

DANCERgram

Square and round dance news for the west coast of Florida

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This entire newsletter is also posted at www.dancergram.com

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wanted: Gently used square dance attire to be donated to the West Coast Association. These clothes will be sold on E-Bay with the proceeds being donated to the 2014 State Convention. Contact Jenny Green at 863-287-5724 or jenanngreen@yahoo.com to make arrangements for delivery or pick up.

May 5, 2012 - Submission deadline for the June issue of Bow

& Swing. For info: bowandswing@gmail.com.

May 6, 2012 - Suncoast Callers and Cuers Association Meeting

and Annual Picnic – Strawberry Square Dance Center, 4401 Promenade Boulevard, Plant City, FL – time TBA. . If you call, cue or teach in the area covered by the West Coast Association, please consider joining this association. For membership info: Clyde Stocker at STOCKER38@worldnet.att.net. For meeting info: Carl Rod at carlsgrdrod@yahoo.com.

DATE CHANGE May 16, 2012 – West Coast Folding/Business

Meeting - Community Southern Bank, 3440 S. Florida Avenue (1/4 mile north of the South Florida Avenue exit from the Polk Parkway and on the east side of the road), Lakeland – Folding starts at 6:00 p.m. – Business Meeting starts as soon as the Folding is completed; usually around 6:45 – 7:00 p.m. All Officers, County Reps and Committee Chairman are reminded to forward reports to the West Coast Secretary at leajda@earthlink.com when they will miss a meeting. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend these meetings. Every club is asked to send a representative to not only assist with the folding and to attend the business meeting, but to pick up your copies of the West Coast Dancer. For info: sqdncfan@aol.com 863-224-3393.

From the Editor....



Well, as I assumed I didn't hear from several clubs, callers and cuers regarding their dance and/or class schedules so their listings have been removed from the "What's Happening This Week?" section below. In the last issue of the DANCERgram, I implemented a policy that if I didn't receive updated information on any club by May 1st, I would delete their listing.

I make every attempt to ensure that I provide accurate and timely information in this newsletter. However, the information is only as good as what is provided to me. Since I haven't received any type of confirmation information on these clubs and classes, I have no way of knowing if they are still in session. I do not have time to check everyone's websites, and by the same token I shouldn't have to email anyone looking for information. If you dance with a club that is not listed, perhaps you could mention it to someone to send me the information or you can send it to me.

Spinning Wheels of Tampa will be celebrating their 42nd anniversary on Friday, May 4th at their regularly scheduled dance. I believe they're the third oldest club in the West Coast Association, with BATS in second place, and Buttons & Bows of Lakeland being the oldest. With so many clubs folding, these three anniversaries are really something to celebrate. With the hard work and dedication of callers, cuers and dancers who came before us, these clubs have managed to survive all these years and it should rightfully be recognized.

If you're looking for a good Saturday night dance, Strawberry Square in Plant City will be open for the Paul Place Scholarship Dance this Saturday, May 5th. There are several callers scheduled - Bill Boyd, Sam Dunn, Brad Tomlinson and Larry Belcher; Cuer: Jack Jenkins. All proceeds go to the Paul Place Scholarship Fund, Pride Caller's School, in honor of Paul Place, Maggie Valley, NC. Many of you probably remember Paul Place. He was a great caller and did a lot to promote square dancing. He fought a hard battle against cancer (and lost) and continued calling for as long as he could.

Have you purchased your ribbons for the state convention in May? The advance ribbon sales are still available up until the Trail-In Dance at Strawberry Square on Thursday, May 24th. Advance ribbons are \$35 per person for the entire weekend.

Health & Sympathy

The entries listed below are for callers, cuers, West Coast Association officers and representatives and other Florida associations and Federation officers and any others who are well known to the Florida square and round dance community. Listings for others can be found on the website (www.dancergram.com – Health & Sympathy).

Don't forget to go to www.dancergram.com for additional information on West Coast dancers!



Elvin Mahan, past president of the West Coast Association and past treasurer/registrar for the West Coast Fall Fun Fest, passed away early in the morning on April 24, 2012. He was 92 years old. His obituary is below:

Elvin C. Mahan, 92, born July 1, 1919 went home to be with his Lord on April 24, 2012. He was born in Wilford, Ind., son of Adrian C. Mahan and Mabel Delaney Mahan. He gave up a promising baseball career to join the U.S. Navy in 1942, serving his country for six years. He was a life member of Masonic Lodge #541, Brazil, IN, life member of Zorah Shriners of Terre

Haute, IN and Order of Eastern Star # 87 in Bradenton. He was a member of Palmetto United Methodist Church and volunteered at the Church Thrift Store. He was a square dancer, square dance camper, Past President of the West Coast Square and Round Dancers Association and served many years as treasurer for that organization's Fall Fun Fest. He is survived by his wife of 41

years Dolores L. Mahan, son Jeffery A. Hughes (Terri), grandson Jackson Hughes of St. Louis, MO, niece Sharon Freund of Steger, IL and many friends and "adopted" families. A memorial service will be held on Saturday, April 28, 2012 at 3:00pm at the Palmetto United Methodist Church. In lieu of flowers please consider a donation to the American Lung Assn . or the Palmetto United Methodist Church.

To send cards to Dolores (who is still in rehab. from her stroke) send to: Dolores Mahan, c/o the Brasfields, 5700 Bayshore Road, Lot 1012, Palmetto, Fl., 34221.

The memorial church service was on Saturday, April 28th.

How do I get in touch with....??

This contact list can also be found at

www.dancergram.com

April 2, 2012

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Your Source...

I carry ribbons and flyers for the following dances:

May 25 – 27, 2012 – 58th Florida State Convention – Lakeland

October 26 – 27, 2012 – 33rd Annual Party-Rama – Sebring, FL

November 9 – 10, 2012 – West Coast Association's 38th Annual Fall Fun Fest - Bartow

If you see a flyer that has my name and contact information stamped on it, I have ribbons for that dance.

