

## County Line Squares

In September of 1976, Harv and Carol Maier started a beginner's class for square dancing with the help of Gene and Bertha Hoyt, Don and Carol Rau, and Bud and Maggie Hoyt, at Clearview School in Clear Lake, MN.

In April of 1977, seven couples graduated from this beginner's class. They were Larry and Loretta Peterson, Gerry and Judy Corgard, Chuck and Marilyn Jacobs, Gary and Dianna Thur, Roger and Dianna Miller, Don and Audrey Johnson, and Phil and Evelyn Durkee. After graduation, this group of people decided to form a club with Harv Maier as their club caller and Bertha and Gene Hoyt as Club President.

The majority of the members agreed upon the name County Line Square Dancers because four counties are located near Clearview School, Clear Lake, MN where the members danced.

Don Johnson of Clear Lake designed the club badge. This newly organized club decided to dance on the first and third Fridays.

Over the years the club danced in Clear Lake, Becker, and then in Monticello where it is currently located. In the fall of 2011, the dances were changed to the second and fifth Fridays. In 2012, the club celebrated its 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

In 2015, the club was reorganized as County Line Squares, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization exempt from federal income tax and a member of Square Dance Minnesota, Inc. Our mission is to promote and teach square dancing in all its heritage forms (by promoting square dancing and training new people in the activities of square dancing). The members decided to change the dances to the first and fifth Fridays.

On March 31, 2017, the club celebrated its 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary with a free dance for 26 squares. In the fall of 2018, the club changed the dances to the second and fifth Fridays.