



The Town Crier



VILLAGE GREEN ENGLISH COUNTRY DANCERS, April, 2008

"English Country Dancing is friendship set to music"

CALENDAR FOR 2007/08

2008

April 27	Last Challenge Class
April 30	Last General Class
May 4	Challenge class wind up, Norberry C.C.
May 7	Annual General Meeting, Harrow United
May 9	Jacqueline Schwab concert CMU 7:30
May 10, 11	Weekend Workshop with Jacqueline Schwab Churchill Park United 525 Beresford

VILLAGE GREEN EXECUTIVE 2007/08

President	Marilyn Armstrong	475-6591
Vice-President	Anne Morton	284-2235
Secretary	Linda Clark	783-1429
Treasurer	John Groen	889-0425
Publicist	Marion Tetrault	222-6630
Archivist	Terry Armstrong	475-6591
Social Convenor	Frances Harris	257-4938
Teachers' Rep.	Liz Goossen	489-2752

Other Working Positions:

Dem Co-ordinator	Maureen McIntosh	783-1488
Editor	Vacant	
Member-at-large	Arlene Cutts	837-5049

Website: www.villagegreenenglishcountrydancing.org E-mail: villagegreeneed@hotmail.com

PRESIDENT'S MUSINGS

Wow, hard to believe dance season is almost over, spring has sprung, grass is almost green & it feels like we should be dancing for joy outside not crammed up inside. It is wonderful to see the sun still shining when we arrive at class. Too bad it is dark when we finish. It is so nice to see so many people out Wednesday nights yet & it is not over yet. The last regular night class will be April 30th & if you still feel like you have not had your fill of dancing for the year, come & have a blast at a Village Green workshop Saturday, May 10th & Sunday May 11th at Churchill Park United Church morning, noon & night if you wish. We will be taught many new dances by Jacqueline Schwab. She is a wonderful teacher,. Begin the weekend by coming out to the Canadian Mennonite University to hear her in concert on Friday, May 9th. See the poster at the end of the newsletter and feel free to post at work, your neighbourhood store or library. For those who still have a little energy after the dance weekend there will be dancing at Harrow on May 14th. **Look** for information about dancing at Assiniboine Park Conservatory in the summer months on page 3.

We have had various dance socials at Village Green this year including our annual English/Scottish evening March 8th at St. Paul's where we played host for the evening. The church was decorated beautifully as usual thanks to Frances Harris & her group of helpers. We had approximately 41 people show up for a fun filled evening of both Scottish & English dancing taught by Liz Goossen and Roger Palser. Even though many of us know little about Scottish dancing it is fun to try the different dances. Some of them were not much different than the English so it was not hard to learn. We managed to take in \$150 for Winnipeg Harvest that evening which I am sure they appreciate very much. After our hard work at dancing, refreshments were provided by our group & there were many delicious varieties available for all. Thank you to everyone who attended & provided refreshments to make the evening a special one indeed.

Our thoughts go out to Maureen McIntosh who is recovering nicely at Deer Lodge Hospital after an accident she suffered in February & also to our treasurer John Groen & Ron Finch who are both recovering nicely at home after medical attention in the last little while. We all miss you & hope to see you back next year ready to trip the light fantastic.

Since this is the last Presidents Musings of the year & my last as president for Village Green I would like to take this opportunity to say how much I have enjoyed writing these articles & how much fun I have had during this past season, meeting new members & continuing my association with dancers who have been there for so many years. I hope to continue dancing with all of you for many years to come.

See you soon, Marilyn Armstrong

Highlights of March 13th Board of Management Meeting

Time to Serve Your Time?

The Nominating Committee, led by Anne Morton, has been busy finding people with the volunteer spirit to fill vacancies on the VGECD board for 2008 – 2009 – there will be new faces at Secretary, Vice President, Treasurer and Town Crier Editor positions.

AGM on the Horizon

The Board of Management is preparing reports for the members on May 7th, 2008. Listen, I can hear them typing away!

Conservatory Dancing in Spring

Maureen and Virginia have had some interesting discussions with the Assiniboine Park Conservatory that may have us dancing amid the flowers in Spring and Summer – watch the Town Crier for more details.

Dem Team Bookings

May 15th will find the Dem Team at Heritage Day. July 1st may be historic as well – a potential demonstration at Lower Fort Garry is being discussed.

Ball 2009

Historic again! We will be dancing in a environment of the early 1800's at Fort Gibraltar, hub of the North West Company fur trade in days gone by.