2012 FLORIDA STATE SQUARE & ROUND DANCE CONVENTION



Happy Mother's Day to all the mothers and Grandmothers out there. We hope you have a wonderful day with your family and friends.

We cannot believe it is already May. Where will you be Memorial Day Weekend? In Lakeland at the State Convention, we hope. We and our committees have worked very hard the past few months to bring you and

enjoyable weekend of dancing. Check out our dance program in this issue or online at www.floridasquaredance.com to see what our weekend dancing will be offering to Square, Rounds and new prospective dancers. We are offering a "Welcome to Our World" room for you to bring friends and family who you would like to introduce to the wonderful world of Square Dancing.

The Host Hotel is the Ramada Hotel & Conference Center of Lakeland (formerly Holiday Inn-North) (863) 688-8080. The room rate is \$65.00 + tax. Be sure to ask for the "Square Dance Rate". Price includes two free breakfasts each morning.

For the Campers, Lakeland RV Resort is giving the Square Dancers a special rate for the Convention. Be sure to identify yourself as a "Square Dancer" when you make your reservations. (863) 687-6146

Have you purchased a Raffle Ticket for a \$500 CASH prize? The \$500 prize will be given away at the State Convention on Sunday evening. See your area Ways & Means Chairman for tickets. You do not need to be present to WIN, so purchase a ticket and be a WINNER!

Did you miss the deadline to get reduced priced ribbons in the mail? Well, you will have one more chance to get them if you attend our Mardi Gras Trail End Dance on Thursday, May 24, 2012 at Strawberry Squares in Plant City, 4401 Promenade Blvd. We will sell you a reduced priced ribbon this evening. After the dance, ribbons will be full price. Callers for this evening will be 2012 Caller Chairman Charlie Pergrossi, Co-Caller Chairman Ted Kennedy and the 2012 Cuer Chairman Lisa Wall. Please plan on attending; we will be accepting Donations at the door for this event.

On Friday night you may wear anything Mardi Gras including costumes. There will be competition dancing on Saturday afternoon and some dangle dances during the weekend in the Mainstream Hall. Don't forget to check out our Vendors.



Happy Memorial Day. God Bless our Troops.

Let the Good Times Roll.

Garland & Carole McKenzie 2012 General Chairmen

National Square and Round Dance Convention – Spokane, Washington

National Squares Online - April, 2012

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ENJOY the latest edition of the National Executive Committee's National Squares Online - Your window to happenings at the coming 61st National

Square Dance Convention®.

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The Mayor's Welcome and LESS than 70 days until the 61st National Square Dance Convention® in Spokane, WA, this issue of the National Squares Online has many informative topics and details that can help with your preparations to attend. The mayor of Spokane welcomes all dancers. more



Reservations Required - Wednesday Show

Be sure to get your reservations as space is limited. The Time Benders have been a hit in Las Vegas and offer up a 'roller coaster ride' of fun, entertainment, impersonations and music from the 50's, 60's and on to today.

Before the Wednesday show and following the opening ceremonies, join up for a 'Picnic in the Park'. It is an all you can eat Texas style barbeque prepared by chefs of the world famous 'Longhorn Barbeque'

Getting to your destination may be helped by a list of phone numbers to transportation and accommodations. see a list of numbers.

There a number of Trails-In and Trails-Thru dances planned



















Vendors are important too! They provide all the clothes, shoes and accessories that are an important part of the square dance process we all enjoy. . . . more

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NSDC Online by the NEC 2616 Polo Club Boulevard Matthews, NC 28105



Callerlab Viewpoints

How to Approach School Programs Using the Internet By Mike Callahan

In the mid-1970s one of our area callers, who had been teaching square dancing in a high school Physical Education program, asked me if I was interested in taking it over. I had just started calling full-time and was eager to build my calling business. The "gig" was 40 miles from my house, so for five days I drove an 80 mile roundtrip, taught 8 to 9 classes (45 minutes long) each day, and was paid a substitute teacher's pay of \$50.00 per day.

From this one school program, I was able to gradually build a very successful business calling in schools over the years. Now I teach square dancing in about 25-30 school Physical Education programs each year (K-12). I estimate that I see 10,000-12,000 kids each school year. These school Phys. Ed programs have led to many square dance parties, family nights, graduation parties, teachers' workshops, weddings, and just a whole host of other calling dates along with my evening clubs and traveling for specials and festivals.

With the advent of the internet, contacting schools, administrators, and teachers has become relatively easy. Thus, the following is [an] article for callers who may be interested in getting their "foot in the school door" using the internet.

Most all schools and school districts have websites. The majority of communication done by teachers and administrators is through email. They do not have time for regular mail or telephone books. When they are looking for a special program/artist they use internet search engines.

If you are interested in calling in schools, it behooves you to set up a professional website. Fliers and resumes mailed to schools will find the "circular file" quickly. You make much more of an impression if you have a website. On your website, include information about yourself, your calling experience, and the values of square dancing to school programs.

Most school websites incorporate staff directories which usually include teacher websites and email addresses. We have found that you will get a much quicker response if you contact a teacher rather than an administrator. Teachers know what kind of programs are of value to them and are excellent advocates to the administration for something that they want.

Depending on when the school year in your area starts, most Physical Education teachers have their programs already planned by the beginning of the school year, so they should be contacted in August or before the school year ends in May/June. Send out e-mails to Phys. Ed teachers asking them if they have ever considered square dancing as part of their program and encourage them to visit your website. Many Phys. Ed teachers have the schedule of activities through the year posted on a website. If you find a physical education program that has some type of rhythms/dance listed, you are much more likely to get into that school. Another way to get into schools is through the music/art program. Many schools have budgets for cultural arts/visiting artist programs that will pay for your services.

Family nights are very popular in elementary schools and are usually sponsored by PTA groups. Look for the school's special event schedule, and if they have this type of event, offer your services. Sometimes during the school year, schools have "teacher in service" workshops. There are also local, regional, and national Physical Education Conferences. All these are places to get your "foot in the door".

