

# **EL CAMINO REELERS**



**GENERAL MEETING  
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2025**



# **Agenda**

- **2024 in Review (Michael)**
- **Membership & Financial Summary (Ed)**
- **Board Elections & ways to help (Oliver)**
- **Coming in 2025 (Pete)**
- **Acknowledgments (Jeff)**



# 2024 in Review

What did we do last year?



# Growing the club

## Growing our membership was priority #1

- Open House nights in April, May and August
- SSD-to-Plus Class: January-May (*follow-on to last year's beginner class*)
- “Green” Beginner class: September-December
- Focus on class level dancing on Tuesday club nights





# Our largest SSD class in years!






# The Return of the Potluck

After pausing during COVID, we resumed holding Friday potlucks – more opportunities for Plus & A2 dancing

**SWEET.**

*El Camino Reelers  
Friday Potluck*





**James Thompson**  
**February 9**  
Potluck Supper: 7:00  
SSD & Plus: 7:30-8:30  
Plus & A2 : 8:30-9:30

St. Andrews United Methodist Church  
4111 Alma Street, Palo Alto  
admission: \$10 [www.reelers.org](http://www.reelers.org)

**El Camino Reelers**  
*Friday Potluck*

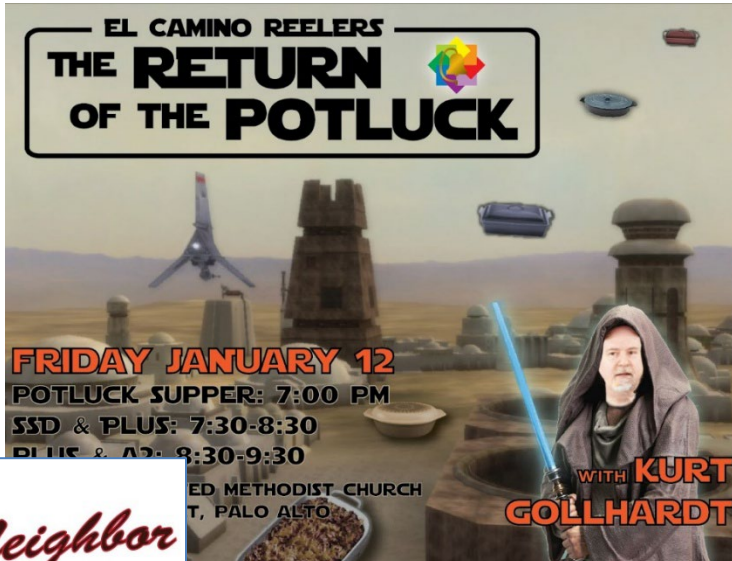
*Casserole Your Neighbor*  
with **Rich Reel**



FRIDAY  
SEPTEMBER 20

St. Andrews United Methodist Church  
4111 Alma Street, Palo Alto  
Admission: \$10 • ECR Students: 1

EL CAMINO REELERS  
**THE RETURN  
OF THE POTLUCK**



**FRIDAY JANUARY 12**  
POTLUCK SUPPER: 7:00 PM  
SSD & PLUS: 7:30-8:30  
PLUS & A2: 8:30-9:30

ST. ANDREWS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
4111 ALMA STREET, PALO ALTO

WITH **KURT GOLLHARDT**

EL CAMINO REELERS  
**LOS CASSEROLLES  
DE LOS MUERTOS**

FRIDAY NOVEMBER 1  
WITH **MICHAEL LEVY**



Potluck Supper: 7:00 pm  
A2, Plus, & ECR class level tips:  
7:30 - 9:30 pm  
St. Andrews United Methodist Church  
4111 Alma St., Palo Alto  
Admission: \$10

[www.reelers.org](http://www.reelers.org)



# Tea Dances at BillyDeFrank

Two Sunday afternoon  
Plus-A2 dances at the  
Billy DeFrank LGBTQ+  
Center in San Jose

**El Camino Reelers**  
[WWW.REELERS.ORG](http://WWW.REELERS.ORG)  
**Friday Potluck**  
  
**WITH MICHAEL LEVY**  
**MARCH 15**  
Potluck Supper: 7:00 pm  
SSD & Plus 7:30-8:30  
Plus & A2: 8:30-9:30  
Admission: \$10  
St. Andrews United Methodist Church  
4111 Alma St., Palo Alto

**Billy DeFrank LGBTQ+ Community Center**  
**ST. PATRICK'S WEEKEND!**  
**SUNDAY Tea Dance**  
  
**WITH KURT GOLLHARDT**  
**MARCH 17**  
Plus & A2: 1:30-4:30 pm  
Admission: \$15  
ECR Members: \$12  
Billy DeFrank LGBTQ+ Community Center  
938 The Alameda, San Jose

**El Camino Reelers**  
[www.reelers.org](http://www.reelers.org)

*shake a tail feather!*  
**Holiday Tea Dance**  
  
with **Rich Reel**  
calling Plus & A2 Tips  
  
**Sunday November 24**  
1:30-4:30 pm  
Billy DeFrank  
LGBTQ+ Community Center  
938 The Alameda, San Jose  
Admission: \$15 • ECR Members: \$12



# Pretty in Pink



Bill Eyler,  
Feb. 24



# Free Publicity

Cover article in Palo Alto Weekly (March 21)  
drew attention to the club





# Spring Flowers



Eric Henerlau,  
May 18



# Three Picnics in the Park





# Two Pride events

Staffed a booth and performed at San Mateo Pride (our 12<sup>th</sup>) and Fremont Pride (their first)





