



Coon Rapids, MN

The Chatter

August 2020

Live Lively -



Square Dance!

0092

From Our Presidents



Jocelyn, President Audrey and President Les at meeting at Short Stop

Well, it's been over 5 action packed weeks of trying to figure out what we can do to get square dancers out and about and seeing each other in a safe manner (minus the action!). We encouraged dancers to come up with their own mini get-togethers and see that a few have taken place and some are on the horizon also. That's great. Keep it up. We need and miss each other!

On the "official" side of things, square dancing is one of the hardest hit activities since it crosses almost every risk category – not social distancing, hand to hand contact, high risk groups of people, etc. Whenever local and federal restrictions are lifted, we are sure many of you may not desire to get back to it until there is a vaccine or effective treatment. Everyone most certainly has the freedom and right to choose on their own. However we also know everyone is probably ready to get back to living life normally and don't necessarily want the "new normal" being touted to become a long term reality.

Moving forward, we are planning a full schedule as usual so that when this opens up, we can carry on without missing a beat. We might miss a few dance steps being out of practice, but we're all in the same boat, so it will be interesting! The website has all the dances and lessons listed and we can easily cancel them if needed. When it opens up, we believe the best policy is to leave it up to dancers to decide to participate or not. We will continue to follow guidelines but will also encourage people to make up their own minds about their personal safety and do what they are comfortable with. We will have hand sanitizer and masks will be your own personal responsibility if desired. We still have some events that were planned, but it doesn't look promising for the remainder of the summer. We will be looking at possibly having some later than planned "make-up" dates if we can.

We hope and pray for the safety of everyone and that we can get back to normal soon! We are a large group of vibrant and resilient people and will get past this soon. We are all looking forward to it!

Regards,

Les Marier & Audrey Cecko

Presidents, Hotfoot Stompers

Presidents Meet at Short Stop



Jocelyn, John, Audrey's sister, Presidents Audrey & Les at Short Stop discussion of Hotfoot's future



Outdoor seating at Short Stop

Photos by Les Marier & Audrey Cecko

From Hotfoot Queen Sharon

I went down to my daughter's for the 4th of July and ended up staying for 2 weeks. While there we sat on their deck and watched fireworks for a week. We also went to a movie. There were 3 other people in the theater.

My granddaughter, Bevin and I went to the zoo in Omaha and had to wear our masks in the buildings to protect the animals!!



Queen Sharon wearing her tiara, pulling weeds

When I got home there were more weeds to pull! Also I have moles in my yard so am trying to get rid of them and some Japanese Beetles. For fun, I walk every morning and still round dance 2 days a week on my patio with Rick. Sometimes I watch my square dance DVDs so I don't forget all the calls.

I miss seeing and dancing with everyone. I hope everyone is staying safe and healthy!

Sharon Bahma,
Hotfoot Stompers Queen

Breakfast at Dahls



Roger & Carol did a fine job organizing an impromptu breakfast in their back yard on July 29th



Hotfoot Treasurer Terry gets the remaining donuts



Where is Terry, our treasurer? Better late than

Spotlight on Chuck & Mary Kirchherr



It was a hot humid day in July when I interviewed Chuck and Mary. And the interview got “hotter” when I found out that Chuck and Mary started square dancing in 1974! I have known them since they took lessons at Hotfoot in 2010, and I did not know this. Chuck was stationed at Fort Myer, VA, while on active duty for the U.S. Navy and met Mary at church... in the singles Sunday School class. He convinced her to try square dancing so they took basic lessons and graduated in 1974 with the Aurora Squares club in Arlington, VA. They then moved to Connecticut and were members of the Farmington Valley Square Dance club from 1975 to the early 1980’s. From then until 2010 they didn’t participate in any square dancing. It was after seeing Hotfoot Stompers at the senior center in Coon Rapids that they became aware of Hotfoot Stompers.

Chuck was born on a farm near Des Moines, Iowa, and then moved to Clayton, IL. He has one brother. Chuck graduated in 1969 from Luther College in Decorah, Iowa, with a degree in Math & Physics. Chuck’s first job was in Data Processing at Allis Chalmers at the main office in Milwaukee and then went on assignment to Pittsburgh. In 1970 Chuck received orders to report to military duty, and he signed up with the U.S. Navy. He went to boot camp at Great Lakes, IL, then to San Diego to school, then a desk job in Wash. DC for 3/12 years doing programming. He was lucky he did not have to go to Vietnam.

