

EUROPEAN NEWSLETTER

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Editorial

Hello dance friends

It sure has been a long time. I miss all the so familiar faces. The last time that we stood on a dance floor was March 2020. Almost 2 years ago. Fortunately both Corry and I have some other means of spending our time and feeling happy. But still; where are you all and above all how are you doing ??

Anyway after asking you all for your well appreciated input, it is time for me to put it all into one piece and hope that you like reading it.

This year the EAASDC has a new president and because I am sure that many of you know "Wuffi", I have included his "farewell lines" This was published before in the Bulletin, but he gave me OK on also putting it in here. Wuffi has been a great help to me by getting contacts outside Europe and I thank him for that.

There is a new president also in our neighbor country "overseas" But I learned that Susan is going to take up the PR position so she will still be there "when I need her"

You will also find that many have written about dances after COVID 19 but please keep in mind that this might have been written some time ago. The situation could have changed by the time you read this

Corry and I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a fine 2022 and above all "stay save".

May my usual ending soon be back:
Happy dancing.

Ron van Dijk
Brandenburglaan 38
NL 4333 BZ Middelburg
E mail: rvandijk@zeelandnet.nl
The Netherlands

Addresses

BAASDC

(British Association of American Square Dance Clubs)
David Eagland- President
Phone: + 44 1949 20821
Email: baasdc.president@gmail.com
URL: www.uksquaredancing.com

CSCTA

(Czech Association of American Square Dance Clubs)
Tomas Machalik - President
Phone: + 420 602 250 534
Email: Doug@square.cz
URL: www.square.cz

DAASDC

(Danish Association of American Square Dance Clubs)
Lotte Krogh Vangsgaard - President
Phone: + 45 40 84 84 05
Email: president@squaredancedanmark.dk
URL: www.SquareDanceDanmark.dk

EAASDC

(European Association of American Square Dancing Clubs)
Claudia Kloid - President
Phone: + 49 173 86 46 27 9
Email: president@eaasdc.eu
URL: www.eaasdc.eu

NVSD

(Dutch Association of Square Dancers)
Loet Polak - President
Phone: +31 (0) 624 233429
Email: president@squaredance.nl
URL: www.squaredance.nl

SAASDC

(Swedish Association of American Square Dance Clubs)
Annika Myhrberg - President
Phone: + 46 73 6641098
Email: Annika@squaredans.se
URL: www.squaredans.se



EAASDC

Dear friends and colleagues,
I have been thinking for a long time about what to write in my President's Letter, there would be so much to say.

In mid-2021, I was elected President of the EAASDC e.V., which meant a big change in my life. Many Clubs put their trust in me - a completely inexperienced person in board work - and elevated me to an office with a lot of responsibility but also with a lot of joy. I have been in this position for almost half a year now and I am very happy that I can work with extremely nice and helpful colleagues. Many things are new and I still have a lot to learn, but together we can do it. The offer of my predecessor Wolfgang "Wuffi" Daiss to support me with information and advice has also made my start much easier.

This year, unfortunately, Covid 19 still casts a big shadow over us, although we already have good vaccines. Unfortunately, vaccination rates are still not high enough to bring the virus under control and perhaps we were a little hasty in disregarding our caution after vaccination. A deceptive sense of security spread and holidays were again taken all over the world. We are now bearing the consequences of this ease in the fourth wave - will this be the last? We all don't know, but we must hope and not despair. It is immensely important for the psyche to make plans, even if they may not be feasible. It is these small goals that we work towards and with which we motivate our perseverance.

Here in Germany, about 60% of the clubs have restarted their dance nights, most of them in the summer. More special dances and workshops are being announced for next year. This is also the case with the EAASDC - such as the Spring Jamboree in Hochheim in March and of course the European Convention in Vienna in July. We all hope that we will not have to cancel these specials again because of Covid 19 and look forward to seeing our friends again.

