PRESIDENT’S NOTES

Dear Fellow Square and Round Dancers,

What a busy summer it has been! RSARDA celebrated summer with three dances. In June, we had a great time dancing with Jerry Biggerstaff, from North Carolina, and with Connie Cox. Connie and Jerry had us dancing up a storm. In July, we had our annual McGeorge Fund dance, raising money to assist disadvantaged children so that they can participate in County recreational activities. Jeremy Butler and George Springer donated their time that evening (THANK YOU!), and the dance was able to raise almost $600 for the McGeorge Fund. In August, Bill Harrison and Pris Collins called a great dance. Again, it was a fun summer!

Finally, it goes without saying that our Fall Booster Dinner & Dance was a great success! Dinner was delicious, prepared and served up by Scout Saylors and her crew.

The dance was lots of fun-Jim Durham was our caller and George Springer our cuer. Both provided their services free of charge, for which we are very grateful! Probably the highlight of the night though, was Scout Saylors’ challenge to the dance floor. She said that if she were able to dance every single square dance tip and round dance session with a man-man (as opposed to a lady-man!), she would donate her costs of the meal to RSARDA. Well, the men-men were lining up, and met her challenge head-on. The result?-Scout donated her costs, and said she felt like a princess that night! Her feet ached, but it was all worth it. The dinner and dance brought in over $725! Not bad for a dance where lots of folks were either on vacation or on a square dance cruise!

Looking forward to fall, we have more events on hand. In addition to the Club-sponsored Saturday nights, we have the Christmas Mother dance on Saturday, December 8th (Colonial Squares is responsible for ice, drinks, set up and take down, but all dancers bring refreshments). Gene Chamberlain and Pris Collins have graciously offered their services for that night, and early rounds will begin at 7:30 pm. This is always a special dance. RSARDA is very fortunate to be able to use county facilities for our Saturday night dances, and some clubs also use the schools for their lessons. The McGeorge Fund and Christmas Mother dances are our opportunities to support our community, and to say thank you to Henrico County.

And of course, fall means the Richmond Fall Festival! It looks to be a great weekend of dancing. There will be some fantastic callers and cuers there that weekend. The facility has recently been renovated, and looks great. Go to the RSARDA website (http://www.people.vcu.edu/~rgowdy/rsrda/index.html) and check out the dance schedule. If you haven't registered for the dance yet, get it done so you can get the advance rates. If you're already registered, call your square dancing buddies from out of town, and invite them to come. Festivals offer an excellent opportunity for friends to reconnect with each other, on and off the dance floor. Let's all do our best to FILL THE FLOOR and make this a wonderful Festival!

Steve & Elaine Ragland, Presidents RSARDA

FALL FESTIVAL REPORT

Since our last newsletter, lots of things have been happening for the Festival. First, the dance schedule is up-go to the RSARDA website
to check it out. THERE WILL BE DANCING IN THE POOL, so bring your swimsuits! The registrations are coming in, ads are coming in (and are still welcome through September 25th) and items are being accepted for the silent auction. We have an excellent lineup of callers and cuers, and everything is coming together for a great weekend of dancing! If you haven’t put in your ad yet, there’s still a little bit of time. Also, silent auction items are still being accepted. If you haven’t an item for the silent auction, please contact Joy Dilworth at 795-5485. We hope you will join us, and invite your friends to come. See you on the dance floor!

**IMPORTANCE OF EACH INDIVIDUAL IN THE RICHMOND SQUARE DANCE COMMUNITY**

Square dancing is an activity that depends heavily on the involvement of individuals. As many of you are probably aware, society’s interest in group activities such as square dancing, churches, civic clubs such as Lions or Kiwanis, and other types of clubs has somewhat been waning in recent years. As an individual participant, we are asked to do many types of duties. At our home club of Tuckahoe, members are asked to provide refreshments at least one time per year plus there are many dances in which everyone brings something for the food table. At our theme dances, members have to decorate, plus members have to take down the decorations at the end of the night. There is a deep level of dedication from club members. In addition to the various duties of membership, some members travel from long distances to square dance. At the recent booster dance, Steve spoke about being faithful to your activity. These are indeed challenging times for square dance clubs. We are asking each dancer to take time out of your busy lives to participate in the Fall Festival and encourage other dancers to join in the Fall Festival. Your involvement is vital to making this event a success this year. Thank you very much for the commitment you make to square dancing.

