

Reelers Square Dance Club



REELERS REPORTER

Volume 4, Issue 1

September 2011

From the Presidents

Welcome back, Reelers!

We hope you all had a safe, happy, and restful summer and you're ready to get back into the swing of things with square dancing! Hopefully, our students (see names below) got lots of practice over the summer to keep their new skills honed. We welcome them, our angels, and any other dancers wanting to brush up on their Plus skills to our Plus class starting on Tuesday, Sept. 20 at 7:30 at Ironia School. Fun-loving Michael Patrick will be our teacher again. Some of our dancers have been angeling faithfully for many years. If others could come and be an angel for at least some of the lessons, it would ease the pressure on the few faithful angels who come every week. If you find yourself at home on a Tuesday evening, please consider coming out and helping our students (and yourself, while you're at it) while having a fun evening of Plus dancing, camaraderie, exercise, and refreshments.

We can't say enough in appreciation for the faithful workers of our club who keep it running smoothly...refreshments, publicity, secretary, treasurer, delegates, school liaison, class coordinators, programs, and more. We couldn't do it without ALL of your help; your work keeps our club alive and well and vibrant. If anyone has an interest in helping out, please contact us. Many hands make light work (and you thought Edison made light work!!).

A special "thank you" to Lise Greene not only for a **wonderful** job as NNJSDA president, but also for preparing these newsy *Reeler Reporters*. They are a great way to learn about our members on a more personal level. This is, unfortunately, Lise's last edition. The newsletter will be missed! Thanks so much, Lise!

We had an exciting year 2010-2011 with our 50th anniversary dance, many demos, and fantastic dances. Now we look forward to an equally exciting year with great callers and fun themes. If you have any ideas to share with us, please speak up – we'd love to hear from you. CU in a square!
Av and Bear Brady (anyril.brady1@verizon.net)

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Volunteers don't get paid – not because they're worthless, but because they're priceless.

Announcements!

★ **Congratulations to our Mainstream graduates:**

Robert Borges
Chick Cicalo
Barbara Dziedzic
Sandy Faulkner
Diane Festa
John Festa
Renee Lipesky
Corky Ost

★ **NJPAC/NNJSDA:**

- Tuesday, May 1, 2012
- *West Side Story*
- Barbecue, demo, show
- Watch for details!

★ **Plus class:**

- Tuesdays beginning
Sept. 20
- 7:30 to 9:30 PM
- Ironia Elementary School
- Teacher: Michael Patrick
- \$50 per person
- Singles, couples welcome
- Info: Bonnie and Charlie
Van Stone (908-832-5313)

★ **Raids:**

- Vicky and Ed Proskey
have led three raids so far
this dance season: Belles
& Beaux, Middletown
Ramblers, and Hix & Chix.
Upcoming raids will be
announced shortly.

★ **Club holiday party:**

- Sunday, Dec. 11
- 2 PM
- Helen Jacobson's home

★ **Last newsletter:**

This is my last issue as
editor of the *Reelers
Reporter* newsletter. I'll be
happy to work on the next
issue with anyone who
would like to take over.
Thanks to everyone who
submitted great articles
and photos over the years
to make the newsletter
informative for our club
members. *All issues are on
our website in color!* –Lise

NNJSDA Dance Format for regular Association dances this season:

- 1/2 hour Mainstream
- 2 hours alternating Plus and MS with 1 Round between tips
- 1/2 hour Rounds (or Plus, if the dance does not include any Rounds)

Blast Class Weekend for those who can't come to our class every week: Nov. 4-6 (learn all Basics and most of Mainstream from Friday evening through Sunday afternoon). Teachers: Howard Richman and Barbara Kanter. Location: Liebenzell Retreat Center on Schooley's Mountain in Long Valley. Fee: \$150 for lessons, 2 nights lodging, and 6 meals or \$100 for lessons and meals only. Registration (by October 14): NNJSDA.org/blastclass/flyer.pdf.

Mini-Festival – Sunday, Nov. 13 in Bridgewater. New time: 1-6 PM with an extra half hour of Rounds-by-Request and C-1 dancing 6-6:30. Callers: Vic Ceder (CA), Don Beck (MA), Butch Adams (VA). Cuer: Mary Pickett (NJ). Fee: \$15 in advance, \$18 at the door. Star Promenade Square Dance Shop on site. To register: See flyers, *Grand Square*, or NNJSDA.org/minifestival/minifestival2011.pdf.

