

Mt. Baker Council Minutes

September 3, 2008

CALL TO ORDER: President Ray Gallagher called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm at the Marysville Administration Building. The Pledge of Allegiance and Roll Call followed. The Dancing Jewels were absent.

Secretary's Report: Geri Johnson 425 337 3658 roygerijohnson@msn.com The motions from the 6/4/08 meeting were read. The minutes were corrected to clarify that the motion to table the Mount Baker Council's bid for the 2015 State Festival until September was the motion that was passed. Geri Johnson thanked all the officers, committee chairmen, and delegates who are sending their reports to her electronically.

Treasurer's Report: Roy Johnson 425 337 3658 royhjohnson@comcast.net A financial review for the period 6/17/07 through 6/17/08 was completed by Marie R. Gunderson and receipts, disbursements, deposits, bank statements, and investment instruments reconcile with each other. A change of signature cards for officers of the Mt. Baker Council was completed July 10, 2008 at the Washington Mutual Bank in Lynnwood. Roy Johnson reported that there is a balance of \$3,424.68 in the checking account.

The bills presented for payment were: \$34.45 to L&L Engravers for badge bars; \$107.51 for chairs and the set up at the Hayloft for the speaker on 9/20/08; \$40.00 for the Hayloft rental on 9/20/08; \$50.00 reimbursement to Mt. Baker Singles and Skagit Squares for callers for demo dances. Oren Gaskill moved we pay these bills. Charlotte Wixon seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Corresponding Secretary's Report: Leslie Young 360 658 6519 ljyoung425@aol.com I have received minutes from the following councils: CPS, and the Heritage Center business meeting. If you are interested in reading them please see me. I have had an idea sent to me from a fellow square dancer talking about progressive squares or dancing. It would take several clubs to participate but what a way to fill several dance halls.

Area Delegate: Gailyn and Ron Ploeg 360 766 6729 ploegrj@msn.com It has only been 3 summer months since the last state meeting, but I am again requesting information from your clubs to report to the State Meeting at the Skagit Valley Grange in Sedro Woolley on September 13th. I have passed out a questionnaire to each club's delegate asking for you to fill in and give back to me by meeting's end. Tell me what you would like me to report about our council's clubs, what you did this summer, what your club plans this dance year.

At the State Festival in Longview, the Mexican Vacation Raffle was won by Bill and Annadale Rooper of The Dalles, OR. Gene Currier, Delegate from Sou'Wester won \$200 cash, and Rollie Seibert won \$100. Although no winner was from our council, you can be proud of the fact that 37% of the tickets were sold in Mt. Baker Council and that supported a huge part of the profit of over \$3800 given to the BID for Spokane Committee. Great Job! Be sure to take a last look at Ron's Honorary Quilt Raffle tonight, as the final ticket will be drawn at the State Meeting.

And of course you know we have a National Convention being planned in Spokane in 2012! It was so exciting to be in Wichita working to be awarded the final bid! The first meeting of the 61st National Square Dance Convention with their National Executive Advisors in this Saturday, September 6th, in Spokane. So the fun begins!

One more item I wished to mention is the final dance on Friday, October 24th of the Westside Wheelers of Seattle. They are "TURNING OUT THE LIGHTS" after 45 years of dancing, and have dedicated the profits of that last dance at the Alki Masonic Hall to the 2012 National Convention Committee. Contact Caller Don Smith for further information, (253) 839-9391 or S3255@comcast.net

Area Nominating: Oren and Lew Gaskill 360 733 4487 olgaskill@comcast.net No report.

Vice President: Glen and Tami Shaw 360 387 5055 glenshaw1@msn.com Glen Shaw welcomed everyone back for what will be a fun year of dancing and support for each other during this year.