Now the year is coming to an end and at first glance life is getting darker and duller, but as so often a second, closer look is worthwhile: Nature gives us exploding colours in the forests, beautiful sunrises and sunsets. Houses are slowly being decorated with candles and the Advent season is announcing itself. A time of warm, cosy evenings on the sofa - in front of the fireplace or without - a good glass of wine or a nice cup of tea, biscuits and gingerbread...

cosiness and peace. Time to pause and recognise the blessings in our lives. Health, family, work, a roof over our heads and friends, we often take them for granted, but they are not. Let us be grateful for the many small blessings in our lives and remain confident. For it is from these that people draw strength in difficult times.

I wish you and your families and associations a blessed time and a good healthy start into the hopefully better year 2022.

At last but not least, let me invite you to come to Vienna to have a wonderful time dancing and meeting with friends and me. ;-)

Yours, Claudia Kloid
President EAASDC e.V.

BAASDC

European Newsletter Report from British Association of American Square Dance Clubs 2021/2022

The United Kingdom like every other country, continues to suffer the consequences of the Pandemic and never more so than Square and Round Dancing. As a close contact activity with lots of hand holding, twirling and swirling and not forgetting the 'Yellow Rocks' it is taking time for dancers to feel confident about returning to their Clubs. Inevitably some Clubs have had to close, others have lost the use of their venues for a variety of reasons including steep rises in costs and availability. However, gradually some Clubs are starting to re-open.

During the 'Lockdowns' many of our Club Contacts took the trouble to keep in touch with their dancers in a variety of ways. These included Zoom, telephone calls, newsletters and socially distanced social events. Such Clubs have been wonderful as they realized the importance and benefits of the social side of belonging to a Club.

One of the positives that came out of the Pandemic, was the genius idea to encourage Callers and Cuers to carry out their craft on 'Zoom'. Who was this genius? Someone must know including obviously himself/herself? Could someone tell me please? If there is a 'Hall of Fame' for Square and Round dance luminaries, then surely their name should be there for all to see.

What Zoom did, was to make us appreciate the fact that ours is a truly global activity, when despite cultural and other differences we all speak the same language of Square Dance calls. Dancers from all over the world, in different time zones and countries, came together as a huge global family. They met up regularly and many formed friendships in a way unimaginable before Covid 19.

Another bonus for the Zoomers was that many callers took the opportunity to teach different programmes, giving existing dancers the chance to hone their skills and others to add another level of expertise to their repertoire.

Here in the United Kingdom many dancers are still enjoying the benefits of Zoom dancing. Sadly for some, their Club may have closed or not yet re-opened.

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Others unable to fully participate actively in dancing just sign in to talk to other dancers, just listen to the banter or just enjoy the familiar sound of the Calls and the music. Thank you to all Zoom Callers and Cuers everywhere!

Dancers in the United Kingdom are being encouraged to attend as many dance events both here and abroad, and our diaries for 2022 are beginning to fill up. Of course there is the BIG ONE the European Convention to be held in Vienna in Austria in July. There is a stellar line-up of Callers and Cuers; coming from the U.K. will be Di Green, Neil Whiston and Paul Bristow calling and Teresa and Paul Hart cueing. For many it may be the opportunity to meet up with fellow Zoomers in person – to chat and dance together and reflect on past events.

In July, 2021 as the President of the B.A.A.S.D.C. I received a Vote of Confidence from our Clubs; I was so pleased to receive their support. However in October at our Annual General Meeting I took the decision to step down from the post, but stayed on the Council as the Public Relations Officer. So when you are reading this our new President will be David Eagland.

I wish all Dancers Callers and Cuers and their families A Very Happy New Year with lots of Real Dancing with Real People in Real Places ! Life may not be the party we hoped for, but while we're here we should dance!

Susan Ellis
Public Relations Officer for B.A.A.S.D.C.

NVSD

(Dutch Association of Square Dancers)

Dear dance friends,

This year we hoped everything would be normal again.

We were ready with the virus but the virus was not ready with us.