Patron – Dance at 12 NNJSDA member clubs and have the form signed to earn a dangle and a free dance coupon. There's no time limit. Form: NNJSDA.org/nnj_sda_documents

NNJSDA Website – NNJSDA.org

Upcoming Events in 2012:

- Jan. 22: **Midterm Dance** for students plus square dance clothing sale
- March 3: **Grand Square Benefit Dance** with callers Joe Landi and Glenn Matthew, cuer Karen Kushla
- March 31: **All Plus and Rounds Special Dance** with caller Dennis Reardon, cuer Steve Bradt, Star tips (Plus DBD and Advanced)

Square Dance License Plates – Featuring a dancing couple on a beige background with the vertical letters "S D." You will be assigned a four-digit number (requests cannot be taken for specific numbers). One-time fee: \$30. Application forms: at NNJSDA dances or call Rich Delgado (609-844-1140).

Summer Fun in the Sun

On July 23, a very hot Saturday, five "squares" of Reelers and Kittatinny Rangers enjoyed a potluck picnic at the home of Lise Greene and Mark Bippes on Lake Hopatcong. In addition to the delicious food and good conversations, dancers went swimming, canoeing and sailing.



See article on the Reelers' 50th Anniversary on opposite page. →



50th Anniversary Dinner Dance
 Sunday, April 10, 2011
 Zeris Inn
 372 Route 46 East, Mountain Lakes, NJ 07046
Caller: Tom Miller / **Cuer:** Mary Pickett
 Cost: \$40 per person
 12:00 Cash Bar (free cheese, crackers, veggies, dip)
 12:30-4:30 Dinner and Dancing
 Dinner: Penne vodka appetizer, tossed salad, choice of entrée (chicken marsala, salmon, prime rib), stuffed baked potato, broccoli, soda, coffee/tea, anniversary cake, ice cream



Bradys and Murphys



Roomes with Tom Miller, caller



Mary Pickett, cuer



Anfinen, Van Stone, Griens



John Kaltenthaler



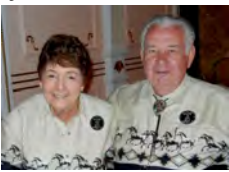
Slaters, Donaldsons, Morgans, Philhowers, Gruntals



Michael Patrick



Gruntals, Vnenchak, and others dance to caller Tom Miller



Kellys



L: Round dancers

R: Proskeys, Guferts, Stollers, Bippes/Greene, Wrights



Happy 50th Anniversary!

In 1960, Don and Charlotte Simpson moved to the Randolph area. When they couldn't find a square dance club, they decided to organize one. At the same time, a new caller named Vin Caruso also moved to the area. They teamed up to start a class at Roxbury High School that summer. In 1961, the graduates became the Roxbury Reelers Square Dance Club.

When they were no longer able to use the school gym, the Reelers moved to the Hercules Powder Company (where they had a blast?), since most of the members worked for the company. When the company space could not accommodate the growing club, dances were held at St. Therese Church. Eventually, club member Dave Manning obtained permission to dance at Ironia Elementary School the first and third Fridays of the month – where we still dance to this day!

Vin Caruso was the caller, instructor, guide, helper, and main reason the club flourished and continued. He called many of the first dances and taught the classes free of charge. The classes were

held in the Mannings' basement for a couple of years until Ironia School allowed the club to hold lessons there on Wednesdays. The club continues to hold classes at the school, but now on Tuesday evenings.

Don and Charlotte Simpson were elected first presidents. The Reelers joined the Northern New Jersey Square Dancers Association in 1962. Dances were held in the summer at the home of the Mannings, beginning with a barbecue followed by a dance on the blacktop driveway next door. After Dave built a big porch on his house, the club held covered dish suppers and dances there each July and August.

Vin Caruso taught Wilson Hoff, who took over as the Reelers teacher in 1968 and continued for 30 years. Other teachers have been John Kaltenthaler and Fran Wadel. Currently club member Michael Patrick is the class teacher.