# Twirling in North Carolina



at the IAGSDC Convention in Durham NC



# Re-Lei the Deucey



Kris Jensen,  
Aug. 3





# Dungeons & Drag Queens



Vic Ceder,  
Oct. 26

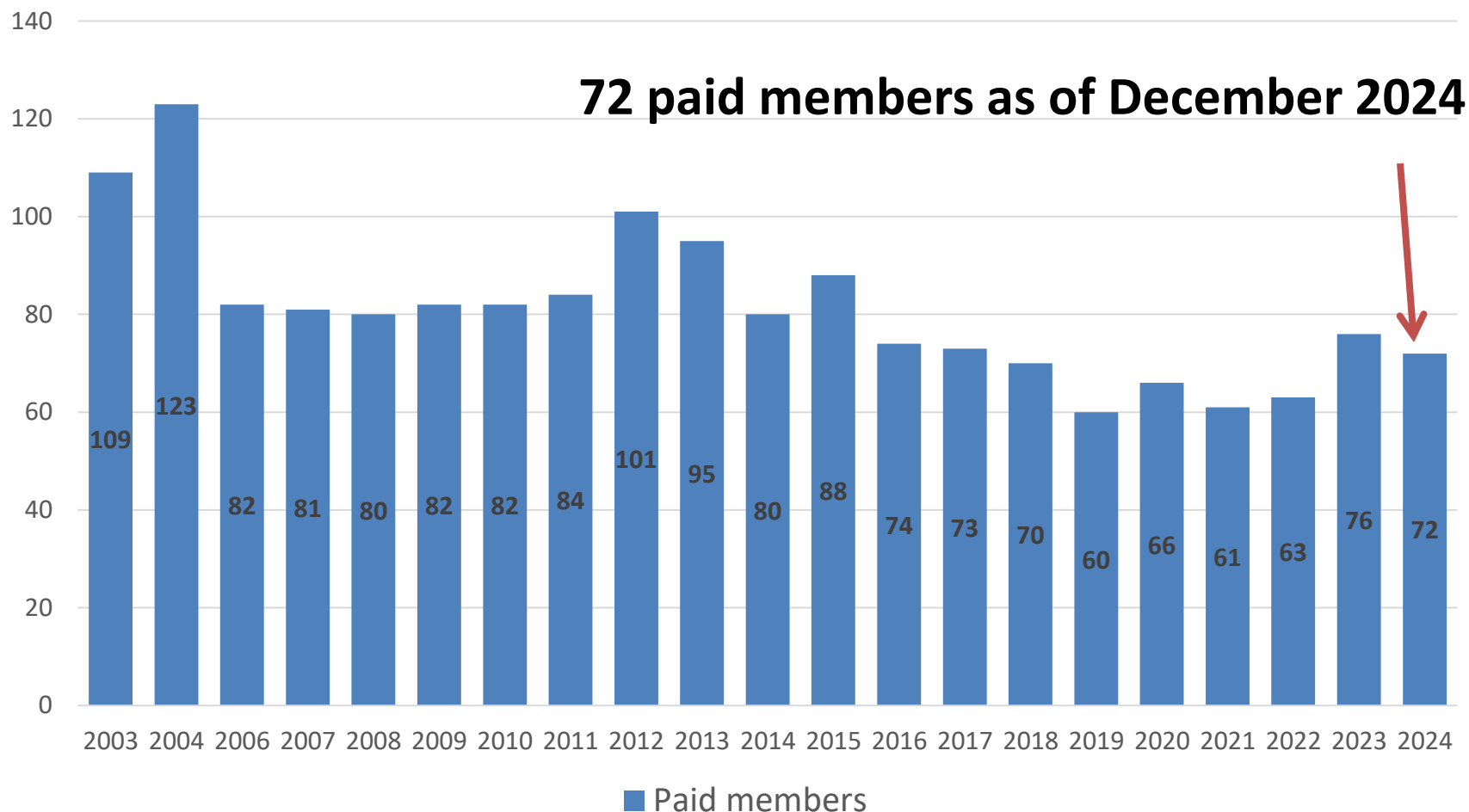


For the 2024 Calendar Year

# **Membership and Financial Summary**



# Membership holding steady



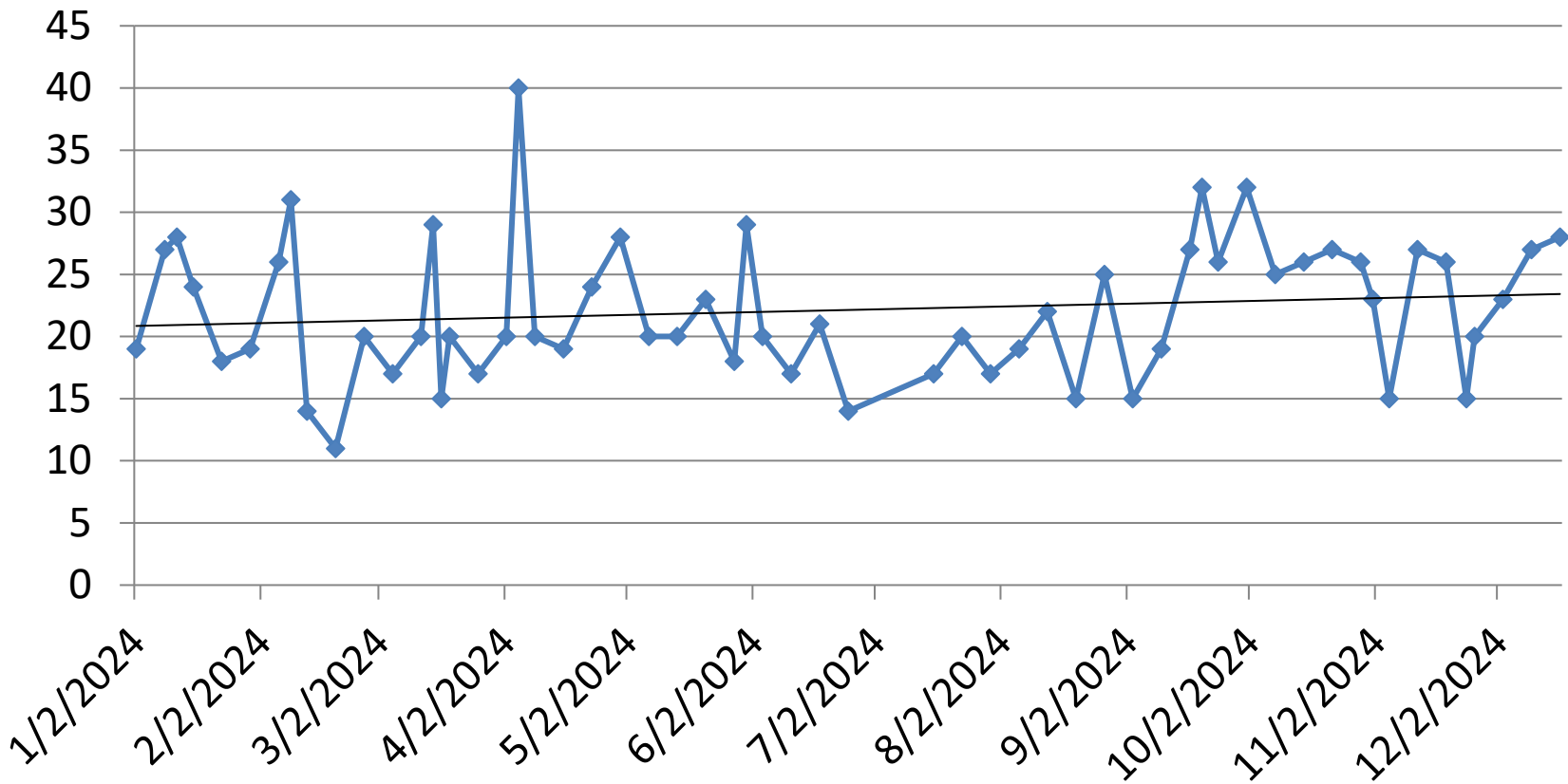
Gained 18 new members, but several people from the 2022-2023 beginner classes dropped out; we lost several members due to age/disability



# Club Night Attendance

Usually 2 squares, sometimes more

Attendees (including callers)

