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American Square Dance, April 2008

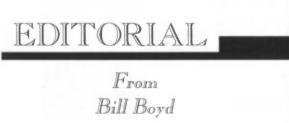


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### AMERICAN SQUAREDANCE Volume 63 Number 5 May 2008

"The International Magazine of Square Dancing"

**Publishers/Editors** William and Randy Boyd Cartoonist Corben Geis





When doing public speaking seminars I frequently use this story. "A refrigerated truck driver was taking a load of penguins to the zoo. When he experienced mechanical difficulties on the highway and called for repairs and a tow, he found that it would be over several hours before either would arrive. Fearful that the penguins would suffer without the cooling effect of his refrigeration the trucker got on his CB radio and called another trucker for assistance and help soon arrived. He told his fellow trucker, I will give you three hundred dollars to take these penguins to the zoo. The other trucker said he would, and left immediately. After a long delay, the first trucker was towed into town for repairs and lo and behold, he saw the other trucker walking down the street with several penguins trailing behind.

He stopped him and said, "I thought I asked you to take these penguins to the zoo!"

"I did", he replied. "I had money left over so now I am taking them to a movie."

I try and remember this story when ever I am teaching a class. What you say and what people hear may be two different things. We as instructors must always keep in mind, if the student doesn't understand what we are teaching, we must find another way to tell, show, demonstrate or write out for their edification. Many square dance instructors start by giving the definition of a call and then expanding on that definition. We must understand, if the student does not grasp your call from the way you explained it, he probably will not understand the call if you repeat



what you said the first time. You must find (it is usually best to be prepared in advance) other ways of showing, telling or having the dancer experience the call. One of the most enjoyable things any teacher of any subject taught is seeing success in their students. Whether teaching dancing, speaking, algebra or English, seeing the satisfied look of success on our students is all the praise we need.

# CALLERLAB VIEWPOINTS

By Mike Seastrom



### **Dress Code**

The debate has raged on for many years during meetings, at dances, festivals, and conventions about the dress code in today's square dance activity. I looked back on the CALLERLAB website and found a CALLERLAB Position Paper approved at the 2000 CALLERLAB Convention and sent out as a press release later that same year.

The Position Paper came from documents and discussion that originated from LEGACY and The National Council of Square Dance Organizations. These leadership organizations were the more complex predecessors to the current alliance of nationally recognized dance organizations called ARTS or Alliance of Round, Traditional, and Square Dance.

I personally think this position paper is still valid and says it all in a very concise manner. Until we come up with a better idea, I'd like to revisit the subject again and review its most important points.

It mentions three broad categories of dress. Traditional, Proper and Casual Attire are all general choices that can be considered for each event or individual sessions at larger events.

The most important point of this Position Paper in my mind is the following: We encourage clubs and leaders who run dances and weekend festivals to specify traditional attire, proper attire, or casual attire to their individual dances, sessions, and events.

It's the choice of those that organize and run the event to choose the "attire" and enforce it as they choose. If there is a preference of the majority of dancers toward a certain type of attire, those events will stay popular and succeed enough



to continue to exist. If certain attire is not preferred, then the events adhering to that attire will not continue.

What I've actually seen in the last eight (8) years is a very slow evolution of our attire to more casual wear at daytime events while traditional attire remains more popular in the evenings. I think we'll continue to see more evolution in this area and I sincerely hope that we also see a continued increase in tolerance and acceptance as our activ-

ity continues to evolve and change as it has for more than a hundred years.

I believe we have many more important issues to resolve and that, in spite of over-simplified single solutions offered by some, we have many areas that need overhauling before we see a real rise in our numbers again.

Ballroom dancing is exceptionally popular today and not inexpensive to participate in. That tells me people still want to dance. We need to find a way to professionally market an updated square and round dance product that will fit the more complex life styles of today and tomorrows population.

This is the most current position paper for use by dance and event organizers. I think it still works!

#### Dress Code CALLERLAB Position Paper (December 1999)

During the 2000 CALLERLAB con-

## The Foundation

For the Preservation and Promotion of Square Dancing

The Foundation's purpose is to support the funding of projects that will preserve and promote square dancing.

To be considered for the funding, projects must first protect the heritage of the activity and contribute to it's growth. The projects must also emphasize the social, physical and mental benefits of square dancing. The Foundation also works to increase public awareness of the activity by showing the fun and fellowship that makes square dancing a popular recreation today.

The Foundation is registered with the Internal Revenue Service as a 501(C)(3) corporation and depends on private contributions, public grants and endowments for its operating capital.

In order to ensure that the American folk art of square dancing will continue to flourish, the Foundation solicits your support through your tax-deductible contributions.

For additional information, contact the Foundation Office at (321) 639-0039.

vention in Las Vegas, Nevada, a Position Paper on a proposed dress code was presented to the membership for a vote. This Position Paper was approved by the convention attendees. The vote to approve the Position Paper was not rescinded by the membership during a mail ballot on this issue. The following is that Position Paper.

For many years now square dance leaders have debated the issue of square dancing attire. In 1991 LEGACY adopted a resolution to update the dress code and provide guidance and flexibility in the choices of dress and skirt style. The resolution considered square dance image problems, general preference for more comfort in recreational wear and the high cost of square dance attire as primary reasons for change. The National Council of Square Dance Organizations (NCSDO) has proposed modifying the definition of square dance attire and presented this proposal for consideration. Many organizations have been debating this issue and there seems to be strong sentiment on each side.

The CALLERLAB Board of Governors has debated the issue and realizes that there exists a great potential for dividing dancers by mandating a more relaxed square dance attire to all participants and events. Therefore, CALLERLAB recommends the following compromise to the issue of square dance attire:

Whereas, "traditional" square dance attire provides a connection to the history of our activity, adds to the visual enjoyment of participants and spectators, enhances individual dancer styling included in individual calls, and provides for the protection and mutual comfort of dancers (i.e., shoes, long sleeved shirts, etc.), we support the choice of dancers, clubs and festivals selecting "traditional"

# CALLERLAB ACCREDITED CALLER COACHES

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Jerry Story 4394 Jona	than Creek Rd, Waynesville, NC 28785, 956 358-3888
	52 Crest Dr., Greeneville, TN 37745, 423 638-7784
The + in front of non U.S. numbers indicates	that the appropriate overseas code (011 from U.S.) must be used

as appropriate attire.

Whereas, traditional attire can at times be an inconvenience to dancers, and even deter people from joining and/or participating altogether, we support the choice of dancers, clubs and festivals selecting the NCSDO proposal of "proper" square dance attire, which would include dress slacks and dress jeans for men and women and short sleeved dress shirts for men. It should be noted that even if an event is advertised as "proper" attire, "traditional" attire is always appropriate.

Whereas, proper attire may allow for a myriad of choices, there may be times when traveling, weather and other conditions would discourage dancers from following either traditional or proper dress codes. In that event, leaders are encouraged to advertise those dances/sessions/festivals, etc. as "casual" attire. It should be noted that if an event is advertised as "casual" attire, "traditional" and "proper" attire are always appropriate.

We encourage clubs and leaders who run dances and weekend festivals to specify "traditional attire," "proper attire," or "casual attire" to their individual dances, sessions, and events. We further support a policy of tolerance and encourage all square dance leaders and participants to embrace the joys of friendship, sociability, and fun, first and foremost in whatever extent of participation they enjoy.

### 57th National Square Dance Convention

"Promenade On The Prairie" Wichita, Kansas – June 25-28, 2008

#### **REGISTER NOW**

Don't wait to register until the last

minute. Registration fees increase June 1, 2008, to \$60 per person.

Registration Trivia: Many dancers believe attendance information is transferred from previous conventions. WRONG! The only personal information the 57th NSDC has is what you tell us on your Registration form. Some dancers are interested in having the correct number of conventions previously attended recorded on their badge. If this information is not included on your form, your badge will show a zero, compliments of the computer.

Registration Trivia: To print the label for your Convention Badge, your registration information in the database must be completed. The completion process begins with the return of your full Registration Form. There are still several hundred dancers who need to "convert" their Pre-Registration by completing the full Registration Form.

PRE-REGISTERED DANCERS: DON'T DELAY sending in a full Registration Form because you don't know your registration number. Give Registration your name and the computer finds the number! Send in the completed full Registration Form today.

Registration forms may be downloaded from the 57th NSDC Webpage www.57nsdc.com. Registration's fax number, 1-785-215-6684, is available for use, also. Registrations may be contacted at registration@57nsdc.com for any concerns.

Don't miss an event at the 57th National Square Dance Convnetion<sup>®</sup>! Order your Program Book now!

#### **CONVENTION FACILITY**

The 57th National Square Dance Convention<sup>®</sup> will utilize three facilities for dancing and meetings. A state-of-the-art facility, the Century II Performing Arts

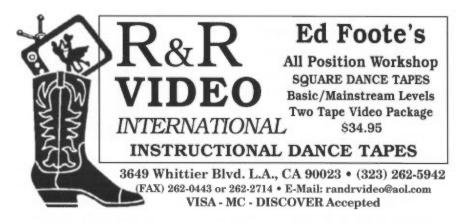
and Convention Center, has a large square building and a round building connected by a glassed-in lobby.

The connecting lobby will serve as the Center's general entrance. The area will house the booths of general information, tours, and visitor's information.

The round building contains Convention Hall, with 35,000 square feet and a stage. The Hall will be used for the Wednesday Night Special Event and Plus Dancing. Located also in the round building is a 45,000 square foot







Exhibition Hall with a stage, where Mainstream dancing with the Ghost Riders Band is scheduled. The Exhibition Hall Balcony will house the Showcase of Ideas. The Round Building's two beautiful theaters will be used for the Fashion Show, Bid Session, Showcase of Rounds, and the Keynote Speaker.

The 96,000 square foot Expo Hall, located in the square building, will house Registration, Ways and Means, Vendors, and a large Food Court. Clogging, Country Western Dancing and Line Dancing will be located in this area.

The Hyatt Regency Wichita Hotel, a newly remodeled 303-room facility, is connected to the Century II Convention Center by an easy, comfortable indoor walk. Rooms between the two facilities will be used for Mainstream with Rounds, Plus with Rounds, Contra, Advanced, Challenge, Youth, and Handicapable Dancing. The Educational Panels, Clinics and Sew and Save rooms are located in the connected facilities.

The Broadview Hotel, a registered National Historic Landmark, is located directly across the street from Century II, within easy walking distance. The Broadview's three large ballrooms will be used for all levels of Round Dancing, the Round Dance After Parties and Trail End Dance.

The two large halls in Century II have Terrazzo floors, and the other dance areas will have special flooring. There will be NO DANCING ON CARPET!

With large, visible signs, Kansas has made sure that visiting dancers are not left standing around when they want to dance. After you have danced your feet numb, there will be plenty of water, tables and chairs available for relaxing and refreshing.

Come dance with us at the 57th National Square Dance Convention<sup>®</sup> in Wichita, June 25-28, 2008. Dancers will be dancing in one of Kansas' most spacious, convenient Convention facilities. It's going to be "A Great Party."

#### **EMERGENCY PHONE NUMBER**

The Emergency Number for the 57th National Square Dance Convention<sup>®</sup> will be 1-316-219-9810. This number will be answered during the entire Convention. Messages for dancers will be posted on a bulletin board near the Registration Area in the Century II Performing Arts and Convention Center.

Tom Rudebock 4551 Grafton Road, Leetonia, Ohio 44431 330-427-6358 - trudesdc@localnet.com

All CD's and MP3's are recorded in 3 key unless otherwise noted.

