



# REELERS REPORTER

Volume 2, Issue 2

December 2009

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*We could certainly slow  
the aging process down  
if it had to work its way  
through Congress.  
– Will Rogers*

## From the Presidents

We have had a busy and interesting dance season so far. Despite our troubles with securing a dance hall we can afford, our club members and square dancing friends from other clubs have been very supportive. We would like to inform you of the most recent developments.

Rick, Tom Simansky, and Lise Greene attended the Randolph Board of Education Policy Committee meeting on November 2. Though many committee members were sympathetic to our situation, there was no immediate resolution. The Policy Committee is currently reviewing its budgetary figures to assess the Board's own needs, and no decision regarding the Reelers' use of Ironia School will occur before January. However, we received permission to use the school at no cost for the rest of 2009.

We will dance at Mt. Fern Church on January 15 and February 5. We hope the Board of Education makes a final decision prior to the Reelers Executive Board semi-annual meeting on January 23, at which time we will discuss our options for future dance locations.

In the good news department, our Plus class is graduating 13 students, most of whom are joining the Reelers. A big thank you to Fran Wadel for her expert instruction! And a big Reelers Welcome to our new members, whose pictures and bios are on pages 2 and 3.

It is nice to know that our club is strong and growing. Thank you again for everyone's support. We look forward to a successful 2010!

*Linda and Rick Murphy (rilimicy@optonline.net)*

## Announcements!

★ **Delegates Meeting:** The NNJSDA is led by elected officers and delegates from each member club. Gay and Bill Grier ably represent the Reelers. Delegates and officers meet three times a year to discuss matters of interest to member clubs. Only delegates can vote on NNJSDA business, but all are invited to attend. There will be a class-level dance following the next meeting.  
*Next meeting:* Sun., Jan. 10  
*When:* 12:30 PM  
*Where:* VFW, 6 Veterans Place, Elmwood Park 07407

★ **Round dance classes:** Mary Pickett's round dance classes continue Mondays at

St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 51 Mountain Way, Morris Plains - beginners at 7:30 and Phase III at 9:00. The fee is \$7 per class. For more information, contact Jeff Stevens at 862-209-1254.

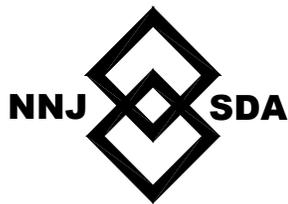
★ **Holiday party:** In place of the traditional holiday party following our last dance in December, we will have a party on Sunday, Dec. 13 at 2:00 at the Murphys' home. Please bring an appetizer, dessert, or drinks, and the hosts will provide a variety of homemade soups.

★ **Demos:** Three demos were held in the fall at Craftsman Farms, Morris View Adult Care Center, and Central Elementary

School in Great Meadows. Kittatinny Rangers joined us for the school demo, where the children and their teachers were really excited about trying out square dancing. We are working with the NNJSDA to possibly start a class at the school next year.

★ **Buttons:** Pick up your free "Ask Me About Square Dancing" button at a club or NNJSDA dance. It's square – it'll attract attention – wear it – expect questions!





### Dance format

At all NNJSDA dances that include Plus, those tips will now be *full* Plus (both patten and singer), so you'll get in more Plus dancing.

The Northern New Jersey Square Dancers Association has some great events coming up. Remember the "One Square is Fair" program: If our club has at least one square at each event, we'll earn credit toward a reduction in our 2010 NNJSDA dues – while having fun!

**Sunday, Jan. 10** – NNJSDA Midterm Dance (class level) at 3 PM at the Elmwood Park VFW. Class teachers will be calling, including our own Fran Wadel. Experienced dancers are invited to support the new students from all clubs.

Come early, at 2:30, for a chance to dance to some of the fine new callers for half an hour!

**Saturday, Jan. 30** – Our Pennsylvania friends Dennis Reardon and Jim Snyder will call alternating MS/*full* PL tips, with Russ Booz on rounds, at St. Aloysius in Caldwell.

**Sunday, Apr. 25** – The former Graduates Ball will instead be a benefit dance for the *Grand Square*. Joe Landi and

Mary Pickett are generously donating their services for a program with alternating MS/*full* PL/RD in support of our excellent magazine.

