

DANCERgram

Square and round dance news for the west coast of Florida

Volume 13, Issue 69

May 1, 2017

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

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Live Lively-



Square Dance!



Visit the
*Past, Present, and Future
of Square Dancing in Florida*
at
www.FloridaSquareDance.com

May 5, 2017 - Deadline for Submissions to Bow & Swing for the June 2017 issue. For info: bowandswing@gmail.com.

May 31, 2017 – Deadline to Purchase State Convention Ribbons at the First Price Level – See details below. There will be a price increase June 1st. For info: dennistaylor5426@att.net or 321-537-2207.

May 31, 2017 – Deadline to Pay Membership Dues to Suncoast Callers & Cuers Association (SCCA). If you have not paid your dues (\$10 per person) by the first meeting in October, your name will be automatically removed from the membership list. For info: mulberryspauling@tampabay.rr.com or 863-912-5027.



Time is running out!

May 31, 2017 is the final date for reduced prices on ribbons for the 2018 Florida State Square and Round Dance Convention. Prices will increase as follows:

Full Convention (All day Friday and all day Saturday)	\$40
Weekender (Friday night and all day Saturday)	\$32
Single Day (Friday or Saturday)	\$25

- For the first time ever, credit cards accepted for ribbons only!
- Each ribbon comes with a Passport

Inspirational Quotes (from the collection of Ed Foote)

“Only he can be taught who is willing to learn,” ...B.C. Forbes

“There are only two ways to live your life: One is as though nothing is a miracle. The other is as if everything is. I believe in the latter.” ...Albert Einstein

“If you find serenity and happiness, people may be jealous. Be happy anyway.” ...Mother Theresa

“Fear is the cheapest room in the house. I’d like to see you in better living conditions.” ...Hafez, Persian poet, 1300s

“Life is a journey, and you never arrive. You should not want to arrive. Once you think you’ve arrived, you’ll stop pushing to get better” ...Chuck Noll, football coach

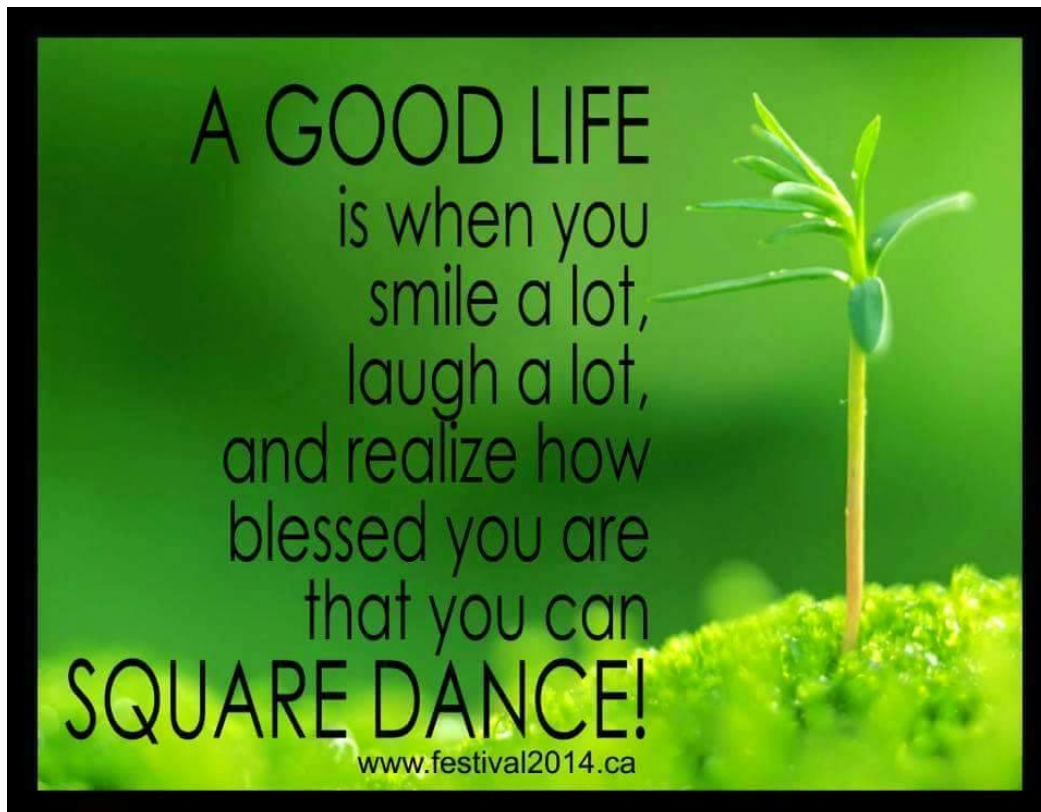
Reprint from *American Square Dance* – May 2017

Health and Sympathy

The entries listed below are for callers, cuers, West Coast Association officers and representatives and other Florida associations, Federation officers and any others well known to the Florida square and round dance community. Listings for others are at www.dancergram.com – Health and Sympathy.

FB Post: **John Saunders'** cancer has returned. He is in his third round of chemo. He has gone through two rounds of radiation. He will have three more months of this very strong chemo. Prayers are appreciated. If you would like to send a card, his address is 3303 Travelers Palm Drive, Edgewater, FL 32141.

Diane Hissong is suffering from side effects of Levaquin, which is causing severe pain in her joints. Her mailing address is unknown at this time, but her email address is hheaven@verizon.net. Diane is a line dance cuer.



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

This contact list is also at

www.dancergram.com

April 3, 2017

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<p>Round Dance Council of Florida Susan Snider 904-908-5184 frausbs@aol.com</p>

Your Source...

Updated 4.24.17

Ribbons, flyers, and fundraising items are available for the following dances:

- 2017 West Coast Association membership badges and bars
- November 25 – 27, 2017 – West Coast Association Fall Fun Fest ribbons.
- February 23-24, 2018 - 2018 Florida State Convention

Item	Colors/Sizes	Price
T-Shirts w/Convention Logo	Teal, Pink, Red, Royal Blue/S, M, L, XL, XXL	\$15 ea. or two for \$25
Mugs w/Convention Logo	N/A	\$3.50 ea. or four for \$12
Convention Buttons w/Convention Logo	N/A	\$1 ea. or four for \$3
Raffle Tickets for a Google Home and Chromecast ¹	N/A	\$2 ea. or four for \$5
Polo Shirts ²	TBA	\$25 ea. or two for \$45
Passports ³	N/A	\$5 ea. for non-registered convention attendees
Registration Ribbons ⁴	N/A	Full Convention⁵: \$35, \$30, \$45 Weekender: \$30, \$32, \$35 Single Day: \$20, \$25, \$25 <i>Breakdown of price increases⁶</i>

¹ Drawing 11/18/17 at the Northeast Association's Fall Festival. You do not have to be present to win.

² Merchandise not received yet.

³ Each 2018 ribbon will come with a "Dane Passport." Bring it to every dance you attend, and have it dated and initialed each time. Bring it to the Convention, and we will award prizes for the most clubs visited, the most days danced, and a random drawing from all passports received. If you are unable to attend in 2018, you may get a passport for a \$5 donation. This will support the convention, and make you eligible for the prize drawing. We will also keep in touch with monthly email updates. If you do not attend the Convention, mail your passport to Dennis Taylor, Registration Chairman, 215 Carib Drive, Merritt Island, FL 32952.

⁴ Ribbons, registration flyers, and additional passports not received yet.

