

DANCERgram

Square & Round Dance News for the West Coast of Florida
Editor: Penny Green

"Square Dancing - Friendship set to music"

June 23, 2008

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- Future Planning (11 months and further) - attached

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July 1, 2008 - **Deadline for submissions to the August issue of the *Bow & Swing*.** For info: [rgboyd@earthlink.net](mailto:rgboyd@earthlink.net)

## **Words from the Editor**

Can you believe we're already half way through 2008? Where has the time gone?

The National Convention starts in Wichita this week, so everyone that is going has already left or will be leaving shortly. Promenade on the Prairie is the theme this year and it will be June 25th - 28th.

I've only been able to attend a few dances recently, mostly because of gas prices and still being unemployed, but I have been pleased with the turnout at the dances I have been at. Keep up the good job supporting the clubs that continue to dance through the summer.

It's not too early to start "recruiting" for the new dancer classes in the fall. I have started receiving information on some of the classes and they are listed below. If you (clubs, callers, and cuers) are planning to have classes, please forward the information to me so I can add it to the DANCERgram. There may be readers of this publication who have friends or family in your area that might be interested in joining one of your classes. Don't just restrict your "advertising" to your immediate area; you never know who will be looking for information!

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Health Updates

Mary Dow - West Coast (Florida) Rep for De Soto/Hardee/Charlotte Counties - I talked to Mary on Thursday afternoon. She told me she was supposed to have been in the hospital for five to seven days but ended up being there for 12 days due to a staph infection. She has a home health nurse coming to her house to re-dress her incision three times a day. She is driving short distances but still unable to dance and does check her email occasionally.

Sarah Pergrossi - Editor of the Northeast Association *Grapevine* - has had her right knee replaced. Her surgery was at the North Florida Regional Hospital in Gainesville and she was to have been discharged on Friday. She is now going through rehab. To send cards: 9660 SW 62nd Ct., Trenton, FL 32693.

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## USDA Ways & Means



## Save Our Association!

The West Coast Association needs your help to keep our Association alive and well, to keep spreading the word and printing our *West Coast Dancer* for FREE distribution to you and to keep holding our West Coast Membership Dances. We need officers NOW!!

Here is a summary of the job descriptions for each officer:

- **President**
  - Conduct six Association meetings per year (currently being held at the Barksdale Center in Tampa - home of Temple Twirlers and Spinning Wheels)
  - Write a President's Message once a month for the *Bow & Swing* and every other month for the *Dancer* (can be the same message!)
  - Attend and give a report at three Florida Federation meetings a year
  - Attend eight West Coast Dances a year
- **Vice President**
  - Preside at all functions in the absence of the president
  - Schedule all locations and MCs for eight West Coast Dances (two of which are always held in Plant City) and promote them
- **Secretary**
  - Maintain complete records of all meetings and distribute minutes to members and the Board

- Attend eight West Coast Dances and sell 50/50 tickets
- **Treasurer**
  - Collect all dues and maintain accurate records of receipts and expenses
  - Prepare and present financial reports at all meetings
  - Attend eight West Coast Dances and collect entrance fees

It looks worse in writing than it actually is, and many have done it before you. PLEASE step forward and keep us going. If travel is a deterrent, let's talk; we've ways of working around that! If you have any questions what so ever, please talk to one of the current officers or a past president, we would be happy to discuss this with you.

The new officers will be installed at the President's Ball on September 21<sup>st</sup> at Strawberry Square in Plant City; hope you will be one of them saying "I will" !!!

WEST COAST ASSOCIATION BOARD

(Editor's Note: Years of dancing and level of dancing are not a requirement.)

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CALLERLAB Viewpoints

By Caller Mike Seastrom

Those "lazy, hazy, crazy days of summer" are upon us. Although we may have our schedules to meet and some work to do, this is the time of year when most of us get to kick back a little and enjoy the longer days, warmer nights, and more outdoor weather.

Many square dance clubs decrease or even cease their events due to the heat or because of travel and vacation schedules of their members, but many square dance festivals and weeklong square dance vacation resorts are going full tilt. It's a little change of pace and all of us get to either decrease our dancing or keep it going full speed ahead at our own choosing.

We have discussed ideas for bringing in new dancers many times over the years in this "CALLERLAB Viewpoints" article and have always projected the opinion that bringing in new dancers and club members is a year round activity. I have always felt that every club or dance group needs an official office, of one to tour people, that helps to plan year round events that bring new people to club functions. In most clubs this position is probably called Membership. If the above mentioned, bringing new people to club functions, is not the main job of the Membership person or committee in your club, maybe it's time to re-think the duties of that office.

Club parties, picnics, camp outs, and potlucks are all great functions to expose new people to the social fun of your club. Just hanging out with club members, meeting new people, and being involved in events where there is a party-like atmosphere, is a great way for new people to join in the fun and become socially acquainted with your group.

If there is not any dancing taking place at the events, it's not a problem. The value of getting to know and have fun with your club members makes it that much easier for them to say "yes", when the opportunity to join your new dancer program comes around. If there is dancing, make some or all of it, geared to your "non dancers". If "club level" dancing is part of the event, try not to make it so hard that club members are struggling to keep up and more importantly, try even harder not to show off and make it look so difficult that these new folks will be saying to themselves, "I could never do that."