Advisor: Oren and Lew Gaskill 360 733 4487 olgaskill@comcast.net The Delegate packets have been up-dated and are here for distribution. If both delegates are not here, please pick up both packets for your Club and deliver the appropriate packet to the other Delegate. Thank you.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Computer Coordinator: Al Jeschke 425 252 5609 ajeschke@premier1.net There have been a lot of updates to the Council web page this month. The Freewheelers have a lot of fliers for their dances. On the home page are references to the September State Federation Meeting and the Fall Council Dance. All the calendars are current for the 2008 – 2009 season. I still need information on level dances.

Council Dances:

Mt. Baker T/C/C: October 26, 2008

Doug Coleman reported that he has ticket money to give to the treasurer tonight. The tickets were handed out at the June meeting. Oren Gaskill added that the caller for this dance is Doug Davis, who was the featured speaker at the Leadership Seminar this summer, and the cuer is Alison Hampton from Canada.

Checkerboard Squares: May 30, 2009

No report.

Council Directory: Doug Keyes 425 806 8423 dougkeyes@clearwire.net The Council Directory is ready to print. I need authorization tonight to print it. There are a couple of options for distribution this year so I am asking that this be put on the agenda tonight for discussion. I received a response from most clubs that I sent proof sheets to earlier this summer. Thank you to all for checking the information and responding to my request. I have a copy of the directory with me tonight if anyone wishes to check their club page.

Council Notes: Beate and Larry Peterson Absent, no report.

Education/Leadership: Gary Seat 360 403 7073 gary_seat@hotmail.com Remember: for those who attended Leadership, please submit your request for reimbursement for the registration, one couple per club only.

Please turn in your request for Demo Dance Caller Reimbursement for your demo dances this last summer. You must request the matching funds. I have emailed a form for requesting this reimbursement to each club that wanted it. If you need more, please see me.

Any club that has a Level Dance schedule, please give or send it to me. I would love to make a calendar for all of the Club Level Dances and print it up for you so that you can plan accordingly. Remember to caravan to these level dances to meet and greet the new dancers. Welcome them to our wonderful activity.

I am assuming that all clubs have a Youth Dance Donation posted at their dances unless I am notified differently. We have previously asked clubs to do this and we had no one tell us that they were not going to do that.

One of the best ways that you can keep your members informed of what is happening is to provide a newsletter to your members. If you don't have one, please consider starting one. Inform all of your members of what is happening in your own club and your Council activities.

Remember the Past, but look to the Future. "Your mind is like a parachute. It works much better when it's open!" Kurek Ashley, from his new book *How Would Love Respond*.

DANCE HALLS, will we have them in the future? One of the problems our activity has is the lack of affordable dance halls. Whirlybirds, Freewheeler's and Dancing Shadows have lost their halls and had to move or will have to move. As Square Dancers, we really need to secure our place to dance, physically and at an affordable price. The Fidelity Grange up at Smoky Point is going to be torn down when the State puts in a new overpass. The Hayloft is also going to be going away to make way for condos or apartments. If we could work together long enough, maybe we could buy and move the buildings or at least save the floors. I suggest that we set up a committee to study our dance halls, look to other kinds of possibilities and plan for the future of having good dance halls at an affordable price. At least this is something to think about.

Fair: Lisa Hagen-Lyle 360 794 1993 lhlyle@juno.com Absent, no report.

Float: Roger and Kay Mahan 425 835 0925 Absent. Report recorded by the secretary. The float was used several times this summer. I'd like to thank Ron & Gailyn Ploeg for storing it and making it available to the users. We will try to schedule a "paint" party some time next spring.

Footnotes: Geri and Roy Johnson 360 337 3658 Nine clubs have articles being printed in the October Footnotes. Thank you for sending me your reports. Our own Joe Clein is the "Voice of the Solo Dancer" in the September Footnotes. You will enjoy reading his article.

Heritage Center: Sharan & Cliff McCracken 425 398 9011. candsmccracken@verizon.net No report.