Mary is a native of Duluth and has 2 younger sisters. Mary went to the Duluth Trade School to become a

legal stenographer. Mary then worked at the Dept. of State, Washington DC for 5 years. While there, Mary was sent to Geneva, Switzerland, in 1971 and 1972. They also sent her off in 1972 to help the delegation to the United Nations. In 1973, Chuck and Mary married in Duluth.

Chuck got out of active service in 1974 but then he spent 20 years with Navy Reserve Intelligence Unit (once a month weekend duty). Also in 1974, they moved to CT. Their daughter was born in CT and still lives there. Chuck and Mary worked for Aetna Life Insurance in Hartford. Chuck worked in programming and retired after 23 years, and Mary retired after 30 years in the administrative assistant field. After retirement, Chuck ended up working for ING which brought them to MN in 2005.

Chuck and Mary both agreed that their favorite activity is travelling! They enjoy traveling up the North Shore by car and travelling by train to Pikes Peak, Grand Canyon, and Totally Trains (a 6 days/5 nights trip switching trains along the way). Mary likes to scrapbook their trips and makes cards. Since retiring, Chuck has a great interest in model railroading and tinkers with his train layout in the basement. I was treated to a tour of Chuck’s trains and was totally impressed! There are 3 different levels that are all connected together plus all the extra features of city life including the entire layout is wired to light up for nighttime AND there is a lift bridge (with tracks on it!) similar to Duluth so that a person can go into the middle of the layout.



Chuck and Mary have been very faithful Hotfoot “Angels” for our student lessons. Mary mentioned that a former club of theirs had a certificate called the Order of Square Angels certificate.... what a great idea for Hotfoot’s Angels!

Michele Kemmetmueller

Hotfoot Stompers Spotlight Editor

Hotfoot Volunteers 2020-21

President: Audrey Cecko & Les Maier

Vice President: _____

Treasurer: Terry Cathers

Vice Treasurer: Margaret Theisen

Secretary: Terri Axelson

Past President: Jerry Steinworth

Sunshine Contact: Jerry Steinworth

Queen: Sharon Bahma

Banner Chief: _____

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Historian: _____

Photographer: Gary Kemmetmueller-open

The ROUNDUP Reporter: _____

Spotlight Editor: Michele Kemmetmueller

Website Webmaster: Rachel Katkar

Caller Booker: Jerry & Nancy Knoth

-----Committees-----

Decorating Committee: _____, Bob Johnson
(storage)

Door Prizes: _____

Greeters: Queen Sharon Bahma, _____

Lesson Set Up Committee: _____

Lesson Cleanup Committee: _____

Marketing Committee: _____

Mystery Bus Committee: _____

North Shore Weekend: _____

Pop Committee: _____

Sign Placer: _____

Social Committee: _____

State Conv Dinner Planner: _____

Summer Campout Planners: _____

Telephone Committee: Cathy Gates (leader +
Hotfoot News + roster + communicator), _____

----- Coordinators -----

Community Ed Contact: Cathy Gates

Dance Service Coordinator: _____

Student Coordinator: _____

Hotfoot Stompers

Minnesota Square Dance Club

Coon Rapids, MN

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763-516-8380 or

Audrey Cecko ADCecko57@yahoo.com

763-755-9254



2020-21 Dance Schedule

Saturday, 7:30-8:00pm & 10pm Plus; 8:00-10:00pm,
MS or ND and RDs & Lines by Ken LaBau between
tips – potluck at 8:30pm

*Service Committee **Ticket vendors

Sept 12, 2020 Caller: Larry Fruetel MS

* _____ **Rose Valentine, _____

Oct 10, 2020 Caller: Noah Siegmann trio MS

* _____ ** _____

Nov 14, 2020 Caller: Dean Dederman MS

* _____ ** _____

Dec 12, 2020 Caller: Mike Hogan MS

* _____ ** _____

Jan 9, 2021 Caller: Brian Freed ND

* _____ ** _____

Feb 13, 2021 Caller: Abe Maier ND

*Terri Axelson _____ ** _____

Mar 13, 2021 Caller: Tom Allen MS

* _____ ** _____

Apr 10, 2021 Caller: Dan Sahlstrom MS

* _____ ** _____

May 8, 2021 Caller: Dee Dee Dougherty-Lottie MS

* _____ ** _____

Upcoming Event Reminders for June

August ?? – Hotfoot picnic – no plans since Aquator
park is still closed.

Aug 26 - 4th Wednesday Hotfoot Breakfasts:

Women's, 8:30 AM at **Bakers Square in Northtown is,**
per their phone answer service, "no longer open";
Men's, 9:00 AM at Keys, Spring Lake Park **BUT don't**
count on it- they don't answer their phone yet.

CELEBRATING
40 years

We are on the WEB

www.HotfootStompers.org