

EUROPEAN NEWSLETTER

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December 2017

Editorial

Hello dance friends

Another year has almost gone by and as you could expect, here is your next Newsletter.

Again filled with interesting contributions from the participating associations. But as a proud editor also with information from other parts of the world.

Somewhere I have seen the slogan "One world one dance" and this is growing to become real more and more.

As born and bred Dutchman I am very happy that next year the European Convention will take place in the Netherlands.

Recent I found a paper that named the first ever square dance club founded in our country in 1968. For the statistics this was on the US air force base in Soesterberg by Technical Sergeant J.P.Jett. This club was later known as The Holland Windmillers. One of the contributions in this letter refers to "Oldstyle" dancing. It triggers my memory to the club where we started dancing "Scaldis Squares"



Corry and I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a fine 2018 in good health and lots of fun with dancing.

Happy dancing,

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Newsletter EAASDC News and Info for the European 2017

EAASDC, general info

No remarkable news from the associations work because we had Board-elections at the Spring Jamboree 2017 and the new members had to acquaint themselves with their office work first. At the first weekend of September, we met for a business meeting and some ideas and projects were discussed for further development and possible implementation.

In reference to the EAASDC member clubs there has been no big change on total numbers over this year. We lost 8 Clubs and gained 9 new ones. The statistic per country at 18th November 2017:
AT = 10; BE = 1; CH = 7; DE = 497; FR = 3; LI = 1; NL = 4; RU = 6; SK = 1.
Total EAASDC member clubs = 530

A short review with a few highlights:

50th calling anniversary Dave Preskitt

The 29th of April was a very special day for a very special man.

Dave Preskitt celebrated his 50th calling anniversary, which is not an everyday event and worth being recognised in more than one regard. Many travel companions from along the road had come from near and far in order to congratulate and to turn the day into something special for Dave. ECTA president Michael Franz recounted in his speech all of Dave's honorary activities and merits within ECTA, including its presidency.

Also from the EAASDC side, this extraordinary anniversary deserved appreciation, respect and to congratulate Dave on his jubilee.

During the past 50 years Dave has made ten thousands of dancers happy, taught hundreds of dancers their first steps and figures and supported very many clubs in their work. For his achievements for Square Dancing in Europe he was therefore, as a special honour, awarded with the 'EAASDC President's letter of recognition'.

Thank you, Dave, for all the joy and all the positive that you have given us and hopefully will continue to do so for many years to come.

Historic Ball hosted by the South Carolina Oldstylers e.V. (SCO) - EAASDC member club

On March 18th 2017 the ball of the SCO took place and its motto was 'St. Patrick's Day'. Invitation, introduction and welcoming of the participants by the host as well as the course of the whole evening was conducted according to the customs and etiquette of the year 1861 from which I quote in excerpts:

.....
The ball is conducted in the fashion of a ball in 1861 (Charleston – South Carolina).

Historical ball gown of that time is naturally expected.

The conduct should be according to the time and the event.

The gentlemen's attention is on the ladies.

No lady should be bored, let alone forced to wander the hall alone.

Table etiquette, the gentlemen's rising and positioning the chair for the lady is natural.

Political discussions are not welcomed.

Running, screaming or screeching, unless a lady is frightened by a mouse, are frowned upon.

Gentlemen's hats are to be turned in at the cloakroom, as are weapons, spurs, and the sort.

If you have any questions on ball etiquette please confidently refer to the organizer.

In case of uncertainty during the ball the orderlies and the master of ceremony will happily and discreetly be at your service.

.....

