycare and chauffeuring for six of their 10 grandchildren keep her busy. All but one of them is in school now. Jill and Roger are looking forward to a trip to Hawaii this spring – a Christmas gift from their children. They want to do lots more traveling. They dream of some day taking a Round-the-World cruise. Written by Donna Franklin

SUNSHINE:

We have sad news for the people who knew them. We have lost three of our square dance friends: Arthur Soucy, Linda Woody and Merv Eaton. They all will be missed a lot. Our thoughts and prayers go out to their families and friends. Arthur came to many of our dances. Linda & Francis (Woody) Woody and Merv and Ruth Eaton were long time Checkerboard Squares members.

Gale Ware, former “Sunshine Lady” and member celebrated her 95th birthday on Valentine’s Day, February 14th. Hope she had a very happy one! Ginny Baxter has moved into a different Adult Care Home. Her new address and cell phone number are listed below*. I am sure she would love to hear from her friends. Let our Sunshine Lady, Millie Hecht know of any members who are in need of our “special thoughts” or some “Rays of Sunshine” at 425-259-8110.

*Ginny Baxter – 917 Walnut St., Edmonds, WA 98020 – cell phone# 425-220-8227

ITEMS OF INTEREST:

CARAVAN COLORS: For our new members, the Freewheelers’ caravan colors are turquoise and white for the ladies and a turquoise shirt or white shirt & turquoise tie for the men. Wear it if you have it but if you don’t, come to the caravans anyway. Also, it is nice to bring treats when you caravan to other clubs and also to our club dances and some food for the potlucks. Note: Please share dances at the caravans and our club dances with guest and members, even if you come with a partner - that means the married couples too! Just sharing even one dance can help to see that no one sits out the whole dance. It is no fun to sit the dances away!

ELECTIONS: It is time to elect new officers and we want the input of all of our members. So, do start thinking about it, as the elections are Sun., March 13th and we need officers and committee people. So, please be thinking seriously of running for one of these offices: President, Vice President, Secretary or Treasurer OR running a committee. If you would like to run for office, head a committee or know of someone who would, just let one of the board members know.

KITCHEN SIGN-UP: We need people to sign-up for a turn or two for Kitchen Duty at the dances. This involves setting up the coffee, water & etc, putting the treats out at the break and cleaning up after the dance. There are usually lots of helpers. Sign up on the new 2011 calendar and also let Anita Needham know if you can’t do kitchen duty on the night you signed up for.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL: Included in this letter is an application for membership renewal OR for new membership. The 2011 dues are due before April 1st. The dues are \$12.00 for our club dues, \$5.50 for the Washington State Square Dance Federation Insurance and Dues and the Mount Baker Council dues, for a total of \$17.50/person. This will cover your Freewheelers Membership until March 31, 2012. You only have to pay for the Federation Insurance & Dues and Council dues at one club. So if you pay at another club, please let us know which one. If you are not covered at another club, you should pay with us as you have to be covered by them. Give them to Treasurer, Randy Lewis at a dance or mail them to him at: 2126 N. 132nd St., Seattle, WA 98133. Make the check out to "Freewheelers" and not to Randy. HA! HA! Please DO fill out the application, so that we have your current information. If you want some of your information unlisted, let us know and we will not put it in the roster. Thank you to the members who have already paid their dues. The quicker we get them all in, the quicker we can do the new Membership Address Roster.

GREETERS: Let Brenda Torrey know if you would like to take a turn or two as a greeter at a future dance. It does not take much of your time. You just have to get to the hall earlier to greet our guests and members as they come into the dance. You can give AND receive lots of hugs!

COMING EVENTS:

Friday, February 25th – Caravan to Dudes & Dolls' "Pink Cadillac" Level Dance (See Caravans.)

The next board meeting will be at 7:30, Thursday, March 3rd at Randy and Janice Lewis' home at 2126 N. 132nd St., Seattle. Their phone number is 206-367-9219. ALL members are urged to attend.

NOTE: There will NOT be Freewheelers dances on March 6th OR 20th as the hall is unavailable to us. So we are having just one dance this month and it is on March 13th – see below.

Sunday, March 13th is our "Saint Patrick's Day" Dance with Roger Spiese and Debbie Taylor. There will be a Potluck Dinner at 6:00 and the dance will follow at 7:00. We will have a short meeting between the dinner and the dance to elect new Officers. The Samena Squares are coming to this dance, so make them and our other guests feel welcome. Please bring something to share for the potluck and also for the break. Come vote for your new Officers. Wear green, if you wish!

Saturday, March 19th – Caravan to Jet Steppers' "Spring will Spring" Dance (See Caravans.)

CARAVANS:

Our next caravan out is to the Dudes & Dolls' "Pink Cadillac" Level Dance on Friday, February 25th with Scott Coon and Debbie Taylor. They dance at Cedar Valley Grange – 20526 52nd W, Lynnwood from 8:00–10:30 (Pre-rounds 7:30). Then on Saturday, March 19th we will caravan out to the Jet Steppers' "Spring will Spring" Dance at Cedar Grange – 22531 SE 218th St., Maple Valley from 7:30–10:30. Call Joe at 425-774-6574 regarding the carpool time for the Jet Steppers dance. Thank you to the members who go on our caravans. Caravan Chair, Joe Clein

PLAN AHEAD:

Our club is hosting the Mount Baker Council's Spring Dance "Hat, Nose and Tayl" Dance on Saturday, April 30th at Northshore Senior Center – 10201 Riverside Dr., Bothell. Jim Hattrick and Steve Noseck are calling and Debbie Taylor is cueing. It is sure to be a great dance. Presale tickets are \$9.00 or \$10.00 at the door. (Kids are \$5.00.) Pick up some fliers and take them to the dances that you go to. See Penny Schultz to find out what you can do to help. We will need lots of help from all of our members in planning and setting up the dance. **THAT MEANS YOU! THIS IS YOUR CHANCE TO HELP YOUR CLUB MAKE THIS DANCE A GREAT SUCCESS!!**

LOOKING AHEAD:

60th Washington State Square & Folk Dance Festival - Enumclaw, WA - June 17 - 18

60th National Square Dance Convention – Detroit, Michigan - June 22 - 25

43rd Annual State Leadership Seminar - July 8 - 10 - Circle (8) Ranch, Cle Elum, WA

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

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS: (Please add to your rosters.)

BILL DELL 425-334-5961
1412 N. Machias Rd. BD: 08/16
Lake Stevens, WA 98258
E-mail: smdancer@yahoo.com

ROBERT MICHELSON 206-363-6035
13744 1st NW BD: 01/14
Seattle, WA 98177
E-mail: bob_michelson@yahoo.com

RON SOETHE 206-208-1108
12059 12th NE BD: 12/12
Seattle, WA 98125



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



A BIG "THANK YOU" TO ALL OF YOU!!

Thank You