Elaine and Steve Ragland

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

Unless otherwise noted all dances are 8 PM at Elizabeth Holladay Elementary School:

9/22 Circle Eight   Greg Jones / Jim Adcock
  Early Rounds 7pm

10/12-13 Richmond Fall Festival
  Holiday Inn Koger

10/27 Tuckahoe Squares  Greg Jones / Jim Adcock
  Early rounds 7pm

12/4 RSARDA Meeting in Library at Holladay 7:30

12/8 Christmas Mother Dance Chamberlain/Collins
  Early Rounds 7:30pm

**CLUB NEWS**

Circle Eight

Members of Circle eight enjoyed a great summer of dancing at Tomahawk Baptist Church which was kicked off by our annual picnic June 2, hosted by Ruth and Clint Sterling at their new community club house. As always, the good cooks of Circle Eight provided for a delicious meal. The nomination committee presented the slate of officers for 2012-2013. All nominees were accepted by the membership present. We so appreciate Madalyn and Chuck Pritham for their continued leadership as club president.

Circle Eight Picnic -- Always Fun! Always great food!

Circle Eight Sponsored the May 5th Saturday Night Dance at Elizabeth Holiday School
We concluded our summer schedule with the annual ice cream social on August 16th. We enjoyed having 9 guests from Tuckahoe Squares for great dancing and delicious ice cream with all the fixings and cookies and cake. The members of Tuckahoe Squares took back their banner, and they still have the Circle Eight Banner. Guess Circle Eight needs to work on getting it back!

Circle Eight is sad to report the loss of one of our honorary members, Havis Kester, who passed away on August 13, 2012. She was a faithful supporter of Square Dance, and a founding member of Circle Eight.

Circle Eight is looking forward to an exciting Fall Schedule as we returned to Thompson Middle School on September 6. We dance each Thursday evening at 7:00-9:00 p.m. with Jim Durham as our caller. All are invited to join us anytime. We love having guests!

Our New Dancers Class will begin on September 20th. We have one new couple signed up and invite all who would love to learn to square dance to join in the fun.

Circle Eight Fall Dances --

September 22nd - Saturday Night with Greg Jones, Caller and Jim Adcock, Cuer (early rounds)

October 12th & 13th -- Puttin on the Ritz Festival, Holiday Inn Koger Center

October 28 -- Circle Eight Halloween Party and Dance. Put on your "Bootiful" face, and join in the fun.

November 16th & 17th -- Circle Eight caller, Jim Durham will host the annual weekend dance at Cacapon State Park in Berkley Springs, WV.

Come and join us, one and all . . . Take off your shoes, throw them in the corner, come on in and dance a little longer!

Ginny Fitzgerald, Secretary

Capitol Squares

Capitol Squares dancers are quite a determined group. We face our problems head-on. Last month, for instance, the custodian was not at the school to let us in for our workshop. This did not faze us a bit. Gary Baker simply backed his van up to the sidewalk and popped the rear hatch. He had an AC power converter in the van. Jeremy Butler, our caller, plugged in his computer, amplifier, and speaker. We were off and running a few minutes later.

This is not the first incident like this. Last year we had a similar custodian problem. With two callers, two out of town visitors, and two squares of our regular dancers we all ended up at Helen Berry’s home. Her entire neighborhood was entertained by our square dancing in her driveway for a couple of hours.

If you are interested in joining us at Capitol Squares, we are starting a new Advance level class on the 20th of September. It was originally reported to be on the 13th of September, but school activities pushed the date back one week. Anyone interested in learning Advance Level square dancing is welcome. And if you are not sure what is involved, stop by and take a look. New dancer’s classes are at Holliday School on Thursday From 6:45 to 8:00pm.

John Revene, RSARDA Rep.
Colonial Squares

Happy FALL Dancing Days from our club to yours! Don’t let your dancing feet FALL behind in all the dancing fun ahead!! Not only are all our area clubs starting new dancer lessons (and review for the rest of us), but there are SO MANY dances coming up in the NEAR future – the Puttin’ on the Ritz Richmond Fall Festival Booster Dinner & Dance on September 8th at Elizabeth Holladay School, the Circle Eight Club’s sponsored dance on September 22nd at Elizabeth Holladay School, and our Richmond Fall Festival weekend at the Holiday Inn Koger Convention Center on October 12th & 13th, to name just THREE!! Come on out and keep those dancing feet HAPPY!