Historian: Shirley & Bernie Cook 206 364 4173 shirleycue@aol.com I took over this job from Ila Williams who did a lot of work to get historical information from the Mt. Baker Council Clubs, past and present. The histories of the clubs that are no longer around are most interesting to read. I would like to keep this going, but I am having a hard time getting information from the clubs. The new club in our Council, the Fern Bluff Squares, needs to compile their history information and give it to me. I also need updated information from all clubs. Please see that someone in your club takes the responsibility for getting updated information to me. Thank you.

Membership & Insurance: Roy Johnson 425 337 3658 There are 1053 members in Mt. Baker Council. In June 07 there were 805 members. Our efforts to increase membership have been successful. I have put into each club's mailbox folders a roster from the State

Federation that lists your club's current members. If there is a correction to be made about this list, please contact me.

New Dancer Books: Cliff McCracken 425 398 9011 Most of our Council's clubs will be starting lessons in Sept. or Oct. As soon as you know how many students your club has, put in your order for mainstream books: one book for each family & one book for each single.

Nominating: Oren and Lew Gaskill 360 733 4487 No report.

Properties: Rosie & John Hayes 360 424 4608 cloggingrosie@comcast.net Property Reports for the officers and committee chairpersons have been personally passed out tonight. Delegate # 1 will have their copy included in their blue folder that they will receive from Oren and Lew Gaskill, the Advisors. Let me know if you have any questions.

Publicity & Promotion: Leslie Young 360 658 6519 ljyoung425@aol.com Over the summer months I have been learning my new position, which at times has been quite a task. Bonnie Harry was asked to advertise with the Little Nickel, for their ads that are related to the Evergreen State Fair. Instead of advertising for Petticoat Junction she chose to advertise about square dancing and then put sponsored by Petticoat Junction. I have sent an email to MBC Board and to Pat Hoot of CPS asking that each council consider paying her half which is \$87.50 each. I had business cards as well as new fliers made to help promote square dancing. I mailed them to local businesses in an attempt to promote square dancing.

Over the summer I have tried very hard to make sure there was a constant ad (which was free) on the internet on Craigslist to advertise for lessons with my own number being the contact number for potential new students. I do however feel that most councils should consider putting a paid advertisement in local papers. It would be great to advertise in July, August, or September in an attempt to get more students to sign up for classes. Then when we get new students, clubs have to do more to try and keep them. I had heard that Doug Davis tried very hard to change some of the old mindsets in a way for experienced dancers to ease up and have more fun, but that it wasn't well received. I am trying very hard to help our hobby survive as a new dancer.

Next summer for the demo dance season I have a surprise for all dancers. I am planning on only going to two camping weekends, one being Leadership Seminar the other Winthrop. Then I can attend more demo dances. I will be bringing with me a jar. Each dancer at each demo dance can put their name in the jar. The more demo dances you go to the more chance you have to win the special prize. Last year there was some mention about putting the graduation certificate template on the website. Now I realize some clubs may not want to download or use this option, but some clubs may want to. This would be one way to save the council some money so we can use the money where we really need it: marketing and education. I do think that people chairing these committees have to look at all avenues when doing a demo dance for the public. When we do a fair, parade or Center House dance, we should be included on all websites pertaining to that event. If there are handouts being printed by the Fair committee or Center House staff, we should also be included in those publications. I recently went to the Fair websites for the Evergreen and Puyallup and found nothing mentioned about square dances.

Did you know that square dancers have been doing the summer dances at the Seattle Center House since 1962 after the World's Fair at Seattle Center and still have them in

July, August, and a Christmas Dance in December. These dances are a huge part of our history; which is why we must keep these kinds of traditions.

I would like to get a banner for the float that is attractive to the eye. It might list clubs in MBC and also have our website on it.

