

MERI SQUARES NEWSLETTER

MAY 2026

Hello dancers:

Club dancing has wrapped up for the 2025-2026 year and what a great year it was. Meri Squares graduated 20 brand new SSD dancers and another 13 enhanced their dance skills by learning the Plus level. Congratulations to everyone!

But dancing is not over. During the summer months, between sitting on the dock at your cottage, riding your bike along the many area trails, working in your garden, or just sitting enjoying the warm weather, you can still find time to dance.

Meri Squares dancing

Meri Squares will get together on the **third Tuesday of every month: May 19, June 16, July 21 and August 18** at the J.A. Dulude Arena, 941 Clyde Avenue from 7 to 9 pm. We will alternate tips between SSD and Plus with John Charman calling. This is a great time to keep in touch with fellow dancers and make sure your skills stay fresh. \$10 per night.

We will also hold our annual picnic sometime in late July or early August. More news to follow!

Volunteer dancers needed

Meri Squares is also busy during the summer recruiting for fall dancing. We have a first demonstration scheduled for **Saturday, June 6 at the Belair Community Association community fun fair. Dancing is from 2:30 to 3:30 pm in the park.** Wendy will be calling. We will need volunteer dancers and confident SSD dancers are more than welcome to volunteer. **If you have an hour to spare to dance, please contact Michelle Gravelle at mgraveln628@rogers.com.** Location is 2149 Berwick Ave, which is just east of Woodroffe Avenue, between Iris and Baseline. It looks like a great event, so come early!

Meri Squares has also been invited back to **L'Arche Ottawa**. We all had such a fun time at our demonstration in the fall, we are going back. The date is **Monday, June 8 from 2 to 3 pm**. Dancers are invited to join L'Arche members for lunch at 1 pm but please let Lamar know in advance if you wish to do so. L'Arche members are avid square dancers so we know we will get lots of people joining us on the dance floor! The location is 9 Rossland Drive, just off Merivale Rd in the church hall. **Please contact Lamar if you can volunteer for this event: lamarmason4@gmail.com.**

Please keep an eye on your emails throughout the summer as additional events are being planned, including a possible demo at the Carp Market and the Westboro Farmers Market. These events help Meri Squares increase the visibility of our wonderful activity and find others to join us, so the club continues to thrive. Thank you in advance to everyone who will find time to come dance at these events.

Weekly dancing

While Meri Squares is not dancing weekly, you can!

Improve your SSD Dancing is being offered every Tuesday (except Meri Squares Tuesdays) throughout the summer with several callers. This is a great opportunity to keep your skills up. Nothing new to learn, just dance for practice. And dancing to different callers is a good thing! Plan to be at the Dulude Arena, 941 Clyde Ave on Tuesday evenings from 7 to 8:45 pm. Dancing starts May 12. \$10 per night.

Experienced Plus dancers can test their skills and their minds with **Tough Plus dancing** on Thursday nights at Dulude Arena, 941 Clyde Ave. Wendy will put everyone through their paces. Better brush up on those dance definitions! Wendy always makes this fun and challenging. Dancing starts May 14 from 7 to 8:45 pm. \$10 per night.

Questions?

If you have any questions about dancing this summer or anything else club related, do not hesitate to contact any of your Executive members (listed on website). Check out the website for the latest news (merisquares.ca) or reach out to our new President, Guy Quesnel at gquesnel@magma.ca. Guy will be in touch with everyone via newsletters throughout the summer.

Happy sunshine and warm weather and see you on the dance floor soon!

Lamar Mason
Past President