On Sunday, June 3rd several of our club members joined with Tuckahoe Squares Club members for their annual summer-time picnic at Dorey Park! This is always a fun picnic with lots of games, food, fellowship with dancing friends, and Fun Square & line dancing!! PLUS, NO RAIN this year either! What a way to spend a Sunday afternoon in the park with friends who share a common interest!!

Our club has elected it’s officers for this year with Martha Newton as President, Diane Hollins as Vice-President, Becky Paxton as Secretary, a returning Kathie Ritchie as Treasurer, Jim Turner as Sheriff, and Betty Dubovsky as the “forever” Historian.

June 27th through the 30th found our caller Gene Chamberlain, his wife Regina, and club members Junie Wilson, Connie Swineford, Gary & Debbie Baker, and Paul & Betty Dubovsky at THE NATIONAL SQUARE DANCE CONVENTION in Spokane, Washington! It was a really FUN, 4-day convention with approximately 5500 dancers, callers & cuers, with some from Virginia, too! The Ghost Riders Band was part of the entertainment, along with lots of dance exhibitions, a HUGE vendor layout, plus COOL weather, unlike Virginia’s 100 degree temperatures in late June!! The sight-seeing tours were really something to see & experience, plus 3 of the couples named above left on a cruise to Alaska immediately following the convention! THE NATIONAL SQUARE DANCE CONVENTION only happens ONCE a year in late June, with dancers arriving from all 50 states AND other countries, too, like Japan & Germany!! It is a WONDERFUL way to meet new friends and dancers, and dance to your heart’s content!! Next year GO and experience this annual event in OKLAHOMA!!

Monday, July 16th was not only our club Birthday celebration night for SEVEN celebrants, but we had our club banner STOLEN by eight members of the Tuckahoe Squares! What fun it is to have extra dancers at our club, especially on a club Birthday night when they can share in eating the cake (is THAT why they REALLY came?!), and in hugging our celebrants! Since then, we have retrieved our stolen banner and are ready for MORE banner stealers to come!!

The weekend of August 17th & 18th found several members of our club at the NORTH CAROLINA STATE CONVENTION in Raleigh! Eva Aultman, Charlie Mathews, Becky Paxton, and Paul & Betty Dubovsky really enjoyed dancing with close to 40 Virginia dancers there among ALL those North & South Carolina dancers!! It was a fun, dance-filled weekend with those North Carolina callers & cuers, nightly after-party shows, AND FREE ICE CREAM! Going to other State Conventions not only broadens your circle of dancing friends, but encourages THEM to come to OUR STATE CONVENTION!! So GO meet & dance with all those dancers that LOVE to do what WE LOVE to do!!

Monday, August 20th was a BIG Birthday night celebration at our club! Our caller’s wife, Regina was given a set of wine glasses etched with square dancers from the club members! The Birthday cake, brought in by Bob & Jeanne Henderson and baked & decorated by Jeanne’s sister, was filled with the NINE Birthday celebrants pictured on Summer-time themed activities, such as vacation spots, a beach ball, sea shells, swim toys, and golf! Seven of the nine celebrants, 3 squares of dancers, and visitors from North Carolina, Sonny & Margaret Thompson attended!! As our caller, Gene said, “we need to have Birthday night EVERY Monday night!” It was WONDERFUL!!
Looking ahead, we will be performing a “demo” in our brightest and most colorful square dance attire for the residents of The Brighter Living Facility in Hopewell on Monday, September 10th, in lieu of dancing at the Colonial Heights High School. We really enjoy entertaining these people who LOVE watching us do what we LOVE doing! Our reward? Miles of smiles & grins of gratitude!!

THE CHINCOTEAGUE ISLAND SQUARE-UP dance weekend is coming up, too – on Chincoteague Island on the weekend of September 14th & 15th! Go and dance to the Crown Record staff – Bob & Matt Worley, Drew Scearce, and, from England, Robert Hurst!! Judy Jaworski will be there for the Round dancers, along with a square dance vendor, a jewelry & purse vendor, prizes given out, AND ICE CREAM from the local creamery for every dancer’s pleasure!! Come & experience first hand, dancing on Chincoteague Island!!

Our club is also anticipating our first new dancers’ night on Monday, September 17th. It will be the club Birthday night celebration as well, so cake & hugs are on the “menu”! Come join us in the fun and meet the new dancers, hug our Birthday celebrants, including our caller, Gene, AND eat your cake, too!!