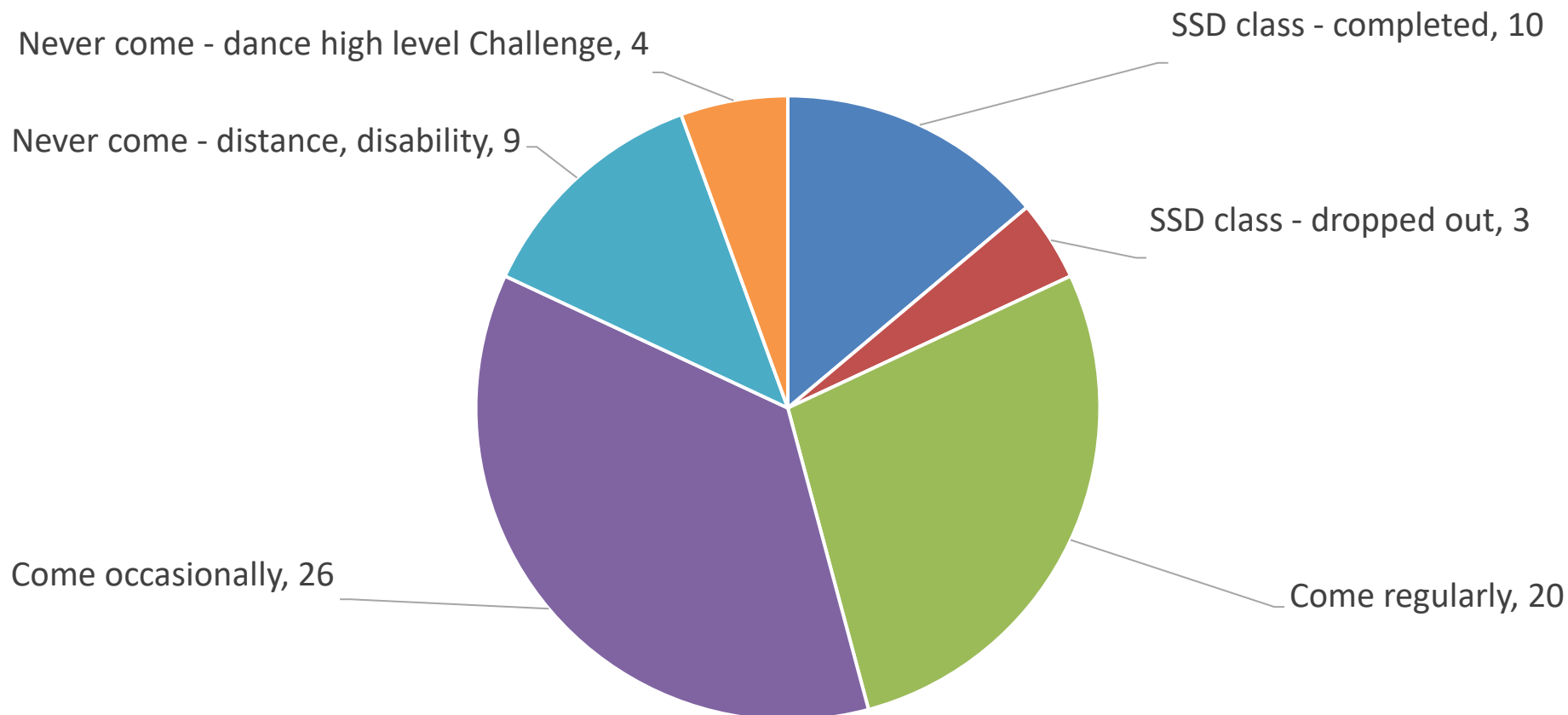


Includes regular club nights, Open House nights, potluck & tea dances



