

## MERI SQUARES NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2025

### How is the dancing going?

Wendy and John are both pleased with how well everyone is doing. I know it can be overwhelming! And it is just as hard for those learning Plus as it is for SSD. But it just takes practice. You will not get it right the first time...or even the second or third probably. But every week it will get easier. And the calls will stop all sounding alike or Greek. Be patient with yourselves, ask for a call to be reviewed and use the resources available online to review each week. You are doing great!

### Winter has come!

After a beautiful October, November came in fiercely! Remember that if we have to cancel dancing for any reason, we will send out an email (phone call for those without computers) by 4 pm and post the cancellation on our website and FB page. If you are ever unsure, just check the website.

### Dinner with Wendy – November 18

Your next opportunity to join Wendy for dinner is this Tuesday at about 5:15 at Boston Pizza, 1640 Carling Ave, just down the street from Dulude Arena. It is a great opportunity to have a relaxing social time before dancing and get to know other dancers.

### Construction on Roosevelt – November 17 to 28

We have been told that the intersection of Ravenhill and Roosevelt will be under construction starting next week. Access will be limited on Roosevelt at the north end and parking may be even more restricted. Plus dancers will have to access the church via Kenwood and we suggest you consider parking on Kenwood and further south on Roosevelt.

### Used clothing sale

Wow, what an amazingly successful event! We sold \$475 worth of clothing. Thanks to Pat McLachlan for organizing, the many volunteers who helped with the piles, and all the dancers who purchased great items. We look forward to seeing all your new duds at upcoming events.

### Halloween Party

We had a marvellously spooky group of dancers show up for the Halloween Party. So many wonderful costumes! Jacques Chesnais and Pat McLachlan won for best couple, Robert Milburn won for scariest (thanks too for his great decorations!), and David Paul won for most creative. Thank you to Colleen Barnes for leading the decorating crew. Check out the [merisquares.ca](http://merisquares.ca) website for the latest pictures.

### Need a ride?

There are lots of upcoming events on the dance schedule. Some are out of town but well worth attending. All will be calling "class" level for SSD and Plus, which means only the calls you have learned if you are new to a level.

Not sure about driving? There is a sign up sheet each evening for the EOSARDA Christmas dance in Prescott on December 6. If you need a ride or can provide one, please sign up. November 23 will see the annual Tartans and Kilts dance in Cornwall. If you are interested in going, let us know. These events give

you an opportunity to dance to other callers and meet other dancers who are just beginning, or more experienced dancers who can give you a hand. Well worth the journey to get there! All dances are listed on the EOSARDA calendar <https://www.eodance.ca/calendar.php>.

## **Meri Squares Holiday Traditions**

### Snowsuit Fund

Every year Meri Squares members show their generosity by donating to the Ottawa Snowsuit Fund. If able, you are encouraged to contribute new mittens, hats, socks and scarves for children in needs of warm clothing this winter. The donations are collected at our Christmas Party by placing them on our Mitten Tree. Cash donations are also welcome. Please consider contributing to this annual giving event. See Lamar for details.

### Christmas Party and SSD "graduation" - Thursday, December 11

All Meri Squares members are invited to gather for a potluck dinner at Westminster Church, 490 Roosevelt Ave on December 11. "Cocktail" hour starts at 6 pm with dinner at 6:30 and dancing at 7:30pm. This is a wonderful opportunity to socialize and relax before a busy holiday season.

We will be posting sign up sheets for everyone to indicate what they would prefer to bring. Please take a look and sign up as soon as possible. See Joyce or Susan Vail for more information.

This evening will also be the time when we celebrate our new SSD dancers who will have completed their program. What an achievement! Make sure to mark your calendars for December 11.

### Last day of dancing this session

The SSD program will end on Tuesday, December 15 and the Plus program on Thursday, December 16. We will start the new year with open houses to welcome new SSD dancers on January 6 and 13. Plus dancers (continuing Teach program and experienced Plus dancers) will return on January 8.

### Suggestions? Questions?

Remember that Meri squares is all about its dancers. If you have a suggestion or a questions, don't hesitate to ask or share. We want square dancing to be the best thing you do each week...so help us make that happen. Reach out to any member of the Executive...we don't bite and we do listen.

Happy dancing!

Lamar Mason

President

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