

GRAPPEVINE

Published monthly by the NORTHEAST FLORIDA SQUARE DANCERS ASSOCIATION.

Dedicated to square and round dancers and callers.

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APRIL 1962

THE PROMENADERS

The Orange Park Promenaders haven't said much in the past few weeks, but they have been busy bees forming a new class for beginners which meets on Tuesday night at the Lions Club. We have a full house for this series of lessons, but we'll have new classes later in the year.

We have forty-nine couples, which amounts to a full house of square dancers and fun for all. The graduate class dances on Friday night at the Lions Club with caller Floyd Hazen doing the honors. Both groups joined together and sponsored a Queen in the Mardi Gras parade -- Terena Crutchfield, who came in second at the Mardi Gras Ball which was put on to raise money for the Orange Park High School band and anything connected with music. The PROMENADERS felt this was an important and very worthy cause. To top the day off we won first prize on the float. Our thanks go to Hochman's Department Store for all the beautiful dresses the girls on the float wore. Good news to all is that this fund raising drive for the band did real well, and the PROMENADERS are proud to have taken part in the festivities.

Jim Carroll

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N. E. F. S. D. A. SPRING JAMBOREE

Saturday, March 31
Buchholz Junior High School
723 West University Avenue
Gainesville

Hosts: MERRYSTEPPERS

Workshop by Bart Bartley at 2:30

Evening Dance by N.E. Florida Callers
at 8:00

Admission \$1 per couple for ASSN. Members

Admission \$2 per couple for Non-Members.

Admission to Workshop: 50¢ per couple
for everybody.

Y'ALL COME!

11TH NATIONAL

Less than three months to the 11th National Square Dance Convention at Miami Beach. Register Now! Now! Now! Now!

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MERRYSTEPPERS (Gainesville)

February 27 marked the fifth anniversary of the MERRYSTEPPERS, and we celebrated with a covered-dish supper before our regular Tuesday-night dance. The table centerpiece was a very large cake, with white and yellow decorations: "Happy 5th Anniversary for Merrysteppers" and completed with yellow tapers, pansies and ivy, making a beautiful arrangement. The cake was saved until later in the evening and served with ice cream (somehow the coffeemaker disappeared!). During the evening Chief Square Don Brooke introduced charter members of the MERRYSTEPPERS who are still members and noted that with one exception the remaining charter members had dropped out of square dancing with us, only through having moved away, or because of illness. Introduced were the first Chief Square Marion Forsman, and Dorothy Forsman; Dee and Ralph Kluge; Ruby and Coy Strickland; Susie and Harry Edwards; Edna and Clarence McKinney; Becky and Eslye Frank; Bob Waites; and our caller "Bart" Bartley, and Ruth Bartley. The Stricklands had received the prize of one year's free membership, for naming the club so well -- as the MERRYSTEPPERS. The Charter Members present danced together in a square, and with no mistakes! We are proud of all of them and appreciate their pioneering in starting the club. Our thanks too to the Chuck-Wagon committee in completing the arrangements for the bountiful, beautiful supper, and ice cream and cake party.

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The booklet "The Basic Movements of Square Dancing," 1962 edition, and SETS IN ORDER magazine can be purchased at the Plaza Western Wear, 3657 Philips Highway Plaza Shopping Center.

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and wondering what was about to happen, Happy Hoppers' president, Larry Dick, and his assistants approached each person and performed the necessary ritual for accepting new Knotheads into the fold. After much laughter and chatter and each with a band-aid on his freshly-made knot, we had sixteen new Knotheads in our club.

The FRIENDLY FROLICKERS surrounded the "Hoppers" next-to-the-last tip and gave the whole club a big hug. We are looking forward to their returning the visit to recapture their flag.

Everyone seems to be enjoying the cool weather for dancing. At our last two dances (March 3 and 17) we have been delighted with the number of visiting friends, both from local clubs and from several distant states. Welcome back at all times!

Ellen Johnson, reporter

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WESTERN CUTTERS

Floyd Hazen, the caller at Wesconnett, reports 22 couples in the new class. Over one-half of the WESTERN CUTTERS have signed up to go to the National Convention in Miami.

A St. Patrick's Day dance was held at Wesconnett on March 10. With green articles of clothing predominating, everyone had a wonderful time.

John and Esther Lawson.

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SILVER SWINGERS (Ocala)

On February 16, the SILVER SWINGERS of Ocala, with caller Bill Muench of Tampa, had a special Valentine Dance.

