

Wolf Tracks



June / July 2010

Wolf Pack News

Friday, April 16th the Wolf Pack held their Hard Times Dance with a nice turn out of members and guests.

Saturday, April 17th was our Quarterly Meeting with the election of our new officers for 2010 to 2011.

Saturday, May 15th the Wolf Pack held a demo dance at the Middlefield Oaks Assisted Living Facility in Cottage Grove along with several dancers from the Boots and Sandals. We played to a large crowd of facility residents and guests. Everyone, dancers and spectators alike, had a very good time. Thank you to all for donating your time to participate in this event.

Friday May 21st the Wolf Pack Annual Benefit Dance this year was for Pro-Bone-O of Eugene. We were able to raise \$174.00 for them.

Everyone really enjoyed the Military Theme of decorations in Hall B during the month of May celebrating both Armed Forces Day and Memorial Day. Thanks to Eric and Tamara for coordinating it.

We really had some nice advertising in the OFN for our Birthday Dance and for our Benefit Dance. I hope you all subscribe to the OFN and had a chance to see that.

Next Wolf Pack Dance

This will be our last dance until? We will be dark in July due to Summer Festival and some questions have come up regarding our August as well with the Emerald Area Council wanting to participate in the Lane County Fair. This may be your last chance to dance with the Wolf Pack for a while. You will not want to miss out on all the fun.

Also, since our June dance is our T Shirt Dance, we have asked Barbara Richmond to be on hand with her T Shirts. This will be a good time for you to get some new shirts ordered. She will also be at our picnic in August.

Lane County Fair

The Emerald Empire Area has been asked to provide square dance entertainment for the Lane County Fair. We will be near the food court area which means we will have more spectators than the last time we were there. It is a nice way to promote the square dance

activity, so plan to be there as many days as you can.

Larry and Lennie Ludiker are scheduled to call with Nancy Ann Nobles cueing rounds on Saturday August 21st. Other callers and cuers are scheduled for other days. Sharon Greenman is setting everything up with the Fair Committee. We will have a more complete schedule of times and dates in the next issue.

Annual Picnic

Our Annual picnic is scheduled for Saturday, August 28th at Island Park from 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM. We will be in the south shelter again and have dancing as usual. Mark your calendars and stay tuned for more information. This is a change from the date we had originally selected due to availability of the shelter.

Invite your friends and potential new dancers to share in the fun. A good way to get them interested. Our next class will be starting just a few weeks later.

Quarterly Meeting

At our Quarterly meeting, we elected officers for the coming year. They are President: Dennis Marsh; Vice-president: Larry Dupray; Secretary: Nancy Parkhill with Hazel Jones assisting; Treasure: Debbie Chamberlain with Jerry Jones assisting. They will assume their new position at our July Quarterly Meeting which is actually scheduled for **June 19th** due to the 4th of July weekend, along with Summer Festival and Diamond Lake taking up other July weekends.

Extra Stuff

The roundest knight at king Arthur's round table was Sir Cumference. He acquired his size from too much pi.

I thought I saw an eye doctor on an Alaskan island, but it turned out to be an optical Aleutian.

A hole has been found in the nudist camp wall. The police are looking into it.

The butcher backed into the meat grinder and got a little behind in his work.

Time flies like an arrow. Fruit flies like a banana.

Quantity isn't what's important. Quality is, and

lots of it.

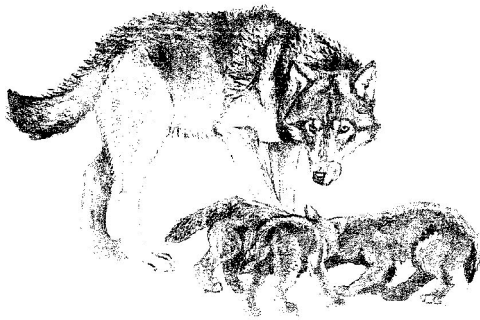
Emerald Square Dance Center

Leases for next year have been given to all of the club presidents and are due back to Mimi by the June ESRDC meeting.

A special thanks to all the clubs and dancers for helping out on the May 1st hall cleanup.

The bead shop is now out of the store front and the space has been rented to a new scrapbook business. The board voted to replace the carpet before the new folks moved in as it was getting well worn.

Since the new business will have a lot of cardboard, it was suggested that we look into adding cardboard to our list of things to recycle. We would rather get some income from the cardboard recycle than pay SaniPac to haul it away as garbage. Stay tuned for the decision on that.



Lessons

Our class is moving on real well. We are down to three pups who are doing very well and tentatively Larry is planning to graduate our litter number 23 on July 10th. It is nice to have them as new members of our Wolf Pack Family

Of course as always, we encourage all of our Angels to be there to help out and to complete the square.

And remember it is never too early to invite friends for our next class in September.

What Is Right With Square Dancing

by Jeff Garbutt

Bunbury, Western Australia

One of the most common statements about Square Dancing lately is that we have problems. and that "something is wrong". Some people have been known to ask "what is wrong with the square dance movement?"

Some say that maybe Square Dancing won't last.