# Member Attendance

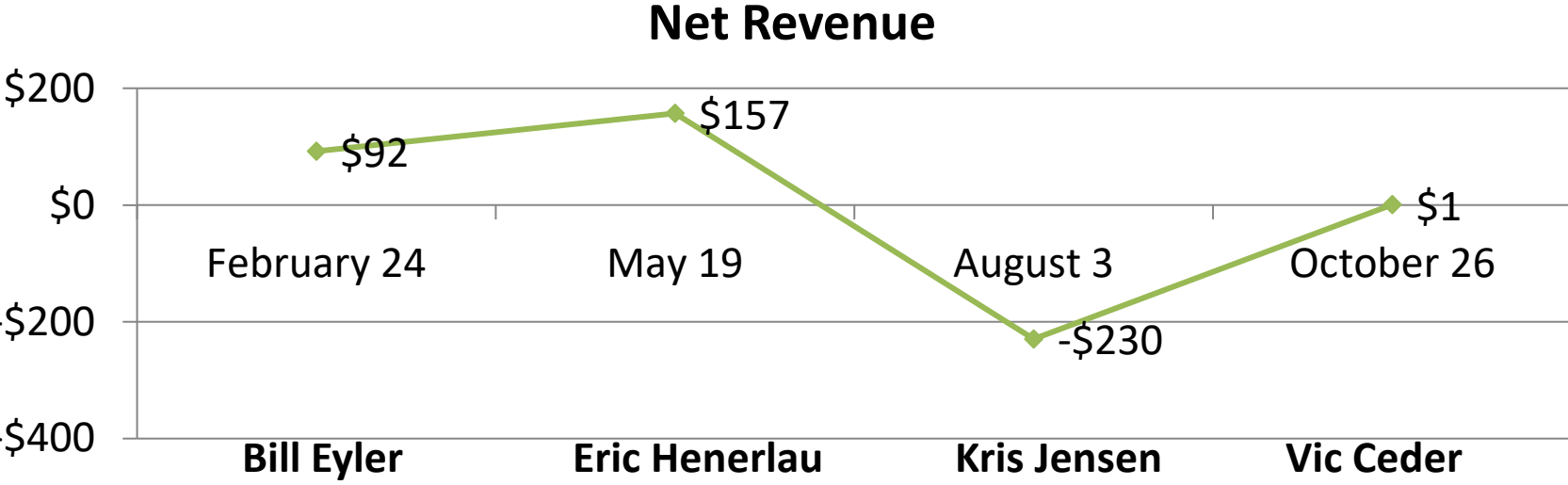
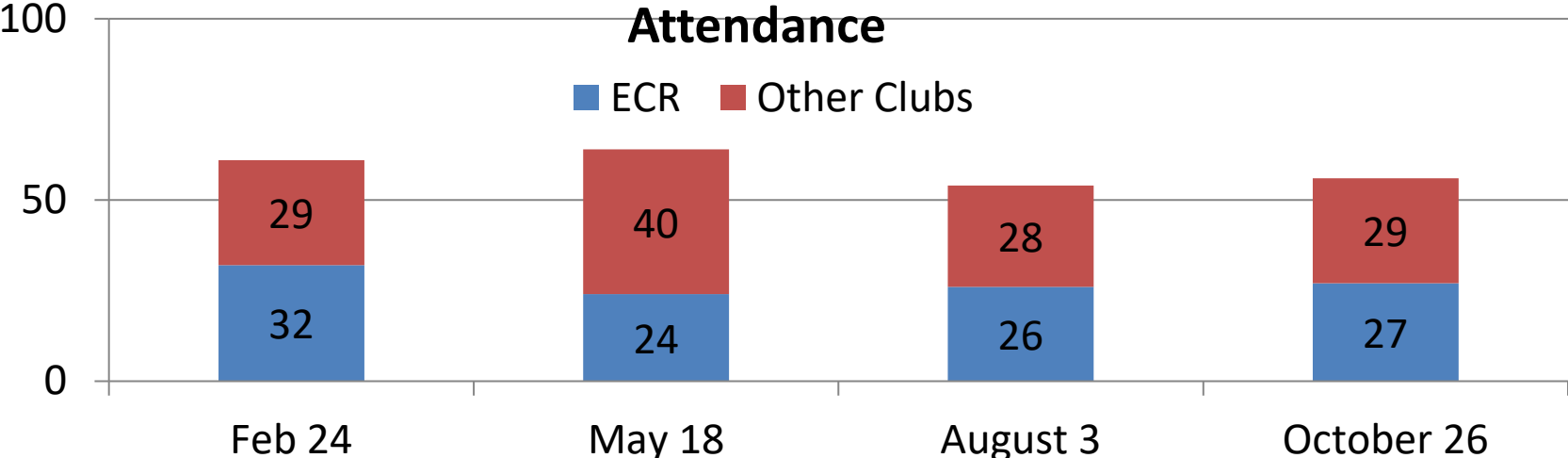
## Attendance