⁵ Friday evening and all day Saturday

⁶ Before 5/31/17; 6/1/17 – 12/31/17; and 1/1/18 and later. All prices are per person

CALLERLAB Viewpoints

By Mike Seastrom

Team Dancing – Teamwork – The Future

When I'm teaching new dancers, I stress that they are a team of eight as they dance in their squares. They help each other as they dance, and if one or two dancers in the square "draw a blank" for just a moment, the other six or seven dancers can help in a cooperative way to ensure the success of the square.

At some point in our dancing and calling, each of us will eventually have a decrease in concentration and need a little guidance to be successful. No matter how good or proficient we are, none of us achieves total perfection. We are human, and as they say "to err is human".

So as necessary as our teamwork is in each tip we dance, teamwork is an absolute necessity in our new dancer programs, in our clubs, and in our associations.

Our successful new dancer programs don't just happen by accident. It takes planning and it takes teamwork! We need people to accept the donations and help those attending sign in when they arrive. We need people to actively act as greeters and as hosts before the class starts, during the entire evening, and as dancers go out the door. These hosts and hostesses should be chosen and/or assigned but in reality, all club members should be actively greeting new dancers, encouraging them, dancing with them, and sharing in the fun. Most important, our club dancers should be getting to know the new dancers on a personal basis because it's the social part of our activity that keeps most of us coming year after year.

At every club dance, association event, state and national convention, or weekend festival, it's a team effort to make it go smoothly. Those running the event act as hosts by greeting and welcoming the dancers as they come in. Decorations, serving refreshments, setting up chairs and tables, and cleaning up after the event are all things that are better accomplished by a team of people rather than just a couple individuals. If issues come up that need resolving, the team of leaders in charge of the event are there to handle them right along with the regular duties they all performing during the event.

I strongly believe that we have one more level of teamwork to achieve. We're almost there, but in my opinion we haven't totally succeeded. It's the teamwork of all of our national organizations.

We are at a point with our favorite recreation, that we can no longer afford to clash in our efforts to promote and preserve our dance. We must have all of our national organizations working together as a team to succeed and grow again. We need to support each other at every

level of involvement because in reality, we all have the same goal of sharing the joy of this dance with more people and preserving it for future generations.

Society and life in general has changed immensely in the years since our dance activity enjoyed its peak in terms of numbers. If you read the history books, the same was true at the turn of the century until Henry Ford's book came out in the 1920's and dancing took off and grew again. There were many changes in society back then that contributed to a decreased number of dance participants, and the same thing has happened with all the changes in the last thirty years.

It's so easy to waste precious time and point fingers at each other, or say that one or two things have caused a decrease in our numbers. Yet intellectually, we all have come to realize that there are many factors that have not only affected the clubs in our dance activity, they have had an impact on the numbers in most service clubs, church groups, and other hobby and recreational organizations.

On the positive side, I truly believe that we are now at a point where a growing number of people will want and need more social contact with others. One activity in the perfect recreational organizations.

We have the benefit of exercise, mental stimulation, social interaction, and all the physical and emotional benefits that laughing and moving to music have to offer. Throughout the history of mankind, dancing has been associated with the celebration of life, and it's that very thing that makes our dance activity the perfect primary or secondary recreation for people in modern society.

So this is where teamwork and the future are tied together. If we are to succeed in promoting and preserving our dance for our kids, grandchildren, and future generations to enjoy, all leaders, clubs, local associations and national organizations need to support each other and leave the finger pointing, laying blame, and petty personal issues behind.

Now I know that human nature, personal egos, and conflict are probably genetically wired into us. I recently watched a movie about babies in various parts of the world. What struck me like a large hammer was that these little babies, without any training, began to fight with each other over a rock, a toy, or even personal space. It's part of our nature.

My deepest hope is that we leaders can use our educated minds to get past these preprogrammed selfish urges to battle with each other, sweat the small stuff, and find a way to realize that we are all on the same team. By understanding this part of our human nature, agreeing to disagree at times, accepting the vote of the majority even though it's not our own, and continuing to stay involved because our love of the activity is our main driving force, we can make more progress together.

All organizations are fulfilling a need in this activity, and I truly believe we are all spokes on the same wheel. If we support each other, attend and promote each other's events, and put more effort into working together as in the Alliance of Round, Traditional, and Square Dance Inc. (ARTS), we can succeed.

There are successful clubs, associations, and events happening in many parts of the world. There are dance leaders callers, and cuers enjoying increased numbers because they have found a way to make it work for them in their area. Let's share these success stories, be receptive to learn from those who are enjoying this increase, try new ways, and succeed together.

We need a long-range master plan with progress points, immeasurable goals, grants and continuing fundraising activities for marketing and promotion just like other recreations. We also need to get our "team act" together and allow our activity to evolve so that different forms of our product can teach and be available to more people in our current and future modern society. We need to accept and be more tolerant of all different groups and their form of our dance, even though it's not the group or the part of our activity we personally participate in or can even relate to.

When we all get to the point where we really understand the value of working together, supporting each other, and become a team together, I truly believe we can succeed beyond our wildest dreams. Our dance is that good and that much fun!

Reprint from *American Square Dance* – May 2017

On The Record – SQUARES

Buddy Weaver

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Simplified Square Dance Music

Music is unique. It has the ability to set a mood all by itself. Music can make you feel excited, relaxed, nostalgic, romantic, etc. In modern western square dancing, callers blend music with dance movement (choreography) to create an entertaining experience. It is a fact, square dance choreography MATCHED to music, will move dancers from a degree of complacency to a degree of elation. Joe Lewis once said, "If a caller is truly entertaining, people will not fully realize what they are dancing. They will be entertained to the point that they will only be conscious of the fact that they have had an enjoyable evening. "Let's take a comprehensive topic and make it simple.

A simplified view, categorizes singing calls as a "sing along", "driver", "mellow", "themed", etc. A "sing along" type song will quickly engage the dancers in happily joining in with the caller. The

"sing along" singing call has an easy to remember tune and lyrics. Sing along titles that come to mind are "When The Red Red Robin" or "Waiting for the Robert E. Lee". When doing a sing along singing call, be sure to use choreography that is easy to dance so the dancers are not confused, broken down, or concentrating so hard on the dance calls, that they won't enjoy the crowd pleaser.

A "driver" or exciting type of singing call used to always mean the rhythm was a boom-chuck type. Think of the classics like "Mountain Music", "Rocking In Rosalie's' Boat", and "Tennessee River". All of these are boom-chuck rhythm with music played in a high-energy style that sent the dancers into orbit. Great for their time, but the square dance music being produced today is far superior in it's creative musicality. Once called the "slow four rhythm", many of today's driving singing calls use the shuffle with added percussion, a good example is "Let The Good Times Roll" on Blue Star. Here again, the caller should use choreography that is easy to dance while moving dancers quickly through various calls. A "driver" can only be a "driver" when dancers have wind in their face.

In my opinion, "mellow" singing calls can be a slow shuffle rhythm where the caller croons the song. A song like "It's Just The Sun" or "Summer Sounds" comes to mind as a "slow shuffle crooner". Mellow also includes boom-chuck rhythms where the song is laid-back and music seems middle of the energy chart. "Peaceful Easy Feeling" comes to mind. The caller could get away with choreography that makes the dancers think a bit more, just make sure the material doesn't push dancers off the singing tag lines. You wouldn't want dancers missing their circle to the "ting-a-ling-a-ling of the ice cream bell" while they are still trying to get back home after your last figure went way too long.

When it comes to "themes", let your imagination run wild, but make sure you keep in mind varying the rhythms – shuffle, jig step, boom-chuck. Even Christmas singing calls get tiring if they are all one rhythm.