Do not get discouraged if you get little response. Keep flooding the market with your e-mails. We have found that you might not hear from a school from the initial contact, but do it again for two or three years. Sometimes teachers retire and the new teacher wants to have a different program.

Teachers have a huge network and they talk to each other. If they find something that they really like they will spread the word.

Those interested in more information may contact Mike Callahan through his website at: www.callermike.com.

Reprint from American Square Dance - May 2012

Recruiting, Retention, Commitment

By Alice Winnick – Reprinted from the Long Island Promenader, Winter 2012

We constantly hear about the decline of square dancing in our fast paced, modern world of digital technology. Despite our best efforts through demos, fliers and advertising, we still cannot recruit new dancers to Modern Western Square Dancing. At every major convention or minor seminar, there are panels or discussion groups who try to find solutions to this ever-present problem.

In past years, dancers would commit to some 35-40 weeks of classes, from September to May, in order to learn the Basic and Mainstream programs. After their first twelve weeks, they knew enough calls to attend their first "student level" dance, usually a holiday party in December. Then another student level dance was held in February, with perhaps a third dance six to eight weeks later, followed by graduation in May.

Over the summer, Mainstream dances would be held, with the already established dancers encouraging the new graduates to master their footwork. The Plus program would be taught at this time, and by September the new graduates would be welcomed into the club.

Frequently these "new club members" would become "angels" over the next several years, assisting with the incoming annual classes. In reality, they were actually taking the lessons all over again, reinforcing their own newly-acquired skills, in the guise of helping the new beginner students.

Today, when mainstream and Plus dancers are asked to "angel" for a new class, they will decline for a variety of reasons. Invariably, the dancers who need the most help are always the first ones to point their fingers at others and accuse "them" of being the "weakest" dancers. Sadly, apparently it is true that we never see ourselves as others see us.

But in today's society, people want instant gratification, with no commitment of their time, energy or money. They would rather go to a bar or nightclub, spend half an hour learning to line dance, then forget about it for the next six months, when they can repeat the whole process all over again.

At the National Square Dance Convention in Detroit, Michigan (June 2011), some folks from Minnesota reported on their "blast" method of recruiting. Over a three day weekend, they try to each as many calls as time allows, introducing square dancing to people who have never danced before.

Then their local clubs encourage these fledging dancers to continue their lessons at special sessions where they teach the remaining calls, until the blast students are brought up to full club level and become actively participating members.

Their success in Minnesota has been phenomenal, with 300 new dancers received into club membership in one year!

Meanwhile, we are also losing our number of active square dance callers, though perhaps at a different pace. When our experienced callers retire, move away or expire due to illness or age, we find ourselves without our trusted leaders.

Over the past three years, the Callers Council of New Jersey (CCNJ) has offered free lessons to potential new callers. These introductory sessions are taught by "caller-coaches" who are accredited by CALLERLAB to teach others the art of square dance calling.

The thirteen original "student callers" were allowed to "test the waters," before committing their time, energy and finances to attending a national callers school. Those that achieved a feel for calling went on to attend CALLERLAB accredited schools around the country in various states with well known national callers.

Of these thirteen student callers, plus several others who joined later, about half are now actively calling regularly at local clubs. They were encouraged in their endeavors by their caller-coaches and by established local callers (calling for 25-50+ years), who took them under their wings, working right alongside them at regular club dances, encouraging and guiding them as they took their first faltering steps as callers.

By actively and publicly supporting these protégé callers, the caller-coaches allowed the current dancers to start building rapport with these new callers, in order obtain a "following." Therefore, when these elder callers are ready to retire, they can rest assured that reliable and competent callers will be there to take their place. The dancers will eagerly look forward to dancing to the protégés, who will have established their calling skills over the past several years, under the patient guidance of their mentors, insuring continuity of the square dance community.

Loss of membership (dancers) and leadership (callers) is not unique to square dancing. In any organization (civil, religious, social, political, charitable) you will find the same few leaders who do all the work, while the remaining members are content to sit and observe, or worse yet, ignore completely, the fact that they are not volunteering to do their fair share to help maintain the organization.

Eventually, when membership dwindles, the organization can no longer afford to support itself financially. Therefore it shuts down, closing the doors forever.

Dancers drop out of square dancing for a variety of reasons, including divorce, illness, prior commitments, retirement, death of a partner or merely loss of interest. When one dancer is unable to dance for any reason, we should actively encourage their partner to stay in the club, then also welcome the injured dancer back, helping them to remember forgotten calls.

In almost all couples, one dancer is stronger than the other. But when only one partner is welcomed into membership or participation in a given program, you face the loss of two dancers. The couple will seek out friendlier clubs who don't ostracize their partner, where they can enjoy dancing in each other's company, without the fear of ridicule or harassment because of their partner's dancing skills, or lack thereof.

The success of the folks in Minnesota depended upon their willingness not only to accept, but also to welcome, the new blast students into their midst. Without the additional workshops to bring these new dancers up to full club level, the whole experiment would have been a lesson in futility.

If we ask dancers to make a commitment to attend a Bash workshop, at any program level, whether for three days or a week or two of classes, we need to remember that these new dancers also deserve the right to receive the support of the dancing community. It is not only the time, effort and expense that these dancers have given up in order to learn this new program level. We will never know if these dancers have achieved success, if we don't offer them the opportunity to prove it.

When we fail to accept these dancers into our clubs, we give square dancing a bad name. Our motto has always been "Square dancing is friendship set to music." Exclusion of weak dancers betrays this trust. It is much better to be in an "anabolic state" (building up) the square dance community, rather than in a "catabolic state" (breaking it down). When we lose dancers, any program level, our numbers decrease until they are non-existent.

Indeed, the very first rule of the "Code of Ethics" of CALLERLAB states that callers have an obligation to the dancers to "provide information, instruction and leadership to enable and encourage the dancer to develop to his/her full potential so that he/she may derive the maximum satisfaction and pleasure from the activity."