#### Easy Loving (Blue Star BS 2541)

Released by Freddie Fender in 1971. A crooner's delight. Fiddle, piano, steel, guitar, bass and drums. Well placed riffs and runs. Available on vinyl and CD. Hds (Sds) Square Thru, Right Hand Star, Hds (Sds) Star Left Full Turn, R & L Thru, Swing Thru, Boys Run, Half Tag, Swing Corner, Promenade.

Blue Moon Nights (Desert Gold DGR 022) **Betsy Gotta and Tom Miller** Released as a single by John Fogerty, a member of Creedance Clearwater Revival. An upbeat toe tapping duet release. Guitar, keyboard, bass and drums. Try it for patter. Available on vinyl, CD and MP3. Hds (Sds) Promenade Half, Square Thru, Tch 1/4, Scoot Back, Single Hinge, Girls Trade, Recycle, Pass Thru, Trade By, Swing Corner, Promenade,

#### The Unknown Stuntman (Grammophone GP 811)

Theme from "Fall Guy". A modern energetic sound with a guitar, electronic keyboard and percussion with background fill. Key change in closer. Available on vinyl, CD and MP3. Hds (Sds) Promenade Half, Square Thru, R & L Thru, Veer Left, Couples Circulate, Half Tag, Scoot Back 2 X's, Swing Corner, Promenade.

#### Come Go With Me (Gold Wing GWR 117)

Known as the dum dum song. Recorded by the Del Vikings in 1956. Electronic keyboard, sax, piano and guitar with gentle percussion. Background vocals. Available on vinyl, CD and MP3. The CD has an extra track without the melody line. Hds (Sds) Promenade Half, Square Thru, R & L Thru, 8 Chain 6, Swing Corner, Promenade.

#### Coal Miner's Daughter (Hi Hat HH5287)

A cover of a hit recorded by Loretta Lynn in the late 70's. Electronic sound with a guitar, piano stylings, bass and percussion. Available on vinyl and CD. Recorded in one key. Hds (Sds) Flutterwheel, Sweep 1/4, Pass Thru, DoSaDo, Swing Thru, Spin the Top, R & L Thru, Square Thru 3, Swing Corner, Promenade.

#### Honky Tonk Walkin' (Royal RYL 531)

A Kentucky Headhunters release in the 90's. Bright country swing from a sax, fiddle, guitar, piano, bass and percussion. Answering chases contribute to a full

## Lottie Ainsworth

Larry Letson

#### Horst Sackl

Lorne Clayton

## 11



### Jerry Story

sound. Signature Royal music. Available on vinyl. Hds (Sds) Square Thru, Right Hand Star, Hds (Sds) Star Left to the Same 2, Right Hand Star Half Way, Veer Left, Ferris Wheel, Pass Thru, Swing Corner, Promenade.

#### In The Sweet By And By (Royal RYL 1206)

Upbeat Southern Gospel sound written in 1868. Fiddle, mandolin, dobro, guitar and bass with just enough percussion. A full sound. Available on vinyl. 4 Ladies Chain, Hds (Sds) Promenade Half. Lead Right, Circle To A Line, Star Thru, 8 Chain 3, Swing Corner, Promenade.

#### Las Vegas (Sting SIR 365)

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A cover of a hit released by Tony Christie in 1970. Muted horns, banjo, fiddle, percussion, harmonica, piano, steel and bass with lots of chases for a full sound. A real toe tapper. Available on vinyl, CD and MP3. The CD has an extra track with an extended intro. Hds (Sds) Pass Thru, Separate Around 2 to a Line, Tch 1/4, Boys Run, Swing Thru, Spin the Top, R & L Thru, Flutterwheel, Sweep 1/4, Swing Corner, Promenade.

### I'm Telling You Now (Sting SIR 372)

A cover of a Billboard Hot 100 #1 single in 1965 by Freddie and the Dreamers. Guitar stylings, bass, piano, sax, and percussion. About half way up the energy scale. Available on vinyl, CD and MP3. *Hds (Sds) Square Thru, Swing Thru, Boys* 

#### ALLERLAB International Association of Square Dance Callers Established in 1974 World wide dance programs Membership of over 2,000 callers (U.S., Canada and 15 foreign countries) · Convention once a year callers from all over the world discuss the activity see what is going on in other parts of the world get better understanding of the Square Dance Activity interest sessions for all callers and their partners individual voice sessions social gatherings · Full line of publications for the beginner caller and the accomplished caller Scholarship programs Association Affiliate membership available equipment insurance liability insurance education grants For further information contact: Jerry Reed, Executive Director 467 Forrest Avenue, Suite 118, Cocoa, FL. 32922 Phone: 321-639-0039 • Fax: 321-639-0851 E-mail: Callerlab@aol.com; On The Web: www.callerlab.org

### Paul Bristow

**Patty Greene** 

### Paul Bristow

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Run, Couples Circulate, Wheel & Deal, 8 Chain 3, Allemande Left, Swing Corner, Promenade.

I'm Rolling In My Sweet Baby's Arms (Tar Heel TAR 169) Reggie Kniphfer A cover of tune written by Buck Owens and recorded by Tammy Wynette and Flatt & Scruggs among others. Dixieland flavor on the oldie from an electronic keyboard, banjo, piano, bass fiddle, clarinet and percussion. Key change in closer. Available on vinyl, CD and MP3. Hds (Sds) Promenade Half, Pass the Ocean, Extend, Swing Thru, Boys Run, Bend the Line, R & L Thru, Pass the Ocean, Recycle, Swing Corner, Promenade.

#### You Put The Beat In My Heart (Unicorn UR 401) Lorenz Kuhlee

An electronic arrangement with an easy tempo. Thin melody line. Try it for patter. Available on vinyl, CD and MP3. Hds (Sds) Square Thru, DoSaDo, Swing Thru, Spin the Top, R & L Thru, Square Thru 3, Swing Corner, Promenade.

#### Tie A Yellow Ribbon (ESP 323)

A bright upbeat cover of a Tony Orlando and Dawn hit from 1973. Horns, piano, electronic keyboard, xylophone, strings, banjo, bass and percussion in a well mixed arrangement. A repress. Available on vinyl, CD and MP3. Hds (Sds) Square Thru, DoSaDo, Swing Thru, Girls Fold, Peel the Top, R & L Thru, Square Thru 3, Swing Corner, Promenade.

#### Long Black Train (ESP 1080)

A cover of a Josh Turner hit that went Platinum in 2004. Rolling rhythm in this gospel number. Guitar, steel, bass, banjo and percussion. Key changes in middle break and closer, A repress. Available on vinyl, CD and MP3. Hds (Sds) Promenade Half, R & L Thru, Flutterwheel, Sweep 1/4, Pass Thru, R & L Thru, Tch 1/4, Split Circulate 2 X's, Swing Corner, Promenade.

#### **Over The Mountains (Grammophone GP 104)**

Guitar stylings and electronic keyboard. Thin melody line. Lots of energy. Available on CD and MP3. The CD has a vocal track in German. Standard Ferris Wheel figure.

#### Me And My Shadow (Sting SIR 112)

A cover of an Al Jolson hit recorded by Frank Sinatra, Perry Como and others. An upbeat mix of fiddle, piano, horns, guitar, bass, harmonica and percussion for a full sound. A toe tapper. Available on vinyl, CD and MP3. Hds (Sds) Square Thru, Tch 1/4, Split Circulate, Walk & Dodge, Partner Trade and Roll, Swing Thru, Recycle, Swing Corner, Promenade.

You Were On My Mind (Square Tunes ST 1039) Mary Castleberry Reached #5 on the Billboard Chart in 1965. Piano, electronic keyboard, bass, guitar and percussion. Chases make a fuller sound. Available on CD and MP3. Hds (Sds) Square Thru, DoSaDo, Swing Thru, Boys Run, Couples Circulate, Chain Down the Line, Square Thru 2, Trade By, Swing Corner, Promenade.

#### American Square Dance, April 2008

#### Elmer Sheffield

#### Stefan Sidholm

Joe Kromer

Tom Miller

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Hoedowns Heave-Ho (C Bar C CBC 610) David Cox

Upbeat, cheery piano stylings with a guitar, bass and percussion. David calls challenging Plus on the vocal track. The CD has an extended track. Available on CD and MP3.

#### Tempest / Blue Note (Blue Star BS 2540)

Tempest has a rhythm Bluegrass flavor with a banjo, bass and percussion. Blue Note is a modern upbeat electronic sound. Available on vinyl and CD. The CD has extended tracks.

Recordings reviewed are supplied by Hanhurst's Tape & Record Service 800-328-3800

# Al Stevens

A cover of a hit by the Andrews Sisters among others. A ragtime sound that says let's dance. Cheery music with appropriate percussion. Recorded in one key. Key change in closer. Available on vinyl, CD and MP3. Hds (Sds) Tch 1/4, Boys Run, Box the Gnat, Swing Thru, Girls Trade, Girls Run, Ferris Wheel, Swing Thru, Scoot Back, Swing Corner, Promenade.

### I'm From The Country (Blue Star BS 2531)

Hello My Baby (Blue Star BS 2507)

A cover of a Tracy Byrd hit in the late 1990's. A country mix from a guitar, fiddle, bass and percussion. Recorded in one key. Available on vinyl, CD and MP3. Standard Ferris Wheel figure.

### Come Monday / County Mounty (Dance Ranch DR 1118)

Written and recorded by Jimmy Buffett in 1974. Flute, piano, electronic keyboard and percussion in a smooth arrangement. Available on CD. Recorded in one key. Hds (Sds) Square Thru, DoSaDo, Swing Thru, Boys Run, Ferris Wheel, Double Pass Thru, Track II, Swing Corner, Promenade.

County Mounty is an extended track hoedown. Banjo, steel, guitar, bass and gentle percussion.

Darrin Keith

**Buddy Weaver** 



#### Annie Romp 1 / Annie Romp 2 (Pioneer PIO 5048)

Annie Romp 1 has a traditional sound with a fiddle and piano. Annie Romp 2 has a traditional sound from a fiddle, bass, banjo and drums. Available on CD and MP3.

#### Sweet 'N' Sour / Lemon Drops (Snow SNW 504)

Sweet 'N' Sour features strings, a steel, piano and percussion with an occasional minor modulation. Smooth.

Lemon Drops is a cheery electronic sound with a good beat. Available on vinyl, CD and MP3. Recorded in one key.

#### Cripple 1 / Cripple 2 (Square Tunes ST 2057)

Cripple 1 has a traditional sound with a fiddle, guitar, bass and drums Cripple 2 features a banjo, bass, guitar and drums. Available on CD and MP3.

#### Nice And Gentle (TNT 147)

A rhythm hoedown from a guitar, bass and percussion. Availabel on vinyl, CD and MP3. Al calls Mainstream on the vocal track including the 'track & trade' experimental.

#### Polk Salad (Blue Star BS 122)

A traditional sound from a fiddle, banjo and drums. Buddy calls Mainstream on the vocal track. Available on MP3. For vinyl order Blue Star 1863.

The number of releases is down but a lot of quality recordings. Check them out. It was great to meet and visit with many of you at the recent CALLERLAB Convention. Keep recruiting and until next month keep it FUN.

"Circle to the left", this basic square dance call was used as the "This & That" Squares entertained at the DeGraff Nursing Home in North Tonawawok, New York. This western New York Square Dance Club consists of members from many clubs. The photo consists of dancers from: Cheektowkea, New York; Buffalo, New York; North Tonawawok, New York; and Niaheaka Falls, New York.

American Square Dance, April 2008

# r Blue Star 1863.

Al Brundage

**Buddy Weaver** 



### Mrs. LaVern

#### Lyons, Colorado, Square Dancer Honored For 50 Years!

Mrs. LaVern M. Johnson of Lyons, Colorado, will be honored at the "LaVern's" Dance by the Northeast Council of Colorado on Saturday, May 31, at the Longmont Senior Center, Longmont, Colorado, with Roger Schappell, Caller, and Bill Holm, Cuer. Rounds and Squares celebrating "50 Years" of dancing. She is being honored for sponsoring the Red Rock Ramblers Square Dance Club, with dances held every Saturday night throughout the summer, June thru Labor Day, at the Lyons Elementary Gym in Lyons, Colorado, for the past 50 years.

