



The Chatter

September 2024

Hotfoot Stompers Presidents

Hey! WOW there were a lot of you at the picnic, that was awesome! The weather was wonderful, the food was fantastic, and the socializing was sensational! As has started to become tradition, there was even some dancing. Thank you to all who came out to have a fun time and also to pay your dues. I know Cathy really appreciates it. Speaking of, if you haven't paid your club and federation dues for the next year, PLEASE do so. We really appreciate getting it all done as soon as possible.

We had a blast with the Sprosty Twins at our August dance! They never disappoint. While that was our last summer dance, lessons are less than a month away! Do you love square dancing? Do you have friends you've been pestering or been thinking of pestering into coming? Now is your time to really lay it on heavy! Lessons start September 16th! The first two lessons are the easiest time to join, and those first two are



also FREE! If you're not great with words and want a little promotion/recruitment help when talking to your friends about it, check out the new videos on the Hotfoot Facebook page! There is even one on the front page of our website! The Marketing Committee has been working hard to develop videos that really show what square dancing is all about and why it's such an amazing opportunity for anyone.

Lastly, there is a business meeting next Thursday, Sept. 5th, and all are encouraged to come! It starts at 6:30pm at Faith Lutheran Church, our secondary lesson and dance location. We will be in the choir room instead of our normal room. Don't worry, we'll make sure to help you find it. As this is not a normal

time for one of our meetings, we will only be focusing on a few topics, largely student retention and lesson strategies. We have a few proposals to go over that we are excited about and hope you will be, too. Come to the meeting if you want to find out more!

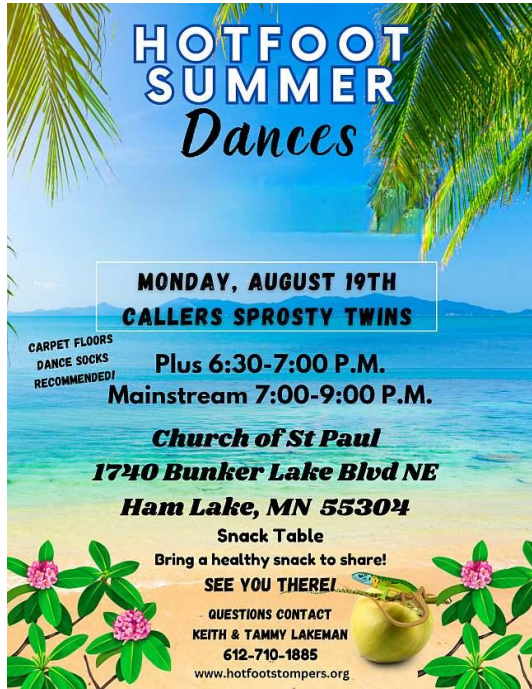


See you at the business meeting and in a square!

Julie Bittner & Anna Soland
Hotfoot Stompers' Presidents

Hotfoot August Dance

The Sprosty Twins, Don & Doug, called to our 8 squares of dancers on August 19th at St. Paul's Catholic Church in Ham Lake. Doug Sprosty cued to the same. How many clubs? I forgot. The pictures will do the talkin'.



**HOTFOOT
SUMMER
Dances**

**MONDAY, AUGUST 19TH
CALLERS SPROSTY TWINS**

CARPET FLOORS
DANCE SOCKS
RECOMMENDED!

**Plus 6:30-7:00 P.M.
Mainstream 7:00-9:00 P.M.**

**Church of St Paul
1740 Bunker Lake Blvd NE
Ham Lake, MN 55304**

Snack Table
Bring a healthy snack to share!
SEE YOU THERE!

QUESTIONS CONTACT
KEITH & TAMMY LAKEMAN
612-710-1885
www.hotfootstompers.org







President Julie does announcements as Don & Doug Sprosty and Queen Sandy look on

Hotfoot Queen Sandy



When I returned to square dancing in 2022, and the time came for the Square Dance Federation of Minnesota's demonstration at the Minnesota State Fair, I was very eager to participate. I took part in last year's event as well. Of course, I continued the tradition and signed up for the 2024 demo. As fun and enjoyable as the 2022 and 2023 demos were, without a doubt this year will be the most memorable as things took a turn for the wet.

