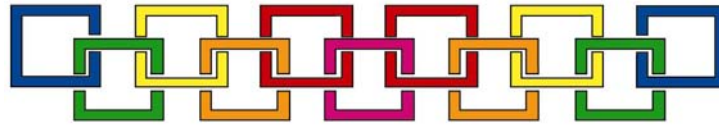


INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION



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Spring 2011

OF GAY SQUARE DANCE CLUBS® *A Lesbian and Gay Organization*

The IAGSDC® Board

Chairperson - Bob Hazen
Vice-Chairperson - Keith Gehrig
Secretary - Michael Spayd
Treasurer - Michael Pemberton
Club Liason Officer - Phil Davis

For information on the IAGSDC®, please go to the interactive web site at:
www.iagsdc.org.

Hotlanta Squares

2011 A Big Year for Hotlanta Squares

This year is proving to be the biggest yet for Atlanta's Hotlanta Squares. In addition to hosting the 28th annual IAGSDC® Convention, [Gone With The Windmill](#), we are marking several other milestone events. Our club first began meeting in the living room of members Ken and David in the spring of 2001. With help from area clubs such as Huntsville's Rocket City Rainbow Squares, Raleigh's Raleighwood Squares, Birmingham's Magic City Diamonds, Atlanta's Calico Swingers, and the IAGSDC®, our founding members were soon meeting weekly. At the April 2001 IAGSDC® convention in Vancouver, the Executive Board accepted our petition for membership and the Hotlanta Squares was officially born.

Within a few months we found a place to dance and hired our first club caller, J.R. St. Jean. Although many dancers have come and gone over the years, we've grown steadily and now have approximately 80 active members. We offer weekly classes for Mainstream, Plus, Advanced and C1. Each October, we march (and sometimes dance) as a group in Atlanta's annual Gay Pride Parade, one of the country's largest.

We are also a member of the Metropolitan Atlanta Square Dance Association (MASDA) and enjoy a good relationship with our sister clubs in the Atlanta area.

Hotlanta Squares was recently featured in a story about square dancing on CNN. Our caller and a few of our dancers were interviewed. To view the clip visit click [HERE](#)

This spring will also mark another milestone for our club. We will be bidding farewell to J.R. St. Jean as our Club Caller. He has accepted a position with Disney in Orlando, Florida and is in the process of relocating. We will miss dancing to J.R. on a weekly basis, but look forward to keeping in contact with him and having him come back to call for us on special occasions. We will, of course, see him this summer at the 28th annual IAGSDC® Convention. J.R. tells us that he already has plans to help organize a club in Orlando. Who knows, we may be attending a future IAGSDC® convention there someday.

We are very excited to be the host club for this year's annual convention and are working very hard to make sure that it is a success. If you have not already registered, please visit atlanta2011.com and do so right away. We can't wait for you to see our beautiful city and experience our unique style of Southern Hospitality.

Edmond Campbell

Redwood Rainbows

A little background on us:

Sebastopol, California is a small town of about 5,000 people located 50 miles north of San Francisco (the surrounding west Sonoma County has about 50,000 residents). Politically, Sebastopol is progressive and fairly liberal (the Green Party has had a majority on the city council at times).

Before Prohibition there were many vineyards here, but they were pulled out and replaced with cherry and apple orchards when Prohibition was enacted. The area came to be known for the Gravenstein apple, which is why we have a

yearly Apple Blossom Festival and Parade. The Gravenstein apple isn't as popular as it once was, and now orchards are being once again replaced by vineyards.

The parade is a big deal, and there are entries from all walks of life here: marching bands and schools, Rotary, vineyards. While marching in the parade takes at most 15 minutes, the whole parade lasts for almost 3 hours. It's a real small-town kind of thing. Redwood Rainbows (this is our first year as an IAGSDC® member) has grown to over a hundred members, and this year we decided to make a float for the parade. We were ecstatic to find out that we won first prize in the Non-profit Division! We had a great time handing out over a thousand flyers while we marched, and hope this will entice a bevy of new dancers for our beginners' class starting in June.

If you want to see a slideshow of photos from the parade, they are the first thing on the home page of our website: <http://www.redwoodrainbows.org/>

Yellow rocks,
Michael Wills, Co-Treasurer
Saucy Squares Dance Club, Inc.
Redwood Rainbows & Saucy Squares

Ima's Corner

Hello All,

I am not superstitious by nature. I am the type to walk under the ladder instead of around the ladder. When, under the ladder I do look up to make sure that the trip under the ladder was not in vain. I won the HTQ in Chicago and it was as the saying goes my "Lucky 13". Yes thirteen years in the making.

I first entered in Portland, OR. I had my escort, Boxcar Jim. Boy he was a hot one. Then in Los Angeles I came in only second to Japan's, Muriel. That year there were 23 contestants. She was fabulous. Then in Colorado I lost by one point, ouch that one was tough to take. I've even been runner up to an inflatable doll. How

Funny! These are all fond memories for me.