The guests were called and introduced with name and title by the master of ceremony at the entrance door, while walking thru the hall and being welcomed by the hosting Club President and his wife. The welcome procedure ended in a Grand march, followed by a very opulent and tasty dinner and then the dancing. Four prompters were at the dancers' disposal creating a great dancing pleasure. One of the most fascinating things at this event however were the clothes that were worn by the participants, very true to the originals, making one feel indeed transferred 150 years back in time. It was an unforgettable evening with a great atmosphere that everybody enjoyed very much, even though it sadly ended already at 1:00 am. ☺



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Upcoming highlights in 2018:

Spring Jamboree 2018 (9.-11.March 2018)

Despite our fears and with great delight we have learned that there will be a Spring Jamboree 2018. The application has been turned in and the Jamboree Committee has recommended the allocation, which also has been confirmed by EAASDC and ECTA. Venue is the cultural centre in 73575 Leinzell (60 km away from Stuttgart, DE) and hosting club are the "Coconuts SDC Leinzell" in cooperation with the "Unicorn Promenaders Schw. Gmünd". Both clubs have pulled all available strings and within five weeks put together the basic preconditions necessary to run the event. This warrants respect and gratitude from all of us and we wish them great success and many dancers who will appreciate this effort. Details under www.springjamboree2018.de.

European Convention (20-22 July 2018)

It is EAASDC's turn to organize the Convention in 2018 and it's great, that some of our member clubs in the Netherlands have volunteered to undertake this mega event. Many thanks to the Tulip Twirlers Square Dance Club, Rainbow Strollers, Motiveters Advanced Square Dancing for their dedication and best wishes for a successful event as well as many newly interested people for Square Dancing in the Netherlands as a result. We are convinced that this will be a great experience and would like to invite all dancers to take the opportunity to spend a few days in Amsterdam, to dance, meet friends and have a look at the city and surrounding area. Details under www.europeanconvention2018.nl

Fall Round Up (31 August – 2 September 2018)

When the application for this event reached me, for quite a while I couldn't keep down my joy and

enthusiasm. Not that I'm not enthusiastic about all applications for our events, this time it is merely owed to the special attributes of the Lions, organizing the Fall Round Up 2018.

The Lions club is the most famous youth Club in the EAASDC and I am positively delighted to see its involvement for Square Dancing and now its application for the FRU 2018. Much more notable and very welcome to our hobby however is the development of this Youth-Club itself. It was founded in 2007 by eight young dancers in Hamburg and by now has more than 300 youth members in Germany and abroad. This is a great achievement, which demands respect and appreciation and I wish them much further success in their youth work.

Thank you also to the Teddycoats, for organising this event together with the Lions. It may sound like a standard repetition, however I ensure you that it is not. It comes from the heart: I am convinced in this case as well that the two clubs will organise a fantastic event that will long be talked about in every positive way. Therefore come to Pinneberg (nearby Hamburg, DE) and be part of this unforgettable event, the FRU 2018! Details under www.fru2018.de.

I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, peace and happiness.

Wolfgang "Wuffi" Daiss
President EAASDC e.V.

BAASDC

Report from the President of the BAASDC for European Newsletter 2017

As the newly elected President of the BAASDC, I welcome the opportunity to contribute to the Annual European Newsletter. Ignoring Brexit, as if we in the United Kingdom ever could, we are delighted to remain a member of the EAASDC. During 2017 we have welcomed many International Square Dance Callers and Cuers to our shores. They have included Stefan Sidholm from Sweden, Joachim Ruhenbeck, Ilona and Stefan Lankuttis, , Walt and Juli Burr, Tommy Schneeberger from Germany. Wil Stans and Maarten Weijers from The Netherlands. Doug Machalik came from the Czech Republic and Tim Crawford, Johnny Preston, Todd Felleg, Ross Howell, Bronc Wise and Jerry Story from Canada and the U.S.A.

In August, the Lytham Festival, a Week of dancing for both Round and Modern Western Squares celebrated its 25th Anniversary. We were lucky to have six callers and cuers, Paul and Teresa Hart, Di Green and Terry McCann, Bronc Wise and Paul Bristow.

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We had a wonderful time and were joined by many of our friends from overseas.

In October, Lazy River Square Dance Club celebrated its 70th Birthday with a wonderful dance. It is the oldest club in the United Kingdom. I wonder if there are any clubs in Europe that can claim to be older? If so we would love to hear from you.