We could extend the simplified view of square dance music to hoedowns. Some are "sing along" type pieces, especially if there are singers in the background doing a familiar number. Some "sing along" hoedowns are subtle in that the melody is playing without a singer. Many dancers will subconsciously latch on to the tune while still following your calls. An example that comes to mind is "Blue Star Rainy Day" – dancers will track the musical phrasing in their movement as long as the caller doesn't push them off the phrase.

There are "drivers" and "mellow" hoedowns. "Skillet Lickin" and "Ten Twenty Hoedown", respectively, come to mind. Just as singing call music and choreography are carefully matched, you want to place driving hoedowns with "wind-in-the-face" dance movement, saving your more difficult material for the mellow hoedown. Using singing calls as hoedowns opens even more music that you already own to being re-purposed.

Understand what the music in your computer does for the dancers, then plan in advance, what kind of choreography works with it and where in your dance program it belongs. This programming your dance. Please visit some of the previous articles from this magazine for research on music rhythms, arrangements, and programming. To wrap-up this article, here is my short list of titles that fall in the categories mentioned.

Sing along singing calls

“Those Were The Days” (shuffle)
“Amie” (boom-chuck)
“Beautiful Sunday: (shy)

Driver singing calls

“Rocky Top” (sh)
“Gone At Last” (bc)

Mellow singing calls

“House Of The Rising Sun” (bc)
“Chapel Of Love” (sh)
“Hallelujah” (sh)

Themed singing calls

“When Irish Eyes Are Smiling” (bc)
“Last Christmas” (sh)
“Mele Kalikimaka” (bc)

Sing along hoedowns

“Mony Mony” (sh)
“I’ll See You In My Dreams” (bc)
“Make A Wish” (sh)

Driver hoedowns

“DX Land” (bc)
“Up The Creek” (bc)

Mellow hoedowns

“Easy Does It” (bc)
“Santa Guitar” (sh)
“Mountains Of Harmonica” (bc)

Themed hoedowns

“Irish Washerwoman” (jig step)
“Christmas Pop” (sh)
“Diamond Head Hoedown” (bc)

You’ll notice that for each title, I note what the rhythm is. It is important to vary the rhythms and vary the style (aka genre) to create a dance that changes the mood of the dancers from tip to tip. A sustained rhythm or mood, even elation, becomes monotonous. All of the titles are available right now and can be found at buddyweavermusic.com website. Questions? Please send your comments to buddy@buddyweaver.com.

Reprint from *American Square Dance* – May 2017

Welcoming Dancers To Square Dancing

From Alice Winnick

This article is written in response to the editorial by Bill Boyd in the April 2017 issue of *American Square Dance* magazine. In his article, Bill talks about a young woman who went to a square dance club with her 9-year-old daughter. They wanted to take lessons together, with the mother dancing the “man’s” part with her child.

They were told “she may be too young” by a person at the door. They were “almost snubbed” by several of the older dancers. The following week they did not return. Fortunately, the following week, the young woman

returned with her boyfriend, her daughter, and her parents and started dancing. It is sincerely hoped that they all continued dancing.

Thirty-seven years ago, a divorced woman and her three adult daughters, saw a square dance demo at their local county fair. The local club dancers did a tip, in full square dance attire, then invited the audience to participate, which encouraged this family to try square dancing.

At the first night of lessons 58 people showed up, including many singles. At the end of the lessons, from September to May, the class graduated 35 new dancers to the Mainstream program. Over the summer, this family of four visited many of the area clubs, 5 to 6 nights a week, and learned the Plus program.

But when the new fall season started, it was a different story. The woman and her three daughters were told, to their faces, "We let you dance with our husband while you were learning, but don't expect us to give them up for you now. You are on your own to find partners."

The woman and her three daughters continued to dance anyway, since all of the daughters had already learned how to dance both the girl's and boy's part, because they were often partners for each other. They visited many of the 45 clubs in their local association, which covered half of their state, and were welcomed there.

They deduced that they had paid the same admission price as everyone else, so they partner with each other, instead of waiting on the sidelines for someone to take pity on them and ask them to dance.

The following summer, when it was time to do another demo at the county fair their own club refused to allow them to participate. The club officers blocked the stairs up to the dance floor, which was a raised platform in the performing arts tent, large enough to hold two squares. So instead, the family danced on the ground level dance area, which was large enough to hold three or four squares.

The club was not happy about this, because they did not like the general public to see two women dancing together. They were afraid this would attract more singles to their lessons. Single women were about as welcome as a fox in a hen house, but single men were welcome with arms wide open, because the club had some older widows.

The daughters met their future husbands square dancing. These young gentlemen had taken lessons the year prior to the daughters. They had square dance weddings. One of the married daughters had two daughters of her own. The young couple wanted their daughters to learn square dancing also.

Their elder daughter took lessons at age 10 and graduated the Mainstream program. The following year, the younger daughter, at age 8, wanted to take lessons with the same club, of which their parents were members. The same club caller refused, saying she did not want to teach any more children.

So the family went to another club, farther away in the next county, and the daughter took lessons there. This caller had two granddaughters of his own about the same age, whom he taught also. The younger daughter graduated the Mainstream program, and that summer, they both learned the Plus program. When their father was working nights, their mother danced the man's part with them.

Soon there were about 15 teenagers, all children of dancers or callers, who met and danced together at many of the area clubs. Their enthusiasm and youth added much to the clubs, and most are still dancing.

The family attended many square dances, including weekends and conventions. Then the father died suddenly in a fatal car accident. The daughters were ages 9 and 12. But the widowed mother and her two daughters continued to square dance, both locally and at state and National conventions.

They attended a National Single's Square Dance Convention and there the young widow met her future second husband. They married and he became a caller, teaching his step daughters the Advanced program. Meanwhile, the parents themselves had learned to dance Challenge, up to the C3A program.

The daughters are now age 28 and 31 and still dancing. Their boyfriends took square dancing lessons also. Their parents are very actively involved in all aspects of dancing, calling, and teaching. Perhaps square dance clubs would be wise to remember what is taught in Proverbs 22:6 – "Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it."

Perhaps if we taught square dancing to more children and grandchildren, our activity would be thriving, rather than declining. However, this once thriving square dance association of 45 clubs now consists of only 18 clubs. The club officers who were once so opposed to this family are all dead and gone. The mother of the three daughters passed away, two years ago, but the three daughters and their husbands, and their now adult children, are still dancing, and still participating in the county fair demo annually.

But it is unfortunate that we still have not taught our older dancers and callers to welcome the youth and singles. The LGBT community has many excellent dancers and callers and they have more thriving clubs than some associations.

But politics still plays a part in square dancing. A few years ago, this same couple and their two adult daughters were "banned" from square dancing at a particular club. It had nothing at all to do with their dancing capabilities, since they are all excellent dancers, and the stepfather is a caller. But the former national and international caller "banned" them, merely because they had dared to exercise their First Amendment, .S. Constitution guaranteed rights, to freedom of speech and freedom of the press.

Perhaps at this point, it should be noted how "Girard's Law of 250" might apply here. It is claimed that Joe Girard was the most successful car salesman who ever lived. He "discovered" his theory by studying how funeral directors and wedding planners knew how many to expect at such functions. Both estimated that they expected 250 people would attend, based on previous similar functions.

Joe Girard concluded that a person's experience, with any activity, results in the person telling, on the average, 250 other people, positively or negatively, about that experience. It means that everyone knows 250 people in their lifetime that they can influence with their opinions and experience.

In other words, if you see 50 people in a week, and only two of them are negatively influenced with the way you treated them, at the end of the year there will be about 26,000 people influenced by those two people a week do the math.