If the dancing experience is fun and positive, it will be easy for them to become part of your new dancer program. If for some reason they can't join the first available opportunity, keep them on your "Friends of Whatever Your Club Name Is" list and keep them coming to open club functions, because when they can they'll be great new dancer candidates.

If your club doesn't currently have open events for non-club members, consider planning some. Find a way to open your existing events with complimentary passes that can be distributed by all of your club members to their friends, neighbors, co-workers, and family. Make more of your club events opportunities to welcome new people and greet those new people like they were guests in your own home. It's much easier to invite potential dancers to one fun event than to try to invite them to make the big commitment that it takes to become part of your new dancer program.

As I mentioned before, make sure your Membership person, couple, or committee is keeping an on-going list of these friends or guests that have been present at one time or another. Invitations can be sent to them for up-coming events, and even things like club newsletters can be sent to them. Use email and if your club has a website, consider using that as a communication tool for prospective new dancers.

You might notice that I have been very careful not to call new dancers "beginners" or some other name that might even possibly be considered condescending. I also call "beginner classes", "new dancer programs" or "new dancer dances", because that's what each class or class night is. Although this may seem like a very small thing, some people will not join if they have to be a "beginner" or "greeny" for however long it takes to become a "real member" of your club. Make them complimentary members the minute they join your new dancer program. It will be much easier for them to stay in your new dancer program and make the transition to become a regular club member when they are already part of your club.

Another idea that many clubs are already doing is to invite your new dancers to your club dances after they are part way through the new dancers program. Several clubs I know, make every other tip at their club dance, a "new dance tip". The caller will make sure that everyone

has the "wind in their face" and is successfully dancing those tips. It gives your club members a chance to dance, have fun, and become more acquainted with your new members. It also can provide an opportunity for older club members, or members that haven't attended in a while, to dance with very little pressure and at a more comfortable pace geared for them.

You might think it's too late to plan a club function before your new dancer program begins, but there's another way to connect prospective new dancers and club members. Have a BBQ, pool party, picnic or potluck evening at the home of a member of your club. Invite as many club members as practical, and have each of them invite a few friends, neighbors, co-workers or family members to a relaxed afternoon or evening to socialize, play games, or just relax.

The more we open the doors of our clubs and dance groups, the better chance we'll have to grow our activity and spread the fun we have to others. Our dance activity is great exercise for the health of our bodies, terrific stimulation for the health of our minds, and some of the best social fun and interaction available in our society today. Plan an open event today!

Reprinted from *American Square Dance Magazine* July 2008

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## **In the Long Run**

By Caller Corbin Geis

I've gotten emails from a lot of energetic people who love square dancing and really are on a quest and a mission for saving our activity from becoming extinct. Don't worry, I don't think that will happen any time soon. The emails urge and encourage dancers and callers to shorten our teaching program, consolidate the lists and calls, do away with the western duds and use modern music. Do you really think that will get more people into square dancing?

A few years ago there were a lot of people on a crusade to change the name of our activity, but as soon as new dancers were trying out Diamond Dancing or CDP, they realized, "hey, this is square dancing". I would personally like to say I like all the ideas. We do need to change some things, with the times to keep square dancing alive and fresh. I agree.

I've even thought that the approach to instructing in the colleges by teaching the tougher stuff first is a great concept. Each of these concepts are wonderful, just for the fact the people are thinking outside the box, and are trying to save something they love dearly.

Here's some food for thought: A couple of us callers have tried this in our neck of the woods, and though a majority of our local dancers think it's a waste of time, we believe that down the road, this will eventually pay off. Please realize that I understand this is not a marketing strategy that will gain or attract a lot of new dancers immediately, but hopefully in the long run.

The main targets seem to be the Baby Boomers and the Empty Nesters, but for too many of them seem to recall "horror stories of square dancing in high school". Not all of them, but a vast majority. I have always blamed the stereotypical gym teachers for our demise. (Ironically, my parents both taught physical education.)

The problem was and still is, these health instructors DO NOT know the basic set up, rules, etiquette, calls, numbering, body flow, directions and formations of square dancing. To me, when someone is trying to teach something, that they are not fully aware of themselves, is setting many people up for failure. Even though I love square dancing very much, it was a disaster back in school. (By the way my parents were never my P. E. teachers, they actually knew what they were doing.)

Setting up for failure means 'horror' stories' such as the students constantly breaking down the square and the teacher losing their patience by trying to resolve the maps and diagrams on the backs of the old LP records. So now you have a class that looks like a scene from the Muppet Show. Chaos and confusion.

And, what do the students remember and relate all of this too? Square Dancing.

In our area, the kids who we've taught square dancing to for over the past 10 years, see me and the other callers out and about and they stop us and say, "We had a blast in your square dancing class. That was so much fun. When I'm done with college I'm going to join a club". Fun, fun, fun. And 99% of the ASD readers I hope all agree with me that it's much more interesting with a LIVE caller, than with instructional CDs. (Although there are now really good DVDs that are an excellent teacher's aide for square dancing in the schools.) Visual aides are a very good helper.

Now, I'm talking to the callers, please get yourselves and your square dance programs into the school systems. Here's a few tips that we have done, and they worked for us. Contact CALLERLAB and research Teaching Callers to Call in the Classroom, or inquire about the Education Committee's Handbook for teaching in schools. Write letters of introduction about square dancing and you the caller to send to the schools. Send three to each school, one for the principal, one for the gym teacher and one to the music teacher. Heck, I even have sent letters to the Math and History Teachers as well. Someone is bound to like the idea.