Several dancers from England including myself, attended the Swedish Convention held in Helsingborg in June. We had a wonderful time and were impressed by the high standard of calling and dancing. We were also very interested to see so many young Swedish dancers who really knew how to mix up the squares and moves and have a lot of fun. Well done! To have so many young dancers who will ensure a strong square dancing legacy, is only something that we in the U.K. can only dream about.

Square dancing in the United Kingdom is sadly in decline with falling numbers of clubs and dancers. However there are some stronghold areas where the clubs continue to recruit new dancers. In 2016 we formed a Future Focus Team in an attempt to come up with new ideas to promote Square and Round Dancing. So we are doing what we can, but are always open to new ideas and suggestions from home and abroad.

I hope that the United Kingdom will be well represented at the European Convention in Amsterdam next year. Many members of the Council including myself will be in attendance. We are publicising it with flyers and in our monthly magazine Let's Square Dance. It will be a wonderful opportunity to meet up with dancers from overseas and members of their Councils.

Susan Ellis
President of the British Association of American Square Dance Clubs.

CSCTA**Square Dancing and Round Dancing in the Czech Republic and Slovakia**

The situation in the two countries that used to be one has not changed much in recent years. The number of active clubs is more or less constant and the same is true for the overall number of active dancers. Sadly, it seems that many of our dancers hardly ever attend a weekend dance and they spend their dance time in their home clubs only, but it is quite understandable: our lives have never been running as fast as today, and it is not easy to balance job and family commitments with one's hobbies.

The clubs in our area are able to compensate the loss of people who stop dancing for whatever

reason by bringing new people in, although the classes are quite small as compared to what we remember from 20 or 25 years ago. We manage to keep Square Dance and Round Dance alive and we are glad to see some of those who left a few years ago to be back because their children have grown old enough to let the parents dance again (in some cases, they even bring the children with them so that they can share the hobby with the whole family). The returnees often come back with lots of enthusiasm and they join existing clubs or found new ones.

It is quite interesting to see how weekend dances are evolving in our area. There are still a few of those that follow our "traditional" model: they start on the Friday evening and end in the early Sunday afternoon. This is definitely good for dancers who have a long distance to travel because they can spend more time with their friends this way. On the other hand, we also encounter Saturday-only dances. At present, these events seem to be attractive mostly for people who live nearby but this is likely to change, too. This "new" model allows the attendees to devote one of the two weekend days to some other activity or just to take a good rest before going to work on the Monday morning. Some clubs even organize Saturday workshops in order to improve their dancing abilities, and they invite their neighbor clubs to join these dances. Similarly to other areas of Europe, we are encountering people who want to step up the ladder of dance programs and phases; on the other hand, we also have plenty of those who are happy with the limited number of calls and movements and do not feel any urge to learn more at the moment. As a result, Basic (or just its first part) is featured at our weekend dances quite often. This helps integrate our newer dancers with those who have been dancing for a longer time and with those who came back after a break. After all, having fun together is why we meet: when the dancing is over, it is nice to watch how most people socialize, talk, play board games, or (which is a specialty of our countries) sing with the accompaniment of guitars until the early morning. Anyone who would like to try it our way is welcome!

Tomas "Doug" Machalik
President of the CzechoSlovak Callers & Teachers Association

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DAASDC

Greetings from DAASDC

NOV 2017

In the spring of 2017 we invited a well-known brain scientist to conduct a seminar for DAASDC and all clubs were allowed to attend with their club members. We looked forward to the day with great expectations. In advance DAASDC asked the brain scientist: "How does modern square dance affect our brain?" We did of course hope for a confirmation of that the human brain and square dance were somehow interconnected. Initially we got an insight into the function of the brain, which "food" is important for the brain and how the brain reacts on its surroundings. The brain scientist surely had familiarized herself with the subject: "Square Dance."

It turns out that you can "boost" your brain through dancing. Particularly square dancing has the "ingredients" needed to challenge your brain and keep it fit throughout your life. It also turns out that exercising your brain is just as important – if not even more – as it is to exercise the body. In Denmark there is a huge focus on exercise but everything is based on bodily exercise – not the brain! What good does it make to have a body "fit for fight" if your brain is shrinking?