Bill Muench really had planned a wonderful dance, and everyone who attended certainly enjoyed themselves. The hall was appropriately decorated in red hearts and cupids. During the evening, hearts were distributed to each person. They had had the names of famous lovers of history on them. The girls matched theirs with the boys and formed squares with the person who matched their heart. The square who formed the fastest was given a chance to prove who was the outstanding Lover of the evening. Rose Thompson and Buddy Abshire proved, through a game of skill, that they were the best matched of all couples participating.

Mabel and Randy Davis finished teaching the round, "In a Little Second-hand Store," and approximately everyone participated.

The SILVER SWINGERS, under the direction and calling of Bill Muench, is progressing so rapidly that the hall was filled to capacity at the Valentine dance.

FRIENDLY FROLICS

FRIENDLY FROLICS Club wishes to take this opportunity to express deep appreciation for the wonderful support given the Muscular Dystrophy Benefit Dance at the Woman's Club last month. Every square dance club in this area was represented, proving their loyal friendship to our club and also their interest in this very urgent cause. We were able to present the M. D. Association with a generous check. Thank you A L L !

On Saturday, February 24, FRIENDLY FROLICKERS went to Savannah to pay a return visit to the Happy Hoppers, who scheduled this Saturday night dance especially for our coming as they usually dance on Friday evening. Forty-one FRIENDLY FROLICKERS went by bus and four (Walter and Justina Sikes and Jack and Vera Starling) by airplane. The Happy Hoppers had the hall ready with a large welcome sign over the caller's head and a few surprises for the visiting club. As the dance progressed, with everyone eyeing a table full of goodies and punch, things began to happen to us visitors. First, we were presented with a "Gracious Host" award and badges in recognition of our club's hospitality toward other clubs, especially the Happy Hoppers.

After another tip, we were presented with a club song and a club flag. Every club in Georgia and several other states has a club flag. If a club visits another with a square or more, it captures the host club's flag (without resistance). To regain its flag, that club must then repay the visit with a square or more. We now have our flag, and it is ready for capture. We also have the Happy Hopper's flag, which they must recapture. It sounds like fun; we hope every club in Jacksonville and in Florida will join in.

After eating, four of our men, Jack Starling, Myron Samson, Paul Lane and Tom Howle were asked to dance with four lovely (ugh) Happy Hoppers women. Their legs and arms were hairy, their hands rough, and they needed a shave. What shapes they had! It caused quite a sensation when Myron got a little close to his (ugh) girl and got quite friendly.

A very impressive Knothead ceremony developed around sixteen Friendly Frolics members. With all sixteen blindfolded

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P. S. - Always big discounts to our "BAKER'S DOZEN CLUB" members.

Delicious refreshments were enjoyed at the social break, after which we had a short workshop.

Many visitors watched from the sidelines, and when the evening was over, everyone seemed to have had an exceptionally nice time.

Elsie Trantham, reporter

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RUY CAMP DANCE

At Friendly Frolics dance of April 21 at Annie Lytle School, RUY CAMP will be caller. Admission will be the same as usual, \$1.00 per couple. ALL square dancers are cordially invited.

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VALLEY TWIRLERS

We dance at the Palm Valley Community Center every Saturday night.

We were happy to have some dancers from Fernandina (Amelia Island Squares) come and dance with us. We welcome them back any time; also anyone else that would like to visit us.

Sorry to say a couple of our members have been a little on the puny side. Alice Rutledge has had an operation and will not be able to dance for some time. Jan Butler has been having trouble and will not be able to join in either. We hope both of you will be back with us soon.

We are planning on starting classes next month, hoping to increase the size of the club.

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THE PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Gainesville will be the site of our next ASSOCIATION Dance on March 31. Bart Bartley will conduct a workshop in the afternoon for 50¢ a couple. If you have attended one of Bart's workshops in the past, you know it will be good. If not, why not avail yourself of the opportunity and drive over to Gainesville early on the 31st? It will be worth the effort. Plenty of good eating places are available in Gainesville, or take your lunch. Then in the evening the main dance will take place, called by the AREA callers who can be present. Myron Samson and Ray Baxter

will M. C. the dance. Dancing starts at 8:00 P.M. at the Buchholz Junior High School at 723 West University Avenue. Rounds will be handled by Ruth Bartley and Bob Waites. Y'all come and have a ball.

