



FRASER VALLEY SQUARE & ROUND DANCE ASSOCIATION

General Meeting

Saturday, October 18, 2025 – 9:00 AM via ZOOM

President – Maureen Wilson

Meeting brought to order at 9:01 AM

Maureen Wilson welcomed everyone, acknowledging new Executive members Yvonne Hebein (Vice-President) Daphne Green (Secretary) and Diane O'Hara (Director). She mentioned that Janice Hiscott is willing to serve as Director if we can accommodate her schedule.

Attendance: **Brent's Bunch** (*Daphne Green), **Chilliwack Rhythm Reelers** (Betty Klassen), **Chuckwagon 8's** (Marion Freeman), **Circle 8's** (Janice Hiscott), **Motiv8ors** (Ray Brendzy), **Stardowners** (Mary Decario), **Surrey Square Wheelers** (Judy Remenda), **Town 'n' Country Dancers** (Greg Dahlgren), **Wesburn Wranglers** (Caitlyn Brendzy), **White Rockers** (*Lyle & Diane O'Hara), *Don Allan, *John Corrigan, *Alex Galbraith, *Al Gibbs & June Fitchett, *Yvonne Hebein, *Eva Matheson & Nelson Baranow, *Frank McNeil, Sandi Poje, *Blair Wallace, *Dianne Wilson, *Maureen Wilson

Absent: **Abbotsford Grand Squares, Century House Squares, Guys 'n' Gals, Royal City Squares, Quicksteppers, Swinging Hubs, Valley Promenaders, Wheeling 8's**, *Dave Hammer.

We had a quorum with 9 clubs and 9 executive/committee members present (minimum 7 clubs and 4 executives required).

Moved/Seconded: Diane O'Hara/Don Allan -- to accept agenda as circulated -- CARRIED

Moved/Seconded: Don Allan/Sandi Poje -- To approve minutes of the Annual General Meeting (June 22, 2025) as circulated -- CARRIED

Correspondence

Maureen received an email on October 1 from Lucille Lysne of Town 'n' Country that Ernie Bohn has passed away. She did not have an address for the family. John Corrigan said he would send it to her.

Daphne sent a 90th birthday card to Chuck Jordan and will send a "Thinking of You" card to Brent Mawdsley.

REPORTS –

Treasurer's Report – Don Allan

- Since the current year reports were prepared, Don has received about \$1,100 in e-transfers: \$300 for Registration fees from 2 clubs, and the balance for Valley Circle subscriptions.

Moved/Seconded: Don Allan/Daphne Green -- To accept Treasurer's Report, as circulated – CARRIED

A. Vice President – Yvonne Hebein

- Yvonne is looking for a local source for Recognition pins. They were last ordered in 2023 from a Quebec supplier, but they have not replied to her 3 voice mails. There may be some Recognition pins presented at the SSW 65th Anniversary Dance on November 22. Blair suggested some contacts for help finding local suppliers.

B. Valley Circle/Website – Blair Wallace

- Blair can't publish the annual Directory until all clubs have reported. Deadline was September 15. Outstanding are Chilliwack Rhythm Reelers, Chuckwagon 8s, Guys 'n' Gals, Motiv8ors, Royal City Dancers, Wesburn Wranglers. The Directory is usually published in October and the publishing deadline for November is looming.

- Missing Renewals (Due October 15th):

CLUB	CLUB NAME
1	ABBOTSFORD GRAND SQUARES
38	CENTURY HOUSE
4	CHILLIWACK RHYTHM REELERS
44	GUYS N GALS
13	MOTIV8ORS
16	ROYAL CITY DANCERS
48	WESBURN WRANGLERS

Betty has a cheque ready from Chilliwack and will deliver it at the Gala dance.

If there are errors online for the clubs who haven't sent/entered their info... I am not surprised.

I am not sure when the directory will be printed as I wait and wait for updates.

We have received ALL of the mail delivery updates!!

We now accept e-transfer payments of invoices & for subscription fees. Send to valleycircle@shaw.ca

Blair posted an updated list of Accounts Receivable of \$835.20. John Corrigan requested a copy of his invoice, which he did not receive. Invoice due dates may not be obvious.

Anni Christensen has asked to step down as Flashback editor because she may be moving to Kelowna. Blair is looking for a new volunteer to replace her; please send him your suggestions.