First off - I'd like to make the following bold statement: Yes - Square Dancing is in danger of dying - not because anything is wrong with It - but because we are in danger of falling victim to a "self full-filling prophecy" if we keep looking at the negatives.

To digress here a little bit. Most researchers of the human "thought processes" tend to agree that our actions are directed by some default program running in our "subconscious mind". And that if you tell yourself often enough that you behave in a particular way it will become imprinted into your subconscious programming to the extend of controlling your actions. Thus if you keep telling yourself that you are a failure - you will become a failure no matter how hard you try otherwise. (The self full-filling prophecy). If you program yourself for success - then your subconscious will help you to find unique solutions to problems. You may not be successful every time - but you will be most of the time. (Which is better than the alternative of always finding failure.) Now here's where we, (The Square Dance Movement), fit in - some researchers also believe that this subconscious program applies to groups as well as individuals.

Now back to Square Dancing. Let's look at solving our "problems". Firstly I would like to take the statement "what is wrong" and turn it around by asking - "What is right with square dancing ?" I'm sure we could come up with many positive statements about square dancing. For instance: Square dancing is easy to team. Now you may find this hard to believe, but think about it for a while. Early in our lives we learn how to walk, and the process is permanently programmed into our subconscious. We don't have to think about where to place our feet - it is automatic. We only need to think about which direction to walk to. Well guess what square dancing involves - "walking in defined directions." It comes natural - we don't have to worry about the placement of our feet as we would need to for 'ball room' or even "line dancing".

Square dancing is fun. Well if it isn't fun at your club - there is something wrong.

Square dancing promotes friendship. I believe we can all quote examples of life-long friends we have made over the years through square dancing.

Square dancing promotes team work. (if 8 people working together is not a team - I don't know what is)!

Square dancing is great to look at. (The public loves to watch demos).

Square dancers do a lot of traveling to different places they may not have otherwise gone to.

Square dancing is standardized world-wide. No

matter where you go - it is done the same. (With some very minor Australian differences).

Square dancing is multi leveled, offering differing degrees of challenge. Some people may see this as a negative, but I think it is a bonus. What maybe wrong is that we don't exploit the levels available to us, (especially mainstream), to their full extent.

Now the above list is not complete. I'm sure everyone of you can add to this list. So let's exploit these positives. Surely there are people out there who are looking for activities that have some of the many positive attributes that square dancing has.

Now I would like to suggest some things that we - as dancers, callers, clubs and committees can do to help.

Put the movement first - If you take care of the movement - the movement will take care of you. I have a theory which I call the "act of ultimate self interest" which works on the assumption that if you are only interested in the short term and getting as much out of an activity (or business) as you can - you will not only damage that activity but your gains will only be short term - and you will eventually cease to operate. But if you help that activity to thrive and grow - you and your involvement in will thrive and grow. Surely this is the "ultimate act of self interest".

In keeping with the above - forget petty squabbles within your club - and with other clubs. Surely they are insignificant when compared to the health of the overall movement. Clubs should resolve to work together, committee should be working to service all of their dancers.

Co-ordinate your clubs' activities with other clubs. (ie your beginners, party nights etc)

Welcome the prodigal dancer. Let's face it, people basically need to feel wanted. So when a dancer who has been absent for a while comes back - make them feel welcome! Dancers have many good reasons for missing one or two nights - and already start to feel guilty about it - don't make it worse. Don't treat them with greetings such as "So you've finally decided to come back - where have you been" - no matter how innocent it may seem it will stiff come out badly.

Set positive targets. The human sub-conscious will work hard to ensure that you meet the numerical value of a target, to the extent of exceeding it to make sure - regardless of whether it is positive or negative. If you are expecting a "drop out rate" from your beginners of say 10% - you will achieve it - you might even get 15%. If you instead expect a "retention rate" of 90%, you have a good chance of achieving, (or exceeding) it. Now which do you think is better?

Don't accept failure as an option. Planing to

succeed will not guarantee - but planning to fail will guarantee failure.

Bring the family back to Square Dancing. I can remember back 20 years or so ago to the number of children who could be found asleep somewhere in the hall. This was about the same period that we had a lot of teenagers in the movement - it was seen as a family outing.

Most importantly - remember that square dancing is a people business. So look after the people you have and they will look after your club - and maybe even bring in more people for you to look after.

Of Course the above will not solve our problems, and the list is not complete - but if we all work together and work towards the overall good of the movement - we will find the answers we are all looking for.

But whatever you do - don't give up. The patient may be ill, but with some "TLC" (tender loving care) can be nursed back to health - instead of talking it into a "mercy killing".

Angel's Column

There is an interesting article in the current issue of Wolf Haven's magazine regarding two new wolves, Yuma and Ukiah who were brought to Wolf Haven from Northern California after their owner had passed away. It is too lengthy an article to publish here but worth reading. You can read it at one of our dances or classes.

Larry says he can see a little of Dakota and Cheyenne here, especially as they are brother and sister and not all that comfortable around folks they don't know. The Wolf Haven crew had their hands full getting them rounded up for travel back to Washington.

