



»»» **DEC 2015**

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**Pssst, we're going
quarterly.
See new feature
Guerilla Marketing
on page 6**

Check us out!



**Triangle Squares is having an
Open House
Thursday, January 28, 2016
7:00–9:00 pm
The 519 at Church & Wellesley
Drop in, say Hello
and bust a few moves
(plaid optional)**

THE HOLIDAY SEASON ARRIVES ON SCHEDULE

Considering all the warm weather, when the calendar turned to December I thought: WTF, Holiday Dance already? But as I looked around the neighbourhood, and the downtown stores, it seemed that the season was indeed upon us. The 519 hall was decorated with restraint (compared to previous years), helped out by some very elegant orchids left over from a previous social function. If they were from K.D. Lang, many thanks - Love ya!

Ugly holiday sweaters was the theme of the day, and John and Darren put on a good show (see next article), but it was Joe who took home the prize for the best one.



Oh yes, we danced. Joe uncorked his special collection of holiday singing calls, from *Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas*, *Light the Candles*, and Sinatra's *Summer Wind*, which he swears is seasonally appropriate. He even workshopped a special holiday variation of Grand Square, called "Light the Tree."

We had visitors from the North York Willow Weavers, all of whom had a great time. Gloria and Marvin even tried their hand at switching lead and follow. Gloria did great. Marvin – good first effort. We even had a surprise visit from Durong, who isn't dancing with us this year, but we would like her back.



Our club features some excellent chefs and bakers, so it's no surprise that the holiday pot luck is one of the highlights of our dance/social season. Sadly, once we turned off the main lights, and turned on the chandeliers, my camera had already found spiked punch somewhere. Lots of interesting salads, nummy deserts. Thanks to Colleen for keeping the snack table well stocked, and volunteers who helped set up and tear down. More photos [here](#)

Happy New Year everyone! Think **red** for our Valentine's Dance, Feb 14, at the fabulous 519.

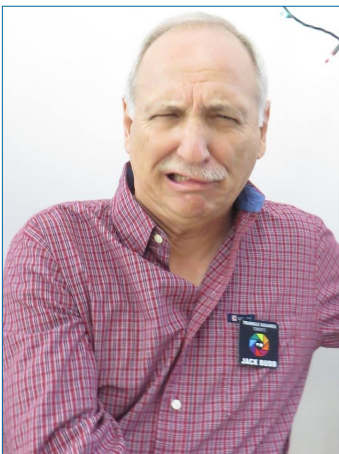


TRIANGLE SQUARES GRINCHES? MAYBE IT'S NOT A THING



Sue had an idea at our Holiday Dance: to have people put on their best Grinch faces, then photograph them. A **photo montage** was posted on our Facebook group, along with the **complete set** of photos. What's clear is that we're not very convincing at being mean and unhappy.

Peter was the only one who rose to the occasion. Here are a few for your closer consideration. The inability to repress a smile is painfully obvious. Next year, I may have to get Nicholas back, so he can give us a few method-acting tips. Bravo Sue, this is the stuff Promotional Reps dream of.



IN THE FRAME: THE 519

It shows up as a backdrop in many of our photos. It's something we are usually fond of, but often pay little attention to as we pass through its corridors. **The 519 Community Centre** is one of the more iconic focal points of the Church-Wellesley neighbourhood, and a hub for Toronto's LGBTQ social network.

It's a grand building, once home of the Toronto's more exclusive "Gentleman's Clubs" – the **Granite Club**. Granite refers to curling stones. You can still see the "GC" medallions worked into the plaster in the main ballroom, and that by-gone elegance is recalled in the chandeliers. That club moved to St. Clair Ave in 1925, and is now located on Bayview Ave. Subsequently, the building was home to the 48th Highlander Regiment.



The 519 has occupied the building since 1975, and expanded considerably in 2010. It is a charitable non-profit organization, run as a private-public partnership with the City of Toronto as a Community Centre, with a specific mandate to serve the LGBTQ community. Among the programs they manage are legal and social counselling and outreach, meals on wheels, drop-

in activities, sport and recreation initiatives. They are currently seeking authorization to **build a**



centre for LGBTQ sporting activities in the newly developed West Donlands neighbourhood.

In addition to Triangle Squares, two other dance clubs make The 519 their home: Lindy Hopping **Swingin' Out**, who also dance Thursday evenings, and **Rainbow Ballroom** who offer Salsa and Latin lessons Friday evenings.

One immediately thinks of the iconic ballroom, where we hold many of our club dances and energizes the trail-in dances for our Fly-ins. The room is cavernous, and tends to draw attention to the fact that we need to get more squares up dancing at our events. It works well for new dancer nights, making a good impression if we get a large turn-out. The windows and balcony from the ballroom offer a pleasant view to Barbara Hall Park, which changes steadily with the season.

