

# **THE TSDA NEWS**

**JANUARY 2017**

A belated Happy New Year from TSDA, the TRIANGLE SQUARE DANCE ALLIANCE (TSDA). The TSDA is an association of avid square dancers from local clubs, all of whom volunteer their time and efforts to actively promote Square Dancing. One of the many TSDA-sponsored activities are monthly Fun Dances. These dances are designed to introduce square dancing to those who have never danced or who haven't danced since 6th grade. They also serve as a wonderful opportunity for experienced dancers to bring their non-dancing friends for an evening of fun and to show them why we enjoy Square Dancing so much.

The first dance of 2017 was held January 21 and what a dance it was! More than seven squares of dancers attended and a large majority were new dancers. Some of these new dancers were already planning to take lessons with Cary Cross Trailers after having visited there earlier in the week. Also at the Fun Night Dance, we were thrilled to host a group of Chinese foreign exchange students whose sponsors brought them to the dance for a very special American experience. Caller Vance McDaniel did his usual masterful job of teaching introductory steps and before long the students and everyone else were dancing, smiling, singing along and having a blast. A brief impromptu demonstration tip was danced by a square of experienced dancers. The evening definitely lived up to its name of "Fun Night Dance".

In 2016, TSDA began devising themes for each of its Fun Dances. The January theme was "Chili For a Chilly Night". TSDA members provided a variety of homemade chili which, judging by how little was left, was thoroughly enjoyed by everyone. February's Fun Dance will have a Beach Party theme. The TSDA is planning activities and refreshments to match the theme: for one thing dancers will be encouraged to wear beach attire. Other unique themes are already being planned for the coming year so watch for flyers at your clubs, make plans to attend and invite someone out who you think would like to learn to square dance.

As you can see, the TRIANGLE SQUARE DANCE ALLIANCE is continually working to attract new dancers. We welcome your thoughts and your participation. Whether you are a new or an experienced dancer, you are also invited to the TSDA meetings which are held at Healthtrax Wellness & Fitness Center, 8300 Health Park, Raleigh 27615. For meeting dates and times please contact either Vance McDaniel at [vmcdaniel@nc.rr.com](mailto:vmcdaniel@nc.rr.com) or Marty Johnson at [mrjohnson913@gmail.com](mailto:mrjohnson913@gmail.com). If you can't make it to a meeting but have a suggestion to attract new dancers, please feel free to share your ideas with Vance or Marty. To learn more about the ALLIANCE, please visit the TSDA website at [www.trianglesquaredance.org](http://www.trianglesquaredance.org).