Our club meets on Monday evenings from 7:00 to 9:30 P.M., including new dancer lessons from 7:00 to 8:30 P.M., at the Colonial Heights High School cafeteria in Colonial Heights. Our caller is the “renowned” Gene Chamberlain, our cuer is Connie Cox, and our line dance instructor is Diane Hollins. Come join us for fun Monday evenings of dancing!! Visitors and dancers from area clubs, plus “banner-stealers” are all welcome to join us EACH WEEK!!

See you in a square full of smiling faces soon!

Club Historian – Betty Dubovsky

RHYTHM ROUNDERS

The Rhythm Rounders had their 20th Annual “DAY of ROUNDS” at Holladay Elementary School on Saturday June 23rd. There were about 20 couples who enjoyed the workshops and the evening dance. The teaches were excellent and kudos go out to the Collin’s and the Adcock’s for the wonderful afternoon and evening programs.

Monday at Holladay Elementary 7:00-9:00PM.
Pris & JC Collins Phase 3-5
Info: Pris & J.C. 757-596-1142

Tuesday at Christ Lutheran Church, 7908 Woodman Rd, Richmond, VA. 7:15-9:15pm George & Jeannine Springer
Info: George & Jeannine Springer 804-730-6581.
A new class for beginning Round Dancers will start on October 16, 2012 on Tuesday nights. George & Jeannine Springer will be the instructors and will begin with the Basic Waltz. Contact George for additional info: gspringer08@comcast.net

Tuckahoe Squares

Our summer was kicked off with the annual Tuckahoe picnic/dance held in early June at Dorey Park. The Picnic was well attended and there was plenty of nourishing food for the dancers, as well as desserts, for those needing extra energy. Thanks to Gene for calling and to Catherine Moore who did a fine job with lines. Catherine graduated from High School and is attending William & Mary for the upcoming school year. Congratulations Catherine we hope to see during the holidays at the club.

Congratulations to Carol and Dean Decker who celebrated their 55th wedding anniversary this year on June 2nd. A delicious well decorated cake was consumed in their honor at the picnic. We thank them for all that they have done for the Tuckahoe’s and square dancing over the past few decades.

Several great specialty dances during the summer months with Jimmy Roberson providing lots of 50’s &
60’s songs for our Rock and Roll dance. We held our open house for prospective dancers at the beginning of August and had a very good turnout. Our new dancer classes are scheduled to begin on Tuesday, September 25th at Byrd Middle School 7:15-9:15pm. Come on out and bring a guest, the first two sessions are free.

On August 18th, Pat and Bob Burcher celebrated the “big one”! Fifty Fine Fabulous years of blissful matrimony. We wish them many more years of joyful marriage.

We are as thankful for all our regular guests as they add so much to the fun on the dance floor. Our guest callers each month continue to provide a wide assortment of music for our dancing enjoyment. We dance from 8-10:30 pm Fridays at West End Community Center on Ridge Road.

**Upcoming dance specials are:**
- 09/21 Celebrations    Dave Staples
- 09/28 “For the Love of Chocolate”    George Jordan
- 09/28    “Rounds by George Springer”    George Jordan
- 10/05 “Support your favorite team”    Chamberlain
- 10/12 Dark (see you at the Richmond Festival!)
- 10/19 Celebrations    Drew Scearce
- 10/26 Dark
- 10/27 “Halloween Costume Ball”    Greg Jones/ Jim Adcock
- 11/02 TGIF Dance    Gene Chamberlain
- 11/09 “Cookie Monster”    Ken Jordan
- 11/16 Celebrations    Gene Chamberlain
- 11/23 “Thanksgiving Leftovers”    Jeremy Butler
- 11/30 LDON Dance    Larry Winegard
- 12/07 Quarterly Meeting    Elbert Harrison
- 12/14 “Christmas Squares Dance”    Drew Scearce
- 12/21 Celebrations    Linwood Thomas
- 12/28 Dark
- 12/31 New Years Eve Dance Chamberlain/Springer

Tuckahoe visited Circle Eight in August to retrieve our banner. We were warmly welcomed by the Circle Eight club and enjoyed the dancing and Ice Cream. I’m sure they will be visiting us soon to retrieve their banner.

Tuckahoe

**TIDBITS**

Check out a new square dance web site: [Http://WheresTheDance.com](http://WheresTheDance.com)

**EDITOR’S NOTES**

Please submit any photos or club information to Rob Green email address bgreen44@verizon.net. Send me your email address for an electronic copy of this Newsletter.