This should include all the dancers, not just our friends or favorites, lest we discriminate in any way or for any reason, thereby losing our own integrity as callers.

In the "New Dancer's Bill of Rights," developed by the CALLERLAB Education Committee and adopted by the general membership, the first two items state that a new square dancer has the right: "1) to a class experience that is both educationally and socially enjoyable and 2) to patient and dignified treatment by the class instructor(s) and sponsors."

Certainly, we should extend that same courtesy and dignity to our present dancers also, as they move on to other program levels, since they are the backbone of our square dance community. When dancers don't feel welcome and respected, either by the caller or the other dancers, they will bypass their local clubs and travel to more distant clubs, in order to find a more enjoyable experience.

In the past, dancers were expected to know the calls and be able to dance them without coaching. Dancers today do not make the commitment to thoroughly learn the definitions of the calls. As a result, when the callers must give the definition after each call, the dancers are offered a "crutch" to lean on. They have no incentive to study the calls, as someone will be there to tell them what to do anyway.

This "handicaps" the dancers because when they travel to conventions or weekend square dance festivals, they will not hear the definitions given after each call. In addition, the calls are given at a much faster tempo, allowing them no time to think of the definition anyway. Therefore, they will break down every tip that they enter, until they are forced to leave the hall and go to a lower program level of dancing.

Dancers should be receiving the "floor time" that they need while at their home clubs, where they feel welcome and see familiar faces. No one wants to be embarrassed on the dance floor as the couple who could not dance competently.

As you look around the dance hall, you can always spot the couple who seems to dance the best, most precisely, elegantly and gracefully, among a crowded floor. They not only know where they belong, but also where every other dancer belongs as well. The reason they do so, is not because of who taught them or at what age they learned, nor the length of time that they have been dancing, but rather it is their dedication and commitment to dancing.

They dance every program level that they have learned and encourage others to do the same. They help out as angels in new classes. The become club officers. They dance with all the dancers, even without the use of "computer cards." They memorize their definitions and go square dancing several times a week, not twice a month. They are able to dance any call from any position, not just the "plan Vanilla" definition. They subscribe to square dance magazines and contribute to them with articles. They volunteer to help at special dances or give elder

dancers a ride if they can't drive at night. In short, they make a total commitment to promoting and maintaining square dancing.

If we want square dancing to continue and thrive on Long Island, it is time that we all pitch in to help it survive. Apathy, disrespect and exclusion are the culprits that lead to failure.

"If you're not part of the solution, you're part of the problem!"

Reprint from American Square Dance - May 2012

All Things Considered

By Ed Foote

The History Of Advanced Dancing

Most square dance programs have developed as a result of dancers wanting to do more. Advanced is unique in that it came about because dancers wanted to do less, and this actually happened twice.

In my article a year ago on the history of Challenge dancing, it was noted that the word "Challenge" evolved over a period of a few months and was in use by mid-1966. Advanced took much longer to develop. By 1971 Challenge dancing was firmly established as being much more than "club-level", which was the description of most dances in the pre-CALLERLAB days. But a growing number of dancers said they wanted to do more than "club-level" but did not want to do all that was required to learn Challenge.

Thus, from 1971 to 1973 the word "Advanced" slowly evolved as meaning something less than Challenge, but using some of the Challenge calls. Interest in this type of program grew as more callers began calling Challenge and subsequently requested a list of calls for Advanced, and this was published in June, 1974. The list contained about 50 calls, which was half the size of the Challenge list.

Revision of the Advanced list occurred in 1976 and 1977, the latter under the direction of CALLERLAB. The CALLERLAB programs of Mainstream, Plus, Advanced and Challenge were now established, but once again dancers wanted to do less. The Advanced list had grown to 70 calls, and a number of Advanced dancers and callers said the list was now too long. They asked that it be split into two parts: A-1 and A-2. This was done by CALLERLAB in 1978.

Today Advanced is extremely popular, in fact sometimes too popular, because many people move from Plus to Advanced who lack the foundation knowledge required to move on. Many move on simply for what they perceive as status.

The A-1 program was originally envisioned as a place where dancers would learn the Mainstream and Plus calls from numerous positions, as well as being taught half of the Advanced list. Unfortunately, things have not gone as planned. The majority of callers who teach A-1 seem to become enamored of the A-1 calls and forget to teach Mainstream and Plus from a variety of positions. If they do teach the various positions, they do not call them at A-1 dances, so the dancers forget.

The result is many dancers who lack a solid foundation; they have been exposed to the A-1 calls, but really do not understand the calls at Mainstream, Plus or A-1. When a structure has a weak foundation, it collapses and this is what often happens at A-1. In a desperate attempt to keep dancers moving, most callers are forced to call a very weak watered-down A-1. Eventually these dancers go on to A-2, and this waters-down A-2 also.

In the last 10 years some areas which initially had A-1 programs have dropped them and now only have A-2. The reason for this is that callers decided they wanted to teach both the A-1 and A-2 calls in one Advanced class. This means that most callers devote very little time to have the dancers understand the Mainstream and Plus calls, because they do not have time teach this. The result is many A-2 dancers who do not understand the foundation calls of Mainstream and Plus, with the result that much of A-2 in the U.S. is weak.

A well-trained floor of A-1 or A-2 dancers is a joy to behold and a joy for which to call. Perhaps part of the joy lies in the fact that one rarely sees such a floor, so that when one encounters such a group of dancers the joy is magnified.

Reprint from American Square Dance - May 2012

Point of Order

From Kappie Kappenman

From Kappie's Archives By Dick Massiotti, Caller/Teacher

This column is dedicated to New Dancers. It is mostly unintelligible and quite uninteresting to those experts who have been dancing for more than a year.

"Are we having fun yet?" Like all things in life that ware worthwhile (thin, money, hair), learning to dance can be hard work. But hard work need not be grim.