Present a program that uses a mixture of music from classic to contemporary, country to hip hop and learn three different ways to teach a call. Remember, we all learn in different ways. Give them a diversified lesson about square dancing, by means of the subjects I mentioned in the previous paragraph. Here's a big one. I dress like the rest of the staff, and I go in by myself. Sometimes, I get the luxury of teaching the teachers and faculty before meeting the students. What a plus.

The only time I may dress in square wear, and take in a square of angels with me is when I am teaching to the wee ones. Kindergartner, 1st and 2nd graders love the dress up and colorful stuff. Demos are always after, and not before the lesson.

Your main reason for going into the schools is NOT to enroll new square dancers for your autumn classes. You are merely 'planting the seed' and putting great memories of square dancing into the young minds of these potential and possible future dancers. Set everyone up for SUCCESS, and they'll remember it in the long run.

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CALLERLAB

I know everyone has heard of CALLERLAB, but have you ever wondered exactly what it is? Well I have so I did some research on the internet. It wasn't exactly what I thought it was!

About CALLERLAB

CALLERLAB is *the* international association of square dance callers. We are club callers, festival callers and traveling callers. We are active callers who share an interest in preserving and promoting the best of square dancing. Through our work on committees and attendance at annual Conventions, we have done much to make square dancing a popular worldwide recreation.

CALLERLAB exists to improve square dancing: To recruit, promote, and maintain the square dance activity. As an organization of square dance callers, it is our mission to provide education and guidance to the leaders of our activity. CALLERLAB also maintains a suggested list of dancing programs, from Mainstream through C-3A.

CALLERLAB Profile

CALLERLAB is an organization of leaders in the square dance community, a group of leaders dedicated to recruiting and teaching new dancers to appreciate the joys of square dancing. As callers, we have a responsibility to take an active role in promoting and perpetuating our square dance activity.

CALLERLAB is always striving to improve our activity. If you are a caller who "does things" rather than a person who "sits and watches" then we need you to get involved in CALLERLAB and its policy making decisions.

As callers, we are ambassadors for the square dance activity. Recruiting and teaching new dancers is the most important contribution we can make to the activity. Accepting this responsibility is vital to the success of the square dance activity.

The men and women involved in CALLERLAB are dedicated to the square dance activity. It is our job as callers to convince new dancers that square dancing is, indeed, *fun*.

CALLERLAB held its first convention in 1974. However, the roots of CALLERLAB go back to the mid-1960's. CALLERLAB has been working in many ways to help square dancing since then. To help everyone understand CALLERLAB and what CALLERLAB is doing, we offer the following list of accomplishments.

- **Universal Dance Programs.** More than 20 years ago, CALLERLAB members developed dance programs that have been accepted world-wide. These dance programs let you go anywhere in the world and dance.
- **Universal Call Definitions.** CALLERLAB members documented and negotiated an international agreement on the definition of all the calls we use. For the first time ever, calls were taught the same way in California as they were in New England—or "old" England, Germany, and everywhere else.
- **Publications and Training Material.** CALLERLAB has printed and published thousands of pages of publications to assist callers and dancers. These publications are used by dancers and callers everywhere, including the members of other square dance organizations.
- **Supporting the National Square Dance Convention.** CALLERLAB members are featured in nearly all of the calling slots at the National Square Dance Convention and conduct caller training sessions at the Convention.
- **Training New Callers.** CALLERLAB has established a Caller-Coach program to improve caller skills and thereby better serve dancers. CALLERLAB also provides a broad range of caller training sessions at its annual convention.
- **Music Licensing.** When BMI & ASCAP threatened clubs in the U.S. with license fees for every dance, CALLERLAB and ROUNDALAB, working together, negotiated a new form of licensing so dance leaders could take over this obligation from the clubs.

For further information, contact: Jerry Reed, Executive Director, 467 Forrest Avenue, Suite 118, Cocoa, FL 32922, 321-639-0039, callerlab@aol.com or www.callerlab.org.

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**Our Extraordinary Dancers**

This is a heart-warming story about our square dancing family, people who love people. It is also a story about caring, appreciation, and support for one of our own. There are many memories about people helping people and dancers helping dancers, but we think once in a while we need to be reminded about the giving nature of our sport's participants.

A lot of you remember "Blackhawk Ben" from the 53rd National held in Denver in 2004. He was the one with the authentic mountain man costumes (made by his wife of 30 years, Karen) of before and after going to heaven. He is otherwise known as Jerry Copeland, square dance Caller and square dance Hall of Fame honoree from Colorado's Northeast Council. Jerry and Karen were editors for their Council's Bulletin and in 2006 became Vice Presidents of the Colorado State Square Dance Association, an office they hold today. We could go on and on about the volunteer aspects of their lives, but as we all joke sometimes - "It's PAYBACK TIME!" And it definitely has begun.

A little history first: Jerry, a Marine Corps. veteran, had hip pain sufficient enough to go in for medical treatment in early 2008. In the following four months it resulted in his being in a wheelchair, unable to continue his work in construction. After this long delay, a biopsy in March revealed a tumor which had eaten away about a third of his pelvis. In early April surgeons did a 9+ hour operation and removed a malignant 10 pound mass. They attached a "saddle" to the remaining bone and a rod to his leg to act as a built-in prosthesis. Unfortunately later that week he was moved incorrectly (excruciatingly painful!), and had to undergo another surgery to repair the internal damage. He then was in a body brace and was under orders to have six weeks of bed rest (Until May 13). It is expected that he will have limited use of his leg.