The first Reelers raid outfit in black/white/red debuted in 1986. Erma and Bill Donaldson designed and made a raid flag. After much use, it was replaced in 2002 with a flag made by

Joan and Roger Morgan, which remains in use today.

The Reelers have walked a few rocky roads. In 2000, the club was told that Ironia School could no longer be used free of charge. Presidents Frank and Ruth Pagano pleaded the club's case to the Board of Education, noting that Reelers is a non-profit organization and should be treated the same way as Scout groups. The Board decided in the club's favor and granted continued free use of the school. With changes in the Board's membership, the threat came up again in 2009. This time, Presidents Rick and Linda Murphy and Vice Presidents Tom and Arlene Simansky spoke with the Board and were again allowed free use of the school.

Due to the generosity of many Reelers who have volunteered their time and effort, the club celebrated its 50th anniversary on April 10, 2011. On behalf of all the Reelers, thank you to the more than 100 dancers who joined in the momentous celebration.

(From talk by Reelers Presidents Av and Bear Brady at the dinner dance; photos by Dave Vnenchak and Jeanne Gruntals)

Reelers Square Dance Club

Ironia Elementary School
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Randolph, NJ 07869

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We're on the web!
www.reelers.njdsda.org

*Member of Northern New Jersey
Square Dancers Association*



1st & 3rd Fridays
Early Rounds 7:30, Plus and Rounds 8:00-10:00
Cell for dance night: 201-317-0073

2011-2012 Dance Schedule *RD Cuer: Mary Pickett (except as noted)*

<u>Date</u>	<u>Caller</u>	<u>Theme</u>
09/16	Joe Landi	Together Again
10/07	Michael Patrick	World Series
10/21	Roy Leber	Falling Leaves
11/04	Jim Snyder	Celebrate Your Ethnicity
11/18	Dennis Reardon/ <i>Karen Kushla</i>	Count Your Blessings/ Food Drive
12/02	Len Anfinson	Bells and Holly
12/16	Glenn Matthew	Cookies, Cookies
01/06	Dennis Reardon	Winter Wonderland
01/20	Jim Snyder	Chocolate Delight
02/03	Michael Patrick	Super Bowl
02/17	Mark Franks	Presidents and Pies
03/02	Roy Leber/ <i>Karen Kushla</i>	Lions and Lambs
03/16	Dennis Reardon	Shamrock Stomp
04/20	Glenn Matthew	Spring Fling
05/04	Roy Leber	Dreaming of the Beach
05/18	Jim Snyder	Ice Cream Social
06/01	Joe Landi	Potluck Supper

Reelers Officers/Committee Chairs 2011-2012

President: Avyrl and Bear Brady	973-347-1675
Vice President: Arlene and Tom Simansky	973-984-0009
Secretary: Jean and Inars Gruntals	973-543-7792
Treasurer: Chris and Michael Patrick	973-998-4505
Asst. Treasurer: Nancy and Jim Anderson	973-361-1038
Class: Bonnie and Charlie Van Stone	908-832-5313
Delegate: Gay and Bill Grier	973-543-9698
Historian: Ellen and John Baxter	973-543-7831
Program: Mary Jane and Greg Roome	973-543-4109
Publicity: Robin Olson and Dave Vnenchak	973-945-9273
Raids: Vicky and Ed Proskoy	201-337-7321
Refreshments:	
Irene and Hal Stoller (Schedule)	973-744-1969
Helen Jacobson (Supplies)	973-442-0836



In celebration of Mark Bippes' 10th anniversary with Morris Habitat for Humanity in July, the staff surprised him with a square dance called by Dan Tapper. There was lots of laughter as four squares of Habitat staff and volunteers danced under the guidance of Dan's expert teaching.

Member News

Congratulations to Nancy Caufield and Jim Anderson, who were married on May 29, 2011. They brought a special cake to the June 3 dance, decorated in Reelers colors with the inscription: "Thank You for Bringing Us Together."

Av and Bear Brady report: "Our daughter Emily and son-in-law Mark blessed us with our first grandchild on June 27 – an adorable baby girl, Madelyn Rebecca!"

Matty Sharkey and Hal Stoller had successful surgeries over the summer. Square dancing keeps one fit and helps with quick recoveries. ☺