I am grateful for the response from the audience in Chicago as they began chanting Ima, Ima. Then as if it was a dream I am being called up on stage. Waiting for a punch line to arrive from the host, as it had so many times in the past, I made it to the stage. Jumping up and down with joy, I had realized it was real.

I am so excited to be able to Host the Honky Tonk Queen contest in Atlanta this year. I have a general idea of how I want to entertain the masses that attend the HTQ contest. I want to encourage anyone who is even thinking about entering the HTQ contest. I would also encourage each club to support their club member who enters the HTQ contest. This is a fun and entertaining part of the IAGSDC® convention. So what kind of rules or guidelines will be set for this year's HTQ? I can only say that I know this much. Crinolines are going to be a must. I love crinolines and I feel they represent a part of what the HTQ is about. The Honky Tonk Queen Contest is about being crowned the Queen of the, International Association of Gay Square Dancing Clubs. The HTQ is about being witty, not so pretty and gay. You have to be able to laugh at yourself first. Believe me I learned early to laugh at myself being from a family of 8 siblings. I was told once, "Weather you win or lose you're an important part of the HTQ show." Let me just say that made me feel great. I will say this, winning the HTQ is the icing on the cake for me. So remember when you decide to enter the HTQ contest. Ima says, "Bring your crinolines, wit, and a strong sense of humor, or you won't survive the trip."

Ima's motto: "Never under estimate the power of corn!"

Yellow Rocks,
Ima Cornholer

The 28th Annual Convention

IAGSDC® Convention Heads South



According to the February 2010 Advocate, Atlanta is the gayest city in America (we know -- it surprised us, too), so what better place to host the 2011 IAGSDC® convention? Hosted by the Hotlanta Squares, celebrating its 10th anniversary this year, [Gone With The Windmill](#) promises to bring a whole new meaning to southern hospitality.

The Atlanta Marriott Marquis, the largest hotel in the Southeast, will be our host hotel. All dancing will be on one level, with elevators whisking you through the 47-story atrium to your room when you feel a need for a break from dancing to our 12 great callers: Sandie Bryant, Deborah Carroll-Jones, Vic Ceder, Bill Eyler, Betsy Gotta, Dayle Hodge, Michael Kellogg, John Marshall, Gary Monday, Andy Shore, J.R. St. Jean, Anne Uebelacker.

Our Friday night trail-in dance from 7:00 to 10:00 p.m. will feature Tim Marriner, a local favorite, and will get you warmed up for opening ceremonies on Saturday morning at 9:30 a.m., after which you will have three full days of dancing right up through the end of closing ceremonies at 9:00 on Monday night, the 4th of July. If you still need some more excitement, there will be fireworks in Centennial Olympic Park that night to cap off the festivities.

We hope you will be able to join us before and after the convention for some great tours of places near and not so near: Calloway Gardens and the Little White House, FDR's home in Warm Springs, Georgia; the Biltmore House in Asheville, North Carolina, America's largest private home; an exciting city tour of Atlanta; a trip to Stone Mountain Park, especially designed for our dance widows; and after the convention, a trip to Savannah, Georgia, one of America's most beautiful cities. And for some touring and dancing combined, sign up for the Fun Badge Tour on Sunday morning, July the 3rd, to dance in some of Atlanta's most interesting sites. It will indeed be a Magical Mystery Tour, so get ready to get up early and climb aboard.

Atlanta is also a great place to tour on your own, and our host hotel is within walking distance of some of Atlanta's best places to visit. Don't miss the Georgia Aquarium, the world's largest, which is adjacent to the New World of Coca-Cola, Centennial Olympic Park, and CNN Center, less than 10 minutes away from the Marriott Marquis. And if you need a little nightlife away from the hotel, Atlanta has some of

the hottest gay clubs in the country, with something for everyone, from our very own "wrinkle room" to some of the hottest dance clubs to be found anywhere.

All of this is yours for just \$225. The cutoff date for mailing checks is June 15, 2011. If you register after that date, please bring your check with you to the registration desk.

What the Future Holds

2012



The 29th Annual IAGSDC® Convention

2013

The 30th Annual IAGSDC® Convention
Weave Your Heart in San Francisco
July 04 - 07

2014

The 31st Annual IAGSDC® Convention
Salt Lake City, Utah
July 03 - 06

Volunteer Opportunities

The IAGSDC® is always in need of volunteers with many skill sets and we'd love to have you become an active part of the association's projects. We currently are looking for members to be contributing writers for the newsletter, graphic designers and artists for the promotional materials, along with data archivists to record our history. Please let us know if you have a skill that we could put to good use. We appreciate all the help that allows the IAGSDC® to grow and we'd love to make you part of the team. Please email us at: chair@iagsdc.org if you'd like to volunteer.

All Join Hands Foundation

The limited printed copies of this newsletter are proudly funded by All Join Hands Foundation, Ltd.

For more information visit the web site at <http://www.alljoinhands.org/>