**Friday, Apr. 30** – Bill Mager (CT) and Russ Booz (PA) will team up for MS/*full* PL/RD.

**Saturday, May 15** – NNJSDA Special Dance! Ken Bower (CA) will call an *all-Plus* dance with Star Tips (Plus DBD or Advanced). Mary Pickett will cue, including half an hour of early rounds.

More information on these events and format changes will be in the winter/spring issue of the *Grand Square*, to be distributed at the Delegates Meeting on Jan. 10 and online at NNJSDA.org.

## Welcome to 11 New Reelers!

Note: Mary and Rich Moody also graduated with the Plus class, but will not be joining the club. Photos by Inars Gruntals.



Carol and Frank Gingerelli

Carol and Frank lived across the street from each other in Belleville, but they met on a school-sponsored boat ride to Rye Beach.

Frank, who graduated from Seton Hall University and Creighton Medical School (NE), is a radiologist oncologist at St. Mary's Hospital in Passaic. Carol is a retired nurse.

The Gingerellis have three married daughters and six grandchildren ages 2 to 11, all within an hour's drive. Back home on the ranch (so to speak), they have two horses. Carol and Frank both shoot black powder rifles competitively, making their own bullets and shells. They belong to the Lackawanna Sail and Power Squadron and like to travel, most recently to China.

When they saw an article in a local newspaper about square dancing, they thought it would be a fun way to get some exercise and have a night out together.

"We've really enjoyed our dance lessons and the wonderful people we've met," said Carol.

### Charyl Greenberg

While growing up in Somerville and Bridgewater, Charyl liked square dancing as part of gym



in the lower grades. When a friend told her about a Bee Sharps open house, they both signed up. Although the friend dropped out, Charyl continued to enjoy the exercise, fun, new friendships, and social activities.

Charyl comes from a medical family (general practitioner, psychiatrist, and neurologist), but she chose Douglass College and has a degree in accounting. She has worked for Estee Lauder cosmetics and other companies, but her true passion is for antiques and collectibles such as silverware, Bakelite bangle bracelets, kitchen gadgets,

## From the Executive Committee

**Treasurer:** Mark Bippes reports that the club is off to a great start financially in the first half of the dance season. Attendance averaged 50 for the first five dances, ranging from 35 to 67. Even though we've had to pay for most of the dance halls, we have been able to cover our expenses each time.

**Class Coordinator:** Bonnie and Charlie Van Stone report that they had a lot of fun with the 13 enthusiastic new Plus graduates. They're planning a free introductory square dance with Fran Wadel on the class night (Tuesday, Jan. 19 from 7:30-9:00), so that prospective Mainstream students have an opportunity to participate all evening. Check with the Van Stones to confirm the date, location, and fee.

**Refreshments:** The Sharkeys and Stollers thank all members for bringing great refreshments to the dances. Even with three raids at the same

dance, there was abundance and variety although members did not know in advance about the very large turnout expected. Please remember to sign up for set-up, clean-up, etc. twice during the year. Pick a date with a theme that appeals to you!

**Raids:** Jean and Inars Gruntals report that the club has completed raids to Hix and Chix, Cross Trail Squares, Mountain Squares, and Y Squares, where 22 Reelers had great fun with Howard and Donna Williamson. Once again we received many positive comments about our "Raid Parade Reel."

After a time-out for the holidays, we will continue our raids: Jan. 22 to Circle Eights (Ken Ritucci), Feb. 25 to Bee Sharps (Mark Franks/Ellen McCabe and Tom Denniston), and Apr. 9 to Kittatinny Rangers (Dennis Reardon). As you can see, we've tried to vary the selection of callers for your dancing pleasure. We appreciate your support!

and vintage jewelry, coats, and purses.

Charyl has owned four dogs and three cats over the years, and is currently dogless. "I am very puppy hungry, so if anyone knows of a free pup, please let me know," she said.

In 2008, Charyl enjoyed the Mini-Festival in the Mainstream hall. In 2009, she proudly held her own in the Plus hall.