$2 \text{ people a week} \times 52 \text{ weeks in a year} + 104 \times 250 \text{ people they told about their experience} = 26,000.$

Regardless of what you think of your potential customers, if you turn one away, with anger or a rude remark, they will tell their friends about their experiences, and it will reflect back on the salesman, as well as on the produce they are selling. This slams the door in the faces of the potential new dancers and they have no incentive to even try square dancing.

It is only when dancers realize the potential they are destroying, and attempt to reverse this trend, that there can ever be a resurgence to the previous levels of square dancers in the world. Without such intervention, the activity will continue to decline. Rather than turning our current dancers away, clubs need to be welcoming them, as well as new youthful faces, in order to survive.

The story you have just read is true. The names of the dancers were omitted, to protect the innocent and to ignore the guilty.

Breaking Records

By Corben Geis

Placements & Traffic Lights

HOMEMADE PLACEMATS MAKE FOR GREAT BILLBOARDS IN DINERS, CAFES, AND RESTAURANTS

If you get a ream of legal paper (8.5" x 14") or ledger (11" x 17") they make the perfect sizes for homemade placemats for restaurants, diners, and cafes. Do not use the standard letter paper (8.5" x 11"). It is not big enough for a placemat setting. You can buy this copy paper in a stack at most office supply stores, and I think the colored paper is much more attractive. Design your original on white paper, with black ink and type. Some reams of paper sell 500 sheets per stack. If you have access to a photocopier, just think of how many of these-cost advertising posters you can put all around town to promote your square and round dance clubs.

The ones I have drawn up in the past always included three main things;

1. Dance info and detail (who, what, where, when, why, how much, & contact #)
2. Square dance cartoons of mine or square dance clip art. Square Dance fun facts and trivia (mainly for the non-dancing public's eyes)

Here are some fun facts you may like to use on yours...(remember, this is mainly to strike up interest and table conversation for the novice.)

- Bugs Bunny starred as a square dance caller in the Looney Tunes short feature animation HILLBILLY HARE. Directed by Chuck Jones, who loved o square dance himself.
- Square Dancing has been performed on many TV shows including The Odd Couple, That 70's Show, Sesame Street, Barney and Friends, Lawrence Welk, Happy Days and The Six Million Dollar Man...just to name a few.
- In the 1953 movie The War of the Worlds, the aliens first attacked when our main stars were attending a square dance.
- Nowadays square dance callers go into the schools to teach square dancing rather than having to learn on pre-corded technology.
- The late, great Fresno California caller Ernie Kinney, played a square dance caller named Horace in the 1993 Pauley Shore comedy SON-IN-LAW.
- Square Dancing is a great exercise for both the body and the bran.
- Did you know there are square dances clubs who are Special Olympics participants? Some dancers are in wheelchairs and love o dance just as the folks who are not in wheelchairs.

- Square Dancers love a good challenge, and some have been known to earn badges and certificates for square dancing in an elevator, on a king-sized bed, in the dark, and even in a swimming pool. Don't forget, a full square consists of eight people.

TRAFFIC LIGHTS AT A SQUARE DANCE

Has anyone ever seen of these at a square dance? Caller lights up signal with Green ♥ easy level, Yellow ♥ harder tip, Red ♥ difficult choreography.

Let's dancers know before squaring up.

I've also seen variations such as:

- ♥ Basic
- ♥ Mainstream
- ♥ Plus (or DBD)

I have researched and found out that you can purchase these smaller traffic lights that look like the ones in this photo. I have also seen callers who have constructed their own. The one thing I have discovered is that some of the traffic lights that you purchase light up all three lights, which blink constantly. The homemade ones allow the callers, cuers and promoters to flip the green light on only, and throw the switch to light up only the red when it's a difficult/challenging material tip. The one I have blinks all the lights, but I cut out 2 circles out of black construction paper and now black foam board and I cover up the lights that aren't being used for that particular tip. For example, if it's an easy level tip, the green light is exposed while I have yellow and red blacked out. I just easily switch them in between tips to give the dancers enough time to look up at my music table to see what level of dance is coming up next.

Your thoughts? I love to read and hear feedback.

Discuss...please and thanks...

Reprint from *American Square Dance* – May 2017

All Things Considered

By Ed Foote

Attack Of The Floaters

Beware of the floaters! They can invade any square at any time at any program, from Mainstream to Challenge. They break down squares slowly and stealthily, without any regard or recognition of the destruction they are causing.

A floater is someone who does not achieve a precise position after a call. A floater will be 1/8 off (more or less) and often will be standing at a 45-degree angle, in an attempt to be prepared to move in several ways on the next call. Floaters are like liquid cement: you never know when they are going to set up.

A floater constantly needs help from others in the square to achieve the correct facing direction. But since a person may “float” on several calls in a row, everyone in the square must be alert and able to help at some point. If the help is not forthcoming, the floater will cause others to lose their orientation as well, and the square will slowly dissolve into one mass blob.

A floater may also float out of the square, which usually causes an instant breakdown, since there is not enough time to maneuver the floater back to the correct position. A floater will often want to turn around, which wreaks havoc with anyone who is trying to help the floater. A floater is usually always in motion and appears to be quivering all the time, never achieving a final position.

Why is a person a floater? Because he or she does not know definitions. Once dancers are confident in definitions, they cease to float. But most floaters do not seem to care about knowing definitions. Instead, they are content to float along, causing extra work for others and breaking down squares.

Floaters will often say: “I don’t need to know definitions – someone will pull me through.” What a selfish attitude! In other words, their position is: “As long as I’m having fun, I don’t care if this causes other people not to have fun.”

But floating is not a problem because, - hey, square dancing is fun, right? Perhaps for the floater, but eventually not for others. Eventually, some people say: “I’ve had it with pulling people through who don’t know what they are doing – I’m going to take up some other activity.” But this is socially unacceptable to say, so silence reigns, and the square dance population gets smaller.

Reprint from *American Square Dance* – May 2017

Mel’s Meanderings

Presentation Is An Art: A Good Caller Is Both A Showman And An Artist

By Mel Wilkerson (reprinted from Square & Round Dance Association of New South Wales Inc. newsletter)

BEFORE THE DANCE: Knowing your material, practicing your songs, having the hall set up so you can greet the dancers as they come in, personal appearance and confidence (real or otherwise, and most of all your smile.

AT THE DANCE: What you do when you are off stage is as important as when you are on stage. Get out and walk around and talk and establish rapport with the dancers between tips. Have your evening programmed with what choreography you wish to emphasize, what focus you want to highlight and set the tone of the dance early. If you have special get outs or even gimmicks; use them wisely and sparingly to tease the crowd. Likewise; use your music wisely – keep it upbeat with hoedowns and adapt your singing calls to be you (not someone else). Be dynamic with your music and change it to guide the dancers on a staged and stopped escalator of rising enthusiasm.

AFTER THE DANCE: They should be left wanting more. Ensure you come down from the stage and say farewell to the dancers. If there is an after party, participate but use judgement in your conduct. Leave the equipment packed up until an appropriate time. Focus on the dancers. They will all want to associate with you if you have done your job correctly. It is important to entertain throughout the course of the entire evening.

Reprint from *American Square Dance* – May 2017

My Thoughts

By John and Nora Green

www.promenadesquares.com

Variety Vs Difficulty

There is a difference!

Recently a couple of non-dancers came by to see what we did in this mysterious place along the Concho River. No fancy signs or flashing neon lights mark our cinder block building. Only a lone five foot high silhouette of a twirling couple in club green on the outside wall hints at what goes on here. They were welcome and smothered with attention, as is customary of our club members. It was around the second or third tip when I asked the dancers to bring them to the front, form a square and we would introduce them to square dancing.