We are now slowly starting up the clubs and hope everything goes well.

We also planned some parties for the next year. You can find them on our website: www.squaredance.nl.

Before going to any club or party please check the Corona regulations for that moment (on the website you will find contact persons for every club).

The number of active dancers is a little bit down due to several circumstances but we are still keeping the activity alive.

At this moment there is not much news from here.

Please follow us on the website of facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/squaredance.nl>

On behalf of all Dutch dancers, I wish you all a healthy year.

Loet Polak
President of the NVSD

SAASDC

♪♪ It's beginning to look
a lot like Christmas.... ♪♪

Planning on Christmas gifts, food and how to get Santa to come to our house if it's not snowing. We wrote a newsletter last year planning on starting up but little did we know that it would last until September before we stood on the dance floor, ready to square up! Now the dances/courses have started up, but not everybody has yet dared to get back into the wonderful whirls of dancing.

The pandemic is still ongoing but as we say in Sweden "pepper pepper knock on wood" – (in English – touch wood) Covid-19 is in Sweden on a reasonable level right now.

In January we started a Facebook group for the board members of our member clubs. The reason was that we missed a place where discussions could be held with other board members. Discussions have of course mostly revolved around Covid-19 and how to start up again.

On that same theme we had a digital event about "Starting up - Restart" with a caller, Svante Jordeskog, as a lecturer and then open discussions with the attendants.

When you read this we have made a follow up-event. One of the questions is "do you dare to start a beginner's class?" We hope that most of the clubs do and that we can make lots of new friends to dance with. Let's aim for that many of us can meet up in Flen in June 4-6 for the Swedish Square Dance Convention. See more on:

www.convention2022.se

Dark clouds are piling up but let's hope they make a "zoom" so that we all can meet very soon!

Take care and be safe! Have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Ing-Marie Lindh,
Board member SAASDC



CSCTA

News from the Czech Republic and Slovakia

CoViD-wise, the situation in both our countries is not very good, and it also has impact on dancing. At the moment, emergency status is declared in both of the countries. The clubs are still dancing but it is hard to say whether this will be possible in a few weeks as well. Still, we hope that our big special dance, Hornický Šachták, will take place on January 14 to 16, 2022, in Ostrava. The organizing club plans to celebrate its 20th anniversary there (which, actually, should have happened this year already but the dance had to be cancelled) and they invited Dave Preskitt to give their birthday cake more icing.

It is clear that the "Májovka" dance will not take place in Bratislava in 2022 and neither the CSCTA Convention (which should have been merged with it) will. However, we still do hope that the European Convention in Vienna will take place as planned and that we will be able to meet many friends from abroad there. Hopefully, the next dancing season will be normal again.

There is also good news: in spite of COVID 19, we have some new dancers in our area and they even include teenagers! We will do our best to keep them interested, hoping that they will bring their friends in consequently. Perhaps this will result in a new generation of dancers later on and our wonderful activity will get stronger and more vivid.

Tomas "Doug" Machalik
CSCTA President

DAASDC

Dear all in the Square Dance World

Currently (mid November) we have come so far that everything has opened when it comes to assembling to dance. We surely have missed that. On October 2nd and 3rd the club "Hedens Squaredansere" (Square Dancers of the Heath) invited to a dance festival. 150 dancers were gathered to a terrific autumn party on the heath in the town Ikast. Everyone enjoyed getting out again and airing their square dance apparel. It felt quite right again – back to "the old days."

The joy in square dancing spread. However, I observed one **not** so positive detail: The Square Dancing clothes have been altered while waiting in the wardrobe! What has happened? Maybe because I have practiced the well-known "Corona

Exercise:" back and forth between sofa and refrigerator ... So it's about time to get started again. Square dancing as well as in the fitness center. I spoke to several dancers in Ikast who had practiced the same form of exercise . It's good to be up and running again ...

