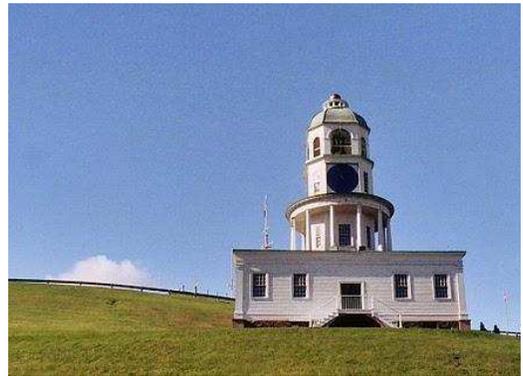


HALIFAX NATIONAL FESTIVAL 2010 NEWSLETTER – APRIL 2010

**17th Canadian National Square & Round
Dance Convention
July 29, 30 & 31, 2010
Halifax, Nova Scotia**

www.squaredance.ns.ca (push 2010 button)



"Ciad Mile Failte" = 100,000 Welcomes: Spring is here, Citadel Hill is greening up, and all around the world plans are being made to "Promenade to Halifax in 2010"! Nova Scotians are looking forward to welcoming you to our historic city and beautiful maritime province. Come dance with us and join in the local celebrations of Acadian, Scottish, and Maritime cultures.

Nova Scotia Tourism website: www.novascotia.com

Check In Nova Scotia Reservation Service: 1-800-565-0000

Halifax Tourism: www.destinationhalifax.com or www.halifax.ca/visitors

Flying In: Halifax Stanfield International Airport has all of the usual amenities. Check <FlyHalifax.com> for current flight options. The Airporter provides regular shuttle service from the Airport to downtown hotels (30 kilometers or 21 miles). One-way fare is currently \$21 including HST. Taxi and car rentals are also available at the airport.

Rolling In: The Trans-Canada Highway enters Nova Scotia in Amherst where a visitor center will provide provincial maps and guidebooks. Signs clearly mark the turn south in Truro onto Route 102 towards Halifax. VIA Rail also connects through Montreal to all rail destinations in North America. We are aware of buses or caravans coming from Alberta, Ontario and New England. Let us know if you would like to be added to this list.

Sailing In: We regretfully report that the CAT Ferry from Maine has been discontinued.

Dance Along The Route: The Meri Squares are planning a dance in Ottawa on Thursday, July 22 at Tom Brown Arena, 141 Bayview Drive (at Scott), 7:30 pm. Club Callers are John Charman and Wendy VanderMeulen. Contact Anne or Bob at 613-829-4679 or grahamanne@rogers.com

World Trade & Convention Centre and the Halifax Metro Centre



Looking uphill from the Grand Parade along Carmichael Street you can see the town clock overlooking our dance area. This combined facility is all under one roof, fully air-conditioned, and interconnected with escalators and elevators. The Registration Area is near the Argyle Street entrance.

Luncheon food will be available on site (soup, salad, sandwiches, sweets and beverage). Please bring your water bottles and fill them with good Halifax water from the fountains. A pedway system (shown in red on the map) connects the complex with several hotels, shops, and eateries.



Accommodations: These convention hotels are within walking distance:
The Prince George: \$185, 1-800-565-1567, <www.princegeorgehotel.com>
The Delta Halifax: \$169, 1-800-268-1133, <www.deltahalifax.com>
Citadel Halifax Hotel: \$149, 1-800-565-7162, <www.citadelhalifax.com>
Cambridge Suites: \$159, 1-800-565-1263, <www.cambridgesuiteshalifax.com>

There are many other places to stay. See <www.novascotia.com> or Check In: 1-800-565-0000. Be aware that Halifax is a busy tourist destination and the Canadian Navy will be celebrating 100 years next summer; so make your reservations early.

Camping: The following are the closest commercial camping options. There are limited city bus connections to both. Our plans include at least morning and evening shuttles to Woodhaven.

Woodhaven RV Park, 1-902-835-2271, <www.woodhavenrvpark.com>, 20 km from dancing, 1757 Hammonds Plains Road, 180 sites, many with 3-way hookups, some 50-amp service.

Shubie Park Campground, 1-800-440-8450, <www.shubiecampground.com>, 16 km & bridge, Jaybee off Rte 318 (Waverley/Braemar), Dartmouth, 100 sites, electricity & water, dump station.

Parking: Most of the nearby hotels have their own parking areas. Scotia Square includes a multi-tier parking garage within a short walking distance of the dancing (nothing larger than a half-ton truck). Waterfront parking allows all trucks and RVs but no camping. Street parking is free on weekends and after 6 pm on weekdays. A free FRED bus loops Pier 21, Lower Water Street, Scotia Square, Barrington, Citadel Hill and Spring Garden Road. See parking areas on map (P).

Harbour Bridge Crossing: Toll is \$0.75 per crossing per car or single axle truck on both bridges. Double axle truck or trailer is \$2. Note that Trucks and RVs are only allowed to cross the A. Murray MacKay Bridge and cannot cross the MacDonald Bridge.

Driving Laws: Speeds are posted in kilometers per hour (50 km = 30 miles). Wearing seat belts is mandatory. It is illegal to use handheld cell phones while driving. Turning right at a red light is allowed after stopping unless a sign indicates otherwise.