Round Dance: Shirley Cook 206 364 4173 (reporting for Bob Berka) The round of the month for September 2008 is a waltz called "Somebody Somewhere" choreographed by Susan Healea who lives in Longview, WA. The music for this dance is available on the CD album "The Definitive Collection" by Loretta Lynn, or can be downloaded from several different internet sites. The dance chosen for the October 2008 round of the month is a two-step called "Take It Easy". It is choreographed by Mary and Scott Parsons who live in Olympia, WA. The dance has a Strolling Vine. The music for this dance is by the Eagles and is available on the CD "The Very Best of the Eagles".

Round Tuit: Cliff & Sharan McCracken 425 398 9011 We're starting off the new season with a bang. We have two dangles to present at Sky Valley, two at Mt. Baker Singles, and one at Spurs & Laces. If any club needs signature forms please let me know and I will see that you get some. Tonight I received three more completed forms.

Scrapbook: Roxanne Lewis 425 486 8587 scott.lewis11@verizon.net Roxanne Lewis has asked to be relieved from this position. If anyone would like to volunteer, please see Ray Gallagher. Gailyn Ploeg and Ray Gallagher had pictures to give to the Scrapbook chairperson which were given to Charlotte Wixon to pass along.

Solo Coordinator: Joe Clein 425 774 6574 jclein2@comcast.net The new square dance season is upon us. Are you ready? Many clubs are getting ready to start lessons again. Come one--come all and be angels to the new students, greet them with a smile, and welcome them to square dancing! Have you seen the new "Footnotes"? Yours truly is this month's Guest Reporter for "The Voice of the Solo Dancer". Leslie Young is working on an article for couple of months from now. I would appreciate it if you would give me some ideas or stories about what you would like to read about for future articles. I put my foot in my mouth and said I would work and get five articles written up for this season. I could surely use your help, as I am not a writer. Doug Keyes thanked Joe Clein for a job well done in writing this article for the Footnotes and volunteering for being the Voice of the Solo Dancer in this publication.

Ways & Means: Carol Harris 206 362 3734 chskier@localnet.com Entertainment Books are available for pick up tonight. The books sell for \$20.00 each. Ron Ploeg would like to use the Haggen coupons from the Seattle books as a selling incentive for buyers of the book. If you know of anyone not using the Haggen coupons, he would like to have those. Thank you.

Youth Coordinator: Ray and Cindy Gallagher 425 742 4093 Reports about youth activities are not limited to square dancing. Any accomplishments of the youth in other areas of their lives need to be reported to us. This could be winning a scholarship, sports awards, plays and anything that the youth do. We can then write an article for Footnotes and keep the square dancers informed that our youth are active individuals!

SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS:

State Meeting September 12-13, 2008: Ron and Gailyn Ploeg 360 766 6729

The plans for the September State meeting and dances at the Skagit Valley Grange on September 12th and 13th are finalized. The complimentary luncheon hosted by the Fidalgo Fogcutters is fully planned, as is the continental breakfast hosted by the

Whirlybirds. The Mt. Baker Singles and the Fern Bluff Squares have their dances fully planned for Friday and Saturday nights, and the Shirts-N-Skirts and the Spurs and Laces will serve refreshments by donation during each dance as fund-raisers for their clubs. President Ray has organized and will surprise us all with the gifts he has chosen for the VIPs from our council.

Thank you to new Council Notes editors Beate and Larry Peterson for advertising the weekend events on the cover of their September issue as a donation to the council. Also thank you to the Checkerboard Squares, the Rainbow Squares and the Whidbey Whirlers for going dark on Saturday evening in support of the state meeting dance; we understand that several of these clubs plan to caravan in that evening, and also the Freewheelers. For those of you with RVs, plan to come spend the weekend dry camping at the grange; camping is by donation and helps the council fund the expenses of the weekend.

President-elect Doug Keyes will be installed at the State Federation meeting sometime around mid-day on Saturday, and plans an After-Party upstairs when that evening's dancing is over.

We have had numerous offers of help, and have asked a few of you to coordinate set-up and take down of the meeting room, and do general maintenance – thank you to all who have offered to assist.

Come and enjoy a busy and fun weekend!

