

Grand Square 48.3 – May 2006

Happy Squares

What makes square dancers happy? For one group of dancers, making *others* happy does the trick. That group is called (what else) the Happy Squares.

The Happy Squares are dancers from Tenakill Twirlers, RocklandRockytops, Hi Taws, and Motiv8ors who have been entertaining others since 1978. The idea started with the Tenakill Twirlers and grew to include three nearby clubs. The happy mission of the 20 or so participants is to share the fun of square dancing at nursing homes, senior citizen centers, schools, day care centers, and similar locations. Led by a caller, the Happy Squares entertain and educate with approximately 35 demos every year.

The arrival of the Happy Squares typically creates a stir of excitement as they appear in their showiest outfits. Curious spectators at both ends of the age spectrum have been known to sneak a peek at the crinkly crinolines. The Happy Squares dance at the Mainstream level and generate smiles throughout their audiences ... usually. At the end of one senior group meeting, 95% of the members left before the dancers had even assembled for the demo! With that one exception, their rewards for spreading the joys of square dancing are hugs, kisses, and the extraction of promises to return.

While their roster is currently full, they encourage others to initiate similar groups in their own areas. The Happy Squares charge no dues and accept donations only to cover their expenses, but their personal compensation in providing happiness to others is priceless.

For more information on starting a group, please contact George and Fanny Meyer at 201-385-3263 or fpm362@optonline.net.

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