And so the generosity of square dancers started shining through. It started with a phone call. After discussing it with his wife, Linda, Sam Pargheim, an NEC member and one of Jerry's best friends, had called to report the upcoming operation which would possibly result in a leg amputation. He asked if there wasn't some way we could use existing funds or immediately get a loan to pay the Copeland's house rent, to put Jerry at ease about a threatened eviction in April. So the wheels were in motion.

A private loan was secured, and a "Donation Fund" was set up through the State Association; within two weeks the loan was paid back with donations sent from all over the state - simply by word of mouth (and email). Donations are still coming in, as are benefit dances being held. The State Association agreed that the Donation Fund will be on-going for future needs of our dancing friends, but for now donations will go to the Copelands.

Since Jerry and Karen lived out of the Denver area, traveling to and from the VA hospital and their housing were a big concern. A major relief to Jerry came when a Fisher House residence

nearby (like Ronald McDonald House) was offered to Karen for minimal rent. With help from family, friends and square dancers, she promptly moved out of their house, put things in storage, and relocated. A set of worn out tires were next to go.

Tears well up in Jerry's eyes as he looks at the growing list of donors - he wonders how he can pay us all back! We simply tell him to just get well - his voice is still good and there's time to hone up on his calling skills. And Karen can make another Blackhawk Ben outfit for him perhaps, to be re-born as the "Copeland Crutch"!

He wanted this write-up for the *American Square Dance Magazine*, to tell the tale of square dancers' generosity. He will be embarrassed that he's the subject, but isn't it nice to not have to go to your own funeral to see how people care about you?! We belong to such a special family...

Hugs to you all,  
Judy and Jim Taylor, CSSDA Presidents

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2008 CALLERLAB Chairman's Award

Our organization is blessed to have many hard working unsung heroes. These are folks willing to go the extra mile volunteering many hours of work on many projects that usually go unnoticed. Working under the radar no task is too small or undauntedly large. They will do whatever is asked of them. Tonight I am going to shine a light on one such individual with unselfish dedication and commitment of a higher standard.

Throughout the years this recipient has been a jack of all trades. He has always been a "go to" kind of guy even in spite of health set backs. Plumbing, carpentry, graphics design, stock room organizer, inventory supplier, shipping clerk, style guide implementer, checklist developer, mailroom clerk, and phone operator are some of the things he does.

Whether the work is at the home or office, out in the field at conventions or some storage unit this man gets the job done. Office Assistant scarcely describes the job description, and thanks just is not enough; that is why I am presenting this years Chairman's Award to **Mr. John Swindle**.

(Editor's Note: This is the presentation made by past CALLERLAB Chairman Tim Marriner. I wanted to include it in the DANCERgram as John Swindle is a caller in Rockledge, FL and he is a supporter of the Florida State Convention.)



All Things Considered

Two Wings of the Square Dance Bird

By: Caller Ed Foote

An ancient proverb says: "Two wings of the bird: right heart and right method. A bird cannot fly with only one wing."

In square dancing virtually everyone has the RIGHT HEART, which means the desire to be successful, dance well, and avoid breaking down. Unfortunately, RIGHT METHOD leaves much to be desired.

RIGHT METHOD consists of two parts: (A) knowing call definitions and (B) knowing how to dance, which means knowing how to move one's body through the square.

Most dancers realize it is important to know call definitions, but for some reason they do not think about them. Dancers assume that because they have danced a call several times, they will automatically remember the definitions, and this is just not true.

The problem is compounded by callers. Many callers only use a call from one position, so dancers get a warped view of the definition. For example, dancers may think the definition of Spin the Top is: "Swing half, girls cast 3/4 and the boys move up." because many callers only call it from waves starting with the boys in the center.

Callers further compound the problem by excessive and incessant directional cuing by definitions. Cuing is fine, but some callers do this so much that the dancers say: "I don't have to know definitions, because the caller will always talk me through." Then dancers wonder why they break down.

Dancers and callers share equal blame here: dancers because they never think about definitions, and callers for the reasons named.

A GENERAL RULE OF THUMB FOR DANCERS IS: "If you cannot verbalize the definition of a call, you probably do not know the call." This results in people being dependent on watching other dancers to know what to do and where to go. This will cause dancers to break down many squares, but it is never their fault (they claim), because the person they were watching made a mistake so they are to blame. This type of convoluted logic is rampant throughout square dancing.

On the other hand, dancers can know all the definitions, but if they do not control their bodies in the square, breakdowns result. The most important rules here are: (1) take hands immediately after each call is completed, and (2) keep sets small.

These two rules have been heard by everyone, so why do most dancers ignore them? Because they do not THINK about them! Dancers hear these rules and say: "That's nice, I agree," and then totally forget about these rules until they hear them again, whereupon they say: "That's nice, I agree," etc. If dancers reminded themselves about these two rules every time they square up, breakdowns would be greatly reduced. Soon dancers could stop thinking about these rules, because they would become automatic. But nothing becomes automatic unless you think about it for a while initially, and dancers are not thinking about these two rules.