C. Promotion Committee – Frank McNeil/Greg Dahlgren

Frank

The Coffee News ad campaign is winding down. We had some inquiries from the ads, but it is hard to track the reaction to the ads. I believe there were a few new dancers as a result. The Coffee News ad campaign was intended for Awareness more than recruiting. John Corrigan is the new Chair as of October 12th and he has lots of good ideas.

Greg

Fall 2025 - new dancer turn-out

	1st	2nd	3rd	4th/Signed	
1. Abby -	-	-	-	8	- no extra ads done
2. TnC -	12?	15	16	16	- no extra ads
3. SSW -				8	- no extra ads
4. CRR -				15	- extra ads?
5. Guys/Gal -			5	5	- no extra ads
6. C8 - asked Alex Oct 7				4?	- extra, posters in neighbourhood
7. WBR - asked Alex Oct 7				4?	- extra, posters in neighbourhood
8. Century House-				?	- no extra ads

No classes

1. White R'rs - N/A
2. Valley Promenaders - N/A

Referral Sources

Fb	friend	coffee	news
5	3	0	

Most clubs did nothing else and relied solely on our FB promotions campaign.

Clubs that did extra advertising.

- Only Circle 8's and Wesburn Wranglers did some '**postering around town**' to my knowledge AND Alexandra noted that neither club got anyone signing up from that effort. However a bunch did show up for the free classes.
- Alexandra noted this has had better returns in the past but this year it did not generate any new members for this form of Advertising

Coffee News

- Have not found any reports of new recruits seeing our Ad or signing up from the Coffee News Ads
- This just from the TnC members and some 2nd hand info from other clubs. I will continue to investigate this with other clubs.

'word of mouth'

- I have found 3 People that noted it is how they found our classes at TnC. Further digging/talking with the TnC people shows that they found out from a friend that saw it on Facebook.
- Circle 8's and WBR brought in 2-3 squares from word of mouth but none stayed after the free classes. This Ad source will always be good as should be encouraged AND talked about at clubs OFTEN with all the membership

Getting this information from other clubs is difficult so there could be more and I will continue to ask for this info.

Clubs that offered free classes had a poor retention rate. Town N Country and Circle 8's in particular had an extremely poor retention rate from the 'FREE' night(s) offered.

*** Even though our FREE nights did not retain any paying new people this year, it does get the word out. The people that 'checked it out' because it was free could become members in future years. This FREE offering doesn't cost us any money. It simple doesn't make us any this year. It is still an essentially free way to advertise and get the word out. They may 'tell two friends' and so on.

In conclusion, Alexandra and I both agree that Facebook has been a resounding success this year and would account for certainly a very high percentage of the New Dancers that have signed up for classes.

Alexandra has some thoughts of FB advertising instead of Coffee News Ads. Again our efforts using mainstream FB ads has returned very little results from the past when the gentleman (cannot recall his name now) was doing this for all the club via FVSRDA supported funding. I will work this angle with Alexandra but she has not seen what mainstream FB advertising was done in the distant past (2011-15

timeframe) so it may be the same thing.

Greg will try to pursue getting a College/University Marketing student intern to develop a targeted marketing strategy.

Betty mentioned Brent Mawdsley's sessions at Trinity College during Square Dance Awareness week.

D. BC Federation – Dianne Wilson

- No additions to written report.
- Next meeting is October 19 at 9:30 AM.

E. Canadian Society – Dianne Wilson

- No additions to written report.

F. Gala Committee – Alex Galbraith

Dave Hammer submitted a report as follows:

Date: Sat. Oct. 25th. 2025

Venue: Murrayville Memorial Hall, Langley, 21667-48th Avenue.

Callers: Steve Edlund & Gary Winter: Cues: Heather Reynolds

Time: Pre-rounds- 2:00- 2:30 p.m.

Mainstream with plus tips: 2:30 p.m.- 5:00 p.m.

Tickets: \$20.00 each and Teen \$10.00 each.

DOOR PRIZES, REFRESHMENTS, PARKING,
SINGLES BOARD, NO TICKETS AT THE DOOR.

- Alex advised that the Gala 2025 committee will meet this afternoon. Alex knows that over 50 tickets have been sold but they don't have an updated total as they have not received all the envelopes back.

G. VDCTA – John Corrigan

- We will be having our elections at our next meeting on November 15, 2025 and will elect a new executive. The association is planning for our midterm dance on December 28th from 2 – 4.30 pm at Kennedy Hall in Surrey. The dance level will be set at our next meeting.
- John Corrigan has taken over as the promotion chair-person from Frank McNeil as of our last meeting. We are planning on getting our new callers and cues more involved in expanding their abilities by providing some dance opportunities. We are hoping to have a joint executive meeting with the Fraser Valley in the new year.