On the first day of the State Fair, Thursday, August 22, 2024 as I was making my way through the Minnesota State Fairgrounds to the Cosgrove Stage by the Education Building, I began to feel a few rain drops. During the first session at 1:00 pm, it was lightly sprinkling, but we were able to proceed with Dan Sahlstrom calling for the experienced dancers and then also recruiting some spectators to join in and learn a few calls. As session one was moving along, the rain was gradually increasing. With dancers in motion, the awning over the stage would randomly retract and then open up again. Since my husband Robert is usually my partner, I have not danced in the man's position very often in recent years. Robert was working, so he was unable to be there for the demo. For the final song of session one, with the encouragement of Jean Sahlstrom, I decided to give the man's part a try. It was fun and went really well. I just had to remind myself that the man doesn't change home positions during the singing call like we do for the lady's part.

Just as the 1pm session concluded, the skies let loose with a major downpour. Chairs were placed under the awning, and some people sat there waiting for the rain to cease. Many others made a mad dash for the Education Building. The deluge went on for quite a while. I went around in and out of different buildings as the precipitation continued. The buildings were popular and very crowded as fairgoers were doing their best to keep as dry as possible.

Dancers returned to the Stage unsure if the 2:30pm session was going to happen, although the rain had let up, it hadn't quit. People were using the shop broom that was there to sweep the water off the surface of the stage. The awning over the stage again determined it was time to retract, so there was

a scramble to get it to open back up which was quickly successful.

The decision was made to attempt to go ahead with the demo, so we formed one square on the stage under the awning. Dan chose the singing call "Come Sail Away" by the pop-rock group Styx. Just as the song got to the end of the first figure, we returned to our home position. Then the power to the sound system cut out. After a few minutes, the power was restored, so Dan started the song again from the top. This time, though, he was singing "come paddle away with me" as the rain persisted. When the same part of the song came around, the power cut out for a second time. Dan then announced that the demo was over and thanked us for coming. On the way out, I suggested to Dan that "come float away" would be appropriate lyrics for the situation, and he liked that idea.



This was definitely one of those times that although things did not go according to plan, it was what made this experience very memorable.



That would be Queen Sandy slouched down in the middle

See y'all in a square soon.

Sandy Morgan

Hotfoot Stompers Queen

More from Queen Sandy

Caller Larry Johansen made his return to calling on Sunday, July 28, 2024 in Battle Lake, MN at Pairs and Spares.



There were about 110 dancers and also some family members and spectators who came to celebrate and cheer Larry on. A big thank goes you to Tom Allen for assisting with the calling. Larry was overwhelmed that so many people would come out to celebrate him after recovering from his stroke.

Sandy Morgan

Hotfoot at Granite Fest Plus Weekend August 3rd



Hotfoot Picnic Monday August 12th



**MidSummer Magic Swingmaster Callers August 11th
at Kaposia Park, South St. Paul**



MidSummer Magic dancers



A bit of square dancing in Blaine's Aquatore Park



John Bittner does it again – another practice calling session in his garage 7-29-24





Coni & Peggy

Looking back



Hotfoot dance intake line on 12-13-2008



Let's see, is Robert taking a picture of Sandy or is Sandy taking a picture of Robert? (Look close)



MN State SD & RD Convention at Mayo Convention Center – past caller Chuck Bowes on right 6-13-2009



Les patiently awaiting Audrey's hand for a pull by



Hotfoot at Mayo Convention Center June 13, 2009

Hotfoot Volunteers 2024-25

President: Anna Soland & Julie Bittner
Vice President: Robert Morgan
Treasurer: Renee Hogan
Vice Treasurer: Mary Jensen
Secretary: John Bittner
Past President: Keith & Tammy Lakeman
Sunshine Contact: Keith & Tammy Lakeman
Queen: Sandy Morgan
Banner Chief: John Bittner & Julie Bittner
Chatter Editor: Gary Kemmetmueller
Historian: _____
Photographer: Sandy & Robert Morgan
The ROUNDUP Reporter: _____
The ROUNDUP ads & dance listings: Audrey Cecko
Spotlight Editor: _____
Website Webmaster: Rachel Katkar & Cathy Gates
Caller Booker: Les Marier