Unfortunately we have also learned that some people have given up square dancing during the pandemic and recently we have found out that several classes and some Danish clubs have closed down. At the same time we have also lost callers who, in the long run, will be hard to do without. Callers' Society Denmark – CSD – has recently held a callers' school for new callers. We put our trust in that several dancers will feel the urge for jumping in behind the microphone. We do know, however, that some time will pass before the clubs are getting new teachers working. But it is very important that clubs engage with those dancers who want to challenge themselves in the art of calling. Maybe we need to rethink the ways of teaching square dance. I don't believe we will get new dancers into the activity the way things look now. The last weekend in August DAASDC participated in the first major event in Aalborg where several various sports and leisure activities were gathered for a grand meeting "Peoples' Meeting for Sports." This will be a recurring event but square dancing is challenged! More than 100 different activities were represented – many of them targeted for younger age groups. In square dancing we to a large extent lack "jump in – jump out" teaching or some kind of "participants' point system." We don't have the right facilities. We urgently need a "young way" of teaching. We are very much in need of renewal. Looking solely at the phenomenon "dance" we can see that young people love to dance. They are gladly dancing "StreetDance, Funk, Disco, HipHop, TikTok, House ..." or whatever they are called. Another thing we may lack of is competition. Competition is also attracting to the young people in Denmark. At DAASDC we've gone into the think tank to find out what to do? Which will be the next move?

Luckily we have a small group of youngsters who would like to form their own youth group. They call themselves: "Bumblebees."

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It is our hope that this group will contribute in attracting children and young people via public schools and junior high schools, the latter being popular in Denmark. DAASDC chooses to look forward and hence we are going to form a little group of people with the task of creating a “Start Square Dancing” teaching way targeted at young people.

Everyone is looking forward to summer 2022 where we will hold Danish Square Dance Convention in Ishøj close to Copenhagen during the days 10th to 12th June. After one year of cancelling and another year with deferral it is amazing with a major dance in view. Likewise we are looking forward to the European Square Dance Convention in Vienna. We hope and believe that all dance events in 2022 are going to be held. Even if the pandemic should strike again in Europe we must believe the best. Danish convention in 2023 is also in place and will again be held in Northern Jutland in the little town Saeby. Here the facilities are fabulous: amazing dance halls, camping close to the halls, close to the town Skagen and the unrivaled beaches. DAASDC have together with Hedens Squaredancers in Ikast offered to hold European Square Dance Convention 2024 in the last weekend of July 2024. I have asked the various associations in Europe to pass the names of callers they would like to present at this event. Hedens Squaredancers and DAASDC will bring flyers and T-shirts for the 2024 Convention to the Euroconvention in Vienna – we are looking forward to that.

With the current Covid-19 situation in Denmark we continue to dance relentlessly. We have no restrictions in leisure time as long as we are less than 100 dancers indoor and do not eat together. Luckily most of us have been vaccinated, are being tested or carry a corona-passport and I feel assured that together we take responsibility for ourselves and not at least for others. In the clubs where I dance myself, we are diligent in disinfecting our hands, we don't give many Yellow Rocks, as we used to. “Take care and stay safe” has gradually become the motto instead of “Yellow Rock.”

Thank you, Ron, for once again leading the European Newsletter.

At last DAASDC and I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Lotte Vangsgaard, President DAASDC

EAASDC**Farewell from past president**

It's time to say goodbye...

The deadline for objections has passed, the Board elections have successfully been completed and the transfers of offices mostly taken place. Thanks to all those who applied!

Thanks as well to the Election Committee for all the invested time and devotion leading to this successful result.

We move on with Claudia Kloid as new President, whom I wish a lot of patience, success, acceptance and support. The same I wish all other elected Board members and all honorary associates as well. On request from my successor and for a limited period of time I remain available to her and EAASDC for support. This, however, only in the background and in an advisory fashion, for the leadership of the association lies from now on in the hands of the newly elected Board.