Mrs. LaVern and her husband, also LaVerne (with an "e") were first exposed to square dancing in September of 1958, when her aunt and uncle, Bud & Frances Emmerling of San Diego, Calif. came to visit. They had just learned, and, of course, were anxious to find a square dance. The Johnson's found a dance for them at Frank Lane's near Estes Park. They soon saw an article that Vaughn Parrish, local and famous caller, (who passed away last June) was teaching a beginner's square dance class in Longmont. The LaVerne's attended, and had so much fun, they went home and started their own club. They had eleven squares of beginners, and named themselves the Red Rock Ramblers, depicting the reddish sandstone from which the town is founded, and the fact that the club members "rambled" from near and far to area square dances.

The club started in the "Hey Day" with up to 40-65 squares ofttimes attending; even with other large square dances in the area. The Red Rock Ramblers have survived throughout the years, and still average 14-20 squares each Saturday throughout the summer.

For many years, they sponsored classes in the fall and Tuesday night dances in the spring, besides the dances every Saturday night throughout the summer. They held a New Year's Eve dance for 14 years; have sponsored youth dancing, floats and dances in area parades and fairs. As the years evolved, they settled on Saturday Square Dances during the summer months, when most area clubs vacation. This gives area dancers a place to go during the summer, and with Lyons, being close to Estes Park, is a few degrees "cooler". The dance hall, the





Lyons Elementary Gym, (used to be the high school gym) holds 40+ squares, with a beautiful wooden floor, big fans, and good acoustics..

The Johnson's have taken the responsibility and appreciation of being able to rent the gym to heart, and have been sponsors the entire 50 years.

Mr. LaVerne passed away in 1997, at which time her son, Jerry, and Gary and Nell Coffey came to the rescue with help to set up. Elvira Glenn, cuer, Ed Glenn's wife, supervises the refreshments served by different clubs each night, who then help clean up.

Mrs. LaVern found it hard to be a "single" after having a partner for 40 years, but square dance friends (Vi and Lynn Andrew) and other have tucked her under their wing each week with a ride to dances throughout the area. They spend the winter months visiting clubs throughout the area, announcing their summer schedule.

The summer dances include professional well known callers and cuers. Their 2008 schedule includes: June 21 - Doug Davis; June 28 - Dave Guille; July 5 - Jerry Haag; July 12 - Tom Roper; July 19 - Jerry Junck; July 26 - Dan Nordbye; August 2 - Ed Kremers; August 9 - Jon and Deborah Carroll; August 16 - Dean Dederman; August 23 - Dee Dee Dougherty; and the Labor Day "Whing Ding" by Lanny Weaklend. The season concludes with a "Plus" dance on Sunday afternoon. Local cuers scheduled are: David Parker, LeRoy Shade, Ed Glenn, Arlin Sample, and Bill Holm.

Throughout the years, dancers have attended from throughout the states and various nations, with the Red Rock Ramblers becoming the "place to dance" in the summer. As dancers converge in Lyons, each Saturday, it helps the town's economy which is much appreciated by area ice cream stores and restaurants, as well there is "camping in the park".

The club motto by Vaughn Parrish has held true for 50 years: "Our Handshake reaches o'er the Mountains and across the Plains, You are Someone Special at Every Dance in Lyons, Colorado".

For Fun and Fellowship, we invite you to square dance in Lyons, Colorado.

American Square Dance will always be happy send you free magazines to give to your graudating class!

# CUE TIPS

Selected by Fran & Jim Kropf



When you are "HOME ALONE" and lonely you will think of many things like "HALF HEAVEN HALF HEARTACHE III"

### **Home Alone**

Choreographer: Koy and John Prestridge, 2655 Hemlock Court, Grand Junction, Colorado 81506; Email: jprestridge1@yahoo.com

**Record:** "Home Alone" by 4 Runner, Poloydor 5770407, CD Title 4 Runner ('95) or www.MP3.com; flip of "You Make the Moonlight"

**Rhythm:** Two Step Phase 2+1 (Fishtail) +1 (Parallel Rotating Two Step Unphased)

Footwork: Opposite except as noted

Sequence: Introduction, A, B, Intl, A, B (Modified), B, End Speed: 45 RPM

#### INTRODUCTION

4'-6' Apart M Fcg COH M's R Foot Hooked Beh L on Balls of Feet Sd 2 Stp L & R;; Wk 2; Stomp, Tch;

#### PART A

Two Fwd 2 Stps;; Slo Op Vin 4 to CP/Wall;; Box;; Wk 2; Stomp & Tch; Two Fwd 2 Stps;; Slo Op Vin 4 to CP/Wall;; Box;; Bk Htch 3; Sd Cl Bk to SCAR [No Hands];

#### PART B

Wk 2; Parallel Rotating 2 Stp to fc LOD (w RLOD); Wk 2; Parallel Rotating 2 Stp to Fc Wall (w COH); Scis SCAR & Bjo Checking;; Fishtail; Wk & Fc CP/Wall; L Trng Box;;;; Dbl Htch;;

#### Interlude

Vin Apt & Tog;; Wk 2; Stomp, Tch to SCP;

#### PART A

Two Fwd 2 Stps;; Slo Op Vin 4 to CP/Wall;; Box;; Wk 2; Stomp & Tch; Two Fwd 2 Stps;; Slo Op Vin 4 to CP/Wall;; Box;; Bk Htch 3; Sd Cl Bk to SCAR [No Hands];



#### PART B (MODIFIED)

Wk 2; Parallel Rotating 2 Stp to fc LOD (w RLOD); Wk 2; Parallel Rotating 2 Stp to Fc Wall (w COH); Scis SCAR & BjoChecking;; Fishtail; Wk & Fc CP/Wall; L Trng Box;;;; Bk Htch 3; Sd Cl Bk to SCAR [No Hands];

#### PART B

Wk 2; Parallel Rotating 2 Stp to fc LOD (w RLOD); Wk 2; Parallel Rotating 2 Stp to Fc Wall (w COH); Scis SCAR & Bjo Checking;; Fishtail; Wk & Fc CP/Wall; L Trng Box;;;; Dbl Htch;;

#### ENDING

Vin Apt & Tog;; Wk 2; Twrl 2; Apt, Pt

### Half Heaven, Half Heartache III

Choreographer: Bev Oren, 1043 Santo Antonio Drive #141, Colton, CA 92324; BevQsRnds@aol.com
Record: Collectables 3076 "Half Heaven, Half Heartache" by Gene Pitney; flip "True Love Never Runs Smooth"
CD Music: "18 All Time Greatest Hits" by Gene Pitney, Track 4 "Half Heaven, Half Heartache"
MP3 Download: Available through iTunes.com, Wal-Mart.com
Rhythm/Phase: Rumba, ROUNDALAB Phase III+2 (Alemana, Fan)+1 Unphased (Lady Pass w/Inside Turn)
Footwork: Opposite, directions for M (except where noted)
Sequence: INTRO, A, B1-8, Brg1, A, B, Brg2, C, B, END
Time: 2:46 @ 45 RPM or 100% CD Speed

#### INTRO

[BFLY WALL] WAIT; WAIT; SPOT & TIME; TIME & SPOT;



#### PART A

[BFLY WALL] FENCE LINE; CRAB WALKS;; WHIP [R HNDSHK COH]; SHADOW NY'R 3X's;;; WHIP to BFLY WALL;

#### **PART B 1-8**

[BFLY WALL] BASIC to FAN;; ALEMANA to BJO;; WHEEL 6 [BFLY WALL];; SHLDR to SHLDR - DBL;;

#### **BRIDGE 1**

[BFLY WALL] FENCE LINE in 4;

#### PART A

[BFLY WALL] FENCE LINE; CRAB WALKS;; WHIP [R HNDSHK COH]; SHADOW NY'R 3X's;;; WHIP to BFLY WALL;

#### PART B

[BFLY WALL] BASIC to FAN;; ALEMANA to BJO;; WHEEL 6 [BFLY WALL];; SHLDR to SHLDR - DBL;; [BFLY WALL] OP BREAK; UNDER-ARM TRN; LARIAT 3 ~ M TRN fc COH [LOW BFLY COH]; SD WALK 3; [LOW BFLY COH] CHASE 1/4; BK BASIC ~ LADY PASS w/INSIDE TRN to BFLY WALL;

#### **BRIDGE 2**

[BFLY WALL] NEW YORKER in 4;

#### PART C

[BFLY WALL] NEW YORKER; THRU, SERPIENTE;; SPOT TRN to BFLY; HAND to HAND; BREAK BK to LOP RLOD; [LOP RLOD] PROG WALK 3; CUCARACHA to FC [BFLY WALL];

#### PART B

[BFLY WALL] BASIC to FAN;; ALEMANA to BJO;; WHEEL 6 [BFLY WALL];; SHLDR to SHLDR - DBL;; [BFLY WALL] OP BREAK; UNDER-ARM TRN; LARIAT 3 ~ M TRN fc COH [LOW BFLY COH]; SD WALK 3; [LOW BFLY COH] CHASE 1/4; BK BASIC ~ LADY PASS w/INSIDE TRN to CP WALL;

#### END

[CP WALL] SD WALK 3; CRAB WALK 3; SD





By Patrick Demerath

### Are We Cheating the Dancers?

The American Callers' Association in its attempt to be of service to all callers, dancers, and associations has provided current, timely, and effective information on new dancer recruitment, winning ways to retain club dancers, and pitfalls that drive square dancers away. ACA really appreciates the positive comments, encouragement to continue, and contributions from callers and dancers all over North America and abroad to continue these initiatives. ACA will continue to provide information that will help the square dance community recruit, retain and retrieve square dancers as well as encourage the dancers to speak out on the cumbersome and segregationist dance programs.

This month's ACA Viewpoint was sent in by an experienced and very dedicated caller who really understands the beauty and grace of square dancing. The American Callers' Association would like to thank Novis and Evelyn Franklin of Morton, Illinois, for this ACA Viewpoint. It addresses several issues that callers may be short changing the dancers by not teaching the movements by their definitions and by not teaching more than one position for each movement.

Recently Novis Franklin communicated to the American Callers' Association. He wrote: "I love square dancing. If, we as callers do not teach the movements from more than one position, we are cheating the dancers from fun and variety." Novis further believes that if we are not teaching the dancers according to the definition, we are doing harm to the dancers. Novis has been teaching for over 35 years and always teaches by the definitions. Not one dancer every complained about learning that way.

Novis narrates that 2 or 3 years of his 35 years of teaching, he could not get a class together. He did conduct fun nights and sent those dancers to other local clubs who were conducting classes demonstrating his love for square dancing and his love for people.

Novis alleges that some callers think that if they teach too "hard" that the student dancers will not come back. He states that the opposite is true because

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(maybe even stuff we just find interesting). Free issues of American Square Dance are always available for your graduating classes. Just let us know how many and when you want them. – *Randy Boyd, Editor* 

American Square Dance, April 2008

Free Stuff

most students want to learn by the book. If a caller does not teach by the book, why do callers and clubs give student books on square dance movements?

Novis relates to the 1983 Louisville, Kentucky, National Square Dance Jamboree with 30,000 plus dancers attending. I can relate to the 1976 National Square Dance Jamboree in Anaheim, California with 40,000 dancers in attendance. Where all the dancers are now is a big question.



