

Square dancing popular form Nassagaweya club

If there is a true folk dance for this particular section of rural Canada, it must be the multi-variant and complicated square dance.

Although it has flourished since the early days, it appears to be heading for a new onslaught of popularity... in Nassagaweya at least.

It all began when a group of students of Brookville Public School became interested in square dancing.

They met weekly to learn the basic movements and dances to recorded, called music.

Late in November, the group invited beginners from an Acton square dance club to join them in a dance at the school, and the success of the venture was so measurable the idea of an actual square dance club for Nassagaweya was conceived.

The Nassagaweya club is unique in that unlike most adult-oriented clubs, it welcomes and encourages students to join as equal members.

One main thought, in fact, was to provide a place where parents and students could come to enjoy a style of dancing both enjoyed.

"The only disappointment so far," Brookville teacher Leon Duffield, one of the club's founders, noted, "is that some parents would rather drop their children off at the club instead of staying to enjoy it with them."

The club, under the steering of an advisory committee which is, among other things, considering a name for it, began in January.

The first three Friday evenings anyone was welcome to attend and join in the entertainment.

The fourth Friday, registration fees for a firm membership in the club were charged, and new members can not be accepted

now until Fall. "We cannot continue to accept new members, because the lessons progress from week to week; and it would be unfair to spend time each evening to re-teach what has already been covered," Mr. Duffield noted.

The price is two dollars membership and 50 cents per evening's instruction for adults; one dollar membership and 35 cents per evening for students.

Well over 100 members have signed up for the first season, with dance instructor and caller Orville Phelps of Guelph supervising.



So swing your partner

ADULTS AND STUDENTS find common interests at the square dance club in Nassagaweya's Brookville Public School. Although not school sponsored the club began as a result of

classes held during school hours. Here the promenade is taken by Debbie Milne and Noel Burbridge, while Mr. and Mrs. D. Kennedy follow. Instructor Orv Phelps observes. (Staff Photo)

County refers petition to special committee

Opposition of 1,107 Nassagaweya ratepayers to regional government was carried to Halton County Council by Lloyd Chisholm and Baul McDonald.

Mr. Chisholm emphasized to council members that

Nassagaweya residents wanted the township retained as a rural unit. He noted a petition signed in five days by 1,107 ratepayers of Nassagaweya had been presented that morning to the Minister of Municipal Affairs. "The minister didn't commit himself but he did indicate the boundaries proposed were flexible," Mr. Chisholm reported.

The speaker underlined the concern of many ratepayers that attachment of a rural area to an urban centre with heavy debt could raise taxes for the rural residents who would not benefit from all the services offered. During questions he observed Nassagaweya and Burlington residents sometimes compared tax bills "across the fence". "They are paying quite a few more tax dollars than we are," he observed.

Burlington Deputy-Reeve W. A. Reeve also observed "some of us in North Burlington look longingly over the fence when we eye tax bills too."

Considerable debate developed when a move to refer the brief

to the county committee on regional government materialized.

Deputy-Reeve W. Gillies interpreted such a move as an endorsement of the petition, which he had not yet seen. He inferred the brief might be based on "parochial and bigoted attitudes". Deputy-Reeve Mrs. A. MacArthur flared at this suggestion, assuring council the brief had been subject of considerable discussion and deep thought.

Council approved the reference of the brief to the committee, after defeating Deputy-Reeve Gillies' effort to have the matter tabled for a month.

Wellington opposes plan to shut stations

Wellington County council has decided to oppose an application by the Canadian Pacific Railway Company to "remove agents and services from various locations in the London division."

The proposal, to be heard by the Canadian Transport Commission, is to establish a customer services centre at London and to close up stations and other facilities.

It is suggested that this plan will provide computer-age

service "faster and more direct service to the public."

There will be service 24-hours a day through a toll-free telephone line.

The railway has 657 miles of rail line serving southwestern and southern Ontario.

B. W. Cunningham, deputy reeve of Ferris, seemed to sum up the county opinion when he pointed out that industrial projects in Ferris need this service and the plan should be opposed.

Turns 91, reminisces...

MILTON—David Menzies of R. R. 6, Milton turned 91 years of age Sunday, March 9.

Born in the massive three-storey Georgian home he presently occupies, Mr. Menzies worked on the family farm until he was 21 years old. Then in 1901 he joined a harvesters' excursion to the Western Provinces and returned the following year.

He then began growing jimson for his uncle, who had several patches of the herb cultivated for re-sale.

Having had his fling at that, he worked for D. D. Christie, a well-known area merchant and industrialist, as general constructor and maintenance man. This included upkeep and expansion of Mr. Christie's lime kilns at Galt, Kelso, Christie and Guelph a project which necessitated supervising the erection of buildings right from their existence as trees in the bush.

