



FRASER VALLEY SQUARE & ROUND DANCE ASSOCIATION

General Meeting

Saturday, November 22, 2025 – 9:00 AM via ZOOM

President – Maureen Wilson

Meeting brought to order at 9:02 AM

Maureen Wilson welcomed everyone, mentioning that Janice Hiscott will be appointed as Director, that Wendy Krueger is the new President of the V&DCTA and John Corrigan the new Promotions Committee Chair.

Attendance: **Abbotsford Grand Squares** (Connie Bryce), **Brent's Bunch** (*Daphne Green), **Century House Squares** (Mark Garstin), **Chilliwack Rhythm Reelers** (Betty Klassen), **Chuckwagon 8's** (Marion Freeman), **Circle 8's** (*Janice Hiscott), **Guys 'n' Gals** (Norma Ridler), **Motiv8ors** (Ray Brendzy), **Stardowners** (Mary Decario), **Surrey Square Wheelers** (Judy Remenda), **Swinging Hubs** (Sandi Poje), **Town 'n' Country Dancers** (Greg Dahlgren), **Valley Promenaders** (*Wendy Krueger), **Wesburn Wranglers** (Caitlyn Brendzy), **White Rockers** (*Lyle & Diane O'Hara), *Don Allan, *Alex Galbraith, *Al Gibbs & June Fitchett,, *Yvonne Hebein, *Eva Matheson & Nelson Baranow, *Blair Wallace, *Dianne Wilson, *Maureen Wilson.

Absent: **Royal City Squares**, **Wheeling 8's**, *John Corrigan, *Dave Hammer.

The quorum minimum requirement of 7 clubs and 4 executives was fulfilled.

Agenda

Under Reports, Item 1 2026 National Festival was added.

Moved/Seconded: Diane O'Hara/Dianne Wilson -- to accept Agenda as amended -- CARRIED

Moved/Seconded: Yvonne Hebein/Diane O'Hara -- To approve the minutes of the General Meeting (October 18, 2025) as circulated -- CARRIED

Correspondence

Maureen has sent a 'Speedy Recovery' card to **Sandi Poje** (broken wrist) and a 'We'll miss you' card to **Ellen Robertson** -- she's retiring and, as a result Quicksteppers are folding, a 'sympathy' card to Mary Budd Ball whose husband Jim passed away on Oct. 3rd, and a 'speedy recovery' card to Don Neuls who fell and broke his hip on Nov. 13th.

Don Allan has received a building fund grant application and a DeSmit new dancer class grant application. These will be shared and reviewed after the January 15 application deadline.

REPORTS –

Treasurer's Report – Don Allan

- There has been activity with the Valley Circle having published 3 issues and received renewal revenue.
- The Gala made a profit of approximately \$200.

- Registrations were sent to the BCSRDF on the November 15 due date, with Abbotsford Grand Squares not yet submitting their registrations.
- Don normally uses the Directory to submit information on club Executives; Blair said he has all data except for Guys 'n' Gals (which as a caller run club is Tyler), and he will provide it to Don.
- It is important to meet deadlines as there is a cascading effect. For example, not having insurance in place could affect the ability to book halls.

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

A. Vice President – Yvonne Hebein

- Yvonne ordered the recognition pins at a lower cost than what was paid in 2023. The expected delivery date is November 12th. She plans on giving a pin to Lynnette at the anniversary dance today. Also, a 25 year dangle to Frank. She will be presenting Ginny Connolly with a 25 year dangle in December.

B. Valley Circle/Website – Blair Wallace

- He still needs a Flashback Editor.
- All subscriptions have now been received.
- The Caller Teachers list on the website has been updated.
- The December issue is at the printer and will be distributed next week.

C. Promotion Committee – John Corrigan/Greg Dahlgren

John

This is my first report as the new chairperson of the joint promotion committee. We have reviewed the use of the coffee news as a vehicle to promote square dancing. We will have to use it again in November, December and January for the start of spring classes. We will also continue to use Facebook to promote individual new dancer classes as well. We will be working with the VDCTA to setup a series of dances with the new callers and cuers in areas that don't currently have square dance clubs. We are looking forward to the next year being successful in recruiting new dancers.

Greg

I will start FB ads again in December for any clubs running new dancer classes in Jan.