Novis answers the question by using his area of Illinois as an example. "There are three callers who teach in his area. Within a 100 mile radius there are seven more who do not teach. A couple of the callers have not taught in over 15 years. One of the reasons the non-teaching callers offer is that: "I have paid my dues." Novis asks the question: "What if all callers felt like that. Where would square dancing be? (Square Dancingus Extinctus)

In today's square dance world, some very competent national travelling callers, had to get a full time job because calling revenues have dropped along with the number of dancers. One excellent caller even moved to Sweden where square dancing is still in the growth/mature life cycle in order to continue calling full time.

Novis offers this anecdote and I will quote: "If you are one of the lucky callers who teach square dancing especially the American Callers' One Floor program or even the Mainstream program, Keep it Sweet and Simple and Fun. Next look around and see dancers rush to Plus for a little challenge as the prior programs are taught from only one position and soon become boring. If your dancers stay with you, thank them and keep doing the right things." Lastly, Novis believes that if all clubs adopted a one-floor program which would hold two classes each year, the numbers of square dancing would grow once again, but the dancers must be taught more than "plain vanilla" approaches to these wonderful movements. To all callers worldwide and dance organizations worldwide Novis argues: "The ball is in your court."

The Board of directors of the American Callers Association are indebted to Novis and Evelyn Franklin for their communication, and many years of dedicated support and service to square dancing and unanimously encourage and exhort our ACA member callers and other callers to teach movements as they were written, teach more than one approach to the maneuvers, and show patience understanding to their students. Help stop the rush to Plus by teaching better and calling more variety in square dances. Help stop the loss of dancers.

Any individual, club, caller, or association who wishes to communicate his/her opinions on this subject is encouraged to contact the American Callers' Association Loulet@aol.com or Dr. Patrick Demerath at pdemerath@uwa.edu. Please visit our website and newsletters at AmericanCallers.com/news.

Until next time, happy dancing.



### Peek Into a Caller's Record Case

Tac Ozaki began square dancing in 1964 and calling in 1966. Tac joined CALLERLAB in 1979 and has attended eight CALLERLAB Conventions and is currently serving on the Mainstream, Mainstream Definitions, and Overseas Advisory Committees. He has been introducing CALLERLAB's activities to the Japanese square dancers/callers and helping a lot in its standardization work of square dancing in Japan. He is an active member of Tokyo Square Dance Callers Association, and Japan Square Dancers Association.

Tac actively teaches and calls in Japan. Also his calling has allowed him and the Ozakis the opportunity to travel to the United States of America, Republic of Korea, Republic of China, New Zealand and Australia.

Tac gets strong and tremendous support from Katsuko, his wife of more than 35 years, two daughters, Manna and Amy, and one grand daughter, Riho.

#### **Singing Calls:**

A Fool Such As I Blue Ribbon
All Of Me ESP
Be Nobody's Darling But MineCrown
Blue Eyes Crying
In The Rain YAOKO
Blue Ridge Mountain Home ESP
Crazy For Loving You Hi Hat
For The Good Times Crown

#### **Patter Records:**

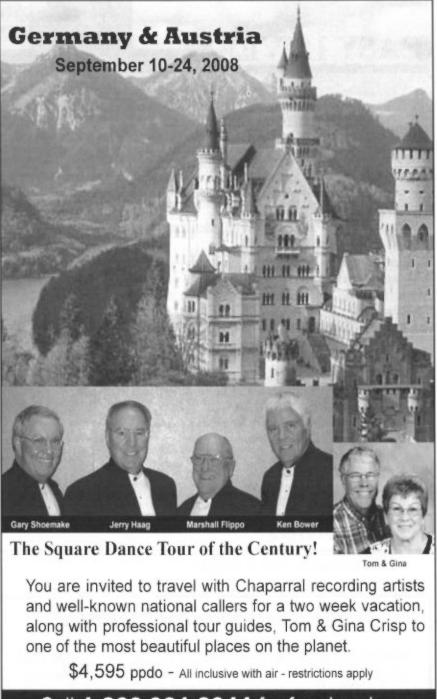
Amy	Old Timer
Bill's Wheels	ESP
Mares Eat Oats	Royal
Piano Pickin'	Red Boot
Rhythm Express	Rhythm
Swedish Hoedown	Sting
Wrong	Rhythm
Yellow Creek	Тор



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Do you have pictures of your convention? Send some to us and we will probably publish them! – Randy Boyd, Editor



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Our first featured offering this month was written by Sheila New of Edmonton, Alberta, Canada. It was published in a book called, "Dancing For Fun", which was authored by the Edmonton Community Dance Committee. Sheila named her dance, the - - -

### Tell My Ma Sicilian Circle

Choreogrphay: Sheila New Formation: Couple facing couple, one facing LOD, other couple facing RLOD, Lady on the man's R. All start LF. Music: "Tell My Ma" – Rankin Family – Fare Thee Well CD Routine: Intro: Wait 8 Beats

#### Beats

1. 8 **STAR LEFT** Touch LHs, fingers pointing up, walk fwd in a full circle;

### 2. 8 TWO LADIES DO SA DO

Pass R shoulders, step to R, back up to place;

- 3. 8 **TWO MEN DO SA DO** Repeat #2 with men;
- 8 CIRCLE LEFT Hands joined with couple across;

#### 5. 8 CIRCLE RIGHT Repeat #4, opp. direction;

#### 6. 8 SWING PARTNER

Social dance position R sides adjacent, walk one time around each other, end with lady on man's R facing in;

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- 7. 8 PASS THRU Pass R shoulders fwd to a new couple;
- 8. 8 STAR RIGHT Repeat #1 opp. hands

Here is a "quick-teach" square dance. It is called - - -

### **Engine Number 9**

Formation: Square

Music: Engine Number 9 Wagon Wheel 913

#### **Routine:**

Opener – mid Brk – Closer

ALL JOIN HANDS, CIRCLE LEFT. GO WALKIN' ROUND THE SET,

ALL THE WAY AROUND YOU'LL GO. WITH CORNER, ALLEMANDE LEFT. PARTNER DOSIDO.

FOUR MEN PROMENADE INSIDE THE RING.

AT HOME, YOUR PARTNER SWING.

SWING PARTNER AND PROMENADE.

A HUNDRED AND TEN MILES AIN'T MUCH DISTANCE, BUT SURE DO MAKE A DIFFERENCE,

ENGINE #9 IS COMING DOWN THE LINE.

COUPLE #1 (#2 - 3 - 4), GO DOWN THE CENTER. SPLIT THE OPPOSITE COUPLE, SEPARATE AND HOME YOU GO. PARTNER DOSIDO. JOIN HANDS, CIRCLE LEFT. GO WALKING ROUND THE SET. REVERSE, SINGLE FILE, LADY IN THE LEAD AND WATCH 'EM SMILE. WITH THE CORNER, ALLEMANDE LEFT, GRAND RIGHT AND LEFT, MEET PARTNER DOSIDO. TAKE PARTNER, PROMENADE THE SQUARE. PROMENADE YOUR LADYFAIR. ENGINE #9 IS COMIN' DOWN THE LINE. (\*\*\*) In this dance, you'll keep your PARTNER. The sequence of the dance is: Opener, cpl 1, cpl 2, mid-break, cpl 3, cpl 4, closer.

Following is a simple circle mixer called the - - -

### **Appalachian Trail Mixer**

Formation: Couples facing CCW (Promenade position) around hall. Lady on Gents Right.

**Music:** Any suitable 64 ct. music...something with a hornpipe is nice. **Routine:** 

#### Intro:

- 1-8 WALK FORWARD 8 STEPS
- 9-16 BOTH TURN LEFT, LADY CHASES MAN (Toward COH 4 steps) MAN CHASES LADY BACK (Man chases Lady 4 steps Toward WALL)
- 17-24 RLOD WALK 8 STEPS (BOTH turn RIGHT walk 8 steps RLOD)
- 25-32 BOTH TURN LEFT, MAN CHASES LADY (Toward WALL 4 steps) LADY CHASES MAN BACK (Lady chases Man 4 steps COH)
- 33-40 SAME COUPLE DOSIDO (Man turns back to Dosido Lady)
- 41-48 TWO-HAND RIGHT HAND STAR
- 49-56 TWO-HAND LEFT HAND STAR
- 57-64 FACE PARTNER, BACK AWAY 4 STEPS DIAGONALLY RIGHT 4 STEPS TO NEW PARTNER

Our contra this month is one written by David Smukler of New York and I thought that the name of the dance befits the flowering bush outside our window. He named it - - -

### Forsythia

Formation: Alternate duple. 1, 3, 5, etc. active and crossed over

- A1 Circle left all the way round Allemande right this neighbor 1-1/2
- A2 Allemande left the next neighbor, make it twice With original neighbor do-si-do
- B1 Balance and swing this neighbor, end facing down
- B2 Down the hall 4-in-line, turn alone Return, couple 2 make an arch and couple 1 dive through



American Square Dance, April 2008





This month, lets' have some fun w/Follow your Neighbor w/2 challenges: 1) different sexes are doing the cast

2) most of the follow your neighbors that follow have no spread after the call Degree of difficulty is hard.

- HEADS pass the ocean extend follow your neighbor & spread boys run star thru spin chain thru turn thru left allemande (1/8 promenade)
- SIDES pass the ocean extend follow your neighbor boys fold GIRLS square thru 3

star thru ferris wheel zoom CENTERS pass thru left allemande (1/4 promenade)

 HEADS pass the ocean & swing thru extend follow your neighbor split circulate girls run bend the line pass the ocean

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boys run promenade (3/8 promenade)

- SIDES pass the ocean & swing thru extend follow your neighbor centers cross run girls trade pass the ocean circulate scoot back right and left grand (3/8 promenade)
- 5. HEADS fan the top extend follow your neighbor boys run pass the ocean scoot back LEFT swing thru right and left grand (3/8 promenade)
- SIDES fan the top extend follow your neighbor

explode the wave boys fold touch 1/4 circulate acey deucey explode & star thru trade by left allemande (1/4 promenade)

- HEADS touch 1/4 & walk and dodge swing thru follow your neighbor circulate boys run star thru trade by single circle to a wave right and left grand (5/8 promenade)
- SIDES touch 1/4 & walk and dodge swing thru follow your neighbor girls trade ENDS load the boat CENTERS pass the ocean

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extend scoot back girls trade split circulate right and left grand (5/8 promenade)

- 9. Heads Zero Lines pass the ocean follow your neighbor boys trade fan the top swing thru spin the top GRAND swing thru explode the wave trade by LEFT square thru 3 right and left grand (at home)
- 10. Sides Zero Lines pass the ocean follow your neighbor circulate girls run pass the ocean circulate split circulate TWICE right and left grand (1/8 promenade)
- HEADS square thru 2 swing thru follow your neighbor girls run

pass thru wheel and deal CENTERS square thru 3 left allemande (1/4 promenade)

- 12. SIDES square thru 2 swing thru follow your neighbor explode the wave 1/2 tag boys trade touch 1/4 walk and dodge partner trade pass thru right and left grand (1/4 promenade)
- 12. HEADS square thru 4 swing thru follow your neighbor split circulate boys run ENDS face in You're home
- 13. SIDES square thru 4 swing thru follow your neighbor girls trade GRAND swing thru linear cycle square thru 3 left allemande (3/8 promenade)



### 5 Tips for Vinyl Record "Virgins"

#### Music Trends are Going "Old School" and for Some it's Their First Time

There's a new trend in the music industry as throngs of young and old, both hipsters and hippies, are ditching their CD's for vinyl records (see the Atlanta Journal's recent article about teens turning to vinyl (www.ajc.com/living/content/living/stories/2008/03/06/vinyl\_0307.html). Many teens and twenty-somethings are just finding out about this 100 year old technology and need a simple "how to" guide to getting that needle in the groove.

