



# HOT TIPS

**JANUARY -  
FEBRUARY  
2017**

## **PDP 2017 A GREAT SUCCESS!**

Each year on the weekend prior to the Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday, Hotlanta Squares holds our annual Promenade Down Peachtree fly-in. This year was one of the greatest we've had so far. First of all, the weather was perfect with sunny, 70-degree days. It was just what we ordered. Three great callers headlined; Dayle Hodge from Columbia, Maryland, Michael Maltenfort from Chicago, Illinois and John Marshall from Sterling, Virginia. The theme for this year's event was "It Takes A Village" and a colorful array of festive costumes were seen at the Saturday night theme dance. A total of 118 dancers registered for the weekend of festivities and as you can see from these photos, everyone had a wonderful time.



























## DEBRA HANSON IS NEW STUDENT DANCER COORDINATOR

Long-time Hotlanta Squares member Debra Hanson has stepped up to the plate to serve as the new Student Dancer Coordinator for the spring semester. Debra is already hard at work welcoming guests to our three open house nights and collecting their contact information. She is also in the process of assigning a Dance Buddy to each new student. The Dance Buddies will be responsible for making sure that each new student has a well-qualified dance partner (angel) each time they square up and are informed of any calls that they may miss in the event of an absence. We know Debra will do a wonderful job and we are excited to have her in this valuable position.



## “YUGE” CROWD FOR MAINSTREAM OPEN HOUSE NIGHTS

At least 25 guests attended one or more of the open house nights held January 23<sup>rd</sup>, January 30<sup>th</sup> and February 6<sup>th</sup>. We have a great class of new Mainstream dance students for the spring semester and are hoping for a record high graduation rate.













## **GOT AN IDEA OR SUGGESTION? DON'T FORGET THE SUGGESTION BOX**

Do you have suggestions or ideas that can improve the way our club operates? The Hotlanta Squares Board wants your input. There are three ways that you can contribute:

1. Attend a board meeting. The board meets monthly, usually at City of Light before the Monday or Tuesday classes. The meetings are announced in advance and are open to all club members. If you have a really big idea that the board will need to discuss and vote on, you can let Clara know and she will include it in the agenda.
2. Send your suggestions via email at [hotlanta.squares@gmail.com](mailto:hotlanta.squares@gmail.com)
3. Use the suggestion box. Go "old school" by putting your suggestion in writing and slip it into the suggestion box, located on the sign-in table at each class and dance event. Hand-written suggestions get more attention. You can sign your name if you'd like to be acknowledged, or if you prefer, you can remain anonymous.



***Contratulations to all of our club members who are celebrating birthdays in January and February:***

Sha-Ron Cassel – January 2

Carolyn Cornelison – January 3

Bryant Golden – January 6

Susan Browne – January 7

Andrea Nettleton – January 31

Don Weston – January 31

Marsharee Chastain – February 3

Chris Johnson – February 8

Ron Ralston – February 11



## DON WESTON IS OUR NEW PRIDE COORDINATOR



We are really excited to have Don Weston as this year's Pride Coordinator. Don has many years of experience in working with the Atlanta Pride Committee and has some great ideas to "go big" with our celebration this year.

In recent years the LGBTQ community has made many strides in equality and inclusion and the annual Pride event has become mostly a celebration of that. But this year the Trump Administration and the Republican controlled congress are threatening to take away the rights of many minorities. This year's Pride event is shaping up to be one that will see a return to our activist roots and it just may be one of the biggest in history. Don feels that the time is right for Hotlanta Squares to "go big" with a bigger parade presence and possibly a booth in the market section of Piedmont Park, featuring giveaways and dance demonstrations. We will be conveying the message that **Love trumps Hate**. We are looking into a new mascot, a big yellow bear named Rocky that will give out hugs to all. Get it? Yellow Rocky? We are kicking off the countdown to Pride with a theme and t-shirt design contest. See the flier for additional details.



**Atlanta Pride is October 14-15, 2017 and Hotlanta Squares needs *your* help coming up with our theme this year!**

Showcase your creative talent and abundant cleverness by thinking up a fun theme for our use at the Pride Parade and at our Booth. The design should promote the friendship and fun we have square dancing. This year, the theme should incorporate the idea of "Hugs."

**Deadline: Tuesday, Feb 28 at 9pm**

- **Deadline:** Hurry and get your ideas submitted online (in any form) to [hsatlpride@gmail.com](mailto:hsatlpride@gmail.com), or brought to a Hotlanta Squares practice by Tuesday, Feb 28 at 9pm. All creative ideas - from simple sketches to a clever turn of a phrase to computer artwork - all are welcome.
- **Voting:** Attendees to our dance on March 11th will select their favorite entries, and the winner will be announced the following week.
- **Prize:** The winning theme will be featured on flyers, the web, and of course, t-shirts! Winner will receive a complimentary t-shirt and the grateful hugs of your fellow dancers.

**Hugs!!!**

For more information, contact: Don Weston at 404-966-4431 or [hsatlpride@gmail.com](mailto:hsatlpride@gmail.com)

## MONDAY PRE-CLASS REVIEW SESSIONS

Did you know that during our class semesters we have a FREE review session for Mainstream students each Monday night from 6:30pm until 7:15pm?

Hotlanta Squares uses budding callers for the review sessions which benefits our club in two ways. First it gives the students a chance to warm up or review, and secondly, it gives new callers a chance to get some practice with REAL LIVE PEOPLE? (BTW, I am one of the main budding callers and I absolutely LOVE calling to new students.)

The new students learned 16 new calls during the first class! Visit the club's website at [www.hotlantasquares.org](http://www.hotlantasquares.org) to see a list of the calls that are taught at each weekly class. Each week, I will come prepared to review the calls that were taught the previous week and any others that you may need help with.

You can email me with specific requests at [cwelch@hiwaay.net](mailto:cwelch@hiwaay.net) before each Monday. If you already know all of the Mainstream calls and just want to help the new callers get some practice, you are welcome and encouraged to attend the review sessions also.

Hope to see you there.



Clara Welch

**DON'T FORGET!!  
THE RATE FOR PDP 2018 GOES  
UP FROM \$90 TO \$105 ON  
MARCH 1ST. REGISTER ONLINE  
AT <http://iagsdc.com/atlanta> TO  
TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE  
EARLY BIRD DISCOUNTED RATE**



# St. Patrick's Day Dance

With Jimmy Roberson  
From Oxford, NC



**Saturday, March 11, 2017**  
*Alternating Mainstream through A2*  
7:00pm - 10:00pm

City of Light MCC  
3125 Presidential Parkway  
Atlanta, GA 30340

**Wear something green**

Members: \$8.00  
Non-Members: \$10.00  
Non-dancing Guests: Free

*There will be no Challenge tips at this dance*