Out of 72 paid club members, 13 never come but still pay dues every year  
(*“Regular” and “Occasional” are highly subjective*)



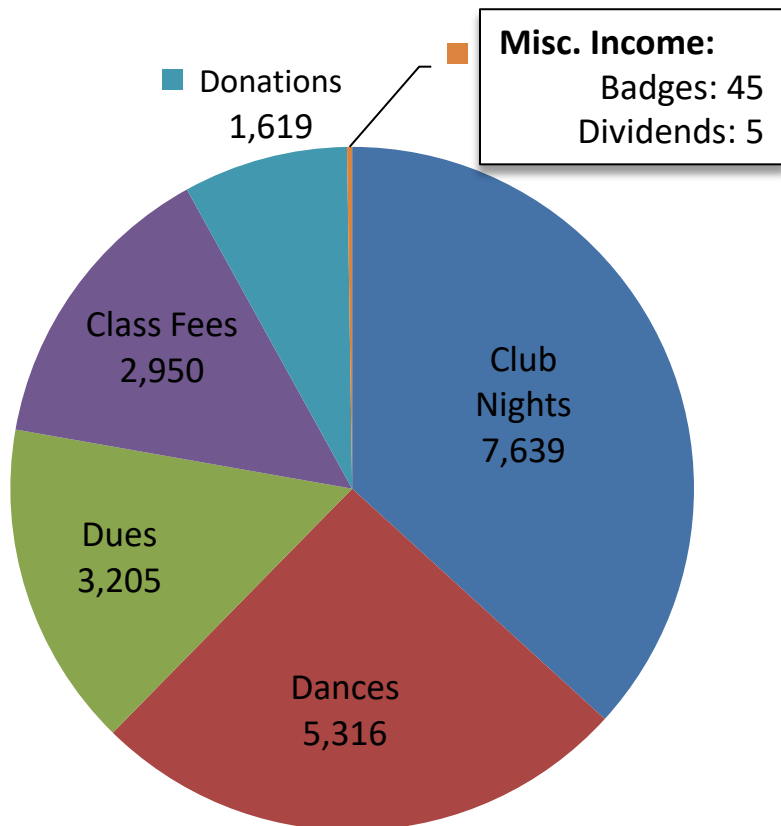
# Quarterly Dances



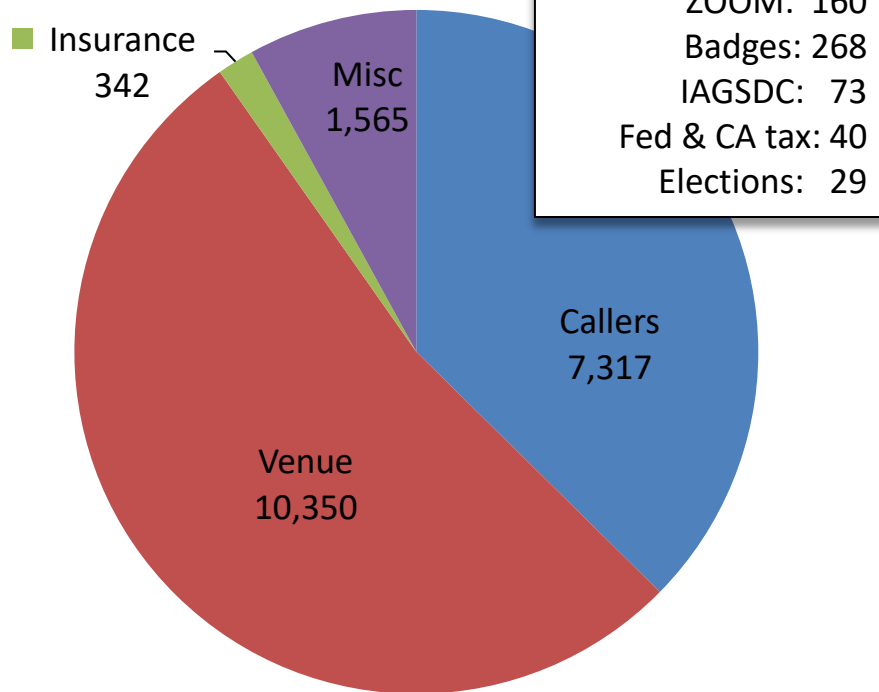


# 2024 Income & Expenses

**Income: \$20,779**



**Expenses: \$19,574**



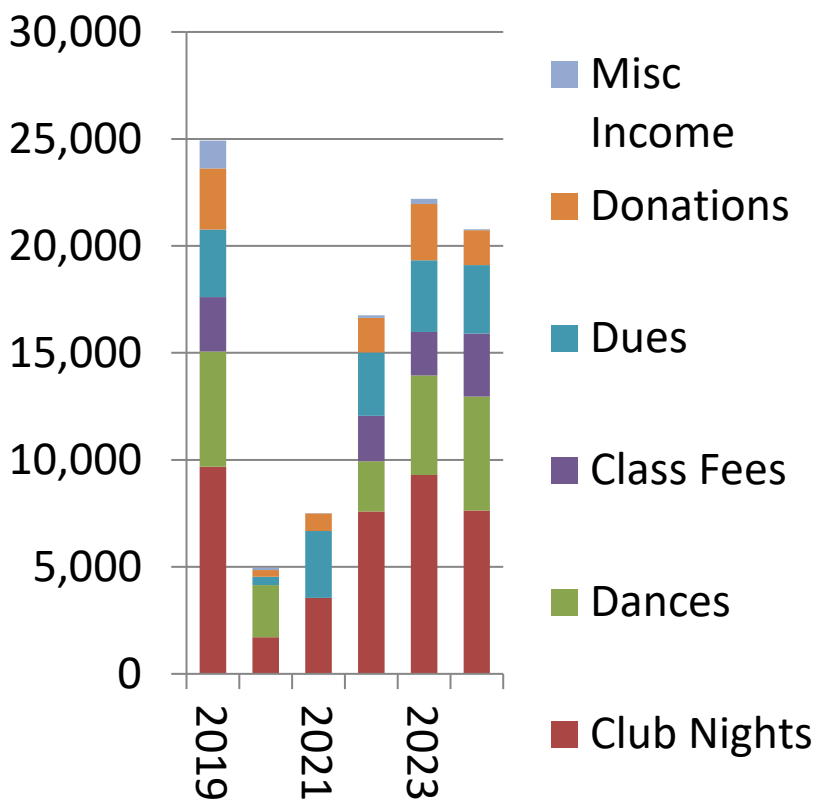
**Net income: \$1205**



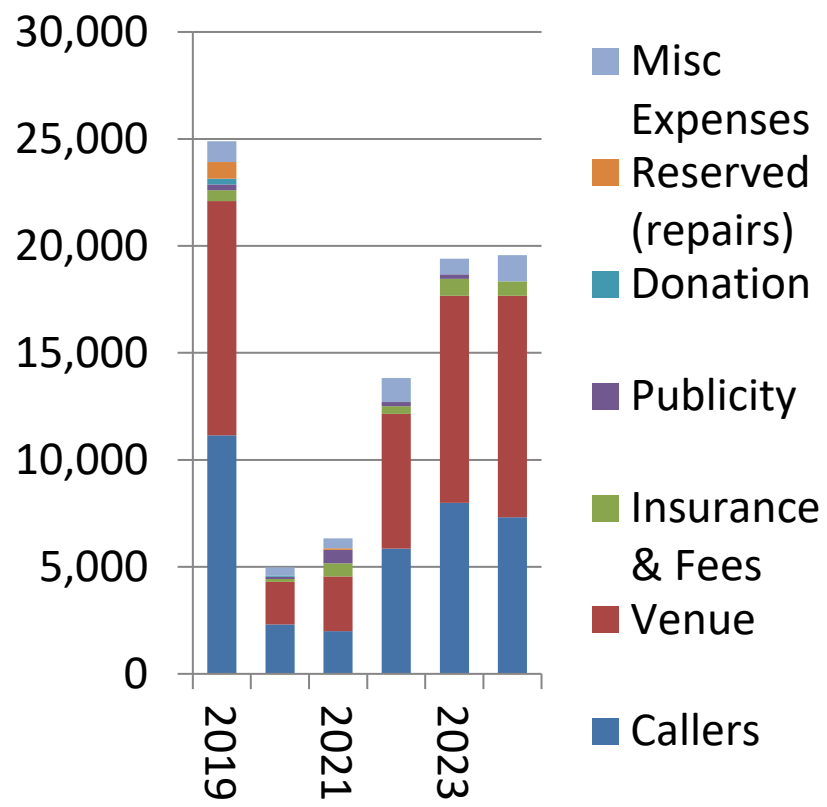
# Income and Expenses

Stabilizing after the pandemic

Income



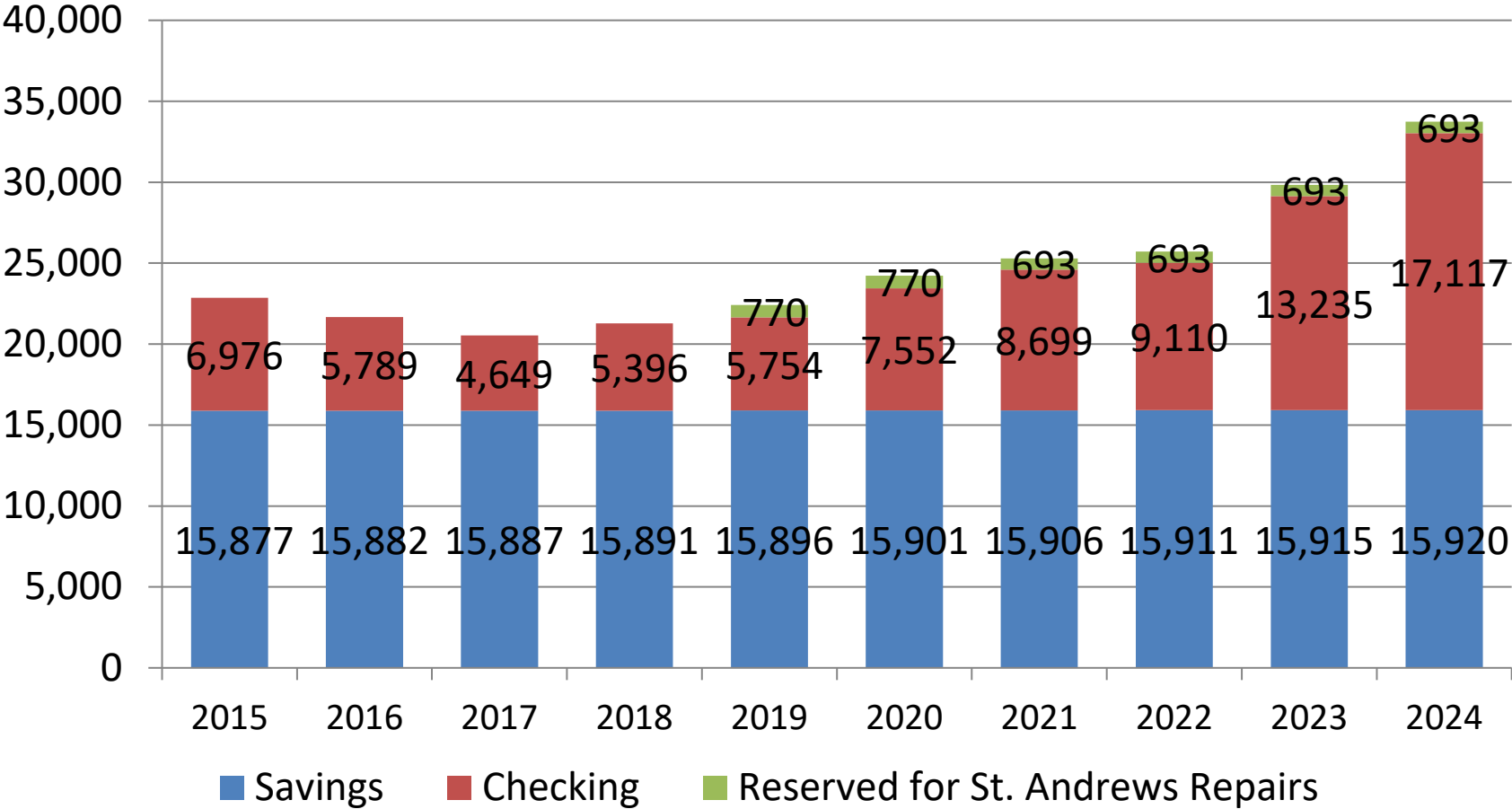
Expenses





# Balance Sheet

As of the end of our fiscal year (Sept. 30)



**Net worth as of 9/30/24: \$33,730**



Every February

**Board Elections (and more ways to  
help)**



# The ECR Board

- Michael Golden (2023-25): President
- Oliver Vogel (2024-26): Secretary
- Ed Wilson (2023-25): Treasurer
- Jeff Alder (2023-25): Member at Large
- Rob Howe (2024-26): Member at Large
- Pete Levins (2024-26): Member at Large



# About the Board

- Board members serve for 2-year terms