The Skagit Valley Grange rents for \$200.00 for the State Meeting weekend. The Mt. Baker Singles have their own contract to rent the hall for \$75.00 on Friday night. Mt. Baker Council will pay rent of \$125.00 with the Fern Bluff Squares reimbursing them \$75.00 for their Saturday night dance. The total cost to the Mt. Baker Council will be \$50.00. Gailyn Ploeg moved that Mt. Baker Council send a check to cover the rental of the Skagit Valley Grange for \$125.00. Jim Burnside seconded the motion. The motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

Council Speaker, Lea Veronica, 9/20/08

Jim Burnside reporting.

This event will be held at the Hayloft, 15320 – 35th Ave. W., Lynnwood, WA, starting at 2:00 pm Saturday, September 20, 2008. Thank you to John Hayes for helping to arrange this event. Thank you to Dave and Bonnie Harry for buying airline tickets to bring Lea and her husband, Jim, up here from California. Thank you to Roy and Geri Johnson for letting Lea and Jim stay with them, and for picking them up at the airport and taking them back to the airport. Thank you to Roy and Geri Johnson along with Polly and me for buying dinner for Lea and Jim on that Saturday night. Thank you to the Whirlybird Square Dance Club for providing cookies and coffee for this event.

Flyers and invitations have been sent out to all the Councils. E-mails have been sent out to many. Flyers have been put in the club mailboxes tonight. Flyers will be available at the upcoming State Federation meeting. I think we are ready to learn how we can do better on “Recruiting and Retention”. It should be a very exciting time for all of us to learn more on how we can help to increase participation in our activity.

2015 State Festival in Mt. Baker Council

Oren Gaskill brought the tabled motion to bid for the 2015 State Festival came before the Council. Doug Keyes said that the State Federation accepts bids for State Festivals two years in advance. If we want to bid for the 2015 State Festival, it can stand on the books

until that year's bid comes up. Discussion followed. The motion to bid for the 2015 State Festival carried. Doug Keyes will get more information for us and we will act on it when we can.

NEW BUSINESS:

Entertainment Books:

Carol Harris moved that the Council pay for 25% of the anticipated sales of Entertainment Books before 9/15/08. This equals \$700.00. Cindy Gallagher seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Seattle Center House Dances 2009

CPS Council is asking Mt Baker Council for support in sponsoring the Seattle Center House Dances for 2009. The proposed dates are Friday, July 24, 2009, Friday, August 14, 2009, and Sunday December 20, 2009. Oren Gaskill moved we participate financially in the Seattle Center House dances for 2009. Leslie Young seconded the motion. Discussion followed. The motion carried. It was requested that Ray Gallagher ask CPS Council if a Saturday evening dance at the Seattle Center could be considered.

2008-2009 Council Directory

Doug Keyes moved that we print 130 copies of the Council Directory at a cost of \$1.25 per copy, tax included. John Hayes seconded the motion. Discussion followed. The motion carried.

Alzheimer's Dance 2/22/09

Joe Bahr from the Sky Valley Whirlwinds reported that the Alzheimer's Benefit Dance for 2009 has been scheduled for February 22, 2009 at the Edmonds Masonic Hall from 1 – 4:30 pm. Thirteen callers have volunteered their time and skills. This dance will be advertised on the website as well as all local newspapers. Extensive media coverage for this dance is planned. If you have suggestions or questions, please contact Joe Bahr at 206 310 5627 or jlbahr777@hotmail.com.

Publicity/Promotion Motion

Dave Harry spoke about motions he would like to have brought before the State Federation Meeting this September. The motions would be as follows:

Motion 1:

To appoint a subcommittee of publicity and promotion to research local events across the state for:

1. Advertising opportunities in program books or ad flyers of those events
2. Involvement opportunities as a part of the festivities

The purpose of this motion is to increase public awareness of square dancing.

