WHY BE A MEMBER OF (JOIN) A SQUARE DANCE CLUB?

The answer is quite simple. FINANCIAL SURVIVAL! If you wish to continue to enjoy this activity, today's economics demand that you join a club and give it the financial assistance it needs to survive. There may be some other perks that I will mention later, but first, let's look at the financial aspect.

I am going to examine a hypothetical club, which has 32 members, of which only 20 attend a dance at any given time. If your numbers are different (members or monetary), adjust and recalculate. All of these figures are to make a point.

Expenses
- Hall Rent - $75
- Caller + Cuer - $160
- Refreshments - $10
- Misc. expenses - $20 (yearly costs averaged to a per dance basis)
- Total - $265
- Number of dances per year – 24
- Total expenses for year - $6360

Income
- 20 club members at $6.00 per - $120
- 10 guests at $7.00 per – $70
- 50/50 - $25
- Total - $215
- Number of dances per year – 24
- Normal income for year - $5160
- Income from 3 raids - $250
- Total income for year - $5410

Net loss for year - $950

Obviously the club cannot survive on income from the dances alone. The bottom line is that if you enjoy coming to this club to dance, additional monies need to be found. The first avenue for this additional revenue is <u>membership dues</u>! The above scenario would require each member to be charged approximately $30 each. This could be offset somewhat by fundraising. When you think about it, this is not such a big deal. I pay $40 to play in a golf league. All it gives me is the right play with a certain group of people that I like, on a certain day. I enjoy it, and it fits my schedule. Should my square dance club be any different?

There are other advantages to joining a club. You are on a cancellation phone chain (2 weeks ago Bee Sharps basement flooding). You usually pay a dollar less than guests at your club dance. If you go to every dance, then your dues are a net cost to you of $6.00. There is probably a membership list, so if you want to contact someone, you have their information. Many clubs have one or two social functions (picnic, etc.) a year.

You enjoy Square Dancing as one of your chosen forms of recreation. Support it by joining a Square Dance Club (or two).

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