

Monthly Newsletter

County Line Squares

April 2018

Caller's Corner:

Abe and Carol Maier

Spring is here; at least that's what the calendar says. Well, I saw my first robin anyway. I wonder if it's the same robin that makes a nest in Carol's flower pot on the deck each spring.

Congratulations to our new dancers! It was a pleasure to work with them and watch them progress. We would like to also give our heartfelt thanks to the officers who do so much to keep the County Line Group running smoothly. In addition, we love our "ANGELS" who showed up every week to make our classes a positive activity.

We are truly looking forward to our summer demos and workshops. It is always a great chance to re-connect with our new dancers, the public that need to learn about our fun activity, and of course, our friends we've made through the activity.

April Birthdays:

- 9 Pam Ouellette
- 13 Betty Curran
- 14 Vi Schlagel
- 14 Maxine Starke
- 18 Susie Oahs
- 19 Bob Frappier
- 19 Steve Leinonen
- 24 Arlan Schlagel
- 24 Doug Zachman

April Anniversaries

- 20 Helen & Steve Leinonen
- 20 Alice & Fred Vetsch

Thoughts from your president:

Joan Halderson

Congratulations to our 14 recent graduates. They round out our club roster to 96 members. I hope you all will continue to dance on Monday nights through the remaining school year.

I am sure the farmers in our club are getting spring fever. Working in the construction (steel erection) industry always makes me wonder when road restrictions will come off and when road construction will begin. Hey, it's Minnesota!

New officers are in place for the 2018-2019 year, and they will step into office June 1, 2018. Thank you, Paul and Rita, for stepping up to take the 2nd vice-president position!

I am borrowing these words from my local Buffalo newspaper. "At the end of the day, at the end of the week, and at the end of my life, I want to be able to say that I contributed more than I criticized," a quotation by Brene Brown.

HAPPY EASTER TO ALL!!

Member Spotlight:

Willard Leinonen

"FANTASTICAL" is a word Willard uses quite often and may be an adjective to describe someone still dancing at 93.

Willard was born in Minnesota south of Annandale at a farmhouse. He attended a couple of different country schools (Burbank & Gunnery). He served in the Navy from 1944 to 1946.

Willard's future wife, Kathleen, became a pen pal after he met her while on leave. Mutual friends introduced them. They were married 52 years until Kathleen's death in 1999. They have 2 sons and 4 daughters, 19 grandchildren, 28 great-grandchildren, and at least 1 great great grandchild.

Abe was Willard's first square dance teacher, and the County Line lessons were at Clear Lake School. His wife and a neighbor's wife wanted something to do. They and 10-12 other couples would dance in parades, on hayracks and floats,

and on the stage at Pioneer Park. His 2nd round of square dancing started in 2009 after a 20 year break. He represented County Line as king 2011-2012.

Willard farmed, was an auto mechanic for 7 years in Buffalo, worked at a doll factory fixing and setting up sewing machines, and was a leather cutter for Indian doll clothes. He also worked in Crystal at Modern Tool, a metal stamping company. In later years, Willard was a handy man at Pioneer Park. Kathleen worked there as well and became manager.

The farm was sold in 2000, and a house was built the same year in Annandale. Hobbies are fixing and making spinning wheels and telling a "YARN" or two while spinning!

- 14 Koronis Nite Owls (Charley Huhtala)
- 18 Beaux & Belles (Dick Severson)
- 21 Westonka Whirlers (Bob Asp)
- 25 ETTA (Tom Allen)
- 28 South Metro Stars (Lanny Weakland)
- 29 Square Dance MN (Tom Allen, etc.)

Dancing with Abe in April:

- 1 Happy Easter!!!
- 5 Hopkins
- 8 St. Peter Spring Fling
- 12 Hopkins
- 19 Hopkins
- 26 Hopkins
- 28 Royalty Luncheon

*Classes every Monday at Monticello
County Line*

*Classes every Wednesday at Maple Grove
Single Circles*

Club Dance:

Date: **April 6, 2018**
Theme: Bad Hair Night
Caller: Roger McNeil
Cuer: Bernadette McNeil
Hosts & Hostesses: Marlys & Larry Wilson,
Betty Curran, Greg & Diane Olson

Banner Raids for April:

- 4 Beaux & Belles (Tom Allen)
- 8 St. Peter Squares (Abe Maier, etc.)
- 11 Spares & Pairs (Larry Fruetel)