The more you develop your brain and create new connections between the "transmitters and recipients of chemical signals" in the brain, the longer your brain activity continues with age and the longer you can prevent brain impairment like e.g. dementia. It is obviously advantageous that square dancing is not characterized by routine and you challenge your brain every time you join a square on the floor. At the same time brain activity is increased by the fact that you have to relate to other people through social relations. Even the physical touching is more important for the brain than you imagine!

Actually we could boil it all down to: **"Boost your brain, dance Modern Square Dance!"**

Prevent:

- Dementia
- Stress
- Solitude
- Balance problems
- Overweight

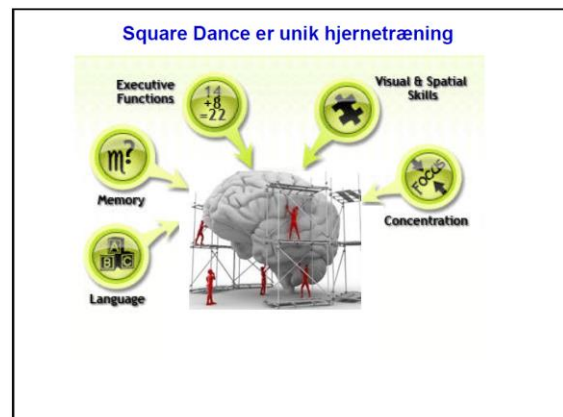
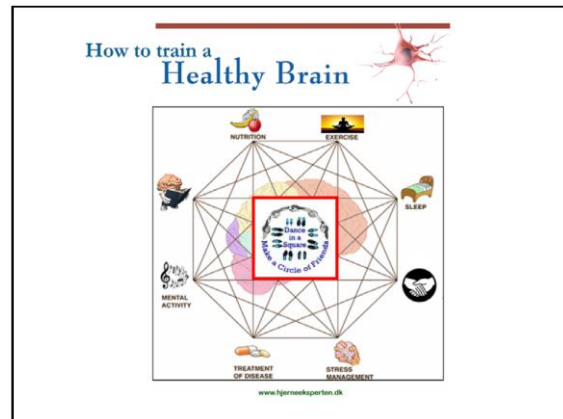
Strengthen:

- Memory
- Concentration ability
- Social interactions
- Coordination ability
- Food burn
- Exercise

In DAASDC we will use this experience for public relations. We now have even more reasons for inviting people to square dance.

Square dancing is "anti-aging" so: *"Keep your brain in shape throughout your life – dance Modern Square Dance!"*

Lotte Vangsgaard, President DAASDC



The French Connection.

The clubs in the Paris area are maintaining a fairly constant membership level. A few new recruits here and there, a few "retirements" here and there, either for medical reasons or because of moving to an area where there is no Square Dance activity.

There is a new club which has started near Avignon. "Country Dream Modern Western Square Dance" was initially a Line Dance club. They have recently turned to learning Square Dance. Our recently retired friend from the Brussels area, Philippe Dardenne, has visited them on a number of occasions to give them formal, experienced training. They hosted their first "Special Dance" 20 and 21 May 2017. Philippe Dardenne called for them.

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Equally, the Butterfly Dancers, situated in the town of Ecuisses (Between Dijon and Lyon, an excellent wine area) will be hosting their first Special Dance 10 & 11 March 2018. Some of you may already know Sylvie & Pascal Loctin who have been dancing throughout Europe, and promoting the activity in their area. Philippe Dardenne and "Leif" Ericsson will be calling on the occasion.

The Ouest Paris Swingers, Lucky Boots, and Funny Fish continue to host "Special Dances" and hope that our local architecture, geography, climate, food, and drinks will attract our friends from afar. We realize that there is excellent dancing close to home, but France is a wonderful place to visit. Why not schedule a week-end holiday around one of our specials? If it's not listed in the EAASDC web pages, you can always ask for information from the Ouest Paris Swingers. The "OPS" are more than a "dance club", they are an association for the promotion of Square Dancing in France.