They are new next door neighbors of Angel and Yukon and there is a nice picture of Angel watching as her new neighbors move into their new home.

The following is Director John Blankenship's message from the Wolf Haven web site:

May 7, 2010

I remember in January, languishing away, wishing that spring would get here quickly. Next thing I know, spring is here and Wolf Haven International is open for our 2010 season.

Wolves have been in the news a lot during the first quarter of 2010. Hunting seasons in Idaho and Montana accounted for 206 wolves being killed by hunters. This is below the quota that was set at 295.

Washington State and Oregon State reported possible new wolf packs in residence. This expansion of their range is expected as packs produce pups that grow up and move to find their own pack territory. As these packs expand their range, residents of rural areas are

concerned that their livelihood will be threatened. This is especially the case of ranchers whose way of life and living is difficult at best.

Unfortunately, there is a lot of misinformation that accompanies the arrival of wolves into an area previously devoid of them. I was involved in a film shoot the other day here at Wolf Haven International. One of the questions that was asked of me was how do we change the attitudes of people who dislike wolves. That is a very difficult question to answer! I could be flip and say the "wolves were here first". However, that only inflames conversation and doesn't deal with the real issues on the ground. There needs to be a way to deal with wolves that predate on livestock.

There are many ranchers on the landscape whose parents and grandparents dedicated themselves to the extirpation of wolves to protect their stock. In the 1930's wolves were basically gone from the 48 contiguous states. Since 1995 with the reintroduction into Yellowstone and the continuing spread of the gray wolf from Minnesota to Michigan and Wisconsin, the wolf is a fixture on the landscape again. How we deal with this top predator over the next 20 years will determine the extent of its range.

Wolves have been removed from the landscape in large numbers, yet the total population is growing. For example, in Wyoming, from 2002 to 2009, 236 wolves were taken by Wildlife Services and State conservation officers because of predation activities. The animals removed were involved in 425 cattle and 327 sheep depredations during the same time period. In an ideal world, wolves would depredate only wild game, such as deer and elk, but this begs the question of how much is being done in the way of pro-active, preventative measures. A variety of non-lethal methods, such as fladry (a type of fencing), cracker shells, electric fencing and rubber bullets exist to dissuade predation. Who is responsible for getting this information to landowners, teaching them proper techniques, and helping to cover the costs?

Wolves evoke strong responses in people, both pro and con, which is why it is so important to approach the subject using science and statistics, rather than emotion. Have we reached an acceptable way to deal with wolves, and other large carnivores that encompasses the extreme range of feelings evoked by these animals? Not yet, but at least we are continuing the conversation with one another.

Don't forget to pay a visit to Wolf Haven at their web site: www.wolfhaven.org.

Wolf Pack Dances, Visits and Other Events

Friday, June 18th - T Shirt Dance - Pre Rounds 7:30 PM, Mainstream Squares 8:00 PM to 10:00 PM, Plus 10:00 PM to 10:30 PM.

Saturday, June 19th - Quarterly Meeting

Saturday, July 10th - Graduation of the 23rd Litter

July, 2010 No Dance - We will be dark due to Summer Festival

Friday, August 20th 2010 - Pie and Ice Cream Social and Dance - Pre Rounds 7:30 PM, Mainstream Squares 8:00 PM to 10:00 PM, Plus 10:00 PM to 10:30 PM.

Saturday, August 28th 2010 - Annual Picnic at Island Park

Other Coming Events

June 4th 5th 6th 2010 - Buckeroo Round-Up

Sunday June 6, 2010 - Ken Ritucci - Plus Dance 1:00 to 3:00 - Advance Dance 3:00 to 4:30 - C-1 Dance 5:00 to 7:00 - ESRDC

July 16th thru 18th 2010 - Summer Festival - Pendleton, Oregon - Marshal Flippo featured caller

July 21st thru 24th 2010 - Diamond Lake Festival - Diamond Lake, Oregon - Nasser Shukayr featured caller

Saturday, August 7th 2010 - Mainstream with Mike Sikorsky - 7:00 to 7:30 Pre Rounds, 7:30 to 10:00 Dance - ESDRC

Sunday, August 8th 2010 - Dance with Mike Sikorsky - 1:30 to 3:00 - A1, 3:00 to 4:30 A2, 4:30 to 5:30 Dinner Break, 5:30 to 7:30 C - ESRDC

Monday, August 9th 2010 - Plus with Mike Sikorsky - 7:30 to 8 Pre Rounds, 8:00 to 10:30 Dance - ESDRC

August 13th 2010 - Central Oregon Round Up - Sisters, Oregon

January 28th thru 30th 2011 - Oregon Mid Winter Festival - Linn County Fair and Expo - Albany, Oregon - Featured Caller, Joe Saltel

The Wolf Pack Square Dance Club

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Wolf Tracks

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President: Myron Menge

Vice President: Dennis Marsh

Secretary: Nancy Parkhill

Treasurer: Debbie Chamberlain

Area Delegate: Debbie Chamberlain