Two wings of the bird, and most dancers are flying on one wing. This is why so many squares flap around with low success rates and produce a product that is not SQUARE DANCING but rather is SQUARE STAGGERING. Dancers who do use both wings find that they soar, and the resulting fun and boundless joy they experience is what square dancing is truly meant to be.

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## Point of Order

From Kappie Kappenman

### Square Dance Angels are for Real

By: Vic and Peg Wills, Springfield, PA

The word "angel" comes from the Greek noun, Angelos, and Webster had many definitions for an angel, from spiritual messenger, to one who backs a theatrical venture with money or influence. Somewhere between these two extremes is a place where we should expect to find a square dance angel.

In many beginners classes, whether club or caller sponsored, we will find square dance angels, but not always. Generally, they are recent class graduates who are so enthusiastic about their newly found hobby that they spread the message to their friends and with a little friendly persuasion on their part, encourage them to get in on all the fun by signing up for a beginner's class.

Selling square dancing, like selling life insurance and real estate, requires referral business to survive. Those who sell life insurance and real estate are aware of the old Spanish proverb which says, "That which is good does not exist in abundance." Prospective square dancers, like

good prospects, are not in abundance but, hopefully, can be cultivated by referrals from satisfied clients or happy square dancers.

Usually, recent graduates attend beginners classes along with their friends to assist the caller wherever needed in a square. Although this is recommended by many clubs and callers, recent graduates may sometimes be a little unsure of themselves, as they too are just trying their new wings in the square dance world. Consequently, there is a great need for the experienced dancer, the "old pro," the super angel, to be available at all beginners classes - not only to assist the caller as required, but to lend themselves to pacing the square in timing, maneuverability, proper courtesies, and the supportive assurance only the experienced super angel can give.

Rotary International proclaims in its motto, "He profits most who serves best" - and it's a dandy motto to remember and practice. We work diligently to bring new folks into square dancing - let's work just as hard to keep these new dancers in all their classes until they graduate, *and beyond*. How? Just be an angel!

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Looking for ribbons to a festival?

I am carrying ribbons to the following dances if you are interested in purchasing any:

- September (Labor Day Weekend) - 2008 Single Square Dancers USA Dance-A-Rama, Nashville, TN
- November 2, 2008 - 23 rd Annual Macdonald Benefit Dance, Strawberry Square
- November 7 - 8, 2008 - West Coast Association's Fall Fun Fest - Bartow
- November 21 -22, 2008 - ALOHA! Northeast Associations's Fall Festival - Jacksonville
- March 20 - 21, 2009 - Central Association Shamrock Swing - The Villages, FL

NOTE: If you see any flyers with my name, email address and phone number stamped on them, I have the ribbons (or will be receiving them shortly) to sell. I always have the ribbons with me.

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NOTE: Yellow highlighting is a change from last week's email.

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THIS WEEK'S DANCES

Monday - *Temple Twirlers Pecos Promenade Hoedown Dance* - Barksdale Recd Center, 1801 N. Lincoln, Tampa - ER 7:00 p.m., mainstream/plus/rounds - all singing calls - 7:30 - 9:30 p.m. - caller: [Danny Wilkerson](#), cuer: Charlie Lovelace. For info: mlewis87@tampabay.rr.com

Tuesday - *Buttons & Bows of Lakeland Red, White & Bluw Dance* - Magnolia Building, 702 E. Orange St., Lakeland - ER 7:30 p.m., mainstream/plus/rounds 8:00 - 10:00 p.m. - finger foods - caller: Art Springer, cuer: Charlie Lovelace. For info: bevanlee@aol.com.

Sun City Center - Sun City Center Community Hall, 1910 S. Pebble Beach Blvd., Room 3, Sun City - mainstream dance and plus workshop - 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. - caller: Van Coble. For info: gail3357@gmail.com or 813-633-1297 (Gail) or 813-633-8780 (Sue).

Suncoast Squares - Metro Center, 3170 3rd Ave. N., St. Pete - pot luck 6:45 p.m. - Mainstream and plus workshop 7:30 - 10:00 p.m. - Caller: Mike Cox. For info: suncoastsquares@yahoo.com.

Wednesday - *Port Charlotte Cultural Center* - **NO DANCE** For info: 941-380-5336, mdow@cyberstreet.com, or 863-494-2749.

Thursday - *Hitch 'n Go #082 Square Dance Camping Group* - Jetty Park, 9035 Campground Circle, Cape Canaveral, FL. - no dancing - social weekend. For info: jelohart@hotmail.com

King's Point Swingers - Kings Point Health Room (main Clubhouse), CRT. 674 (east of I-75), Sun City Center - ER 7:00 - 7:30 p.m., plus/rounds 7:30 - 9:30 p.m. - caller/cuer: Mike Cox. For info: 813-649-0754 or hlhtfh@yahoo.com.

Citrus Squares - First United Methodist Church, 21501 W. Highway 40, Dunnellon - 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. - caller: Ellis Lindsey. For info: lalecl@aol.com.

Promenade Squares - Senior Center, 7625 nth St. N., Pinellas Park - Plus workshop 6:00 - 7:00 p.m., ER 7:00 - 7:30 p.m. mainstream/plus/rounds 7:30 - 9:45 p.m. - casual attire - caller: Dick Demerit; cuers: Jimmy &/or Carol Griffin. For info: peto1936@yahoo.com.