Tom Mackler

Australia

Here is an update from Australia.

Greeting to all from Australia. We are creating a new website at WWW.SQUAREDANCEAUSTRALIA.ORG to replace our old web pages at WWW.SQUAREDANCE.ORG.AU Our next Australian National Square Dance Convention will be in Perth Western Australia 20-23 April 2018 WWW.PERTH2018.ORG.AU You will find there are many clubs and annual events spread across all Australia. Wishing all travellers happy holidays and great square dancing while visiting Australia. Please contact local clubs by email and plan ahead to enjoy our wonderful hospitality. Kind regards Steve Longwood – president National Square Dance Society Australia.

Kind regards,

Steve

NVSD

Dear friends,

Many things have happened in the last year. And lots of things will happen in the near future...

In February, we had our annual NVSD membership meeting where we have presented our new website.

A website for the Dutch, German and English readers. With all the information you need to visit a Square- or Round dance club or dance event in the Netherlands. Please take a look at www.squaredance.nl for more information about dancing in the Netherlands.

Furthermore, we have many flyers available for the new dancer. Lots of information about Square- or Round dancing is now available for every club and dancer.

We have more good news!! The European Convention will be organized in Amsterdam in 2018!! A team of nine people is working hard to make it a great weekend for you. On July 20-22, we will have a weekend full of Square- and Round Dancing, divided over 6 halls. Currently we are working on a Trails-end dance on Thursday evening. As soon as we have this organized, we will inform all of you via a flyer and via Facebook. Amsterdam is a great city to visit and not only for the European Convention. Why don't you spend some extra days in the area? Lots of things to see; in Amsterdam but also in the area of the capital of the Netherlands.

One of our goals is to have the Dutch Television at the European Convention so we can present Square- and Round dancing to the Dutch People. Also, we would like to invite the Dutch viewers to visit the EC on Sunday where they can dance their Square dance moves.

For more information, please look at our website www.europeanconvention2018.nl and if you like, you can check our Facebook-site www.facebook.com/europeanconvention2018 for further news. We will do our very best to make this Convention a "Once in a lifetime Experience".

Unfortunately, one of our Dutch Round Dance clubs will close down by the end of the year. They have been around for many years in The Hague but they don't have enough dancers to go on. So, per January 2018 we have 11 NVSD member clubs and a few non NVSD clubs. And hardly any classes this year...

With the new website for our Dancers association, with an up-to-date Facebook page with lots of new information, with Public Relations material that is available for any NVSD club and the upcoming European Square- and Round Dance Convention 2018 in Amsterdam, we are working hard to present our dance-activity to everybody. Let's hope we can change the downhill momentum into a uphill momentum and hopefully we have lots of new dancers in the future !!

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In 2018 we have several events you can visit. If you are considering a trip to the Netherlands, please have a look at www.squaredance.nl, choose your language and you will find your way easily to our clubs or dance event. You may always contact us for further information at info@squaredance.nl in English, German or Dutch.

Finally, I would like to wish you all, on behalf of the Dutch board, staff members and the Square/Round dancers, a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Maarten Weijers
President of the NVSD



The Year in review for The Lion Squares e.V.

Much has happened with The Lion Squares e.V. this year.

We are pleased to announce that we were able to welcome several new “Lions” into our Club this year and that we now have 350 members, not only from Germany but also several other countries worldwide. Our club nights this year took place in Dinslaken, Hamburg and Langenfeld – with our annual special youth dance being held in Dresden.

In both January and May, we offered a Basic crash class in Vienna and on both dates, we were able to introduce interested dancers not only to the Basic level but even up to Mainstream. Some of those participants went straight on to the Hummeldance in Hamburg, where they could spend several hours of dancing as well. On top of that, we were able offer a Plus class in Hannover on two Sundays.

With 2017 being a big year for The Lion Squares, we held our 10-year jubilee in August in Goettingen, where we were able to welcome more than 250 guests! We started the festivities with a club night on Friday with our callers Maarten Weijers (Netherlands), Jack Borgstrom (Sweden) and Tommy Schneeberger (Germany), who were supported by numerous of our own youngsters.