Although he parted with Mr. Christie on good terms, he felt himself he was "a little light for that type of work" and the five-foot, four-inch descendant of a Scottish family originally called "Mingus" began the engineering of several buildings in Milton (including the Princess Theatre... now the Roxy).

Esqueuing Council

Defer Plan Board budget

Esqueuing council deferred a decision on the \$5,000 budget requested by the newly formed Planning Board until the next meeting following a discussion about the role the Board would play when regional government comes into being.

Reeve George Currie told council that in his estimation the Planning Board already had outlived its usefulness. When regional government comes in the reeve could see the area being planned by professionals and the appointed boards either dissolved or merely acting as advisors.

Most councillors agreed it would be better to hold the request over until the meeting with the minister of municipal affairs is over. Deputy Reeve Tom Hill didn't think any suggestions the board could make would have any effect on the minister's plans.

I think Darcy McKeough's kind to listen, said Mr. Hill, but he's made plans and is going to see them through.

"He might get more opposition than he thinks", mused Councillor Ken Marshall, mentioning that opposition was reaching a peak for some parts of the regional government proposal.

Reeve Currie sided with the deputy-reeve with the feeling the meeting with the minister was just a token effort by Mr. McKeough to be nice to people. Assessor Art Benton gave his two month report to council and pointed out that farm and residential assessment was rapidly outdistancing commercial.

Mr. Benton also disclosed that the Deputy Minister of Municipal Affairs W. H. Hammer had contacted the township assessing department and required information on all personnel working in assessment to ease the system into regional government.

The township will fit into some form of regional government and the township offices will also likely fit into some use, the assessor said. Council also:

* Authorized the payment of three grants of \$50 each to three championship softball teams from Glen Williams. "Five championship teams from the township will put us on the map," observed the reeve.

* Gave permission to Mervin Barber of R.R. 1, Acton, to

operate a park on his property on Lot 25, Concession 1. Mr. Barber explained he had developed much of his property to accommodate campers and tents for the season only. He proposed to run a snowmobile park in the winter months.

* Took no action on a request from Emil Zuber to have an O.K. for a development in Norval. Mr. Zuber wants to change his plans from a town house development to four apartment buildings.

* Received a letter from the crown attorney concerning a stretch of road on the Sixth Line between 17 and 20 Sideroads.

Harness, dairy articles sought

Got any old harness? Dairy equipment? Halton county museum director Maj. H. J. Newman is presently on the look-out for old harness, saddles, and dairy articles to be used in setting up displays. The museum, in Kelso conservation area, will reopen again in April for the season.

Rough edges of the road and lack of signs were blamed for an accident. The letter suggested the inadequacies be corrected and reduced speed signs installed.

Reeve George Currie presided for the meeting with all councillors present.

Protest closing stations

Opposition by Halton County was added Tuesday to those protesting the proposed closing of CPR stations at Milton and Guelph Junction.

The County Council favored a resolution advanced by Deputy-Reeves Ron Harris and Mrs. A. MacArthur.

The CPR is currently applying to the Canadian Transport Commission for permission to withdraw agents from 42 stations in the London area. Service in that area would then originate from London.

75,000 visit Terra Cotta last year

During the year a new gatehouse and new entrance road were constructed at the Terra Cotta Conservation Area of the Credit Valley Conservation Authority, the annual meeting was held recently. New connecting roadways and parking lots were officially opened last June and the County paved a new road into the area.

Approximately 75,000 people visited the area and 15,000 campers used the camping facilities during the year.

Swimming lessons were provided for 171 children with qualified instructors.

Monara Conservation Area, just north of Orangeville, was officially opened last spring.

The Authority built a new 40 x 100 foot equipment storage building which will be used to store both antique and modern farm equipment on the Hillsburgh Conservation Farm.

Government approval was obtained in 1968 for the Master Development Plans for future development of Meadowdale and Limehouse Conservation Areas. Belfountain Conservation Area played host to almost 31,000 day-visitors during the year.

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150 nominated for Ford awards

More than 150 persons have been nominated for the first Community Service Awards program sponsored by the Oakville Community Relations Committee, Ford Motor Company of Canada, Limited, committee chairman William S. Porter announced.

The nominees are employees or the wives or husbands of employees at the Oakville Assembly Plant, the Ontario Truck Plant and Ford of Canada's Central Office in Oakville. They will be honored for community service in the

municipalities in which they reside, including Oakville, Hamilton, Toronto, Burlington, Mississauga, Milton, Port Credit, Weston, Waterdown, Willowdale, Dundas, Georgetown, Acton, and Brampton.

In addition to citations and engraved plaques, a top award known as the Town Crier Bell will be given to the outstanding nominee.

Canada's 19 national parks had almost 12 million visitors in 1967. The 450 provincial parks for community service in the had four times that number.

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