----- Committees -----

Decorating Committee: Peggy Decker, Margaret Theisen (Bob Johnson storage)
Door Prizes: Terri Axelson, Fran Sorensen
Greeters: Queen Sandy Morgan, Audrey Cecko
Lesson Set Up Committee: Sandy & Jim Quasbort
Lesson Cleanup Committee: Mark & Sheila Brouhard, Rosemary Valentine
Marketing Committee: Audrey Cecko, Tammy Lakeman
North Shore Weekend: Peggy and Lee Kohl
Pop Committee: _____
Sign Placer: Mel Wallner
Social Committee: Peggy & Lee Kohl, Colette Kilber, Cary Hebert, Fran Sorensen, Jerry Steinworth
Social Media: Tammy Lakeman
Telephone Committee: Marilyn Vialle, Cathy Gates (leader + Hotfoot News + roster + communicator)

----- Coordinators -----

Community Ed Contact: Cathy Gates
Dance Service Coordinator: _____
Student Coordinator: Danielle Rust
Demo Coordinator: _____

We are on the WEB

www.HotfootStompers.org

Hotfoot Stompers



Minnesota Square Dance Club
Coon Rapids, MN
Presidents Anna Soland 763-768-3002 or
Julie Bittner 763-276-8425

2024-25 Dance Schedule

Saturday, 7:30-8:00pm Plus;
8:00-10:00pm, MS - potluck.

Northdale Middle School, 11301 Dogwood St NW
Coon Rapids, MN

*Service Committee **Treasurer Assistant

Sept 14– Tom Allen - MS - Viva Las Vegas - potluck

*Don & Monica Keyes, Jim & Sandy Quasbort __, __
** __, __

Oct 12 – Brad Neutz - MS- Ghosts & Goblins- potluck

* Jim & Sandy Quasbort, Jerry & Nancy Knoth, __, __
**Rose Valentine, __

Nov 9 – Dan Sahlstrom - MS - Give Thanks – potluck

* Jim & Sandy Quasbort __, __ ** __, __

Dec 14 – Mike Hogan - MS - Christmas Tidings – Potluck

*Don & Monica Keyes, Jim & Sandy Quasbort, __, __ ** __, __

Jan 11 - Abe Maier - ND - Starry Night – Potluck

*Rose Valentine, Jim & Sandy Quasbort, Jerry &
Betty Lou Elfert, __ ** __, __

Feb 8 – Bryan Bush - ND - Red, White, & Blue - Potluck

*Margaret Theisen, Jim & Sandy Quasbort, __ ** __, __

Mar 8 - Bill VanBergen - MS - Mexican Fiesta – potluck

*Jim & Sandy Quasbort, __ ** __, __

Apr 12 - Siegmann Trio - MS - Royalty - pie & ice cream -

**Don & Monica Keyes, Jim & Sandy Quasbort, __ ** __, __

**May 10 - Dee-Dee Dougherty-Lottie - MS - Sports Night -
Potluck**

**Don & Monica Keyes, Jim & Sandy Quasbort, __, __ ** __, __

Upcoming Event Reminders for September

**Sept 3 & 17 – Tuesday - Hotfoot Daytimers- MS SD –
9:30-11:30 AM - Coon Rapids Civic Center
11155 Robinson Dr NW, Coon Rapids, MN**

**Sept 5 – Thursday – Hotfoot meeting – 6:30 PM -
Faith Lutheran Church choir room –**

**Sept 16, 23 & 30 – Mondays – Lessons- 7-9:00 PM
Northdale Middle School- Dan teaching- 16th & 23rd
free – bring interested acquaintenes**

**Sept 25 - Wednesday- Hotfoot Breakfasts: Women’s
and Men’s, both 8:30 AM at Bakers Square at Riverdale in
Coon Rapids across from CUB Foods**