The Special began on Saturday afternoon where we had a great atmosphere right from the beginning in both halls, thanks to Maarten, Jack and Tommy. The levels changed every hour and during a bigger break in the early evening the Lions presented parts of their club history. We visualized the growth of the club by bringing all club members towards the stage. After the break the grand finale started; the callers did an amazing job bringing all dancers so much fun, so that they wouldn't stop until late at night.

Maarten offered an advanced yoga session on Sunday morning, and the sounds of several party songs brought everyone back to life in order to spend some more enjoyable hours of dancing. Although the weekend went by so fast, we had a lot of fun...

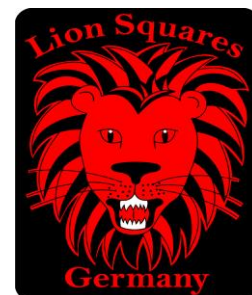
We already have loads of stuff planned for 2018! Such as a club night in Rastatt on the 29th April 2018, another one in Solingen on the 2nd June 2018 as well as a third club night on the 1st July 2018 in the northern part of Germany. Our annual youth dance is taking place from the 22nd-24th April 2018 in Herlikofen, near Stuttgart. As always, every adolescent between 14 and 30 years of age is more than welcome to join. Please register online at juta.lionsquares.de.

And there is another big event coming up in 2018: The Fall Round Up. This great event is taking place between the 31st August-2nd September 2018 in Pinneberg. The motto of the weekend is “Safari in the North” and we organise the event in collaboration with the Teddycoats. We are looking forward to welcoming as many guests as possible to enjoy this special weekend with us. Keep your eyes open for flyers or find more information and the registration form online at fru2018.de.

As you can see, there are many wonderful events coming up next year and we are all excited to share countless hours of Square Dancing with you.

A massive Thank You to all members, organiser, supporter and friends of The Lion Squares Germany e.V. who contributed to a successful year 2017! Have a wonderful Christmas and a Happy New Year!

See you in a square!



What's new in JAPAN

Hiroshi Nakagawa,
Chairman of International Affairs Committee,
Board Member, Japan Square Dance Association
(JSDA)

How nice it is to have an opportunity like this for international information exchange on the event and what are coming up in each country!! Hiroshi Nakagawa is taking charge of reporting the topics in our organization.

I would like to report about two topics from us this time:

- 1) the result of "2017 All Japan Square Dance Convention" ; and
- 2) the contents of "The 3rd JSDA's mid-term action plan" for increasing the membership.

2017 All Japan Square Dance Convention in Sendai

This 56th commemorative event of the organization was held in Sendai of Touhoku area unification branch office from August 18th, Friday, to August 20th, Sunday. About 800 dancers gathered. There were 6 halls to have Mainstream-1, Mainstream-2, Plus, Advance, Challenge1, Round Dance/Line Dance. Next year, 57th All Japan Square Dance Convention will be held in Numazu of Chubu area unification branch office from September 14th, Friday, to September 16th, Sunday. We are looking forward to meeting you at convention in Numazu.



Contents of The 3rd JSDA's 3-year mid-term action plan

The membership of our organization which had been upward all thru its history until 2011, reached a plateau of about 14,500 and down a little at annual renewal.

As main subjects,

1. Promotion of the SD policy
2. Maintaining the environment to support SD
3. Review, management of the organization

Considering the situation, the "The 3rd 3-year mid-term action plan" from 2018 through 2020 has been set as the top priority policy of the JSDA: Now our target is set from 13,000 to 14,000 members by the end of the fiscal year, March, 2020. Based on the situation of aging members, this target was decreased from 16,000 to 13,000 ~ 14,000. Our strategy is to count the number of people who experienced the square dancing at entry level. "100 thousand experiential dancers" was targeted to let general public realize "WHAT THE SQUARE DANCE IS." We hope this activity will succeed the 14,000 targeted membership through better recruiting.