Josh Bizar, Director of Marketing at Music Direct (www.musicdirect.com), a company that specializes in everything "analog" says, "Our vinyl sales are up over 300% since 2005. We get tons of high school and college kids calling us every day looking for records and turntables. Since the technology is all new territory for the vinyl virgin, it can be tough getting through that 'awkward stage.'"

#### Josh put together five tips to help vinyl record "virgins" get started:

**Find the Right Turntable** – Used record players are a dime a dozen at garage sales and thrift stores, but a 30 year old record player could have many problems. Make sure you get a really good service tech to get it up and playing properly. There are also countless new turntables on the market today. For an investment of \$300, you can buy an amazing new turntable with 21st century technology that will be perfect right out of the box.

Set Up Your System with Care – Any turntable will need to be properly set-up to get the maximum amount of music out of your record. That means finding someone who knows how to install the phono cartridge (needle) properly to get the most music out of the grooves. Also, make sure you place your turntable on a rock-solid shelf to keep vibrations away.

Look for Quality Vinyl – Thrift shops, garage sales, used record stores and even your uncle's basement are great places to start your vinyl collection. There are also more new LPs pressed today than anytime since the mid-80s. Speciality stores, like Music Direct (www.musicdirect.com), can advise you on all the great music that's available on the best quality new vinyl.

**Take Care of Your Record Collection** – Avoid all those ticks and pops, by removing the decades of grunge from the grooves with a really good record brush and record cleaning fluids. There are even special record cleaning machines that do all the work for you and will vacuum dry the LP so you can play it immediately. Clean records not only sound better, they're much more valuable.

Bring Your Records into the 21st Century – The biggest trend in vinyl right now is taking your records and making them digital. Many newer turntables can connect directly to your computer via USB, and even older, standard turntables can run through a special USB Converter and achieve the same effect. Download some free "ripping" software, like Audacity, and you're ready to put your record collection right on your iPod.

Josh Bizar would be an excellent source to discuss these tips, the vinyl trend in the music industry and all things analog. If you're interested in speaking with Josh or getting more information please contact me.

Sincerely,

Drew Schadegg, TC Public Relations 333 N. Michigan Ave., Suite 2116, Chicago, IL 60601 www.tcpr.net • drew@tcpr.net

### Your Rovin' Corners

Jim and Betsy travel across the US and around the world, dancing and promoting dancing. Each month we share with you our experiences and thoughts. This month we want to talk about the National Square Dance Convention.

After two months of complaining about the National Executive Committee, let me brag a bit about the National Square Dance Convention. Tony Oxendine wrote

to me in high dudgeon about my complaints. To quote him, "The National Square Dance Convention is the Crown Jewel of Square Dancing in the U.S.A." I could not agree with him more. We have been attending the National Convention since 1988 and intend to continue so long as we are capable of doing so. We once came in a small RV, or stayed in the cheap "college dorm" housing, but now want to experience all we can of the event, so we now stay



Jim and Betsy - Your Rovin' Corners

in the closer hotels. Since Wichita is only about 650 miles from Houston, we can drive it in only a couple of days.

There are far too many events happening to tell you about them all. The dancing is great, starts at 10:00am daily and continues until 10:00pm in the evening – plus after parties until midnight! There will be meal breaks, and opportunities to take a break by watching some of the ceremonies or exhibitions. Shopping for square dance stuff is hardly a break, but it is great fun. If there is any thing you need, from petticoats to shoes to custom foot supports to badges, and on, and on, and on – you will find it here!

The hard work of pulling together this great event is enormous. The National Convention is the largest event in the country (world) operated entirely by volunteers. Nobody (and I mean nobody) gets paid. One chairman of a National Convention said that he expected to spend about \$40,000 *out of his pocket* before all was said and done. He also said he retired from his job to take on the chairmanship.

Each year, a city is selected to host a national convention some four years in



American Square Dance, April 2008

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the future. Right now the four are Wichita 2008, Long Beach 2009, Louisville 2010 and Detroit in 2011. Does that mean that each convention committee has four years to put a convention together? Well, hardly, since a future chairman must be selected, and lots of groundwork laid before a bid is even possible. A suitable spot must be found and committed for, along with hotels, transportation and the cooperation and support of local tourist bureaus and governments. Next a small working committee must be selected and a group must attend the National Convention four years out in order to make the presentation. Normally there are several cities seeking a future convention. Other states may make an "intent to bid" for even farther into the future. In general, it is a 7 year commitment for most of the committee.

Here is where the NEC comes in. Each member has a geographical responsibility and must guide a possible future chairman and his or her chief lieutenants through the preparation for the bid. Several members of the National Executive Board will then continue to work with the future chair and the main committee heads, advising, guiding, even insisting they do things in an appropriate way.

Finally the work of actually putting on the convention can start. About a year and a half out a pre-convention is held as a fund-raiser and early run-through of the convention. Committees are filled in, helpers are sought, programs are planned, and advertising and promotion are planned. The NEC can view the halls and rooms and give more advice.

If you have never attended one of these really great events, you have missed one of the best things about square dancing. We hope to see you in Wichita!

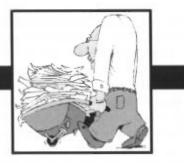
On another front, May is graduation month for many clubs. The newer dancers have been on a year-long learning journey and are ready to be graduate dancers. Does this mean they are "polished" or complete dancers? Hardly! This is the time to bring them into full membership in the club, to cherish them, to welcome them, and teach them something about what is really necessary to run a club. Some clubs see graduation as an opportunity to "haze" or even embarrass the newly minted dancers. NO NO NO! Have them dance with a broom in the square if you must, even perhaps let them play a joke on the caller, but always remember that these newer dancers are the future of your club, and the future of square dancing.

Please feel free to send comments to us at jimbetsy@aol.com. We look forward to dancing with you in the near future.

# FROM THE MAIL ROOM

To whom it may concern;

I would like to add my comments to the response from Ed Foote, specifically to the comment and response concerning callers at the Nationals in Charlotte (March issue).



I agree with Ed that just because a caller is not on a record does not mean he (or she) is not a good caller. Comparing unknowns, or non recording callers to National Callers is like the old cliché "comparing Apples to Oranges" While they (we) may not have the silky smooth voice of Ken Bower, Joe Saltel, or Mike Saestrom, or have choreographic genius of Marshall Flippo, Tony Oxendine, or Bob Baier. I firmly believe there are some very good callers who, if given a chance, could be the next Bower or Oxendine. I also firmly believe that many unknowns don't have the experience the national Callers have. I have been calling for ten years and believe I am a good caller. And like every one, I have good and bad nights. I call full time for two clubs, but comparing my calling schedule and level of experience to a fulltime caller, who calls double or triple that amount is unreasonable.

My point is, that at conventions, and nationals, all callers are on the edge and try hard to be at their best, even the unknowns. Anyone can tell you that knowledge comes from experience. It takes time and experience on stage, and dancers to perfect the skills of smooth chorography, clever get outs, etc. at any level. It also takes conventions, festivals, and a willingness of the dancers to be patient for the unknowns to get noticed. If an unknown is scheduled to call and there are no dancers, because they want to dance to the recording artists, then the unknowns can not hone their skills. So for all of the unknowns out there, I say "give them a break", "give them a chance" and "give them a try." Please understand I am very grateful to both of my clubs, and to all of the clubs who have hired me to call for them. I am also very grateful for all the dancers who show up and let me experiment and learn, and know that after ten years I feel like I am still learning. I am also honored and grateful to the National Callers who have let me call a tip or two with them. I think it helped me to become a better caller. I felt that while I was on stage with them I had to step up my game so to speak.

I would also like to make comment to the article written by Ken Rittuci also in the March issue. Ken made comment that square dancing is not what it was in the days of the 50's, 60's and 70's. I agree it is not. He made a comment that currently there are not the callers and or clubs there were back then. I can only speak from my small corner of the world and I am sure there are some areas that are flourishing! Having said that, when my wife and I got involved with square dancing with our parents in the late 60's and early 70's. We would travel from our home towns in northern California, just a few miles south of the Oregon border, south to Redding, California, and North to Roseburg Oregon, as well as east and

west simply put encompassing the entire north state. There were at that time in my estimate 30 to 40 clubs and possibly as many callers. There are now possibly 10 to 12 clubs with only 6 to 8 callers including myself.

There have been many articles written about what we can do to bring this wonderful past time back. Like many I don't have the answers, but do have some thoughts, which are: In the 50's & 60's, parents took their children with them more and as a result, the children became more involved. I don't think it takes much to realize that times have changed. I believe the unfortunate fact is that the biggest reason for the decline in this activity is due to age, and that there is now a very large gap in the age group who participate in square dancing. Both of my parents as well as my wife's parents have passed away, we do not have children, and at fifty plus do not intend to start one. I believe that in our present time we have made a complete turn around. In most cases, both parents work, and instead of children being involved with parents, parents are now becoming more involved with their children. I believe the trend is for parents to spend more time at sports activities, dramatic events, school and social activities and in today's instant gratification, many kids (and parents), don't have the time or patience for long term classes. Children, now days, seem to be more consumed with what they will do after school and their careers, and for many this involves much more education, unfortunately square dancing is not a career. I think what we need to do is try to get more involved in the public eye. I believe if want people to join us they need to see us. If you want to blame it on TV and computers then do it. But let's try to figure out how to use this to our advantage. Let's try to get on TV programs, on the internet, and show the public that square dancing is not the "hokey" thing people think it is. If we can some how figure out how to get people over that stigmatism, maybe then we will succeed. Both of my clubs are doing the best they can to get in the public eye, by dancing in parades, at fairs, etc., even when I am not available to call due to my normal work schedule of 40 to 50 hours per week. The club in my home town is going to try to get our local high school to participate in Sober Grad night fund raiser and ask the public to come. The catch (so to speak) is for any form of a dollar donation, every one who attends will get a free lesson in square dancing. All of the proceeds will go toward Sober Grad night. I assure you when I call for them I will use their type of music, and it will be high energy and very upbeat! I will donate my time, as will the angels. My hope is that if we can get even one new dancer or one new couple then we have succeeded.

I don't know how to get the general public to understand that square dancing is not only physically challenging, but most importantly, mentally challenging. I am very confident that there are many in the square dance community working hard to keep this wonderful activity alive and well, but firmly believe that we are in a temporary lull. My point to all of this rambling is that, we all agree square dancing seems to be on the decline, we all agree we enjoy square dancing and want to see it flourish again. Maybe what we need is more caller clinics to help and entice new callers. And if possible get more involved in the public eye. As Tony Oxendine said in his address to the 54th National Convention, "Most of my friends are already square dancers". Maybe we need to make new friends, maybe we need to support the new and unknown callers by holding more caller jambo-

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rees, or open mike nights. I say encourage anyone who wants to learn to call, support them just as I have been supported over the past ten years. So what if the new caller can't carry a tune in a bucket so to speak. So what if all the best he or she can do is a singing call. Give them a chance, support them, let them know we need them. I admit I try to run my calling as a business, and do my own promoting, but I assure you that when I call for a private party or event I always let people know where they can learn to square dance, whether it is in my home town or not.

Thank you for your time. *Dean Black, California* 

I have been hearing a lot of conversations and controversy in the last few months about whether we should be using hands up or hands down dancing. This brings to mind the ongoing battle over Square Dance dress. I have been around western Square Dancing since I was six years old tagging along with Mom and Dad to lessons and dances. I took lessons in 1971 at a club in Waterbury Connecticut. At that time we did not dance to levels in separate rooms, we danced as a club. I agree with the concepts of CALLERLAB, standardizing dancing so we might dance anywhere, up to the point it becomes divisive.