They approached with the good natured "what have we got ourselves into" look of terror, but humored me. We proceeded with the traditional but brief explanation of the structure of a square and proceeded to walk them through about ten calls. In a few minutes of 'practice' activity they were ready for their singing call debut.

Now what I have just mentioned is probably a situation expressed by many clubs many times. Doing these impromptu exercises is one of the pleasant events of calling. What delighted me about this recent occasion was the reaction of our regular dancers. They did not sit on the sidelines and bemoan the intrusion into their dance time – no – they assembled their own squares and went through this whole exercise of ten moves with much fun and amusement.

There was no need of a multitude of well-orchestrated and methodically structured calls. They don't have a full dependency a caller's innovative choreography to entertain them. They make their own fun with what there is!

Ok, by now you know I am working toward some point of view I have touched on before. Maybe the full choreographic potential of highly structured call programs that require military drill precision is not the answer to the questionable future of square dancing.

At this point let me take a look at the other side of the page. I do concede that club dancers need variety and amusement. To satisfy this I have made them familiar with some old traditional routines which they not only enjoy, they are the centerpiece of sin, star the route, the grand blossom, the grand prow, the teacup stroll and even the same ole standard program stuff. I guess it is just the chance at some harmless adventure where no one gets hurt and there is always a soft landing when things don't get executed smoothly! Whatever the case – I get by with it!

Happy dancing to all!

Reprint from *American Square Dance* – May 2017

What's Happening This Week?

Week of May 1, 2017

All clubs, callers, and cuers are encouraged to provide the editor with new dance schedules on an annual basis, as well as any updates, changes, and cancellations as needed. We reserve the right to delete listings for lack of updates.

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

Monday (May 1) – 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: Marty Vanwart, Cuer: Charlie Lovelace. Casual or regular square-dance attire is acceptable for the summer months. No tank tops or short-shorts, please. Dancers please use the entrance marked "Gage Hall" on the Habana Avenue side under the covered driveway. PLEASE NOTE: Door fees increased to \$6 for guests and \$5 for members. For info: 813-382-8621 or lindarobertsTempletwirlers@gmail.com.

Tuesday (May 2) – Horizons Round Dance Club - 9200 Littleton Road (south of Shell Factory) – Cuer: Russ Collier – 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. For info: russcollier1@gmail.com.

Suncoast Squares – King of Peace MCC Church, 3150 5th Avenue North, St. Petersburg – Introduction to Round Dancing 6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. - Mainstream 7:30 – 9:00 p.m. – Plus

workshop and dancing 9:00 – 10:00 p.m. Caller/Cuer: Mike Cox. Beginner classes are at 7:30 and we have some wonderful new dancers who are just starting out on their square dance journey. Come, support them, and enjoy getting to know them. Plus workshop is afterwards at 9:00 p.m. A GLBT Club – all are welcome (including the straight community) – casual attire. For info: www.suncoastsquares.com or suncoastsquares@gmail.com or mutschlerdan@yahoo.com or 678-656-2523.

Wednesday (May 3) - Strawberry Square Summer Fun Plus – Strawberry Square Dance Center, 4401 Promenade Boulevard, Plant City – Caller: Marty Vanwart – 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. - wood dance floor – hearing enhancement – fragrance free. For info: www.strawberrysquaredancing.com or 813-752-0491. If you are unable to reach the Dance Center, please call Wayne Sorrells – 770-490-1670; Mary Lee Van Valkenburg – 813-707-1702; Cherylene Sorrells 770-825-6513.

J and C Spinarounds Phase IV and V Workshop and Dance – Walter Fuller Recreation Center, 7891 26th Avenue N., St. Pete, FL – 7:00 – 8:45 p.m. – Cuers/Instructors: Jimmy and Carol Griffin. For info: 727-525-7809 or spinards@tampabay.rr.com or www.floridasquaredance.com/jcspin.

Cultural Center Squares – Centennial Hall, 2280 Aaron Street, Rooms F and G, Port Charlotte, FL. Caller: Art Miller - Cuers: Jennie Martin and Russ Collier - 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. Mainstream, Plus, and Rounds. For info: Mary 941-380-5336 or Jennie 863-494-2749. For info: Mary 941-380-5336 or Jennie 863-494-2749.

Thursday (May 4) – Chase-A-Rounds in Punta Gorda – South County Regional Park, 670 Cooper Street, Punta Gorda – Phase III Waltz Review - Cuer: Dick Chase – 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon. For info: 239-7705257 or prentice0626@gmail.com.

Shufflin' Squares – Lake Ashton Golf Club, 4141 Ashton Club Drive, Lake Wales, FL – Early Rounds 7:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. - alternating **Plus/Advance** – Caller: **Keith Stevens** - square dance attire optional. For info: lanceandrita@yahoo.com.

Jacaranda Trace Dance and Workshop – 3600 William Penn Way, Venice - A-2 - 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. Caller: Mike Cox. Attending dancers are required to be efficient in all positions A1. For info: 941-408-2627.

Citrus Squares – First United Methodist Church, 21501 W. Highway 40, Dunnellon, FL – Caller: Ellis Lindsey – 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. For info: 352-465-2142 (H) – 352-419-2504 (C) – rickducharme@ymail.com.

Suncoast Squares A2 Dance and Workshop – King of Peace MCC Church, 3150 5th Avenue North, St. Petersburg – 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. Caller: Mike Cox -. A GLBT Club – all are welcome (including the straight community) – casual attire. For info: www.suncoastsquares.com or suncoastsquares@gmail.com or mutschlerdan@yahoo.com.

Promenade Squares Birthdays/Cinco De Mayo Dance – Senior Center, 7625 - 59th St. N., Pinellas Park – Mainstream/Plus/DBD Workshop 6:00 p.m. - Early Rounds 7:15 - 7:45 p.m. Mainstream/Plus/Rounds 7:45 - 9:30 p.m. - Caller: **Ted Hughes**, Cuer: Jimmy Griffin. For info: dhua7@aol.com or 727-544-0227.

Friday (May 5) – **Clearview Squares** – Clearview United Methodist Church, 4515 – 38th Avenue North, St. Petersburg – Caller: Ted Hughes; Cuer: Jimmy Griffin – Rounds 7:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m., Mainstream, Plus, and Rounds 7:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m. For info: 727-641-0408 or ted.hughes@juno.com.

Strawberry Square Summer A-2 Dance - Strawberry Square Dance Center, 4401 Promenade Boulevard, Plant City, FL – Caller: Keith Stevens – Workshop 7:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. – Dance 7:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m. – wood dance floor – hearing enhancement – fragrance free. For info: www.strawberrysquaredancing.com or 813-752-0491. If you are unable to reach the Dance Center, please call Wayne Sorrells 770-490-1670, Dona Watson & Henry Hillje 813-756-6145, or Cherylene Sorrells 770-825-6513.

Saturday (May 6) – **Strawberry Square Summer Plus Dance** – Strawberry Square Dance Center, 4401 Promenade Boulevard, Plant City – Caller: Marty Vanwart with recorded rounds – Early Rounds 7:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. – Plus/Rounds 7:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m. - wood dance floor – hearing enhancement – fragrance free. For info: www.strawberrysquaredancing.com or 813-752-0491. If you are unable to reach the Dance Center, please call Wayne Sorrells – 770-490-1670; Mary Lee Van Valkenburg – 813-707-1702; Cherylene Sorrells 770-825-6513.

