



## FRASER VALLEY SQUARE & ROUND DANCE ASSOCIATION

### General Meeting

Sunday, March 15, 2026 – 9:00 AM via ZOOM

President – Maureen Wilson

Meeting brought to order at 9:01 AM

Maureen Wilson welcomed everyone, and thanked Yvonne for filling in as Chair at the February 28 Executive meeting when Maureen was delayed in Mexico.

Attendance: **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 and Christine Brendzy), **Stardowners** (Mary Decario), **Surrey Square Wheelers** (Judy Remenda), **Swinging Hubs** (\*Al Gibbs), **Town 'n' Country Dancers** (Greg Dahlgren), **Valley Promenaders** (\*Wendy Krueger), **Wesburn Wranglers** (Caitlyn Brendzy), **White Rockers** (\*Lyle & Diane O'Hara), \*Don Allan, \*Alex Galbraith, \*June Fitchett, \*Dave Hammer, \*Yvonne Hebein, \*Blair Wallace, \*Dianne Wilson, \*Maureen Wilson.

Absent: **Abbotsford Grand Squares**, **Royal City Squares**, **Wheeling 8's**, \*John Corrigan.

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

### Agenda

*Moved/Seconded: Don Allan/Dianne Wilson -- to accept Agenda as circulated -- CARRIED*

### Minutes

*Moved/Seconded: Don Allan/Dave Hammer -- To approve the minutes of the General Meeting (February 8, 2026) as circulated -- CARRIED*

### Correspondence

Daphne sent a 'Happy 80<sup>th</sup> Birthday' card to **Don Allan** (special exception), 'Speedy Recovery' card to **Lynn Bateson** (torn leg muscle); sympathy cards to widower **Alan Ellis** and his mother **Mae Ellis** re Carola Ellis; widow **Diana Williams**, sons/partners **Mike Williams & Donita Meyer** and **Steve Williams & Judy Remenda** re Al Williams. Don received a gracious thank you card from **Century House Squares** for their grant.

### REPORTS –

#### Treasurer's Report – Don Allan

- Don reviewed his circulated reports. \$2,000 of the \$3,047.31 received from BC Festival 2025 was allocated to the DeSmith Fund to restore the forgiven loan to the cancelled Canadian National Festival 2020, and the balance was allocated to the Building Fund.

*Moved/Seconded: Don Allan/Betty Klassen -- To accept Treasurer's Report, as circulated – CARRIED*

**A. Vice President – Yvonne Hebein**

- Yvonne presented Town 'n' Country with their 65th anniversary crest at their Heart & Stroke Dance on Feb 16th. The original presentation was at their 65th, but we didn't have the crest ready.

**B. Valley Circle/Website – Blair Wallace**

- Blair announced that we have a new Flashback Editor, Nora Kruse.
- The April/May issue of the Valley Circle is in the works and the website is up to date.

**C. Promotion Committee – Lyle & Diane O'Hara**

The FV Promotion committee participated in the local YOUNG AT HEART (Seniors Expo) on March 4th in Surrey. We had a booth with John & Mary Corrigan/Lyle & Diane O'Hara who talked & shared material about Square Dancing/clubs & NEW DANCER Classes in the Fraser Valley.

The Surrey Square Wheelers with Steve Edlund were present doing Demos approx. every 45 minutes. The activity, colored outfits & music was super entertaining & appreciated by the audience.

The feedback from the organization as follows:

32- exhibitors - Issues dealing with getting OLDER Over 300 walked in to investigate what was offered.

Many stopping by our booth to ask questions, commenting on the outfits, dancers & remarking "SQUARE DANCING IS STILL AROUND"

In my followup with the organization I have been made aware of more locations coming throughout this year in the Fraser Valley. Hopefully we can participate in another one & help any clubs with recruitment for the fall or spring.

The biggest problem is visibility. Nobody knows we are around.