Getting back to the point; I went to a festival in a local park recently and brought a square of dancers to do a short demo. Waiting for our turn on stage we watched many groups of dancers doing traditional or folk dances of various nationalities and backgrounds.

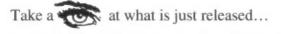
All of these groups wore "Traditional costuming". The belly dancers were dressed as belly dancers, and the groups showing African Dance were also dressed in their Native garb. And yes, we were dressed as Square Dancers. Yet people are pushing to drop Traditional Square Dance Attire at festivals and conventions. This is "our" heritage and tradition, why should we let it go to appease a few? Why after all these years do we have to adopt hands up dancing? We might go to Germany? Is it not American Western Style Square Dancing? If you want to dance hands up as a personal preference go for it, do not tell me I have to change after 37 years to appease a few. If your caller wants to change your club, and your club wants to change, by all means. Let's not forget, the caller works for the club. I know there are a few "National Callers" pushing this also. That does not make it right. If I am hired to call a venue, and that club dances hands up in cutoffs and tank tops, it's not my place to tell them to do it any other way. I do not buy the air conditioning reason either as most venues today are air conditioned, even up north. When you tell me I have to start teaching in Spanish I will be long gone, and if you keep dropping our "Traditions" to please and small few, it won't be far off. When in Germany - do it their way. When I Swing Thru, I will reach for an arm, not a palm. When I attend a Square Dance, I will wear Square Dance clothes. You do not have to agree, likewise I do not have to drop my traditions because a few are making it trendy.

**Roland Morin** 

## On The Record ROUNDS

Ralph & Joan Collipi 122 Millville Street, Salem, NH 03079 (603) 898-4604 – ralph.collipi@Verizon.net





#### **Mexican Wind**

Phase 3+2 (Telemark/Dia. Trn) – Waltz – Album tell Me Why by Jann Browne Track #5 or single download from walmart.com – Ray and Virginia Walz Nice flowing waltz has twinkles, roll across, telemark, canter hover, spin turn, ending is side corte.

#### My Horse Is A Harley

Phase 2+2 (Flare/Str. Vine) – 2 Step – CD: The Country Years by Ronnie Lee Keel Track 1 – Bev Oren

Catchy 2 step. Has traveling box, sliding door, vine and clap sequence, scoot, wrap and unwrap sequence, also has a leg crawl. Ending is twirl 2 and step apart.

#### Hot Stuff

Phase 4+1 (Sweetheart) – Cha Cha – CD: DLD 1098 or Record STAR 235 flip Lara's theme available Palomino Records – Desmond and Ruth Cunningham Looking for a great fun cha – this is it. Music and routine blend very well. Shoulder to shoulder flirt, New Yorker, spot turn, circular vine 7, chase going to tandem with cross check with arms both ways. Ending is apart kick.

#### Jump Jive & Wail

Phase 4 – Single Swing – CD: Ross Mitchell Dancing With Time Track 17 – Michael and Regina Schmidt

Excellent intro to single swing. Suggest you slow down for comfort. Routine is short, fallaway rock, and throwaway, link rock, change places, pretzel turn, shoulder shove, ending is side lunge with arms.

#### La Mentira

Phase 5+1 (Curl) +1 (Switching Alemana) – Rumba – Enrique Chia CD: Sentimental Piano Track #6 - Kenji and Nobuka Shibata

Great music to a very lovely rumba. Dance has bolero rocks. Cuddle with spiral, sync roll out, open hip twist, overturn fan, cuddles, cross body, switch cross to hammerlock, and wrapped X line. Ending is rock side lunge and hold.

Round Dance with Ralph & Joan Collipi Chesapeake Round-E-Vous - Phases 4-5(soft 6) Round dance weekend August 22, 23, 2008 - Chancellors Run Community Center, Great Mills, MD Staff: Dom & Joan Filardo, MD; Ralph & Joan Collipi, NH Contact Joan Filardo 301-862-4928; email: domfil@verizon.net **22nd Annual Holiday Round Dance Ball** - Phase 3-6 - 2 Ballrooms for Dancing December 28-31, 2008 - The Ocean Dunes Resort & Villa's, Myrtle Beach SC Staff: Blackford's, Pierce's & Collipi's (NEW MAPLE HARDVVOOD DANCE FLOOR) Contact: Barbara Harrelson, Email: bharrelson1juno.com **20th Anniversary Bennington College, Round-E-Vous Round Dance Festival** January 23-25, 2009, Bennington College, Bennington, VT Staff: Worlock, FLA; Blackford, AZ & FL; Filardo, MD; Collipi, NH; Contact: Joan Collipi - 603-898-4604; email: ralph.collipi@verizon.net **122** Millville St., Salem, NH 03079-2238 • Ralph.Collipi@Verizon.net • 603-898-4604

#### Sweet T

Phase 2+2 (Str. Vine and Fishtail) -2 Step - Grenn 17025 - Dorothy Sanders Nice basic 2 step, pure vanilla, can be danced to on cues. Has scoot, strolling vine, traveling box.

#### It's What We Love To Do

Phase 2 – 2 Step – Download from Walmart by Statler Brothers – Nancy and Amos Mouser

Basic 2 step with hitch 6, vine sequence, lace sequence, circle chase. Ending is apart point.

#### My Reflection 4 (Mi Reflejo)

Phase 4+2 (Cuddles/Nat.Top +1 Oblique Line) – Rumba – Ballroom CD Artist Latin Unlimited CD Calor Lationo – Al and Carol Lillefield

Music and routine makes you want to dance. Great choreography. Hockey stick, alemana, cuddles, serpiente, fenceline with rec point, both facing wall. Open break, natural top, leg crawl. Ending is sway line and change the sway.

#### No Se Tu

Phase 5 – Bolero – CD Mis Boleros Favoritos Track #4 by Luis Miguel – Jerry and Jetttie Sweat

Looking for a nice basic bolero, this is it. Has fence line with arm sweeps, half moon, cuddles, horseshoe turn, and includes other basic bolero figures.

#### **Taking A Chance On Love**

Phase 4+2 (Ck & Weave/Nat. Weave) – Foxtrot – Renee Alstead available from Walmart Music Download – Dom and Joan Filardo

This dance fits the music to a "T". Hover, reverse wave, quick open reverse, outside check, develop, twist vine 8, front vine 4, diamond turn, stairs, some of this routine is done in open. Ending is right lunge.



#### **Dancing Fool**

Phase 2+2 (fishtail/Str. Vine) – Two Step – STAR 152 – Dorothy Sanders Choreographer suggests you speed for comfort. Traveling box, Charleston, lace sequence, open vine, solo turning box.

#### **The Best Of Strangers**

Phase 5- Bolero – The Best of Strangers by Barbara Mandrell track #12 from the CD titled – Tony Speranzo

Nice basic bolero. Has u/arm turns, cross body, riff turn, hp rocks, horseshoe turn.

#### The Party's Over

Phase 4 – Rumba – Dancelife Bring 4 Smiles To Your Feet Track 24 – Annette and Frank Woodruff

A nice flowing rumba, music and routine blend well. Amalgamations included are: alemana to shadow break, progressive walks, flirt, back walks with curve. Ending is Point side and hold.

#### Estrellita

Phase 5+2+1 (3-3's, Checked Rope Spin) (Advanced Hockey Stick) – Columbia MMP-5 – Daisuke and Tamae Doi

Lovely rumba, has natural opening out with spiral. Open hip twist, advanced hockey stick, 3-3's, cuddles, slow spiral to wrap. Ending is start a flirt, cross check and hold. Don't pass this lovely dance up.



American Square Dance, April 2008

#### Square Dance and Greek Isles Cruise



Join Steve and Debbie Kopman and Lee and Lilith Kopman on Royal Caribbean's Splendour of the Seas. July 5 - 11, 2008



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American Square Dance, April 2008

## THE COUNTRY LINE





Hi Dancers. Let us start this month's column with what I like to call the "Department of the Oops." I would like to thank those of you who contacted me about last month's dance, "Happy Radio," Somewhere in cyberspace, the last four counts of the dance got lost. Just for the sake of continuity, here are the last eight counts of the dance.

## Heel forward, Toe Backwards, Left Triple Step Forward, Step, 1/4 Pivot, Right Kick-Ball-Change

25-26) Tap Left Heel Forward, Point Left Toe Backwards

27&28) Step Left Foot Forward, Step Right Foot Beside Left Foot, Step Left Foot Forward

29-30) Step Right Foot Forward, Pivot a 1/4 Turn Left, Transferring Weight to Left Foot

31&32) Kick Right Foot Forward, Step Ball of Right Foot Beside Left Foot, Step Left Foot in Place

I would like to commend the people that recognized that today's quality line dances will always be in sets of eight counts if the music is in 4/4 timing and groups of six counts in 3/4 (waltz) timing. Phrased dances, those designed to fit a particular piece of music, are another subject all together. Thank you again; and if you spot anymore of those gremlins in cyberspace, please inform me immediately. I do hope that someday those missing four counts meet up with another four counts.

This month's dance is a smooth, slow dance. I hope you enjoy it.

If you have any questions about this dance or a suggestion for a future column, please contact me at PO Box 2685, Topeka, Kansas 66601-2685. I can also be reached via email at KSDanceguy@aol.com. Until next time, I will save you a spot on the dance floor.

If you don't see your festival or convention information listed in the What's Ahead section, send us a flyer or email! We will include any full day or weekend dance that we feel might be of national or international interest. And it's even FREE!



#### THIS MONTH'S LINE DANCE: Don't Cry On My Shoulder

#### **Basic Steps (Official NTA Definitions):**

Brush: To Brush the ball of the foot against the floor.

Diagonal: 45 degrees away from the center of the Line of Dance (direction).

**Grapevine**: Vine is an abbreviation. A continuous traveling step pattern to the side with crosses behind and/or in front in 3rd or 5th position.

Hold: To perform no movement; to do nothing for a specified time.

**Jazz Box (Square)**: A dance pattern with four weight changes. It may start with a forward step or a cross step.

Step: The transfer of weight from one foot to the other.

Touch (Tap): The toe or heel of the free foot touches the floor without a weight change.

\* Prompting Cues are in Bold Lettering

NAME: Don't Cry on My Shoulder

DESCRIPTION: 32 count, 4 wall, beginner line dance

CHOREOGRAPHER: Jo Thompson Szymanski, Highlands Ranch, Colorado MUSIC TEMPO SUGGESTIONS:

Slow – I Should Have Been True by The Mavericks (100 BPM)

Medium – That Ain't No Way To Go by Brooks & Dunn (106 BPM)

Fast – What a Cryin' Shame by The Mavericks (114 BPM) or Any Moderate Tempo

Suggested Song - Don't Cry On My Shoulder by Sam Cooke (114 BPM)

#### **COUNTS/STEP DESCRIPTION**

(1/2 Box) Step Side, Together, Step Forward, Hold, Vine Right 4 Counts 1-4) Step Left Foot to Left Side, Step Right Foot Beside Left Foot, Step Left Foot Forward, Hold

5-6) Step Right Foot to Right Side, Cross/Step Left Foot Behind Right Foot

7-8) Step Right Foot to Right Side, Cross/Step Left Foot in Front of Right Foot

(1/2 Box) Step Side, Together, Step Backwards, Hold, Vine Right 4 Counts

9-12) Step Right Foot to Right Side, Step Left Foot Beside Right Foot, Step Right Foot Backwards, Hold

13-14) Step Left Foot to Left Side, Cross/Step Right Foot in Front of Left Foot 15-16) Step Left Foot to Left Side, Cross/Step Right Foot Behind Left Foot

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## Step, Brush, Jazz Box with Diagonal Step, Touch Ending, Diagonal Step, Touch, Step, Touch

17-18) Step Left Foot Forward to Left Front Diagonal, Brush Ball of Right Foot Forward

19-20) Cross/Step Right Foot in Front of Left Foot, Step Left Foot Backwards

21) Step Right Foot Backwards to Right Back Diagonal Turning Body Slightly Right

22) Touch Left Foot Beside Right Foot

23-24) Step Left Foot Forward to Left Front Diagonal Squaring Body, Touch Right Foot Beside Left Foot

## Step, Brush, Jazz Box with Diagonal Step, Touch Ending, Diagonal Step, Touch, 1/4 Turn, Touch

25-26) Step Right Foot Forward to Right Front Diagonal, Brush Ball of Left Foot Forward

27-28) Cross/Step Left Foot in Front of Right Foot, Step Right Foot Backwards

29) Step Left Foot Backwards to Left Back Diagonal Turning Body Slightly Left30) Touch Right Foot Beside Left Foot

31) Step Right Foot to Right Front Diagonal, Squaring Body and Turning 1/4 Right32) Touch Left Foot Beside Right Foot

#### Let's Dance It Again and Again!

## ALL THINGS CONSIDERED

By Ed Foote



#### **The Importance Of Definitions**

Janet Neumann from Maryland is considered one of the best dancers in the country. She feels knowledge of definitions is vital. Here are her thoughts on the subject, as reprinted from *Pacesetter* magazine.

