

**MERI SQUARES**  
**SEPTEMBER 2025 NEWSLETTER**

**WELCOME BACK, EVERYONE!**

September is here and square dancing has started another dance season. It is an opportunity to renew friendships and dust off the dance shoes and hope we remember all those moves that may have slipped to the back of our minds during the summer months.

**URGENT - Demonstration – Barrhaven Manor – Wednesday, September 10, 3 to 4 pm**

**We are still looking for 1 volunteers**, SSD or Plus, to help with a demonstration for seniors at the Barrhaven Manor, 110 Berrigan Drive this Wednesday. We need at one person or two other dancers. Please contact Lamar: [lamarmason4@gmail.com](mailto:lamarmason4@gmail.com).

**SSD**

As everyone knows, SSD is our entry dance level at this time. It is how we show people how much fun they can have! Our first Open House on September 2 was a bit disappointing...we only had 6 new friends give square dancing a try. We are hoping many others will join us on September 9. Please consider bringing a friend with you so we can grow our club family.

There were many returning SSD faces missing on September 2. We hope more of you will come out this Tuesday. Remember, now that you are graduates, you can be wonderful angels helping those just beginning. We hope to see you this week!

**Plus**

We had our first evening of Plus dancing on September 4. It was a small but enthusiastic group of returning Meri Squares dancers. We know some members are away and others have health challenges, but we do look forward to seeing more returning Plus dancers on September 11.

Speaking of September 11, it will be our first night of **teaching Plus** to those moving up from SSD and Mainstream. We hope to see several of our own SSD experienced dancers and some folks from other clubs come out to learn Plus this fall. Experienced Plus dancers will of course be needed as angels! John will be calling a full Plus tip every third tip so your skills will not get rusty! And he will be looking for ways to challenge you once you get warmed up!

**Registration**

A reminder that the SSD and Plus registration forms are on the Home page of the website ([www.merisquares.ca](http://www.merisquares.ca)). Fees for all levels are \$135. As usual, Plus dancers can also dance for free on Tuesdays as angels. Please bring completed forms and payment when you come to dance.

**EOSARDA Welcome Back dance – Saturday, September 13**

EOSARDA will be hosting a dance this Saturday in Prescott. All levels from SSD and Basic grads to A2. You can dance from 10:30 to 1pm and 2 to 4:30pm. Address is St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, 425 Centre Street, Prescott. \$12 per session or \$20 for the day. Dancers are asked to bring a plate of treats to share, and their own lunch if you are coming for the day. Lots of good restaurants in Prescott if you don't want to brown bag it. Brian Crawford and Dave Hutchinson will be calling.

If you need a ride or can offer one, please contact Lamar: [lamarmason4@gmail.com](mailto:lamarmason4@gmail.com)

## Dance Dangle Program

Some of you will have noticed the little discs that some dancers have attached to their name badges. These are called “dangles”. They are given by clubs or associations for attending dances. EOSARDA’s Dance Dangle Program runs from September 1 to August 31 every year. Dancers are encouraged to visit other clubs or attend special dances. You keep track of these dances and visits on a form and then submit the form to EOSARDA to earn a dangle. You can get more info at [https://eodance.ca/dancer\\_page.php](https://eodance.ca/dancer_page.php). You can also speak to our own Michelle Gravelle who coordinates this program. If you participated in the program last year, make sure to get your forms in by September 30.

## Suggestions

As we begin our new season, I encourage all members to share your ideas and suggestions for improvements or changes with any member of the Executive. Check out the 2025-2026 calendar linked on the Home page for upcoming events and make sure to provide feedback.

Meri Squares is YOUR club. Let’s all make it the best it can be.

## Dancing in Japan

Harold Hedley and Wendy McCracken, two of our Past Presidents and long time members, are currently attending the Japanese National Convention! They say the dancing is very challenging, but they are having a wonderful time. Some 1000 dancers in attendance. Apparently dancers like exchanging gifts. Wendy and Harold are sporting great headbands in the picture below. See, you really can dance your way around the world!



## Last but never least

Meri Squares is very fortunate to have amazing callers in John Charman and Wendy VanderMeulen. We could not dance without them. Remember to thank them for their great calling!

See you on the dance floor!

Lamar Mason  
President