Motion 2:

To allocate a minimum sum of \$5,000.00 to be available for the first year pilot program for purchasing ads in the event publications as agreed upon.

Jim Burnside moved to authorize Gailyn Ploeg, Mt. Baker Council area delegate, to make these motions at the State Federation Meeting September 13, 2008. Oren Gaskill seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Dave Harry spoke about the publicity for the 2012 National Square Dance Convention being held in Spokane. He would like to see extensive media coverage as dances are held throughout the state trailing in to the convention. Oren Gaskill said he will take this idea to the National Publicity Committee.

Change in Mileage and Lodging Reimbursement

Gary Seat moved to increase the amount of reimbursement for mileage and lodging for attendance at State Meetings for the President, Area Delegate and the Area Nominating from \$.10 to \$.20 per mile and from \$25.00 to \$50.00 per night. Joe Clein seconded the motion. The motion failed.

DELEGATE REPORTS:

Checkerboard Squares: Ken Marvel 425 745 1403 Greg Weber will call and Debbie Taylor will cue our "Octoberfest" dance Oct. 13. Pre-rounds: 7:00-8:00 pm, followed by a **Square Dance Workshop: 8:00-8:30 pm**, (the second of 5 scheduled throughout the year). Dancing is from 8:30-10:30 pm. Greg Weber will call and Sue Weber will cue our Oct. 23 "Pirate's Lair" dance. Come in costume. There will be a prize for the best costume. Pre-rounds at 7:30, dancing 8:00-10:30 pm.

Dancing Jewels: Martha Mercer 206 365 8095. Absent. No report.

Dancing Shadows: Cliff & Sharan McCracken 425 398 9011. Dancing Shadows season starts in Sept. at Lake City. In October we will dance on the 4th & 18th. In addition to our regular round dances in November, we will host a square dance party to honor Debbie & Paul Taylor for winning the 2008 McNutt Award. The date is Sunday, Nov. 23. It will be mainstream called by Ray Gallagher & cued by Cindy Gallagher. Maybe we can talk Ray into a couple of plus tips. Watch for our ads in Council Notes, Footnotes, and Promenade.

Dudes & Dolls: Charlotte Wixon 425 347 4807 Tim Manus was introduced as Delegate 2 from the Dudes and Dolls. The Dudes & Dolls beginning lessons start Sept. 9 with Scott Coon teaching. The dances on the 9th, 16th, and 23rd are all free. Our regular dance season started on Sept. 12 with Scott Coon calling. Eddie Harry will be doing the calling for our Sept. 26 dance. Debbie Taylor cues our dances. Mark your calendar for our New Year's Eve gala with Scott Slocum doing the calling. In the spring we are going to offer a hybrid workshop of half mainstream half plus. Stay tuned for the details!

Fern Bluff Squares: Dick Sommers 425 359 5648. Fern Bluff Squares would like to thank all those who made the Gold Dust Days demo a success. Susan Morris was the caller. We had a great turnout for the demo dance and the BBQ at Cliff & Cathy Bruhn's afterward. We hosted the Saturday night dance at the September State Federation meeting, Sept. 13, at the Skagit Grange with a special caller, Ian Small, from New Zealand. We invite you all to come to our upcoming dances this season.

Fidalgo Fogcutters: Joan Crawford 360 424 3874 We dance Oct. 3 with John Corrigan calling and Bob and Linda Berka cueing. Oct. 4, we are caravanning to the Happy Hoppers Plus afternoon dance. On Oct. 17, Randy Preskitt will be our caller/cuer. Put Nov. 21 on your calendar for our "ALL YOU CAN EAT PRAWN DINNER" with Brent Mawdsley calling and the Berkas cueing. Presale tickets are \$15.00. Roast beef is available for those allergic to seafood. Congratulations to Fidalgo Fogcutter member, Doug Keyes, our new State President.