Palace Promenaders – 1627 NE Floridian Circle, Arcadia – Caller: Robert Arias – Cuers: Jenny Martin and Russ Collier – Mainstream, Plus, and Rounds. Parking is available behind the building. For info: Jennie 863-494-2749 or Mary 941-380-5336.

Sunday (May 7) –

Monday (May 8) - **Temple Twirlers 50's 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. Casual or regular square-dance attire is acceptable for the summer months. No tank tops or short-shorts, please. – finger foods. Dancers please use the entrance marked “Gage Hall” on the Habana Avenue side under the covered driveway. For info: 813-382-8621 or lindarobertsTempletwirlers@gmail.com.

Tuesday (May 9) – **Buttons and Bows of Lakeland** – Magnolia Building, 702 E. Orange Street, Lakeland – Caller: Ron Reardon – Cuer: Charlie Lovelace – Early Rounds 7:00 – 7:30 p.m. – Mainstream/Plus/Rounds 7:30 – 9:30 p.m. – wood dance floor – hearing enhancement – fragrance free – finger foods. For info: sqdnxfan@gmail.com or 863-224-3393.

Horizons Round Dance Club - 9200 Littleton Road (south of Shell Factory) – Cuer: Russ Collier – 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. For info: russcollier1@gmail.com.


Suncoast Squares – King of Peace MCC Church, 3150 5th Avenue North, St. Petersburg – Mainstream 7:30 – 9:00 p.m. – Plus 9:00 – 10:00 p.m. Caller/Cuer: Mike Cox. A GLBT Club – all are welcome (including the straight community) – casual attire. For info:

www.suncoastsquares.com or suncoastsquares@gmail.com or mutschlerdan@yahoo.com or 678-656-2523.

West Coast Classes and Workshops National Caller and Cuer Colleges

Please provide start date, start and ending time, level (Beginner, Mainstream, Plus, etc.), GPS address (with city) where class and/or workshop will be held, instructor's name, contact name, email address and phone number.

Communicate this information to new dancers! It's not a secret!



Please review this list and notify the Editor of any completed classes to delete.

May 1, 2017

Sunday - **Shufflin' Squares Advance Workshop** – Lake Ashton Golf Club, 4141 Ashton Club Drive, Lake Wales, FL – Caller: Keith Stevens – 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. For info: lanceandrita@yahoo.com.

Thursday – **Craig's RV Basic 50 Club** – Craig's RV Park – 7895 N.E. Cubitis Avenue (5.3 miles north of Palace Promenaders' Dance Hall; west side of Hwy. 17), Arcadia – Caller/Instructor: Robert Arias – 3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. For info: 813-601-1834.

December 4, 2016 – **Russ & Wilma's Round Dance Workshop** – South County Regional Park Carmalita Hall, 2610 Carmalita, Punt Gorda – Cuer/Instructor: Russ Collier – Phase 3 – 4 – 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. For info: 941-661-1920 or russcollier1@gmail.com.

January 10, 2017 – **Suncoast Squares Plus Class** - King of Peace MCC Church, 3150 5th Avenue North, St. Petersburg – 9:00 – 10:00 p.m. Caller/Instructor: Mike Cox. A GLBT Club – all are welcome (including the straight community) – casual attire. For info: www.suncoastsquares.com or suncoastsquares@gmail.com or mutschlerdan@yahoo.com or 678-656-2523.

January 12, 2017 – **Citrus Park Snobirds Beginner Square Dance** – Citrus Park Clubhouse, 25501 Trost Boulevard, Bonita Springs – Caller/Instructor: Wes Morris or Mac McCall – FREE! - 6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. For info: 239-498-8833 or 239-992-0207.

January 17, 2017 – **Suncoast Squares New Dancer Classes** - King of Peace MCC Church, 3150 5th Avenue North, St. Petersburg – 7:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. Caller/Cuer: Mike Cox. A GLBT Club – all are welcome (including the straight community) – casual attire. For info: www.suncoastsquares.com or suncoastsquares@gmail.com or mutschlerdan@yahoo.com or 678-656-2523.

April 19 – October 25, 2017 – **Strawberry Square First Summer Fun Plus Dance** – Strawberry Square Dance Center, 4401 Promenade Boulevard, Plant City – Caller: Marty Vanwart – 7:00 p.m. – 9:30 p.m. For info: www.strawberrysquaredancing.com or 813-752-0491. If you are unable to reach the Dance Center, please call Cherylene Sorrells 770-825-6513.

April 22, 2017 – October 28, 2017 – **Strawberry Square Summer Plus Dance** - Strawberry Square Dance Center, 4401 Promenade Boulevard, Plant City – Callers: Mike Cox (with Rounds) 2nd, 4th, and 5th, Marty Vanwart (with recorded Rounds) 1st and 3rd – 7:00 – 9:30 p.m. For info: www.strawberrysquaredancing.com or 813-752-0491. If you are unable to reach the Dance Center, please call Cherylene Sorrells 770-825-6513. Please check www.strawberrysquaredancing.com for schedule changes.

April 28 – October 27, 2017 – **Strawberry Square Summer A-2 Dance** - Strawberry Square Dance Center, 4401 Promenade Boulevard, Plant City – Callers: Keith Stevens 1st and 3rd, Marty Vanwart 2nd and 4th 7:30 – 9:30 p.m. For info: www.strawberrysquaredancing.com or 813-752-0491. If you are unable to reach the Dance Center, please call Cherylene Sorrells 770-825-6513. Please check www.strawberrysquaredancing.com for schedule changes.

April 29, 2017 – **Punta Gorda Phase III – Intro to Phase IV Round Dance Workshop** – Ventura Lake Park, 27110 Jones Loop Road, Punta Gorda (east side of I-75) – Cuer: Russ Collier – 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. For info: 941-661-1920.

June 4 – October 29, 2017 – **Strawberry Square First Night of Phase 3/Intro to 4** – Strawberry Square Dance Center, 4401 Promenade Boulevard, Plant City – Cuer: Charlie Lovelace – 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. For info: www.strawberrysquaredancing.com or 813-752-0491. If you are unable to reach the Dance Center, please call Cherylene Sorrells 770-825-6513. Please check www.strawberrysquaredancing.com for schedule changes.

June 4 – 7, 2017 – **Northstar Callers School** – Oak Grove Lutheran Church, 7045 Lyndale Avenue South, Minneapolis, MN. For info: kenritucci.com/caller-schools/northstar or Brian Freed 612-961-6572 or brian@callerbrian.com.

June 14 – 17, 2017 – **(AACE) Academy for Advanced and Challenge Enthusiasts** – Grand Wayne Convention Center, Fort Wayne, IN. For info: 805-686-1108 or aace@ceder.net or www.ceder.net/aace.

June 5, 2017 – September 11, 2017 – **Strawberry Square Summer Beginners' Class** – 4401 Promenade Boulevard, Plant City – Callers/Instructors: Marty Vanwart and Keith Stevens – 7:00 – 8:30 p.m. For info: www.strawberrysquaredancing.com or 813-752-0491. If you are unable to

reach the Dance Center, please call Cherylene Sorrells 770-825-6513. Please check www.strawberrysquaredancing.com for schedule changes.

July 20 – 23, 2017 – **Atlanta Callers School** – City of Light, 3125 Presidential Parkway, Atlanta, GA – Callers: Ken Ritucci (Massachusetts) (Callerlab Accredited Caller Coach) and Tony Oxendine (South Carolina) (Callerlab Accredited Caller Coach). Plenty of microphone time • understand what it takes to be a leader • Professional assessment of your skills • Develop a calling career that is best for you • Full CALLERLAB curriculum. Whether you are presently calling or desire to be a caller, this school will help you with your calling career. Only \$400 per student – Space is limited! Register today! For info: 413-262-1875 or kenritucci@aol.com or www.kenritucci.com.