Dancing: Come and enjoy 3 days of Basic to C3 Squares, Rounds Phase II - VI, Contras, and Clogging. Attend Square and Round Trail In Dances at the Metro Centre on Wednesday, July 28th at 7:30 pm, \$5 per person, leaders free. Festival dancing is scheduled Thursday through Saturday (10 am - noon, 2 - 5 pm, 8 - 10:30 pm).

Emergency Phone Number: 902-421-1302 ext 2214 will reach our Operations Centre.

Banner Parade: Muster on the Concourse Level of the Metro Centre at 9 am Thursday morning with your club or region banner. The parade begins at 9:30 along a short route. During the Festival, banners will be hung around the Metro Arena along the ice boards.

Dance By The Shore: Plans are underway for dancing along the scenic and historic waterfront on Friday and Saturday morning. Memento dangles will be for sale near the Registration Desk.

Attire: Tasteful casual attire is acceptable during the day and at the Trail In. Please plan to wear Traditional Attire (including prairie skirts) for evening events. **Dance Shops** are coming.



Fashion Show: Our aim is to showcase and inspire with custom made, one-of-a-kind creations. This will be presented in the main arena at 7 pm on Friday with free and ample seating. Outfit description forms are being distributed to models and are available on the website. We are still accepting models so please let us know if you are interested in participating. New contacts are: Pat Mercer at 902-404-5630 or Susan Lucas at 902-434-1613 or <curpat@eastlink.ca>.

Mary's Islanders will entertain us immediately after the Fashion Show. This highly accomplished young dance troupe will present a variety of energetic dances including Maritime Step, Acadian, Irish, and Highland.

Education: Seminars for leaders and club executives will be held during each afternoon including Marketing, Digital Music, Calling, and Cueing.

Sewing Room: Come see several creative ways to use leftovers and to add a special touch to your outfits. Pick up handouts and enter the Sewing Raffle.

Heritage Room: When you need a rest from dancing, plan to browse through years of convention photography and memorabilia. View the wonderful collection of 17 pairs of Convention Dolls.

Leaders: The list of currently registered leaders is available from the website "Program" page. Although the deadline for leader registration has passed, we are still working on the schedule and will consider additional leaders as time and space allows. If you are registered, please make sure we have received your Profile Form. Look for the detailed schedule on the website in early July.

Sound and Floor: Sound will include hearing enhancement in most halls. Please let us know if you need this in a certain hall. There will be a mix of polished cement, vinyl tile, carpet, wood, and click flooring. We are planning to have at least some hard surface in all dance areas.

Hospitality: There will be Festival 2010 specific information available at entry points. Stop at the Amherst Nova Scotia Tourist Centre or look for the "Tartan Team" at Halifax Airport. We invite our International visitors to relax in the International Area set up in the Level 3 Atrium.

Solos: A Solo Get Acquainted Buffet Dinner will be held at Dofsky's Urban Grill on Wednesday at 5 pm. Solos are being contacted regarding details. If your contact information has changed please connect with Claudette at 902-453-2838 or <claudette.aucoin@ns.sympatico.ca>.

Raffles and 50/50 Draws: Would you like to win a beautiful queen size blue and white quilt, an exquisitely hand-carved trout, or a Nova Scotia tartan wreath? Or try your luck at the daily 50/50.

Cookbook and Souvenir Book: Take home a copy of "Nutritious and Delicious Nova Scotia Dishes" for an excellent source of ideas on cooking good, down-home food. Our Souvenir Book features schedule and event information for Festival 2010 as well as memories of past Canadian National Conventions. It also has useful information about our favourite local tourist sites.

Registration: Dancers are registered from all Canadian Provinces, at least half of the States, and several other countries. More than 60 leaders have registered to entertain you with their expertise. Please help us make appropriate plans by registering as soon as possible. The current registration price is \$125 per person for 3 full days of dancing and all other events. After June 30th the price goes up to \$140. The registration form is available on the website. One-day attendees will be able to purchase day ribbons at the door for \$50 per person. Spectators are welcome for \$5 per person.



Exchange Rate for Foreign Visitors: Fees are quoted in Canadian Dollars. We will accept the equivalent in the form of a cheque written in foreign funds on a foreign bank using the exchange rate on the date of the cheque.

Touring Nova Scotia: Plan to explore one of our coastal tourist routes. Enjoy maritime lighthouses, shipbuilding and fishing villages; Acadian, British, Lunenburg, Planter, Scottish, Loyalist, or Pier 21 history; or spectacular scenery along the Cabot Trail around the Cape Breton Highlands.

Newfoundland Tour after the Festival: The Village Squares of Ottawa invite all dancers to join them on their Newfoundland Adventure Tour, August 2-14. Details at www.joseysjourneys.com



More Questions: For more information go to <http://www.squaredance.ns.ca> then press the 2010 button near the top left. To find the most recent updates, look under "Newsletters" for "Current". Schedule and event details will be added to the "Program" page as they become available.

Bob and Inge Ruohoniemi, Executive Vice Chair Marketing, bobruoho@ns.sympatico.ca

Dottie and Gary Welch, Executive Vice Chair Events, dwelch@ap.stmarys.ca, 902-435-4544

Valerie and Ralph Brown, Registrations, rwbjbrown@eastlink.ca, 902-543-5278