Friday - *Hitch 'n Go #082 Square Dance Camping Group* - Jetty Park, 9035 Campground Circle, Cape Canaveral, FL. - no dancing - social weekend. For info: jelohart@hotmail.com

Spinning Wheels Ice Cream Social - Barksdale Recd Center, 1801 N. Lincoln, Tampa - ER 7:00 p.m., mainstream/plus/rounds 7:30 - 9:30 p.m. - caller: [Mike Cox](#), cuer: Charlie Lovelace. For info: helenm720@aol.com or jbarnes73@tampabay.rr.com.

Flutter Wheelers - Bayonet Point Enrichment Center, 12417 Clock Tower Parkway, Bayonet Point, Hudson - ER 6:30 p.m., plus/rounds 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. - AS tip at 9:00 - relaxed attire June to October - caller: Bob Bourassa, cuer: John Ayers. For info: Bob Bourassa 352-796-8254 or bobbourassa@bellsouth.net.

Snell's Bo's and Bell's - Largo Community Center - nth - the Street NW, Largo - tastefully casual dress- callers: Allen Snell. Contact settarose1@verizon.net

Sun City Center Square Dance Club - Sun City Center Community Hall, 1910 S. Pebble Beach Blvd., Sun City - ER 7:00 - 7:30 p.m., mainstream/plus/rounds 7:30 - 9:30 p.m. - caller: Van Coble - cuer: Mary Wirework. For info: gail3357@gmail.com or 813-633-1297 (Gail) or 813-633-8780 (Sue).

Saturday - **Bay Area Twirlers (BATS)** - Brandon Rec Center, 502 Sadie Street, Brandon - ER 7:00 p.m., mainstream/plus/rounds 7:30 - 9:30 p.m. - finger foods. For info: JudiBrookover@regencycenters.com

Hitch 'n Go #082 Square Dance Camping Group - Jetty Park, 9035 Campground Circle, Cape Canaveral, FL. - no dancing - social weekend. For info: jelohart@hotmail.com

New Port Richey - New Port Richey Recd Center, 6630 Van Bur en St., New Port Richey, 34653 - 1:30 - 1:00 workshop, 2:00 - 4:00 Dance (mainstream/plus/rounds) - caller/cuer: Allen Snell. For info: settarose1@verizon.net.

Sunday - **Hitch 'n Go #082 Square Dance Camping Group** - Jetty Park, 9035 Campground Circle, Cape Canaveral, FL. - no dancing - social weekend. For info: jelohart@hotmail.com

B&S Flutter Wheelers - Bayonet Point Enrichment Center, 12417 Clock Tower Parkway, Bayonet Point, Hudson - A 2 workshop 5:30 - 6:00 p.m. - A 2 Dance - 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. - relaxed attire - caller: Bob Bourassa. For info: 352-796-8254 or bobbourassa@bellsouth.net.

King of Kings Church - 10337 U.S. 19, Port Richey - casual dress - 1:00 - 4:30 p.m. Tips are alternated. Caller/Cuer: Allen Snell. For info: 727-809-3429 or 727-809-0323 or settarose1@verizon.net.

Orange Blossom Squares - The Villages La Hacienda Center, The Villages - 7:00 - 9:30 p.m. - caller: **Don Hanhurst**, cuer: Joanne Helton. For info: sharonandron579@localnet.com

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## **CLASSES:**

*Please provide start date, start and ending time, level (beginner, mainstream, plus, etc.) exact address (with city) where class and/or workshop will be held, instructor's name, contact name, email address and phone number.*

***CLUBS, CALLERS, CUERS: IT'S NOT TOO EARLY TO START  
ADVERTISING YOUR CLASSES!***

***DANCERS: IT'S NOT TOO EARLY TO START TALKING TO  
YOUR FRIENDS, ACQUAINTANCES, CO-WORKERS, ETC.  
ABOUT THE BENEFITS OF LEARNING TO DANCE!***



August 5, 2008 - **Suncoast Squares Beginner Class and Plus Workshop** - Metro Center, 3170 3rd Ave. N., St. Pete - first night is a free fun night from 7:30 - 10:00 p.m. - classes start the following week - mainstream 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. - plus workshop 9:00 - 10:00 p.m. - \$5 per person donation - caller/instructor: Mike Cox. For info: [suncoastsquares@yahoo.com](mailto:suncoastsquares@yahoo.com).

October 7, 2008 - **Sun City Center Square Dance Club Beginner Class** - Sun City Center Community Hall, 1910 S. Pebble Beach Blvd., Sun City - first night is Open House 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. - class begins October 14 - beginner class 7:00 - 8:30 p.m.; Plus 8:30 - 9:30 p.m. - caller/instructor: Van Coble. For info: [gail3357@gmail.com](mailto:gail3357@gmail.com).

October 26, 2008 - **Hampton Promenaders Beginner Square Dance Lessons** - Hampton's Community, 1094 Hwy 92 W., Auburndale - 1:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. - caller/instructor: Danny Miller. For info: [chraller56@aol.com](mailto:chraller56@aol.com).

October 26, 2008 - **Hampton Promenaders Plus Workshop** - Hampton's Community, 1094 Hwy. 92 W., Auburndale - 3:30 p.m. - caller/instructor: Danny Miller. For info: [chraller56@aol.com](mailto:chraller56@aol.com).