"Definitions are the most important fundamental you can have. We all learn how to do calls by some definition, but often we quickly forget that definition and do the call by 'feel'."

"Most calls can be done from many positions even though most callers may only routinely use them from a few. I believe that knowing and saying the definition quietly to yourself while doing each and every call is absolutely crucial for success. The Mainstream definitions are the most important, because they are the building blocks for all future calls learned."

"You may think it is foolish to say to yourself 'half right and half left' when you hear Swing Thru, but if you always did that you would have no trouble doing it from a left-hand wave or a tidal wave."

"Sit down with a list of calls from Mainstream up to the program you are dancing, then say the call and follow by saying the definition. If you cannot quickly state a definition, you need to study. Only when you have the definitions readily available in your brain, will you be able to execute them in the square at a dancing pace. If you do not know or don't think you have a good definition of a call, ask someone."

"Regarding teamwork, if the person beside you seems to be hesitating. saying the definition a little louder so they can hear it may mean the difference between continuing to dance or squaring up at home waiting for the next sequence."

Good advice from Janet. Remember the well-known slogan: "If you don't know the definition, you don't know the call." Being able to say a definition IN WORDS will eliminate countless breakdowns, and thus will enable both yourself and your squares to have a much more pleasant square dance experience.





By Paul Moore



#### The Frontier Dance: The Miners Dance

A couple of months ago we ran Robert Lee Cook's article on Frontier Dance, the Covered Wagons. This month we travel to gold and silver country to visit the miners dance.

Much has been made in fiction, films, and general tradition to the "dance hall girl", and some will argue that the Miners' Dance really began with these lusty and busty women. They first appeared in the mining towns, stayed for the railroad boom and the cattle boom, and became so important a part of western city life that as recently as last week they were causing a good deal of worry for a grand jury in Denver (October, 1971).

As soon as a mining settlement began to form, three institutions almost instantly appeared: the saloon, the gambling tent, and the dance hall. One of our Colorado towns, just six weeks after its local rush began, boasted a population of 2,600 (of which 2,580 were males), 8 saloons, 3 dance halls, 5 gambling tents. There were also 2 undertakers. In another six weeks an additional 30 or more "girls" had arrived. The first church was not built until the following year.

Let's forget the romantic hokum of the movies. The "girls" were seldom girls, did not prance around in tights or can can costumes, were not hired primarily to





dance, did not dance well when they did dance, and seem to have had an average weight of about 200 pounds. They were nothing more than the original B-girls of the Wild West, and their descendants in our own Go Go Era are tame, pale, and decorous in comparison. The clumsy grotesque dances in which they most often engaged the miners were a far cry from the saloons of the east coast, and are colorfully described in a report sent from Black Hawk, Colorado, by an eastern journalist:

The sounds approach bedlam, rendering conversation impossible and the music such as it is, blessedly unhearable. Some of the ladies of the establishment join with some of the less inebriated customers in what is purported to be dancing, but indeed seems more akin to some savage and aboriginal fertility rite.

But some interesting dancing was done in the dance halls. The miners, coming as they did from all over the eastern United States, represented a rich mixture of backgrounds, origins, and cultures. Wastrel sons of famous Newport families mingled with the dregs of the Missouri river fronts. Sturdy, moral mid-west farm boys worked side by side with hardened, cynical men from the California diggings. Men with high standards and possessing fine educations went into partnerships with fugitives from every sort of justice and with dropouts from eastern failure. The society of the early mining towns was largely classless (except in terms of who had money and who did not), and even the financial status of a person was subject to instant change according to individual luck at the sluice box or at the gambling table.

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Such a hodgepodge of backgrounds resulted in a hodgepodge of dancing backgrounds, and most of the dances were – to some degree – attempted in the danced halls. Each hall had one or more fiddlers as well as a hired or volunteer "prompter". The classier joints often had a "dancing master", although this occurred later in the mining period. Early in the evening, before the whiskey fumes had become too heady, simple quadrilles or squares were done – very simple, because the miners were already tipsy, the girls overweight, and the place a bedlam of noise.

In the earlier years (1860-1870) these dances were the same simple dances being done in the east – Midwest and Appalachia figures, strong touches of New England, some figures from the south. Style was the important thing, and some quite prodigious jigging, pigeon-winging and prancing took place, depending on where the dancer was from and how well he knew his regional style. Thus, the four men in a single set usually had four different styles (the girls had mostly one: fat), and each proceeded to hoedown the other three. The dances and calls themselves seem hardly to have been worth noting (and indeed, no one seems to have bothered to note them at all\*), but the matter of "style" had definitely come to the frontier and would thrive here until as recently as 1948 or so, when the regional styles became swallowed up in the nation-wide Universal shuffle. **Individual Capers** 

In some few instances particular dancers have become legendary. The was

Harry Sullivan, an Irish step-dancer, who was said to be able to outlast and outjig any man in the west. And Elmer Pettingill, from somewhere in Vermont, often interrupted dances with an exhibition of cutting and jigging that commanded all eyes.

What few descriptions of the early quadrilles survive contain some interesting things. While I can find no record of a docey doe, I have run across these: "Birdie in the Cage", "Shoot the Owl" (the same as the early "Pop the Weasel"), "Pass Right Through and Balance Too", and "Roll the Jug". Also recorded were the Grand Chain (grand right and left) and various of the New England patterns such as Ladies Change, Dos a Dos, Gents Change, Stars by Right and Left. Curiously, there is a description of a dance in Denver in 1862 in which there seems to have been done in a form of the Texas Star, this some years before the significant cattle drives from Texas took place or the first cowboy influences appeared. No name is given to the pattern, but it seems to have been a combination of the Gents Star Across and the Texas Star reverse, and I wonder if it was derived from, or related to, the "Pumpkin Blossom" pattern which seems to have been done in the mid-west states as early as 1855. This another of those tantalizing mysteries of dance evolution.

Couple dancing occurred in the dance halls too – basic waltzes, perhaps a bit of a polka, but most often a sort of stomping one-step gallop which usually led to a room upstairs. Like taxi dancers, the dance hall girls charged a fee for a dance, keeping a percentage on this as well as on the prices of the drinks sold. Being B-girls and the only women on the early scene, some of them became quite wealthy, either through their own talents or through marrying a suddenly rich miner. A number of our leading western families got started in this manner, and the descendants have ever since been trying to hide the dance hall origins of their dynasties.

The realities of our mining history have never been properly told. For each miner, prospector, con man, gambler, or manipulator who became a millionaire in the western United States, there were easily 10,000 other men who did not even make expenses. For each dollar's worth of precious metal greedily taken from the western soils, at least \$5000 worth of materials, supplies, and equipment was expended overall. If such tangibles as human happiness, dignity, and life could be given a money value, we would find the western mining man's deficit to be almost astronomical. Humanity lost.

In his fine poems about early Colorado, Thomas Hornsby Ferril has graphically presented pictures of what the mining life was like. Women often died before the age of 40. An epidemic of measles or diphtheria could wipe out half the juvenile population of a district. Infant, and adult, mortality rates were very high, and the average income of a full-time miner with family would run from \$70 to \$100 a month. But still the people danced, more and more, and the Miner's Dance underwent some quite complex and fascinating developments.

[This was the first part of a two part column on the Miner's Dance that Robert Lee Cook published in Square Dancing Magazine (Sets in Order) in 1971. Part 2 is coming up soon. I hope you are enjoying this journey to the past of American dancing.] POINT OF ORDER

#### From Kappie Kappenman

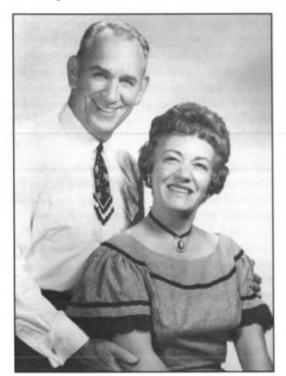
#### Mrs. Manning Smith (Nita)

April 26, 1917 – March 13, 2008 Submitted by her daughter, Sherry Smith Frisk

Round and Square Dancers have recently lost a pioneer in the dance movement. Nita Smith, age 90, wife of the late Manning Smith, passed away on March 13, 2008 in College Station, Texas. Known for their winning smiles and wonderful way with people, the Smiths danced and taught across the entire country for 35 years. They were legends in their time and lived their philosophy: "Dance happily – dance from the heart!"

Married in 1939, Nita and Manning began their dancing career in 1945. For eight years they studied in Colorado with Dr. Lloyd "Pappy" Shaw, who helped make square dancing popular in the United States. Manning traveled as a professional square dance caller for six years and recorded a singing all on the Columbia label with the Rhythm Outlaws. The Smiths became avid round dancers. They choreographed many dances, two of which are still on the Round Dance Classics List – "Tango Mannita" and "Mannita Waltz".

"Tango Mannita" was voted a Roundalab "Goldlen Classic" in 2003. The



dance itself was written in Seattle, Washington. Manning and Nita were there for a seminar on rounds and staying with Wayne and Georgia Puckett, round dance leaders in the Northwest. Georgia knew that Manning had several "tango routines" he had arranged, but had never presented. Georgia made it very clear that Manning could not come out of their recreation room until "Tango Mannita" was finished. Manning, being the gentleman he was, complied and "Tango Mannita" became an instant success in the area, as well as everywhere in the round dance community.

Manning and Nita were also well known for their

American Square Dance, April 2008

Manning and Nita Smith

50

dance exhibitions, especially "Lady of Spain" and "Rosie O'Grady". They taught at festivals and workshops throughout the U. S. and Canada and were sent to Europe and Turkey by U. S. Air Force Special Services in 1958 and 1961 to teach round dancing to Air Force personnel stationed there.

As well as traveling throughout the world, Manning and Nita initiated the *Manning Smith Conference and Round Dance Clinic* for teachers at Texas A&M University in 1950. It continued there and in Stillwater, Oklahoma, for 30 years. The Smiths were a true inspiration to teachers all over the world and were always a source of encouragement and help.

During these years the Smiths also started a business, "Fashions by Nita Smith". They manufactured bouffant petiticoats, pantalettes, and custom-made dance costumes. Among square and round dancers, the business was referred to as the "Neiman Marcus of the Round Dance World," and Nita's dress designs were seen on dance floors worldwide. She was often in demand for sewing panels and style shows at national conventions and loved sharing her expertise.