Callers, new Dancers, Angels, LIGHTEN UP! We've got to remember to have fun, first, last and always. Did you know there is a club actually dedicated to having FUN? Ask the members of the F.A.D. Squares what their club name stands for.

"But Dick, we don't want to take the square down," I heard a New Dancer say. Here is the Revelation-of-the-day folks. It isn't always the new dancer who takes the square down.

Angels, trying even harder to help New Dancers complete the move, thereby throwing off the timing of the calls that is so important to smooth dancing. The resultant stop-start-stop is not dancing; it's just uncomfortable, and makes it more difficult to dance. And (please don't tell any other caller you heard this from me) callers very occasionally will call something that is awkward or even, dare I say, impossible to do!

Another of the gremlins that afflict new dancers is simply getting used to a different caller. As you go out to dances at other clubs, you will start to hear other callers. Their patter, help words and cadence may be different than what you are used to with your caller. It takes some getting used to. We used to tell New Dancers, and perhaps it is time to revive the practice here, that when you go to a new club or have a new caller, there is nothing wrong with sitting out the first tip to listen. Some callers deliberately start a dance with one or two singing calls to make it easier for the dancers to get to do it. Well, maybe his home club was used to his *neat stuff*. Or maybe there is a full moon. We all go for walks at the strangest times!

The point is New Dancer, don't assume that all the problems of the world fall onto your shoulders as soon as you walk into a square. There are hundreds of reasons for a square to "go down". Square dancing is **not** a contest between the caller and the dancers. If it were, the caller would always win the battle by calling difficult or impossible stuff, and the dancers would win the war by staying home.

Instead, let a smile be your umbrella, pack up your troubles in your old square dance bag, keep on the sunny side of the square, and smile, smile. Happy Dancing all.

Reprint from Grand Square – Winter issue – January/February, 1995 Official Publication of the Northern New Jersey Square Dancers Association

Reprint from American Square Dance - May 2012

What's Happening This Week?

Week of April 30, 2012

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

Monday (April 30) – Temple Twirlers Birthday/Anniversary Dance – Oak Grove United Methodist Church, 2707 W. Waters Avenue (northeast corner of Habana Avenue), Tampa – ER 7:00 p.m., Mainstream/Plus/Rounds 7:30 – 9:30 p.m. – Caller: Ron Reardon, Cuer:

Charlie Lovelace. Dancers please use the entrance marked "Gage Hall" on the Habana Avenue side under the covered driveway. For info: flobyington@yahoo.com.

Tuesday (May 1) -

Wednesday (May 2) – Strawberry Square C-1 Workshop and Dance - Strawberry Square Dance Center, 4401 Promenade Boulevard, Plant City – 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. Caller: Art Springer. For info: www.strawberrysquaredancing.com or 813-752-0491. If you are unable to reach the Dance Center, please call Don and Barbara Huff 813-752-2278, Gayle Sterling 207-649-0432 or Dan and Thelma Ogilvie 813-752-1350.

Cultural Center Squares – Centennial Hall, 2280 Aaron Street, Port Charlotte, FL. Callers: Robert Arias; Cuers: Jennie Martin and Russ Collier. 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. alternating tips. For info: Mary 941-380-5336 or Jennie 863-494-2749.

Thursday (May 3) — Shufflin' Squares - Lake Ashton Golf Club, 4141 Ashton Club Drive, Lake Wales, FL — ER 7:00 — 7:30 p.m., alternating tips (Mainstream/Plus) 7:30 — 9:30 p.m. advanced tip 9:30 p.m.. Caller: Keith Stevens; Cuer: Carl Rod — square dance attire optional. For info: easchwartz@tampabay.rr.com.

Suncoast Squares Advanced Dance & Workshop – MCC King of Peace Church (rear entrance by the parking lot), 3150 Fifth Avenue North, St. Petersburg – These dances are for the GLBT and Straight Communities – all are welcome! 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. - casual attire. Caller/Cuer: Mike Cox. For info: 727-599-1440 / rritter@ij.net or 727-443-6242 / ianai@mail.com.

Dunedin – Dr. William E. Hale Senior Activity Center, 330 Douglas Avenue, Dunedin – Workshop 6:30 – 7:30 p.m., Squares (mix of Mainstream, Plus, and Rounds) - 7:30 – 9:00 p.m. - \$5 per person – caller: Allen Snell. For info: settarose1@verizon.net or 727-809-3429 or 727-862-4842 or 727-809-3429 or mcox47@mail.emsvillage.net.

Promenade Squares – Senior Center, 7625 - 59th St. N., Pinellas Park – Plus workshop 6:00 p.m., ER 7:15 - 7:45 p.m., Mainstream/Plus/Rounds 7:45 - 9:30 p.m. - caller: Dick Demerit, Cuers: Jimmy Griffin. For info: walkey1a@yahoo.com or 727-789-3836.

Friday (May 4) – Snell's Bo's and Bell's – Largo Community Center, 400 Alternate Keene Road (just north of E. Bay Drive between Keene/Starkey Road and Highland Avenue), Largo – Early Rounds 7:00 p.m., Plus/Rounds 7:30 – 9:45 p.m. – Callers: Roland Morin and Allen Snell. For info: settarose1@verizon.net or 727-862-4842 or 727-809-3429 or <a href="mailto:mcox47@ma

Dixie Grande Squares – Grace Lutheran Church, 321 Avenue C SE, Winter Haven – Early Rounds 7:00 – 7:30 p.m., Easy Plus Squares 7:30 – 9:30 p.m. – square dance attire preferred – Caller/Cuer: Carl Rod. For info: carlsqrdrod@yahoo.com or 863-651-3292 (c) or 863-293-9369 (H).

Spinning Wheels 42nd Anniversary Dance – Oak Grove United Methodist Church, 2707 W. Waters Avenue (northeast corner of Habana Avenue), Tampa. Early Rounds 7:00 – 7:30

p.m., Mainstream/Plus/Rounds 7:30 – 9:30 p.m. – Caller: Art Springer, Cuer: Charlie Lovelace. For info: raindancer999@yahoo.com.