Perhaps you think of it less fondly, but we often dance in room 106. We get the space for free, so we're subject to being bumped from the ballroom with little notice. Room 106 is actually quite large, but the interior pillars tend to make it feel crowded



with even four squares. Thinking now with my Marketing cap on, the room's public visibility due to the large wrap-around windows, makes the room more interesting. You often become aware of people stopping to watching the dancing as they pass by.

Compared to many other clubs who dance in church basements, and other spaces with a discounted-rent, Triangle Squares has been extremely fortunate to have the use of this space. It is probably one of the keys to the club's on-going success, and lends it a lot of cred when competing for the attention of other downtown workers and dwellers in the area.

Part of your club membership goes toward an annual donation in support of The 519's activities.



MIKE AT THE MIKE

Colleen Dodds

During the Dec.3rd Basic class at the 519, our newest upcoming caller, **Mike Green**, was given the chance to try out calling by our most experienced caller Joe Uebelacker. Mike went to Joe's caller school on weekends last June and has tried to call whenever possible ever since. It's hard to get "mic time" for a real live square, so Joe has generously encouraged him. Mike has a good singing voice and the kind of mind it takes to be a caller. As a club, we often take our callers for granted, as we have quite a few. Many clubs have none and dance to taped callers. As our callers get older, we need to encourage younger folks to take up the challenge. It requires a mathematical mind, a decent singing voice, and a patient, persistent, nature. It can also be expensive to attend caller schools as well as acquire songs and equipment. Triangle Squares has subsidized anyone expressing an interest in learning to call, as does [All Join Hands](#), who subsidizes the caller school held for the three days before each Convention. Our congratulations to Mike Green and our thanks to Joe for his continued support of Triangle Squares.



GUERRILLA MARKETING: NEWSLETTER AND PHOTO POSTING

I was asked by the Executive Committee to make you, the club membership, more aware of our promotion activities. With your indulgence, I'll do it as a regular feature in this Newsletter.

- The Newsletter will be going quarterly. This will allow the Promotion Team to spend more time and energy on externally-focused activities. We hope it will also make our mailings seem a little less spammy.
- It can come as no surprise that social media is a key avenue for getting information out, and

contacting prospective new members. Photos are a key feature of these sites, so don't be surprised to see your photo appear in our [Facebook group](#), or on [Twitter](#). Because timeliness is also important, we can't always ask your permission. However, if you see a photo or posting about you that makes you feel uncomfortable, I can pull it down right away.

Email me anytime: publicity@trianglesquares.com



Niall O'Reilly, the Publicity Guy, fascinating in his fascinator.

MAPLE LEAFS REGROUP



The next IAGSDC Convention will be held at the Fairmont Royal York Hotel. If you've never been to a convention, and dance Mainstream or higher, you are eligible for the First-Time-Attendee rate of \$180 US, thanks to the generous support of [All Join Hands](#). [Contact us](#) for more information.

VALENTINE'S DAY DANCE ON VALENTINE'S DAY



Triangle Squares Valentine's Day Dance



Caller: Don St. Jean
 Sun., February 14, 2016
 2:30-5:00 pm
 The fabulous 519
 519 Church Street
 Toronto



\$5.00 Members
 \$7.00 Non-members

first year dancers welcome, too!
trianglesquares.com



UPCOMING EVENTS

- **Oshawa Squares January Blast**

Sunday, January 17, 2016,
1:30-4:00pm.

Caller: Barry Clasper [Details here](#)

- **New Dancer Open House**

Thursday, January 28, 2016
7:00-9:00pm

Invite your friends, relatives, and acquaintances

The 519 Community Centre

- **Valentine's Dance**

Sunday Feb 14 2016, 2:30-5:00 pm

Caller: Don St. Jean

The 519 Community Centre

- **Grand Rapids Fly-In**

Apr 15-17 2016, *Dancing With The Thars*

Callers: Tim Marriner & Gary Monday

[details here](#)

- **Spring Spree, Peterborough**

April 16, 2016. Basic-A2 dancing all day

Callers: Joe Uebelacker, Don Moger,
Dave Hutchinson, and Jack Pladdys

Details [here](#)

Click [here](#) for upcoming IAGSDC Events,
and [here](#) for T&D dances.

Contact Us

If you want to write
an article for the newsletter,
advertise your community event, or
share ideas on how to get the word
out about square dancing and our
club, please feel free to contact us:

[Newsletter Editors](#)

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Want to Keep Up with What's Happening with the Club?

You  Tube

