



FROM THE EDITOR

Line dances in its many forms are a bundle of fun and are very common requests for wedding receptions and other big gatherings with family and friends. It is perfect for an aerobic workout improving your spatial memory, physical health and cognitive acuity. Ballroom line dancing can provide you with a social environment for good, mutual, mental health.

Until we are allowed to dance indoors again, the second best place might be your patio. Here you can be your very own sommelier wine steward of drinks, or non alcoholic beverages and snacks, while you line dance with a group, or partner, or as a single, to very popular different types of music. Although the 1970s, 80s and 90s country line dance music like The Boot Scootin' Boogies are still very popular many other forms of music, are played including; pop, swing, rock and roll, disco, salsa, cumbia, Latin and Modern Ballroom. "Yesterday once more" is even danced as a Filipino Reggae. There is the Twist, the Macarena and the Bachata that have become very popular line dances in our contemporary culture. People really love line dancing and most of the dances are very easy to learn. The very experienced dancers might add extra steps, turns or add accents like hand claps. Some of the line dances are not performed in a line, but in a circle where everyone dances in one group, with the same steps repeating themselves throughout the song. Line dances usually are danced in a line, changing wall directions and returning to the same spot you started from.

Modern sequence dancing, a close cousin to line dancing, has a repeat of the steps at every sixteenth bar, with the strict tempo song going on for five or six sequences in all, going counter clockwise around the ballroom floor. It is easier if you already know your Ballroom or Latin steps. There are 3 types: Old-time (Classical) dances, Latin and Modern dances like Waltz, Tango, Foxtrot or Quickstep. There is an annual UK Blackpool contest. It is popular in Australia, known as New Vogue, that was started in the 1930s. New Sequence dance scripts are written every year.

Another line dance cousin is Round Dancing, that is a professionally choreographed and cued ballroom dance. It progresses counter-clockwise around a ballroom floor. A "cuer" or leader tells the dancers, as they dance, what steps to do ahead of the beat. No memory work is required although written Cue sheets may be given out.

Line Dancing has many variations and benefits, but really it's just plain lots of fun to do and enjoy.

Peter Lee

Ref. en.wikipedia.org carolinaseniorcare.org/blog/line-dancing-good-you canadaplace.ca liveabout.com/line-dancing-basics citynews.ca

Note: Peggy's Cove, Parliament buildings Ottawa, Canada Place Vancouver and CN Tower are great tourist sites to visit

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Canada celebrates it's 153rd birthday on Thursday, July 1st 2021. It is a day of hope for all those who were welcomed fleeing from world conflicts, or seeking a better life. It is a day of reflection taking the best from our past to move forward into a better future, with the hopes of a much more normal tomorrow. Canada is a land where writers, artists and musicians can express the soul of our country and where some find fame on the international stage. Line dancers from around the world, including from; Korea, Taiwan, US, Philippians, China and France have discovered Canadian music from the likes of Shania Twain, Leonard Cohen, Ann Murray, Celine Dion, Gordon Lightfoot, Justin Bieber, and Dianna Krall, a delight to dance to. It's great music to use to celebrate Canada Day and because its Summer when the world is reopening to joy again. We would love to do a little Happy Dance.

NEWS FROM THE BOARD

IN THE ETHER

Tom has been working on building a reservation system that allows Dancers to be sure there is room for them. The system recognizes that there will be changing restrictions on the numbers attending dances, and that also allows payment in advance. (Other Board members have been gleefully testing the system for Tom, by trying to break it.)

OUTSIDE

Cathy and Vivianne have been cutting the grass in front of the Club, and adding some plants. We hope people are around soon enough to see the flowers – the Tulips, planted by Carol Laimer are long gone, but were a welcome sign of Spring ... and hope.

ABOVE

We understand that the roof has been fixed and further leaks are not anticipated...

FROM THE PRESIDENT & BOARD

ALMOST TIME

Ready to turn off Netflix and get back to dancing? Well, so am I and the rest of the Board! As soon as the Ontario Government announces a date on which we may reopen, and what protocols are required, the Board will meet to prepare for us to open as soon as we may safely do so. Likely it will be a while before the Club can operate Dances as before, but we will explain our plans as soon as we see some Provincial Guidelines. This will involve interpreting from the Guidelines how to operate safely, and implement any needed changes (such as in the number of tables). We will have the 30-Up Club thoroughly cleaned and a cleaning regimen established on a continuing basis.

I should mention that due to Federal Government subsidies, as well as the Board's careful stewardship (led by Michelle) of our money, the Club remains in a strong financial position for reopening. However, we will have to be careful as we reopen and subsidies disappear.

MEANWHILE

When reopening guidance was provided last year, Dance Clubs were (if listed at all) added in with Gyms. We had accepted that we were too small a sector to be given much consideration at the time by overworked health departments - even though we made a very full written presentation describing our unique needs.

This year, jointly with our friends at The Westway, we have written to various people in the Ontario Government and the City of Toronto. I thank The Westway Board for inviting us to join them in this. The letter was written to explain that Dance Clubs are very different from Gyms, and that we should be provided with separate guidance. We did not ask to open either earlier or later than any other sector, but to be recognized as different with different operating needs. The responses we received were perfunctory at best, and so once again we will likely need to interpret very general guidelines for reopening.

Be assured that we will open your Club as safely, and as soon, as we can. It will be wonderful for us all to be back together again.

Marjorie