Sun City Swingers – Sun City Center Community Hall, 1910 S. Pebble Beach Blvd., Sun City – Early Rounds 7:00 – 7:30 p.m., Mainstream/Plus/Rounds 7:30 – 9:30 p.m. – Caller: Bob Ellis, Cuer: Pat Hagen. Casual for the summer. Air-conditioned hall, wood floor, and lighted, paved off-street parking. For info: Dick and Mary Schultz 813-633-8718 rsch462636@aol.com or Bob and Beverly Barringer 813-633-3651.

Saturday (May 5) – Promenade Squares Club Picnic – Shelter 13, Seminole Park, 10015 Park Boulevard, Seminole. NOT A REGULAR DANCE NIGHT. Everyone invited and is asked to bring a covered dish, table cloth, and a place setting for yourself. There is a one mile and two mile walking trail. Shelter 13 is facing the water of an inlet across from where canoes can be launched. There will be no dancing since there is no electricity. If anyone wants to bring a game or cards, they are welcome to do so. For info: walkey1a@yahoo.com or 727-789-3836.

Paul Place Memorial Dance – Strawberry Square Dance Center, 4401 Promenade Boulevard, Plant City, FL – Callers: Bill Boyd, Sam Dunn, Brad Tomlinson and Larry Belcher; Cuer: Jack Jenkins. All proceeds go to a Paul Place Scholarship Fund, Pride Caller's School, in honor of Paul Place, Maggie Valley, NC. Donation at the door. Make checks payable to Pride Caller School. Mainstream and Plus Dance! For info: Lili-Ann Gallagher – 407-339-2499 or minimercury@cfl.rr.com.

Strawberry Square Phase 5 Dance and Workshop – Strawberry Square Dance Center, 4401 Promenade Boulevard, Plant City – 10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. – Cuer: Charlie Lovelace. For info: www.strawberrysquaredancing.com or 813-752-0491. If you can't reach the Dance Center, call Don and Barbara Huff 813-752-2278 or Gayle Sterling 207-649-0432.

Palace Promenaders – Palace Square Dance Hall, 1627 N.E. Floridian Circle, Arcadia – Caller: Art Miller; Cuer: Jennie Martin – Squares and Rounds 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. For info: Jennie 863-494-2749 or Mary 941-380-5336. Palace Square Dance Hall, 1647 North-East Floridian Street (right off Rt. 17), Arcadia, FL – Caller: Art Miller; Cuer: Jennie Martin. Park in back of the building. For tickets or information: Jennie Martin 863-494-2749 or Mary Dow 941-380-5336.

Sunday (May 6) – *Huggables* - King of Kings Church, 10337 U.S. 19 (between SR 52 and Ranch Road), Port Richey – casual dress – Mainstream/Plus 2:30 – 4:30 p.m. – Caller/Cuer: Allen Snell. For info: 727-809-3429 or 727-809-0323 or settarose1@verizon.net or mcox47@mail.emsvillage.net.

Orange Blossom Squares – La Hacienda Center, The Villages 352-259-6040 – Plus/Rounds 7:00 – 9:30 p.m. – Caller: Allen Snell, Cuer: Joanne Helton. Special ticket dance. For info: hal.baumann1959@gmail.com or 352-259-6552.

Monday (May 7) – Temple Twirlers – Oak Grove United Methodist Church, 2707 W. Waters Avenue (northeast corner of Habana Avenue), Tampa – ER 7:00 p.m., Mainstream/Plus/Rounds 7:30 – 9:30 p.m. – Caller: Ron Reardon, Cuer: Charlie Lovelace.

Dancers please use the entrance marked "Gage Hall" on the Habana Avenue side under the covered driveway. For info: flobyington@yahoo.com.

West Coast Classes and Workshops National Caller and Cuer Colleges

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.

Please keep in mind that this information needs to be communicated out to new dancers! It's not a secret!

Updated April 23, 2012

April 17 — August 22, 2012 — **Summer Round Dancing with Ione and Wally Wade** — South County Regional Park, 670 Cooper Street, Punta Gorda. — Phase 2 — 3 10:00 a.m. — 12:00 noon. For info: 941 505-1979, wally.wade@hotmail.com.

April 19, 2012 – **Promenade Squares Plus Workshop** - Senior Center, 7625 - 59th St. N., Pinellas Park – 6:00 p.m. - Caller: Dick Demerit. For info: walkey1a@yahoo.com or 727-789-3836.

June 21, 2012 – **Cape Coral Beginner Square Dance Lessons** – Lake Kennedy Senior Center, 400 Santa Barbara Blvd., Cape Coral – 7:00- 9:00 p.m. – Caller/Instructor: Wes Morris. For info: 239-282-6322 or <u>i.h.morris@embarqmail.com</u>.

August 16 – 20, 2012 – **Socal Callers School** – Cedar Brook Dance Center, 12812 Garden Boulevard, Garden Grove, California. Whether you are presently calling or desire to be a caller, this school will help you with your calling career. Plenty of microphone time; professional assessment of your skills; understand what it takes to be a leader, fuller CALLERLAB curriculum, and develop a calling career that is best for you. Space is limited. Register today! \$350 per student. For info: 413-734-0591 or kenritucci@aol.com.

October 4, 2012 – **Strawberry Square Phase 2 Workshop** – Strawberry Square Dance Center, 4401 Promenade Boulevard, Plant City – 12:00 – 2:00 p.m. – Cuer: Charlie Lovelace. For info: www.strawberrysquaredancing.com or 813-752-0491. If you can't reach the Dance Center, call Don and Barbara Huff 813-752-227 or Gayle Sterling 207-649-0432.

October 4, 2012 – **Strawberry Square Phase 3 Workshop** - Strawberry Square Dance Center, 4401 Promenade Boulevard, Plant City – 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. – Cuer: Charlie Lovelace. For info:

<u>www.strawberrysquaredancing.com</u> or 813-752-0491. If you can't reach the Dance Center, call Don and Barbara Huff 813-752-227 or Gayle Sterling 207-649-0432.