Looking back

I stepped forward in September 2010 in order to do my humble part „to smooth out some choppy waters“ and to offer a few ideas for the future of EAASDC (and no, in spite of comments indicating something else, of course I wouldn't have abandoned our association now).

This is just a short excerpt from many goals that were close to my heart, and to those of all helpers, and that have been reached over the last years

- To create the necessary legal and organisational conditions for a European umbrella association
- To provide member clubs with corresponding information and advice on legal, tax related, trade mark or data protection related issues, or any other matters concerning the clubs, as well as being their point of contact for solutions to their problems and questions
- To put the GEMA contract and cooperation on a trusting basis and to align its contents with the special needs of EAASDC
- To broaden and to intensify the contact with the international associations of our activity
- To create an EAASDC Youth Team as point of contact for the young people's concerns
- To work out a „Dancing in schools“-project and to offer it to the member clubs

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- To create a Jamboree Committee consisting equally of ECTA and EAASDC and to work out the Jamboree Guidelines as a concept paper for interested member clubs

If with all this, as well as with all those achievements not mentioned, we were able to do some good for our members, then I am satisfied and now the time has come for new ideas and new main focuses. Anyway, this year such important people are quitting in Germany as the Chancellor and the National Soccer Coach, so it will hardly be noticed when an unimportant person like me is quitting as well 😊

For me the eleven years as EAASDC President were an interesting experience with many nice moments, although I would not have succeeded without numerous help and the approval and acceptance of the members.

What remains

I will leave with a laughing and a crying eye. The crying one is mine and stands for „I will miss you and the many happy moments connected with the position and the EAASDC-time very much“. The laughing one belongs to my lawn mower and it stands for „finally I've got him all to myself“. 😊

Many thanks to all of you for your support and the happy time my partner Claudia Bender (EAASDC first lady) and I had with you.

Lots of love and all the best, stay healthy and we will see each other sometime somewhere at a dance.

Grüße (Greetings)

Your Wuffi and Claudia

Australia

G-day from Australia. Australia has reached 80% of the population that has been double vaccinated against Covid-19 so restrictions are beginning to relax. However we still can't travel to Western Australia.

2022 will be our first National Convention since 2019 and we are very excited and hopeful that it will take place. It is being held from the 21st April to the 25th April 2022 in the regional town of Goulburn, New South Wales. The theme is “Day and Night, Let's Make it Bright.”

Victoria are planning on a State Convention in March 2022. New South Wales are having their State Convention on September 30th to 2nd October 2022 in the beautiful Blue Mountains. Let's hope 2022 brings back lots of fun and dancing.

Regards
Rosalind Todd

China
Square dance in China
in the year 2021

The year 2021 is the second year of the world encountering with the COVID-19. The virus has been spreading over the place to place and people to people. We have to follow up the regulations to keep distance each other, wear masks and reduce the chance to go outside especially stop to travel to abroad. As square dancers, we missed not only the 2020 European Convention but also most of conventions around the world. We are in the regular epidemic prevention and control in the year now. There are more than 2.4 billion people have been vaccinated and 1 more billion got the full injection. As the COVID-19 pandemic is severe, the square dance activities have to intermittently stop and follow up all of the regulations about fight the epidemic.

Let's take the Beijing Smile International Square Dance Club as an example. There are about 150 dancers in the club with all of dance levels. The two Basic classes with 20 people, one C2 class with 22 dancers and one C4 class with 20 dancers have been established this year except other regular class M, Plus, A and C1. Every class has its own activity schedule and space. All of classes are led by their monitors and teachers. The requirement for dancers are vaccinated.



We do hope the COVID-19 would be passed away, everything would be coming to a normal. Happy Square Dance Always and we are waiting for you in China in the near future.

Strawberry Feng(jr_feng@sina.com)

Thanks to My friend Strawberry recommend me to be here. I'm glad to meet you, All Square Dance friends. I am Vicky, I come from Beijing, China.