- Monthly meetings open to all ECR members – just ask!
- Minutes posted at [www.reelers.org/ClubInfo/ECRBoard.html](http://www.reelers.org/ClubInfo/ECRBoard.html)
- All ECR members can vote and are encouraged to run for the Board

**Class planning**

**Dance planning & promotion**

**Finances & insurance**

**Venue management**

**Caller wrangling**

**Relations with other clubs**

**Elections & bylaws**

**Special events**

**Etc...**



# Retiring Board Member

- **Jeff Alder** is stepping away from the Board – thank you for all your work for ECR!



*(He's still handling the Club Logo Merchandise program)*



# 2025 Board Elections

- **Three seats** open in February
- **Two board members** running again
  - Michael Golden
  - Ed Wilson
- We are looking for **more candidates**
- We are using a secure online voting system (ElectionBuddy.com)
  - Ballot notices will be sent out **February 11** to each paid-up member's email address
  - Results will be announced **February 25**



# You can help

Even if you don't want to serve on the board, there are lots of ways to help the club

- Volunteer to help at dances & Blast classes
- Staffing the ECR booth at Pride events
- Follow up with prospective new dancers
- Host an out-of-town caller
- Outreach to LGBTQ community and workplace organizations



# More ways to help

- Class coordinator
  - Follow up with students who missed class
  - Communicate issues raised by students
- Club “stepmother”
  - Recognize birthdays etc.
  - Check in with missing members
- Social organizer (for non-dance events)
- And more... just ask!



What's in store for ECR

**Coming in 2025**



# Our Goals

Three main goals for the club:

1. To increase membership
2. To increase the dancing strength of our members
3. To continue the feeling of family amongst our members



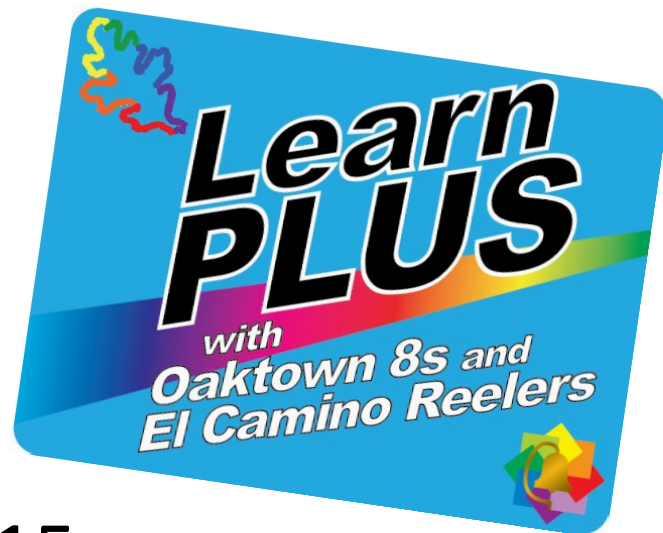
# Our Classes

## SSD-to-Plus Blast class

- Partnering with Oaktown 8s
- Four Saturdays starting Feb. 15
- Currently at 12 students
- Angels needed! (*and dance FREE*)