August 10 – 13, 2017 – **2017 Norcal Callerlab School** – Sunnyvale Presbyterian Church, 728 W. Fremont Avenue., Sunnyvale, CA – Callers: Ken Ritucci (Massachusetts) (Callerlab Accredited Caller Coach), Harlan Kerr (California), and Bill Harrison (Maryland). Plenty of microphone time • understand what it takes to be a leader • Professional assessment of your skills • Develop a calling career that is best for you • Full CALLERLAB curriculum. Whether you are presently calling or desire to be a caller, this school will help you with your calling career. Only \$400 per student – Space is limited! Register today! For info: 413-262-1875 or kenritucci@aol.com or www.kenritucci.com.

October 5 – 9, 2017 – **Northeast Callers School** – Hayloft Barn, Sturbridge, MA – Caller: Ken Ritucci (Callerlab accredited Caller Coach); Special Guest Instructors: Tom Miller (Pennsylvania – Callerlab Accredited Caller Coach), Ted Lizzote (New Hampshire), and Oliver Kuester (Germany). 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, full CALLERLAB curriculum, and develop a calling career that is best for you. \$400 per student 0 space is limited! Register today! For an application and more information, contact Ken Ritucci at 413-262-1875 or KenRitucci@aol.com or www.KenRitucci.com.

October 29, 2017 – **Strawberry Square Final Night of Phase 3/Intro to 4** – Strawberry Square Dance Center, 4401 Promenade Boulevard, Plant City – Cued: Charlie Lovelace – 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. Check website (www.strawberrysquaredancing.com) for updates just in case there isn't enough participation. For info: www.strawberrysquaredancing.com or 813-752-0491. If you are unable to reach the Dance Center, please call Cherylene Sorrells 770-825-6513.

November 1, 2017 - **Maple Leaf Squares A-1 Workshop** - Maple Leaf Golf & Country Club, Queensway Hall, 2100 Kings Highway, Port Charlotte – Plus 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. – Caller: Dave Magee. Square dance attire preferred - \$5 per person. For info: 941-235-1611 or callerdave@hotmail.com or <http://www.mapleleafsquares.com/>.

November 2, 2017 - **Maple Leaf Squares Plus Workshop** - Maple Leaf Golf & Country Club, Canam Hall, 2100 Kings Highway, Port Charlotte – Plus 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Caller: Dave

Magee. Square dance attire preferred - \$5 per person. For info: 941-235-1611 or callerdave@hotmail.com or <http://www.mapleleafsquares.com/>.

November 2, 2017 – March 29, 2018 – **Strawberry Square Phase 4 Class** – Strawberry Square Dance Center, 4401 Promenade Boulevard, Plant City – Cuers/Instructors: Tom and Cindy Bunn (864-723-6965) For info: www.strawberrysquaredancing.com or 813-752-0491. Check the dance center calendar (www.strawberrysquaredancing.com) for scheduling changes.

November 2, 2017 – March 29, 2018 - **Strawberry Square Phase 3 Class** – Strawberry Square Dance Center, 4401 Promenade Boulevard, Plant City – Cuers/Instructors: Tom and Cindy Bunn (864-723-6965) – 7:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. - \$6 per person per session. For info: www.strawberrysquaredancing.com or 813-752-0491. Check the dance center calendar (www.strawberrysquaredancing.com) for scheduling changes.

November 2, 2017 - **Maple Leaf Squares DBD Workshop** - Maple Leaf Golf & Country Club, Canam Hall, 2100 Kings Highway, Port Charlotte – 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. – Caller: Dave Magee. Square dance attire preferred - \$5 per person. For info: 941-235-1611 or callerdave@hotmail.com or <http://www.mapleleafsquares.com/>.

November 3, 2017 - **Maple Leaf Squares Mainstream Workshop** - Maple Leaf Golf & Country Club, Canam Hall, 2100 Kings Highway, Port Charlotte – 1:00 p.m. – 2:45 p.m. – Caller: Dave Magee. Square dance attire preferred - \$5 per person. For info: 941-235-1611 or callerdave@hotmail.com or <http://www.mapleleafsquares.com/>.

November 4, 2017 – March 31, 2018 - **Strawberry Square Phase 5 Class** – Strawberry Square Dance Center, 4401 Promenade Boulevard, Plant City – Cuers/Instructors: Tom and Cindy Bunn (864-723-6965) – 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon - \$6 per person per session. For info: www.strawberrysquaredancing.com or 813-752-0491. Check the dance center calendar (www.strawberrysquaredancing.com) for scheduling changes.

November 4, 2017 – March 31, 2018 - **Strawberry Square Phase 3/4 Class** – Strawberry Square Dance Center, 4401 Promenade Boulevard, Plant City – Cuers/Instructors: Tom and Cindy Bunn (864-723-6965) – 2:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. - \$6 per person per session. For info: www.strawberrysquaredancing.com or 813-752-0491. Check the dance center calendar (www.strawberrysquaredancing.com) for scheduling changes.

November 5 – 9, 2017 – **Appalachian Callers School** – Cacapon Resort State Park, 818 Cacapon Lodge Drive, Berkeley Springs, WV – Callers: Betsy Gotta (New Jersey - CALLERLAB Accredited Caller Coach), Tom Miller (Pennsylvania – CALLERLAB Accredited Caller Coach), Bill Harrison (Maryland – Caller Coach), and Keith Stevens (Florida – Caller Coach). Everything under one roof!!! School – lodging – restaurant. Full CALLERLAB Curriculum for new and experienced callers. Tuition: \$350 No charge for accompanying partner. Food and lodging not included. \$50 discount for previous attendees of the Appalachian or Pocono Callers Schools. Scholarships

available at CALLERLAB.com. Lodging: \$67 +_ tax is the room rate in the Cacapon Lodge. Make reservations directly with the Lodge by calling 304-258-1022. Make sure to say you are with the Appalachian Callers School. Food: full restaurant onsite and many local restaurants. School limited to 20 students. Curriculum to include, but not limited to: Mechanics of Choreography, Methods of Choreographic Control, Music, Voice, Programming, Showmanship, Teaching, Timing, Ethics, Beginner Parties, Modules, Sight Resolution, Smooth Dancing, and Self Improvement Techniques. 'If you can't excel with talent, triumph with effort.' – Dave Weinbaum. For info: 732-249-2086 or ugottadance@optonline.net.

November 6, 2017 – March 26, 2018 – **Heron's Glen Beginners Class** - Herons Glen, 2250 Avenida Del Vera, North Fort Myers – 6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. – \$4 per person - Caller/Instructor: Dave Magee. For info: callerdave@hotmail.com.

November 6, 2016 – March 26, 2018- **Heron's Glen Plus Class** - Herons Glen, 2250 Avenida Del Vera, North Fort Myers – 8:00 p.m. – 9:30 p.m. – \$4 per person - Caller/Instructor: Dave Magee. For info: callerdave@hotmail.com.

November 6, 2017 – **Strawberry Square Beginners Class** – Strawberry Square Dance Center, 4401 Promenade Boulevard, Plant City – Caller/Instructor: Marty Vanwart – 6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. Angels needed; you do not have to be a member of Strawberry Square to help. For info: www.strawberrysquaredancing.com or 813-752-0491. If you are unable to reach the Dance Center, please call Cherylene Sorrells 770-825-6513.