### Robin Olson and Dave Vnenchak



A real estate convention in Atlantic City brought together Robin, a realtor from Manhattan, and Dave, a mortgage representative from New Jersey. "At a convention party, I forced him onto the dance floor and we've been dancing ever since," said Robin.

Dave had square danced as a Reeler in the late 1970s. When Robin saw an ad in the local newspaper for Kittatinny Rangers, she thought it would be fun and wanted to take lessons. "Square dancing was a lot more complicated than I thought, and a lot more fun than sitting in front of the TV at night," she said.

Dave's most memorable dance experience was being invited to dance on the Rose Bowl Parade square dance float in 1980 in California. Robin is just happy to have gotten through her first Plus tip without breaking down the square!

Robin had a home-based art business and has a real estate license, but due to the slow market, now sells advertising for Diner Placemats. Dave was in the Marine Corps, house construction, and building material sales before getting real estate and broker's licenses. Robin and Dave opened Station Realty in Netcong in 2005.

Robin has two daughters (31 and 28) and Dave has three children (20, 17, and 13). Together, they adopted a feral kitten.

Their many interests include traveling, going to movies, dining out, gardening, camping, bike and motorcycle riding, and fishing. Robin is in the Rotary Club, while Dave volunteers with the Marine Corps League and his son's Boy Scout troop.

"We are very grateful to our club, Fran, and all the angels for welcoming us with open arms and smiling faces."

### Madeleine and Joe Ostrowski



Madeleine and Joe have known each other through church for 30 years, but their relationship changed about two and a half years ago. By then, both had lost their spouses and "romance blossomed," said Madeleine.

Madeleine enjoys ballroom and ballet dancing, and even took flamenco lessons in Spain for a month. She attended a square dance for mothers and daughters around 1980, and her first husband, Brian Fugere, was a square dance caller. Although Joe had never square danced before, he took lessons because he knew it would make Madeleine happy. "But the good news is that he likes it!" she said. His favorite dancing experience so far is the recent Mini-Festival.

Joe worked as an electrician for 40 years after taking courses in college, electronics school, and the Air Force. He has three daughters and five grandchildren. Madeleine earned a BA in French and an MA in Spanish, and taught both languages for 34 years. She has two sons, a daughter, and five grandchildren.

The Ostrowskis both enjoy traveling, and Joe is an avid fisherman.

### Chris and Michael Patrick



Michael was from Connecticut and Chris was from Ohio. Working in California at Hughes Space and Communications brought them together. Michael has engineering degrees from Penn State and Stanford and an MBA from George Mason. Chris has been a configuration

management analyst for defense contractors most of her professional life. Michael now works at Honeywell in Morristown and Chris is with Kearfott Guidance and Navigation in Little Falls.

"Square dancing was huge in California in the 1980s," recalled Chris. "The club I danced with could have 20 squares on a Friday night." One of her favorite memories is from working and dancing on the Tournament of Roses square dance float.

Some years later in Virginia, Mike took lessons and Chris angeled. He liked it so much that he became a caller. A special memory is calling a tip with Tim Marriner.

The Patricks' daughter lives with her husband and two children (3 and 5 months) in Houston. In his non-working and non-dancing hours, Michael "lives for golf" and has recently taken up photography. Chris enjoys quilting.

### Vicky and Ed Proskey



Vicky and Ed met as teenagers through their parents, who both owned shops in Oakland, NJ. "Ed used to buy lunch at my parents' German butcher shop, and according to my parents he always seemed thirstier when I was working," said Vicky. And she had a sudden need to have her bike repaired at the Proskeys' sports shop.

Ed earned a degree in business from William Paterson University and works with Dewey Electronics, a government defense company. Vicky is a bookkeeper for Ford and Kia. Both enjoy hiking, fishing, kayaking, and nature.

When their two sons, now 27 and 24, left them empty nesters, Vicky, Ed, and his mother took square dancing in the Waldwick adult education program (through Belles & Beaux). They completed Fran Wadel's Mainstream lessons in 2007.

One of Ed's memorable dancing experiences was their first Mini-Festival. Vicky's was their first NNJSDA dance. "We had a full floor and I was trying so hard to stay out of the neighboring square!" she recalled. "We are happy to be a part of the square dancing community, which is extremely friendly and welcoming."