October 4 – 8, 2012 – **Northeast Callers School** – Mill-a-round Dance Center, Manchester, NH – Callers: Ken Ritucci (CALLERLAB Accredited Caller Coach), Norm Poisson, Jerry Story (CALLERLAB Accredited Caller Coach), Steve Kopman, and Don Moger. Plenty of microphone time; professional assessment of your skills; understand what it takes to be a leader, fuller CALLERLAB curriculum, and develop a calling career that is best for you. Whether you are presently calling or desire to be a caller, this school will help you with your calling career. \$375 per student. Space is limited. Register today!!! For info: 413-734-0591 or kenritucci@aol.com; www.northeastcallersschool.com.

October 10, 2012 - **Strawberry Square First C-1 Dance of the Season** - Strawberry Square Dance Center, 4401 Promenade Boulevard, Plant City — 1:00 — 3:00 p.m. Caller: Art Springer. For info: www.strawberrysquaredancing.com or 813-752-0491. If you are unable to reach the Dance Center, please call Don and Barbara Huff 813-752-2278, Gayle Sterling 207-649-0432 or Dan and Thelma Ogilvie 813-752-1350.

November 4, 2012 – **Strawberry Square Beginner Round Dance Class** – Strawberry Square Dance Center, 4401 Promenade Boulevard, Plant City – 6:30 – 8:00 p.m. – Cuer: Charlie Lovelace. For info: www.strawberrysquaredancing.com or 813-752-0491. If you can't reach the Dance Center, call Don and Barbara Huff 813-752-2278 or Gayle Sterling 207-649-0432.

November 9, 2012 – **Strawberry Square C-1 Class/Workshop** - Strawberry Square Dance Center, 4401 Promenade Boulevard, Plant City – 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. Caller: Keith Stevens. This class is for those dancers who have completed a C-1 class, but are not ready to dance at the C-1 level. Keith will work with the dancers at increasing their proficiency. For info: www.strawberrysquaredancing.com or 813-752-0491. If you are unable to reach the Dance Center, please call Don and Barbara Huff 813-752-2278 or Gayle Sterling 207-649-0432.

November 9, 2012 – **Strawberry Square C3A Teach and Workshop** - Strawberry Square Dance Center, 4401 Promenade Boulevard, Plant City – 12:45 – 2:45 p.m. Caller: Keith Stevens. For info: www.strawberrysquaredancing.com or 813-752-0491. If you are unable to reach the Dance Center, please call Don and Barbara Huff 813-752-2278 or Gayle Sterling 207-649-0432.

November 13, 2012 – **Strawberry Square A2 Workshop/Review** - Strawberry Square Dance Center, 4401 Promenade Boulevard, Plant City – 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon - Caller: Keith Stevens. For info: www.strawberrysquaredancing.com or 813-752-0491. If you are unable to reach the Dance Center, please call Don and Barbara Huff 813-752-2278, Gayle Sterling 207-649-0432 or Dave and Betty Bradley 989-289-6446.

November 13, 2012 – **Strawberry Square C1 Class/Workshop** - Strawberry Square Dance Center, 4401 Promenade Boulevard, Plant City -1:00-3:00 p.m. Caller: Keith Stevens. For

info: www.strawberrysquaredancing.com or 813-752-0491. If you are unable to reach the Dance Center, please call Don and Barbara Huff 813-752-2278 or Gayle Sterling 207-649-0432.

December 3, 2012 – **Strawberry Square Beginner Square Dance Class** – Strawberry Square Dance Center, 4401 Promenade Boulevard, Plant – 6:30 – 8:00 p.m. – Caller/Instructor: Roland Blanchette – first class free (class fee \$5 per person). For info: 813-752-0491 or www.strawberrysquaredancing.com. If you can't reach the dance center, call Don and Barbara Huff 813-752-2278, or Mary Lee Van Valkenburg 813-707-1702, or Linda Lynn 813-659-9040, or Gayle Sterling 207-649-0432.

December 3, 2012 – **Strawberry Square Plus Square Dance Lessons** - Strawberry Square Dance Center, 4401 Promenade Boulevard, Plant – 8:00 – 9:30 p.m. – Caller/Instructor: Roland Blanchette – first class free (class fee \$5 per person). For info: 813-752-0491 or www.strawberrysquaredancing.com. If you can't reach the dance center, call Don and Barbara Huff 813-752-2278, or Mary Lee Van Valkenburg 813-707-1702, or Linda Lynn 813-659-9040, or Gayle Sterling 207-649-0432.

January 3, 2012 – Charlotte Promenaders First Dance of the Season - Port Charlotte Beach Recreation Center, 4500 Harbor Boulevard, Port Charlotte, FL 33952 (parking passes will be provided) – Early Rounds 7:00 – 7:30 p.m., Plus Squares 7:30 – 9:30 p.m. Caller: Red Bates; Cuer: Dick Chase. For info: 941-412-8588 or 941-429-8271 or sqdbird@aol.com.

January 7, 2013 – **Strawberry Square A-1 Class/Workshop** - Strawberry Square Dance Center, 4401 Promenade Boulevard, Plant City – 2:00 p.m. - Caller: Marty Van Wart. For info: www.strawberrysquaredancing.com or 813-752-0491. If you are unable to reach the Dance Center, please call Don and Barbara Huff 813-752-2278, Gayle Sterling 207-649-0432 or Dave and Betty Bradley 989-289-6446.

January 7, 2013 – **Strawberry Square A-2 Class/Workshop** - Strawberry Square Dance Center, 4401 Promenade Boulevard, Plant City – 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. - Caller: Marty Van Wart. For info: www.strawberrysquaredancing.com or 813-752-0491. If you are unable to reach the Dance Center, please call Don and Barbara Huff 813-752-2278, Gayle Sterling 207-649-0432 or Dave and Betty Bradley 989-289-6446.

