

**Minutes of the 2011 Annual General Meeting
of the Ottawa English Country Dance Club**

Date: Monday, Aug 29, 2011 at 2 pm

Location: Kilby's Sunny Back Yard at 122 Balbair Road, Kanata

Thank you Nigel and Angela for your hospitality and for providing a meeting place.

Present: Michelle, Nigel & Angela, Mary & Godfrey, Mary & John, Jane, Margaret J, Irfôna, Sara

A. OECD Business for the year 2011-2012

1. 2011 Fall Season Dance Schedule:

At Mlacak Centre: 14 dances Fridays Sept 9 to Dec 9

and at Orange Hall 7 dances 1st & 4th Weds; Sept 7 to Dec 7

Special note: the CDSS brainstorming session has been moved from Sept 7 to Sept 8 so there is no longer a conflict with Orange Hall.

2. Playford Players

Will provide live music on Oct 7, Nov 18, Dec 9. 2011.

and on Jan 13, Feb 10, Mar 9, April 13, May 11 2012.

Their stipend remains at \$40 per musician per night.

3. Reservation of Mlacak and Orange Hall

Nigel has reserved Mlack Centre (\$849) for the year

Godfrey has reserved Orange Hall for four months (\$420)

4. Financial Report for the Year June 1 2010 to May 31 2011 presented by Godfrey.

Membership at Mlacak in the past year was **35**, down 3 from the previous year.

in Orange Hall's first year: **10** in fall, **10** in spring

Bank Balance rose from \$2131 on May 31 2010 to \$4001 on May 31 2011, mainly due to profits from the Ball TTO 2010

The fees for next year are to remain the same:

Mlacak \$60 for the whole year; Orange Hall \$40 per season;

Nightly in either hall for non members: \$10 (cumulative towards membership)

First night for new dancers free.

*Moved by John, seconded by Mary N that Godfrey's financial report and fee recommendations be accepted. Unanimous.

5. Beginners Classes.... Anne has offered to teach beginners for 8 evenings starting Sept 23 and ending Dec 2. The Committee decided that the beginner class should take place in the separated room for the first half of the evening (up until break) except when there is live music. Beginners to integrate with whole group second half of the evening, and all evening when there is live music. Callers to choose more accessible (easier) dances for the integrated group. Michelle will contact Anne to discuss and confirm. [See 9/2 Addendum]

6. Publicity Strategies

Angela reported having contacted The Kanata Courier, EMC and the Ottawa Citizen. with articles and photos. Angela reports that photos are much in demand, so she will ask Dean Johnson to take lots of pictures to offer and may also contact Sharon Schenkel who is continually snapping. Mary W distributed “bookmarks” to be distributed in libraries and clubs. Another effort will be made to get included in the Citizen’s Community Calendar.

7. Callers Roster

Mary W has prepared and emailed the new roster for Sept to Dec. Great news...we now have EIGHT participating callers! And a special thanks to John for his computerized music and choreographies available on the Wiki. What a Club!

8. Scheduling Annual General Meeting

*Moved by Michelle, seconded by Margaret J that the OEDC AGM be held in the Orange Hall on the 4th Wednesday of June (June 27 in 2012) . Unanimous.

9. Policy on Guest Callers and Musicians.

It was agreed that the Club could afford to offer a volunteering guest caller a stipend of \$50, and up to \$200 if accompanied by musicians.

Hence, Michelle will offer David Smukler (who comes for Contra) \$50 to call on Jan 6 with CDs, and \$200 to call on May 18 if accompanied by musicians.

The club cannot afford to provide a sound system.

10. Naming of officers for the year 2011-2012

Note: We have 5 Directors: John, Nigel, Irfôna, Godfrey, Michelle

Moved by John, seconded by Margaret J: that the following officers be named for the coming year:

Michelle to be Chairperson (coordinator of events and arrangements) ..back-up Nigel

Godfrey to be Treasurer.. back-up Graham

Sara to be Secretary .. back-up Mary N

11. Website and Communication. Distribution Lists. Graham is congratulated and thanked for doing such a fine job on setting up the website, and on distributing information to the membership. Of course we wish him to continue.

12. Other Jobs, (some noted above)

***Flyer:** Mary has prepared her (white) flyer for 2011-2012. She will bring paper copies to Orange Hall and Mlacak, and will send electronic copy to Graham to post on the website send. Watch for the new cover picture!