## Reelers Square Dance Club

Ironia Elementary School  
303 Dover-Chester Road (Route 513)  
Randolph, NJ 07869

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We're on the web!  
[www.reelers.njdsda.org](http://www.reelers.njdsda.org)

Member of Northern New Jersey  
Square Dancers Association



## Where in the World?

Reelers are avid travelers, and their journeys are featured in each newsletter.

### Amsterdam and Canada - Roger and Joan Morgan



In 2004, Roger and Joan Morgan took a river cruise through Holland and Belgium. "Beautiful scenery," they said.

The photo above was taken in Amsterdam.

In 2006, they enjoyed a trip to Canada. Roger is shown here in Mont Tremblant, "a quaint village with mountain scenery."



1st & 3rd Fridays  
Early Rounds 7:30, Plus and Rounds 8:00-10:20  
Cell for dance night: 201-572-5073

### Spring 2010 Dance Schedule

RD Cues: Mary Pickett (except as noted)

Date	Caller	Theme
01/15	Jim Snyder	Book Swap
02/05	Roy Leber	Chocolate Delight
02/19	Dennis Reardon	Pie and Presidents
03/05	Betsy Gotta/Roy Gotta	Gotta Go Green
03/19	Mark Franks	Franks and Beans
04/16	Jim Snyder	Going Nuts
05/07	Roy Leber/Karen Kushla	Ice Cream Social
05/21	Dennis Reardon	Vacation Tees
06/04	Joe Landi	Potluck Suppers

Emails will be sent regarding dance locations.

### Reelers Officers/Committee Chairs 2009-2010

<b>President:</b> Linda and Rick Murphy	973-539-9315
<b>Vice President:</b> Arlene and Tom Simansky	973-984-0009
<b>Secretary:</b> Lise Greene	973-663-4396
<b>Treasurer:</b> Mark Bippes	973-476-8844
Nancy Caufield and Jim Anderson	862-397-4034
<b>Class:</b> Bonnie and Charlie Van Stone	908-832-5313
<b>Delegate:</b> Gay and Bill Grier	973-543-9698
<b>Historian:</b> Ruth and Frank Pagano	973-827-3134
<b>Program:</b> Mary Jane and Greg Roome	973-543-4109
<b>Publicity:</b> Avyrl and Bear Brady	973-347-1675
<b>Raids:</b> Jean and Inars Gruntals	973-543-7792
<b>Refreshments:</b>	
Irene and Hal Stoller (Schedule)	973-744-1969
Matty and Bernie Sharkey (Supplies)	908-852-7931

## Member News

- Joan and Roger Morgan have joined the computer world! Their email address is: [rjbmorgan@verizon.net](mailto:rjbmorgan@verizon.net).

- Mark Bippes received the 2009 Distinguished Alumnus Award from his alma mater, Albright College in Reading, Pennsylvania, where he earned a degree in mathematics. The college president honored him for his work with Habitat for Humanity and many other service activities.

- Harry Van Lavender hopes to start therapy in Florida for an arthritic condition in his hip. Harry and Alberta are now living in their winter quarters in Ft. Myers.

- Ruth Philbrow sent a note regarding her recent illness: "Dear Reelers, Thank you for your telephone calls, cards, and well wishes. I am slowly returning to a normal schedule and hope to be back on the dance floor soon."

- Nancy and Bob Hayden, who joined the club this fall, have been off the dance floor since Nancy's accident at the Tumbling Leaves Festival in Vermont. She pulled a calf muscle and hamstring and has been undergoing therapy. "Thank you to everyone at the Reelers for their warm get-well wishes on the card that I received."

- John Baxter had surgery for a major blockage in his main heart artery. "I feel better, breathe better, and Ellen is doing a great job making sure I have everything I need. Thanks for the great card. It cheered me up. I am feeling well but must undergo a second procedure on my heart. Please pass my best regards to everyone."

- Joan Anfinson reports on the "walking wounded" at her home: Len had surgery for a torn meniscus last July, tossed aside his cane upon reaching the car, and was back to normal activity in about a week. Joan's new "bionic" knees are doing well after 18 months. She is still trying to treat back trouble through methods other than surgery. "As long as I can dance a few tips an evening, I'll be happy!"