Due to the National Convention in June, there will be no ASSOCIATION Dance on the fifth Saturday in that month. In addition, Fernandina Beach is having its annual festival, and part of the festivities will be a dance on Thursday, June 7, called by Jim Brower. Jim is well known and well liked in this area.

Plans are firming up for the Fall Roundup in November. Jack Jackson has been confirmed as the caller for the evening dance. Jack is from Ohio and is one of the finest callers in the country. We shall be in the new City Convention Hall for this affair, and there will be plenty of room for dancers. There is no reason why Jacksonville can't promote this event as one of the top square dance events of the year in the Southeast. Publicity will soon be going out to all of Florida and South Georgia inviting the dancers and callers to come and participate. The afternoon will be the time of the Georgia-Florida football game; with this as an added attraction, we should have plenty of dancers in town that day. When you are out of town, talk this affair up. If we all pitch in, it can be an outstanding event. The Northeast Florida Callers Association has refused to participate in the morning and afternoon sessions. The reason they have given is the lack of attendance in the two past Fall Roundups. However, I have been assured that we will have plenty of local callers available to handle the dance and M. C. duties. The dancers of the area will be promoting this dance, and it is up to us to make it a success.

If you have not registered for the 11th National Convention being held in Miami Beach, there is still plenty of time to get your signature on the dotted line. This will be an outstanding Convention with dancing to suit all tastes and levels of experience. A good children's program is also being planned to keep the youngsters happy. The Committee is planning it as a family vacation, so bring the kids and have the time of your life.

Virgil Green, President
N. E. FLORIDA SQUARE DANCERS ASSN.

FUN AND FROLIC

There once was a young couple -- namely, the Simpsons -- in FUN AND FROLIC who had a lovely daughter that decided to get married. Well, as you know, preliminaries always precede a wedding. So-o-o-oooo!!!

Up came a shower for Miss Carol. One unforgettable time was had. For instance, mint-green toilet paper hung gracefully from the chandelier. Adorning the buffet top was, in its day, a lovely pink Cannon bath towel with an imported (from behind the garage), beautifully potted and wrapped, no less, prickly pear plant used as the centerpiece.

The dining table was well protected, being covered with last Sunday's funny papers, making a lovely tablecloth. Refreshments, of course, were served. Lovely little decorated cake squares were passed out of a cut-down pasteboard box, and cool, refreshing pink punch served out of ----- sure, some of you will remember the "Ol' Thunder Mug" or "Slop Jar" (that's right!) with the aluminum dipper substituting for the gourds we used to use. (Incidentally, the slop jar was brand new.) You'd be surprised what gadgets you can find in the dime store.

Last but not least, there always has to be a place for the gifts, so a lovely garbage can was plainly marked, "Place your Loot Here." So ended a gala evening of dancing and showering. Instigators of such a to-do? That's right -- FUN AND FROLIC!!

We welcome any of you who would like to visit. Glad to have had you PAXON PRANCERS. You're a lively bunch.

We had several birthdays this month, like Mark Fletcher, Marvin Green, Betty Head -- any more? All forty years!

Good dancing to you. Y'all come to see us when you can.

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HIGHLAND ? ? ? ? ?

Ray Baxter is now conducting lessons at HIGHLANDS Civic Center (Ray Green Park) on Fridays instead of Tuesdays as he previously was. We dance every Friday except the third Friday in each month. We would welcome any new dancers, as classes are still open for two more weeks. We have a few regular couples and hope to have more. If you know anyone in this vicinity that would like to learn to square dance, we would welcome the information. Please contact Ray Baxter at PO 4-6293.

We certainly appreciate the experienced dancers who come every week to help us. Hope you will continue to come and help us promote our club at Highlands.

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PAXON PRANCERS

The PRANCERS have started off their new year with the following officers: Joe and Margaret Joyce, President; Bob and Patsy Love, Vice President; Gerald and Mary Kieffer, Secretary-Treasurer; Margaret Parramore and Mae Thomas, Reporters; A. K. Howlet, Delegate to the Association. Elwood Sexton, our caller, gave out with the news that he was off the night shift, so we are looking for a big year now and invite all the dancers of this area to come out and join in the fun.

We had some of the space people visit us on the week-end of February 24. They were Margie and Ellis Norton, former members who have moved to the Satellite County to build Satellites. They now belong to the Satellite Club in Melbourne, Florida. It is always a pleasure to have them back with us.