Manning and Nita Smith were inducted into the Square and Round Dance Hall of Fame in 1971. They were also charter members of ROUNDALAB, the International Association of Round Dancer Teachers, and were honored in 1987 with the first Silver Halo Award for their many years of service. The following words of thanks, written by Nita after receiving the award, summed up the couple's feelings about their lives as Round Dance teachers: "Manning and I have known for many years how fortunate we have been to be able to dance through life, meeting lovely people from all over the world. Our lives have been enriched beyond our wildest dreams by all of you. Thank you and God bless you all."

In a talk presented to ROUNDALAB in 1996 at the age of 79, Nita spoke about the history of Round Dancing and about the career-long approach she and Manning followed: "Teach and dance with a happy face, use a toe-tapping piece of music and remember that it is the people who are important, not necessarily the dance!" This is the Manning and Nita Smith legacy...





We need the event date, name, location including city and state, contact address, phone number, and email if any.

Please send us the event information as early as you want, but we prefer to receive it more than six months in advance of the event's scheduled date.

#### NATIONAL CONVENTIONS (U.S.A.)

USA National Square Dance Conv. June 25-28, 2008 – Wichita, KS June 24-27, 2009 – Long Beach, CA June 23-26, 2010 – Louisville, KY

Intl. Assoc. of Gay Square Dancers: July 3-6, 2008 – Cleveland, OH April 9-12, 2009 – Washington, DC July 1-4, 2010 – Chicago, IL June 30-July 3, 2011 – Atlanta, GA

#### **MAY 2008**

2-4 **NEVADA** – 61st Silver State Square and Round Dance Festival, Grand Sierra Resort, Reno, 2500 East 2nd Street; Gary and Celeste Johnson 7 7 5 - 6 2 6 - 8 4 0 1 ; www.SquareDanceNevada.com

2-4 **OHIO** – 48th Ohio Dance Convention, Bertram Inn & Conference Center, Aurora; Bob and Judy Calkins, 440-255-5361; 8772 Arrowood Dr., Mentor, OH 44060; c a l k i n s 8 7 7 2 @ o h . r r . c o m ; www.squaredancing.com/clevefed/ conv2008

8-10 **CANADA** – International Square & Round Dance Convention, Brock University, St. Catharines, Ontario; Dorothy Budge, 111 Ontario St. North, Apt. #401, Milton, ON - L9T 2T2; budge@sympatico.ca; 905-875-0268; www.td-dance.ca

15-17 **VIRGINIA** – 20th Virginia State Convention, Holiday Inn Conference Center, Hampton; LDavis70@shentel.nte

16-18 NEW MEXICO – 61st NMSRDA State Festival (Oldies but Goodies Dance), McGee Park Multi Purpose Building on Hwy 64 between Farmington and Bloomfield) Farmington; Dale and Lori Gerber, 505-327-3678; dlgerber8@msn.com

23-25 **FLORIDA** – 54th Florida State Convention, Lakleand Civic Center, Lakeland; Mary Lee VanValkenburg 813-707-1702; 110 Bymar Dr., Plant City, FL 33563; rmljdancer@aol.com

25-26 **MASSACHUSETTS** – 50th New England Square and Round Dance Convention, Sturbridge; 508-376-4952; www.nersdc.org

30-31 TENNESSEE – Smokey Mountain Retreat, The Riverside Motor Lodge, 715 Parkway, Gatlinburg; Tim and Donna 803-327-2805; Ace and Laverne 864-226-2834; d h b r i g m a n @ h o t m a i l . c o m ;

www.riversidehotels.com

#### **JUNE 2008**

13-14 **COLORADO** – 53rd Colorado State Square Dance Festival, Mesa State College Campus, Grand Junction; cwatkins@acsol.net

13-15 CALIFORNIA – 41st Annual Fun Weekend, Yuba-Sutter Fairgrounds, Yuba City, CA - 442 Franklin Road (Home of Harvest Hoedown!); Mitchell Cari 916-988-6021; Fun Weekend@ASDSC.org; www.ASDSC.org

#### **JULY 2008**

3-6 OHIO – Touch a Quarter Century, 25th Annual International Association of Gay Square Dance Clubs (IAGSDC) Convention, Renaissance Cleveland Hotel, Downtown Cleveland; www.TAQC.org; info@TAQC.org; Touch a Quarter Century, PO Box 771625, Cleveland OH 44107

8-10 **MICHIGAN** – National Square Dance Campers Camporee, 262 Sprague Street, Coldwater; Art and Sharon Bentley, 3238 West River Drive, Gladwin, MI 48624; 989-426-2604; aebentley@amazinisp.com

11-13 ALASKA – Alaska State Square & Round Dance Festival, Kenai Peninsula Fairgrounds, Ninilchik; Lenora 907-252-6420 or 559-246-4712; lenora\_regeon@yahoo.com

17-19 **CANADA** – "Make a Date for 2008" 16th National Square & Round Dance Convention, London Convention Centre, 300 York Street, London, Ontario; Lee & Sharon Cox, 519-396-9877 or toll free 1-866-206-6696 U.S. & Canada, www.swosda.ca/ 2008 email:

convention2008@squaredance.ca 17-19 VIRGINIA – Star Spangled Banner Festival, Hilton Alexandria Mark Center, 5000 Seminary Road, Alexandria, VA 22311 www.hiltonalexandriamc.com; Carol Eyre CEyre@mcleancont.com; 410-871-2316

24-26 ALABAMA – 11th National Handicapable Square Dance Convention, Mobile; Dean Emery, 251-633-8212; ush2@ushandicapable.org

25-25 SOUTH DAKOTA – Black Hills Festival, Minneluzahan Senior Center, Rapid City; Don Haney 307-682-0632

25-27 **ILLINOIS** – 25th Illinois Square and Round Dance Convention, Lincoln Christian College, 100 Campus View Drive, Lincoln; Bob and Shirley Schwartz, 907 East 2000th Street, Liberty, IL 62347; 217-645-3302; swrtz@adams.net

#### AUGUST 2008

1-3 **COLORADO** – Hi Country Weekend, Custer County School, Westcliffe; www.squaredancing.com/ seasdc/Special\_dances.htm; hcwcolorado@earthlink.net; Alan Hirsch, PO Box 1460, Westclife CO 81252, 719-783-2145.

7-9 TENNESSEE – 34th Tennessee State Convention, Chattanooga Convention Center, Chattanooga; brotherdave@comcast.net; www.tnsquaredance.com/html/ state\_convention.html

8-10 **PENNSYLVANIA** – Pennsylvania Square and Round Dance Convention, Omni William Penn Hotel, Pittsburgh; PAsquaredance.org; Bob & Cindy Vanetta, 128 Winfield Road, Sarver, PA 16055; 724-360-3310; paregistration2008@psrdf.org

8-10 WISCONSIN – Wisconsin Square and Round Dance Convention, Waterford Union High School, 100 Field Drive, Waterford; Ted and Doris Palmen, T-D-Palmen@peoplepc.com; 262-857-2513

13-16 **OREGON** – 2008 USA West Square Dance Convention Pendleton Convention Center Pendleton; 503-5 5 6 - 0 2 0 2 ; registration@usawestor.com; www.usawestor.com

15-16 **MICHIGAN** – 47th Michigan Square & Round Dance Convention, Valley Plaza Resort, Midland; m c s r d c @ h o t m a i l . c o m; w w w . s q u a r e d a n c i n g . c o m / michigancouncil

15-16 NORTH CAROLINA – 19th State Convention, Hilton Convention Center, North Raleigh; General Chairman Lesley and Debbie Green, 919-598-1104; green\_dc@msn.com; www.ncfederation.org

17-22 **COLORADO** – Rocky Mountain Callers School, Vallecito Resort, Bayfield; 520-795-6543

22-23, **COLORADO** – 40th Annual Peach Promenade, Garfield Middle School, 3475 Front St., Clifton; Pat AND Wanda McBride 970-434 - 3543; pandapw@juno.com

22-24 **OHIO** – Brokenstraw Weekend, Indian Creek Resort, 4710 Lake Road-East, Geneva-on-the-Lake; Tom and Bev Rudebock 330-427-6358; trudesdc@localnet.com

30-Sept 1 **MONTANA** – 52nd Knothead Jamboree at West Yellowstone; Larry Sperry 406-670-3210 or sperryscue@earthlink.net

#### **SEPTEMBER 2008**

12-13 ALABAMA – Birmingham Blast, BSDA Friendship Hall, 1024 Old Walker Chapel Road, Fultondale; 205-454-1081 (Cingular cell) 205-394-2017 (Verizon Cell); patgaled@yahoo.com

18-20 GEORGIA - Georgia State

Square & Round Dance Convention; gssda@yahoo.com

19-20 **NEBRASKA** – Nebraska State Convention, Adams County Fair Grounds, Hastings; Morris and Sue Turner msturner@nebi.com

#### **OCTOBER 2008**

9-13 **NEW HAMPSHIRE** – Northeast Callers School, Mill-a-round Dance Center, Manchester; Ken Ritucci 413-734-0591; KenRitucci@aol.com; www.northeastcallerschool.com

10-11 COLORADO – 33rd Annual Big Country Hoedown, Friendship Hall, 1001 North 2nd Street, Montrose; Loren and Betty Dikeman 970-249-4858; lorendikeman@msn.com

17-19 INDIANA – 19th Indiana Square Dance Convention, Horizon Convention Center, Muncie; www.insquaredanceconvention.com; elfdaugherty@juno.com; drm703@aol.com; 317-257-1334 or 765-768-7293

17-19 **MISSOURI** – 49th Missouri State Festival, Jefferson City; www.squaredancemissouri.com/flyers/ missourifestival/index.htm

24-25 HAWAII – Hot Foot Stomp, Kilauea Military Camp (KMC) Volcano National Park; Bill Yoeman 808-968-6091; wmyoeman@hialoha.net

#### **NOVEMBER 2008**

16 **OHIO** – 3 Guys & A Gal, Red Lantern Barn, 12144 Mt. Eaton Rd., Brewster; 330-427-6358; trudesdc@localnet.com; 330-232-2334; rshotts@neo.rr.com

#### **DECEMBER 2008**

28-31 **SOUTH CAROLINA** – 22nd Annual Holiday Round Dance Ball, Ocean Dunes Resort & Villa's, Myrtle Beach; Barbara Harrelson Email: bharrelson1juno.com

#### **JANUARY 2009**

23-25 **VERMONT** – 20th Annual Bennington College Round-E-Vous Round Dance Festival, Bennington College, Bennington; Ralph and Joan Collipi, ralph.collipi@verizon.net

#### **FEBRUARY 2009**

20-21 ARIZONA – 11th Annual Grand Canyon Square Dance Festival, Pheonix; Edna Rudnick, 4144 W. Bloomfield Rd., Phoenix, AZ 85209 or call her at 602-222-9339; email harryedna@msn.com

#### **APRIL 2009**

9-12 DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA – DC Diamond Circulate, 26th Annual International Association of Gay Square Dance Clubs (IAGSDC) Convention, Marriott Wardman Park Hotel, Washington DC; www.DCDiamondCirculate.org; dcdcinfo@dcdiamondcirculate.org; DC Diamond Circulate Inc., PO Box 57270, Washington DC 20036

#### **JUNE 2009**

24-27 **CALIFORNIA** – 58th National Square Dance Convention, Long Beach; Info: 1220 Caleta Way, Palm Springs, CA 92262; www.58nsdc.org

#### **SEPTEMBER 2009**

19-20 **NEBRASKA** – Nebraska State Convention, Adams County Fair Grounds, Hastings; Ron and Norma Stairs nstairs@hotmail.com

#### **JUNE 2010**

23-26 **KENTUCKY** – 59th National Square Dance Convention, Louiseville; Info: 96 Floyd Street, Carrollton, KY 41008; www.59thnsdc.com

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