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We missed the 2020 European Convention in Sweden. Dances were blocked at most days in 2020 and 2021 Anything have their Disbenefit Must have their benefit. We have those:



1. Virtual dance becomes our new opportunities. Photo shows: Caller Joachim Ruehenbeck was in Germany, Sweden Caller and club leader Helen Tronstad was with us in Beijing. It was 2019, in that time we started long distant connection call and dance. Thanks to friends on photo above who invited us to Sweden, the brochure of 2020 European Convention was from them

We participated more virtual dance from America, Canada, Australia and Germany in 2020. After those experience, In April 2021, we held a big long distant call and dance.



2. Write the books and make the recording.

We made English-Chinese bilingual recordings for CallerLab Definition on all levels (Basic to the Challenges). Thanks Dana Schirmer, your mails helped us

3. Morning reading English.

Square dance activity is a good way to learn English, and English learning helps our square dance. Every morning we read English in our wechat group online. By this way we are together, whatever where we are

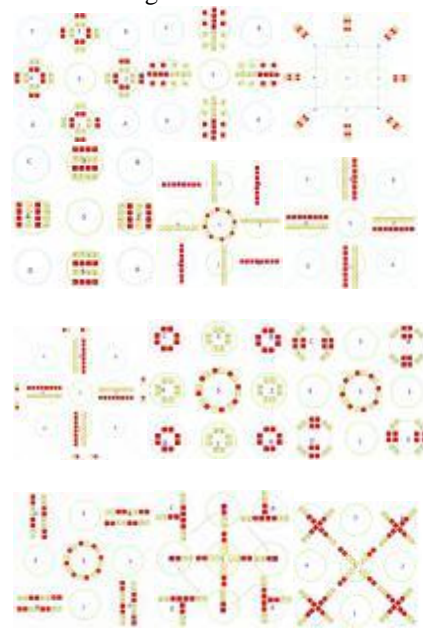


4, 109 squares demonstration in April 2021



Normal square, Tandem Square, Big Line, Octagon square..... Caller Joachim Ruehenbeck, Caller Brian Hotchkies help us to make special demonstration.

Inside and outside, Grand Relay the Deucey, Grand Grand Spin Chain and Exchange the Gears, take our 10 Squares dance together, in the end we 80 dancers do one Call. Big Coordinate.



Please tell us which formation you like. Any suggestions

5. Today I meet you here.

Thanks European Newsletter, thanks Editors and Leders, Callers and All Square Dancer friends. I like dance, convention, traveling, Studying ng, sharing, stories, book, letter, virtual dance, demonstration, all actives of Square dance. I wish European Newsletter will be the great link for us.

Happy Square Dance Always

Vicky Sun

(vickysun2008@163.com)

Report from Japan

Hiroshi Nakagawa
Chairman of International Exchange Committee of
JSDA
Member of Japan Square Dance Association (JSDA)

We are approaching another end of the year after we lived in the new environment with the COVID-19 since 2020, March.

In Japan, the spread of corona has been avoided by keeping a distance, wearing a mask, disinfecting or washing hands, ventilation and avoiding close contact by talking or body touching each other. During the Corona epidemic, the government declared a state of emergency, which meant that square dancing events and meetings could not be held in order to avoid the 3C's.



The 3C's were first proposed in Japan. By this, World Health Organization (WHO) on 19 July 2020 in a post entitled "Avoid the Three Cs" on their official Facebook page.

The 3C's are a combination of the first three letters of the word "C" in Japanese, which means "three dense" in English.

1. Crowded places, these are to be avoided if possible
2. Close-contact settings, especially where close conversations are taking place
3. Confined and enclosed spaces with poor ventilation

Later, when corona penetration was low, the meetings were resumed, but the 3C rule was observed.

Fortunately, the Corona pandemic has been under control in Japan since late October.

This may be due to the fact that Japanese people have been wearing masks since before the Corona pandemic. Another reason is that people refrained from going out unnecessarily and from eating and drinking outside.

Next, we would like to introduce you to the current situation of square dancing in Japan.