## Beginner class

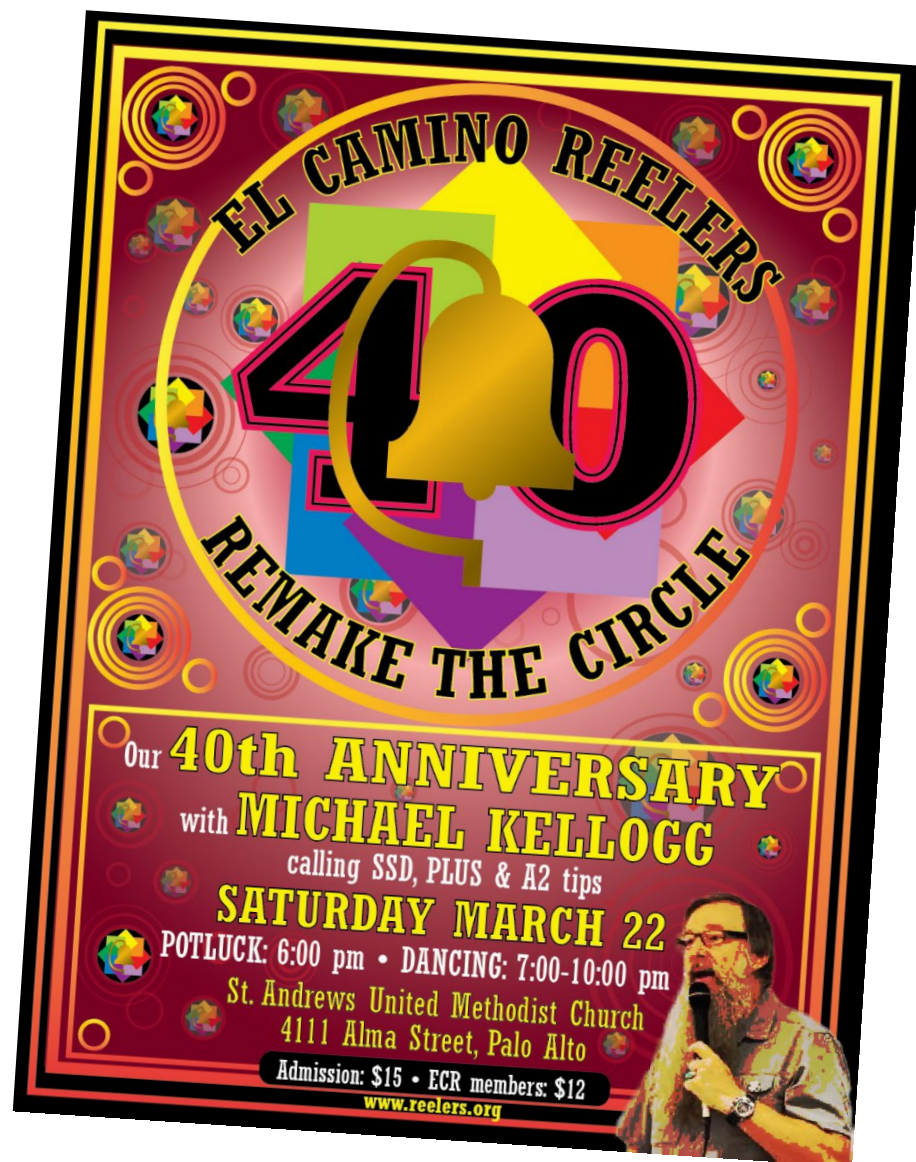
- TBA for late summer/early fall
- Open House nights (April, June, August)
- Tell your friends!





# 2025 Dances

- **March 22:** ECR 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dance and Potluck with Michael Kellogg
- **May 3:** Barry Clasper
- **Aug. 23:** Darren Gallina
- **Nov,1:** Halloween Ball with Buddy Weaver
- Potlucks, Picnics & Tea Dances!





# ECR logo apparel

- **T-shirts and other ECR logo apparel will go on sale in March**
- April 15 order deadline
- Delivery in late May
- See the Merchandise page on [www.reelers.org](http://www.reelers.org). Prices and items are not final yet.
- Questions? See Jeff



# Pride Events

We will be dancing (and staffing booths) at

- June 7: Mountain View Pride *(new)*
- June 14: San Mateo County Pride
- Other Pride events TBD





# 2025 IAGSDC Convention

- In **San Francisco** July 3-6 at the Marriott Marquis
- Special discount rate for first-timers
- Sign up and reserve your hotel room now!

<https://hitchhikeacrossthegalaxy.com>





The Board would like to thank...

# Acknowledgments



# Thanks to our Club Callers...

- Dave Decot
- Kurt Gollhardt
- Michael Levy
- Mike Pogue
- James Thompson



*Special thanks to Kurt for managing the club caller schedule*



# Richard Wegener

- Richard Wegener passed away July 13, 2024 from complications related to a fall.
- Richard and Mary Jane joined ECR in 2012. They belonged to many other local square dance clubs.
- They were married for 45 years.



# Club History Project

- We want to acknowledge **long-term members** with an **anniversary bar** to hang from your badge – 5, 10, 15 years...
- If you haven't done so already, **please verify** with Eric Hudson that your membership dates are accurately recorded.



# 2025 Longevity Awards

## 40 Years

- Bob Kanefsky
- Stewart Kramer
- Frank Yellin

## 20 Years

- Kurt Gollhardt
- Susan Grieger
- Pete Levins

## 15 Years

- Lynn Ashmall
- René Drolet
- Steven Higaki

## 10 Years

- Frank Krause
- Don Margolin
- Hank Winkenwerder
- Sheri Winkenwerder



# And many thanks to...

- Everybody who brings food
- Everybody who helps out at dances (decorations, 50-50 raffle, cleanup)
- Everybody who attends Board meetings (*just ask!*)
- The Election Committee and other volunteers
- All our **generous** donors

**... AND ALL OUR DANCERS!**



# ANY QUESTIONS?



# THAAAANK YOU!!