H. Scroll of Honour – Sandi Poje/Yvonne Hebein

CRITERIA REQUIRED FOR THE SCROLL OF HONOUR

- This Award is usually presented to one Dancer Couple or Person and one Caller Couple or Person annually, within the Fraser Valley Square & Round Dance Association and Vancouver and District Caller/Teachers Association.
- The Honour is in recognition of the people who have gone above and beyond the call of duty and have dedicated their service to the Square Dance Community. This goes beyond the Club level and they have shown leadership to the FVS&RDA or BC Federation or Canadian Society.
- Should you wish to nominate a person or couple for this Honour please submit a letter highlighting their endeavors. Nominations must be received before February 28 of the year of nomination. Any nominations received after the deadline will be submitted to the next year's committee. The letters are held for a period

of 5 years. Please be sure to include your name, address, phone number and your recipient's name, address and phone number.

- Please send it to our new Chairperson of the Scroll of Honour Committee of the FVS&RDA: Yvonne Hebein #19 - 12165 75th Avenue Surrey, BC or email at yhebein@shaw.ca or 778 578 7800. Mark the outside of the envelope - "SCROLL OF HONOUR" and "CONFIDENTIAL."
- This committee is made up usually of four couples that have already received the Scroll of Honour, usually two Caller Couples and two Dancer Couples. If there are any questions, please feel free to call anyone on the FVS&RDA Executive.
- I have enjoyed being the Scroll of Honour Committee Chair and wish Yvonne all the success taking on this role. Please, please send her the names of the dancers or caller/cuers who have filled the criteria for receiving this honour.
- It was pointed out to me, that the Scroll of Honour is EARNED, not WON!

Maureen thanked Sandi for her 5 years of service in the role, and thanked Yvonne for assuming those duties.

I. **Penticton Festival 2026 Report – Daphne Green**

- Daphne reported there are over 200 registered. We recently started accepting credit card payments, which has improved registrations from the US. Thanks to Blair for automating the credit card payment link on the online registration form.

Moved/Seconded: Diane O'Hara/Don Allan -- To accept above reports items A through I, as circulated -- CARRIED

CLUB CONCERNS-

- None

OLD BUSINESS-

- None

NEW BUSINESS –

1. **Cuer school reimbursement** - Blair described bylaw 2.8 that made 3 Fraser Valley participants in the July Cuer school ineligible for financial reimbursement. After a lengthy discussion, Diane O'Hara suggested that hashing out a potential update to this bylaw would be a suitable item for the planned joint FVSRDA Executive and V&DCTA meeting. Maureen will put it forward as an Agenda item.

Moved/Seconded: Don Allan/Daphne Green -- To provide Cuer School financial reimbursement to Wendy Krueger, Therese Mawdsley and Diane O'Hara at the same level of support provided to Association members – CARRIED

2. Blair has had 2 clubs stop advertising in the Valley Circle for financial reasons. He encourages clubs to be forthcoming about their difficulties, as there is a lot of expertise and help available from the FVSRDA. Issues can be brought forward to the Executive in confidence. Maureen repeated Blair's message that the clubs have an ear in the Executive, should they choose to speak up.

GOOD & WELFARE-

- Brent Mawdsley is being treated for mantle cell lymphoma.

ORDER OF THE DAY-

Upcoming events:

- Stardowners Oktoberfest is October 23
- Gala is October 25
- Town 'n' Country 65th anniversary is being celebrated November 15
- Surrey Square Wheelers 65th Anniversary is being celebrated November 22
- Blair reminded all that he needs a President's Message and Directory information for the November issue of the Valley Circle asap. He welcomed Betty as a new club rep. He would like suggestions for a new Flashback editor.
- Diane thanked those who attended the White Rockers Cancer Fundraiser Dance on October 13. Almost \$1600 was raised, which will be matched by a BC Cancer Society donor. John, Lyle, Wendy and Yvonne called; cuers were Stacey Ruegg (a recent Cuer school attendee from Powell River), Alison Hampton and Wendy.

NEXT MEETING – EXEC – November 8 @ 9 AM VIA ZOOM
-- GM – November 22 @ 9 AM VIA ZOOM

ADJOURNMENT @ 10:14 AM by Don Allan

~Respectfully submitted by Daphne Green~

Corrections and forgiveness requested