Freewheelers: Carol Harris 206 362 3734. A big thank you to all the dancers who supported our summer dances at our new location. We are trying something new with our lessons this year. We are contracting with the Bitter Lake Community Center to run the class. We will be listed in the Fall 2008 Seattle Parks & Recreation booklet and students can register on line. Sunday, October 5, is our "Oktoberfest" dance with Roger and Debbie. We are

expecting Checkerboard Squares. Sunday, October 19, is our "Harvest" dance with Bob and Debbie. This is our first level dance and experienced clothing sale.

Happy Hoppers: Frank Rousseau 360 568 1176 Hoppers found a new use for zucchini. We held our first annual zucchini race with about 20 participants. The winners took home zucchini seeds for next year's race. The Hopper caller schedule for 2008-2009 can be found in Council Notes and Promenade. Please note national caller, ***Charlie Robertson***, will be calling at Stillaguamish Senior Center on October 4. He will call an afternoon plus and an evening mainstream dance. Our first dance in September had ***Scott Coon*** calling. Hope you can join us at our October dances.

Happy Rounders: Shirley Cook 206 364 4173. The Happy Rounders invite all the phase 3 and 4 round dancers to dance with us at the Hayloft in Lynnwood every Tuesday evening, 7:30 – 9:30 pm. The cuer/teachers are Randy and Marie Preskitt. Randy and Marie will be holding three classes of round dancing each Sunday. There will be a class on Phase 3 Rumba, Phase 4 Foxtrot and Phase 5 Jive. These lessons will be starting September 21 and will be held at the Hayloft. For more information, contact Randy and Marie at: 425 348 6030 or RKPreskitt@msn.com.

Mt. Baker Singles: Andrew Hanowell 360 848 8690 A special thanks goes out to all who participated this summer in the various parades and demos. This was truly a busy summer for us as dancers to help promote square dancing. Our October 10 dance at the Skagit Valley Grange will have a Halloween theme. Dancing will be from 8 – 10:30 pm. We invite you all to come in costume and enjoy this spooky and fun evening.

Mt. Baker Teachers, Callers & Cuers: Doug Coleman 425 334 2919. No report.

Rainbow Squares: Wilma Catlin 360 734 9335. THANK YOU to all who joined us for the Demo Dance at the NW Washington Fair. Our lesson series started Sept 18 with Oren Gaskill as Teacher/Caller. On Oct 11, our dance will be an "Old Ball Game" night with a hotdog dinner at 6:30 pm. Our dance on Oct 25 will be "Death By Chocolate." You have to experience this one. Both dances start at 8:00 pm with Brent Mawdsley Calling and Cueing.

Scramblin' Squares: Katie Millholland 360 436 0703. We are into a new dance season and looking forward to a great year! Our lessons will start off with a bang on Oct 2, 2008. Our dance on Oct 18 will be a big BBQ theme dance with a potluck and dance so come on down and enjoy some good food and good dancing! Of course we will be dancing on Oct 4 also. So come join us for some good times!

Shirts-N-Skirts: Mike Mock 206 364 5899 The Shirts and Skirts lessons begin at Canyon Park Middle School on Oct. 1 from 6:30 – 8:00 pm. Our club dance is from 8:00 – 9:00 pm. We will have a Halloween costume party dance on Oct. 29. Everyone is wearing square dance attire at the first dance of each month. We will have our club dance calendar available at the next Council meeting so you can plan to visit us and enjoy our fun events. We will also have a flyer for our annual Glow Dance. Please call any member for more information about our hall and dances.

Skagit Squares: John Hayes 360 424 4608 The Skagit Squares will host their annual Halloween dance on October 18th at the Mount Vernon Senior Center beginning at 7:30 pm with pre-rounds. John Corrigan will call and we plan on a surprise guest cuer. Costumes are optional. The Skagit Squares and Mt. Baker Singles will again be co-sponsoring a beginner's dance program on Tuesdays starting on September 16 at 7 pm at the Mount Vernon Senior Center with Dave Harry as our instructor.