Pre-Christmas, these ads will be generic Square Dancing ads promoting our hobby in general. The link to DanceForFun.ca will be included so people have a contact point for most enquiries.

Please make a note for all clubs running new dancer classes in January to:

1. Ask them to check the website DanceForFun.ca and make sure their club info is accurate.
2. Contact me at gregda@outlook.com and advise me if they are having classes and give me start and end dates for accepting new dancers.
3. Plus give me a Club Poster for their classes. If I don't receive a poster from each club, I will use our generic Ad/Poster for their area.

Greg expressed some doubt as to the value of Coffee News ads, reiterating the stats he presented last meeting. Lyle said not everyone uses Facebook and we should not rely put all our eggs in one basket. Wendy said that Awareness is the first step in a publicity campaign, and a two-pronged approach is good.

D. BC Federation – Dianne Wilson

- Minutes of October 19, 2025 meeting were distributed.

- Dianne said that Pat Zeeman and Garry Dodds came to Town 'n' Country Anniversary dance and were coming to the SSW Anniversary dance today. She further mentioned that the BC Festival 2027 will be a Round Dance Festival in Nanoose Bay, a little north of Nanaimo and that Pat Zeeman and Connie Ritchie were organizing it.
- There are 5 clubs in Northern BC who no longer have an Association, and question whether having an Association would bring any benefit to clubs who are so far apart. Wendy would like to confer with Maureen to provide a response.
- There are still unresolved billing issues with the BC Festival 2025 venue, who between the school district and the school have billed less than the quoted price. It was suggested Bonnie Hartup may be able to help. *Learned subsequently: The venue wants \$441 more, instead of \$1882.95. We are coming out ahead.*

E. Canadian Society – Dianne Wilson

- No report.
- National Festival 2028 will be held in Fredericton, NB.

F. Gala Committee – Dave Hammer

- This year's Gala was a tremendous success thanks to the hard working and diligent committee members and the over 100 dancers who attended.
- Much of the success was because the two callers Steve Edlund and Gary Winter with cuer Heather Reynolds put on a grand performance as dynamic trio.
- Adding to the 50's theme are the many mementos of the era - hot rods, a large life sized photo of Elvis Presley, Buddy Holly, and other idols of the time.
- Many women wore poodle skirts and high school sweaters whereas the guys wore baseball caps, jeans and leather jackets.
- Finally another great THANK YOU to everyone who helped support this grand event.

G. VDCTA – Wendy Krueger

- The new executive as of November 15 is President Wendy Krueger, VP Mike Rohde, Treasurer Cheryl Salter, Secretary Mark Garstin. There are now 34 members, including 6 newcomers: Yvonne Hebein, Betty Klassen, Roger Morrow, Erica Corsi, Rosalie Passmore (and partner David), Mark Garstin (Wendy's partner). Also 2 partners of callers have begun cueing: Therese Mawdsley, Diane O'Hara.
- The Mid Year Dance is scheduled for December 28. (flyer attached)
- Leaders with upcoming milestones to be recognized are Brian & Darlene Penny 35 years, Pat Meyer 25 years, Mike & Rose-Lynn Rohde 10 years, Alison & Scott Hampton 30 years.

H. Scroll of Honour – Yvonne Hebein

Dave Hammer was awarded the 2025 Scroll of Honour at the Gala on October 25, 2025.

I. Canadian Festival 2026 – Wendy Krueger

We need more registrations, although at 271 we are a little ahead of where Calgary was at this time of year. Planning is going well. The BCSRDF will be putting on a Caller school just ahead of the Festival. The capacity will be 24 students and we have 14 expressions of interest at this point. We have 2 Canadian Callerlab accredited coaches and 2 Canadian caller assistants lined up.

Moved Seconded: Janice Hiscott/Don Allan -- To accept above reports items A through I, as given -- CARRIED

CLUB CONCERNS -

- Ray mentioned that there were half a dozen kids dancing at Wesburn whose families could not pay the dance fees, which was affecting club finances. Don suggested this was something that could be eligible for a Building Fund grant.