January 10, 2013 – **Strawberry Square Intro to C1 (Part 2)** - Strawberry Square Dance Center, 4401 Promenade Boulevard, Plant City – 9:30 – 11:30 a.m. - Caller: Marty Van Wart. For info: www.strawberrysquaredancing.com or 813-752-0491. If you are unable to reach the Dance Center, please call Don and Barbara Huff 813-752-2278 or Gayle Sterling 207-649-0432.

January 20, 2013 – Strawberry Square Special Event for Mainstream and Plus Level Dancers – Without Rounds – Strawberry Square Dance Center, 4401 Promenade Boulevard, Plant City – Caller: Tim Marriner.

January 22, 2013 – **Strawberry Square Snowbirds Basic Round Dance Class** - Strawberry Square Dance Center, 4401 Promenade Boulevard, Plant City – 5:30 p.m. – Cuer: Karen Fisher. For info: www.strawberrysquaredancing.com or 813-752-0491. If you can't reach the Dance Center, call Don and Barbara Huff 813-752-2278 or Gayle Sterling 207-649-0432.

January 22 – March 12, 2013 – **Dance by Definition in Plus Level Workshop** – Strawberry Square Dance Center, 4401 Promenade Boulevard, Plant City – Caller: Sam Dunn - designed for dancers who have been dancing for two years or more - \$5 per person – casual attire – no new incoming people beginning February 5. To be fair to the dancers, if you want this workshop you must attend all sessions or contact Sam. For info: 813-752-0491 or http://strawberrysquaredancing.com. If you can't reach the dance center, call Gayle or Tim at 207-649-0432 or Sam at 863-382-6792 or www.samdunn.net.

January 27, 2013 – **A Day of Plus** – Strawberry Square Dance Center, 4401 Promenade Boulevard, Plant City – Caller: Sam Dunn. \$30 per couple for the entire package. Five hours of dancing – no split sessions. Pick up a flyer so you indicate which Plus moves you want to work on. To ensure your space, register now! Mail your check made payable to Strawberry Square, 4401 Promenade Boulevard, Plant City, FL 33563. Schedule: 8:30 a.m. – coffee and muffins; 9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. – dancing; 11:30 a.m. - break/free time; 1:30 – 4:00 p.m. – dancing. Casual attire. For info: 813-752-0491 or http://strawberrysquaredancing.com. If you can't reach the dance center, call Sam at 863-382-6792 or www.samdunn.net.

April 12, 2013 - Charlotte Promenaders Final Dance of the Season - Port Charlotte Beach Recreation Center, 4500 Harbor Boulevard, Port Charlotte, FL 33952 (parking passes will be provided) – Early Rounds 7:00 – 7:30 p.m., Plus Squares 7:30 – 9:30 p.m. Caller: Dave Magee; Cuer: Ruth Siegmann. For info: 941-412-8588 or 941-429-8271 or sqdbird@aol.com.

Looking Ahead...

May 8, 2012 – *Buttons & Bows of Lakeland Western Night* - Orange Street, Lakeland – Early Rounds 7:00 – 7:30 p.m. – Squares (alternating Mainstream and Plus) 7:30 – 9:30 p.m. – Caller: Carl Rod; Cuer: Charlie Lovelace. Come in your western duds! – beautiful wood floor for dancing. For info: jgsap988@yahoo.com / 863-815-7400 or sqdncfan@aol.com / 863-874-4522.



Updated July 4, 2011

Websites

http://floridasquaredance.com/

https://www.facebook.com/#!/home.php?sk=group_149454955123658&ap=1 (Florida Federation's Facebook page)

Associations/Organizations

http://www.you2candance.com (square dance marketing)

http://sccafl.com. (Suncoast Callers and Cuers Association)

http://www.flCallersassoc.org/ (Florida Callers Association)

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

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

http://www.floridasquaredance.com/fassrd/index/html (Florida Singles)

http://www.Callerlab.org (CALLERLAB)

http://www.americanCallers.com (American Callers Assn.)

http://www.roundalab.org/ (ROUNDALAB)

http://ssdusa.org (Single Square Dancers USA®)

http://www.nsdca.org (National Square Dance Campers)

http://www.arts-dance.org (Alliance of Round, Traditional and Square Dance [ARTS])

http://www.61stnsdc.com 60th National Square Dance Convention – Spokane, WA

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

Vendors

http://www.jlvinyl.com/SQUARE---ROUND-DANCING.html (vinyl decals)

<u>www.travelinghoedowners.com</u> (Square Dance DVDs – Both Instructional and Dance)

www.swskirts.com (Jan Southwest Style Skirts & Pat's Tees)

www.suziegcreations.com (Suzie Q Creations)

<u>www.Bobsengraving.com</u> (New physical address: Bob L. Adams, Bobs Engraving, 8827 Megan Lane, Orlando, FL 32836; Telephone: 407-777-8952; <u>www.bobsengraving.com</u>; e-mail address: bobsengraving@aim.com)

http://www.aronssquaredanceshopandpatterns.com/ (Aron's Square Dance and 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.sheplers.com (Sheplers - the world's largest western stores and catalog)

www.PerfectPetticoats.com (Perfect Petticoats)

<u>http://www.grandsquare07.com</u> (Grande Square.com – square dance clothes and accessories)

Square Dance Halls

www.Strawberrysquaredancing.com (Strawberry Square)

Callers/Cuers

http://www.mike-gormley.com (Mike Gormley)

http://www.samdunn.net/ (Sam Dunn)

http://www.floridasquaredance.com/jcspin/ (Jimmy and Carol Griffin)
www.2fwd2.com (Lisa Wall)
www.keithstevens.com (Keith Stevens)

www.sailfishsquares.org

Miscellaneous

<u>http://www.squaredanceradionetwork.com</u> (square dance radio network)

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 Federation Website at www.floridasquaredance.com. If you would like a copy emailed to you or would like your club information added, please contact the editor at sqdncfan@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 eventoring@peoplepc.com.