So far, the activity for 100 thousand people to experience square dancing is in progress as we planned: the square dance leaders are becoming more conscious about this move every year. This move should penetrate into all the Japanese square dancers. We hope all the members share the same idea to accomplish the final goal.

To realize this goal, we will contribute by spreading our beloved Square Dance, cooperating with the foreign organizations, exchanging information with the worldwide Square Dance lovers.

CHINA

Square Dance is Flourishing in China

It is memorable for Chinese square dancers in the year 2017.

Square dance has come into China for more than 20 years, but it develops very slowly until the China International Square Dance clubs Alliance has been established in the year 2014. Now there are five clubs (Smile Club, Joyous Pas Club, Sunshine Club, Happy Garden Club and Tengfei Club) within the Alliance in Beijing. There are more than 12 Square dance clubs located in the different districts of Beijing however. In the year 2017, square dance is very active in Beijing and it's unusual for the dancers in Beijing. We not only went out to join overseas square dance conventions, but also we invited leaders to China to join us dance together.

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Photo 1: 30 Beijing dancers joined Taiwan's 8th International Square Dance Convention in 3-5, March, 2017.



Photo 2: 12 Beijing dancers went to Japan to join the 55th Anniversary Party of Tokyo Club in the period of 7-9, Oct., 2017.

Beijing's April is the awakening of spring. We invited one of the famous callers in the world, Mr. Tony Oxendine from America to visit China for the 2017 Spring Square Dance Convention. We had three successful grand dance parties with about 350 person-times dancers covering B to C1 in the period of 17-24, April, 2017.



Photo 3: Mr. Tony Oxendine leads the 2017 Spring Beijing International SQD Convention

Then we selected another best season of the year in Beijing to hold the 2017 Autumn Square Dance Convention in the period of 26-28, September 2017 and we invited the famous caller Mr. Michael Sikorsky from USA. There were three grand dance parties also covering Mainstream to C1 consisting of 400 local person-times dancers. To encourage more dancers, there was a special dance party for Mainstream and Plus, Mr. Michael Sikorsky's passionate style with singing, dancing, and calling made all dancers very happy. Michael said to the dancers that you are the perfect dancers!

Every dancer was in high spirits and beaming with happiness. The callers made all of dancers exciting and brought dancers into a climax to another. Dancers were unwilling to leave at the end each time.



Photo 4: Mr. Michael Sikorsky leads the 2017 Autumn Beijing International SQD Convention

Another special event was the 2017 IDSA China (International Dance Sport Association) First Square Dance Tournament Finals held in the Stadium of Glory, Beijing on 4th Oct., 2017. Michael guided the activity and joined the competition as an international referee. There were 6 teams in the competition. It is not very important for the position of the competition, but it is more important to promote square dance in China. Because of the members of IDSA not only come from different countries but also come from different Chinese provinces and cities. Square dance became one of other kinds of sport dances such as 5 dances Standard –Slow Waltz, Tango, Viennese Waltz, Slow Foxtrot and Quick step; 5 dances of Latin-Cha Cha Cha, Samba, Rumba, Paso Doble, Jive; Those competitions would be held regularly every year in 2-4, October. IDSA may help Square dance become more popular in China to have good health and make friendship for people.

During the convention period, Beijing Caller School opened also, both Tony and Mike spent their time to teach the presents in the school

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Photo 5: IDSA (China) 2017 First Square Dance Tournament Finals

. Michael spent two days to Beijing Caller School and teaches about 60 dancers face to face each time. It is a good start for some Chinese dancers who are willing to be callers.



Photo 6: Mr. Michael Silkorsky leads the Beijing Callers School in Sept., 2017

One more interesting event is 8 dancers who are over 70 years old on behalf of square dancers joined “The 4th Silver hair Got Talent Show” which were selected through network voting within the area of Tianjin city, Hebei Province and Beijing city and they have got the top ten reward finally. The objective of Happy square dance and enjoy your life have struck root in every Chinese dancer’s heart.

We are looking forward to the year 2018 and we are planning to have an International Square Dance Convention in the period of 21-23, Sept., 2018. You are welcome to come to Beijing to dance with us and see the beautiful city.