EVENTS: Young at Heart Senior Expo dates

Wed. May 6 - Abbotsford Curling Club

Wed. June 17- Langley Curling Club

Wed. Oct. 28 - Coast Chilliwack Hotel

Fri. Nov. 13 - Surrey - TBA

Greg said demos right as classes are starting were very effective for Abbotsford 2 years ago, with good retention of students. Retention is a crucial issue. Plenty of angels are key, both to anchor the squares and to add to the atmosphere. Mass marketing requires a massive budget, which we don't have, so we need to better identify where spending on promotion is cost effective. Judy suggested that square dance attire may deter some potential students, and that recruitment demos should allow street clothes.

Ray said he will be attending CALLERLAB and will try and get some pertinent information. Some Seattle clubs coordinate their new dancer classes so that students can swap days of the week/clubs if needed and not fall behind, or take the lesson at more than one club to get more floor time. The Association provides a flyer with a list of participant clubs and class information.

**D. BC Federation – Dianne Wilson**

- BOD meeting March 8th. 9 am
- GM April 19<sup>th</sup> 8:30 am. PLEASE SAVE THE DATE!! There are 3 motions to be voted on. There will likely be a meeting at Festival 2026 in Penticton as well. Dianne will send a reminder re the date and the requirement for proxies. Dianne confirmed she is willing to serve as proxy for any club that names her, and Wendy is willing to act as alternate proxy.

**E. Canadian Society – Dianne Wilson**

- The AGM will be held Friday, July 17 at the Penticton Festival. Time to be determined. All are welcome to attend.
- Wendy added that there are 505 registered for Penticton. She did a calculation and historically 30% of registrations have come in during the last 4 months. If we follow suit, we would pass 700 registrations. The Fredericton 2028 Committee is in the early stages of planning.

**F. Gala Committee – Dave Hammer**

**Reorganization of the Gala Committee**

Several present committee members are stepping down to pursue other endeavours thus the Gala committee has openings now for anyone who would like to take part in this energetic group. I would like to thank those members going on to new adventures for their conscientiousness and diligent work over the past several years. Planning for Gala 2026 will begin when we have an active and interested group of members.

**A Brief History of the FVSRDA GALA**

The Gala was a continuation of the B.C. Ball which originated in order for dancers to have a venue which was a step up from community halls, churches, etc. It was for all callers and cuers who are registered to be given a chance to call/cue at a beautiful upbeat hall to an adult appreciative crowd.

Contact: Dave Hammer email: [rockhammer002001@gmail.com](mailto:rockhammer002001@gmail.com) or Phone: 604-501-0563

Frank provided a list of Duties (attached).

**G. VDCTA – Wendy Krueger**

- The Callers and Cuers had an in-person meeting Saturday March 7 at the Aldergrove Heritage Hall. Brian Penny was pleased with how the Cueing workshop went. Wendy hasn't heard how John Corrigan's Calling workshop went, but he covered the new September 1 lists, smoothly flowing choreography and sight resolution.
- The VDCTA is happy that there will be a joint meeting with the FVSRDA Executive, which can be scheduled now that Maureen is back.
- Sunday summer dancing: Tyler Wagner will continue Sunday afternoon SSD and Mainstream at Guys 'n' Gals. He will do an Introduction to Plus, also on Sunday afternoons. The Sunday evening 7-9 PM at Kennedy Hall with a variety of callers and cuers will happen again, with August 2 being dark because of the Monday August 3 BC Day Blast with Tony Oxendine and Ray Brendzy afternoon Plus and evening SSD and Mainstream dances (with optional group dinner between).
- Ellen Robertson is retiring the Quicksteppers. Ray said some of that club are continuing to dance at the hall and hope to recruit more round dancers and rebuild with a new name.
- There is a 2026 Caller School in Penticton, and a 2027 Cuer school is at the conceptual stage.
- The VDCTA and FVSRDA were joint sponsors of BC Festival 2025 in Langley and Wendy wants the records to be accessible to both organizations. The 2019 Salmon Arm festival sent their hard copy records but they were lost in a move. Mark Garstin will help set up cloud storage. Maureen will provide the Registration records to Wendy.
- She reminded about the Spring Jamboree and Spring Fling (flyers previously distributed).
- Helge and Elaine Jacobsen have been trying to get Mission Youth Dancing going. They have had 4 sessions and planned to have monthly dances until June but no youth attended in February. If no youth attend the March 19 session, they will probably discontinue it.
- Wendy likes the idea of cooperative beginner classes; hopefully someone will step forward to organize that. This could be discussed at the joint Executive meeting.