* **Hall reservations;** Mlacak done by Nigel, Orange Hall by Godfrey. Special extension of Mlacak hours (eg on Nov 11) must be arranged directly with “Neil”

***Publicity:** Angela has made splendid contacts. Angela will ask Dean (& Monya) Johnson to assist.

***Music Contact:** Irfôna has organized schedule with Playford Players. Callers should contact Elizabeth Scarlatti at elizabeth.scarlett@rogers.com well in advance when arranging their program.

- ***Social Convenor.** Andrew will be asked (by Sara) to continue setting out the hot water and tea bags (and cookies if he insists...;-) Ecofriendly dancers will be asked to bring their own cups. Andrew to name a back-up person for this job.
- ***Badges:** all members are asked to bring their old name tag holders to Mlacak at beginning of season. Jane will provide a felt pen, and cards on which names can be written. Newcomers will thus be provided with nametags. All members encouraged to wear nametags too for the sake of the newcomers. Jane will look after nametags for those who want to leave them.
- ***Sign in book:** Godfrey eschews sign-ins but Jane has agreed to bring a sign in book to the Friday dances. All dancers asked to sign in (nobody will be forced to do so) and if new, to write in their email address and phone number. Fees must be paid personally to Godfrey however.
- Providing the Music:** Thank you John (and Graham) for having the music available at every dance! You're not taken for granted!

**B. Trip to Ottawa 2011: Ottawa Ball scheduled for Nov 11 - 13
Report of Ball Committee (Mary Williams, Irfôna, Michelle, Sara)**

- * Trip to Ottawa date: mid November last year, this year, next year.
- *Caller and musicians are lined up for TTO 2011 AND TTO 2012!!!
- *Mary Williams is the Overall Grand Coordinator of the Ball this year...she will organize the volunteers, give them clear job descriptions, and oversee the execution of their duties.
- *Jane will prepare Ball name tags...probably laminated rectangles with holding magnets.
- *Godfrey is taking registrations...sending receipts with cc of all information to Michelle who is keeping a list of registrants, their contact info, billeting needs, and food contributions. Godfrey has received 12 registrations so far.
- *NEW this year! ...a workshop for local less experienced callers on Saturday afternoon, and a Sunday Morning After-Dance with local callers before we all share snacks and then depart.
- *Michelle has an >idea< for decorating. Hear more about it later on.
- *If you can offer a billet, tell Michelle (unless you've already done so)
- *Registration flier is on the website...check it out and fill it in and mail it with cheque to Godfrey!
- *Graham, please insert into the web application form to add \$5 to the overall fee if paid in American funds

HURRY HURRY HURRY EARLY BIRD SPECIAL (\$80 / \$85 US) ENDS SEPT 30

9/2 Addendum

re: basic lessons

I have discussed with Anne the club's desire to balance instruction with time for social dancing. Anne understands and confirms that the split class will run from 7:30 to 8:45, with everyone joining at break time, followed by 'after 9:00' dancing for all. If the folding away of the wall could happen towards the end of the tea break, rather than right at 8:45, then class will not be interrupted as they complete and transition to joining the main group.

The first Friday will be a welcome back night, open to all.

On the second Friday, Sept. 16, Anne will probably be away. So if we have some absolute beginners on this evening, Michelle will offer some basic dances to start the split class set up. Anne will then begin the formal classes as advertised on Sept 23.

Evenings with the Playford Players will not be split so the callers can plan a program of dances for all - with a minimum of briefing/instruction to keep the dances fun and easy, while reducing wait-around time for the musicians.

With Playford Players Night and the Ball Practice, Anne will be able to fit in 5 lessons before the Ball and so she has offered to continue the lessons to Christmas. Since the Playford Players will be entertaining us on Nov.18 and Dec 9, there will be two more lessons (Nov. 25 & Dec. 2).

In summary:

Anne's formal lessons and Michelle's less formal, make a total of 8 split evenings.

Add in 3 Playford Players, the Welcome night, Ball practice and then the Ball Weekend ... not to mention 7 nights of Orange Hall! WOW!

Bravo Callers and Organizers!! We are providing an amazing amount of dance for the first half of ECD season and I am looking forward to getting out as much as I can.

See you then,

Michelle