PAXON is planning to have the Cerebral Palsy Marathon Dance again this year. As you remember, we danced 12 hours, 2:00 to 2:00, on the day of the Cerebral Palsy Telathon. All proceeds will go to this worthy cause. Everyone who plans to stay the full 12 hours bring a covered dish for the covered-dish dinner at 6:30. Everyone participating the full 12 hours may get a strip for his badge. The date will be announced later. We know it will be the last of May but are not sure of the exact date.

The club had a hot-dog roast preceding our March 15 dance. After everyone was filled, we had our business meeting with our new President Joe, after which everyone was glad to get up and let the "dogs" settle down.

COME TO SEE US!!!!!!!!!!!!

Mae and Margaret, reporters

MERRY MIXERS

Thursday, February 22, the MERRY MIXERS were honored by a visit from two squares of the Friendly Frolics. In addition to the sterling calling of our own Herschell Lee, we were treated to several tips Samson-style. That week-end a number of our members joined them on their trip to Savannah, which I understand was a real gala affair.

We initiated a very eventful month on March 1. Again we enjoyed the company of Myron Samson and taw Barbara, who rounded out a square of visitors. Naturally we prevailed upon Myron for a few tips and, together with Herschell's calling, had a really fine evening of dancing. We were pleased to have Jim and Brenda Mock become members of our club.

Our regular second-Thursday-of-the-month covered-dish supper and dance was one of the best we've had yet. You folks who haven't yet attended one of these events have been missing a real good time. It amazes me that the ladies always provide such a variety and abundance of delicious dishes with no pre-planned menu. I cast my vote for that heaping platter of tasty shrimp and sauce provided by our good editors as the dish-of-the-month. Our visitors were too numerous to name individually, but we thank them for their contributions to the laden table and their part in making the evening a real success. Our president, Paul Lane, expressed his regrets for leaving early to rejoin wife Mary, but not before he had provided us with a big urn of coffee to top off our meal. Thanks to the Lanes, ably assisted by Fred and Erma Blado, we have been enjoying coffee at every dance. Immediately after dessert Herschell dug into his record case and began a lively evening with his inimitable version of Cannon-Ball. That settled everyone's hash in a hurry! Later in the evening Ruth and Bill Fleshman demonstrated and coached the group through "Blue Hours," a waltz round.

Thursday, the 15th, Joe Johnson came up from Windermere to call for us. We had fifteen couples of visitors for the occasion. Joe really let the hammer down and received an enthusiastic response from club members and visitors alike. We learned several new routines from him, including the star prowler, single wheel, and Dixie wave. As mentioned in the last issue, Herschell is reciprocating by journeying down to Windermere the 24th to call for Joe's club. A group of MERRY MIXERS and dancers from other clubs have chartered a bus to make the trip too, plus several car loads. Everyone is looking forward to a real good time.

We thank our many visitors for their company this past month and look forward to seeing them again as well as receiving new ones. Don't forget our supper-dance on April 12 at 7:00 P.M.

Russ Osborn, reporter

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RE M I N D E R

- March 24 - MERRY MIXERS Safari to Windermere. Herschell Lee calling.
 - March 31 - NEFSDA SPRING JAMBOREE at Gainesville (Buchholz Jr. H. S.). Workshop at 2:30 (50¢ couple) by Bart Bartley. Evening dance at 8:00 with area callers. \$1 couple for Assn. members. \$2 couple for non-members.
 - April 12 - MERRY MIXERS covered-dish supper-dance, 7:00.
 - April 21 - RUY CAMP calling at FRIENDLY FROLICS. \$1 per couple.
- (continued)

RE M I N D E R (Continued)

- May ?? - Cerebral Palsy Telethon Square Dance from 2:00 to 2:00 sponsored by PAXON FRANCHISERS. Watch for date.
- June 7 - JIM BROWER at Fernandina Beach
- June 12 - TRAIL DANCE at Philips Hiway Plaza. HARPER SMITH calling.
- June 14-16 - 11th NATIONAL SQUARE DANCE CONVENTION at Miami Beach.

Note: If you wish an event listed in the "Reminder" Column, send the information to the "Grapevine," Route 6 - Box 346, Jacksonville 17, Fla.

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STILL NO NEWS this month from
 HI SQUARES LAKE CITY SQUARES
 ISLAND SQUARES S. O. S.
 JUBILEERS Y-SQUARES

HOW ABOUT IT?

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V I S I T O T H E R
 C L U B S

One of the joys of square dancing is visiting other clubs. This month make it a point to visit one or more of the following: It's FUN!

[Faint, mostly illegible text in the right margin, possibly bleed-through from the reverse side of the page.]