Sky Valley Whirlwinds: Tammy and Chris Comeau 425 377 0756 On Friday Oct 17th we will be having a "Monster Mash" with Ray Gallagher calling and John and Karen Neverdowski cueing. Come dressed as your favorite monster. We will also be hosting two PLUS dances this year. The first will be Saturday Oct. 25 from 7:30 to 10:30 pm. The caller will be Roger Spiese.

Spurs and Laces: Cindy Gallagher 425 742 4093 Welcome back everyone for a brand new dance Our dance on 9/7/08 was an open house. Our lessons started on 9/14/08 from 4:00 – 5:30 pm. Our first caravan out was to the Square Crows on Friday September 5. We also provided refreshments for the State Meeting on September 13.

Whidbey Whirlers: Jim Sorensen 360 757 4409 Our club went dark for the Sept. 13 State Meeting Dance at the Skagit Valley Grange. Our first dance of the season is September 27 with Dave Harry calling and the Berkas cueing. Our dance lessons started Wednesday, September 10, at the Columbus Hall in Oak Harbor.

Whirlybirds: Don and Snookie Carlson 360 387 8727 Lessons have started and Whirlybirds will hold a First Friday Fun Fest on October 3 with Dave Harry calling. Bring your students so they discover the caravanning habit early! The funfest, our lessons and our MS dances will be held at the Hayloft until further notice. Come dance with us and check out the facility upgrades that were installed this summer. Our October 18 mainstream dance has a Halloween theme and we will be accepting donations of canned food for a local food bank as well as hosting a caravan from the Checkerboards.

Woodinville Square Crows: Alice Wright 425 863 8112 Jim Hattrick called and cued our dance Friday, Sept. 5. Mike DeSisto called Sept. 19 and Karen Neverdowski cued. Karen Neverdowski will be our regular cuer on nights we don't have a caller that cues. On Oct. 3, we have Craig Abercrombie and on the 17th John and Wendy Syrstad will be calling and cueing. We dance at the Sammamish Valley Grange in Woodinville.

FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER:

Leslie Young: I want to thank all my dancing friends for being so understanding while I take pictures at certain functions. Realize I do this to share special times with our friends and to share ideas and promote not only within square dancing but also to my family and friends. Please understand I do it because I enjoy it. I am not an official photographer for any club or council. In our computer age it is perfectly ok to even save the pictures if you so choose, if you are part of the historical society for your club or council I am ok with you using the pictures. I would also like to thank all my square dancing friends from my club, other clubs, the Mount Baker Council, the Central Puget Sound Council, and all over the great United States for their well wishes during my illness and after my surgery. Friends really are the greatest treasures in life.

Jim Burnside said the Checkerboards are thinking of having dances with no breaks. Refreshments will be served during the dance with no break. Announcements would come near the end of the dance. If anyone has any information on this subject, contact Jim Burnside.

Tim Manus from the Dudes and Dolls encouraged clubs to use their non-profit status to advertise in newspapers, on the radio, and other media.

Jean Raymond thanked Leslie Young for setting up the AquaSox demo dance this summer. 82 tickets were sold. It was a great fundraiser as well as good promotion for square dancing.

Gailyn Ploeg asked the clubs to turn in the club information form she handed out at the beginning of the meeting so she can make her report for the State Meeting Sept. 13.

Leslie Young said a reporter from the Everett Herald will be at the Happy Hopper lessons on September 11.

Ray Gallagher thanked the Whidbey Whirlers, the Checkerboard Squares, and the Rainbow Squares for going dark for the State Meeting Dances.

Thank you to the Board of Directors for providing refreshments tonight.

The Dancing Shadows, Happy Rounders, and Dancing Jewels will provide refreshments for the meeting in October.

The next Council Meeting is October 1, 2008 at the Marysville School Administration Bldg., 4220 80th St. NE, 7:30 pm.

The meeting adjourned at 9:55 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Geri Johnson,

Recording Secretary