OLD BUSINESS-

- None

NEW BUSINESS –

1. Setting Executive and General Meeting schedules (Saturday/Sunday)

The proposal of Executive meetings on Saturdays and General Meetings on Sundays is because Janice Hiscott is not available Saturdays and John Corrigan is not available Sundays. Proposed dates are:

Saturday, Jan. 24 - Executive meeting

(15 days between Exec & GM)

Sunday, Feb. 8 - General meeting

(20 days until next Exec)

Sat, Feb. 28 - Executive meeting

(8 days between Exec & GM)

Sun. Mar. 8 - General meeting (one hr later start? - time change)

(20 days until next Exec)

Sat, Mar. 28 - Executive meeting

(15 days between Exec & GM)

Sun. Apr. 12 - General meeting

(13 days until next Exec)

Sat, April 25 - Executive meeting

(8 days between Exec & GM)

Sun. May 3 - General meeting (2nd Sunday is Mother's Day)

(20 days until next Exec)

Sat, May 23 - Executive meeting

(14 days between Exec & GM)

Sun. June 7 - AGM (2nd Sunday is Father's Day)

Maureen will try and book Timms Community Centre in Langley for the AGM. They offer a reduced rate for non-profit organizations.

2. Directors -- groups reorganized as of January 2026 (attach list)

While the assignments were agreed to, updates to Level danced at a number of clubs were requested.

Moved Seconded: Yvonne Hebein/Diane O'Hara -- To appoint Janice Hiscott as the 4th Director of FVSRA -- CARRIED

3. Discussion -- Access to Directors' reports

It was agreed that although Directors' reports are not part of General Meetings, the reports that the Directors submit to Executive meetings would be circulated going forward, as a matter of interest.

4. Discussion of FVSRDA Grant programs (DeSmit and Building Legacy) (Don Allan)

Don said that although the DeSmit grant is well established and understood, the Building Fund grants are newer – it is designed to assist clubs to continue dancing and for recruitment. It has funded Promotion Committee projects. The deadline to apply is January 15 and application forms are on the website. Wesburn should apply for a Building Fund grant. Wendy mentioned that Wheeling 8s also have dancers who can't pay. The applications will be reviewed by the Executive at their January 24 meeting,

GOOD & WELFARE-

- Connie Bryce reported that Daphne Bakker and Guy Payne had been having a rough couple of weeks. Daphne's husband broke his jaw and Guy badly scalded his chest.
- Ray Brendzy reported that Lynne Bateson has had a viral cough for 2 months.
- Maureen asked them to send their mailing addresses to Daphne Green so she can send cards.

ORDER OF THE DAY-

- Surrey Square Wheelers 65th anniversary November 22
- Guys 'n' Gals - Hawaii Day November 23
- Brent's Bunch – Christmas Dance now December 11
- Motiv8ors - Christmas Dinner Dance December 12
- Chilliwack Rhythm Reelers – Christmas Goodies and Dance December 12
- Abbotsford Grand Squares – Christmas Potluck & Dance December 15
- Surrey Square Wheelers Christmas Dinner Dance December 16 (ticketed, no tickets at door)
- Chuckwagon 8s – Christmas Dance December 17
- Valley Promenaders – Christmas Potluck December 18
- Guys 'n' Gals - Christmas Potluck December 21
- VDCTA - Mid Year Dance December 28
- New Year's Eve at Brookswood Community Centre December 31
- Century House – Start Up January 3, 2026
- Guys 'n' Gals – Start Up January 4, 2026
- White Rockers – Start Up January 4, 2026
- Abbotsford Grand Squares – Start Up January 5, 2026
- Town 'n' Country – New Dancer Classes January 7, 2026
- Valley Promenaders – Start Up January 8, 2026
- Town 'n' Country – Plus and Mainstream Start Up January 9, 2026
- White Rockers - New Dancer Classes January 11, 2026 (flyer attached)
- SSW Start Up Rounds January 12, Plus January 13, Mainstream January 14, 2026
- Circle 8s and Wesburn will have new dancer intake in January; Ray will provide dates to Blair for posting
- Tony Oxendyne Day of Dancing at Kennedy Hall - BC Day August 3, 2026

Blair will add these events to the online calendar, and reminded clubs that they can do this themselves. Sandi reminded all that Club Chatter in the Valley Circle contains these dates.

NEXT MEETING – EXEC – Saturday, January 24 @ 9 AM VIA ZOOM

-- GM – Sunday, February 8 @ 9 AM VIA ZOOM

ADJOURNMENT @ 10:08 AM by Don Allan

~Respectfully submitted by Daphne Green~

Corrections and forgiveness requested