**JOIN THE PARADE!
EXECUTIVE
MEMBERS NEEDED**

SERVING ON THE VILLAGE GREEN EXECUTIVE IS FUN, NECESSARY TO THE ORGANIZATION AND – YES – SOME WORK IS INVOLVED. INTERESTED? CONTACT ANNE AT 284-2235 OR at anmorton@mts.net

Summer Dancing at the Assiniboine Park Conservatory

Monday May 26th, Monday June 30th

Monday July 21st & Monday August 18th

6:30 to 7:45 PM

MUSIC MADE VISIBLE: VILLAGE GREEN'S MAY WORKSHOP

On the weekend of May 9th-11th we will have the chance to enjoy Jacqueline Schwab's talents as both a pianist and dance teacher. Every teacher brings something unique to dancing; every dance workshop is an opportunity for us to gain a richer understanding of what dancing is.

The weekend is intended to be all kinds of fun – listening fun, socializing fun and, above all, dancing fun. It starts with the concert on Friday evening. Saturday there will be two dance workshops with a social (including a ceilidh) in the evening. Sunday begins with a brunch and ends with a dinner, with another dance workshop in between. (Details to follow on brunch and dinner.)

Dance workshops are an opportunity to learn both new dances and new things about dancing. The atmosphere is lighthearted yet focused. Dancing is always a joy but on a weekend, instead of in the evening after a busy day, it can be a special treat. The weekend has been planned, the space has been booked, *The Fine Companions* will be learning the music – now all that's needed is dancers!

“Balanchine's famous quote "Dance is music made visible" reminds us that movement and music are related in an intricate symbiotic relationship. Given the anthropological evidence, it is obvious that the two art forms have been intertwined since the very beginnings of human society.

Whether it's as simple as rhythmic patterns in the form of instrumental expression or the human voice in song, music organizes and coordinates physical movement. The regularity of most music imposes structure on what might otherwise be a series of random actions. Historical records show that the great Greek dramas were usually accompanied by musical instruments and almost always with words or dancing, often with both.”

Quoted From BC Ballet website

"A GLORIOUS DANCING DAY": DAISIES IN THE WIND WORKSHOP

By Jackie Soble

Village Green has been given a gift which can only be described as a unique treasure. One of the dancers described it as "A glorious dancing day" from morning till night, filled with original dances written and taught by Elizabeth Goossen. Workshops abound in this city, but none can compare with that which we experienced on February 9. On a cold prairie winter's day, the image of daisies nodding in the breeze bore us away as we flowed through the figures in Liz's dances, transported on the melodies composed for each dance. We had participated in a World Premier Event. If only we could have shared it with a wider audience!

This was such a momentous occasion, it seems only fitting that comments penned by some of those in attendance be shared. This in part is what people felt about this exceptional experience:

The dances are fresh and delightful. You could dance them all day and not get tired of them.

Liz's ability to devise dances that flow with elegance and energy is truly exceptional. I was challenged and exhilarated. Live music made it all the more wonderful.

Liz's dances are amazing mind benders for the brave, with 'meanwhiles' flowing as naturally from one pattern to another as a field of daisies sways and dances in the soft summer breeze.

In these quotes is a genuine and heartfelt tribute to Liz Goossen, celebrating her creativity, boundless energy and amazing talent for choreography and musical composition. Her contribution to the English country dance community at large, has yet to be assessed, but we in Village Green are in no doubt as to her importance.

In the St. Paul's church hall, festooned with daisies and flowers, a social capped the workshop with an evening of a variety of original dances both familiar and new. A demonstration of two complex dances was presented: 'Spinning Round' and 'Stay Alert'.

The body of work presented at the "Daisies in the Wind " Workshop along with the scores of dances written prior to this offering, should and will be given a place of honour in the international dance community, equal to any. Thank you, Liz. Long may your gift be enjoyed by everyone.

NOTICE: If you have purchased a copy of "Daisies in the Wind " Please contact Liz (489-2752) to arrange to get a revised copy of "Stars in the Heavens"

" Music Made Visible"

Saturday Evening Program.

1. The Mulberry Garden**	Dupl. Minor	CDB 6
2. Fenterlarick	Dupl. Minor	Staff. Silver Coll.'77
3. Steppin' Sue**	Four couple longways	E Goossen
4. Teacher's Choice		
5. Corelli's Maggot**	Dupl. Minor	Cathy & John Millar
6. Elizabeth's Garden!! ,	Four cple square	E.Goossen
7. Teacher's Choice		
8. All Saints Day	Dupl. Minor	CDSS newsletter
9. Childgrove**	Dupl. Minor	CDB 6
10. Teacher's Choice		
11. Masters of this Hall!!	Three cple longways	E Goossen
12. Freeford Gardens	Dupl. Minor	Kathryn and David Wright

** Denotes a dance for all who attend the evening.

!! Denotes a dance for those who have attending class **and** who are comfortable dancing after a brief talk through

Instructions for Fenterlarick, Steppin' Sue, Elizabeth's Garden, All Saints Day and Freeford Garden are included in this newsletter.