November 3, 2008 - **Strawberry Square Mainstream Square Dance Class** - 4401 Promenade Boulevard, Plant City - first night FREE - call fee will be \$4 per person per session - 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. - caller/instructor: Roland Blanchette. For info: [www.floridadanceweb.com/strawberry](http://www.floridadanceweb.com/strawberry).

November 3, 2008 - **Strawberry Square Introduction to Plus Movements** - 4401 Promenade Boulevard, Plant City - class fee will be \$4 per person per session - 8:00 - 9:30 p.m. - call/instructor: Roland Blanchette. For info: [www.floridadanceweb.com/strawberry](http://www.floridadanceweb.com/strawberry).

November 4, 2008 - **City of Auburndale Basic & Mainstream Lessons** - Auburndale Senior Center, 119 Park St. (across from the basketball courts), Auburndale - 7:00 p.m. For info: [stocker38@worldnet.att.net](mailto:stocker38@worldnet.att.net) or 407-766-5659.

November 4, 2008 - **City of Auburndale Plus Workshop** - Auburndale Senior Center, 119 Park St. (across from the basketball courts), Auburndale - 8:30 p.m. For info: [stocker38@worldnet.att.net](mailto:stocker38@worldnet.att.net) or 407-766-5659.

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FUTURE PLANNING:

Please include dates, exact address of location where dances are held (including city), themes, level(S), if rounds are included, times, callers and cuers (exact names - not 'guest callers'), attire, contact information (include email and phone number). IF THERE ARE ANY CHANGES TO YOUR SCHEDULE DURING THE YEAR, I.E. CANCELLATIONS, CHANGE OF CALLERS OR CUERS, CHANGE OF DANCE LOCATION, PLEASE NOTIFY ME AS SOON AS POSSIBLE SO THE WORD CAN BE PASSED TO AS MANY DANCERS AS POSSIBLE.

PLEASE ENSURE THE INFORMATION IN THE WEST COAST DANCER IS CURRENT AND ACCURATE.

July 3 – 6, 2008 – **Touch a Quarter Century – 25th Annual IAGSDC® (International Association of Gay Square Dance Clubs) Convention** – Cleveland, OH. For info: www.iagsdc.org.

July 7, 2008 - **Temple Twirlers Patriotic Dance** - Barksdale Sr. Center, 1801 N. Lincoln Ave., Tampa, FL - ER 7:00 p.m., mainstream/plus/rounds 7:30 - 9:30 p.m. - caller: Van Coble, cuer: Charlie Lovelace. For info: mlewis87@tampabay.rr.com.

July 8 – 10, 2008 – **National Square Dance Campers Camporee** – 262 Sprague Street, Coldwater, MI. For info: aebentley@amazinisp.com.

July 9, 2008 - **Whirl & Twirl Tenderfoot Dance** - Whirl & Twirl Square Dance Hall, 6949 Ventura Circle, Orlando, FL - mainstream - workshop: 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.; dance: 8:00 - 10:00 p.m. - caller: **Paul Place**. For info: 407-679-2882.

July 11, 2008 - **Whirl & Twirl** - Whirl & Twirl Square Dance Hall, 6949 Ventura Circle, Orlando, FL - ER 7:30 p.m., plus/rounds 8:00 - 10:00 p.m. - caller: **Paul Place**. For info: 407-679-2882.

July 11 – 13, 2008 – **Alaska State Square & Round Dance Festival** – Kenai Peninsula Fairgrounds, Ninilchik, AK. For info: Lenora_regeon@yahoo.com.

July 12, 2008 - **Bay Area Twirlers (BATS) Shipwreck Dance** - Brandon Rec Center, 502 Sadie Street, Brandon, FL - ER 7:00 p.m., mainstream/plus/rounds 7:30 - 9:30 p.m. - caller: Art Springer, cuer: Charlie Lovelace. For info: jbrookover@regencycenters.com.

July 12, 2008 - **Christmas in July** - Keystone Heights High School, 700 Orchid Ave., Keystone Heights, FL - square dance to help others walk - to benefit the Shriner's Crippled Childrens' Hospital - Touch a Quarter - Touch a Heart - Chinese auction, raffles, door prizes - non stop dancing - \$9 per couple - sponsored by the Rural Callers Association and Gateway Callers. For info: Mary Chesnut 352-378-2577.

July 13 - 15, 2008 - **CALLERLAB's Canadian Mini-Lab** - Best Western Stoneridge Inn & Conference Center, 6675 Burtwistle Lane, London, Ontario, Canada - attend sessions with CALLERLAB'S John Marshall, VA, Chairman of the Board; Tim Marriner, SC, Past Chairman; Bill

Harrison, MD, Executive Committee Member; Jerry Reed, FL, Executive Director - sessions include: digital music, showmanship, choreography, recruitment, marketing and voice coaching - registration: \$159 per caller + \$80 per partner (CDN or USD) - package includes: all sessions, welcome party, two continental breakfasts, Monday lunch, Monday banquet, refreshment breaks, counts toward CALLERLAB full membership - make your own hotel reservation at Best Western Stoneridge - 1-888-471-2378 or 1-519-652-6022. For info: Pam Clasper - pam@clasper.ca - 800-331-2577 - 416-498-0007 - www.callerlab.org.

July 15, 2008 - **Deadline for submissions to the September issue of *American Square Dance Magazine***. For info: AmericanSquareDance@earthlink.net.