November 6, 2017 – **Strawberry Square Plus Class** – Strawberry Square Dance Center, 4401 Promenade Boulevard, Plant City – Caller/Instructor: Marty Vanwart – 8:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. Angels needed; you do not have to be a member of Strawberry Square to help. For info: www.strawberrysquaredancing.com or 813-752-0491. If you are unable to reach the Dance Center, please call Cherylene Sorrells 770-825-6513.

November 7, 2017 - **Maple Leaf Squares Beginner Rounds** - Maple Leaf Golf & Country Club, Queensway Hall, 2100 Kings Highway, Port Charlotte – Plus 1:00 p.m. – 2:45 p.m. – Cues: Ken Klumpp. Square dance attire preferred - FREE. For info: 941-235-1611 or callerdave@hotmail.com or <http://www.mapleleafsquares.com/>.

November 7, 2017 - **Maple Leaf Squares Beginners Class** - Maple Leaf Golf & Country Club, Queensway Hall, 2100 Kings Highway, Port Charlotte – Plus 7:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. – Caller: Dave Magee. Square dance attire preferred - \$5 per person. For info: 941-235-1611 or callerdave@hotmail.com or <http://www.mapleleafsquares.com/>.

November 12, 2017 – January 14, 2018 - **Strawberry Square Beginner Two Step Lessons** – Strawberry Square Dance Center, 4401 Promenade Boulevard, Plant City – Cues/Instructors: Tom and Cindy Bunn (864-723-6965) – 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. - \$6 per person per session. For

info: www.strawberrysquaredancing.com or 813-752-0491. Check the dance center calendar (www.strawberrysquaredancing.com) for scheduling changes.

November 14, 2017 – March 27, 2018 - **Strawberry Square Line Dance Class** – Strawberry Square Dance Center, 4401 Promenade Boulevard, Plant City – Cuers/Instructors: Tom and Cindy Bunn (864-723-6965) – 3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. - \$5 per person per session. For info: www.strawberrysquaredancing.com or 813-752-0491. Check the dance center calendar (www.strawberrysquaredancing.com) for scheduling changes. No dance on December 12, 2017.

December 4, 2017- **Bradenton Three-Week Review Prior to New Class** – Village on the Greens Clubhouse, 508 – 44th Avenue East, Bradenton – Caller/Instructor: Mike Cox - \$3 per person per session – 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. For info and registration: votgsquaredance@outlook.com or 954-889-6971.

January 8, 2018 - **Bradenton Beginners Square Dance Lessons Start** – Village on the Greens Clubhouse, 508 – 44th Avenue East, Bradenton – Caller/Instructor: Mike Cox - \$3 per person per session 12:00 noon 2:00 p.m. For info and registration: votgsquaredance@outlook.com or 954-889-6971.

Demos/One-nighters

This is a new section for you to promote your demos and one-nighters. If you need dancers to help you out, please forward the information for publication.

Looking Ahead

June 4, 2017 – **Billy Bowlegs Pirate Dance** – PASARDA Hall, 17 Industrial Street, Fort Walton Beach, FL – Caller/Cuer: Miriam Merriwether – Early Easy Rounds 6:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. - Announced Mainstream/Plus, Rounds, Lines – 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. - \$8 per person. Wear your pirate garb if you dare! For info: 850-974-0091 or singermimi@gmail.com – facebook.com/SandSpursSquareDance – www.SandSpursSquareDance.com.

September 1, 2017 – **Deadline for Submission of Caller Profiles to Call at the 2018 Florida State Convention.** You must be a member of the Florida Callers Association (FCA) to call or teach at the state convention. For info: Bill Chesnut, Convention Caller Chairman, 352-475-2550 or billchesnut4@gmail.com.

October 6, 2017 – **Sun City Swingers First Dance of the Season** - North Campus Dance Studio, Atrium Building, 945 North Course Lane, Sun City – Early Rounds 7:00 – 7:30 p.m., Mainstream/Plus/Rounds 7:30 – 9:30 p.m. – Caller: Marty Vanwart. Square dance attire preferred. Air-conditioned hall, wood floor, and lighted, paved off-street parking. For info: 813-938-1038.

November 3, 2017 - **Maple Leaf Squares First Dance of the Season** - Maple Leaf Golf & Country Club, Queensway Hall, 2100 Kings Highway, Port Charlotte – Plus 3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. – Caller: Dave Magee. Square dance attire preferred - \$5 per person. For info: 941-235-1611 or callerdave@hotmail.com or <http://www.mapleleafsquares.com/>.

November 12, 2017 - **Strawberry Square Phase 3 – 5 Round Dance Party** – Strawberry Square Dance Center, 4401 Promenade Boulevard, Plant City – Cuers/Instructors: Tom and Cindy Bunn (864-723-6965) – 2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. - \$6 per person – please bring finger food. For info: www.strawberrysquaredancing.com or 813-752-0491. Check the dance center calendar (www.strawberrysquaredancing.com) for scheduling changes.

December 31, 2017 – **Deadline for Callers to Submit Their Intention to Cue at the 2018 Florida State Convention.** **NOTE: This date may be incorrect.** You must be a member of the Round Dance Council of Florida (RDCF) to cue or teach at the state convention. For info: Susan Snider, Convention Cuer Chairman, 904-908-5184.

Links

Updated December 5, 2016

Websites

<http://floridasquaredance.com/>

https://www.facebook.com/#!/home.php?sk=group_149454955123658andap=1 (Florida Federation's Facebook page)

Publications

www.flwestcoastdancer.com (West Coast Dancer)

<http://newsquaremusic.com/sioindex.html> (Sets in Order)

Associations/Organizations

www.flwestcoastdancer.com (West Coast Dancer)

<http://floridasquaredance.com/westcoast/index.html> (West Coast Assn.)

<http://www.floridasquaredance.com/rdc/> (Round Dance Council of Florida)

<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.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.66nsdc.com> 66th National Square Dance Convention – Spokane, WA

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

Vendors

<http://virginiaswesternwear.com/> (Virginia's Western Wear and Square Dance Shop, Mascotte, FL)

sewemupfashions.com (Sew 'em Up Fashions, Spartanburg, SC)

<http://www.ilvinyl.com/SQUARE---ROUND-DANCING.html> (vinyl decals)

www.travelinghoedowners.com (Square Dance DVDs – Both Instructional and Dance)

www.suziegcreations.com (Suzie Q Creations)

<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)

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

Square Dance Halls

www.Strawberrysquaredancing.com (Strawberry Square)

Callers/Cuers

<http://www.luvrounds.com/> (Charlie Lovelace)
<http://www.ronreardoncaller.com/> (Ron Reardon)
<http://www.rodbarngrover.com> (Rod Barngrover)
<http://www.mike-gormley.com> (Mike Gormley)
<http://www.samdunn.net/> (Sam Dunn)
<http://www.floridasquaredance.com/jcspin/> (Jimmy and Carol Griffin)
www.keithstevens.com (Keith Stevens)

Miscellaneous

<http://LiveLivelySquareDance.com> (New square/round dance logo)
<http://www.dosado.com/cgi-bin/lib/shop-wrapper.pl?page=rdpubsandshop=dosadoandcart=3901977.2052>
[http://www.squaredance\(round dance publications\)radionetwork.com](http://www.squaredance(rounddancepublications)radionetwork.com) (square dance radio network)

A square and round dancer concerned about the preservation of our dance activity publishes this E-Newsletter. 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. Publication is weekly with addendums as needed. All new information is highlighted in yellow. Please forward this newsletter to your membership or other interested parties, or provide printed copies to your members and visitors. The newsletter is also available at www.dancergram.com. If you would like a copy emailed to you or would like your club information added, please contact the editor at sqdnxfan@gmail.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 evhenning99@gmail.com.