Scottish Country Dancers of Winnipeg

Are holding a SPRING WORKSHOP AND DANCE

MAY 3, 2008

Guest Teacher: Fiona Miller, Live Music

Contact Reg Curle 254-6697 for more information

All Saints Day

Duple Minor

Music: Chestnut

- A 1st corners right hand turn while 2nd corners cross over behind their partners into each other's place; repeat with 2nd corners turning by the left hand and the 1st corners crossing over. [End progressed and Improper.]
- B1 All fall back a double, forward, cross (passing right), turn right into a no-hands circle, 1st woman leading to a line of four across the room (1W-2W-2M-1M).
- B2 Lines forward a double, fall back into longways lines; 1's cross and and cast off while 2s cross and dance up to progressed places.

Elizabeth's Garden

Waltz for four couples in a square

Music: Catherine Tyrell

- A1: Head couples lead into centre and out, cast (men right, women left) to finish facing a side couple, who have danced into the centre & turned to face heads. (Head couples are now beside opposite). Balance to dancer you are facing.
- A2: First and second women, at the same time third and fourth women, change places passing right shoulders, dance behind opposite man, and return to starting place, (the side women pass right shoulders as they return to their starting place: First and fourth men, at the same time third and second men pass left shoulders, dance behind opposite woman, and return to starting place.(the side men pass left shoulders as they return to their place.
- B1: Side couples with couple they are facing dance left hands across half way; the head couples meet and dance right hands across once round, finish beside partner, facing out and dance out to the top/bottom of the square with partner, (head couples have changed places).
- B2 All set to partner and change place, passing right shoulders: All dance Bernard Bentley Allemande. (See La Gavre by Phillipe Callens)

Repeat the dance with the side couples initiating the figures: Then repeat twice to end in original places.

Dance devised (by Elizabeth Goossen) in memory of Elizabeth Bennett, who loved to garden in her spare time. She started a garden at the school at which she taught and she delighted in her students' interest and curiosity as the garden changed. May 2006

Fenterlarick

Duple minor dance by Joyce Walker,

Music: 'Nancy's Fancy' by Fred Grimshaw

A1 First corners full siding. Balance forward and turn single right to place

A2 Second corners repeat.

B 1-8 Women dance across the set, below partner, around them CW and across the set to place.
Men dance across set, below partner, around them CCW and across set to place

9-16 Turn partner left 3/4, so that 1W & 2M (ie 2nd corners) meet in the centre and turn right once and a half to meet partner who has been dancing CCW half round the turning couple, Turn partner left to own side of the dance(3/4 turn)

Freeford Gardens

Duple Minor Dance devised by Kathryn and David Wright: Tune "Edgeworth Bumpkins"

A1 1-4 All set to partners moving forward; turn single R back to places

5-8 Partners cross set by R, facing as they do so, and loop L to finish improper

A2 1-8 That again to places

B1 1-4 1st couple half figure 8 down through 2nd couple

5-8 2nd couple half figure 8 down through 1st couple

B2 1-4 Circle L half way and fall back on sides of set

5-8 All two-hand turn partners once round

Steppin' Sue

Four couple longways Dance & Music by Elizabeth Goossen Music: 'Steppin' Sue'

A1: Lines forward and back, all change places with partner, passing right shoulders.

A2: End couples right hand turn once round while centre couples right hand star;
All couples back to back with partner.

B1: Top couple cast off to bottom of set, other couples dance up; All couples set once and change places with partner, passing right.

B2: All circle round and back



IN CONCERT

FRIDAY, MAY 9TH, 7:30 P.M.

CANADIAN MENNONITE UNIVERSITY

NORTH CAMPUS

Grant Avenue & Shaftesbury Boulevard

Jacqueline Schwab is the pianist with the group 'Bare Necessities', which specializes in English Country Dance music. Her musical life encompasses much more than dance music, however. She has performed on the soundtracks for Ken Burns's Grammy award-winning *The Civil War*, his Emmy award-winning documentaries *Baseball* and *Mark Twain*, as well as at the White House and the Smithsonian.

The inspiration for Jacqueline's playing comes from many sources: the traditional music of England, Scotland, Ireland and U.S.A., blues, vintage tangos, Bach dance suites, Debussy and Bartok

"Jacqueline Schwab brings more feeling and intensity to music than anyone I know. Her playing is insistent, physical, heartfelt and....unusually moving" - Ken Burns, filmmaker

"Jacqueline Schwab is one of the most immediately recognizable pianists in America," - Scott Alarik, Boston Globe

TICKETS \$ 12.00
Call Liz at 489-2752

Presented by

VILLAGE GREEN ENGLISH COUNTRY DANCERS