- A Roundaree has been suggested, and could be discussed at the joint Executive meeting.

#### H. **Scroll of Honour – Yvonne Hebein**

The deadline for nominations was February 28. Yvonne received 5 nominations, including a caller couple.

***Moved Seconded: Diane O'Hara/Yvonne Hebein -- To accept above reports items A through H, as given -- CARRIED***

#### **CLUB CONCERNS -**

- None

#### **OLD BUSINESS-**

- None

#### **NEW BUSINESS –**

##### 1. Social Convenor's Stored Materials

Bin 1 contains Paper Cups, Paper Plates, Paper Towels, Table Covers (Plastic) and a water jug

Bin 2 contains Napkins, a Small Electric Kettle, Tea Bags, Coffee, Sugar, Vinyl Gloves

There was consensus that as the FVSRDA meets in person so rarely, these materials could be made available for special dances or club events at the June AGM, or before if the need arises.

The Executive should discuss the future of the Social Convenor position at the May 23 Executive Meeting and make a recommendation to the AGM. Blair confirmed that were this position to be eliminated, quorums would not be affected.

#### **GOOD & WELFARE-**

- Reported were Andy Dussault (sinus infection), Darlene Poetker (cartilage damage in knee) and Linda Korchenko (foot issues under investigation, won't be able to dance for awhile). Maureen will provide addresses to Daphne for cards.

#### **ORDER OF THE DAY-**

- White Rockers: St. Patrick Dance – March 15
- Guys 'n' Gals: St. Patrick's Dance – March 15
- Circle 8s Rounds: St. Patrick's Dance - March 15
- Swinging Hubs: St. Patrick's Dance and Pizza – March 16
- Chilliwack Rhythm Reelers: St. Patrick's Dance - March 17
- Circle 8s Squares: St. Patrick's Dance - March 17
- Surrey Square Wheelers: St. Patrick's Theme Dances March 17 and 18
- Chilliwack Rhythm Reelers: Mystery Theme Night - March 31
- Chuckwagon 8s: Easter Bonnet Dance – April 1
- Stardowners: Easter Bonnet Dance – April 2
- Guys 'n' Gals: Easter Bonnet Dance - April 5
- Surrey Square Wheelers: Easter Theme Dance – April 7 & 8
- Surrey Square Wheelers: Happiness Dance – April 11 (flyer prev distributed)
- V&DCTA/FVSRDA: Spring New Dancer Jamboree - April 18 (flyer prev distributed)
- BCSRDF: GM - April 19<sup>th</sup> 8:30 am

- Stardowners: Trifling Affair/Silent Auction - April 23 (flyer prev distributed)
- Brent's Bunch: Sixties Dance for Brent's Sixtieth – April 30 (flyer)
- V&DCTA: Spring Fling - May 31 (flyer prev distributed)
- BC Day Blast with Tony Oxendine: Kennedy Hall - August 3, 2026 (flyer prev distributed)
- BC Round Dance Festival: Nanoose Bay, BC - July 22, 23 and 24, 2027
- Mickey Braithewaite of Germany late April 2027

**NEXT MEETING** – EXEC -- Saturday, March 28, 2026 @ 9 AM VIA ZOOM  
– GM -- Sunday, April 12, 2026 @ 9 AM VIA ZOOM

**ADJOURNMENT** @ 9:53 AM by Don Allan

*~Respectfully submitted by Daphne Green~*

*Corrections and forgiveness requested*