July 17 - 19, 2008 - **16th Canadian National Square & Round Dance Convention** - London, Ontario. For info: www.swosda.ca/2008 or stanley.down@sympatico.ca.

July 18, 2008 - **Sun City Center Square Dance Club Summer Picnic** - Sun City Center Community Hall, 1910 S. Pebble Beach Blvd., Sun City - ER 7:00 - 7:30 p.m., mainstream/plus/rounds 7:30 - 9:30 p.m. - club will provide hot dogs, rolls and condiments - members will bring picnic food - caller: Van Coble - cuer: Mary Wiewora. For info: gail3357@gmail.com or 813-633-1297 (Gail) or 813-633-8780 (Sue).

July 22, 2008 - **Buttons & Bows of Lakeland Beach Party** - Magnolia Building, 702 E. Orange St., Lakeland, FL - ER 7:30 p.m., mainstream/plus/rounds 8:00 - 10:00 p.m. - finger foods - caller: Art Springer, cuer: Charlie Lovelace. For info: bevanlee@aol.com.

July 23, 2008 - **West Coast Folding and Business Meeting** - Barksdale Center, 1801 N. Lincoln Ave., Tampa, FL - Folding 6:00 p.m., Business Meeting starts as soon as the folding is completed. **PLEASE SEND A REPRESENTATIVE FROM YOUR CLUB OR FORWARD A REPORT TO BE READ AT THE MEETING! EVERYONE IS WELCOME AND ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND.** For info: brassy1012@yahoo.com

July 24 - 26, 2008 - **11th National Handicapable Square Dance Convention** - Mobile, AL. For info: ush2@ushandicapable.org or 251-633-8212.

July 25 - 26, 2008 - **25th Illinois Square and Round Dance Convention** - Lincoln Christian College, 100 Campus View Drive, Lincoln. For info: 217-645-3302 or swrtz@adams.net

June 26 -28, 2008 - **Hitch 'n Go Chapter #082 Social Weekend** - No Dancing - Florida Camp Inn, 48504 Highway 27, Davenport, FL. For info: jelohart@[hotmail.com](mailto:jelohart@hotmail.com).

July 27 - 31, 2008 - **Maggie Valley Square Dance Vacation** - Pride RV Resort, 4394 Jonathan Creek Rd., Waynesville, NC 28785 - **Plus DBD workshop. This week is a learning week for plus dancers who wish to explore more challenging choreography** - caller: **Randy Dougherty** - prices are per couple and include lodging, breakfast and dinner daily, after party snacks and dancing morning and night. (Tuesday nights are off for you to explore the area or you may attend our open mainstream dance.) Casual dance. RV Package - \$495 + applicable

tax; cabin rental package - \$695 or \$745 + applicable tax; park model package - \$795 or \$845 + applicable tax; \$50 deposit for RV package + \$100 deposit for cabin and park model packages. Enjoy mini golf - heated pool and hot tub - fishing - wireless internet - picnics along Jonathan Creek - horsehoes - Hillbilly Golf - Holy Board and much more! Check in Sunday at 2:00 p.m. and check out Friday at 10:00 a.m. New hall with wood floor. Air conditioned. For info: squaredance@pridervresort.com or 1-800-926-8191 and ask for Linda.

Penny T. Green, Editor

DANCERgram

863-967-5004
sqdnxfan@aol.com

"Square Dance - friendship set to music"

Links:

<http://www.floridadanceweb.com/> (Florida Dance Web)

http://floridadancing.com/html/west_coast_squares.html (West Coast)

www.floridadanceweb.com/fassrd (Florida Singles)

<http://usda.fundlinklic.com/> (online shopping mall)

<http://www.usda.org/> (United Square Dancers of America)

<http://www.samdunn.net/> (Caller Sam Dunn's personal web site)

www.floridadanceweb.com/strawberry (Strawberry Square)

<http://www.nsddirectory.com/> (National Square Dance Directory - information & contacts for clubs in the U.S., Canada and around the world)

<http://www.aronssquaredanceshopandpatterns.com/> (Aron's Square Dance & Western Wear Shop)

<http://www.calyco.com/> (CaLyCo Crossing - a full line square dance shop)

<http://www.tictactoes.com/> (Tic Tac Toes - shoe vendor)

www.iagsdc.org (International Assn. of Gay Square Dance Clubs)

www.sheplers.com (Sheplers - the world's largest western stores & catalog)

This E-Newsletter is published by a square and round dancer concerned about the preservation of our dance activity. This is not a publication of the West Coast Square and Round Dancers' Association, Inc. The target audience is the dancers in the West Coast area of the state of Florida and contains

dance information for the upcoming week in this area as well as major dances around the state and nation, and any other information of interest to the dancers. It is published weekly with addendums as needed. New information each week is highlighted. Permission is given to forward this newsletter to your membership or others interested in receiving a copy or to provide printed copies to your members and visitors to your club. It is also available on the West Coast page of the Florida Dance Web at www.floridadanceweb.com. If you would like a copy emailed to you or would like your club information added, please contact the editor at sgdncfan@aol.com. Please continue to support the West Coast Dancer, a publication of the West Coast Square and Round Dancers' Association, which is published bimonthly and is provided free of charge for all dancers. For circulation, listings, club news, ads and articles, contact Ed Henning at 813-659-4787 or evhenning@peoplepc.com.