Organization in Japan

- Japan Square Dance Association (JSDA)
 - JSDA consist of Dancers and Callers
 - 11,349 Members (year 2020 :13,591 M15:F85)
 - 834 Callers/283 Cuers/33 Instructors
 - 499 Clubs (year 2020: 533) July 2021
- Purpose of JSDA
 - The purpose of this association is to promote square dancing and to enhance lifelong sports and recreational activities for the people and local communities.
- JSDA Activities
 - Organizing the All-Japan Square Dance Convention yearly
 - National Seminar for callers and dancers
 - Newsletter issue bi-monthly
 - Statistics reports (members, clubs, callers etc.)
 - Notification of Programs and Definitions
 - Translation of CALLERLAB materials
 - Technical materials (Program List/ Definition etc.)
 - Reference Materials (Marketing Guide/Sight and Module Resolution Systems / Standard Applications etc.)
 - SNS
 - Homepage
 - Facebook
 - Providing Tools/Materials
 - TAIKEN Program
 - Training materials for dissemination supporters
 - Sample Calls
 - Community 25
 - Committees
 - License Committees (From 2020)
 - (until now, National Folk Dance Federation of Japan)
 - SD: Caller Coach / Senior Caller / Caller
 - RD: Instructor Coach / Senior Instructor / Instructor Queer
 - CWD: Instructor Coach / Senior Instructor / Instructor
 - Technical Committees
 - International Exchange Committees
 - Public Relations Committees
 - Ways and Means Committees
- "The 3rd JSDA's mid-term action plan"
 - i) The purpose is increasing the membership
 - ii) The membership of our organization which had been upward all thru its history until 2013, reached a plateau of about 14,500 and down a little at annual renewal.
- Analyzation the reasons of decreasing members
 - i) Aging of members (more than 50% are now older than 70, less than 15% are under 60)
 - ii) Lack of degree of recognition of square dance

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- Our new target was set to aim at no less than 1,400 new members every year
 - Our strategy
 - i) Increase the number of people who will have experienced the square dancing at entry level
 - ii) “100 thousand is the target to let general public realize “WHAT THE SQUARE DANCE IS”
- Our wishes
 - We really want to spread our beloved Square Dance, cooperating with the foreign organizations, exchanging information with the worldwide Square Dance lovers
 - i) Increasing member
 - ii) Getting Young member

Finally, we wish to Restart, Reconnect, Restore the Square Dancing world as same as the slogan of 47th CALLERLAB Convention on April 11 – 13, 2022 is “Restart, Reconnect, Restore” .

TAIWAN

Dear fellow dancers,

Year 2021 for us is like riding a roller coaster. When we were proudly celebrating the “victory” of fighting against the COVID-19 in 2020, we had never anticipated that it would come back and blow us again.

As usual, the SDAROC organized events according to the calendar schedule. We put on masks to celebrate Christmas on December 20, 2020, and the Lunar New Year on March 7, 2021. Besides round dance, the former party included levels from a MS to C1, and the later from MS to C2. Andrea Cheng and Nancy Chen, leader of the Ant Squares and TWTC, respectively, have always been enthusiastic in recruiting new dancers. Andrea is known for being good at bringing sense of ritual to class. On April 25, 2021, she gave certificates to new dancers when they’d finished the basic level. A party was held for them to dance on their own as well as assisted by angels.



Fig 1. The Ant Squares Club holds a certificate award ceremony for new dancers accomplished the basic level.

One week after Mother’s Day gathering, to our great surprise, locally acquired cases of COVID-19 soared rapidly. The Level 3 Pandemic Alert was subsequently imposed by the government. While tracking down the route of transmission, the society began to realize that mask-wearing and civil obedience was not a 100% guarantee for immunity. Working from home or taking online courses made people craving for ordinary activities and starting to demand for a full vaccination. Knowing that no sufficient amount of vaccine doses were secured at that time made people frustrated and furious. Thanks to Japan, USA, Lithuania, Czech, Poland, and Slovakia that generously offered immediate vaccine donation to us. Our anxiety lessened eventually as more and more vaccine doses arrived and the vaccination rate keep rising.