Strawberry Feng
Jr_feng@sina.com
Dec. 9, 2018
In Beijing



Photo 7: Square dancers joined “The 4th Silver hair Got Talent Show in Beijing “

SAASDC Newsletter 2017

Hello Europe, hope you all have had a great dance year. We would like to update you on what has happened in Sweden during the year.

It is gratifying to say that we have expanded our Swedish square dance family with a new club as well as we did last year.

To make it possible for dancers that are interested in taking a step to become instructors, SAASDC has during the year together with SACT, arranged a course called “Tape Leader”. “Tape Leader” indicates that it is mainly for those who want to use prerecorded material. Our national Convention, which is a great dance, but also the Annual meeting for SAASDC was held in Helsingborg.

During the year we have not only been working with preparations for Convention 2018, which is to be held in Borås (near the second biggest town Gothenburg), but also with the following... 2019 and 2020! **2020 is as you already know our national Convention as well as a European Convention** and we like to welcome you to this great Dance event!

Our clubs have this year also been able to apply for support from SAASDC for different recruitment activities.

In Sweden we have something called Musikhjälpen (Musical help). It is arranged every year to pay attention to a selected theme and collect money. This year the theme is “Children are not for sale” and SAASDC choose to start a fund-raising, where dancers can donate money and show their support. This initiative has been well greeted by them.

If you are planning a trip to Sweden, please have a look at www.squaredans.se, choose dance list, for the latest information about our dances. You may always contact us for further information at info@squaredans.se

We would like to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Ing-Marie Lindh and Fia Norén, board members
SAASDC

10th EUROPEAN SQUARE DANCE CONVENTION

AMSTERDAM 2018

Beyond Mainstream

20th - 22nd of July 2018



LEADERS AT THE CONVENTION



BJØRN ANDERSSON
Denmark



THOMAS BERNHED
Sweden



JÖRG BIEWALD
Germany



PAUL BRISTOW
Great Britain



FRANTIŠEK CERMÁK
Czech Republic



TRUUS DE JONG
the Netherlands



TERESA HART
Great Britain



SØREN LINDERGAARD
Denmark



LOET POLAK
the Netherlands



INGVAR PETTERSSON
Sweden



DAVE PRESKITT
Germany



TOMAS MACHALIK
Czech Republic



CHRISTIAN SCHIDLER
Germany



WIL STANS
the Netherlands



NILS TROTTMANN
Germany



MAARTEN WEIJERS
the Netherlands



NEIL WHISTON
Great Britain



more infos at
www.europeanconvention2018.nl

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Calendar of Conventions & Jamborees

2018

March	09—11	EAASDC	Spring Jamboree	Leinzell	Germany
April	20—23	NSDSA	59 th Convention	Perth WA	Australia
May	25—27	ECTA	48 th Round D Festival	Frankenthal	Germany
June	01—03	SAASDC	36 th Convention	Borås	Sweden
June	98—10	DAASDC	27 th Convention	Ikast	Denmark
June	27 – 30	NSDC	67 th Convention	Kansas City MS	USA
July	20 –22	EAASDC	10 th Eur Convention	Amsterdam	TheNetherlands
July	19 – 21	CRSDS	20 th Convention	London ONT	Canada
Aug/Sep	31—02	EAASDC	Fall Round Up	Pinneberg	Germany
September	14—16	JSDA	57 th Convention	Numazu	Japan

2019

March	08—10	EAASDC	Spring Jamboree	tba	Germany
April	24—28	NSDSA	60 th Convention	Delorama	Tasmania.AUS
May	24—26	ECTA	49 th Round D Festival	tba	Germany
June	24—29	NSDC	68 th Convention	Atlanta GA	USA
Aug?sep	30-- 01	EAASDC	Fall Round Up	tba	Germany

2020

June	17 –20	NSDC	69 th Convention	Spokane WA	USA
		SAASDC	11 th Eur Convention	tba	Sweden

2021

June	24--26	NSDC	70 th Convention	Jackson MISS	USA
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