Fig.2 SDAROC initiates the second CallerTraining Camp, supposedly be held from March to June, 2021, is terminated by the pandemic outbreak.

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During that period of time, Andrea Cheng was the only leader that managed to offer various online courses and virtual practices. In some of her online classes, some of our foreign friends from China and USA joined us to say hello. Despite we were confined to a “quasi-lockdown state”, we knew that we were surrounded by friendship and love. It was only until recently that Taiwan’s government began to lift some restriction on leisure and entertainment activities. Starting from the second week of October, some of Taiwan’s Square Dance clubs organized to resume classes and activities gradually. However, only 2/3 of the clubs are back to session now, and attendance rates are lower than before the outbreak.

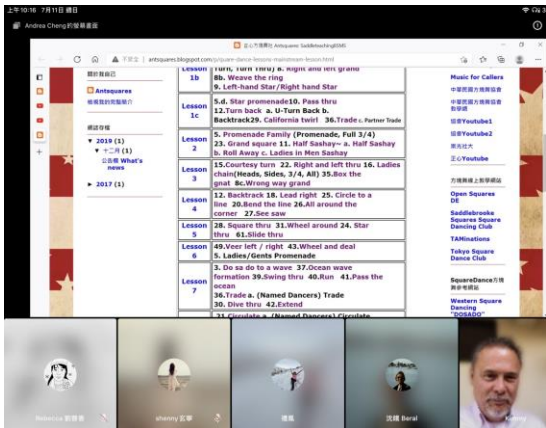


Fig 3. In one of Andrea Cheng’s Basic online courses, Buddy Weaver shows up and says Hello to Taiwan dancers.



Fig 4. Ant Squares Club celebrates its 22nd Anniversary in a two-day tour, where they hike during daytime and dance at night, right after the travel restriction lifted.



Fig 5. Nancy Chen offers a trial session on December 26, 2021, inviting friends to start a new hobby.

The pandemic might probably change people’s mindset, even life philosophy. We are happy that we have managed to get over the crisis. It might take time for most of Taiwan’s square dancers to come back to the floor. Even so, the SDAROC decides to hold a Christmas party on December 26 this year, regardless of the participation rate. We believe that as long as we keep the wheels rolling the wagon will move forward. Beral Shen, chairperson of SDAROC, and the organizing committee have come to a conclusion that the 10th Taiwan Int'l Square Dance Convention will remain pending until further notice. If situation permits, we might see you in the European Square Dance Convention next year. Let us cross our fingers and pray the dream to come true. We wish you a wonderful holiday season filled with peace, love and joy.

Chin-Yin Hwang
International Liaison,
SDAROC

Calendar of Conventions & Jamborees

2022

March	11 – 13	EAASDC	Spring Jamboree	Hochheim	Germany
April	21—25	NSDSA	62 nd Convention	Goulburn NSW	Australia
May	27 – 29	ECTA	Round Dance Festival	Frankthal	Germany
June	4 – 6	SAASDC	40 th Convention	Flen	Sweden
June	10 –12	DAASDC	30 th Convention	Ishoy	Denmark
June	22 - 25	NSDC	71 st Convention	Evansville IN	USA
July	8 - 10	EAASDC	11 th Eur. Convention	Vienna	Austria
July	20 --23	CSRDS	22 nd Convention	Frederiction NB	Canada
September	2 – 4	EAASDC	Fall Round Up	tba	

2023

March	10 -12	EAASDC	Spring Jamboree	tba	
Tba		DAASDC	31 st Convention	Saeby	Denmark
June	21- 24	NSDC	72 nd Convention	Mobile AL	USA
September	01 -03	EAASDC	Fall Round Up	tba	

2024

June	26 - 29	NSDC	73 rd Convention	Milwaukee WI	USA
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