MILESTONE AWARD WINNER 1986

Dave Taylor

February 12, 2017

Remembering Dave Taylor

Dave passed away February 12, 2017 in Spring Hill, Florida. Dave was a founding Member of CALLERLAB, serving several years on the Board of Governors and two terms as Chairman of the Board. In 1971, Dave was inducted into the Square Dance Hall of Fame. He received the CALLERLAB Milestone Award in 1986.

Dave was "drafted" into a career in calling. In 1953, while working part-time for the Detroit Parks and Recreation Department, he was put in charge of Saturday night activities which included teaching children's square dance classes. This was the beginning of square dance calling for Dave.

Before long, besides teaching school, he had a busy home club and class program underway. This lead to a full travel/calling schedule with appearances at some of the most prominent festivals, conventions, weekend and week-long square dance institutes, i.e., Boyne Mountain, Michigan for 11 years and Kirkwood Lodge, Missouri for 26 years. For 2 years Dave called a weekly Saturday afternoon radio program, "Square Dance Club of the Air". He called over the radio and people would gather the squares wherever to dance. In 1966 he began one of his many Taylor made holiday weekends in Niagara Falls, Ontario. The Maple Leaf Weekend continued for 31 years.

In 1972 he moved to Naperville, Illinois and established his home clubs and classes in the Chicago area. His Tuesday workshops at the Boy Scout Center drew over 200 dancers. Soon he was teaching all levels, from
beginners to C-1. Dave organized and formed The Callers Co-op for Chicago area callers to promote good calling, teaching and dancing. By the mid-1990s, Dave had made more than 20 calling tours to Europe and had sponsored an annual World Square Dance Convention that attracted dancers from many countries. In February 1994, he called his final dance while on a tour to New Zealand and Australia.

Dave was always very generous with his time and knowledge of square dancing. He took the time to share his expertise with callers, leaders and dancers all over the United States and foreign countries. Dave conducted many callers' clinics in North America and wrote numerous articles for square dance publications. He appeared on several TV shows in the U.S., Canada and New Zealand. He recorded 52 single records, 4 albums, and 1 stereo tape. He called in 45 of the 50 United States.

Dave had a huge impact on square dancing. He had a special charm all his own and was able to pass his enthusiasm for dancing and a fun loving spirit on to others, enabling all to have a great time. He retired in Florida in 1989. He had 5 children, 9 grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren. He was so appreciative of all of his family and many friends. He embraced life to the fullest.

Dave ended his last dance with the singing call "I Did It My Way"! Dave will be very much missed and always remembered!

CONVENTION FLASH

This 'FLASH' issue of DIRECTION is published as soon as possible after the Annual Convention in order to inform all CALLERLAB Members of significant actions taken at the Annual Meeting. This issue includes the results of any voting during the 2017 Annual Meeting of the Members, information about award presentations, and reports from certain committees. Additional committee reports are included with the minutes of the 2017 annual meeting.

RESULTS OF CONVENTION VOTE

The 2017 CALLERLAB Call to Convention, published in the January/February 2017 issue of DIRECTION, informed all Members that three proposed resolutions which required action by the Membership had been submitted and would be presented at the 2017 Annual Membership Meeting. The resolutions were presented to the Membership during the 2017 Annual Meeting on Wednesday, April 12, 2017. One of these resolutions was withdrawn by the originators. The first resolution was approved by the Membership at the meeting as presented.

The second resolution was discussed. An amendment was approved and the amended Motion was approved by the Membership at the meeting.

The resolutions will be submitted to all voting Members by U. S. mail for vote.

The first resolution reads as follows:

A motion to clarify the current Bylaws, Article II. Membership, Section 4. regarding termination of membership and funds due and payable to CALLERLAB.

Whereas the Bylaws must be clear regarding termination of membership and funds due and payable to CALLERLAB,

MOTION: Be it Resolved That Article II. Membership be revised as follows:

“Section 4. Resignation, Termination and Reinstatement”

Article II. Section 4. (A) - Delete last sentence

Article II. Section 4. (B) - In the title replace “Removal” with “Termination” which will read as follows:

“Section 4. (B) Termination or Expulsion of Members”

Article II. Section 4. (B) (1) - Delete last sentence and change entire sub-section to read:

“(1) Any Member whose account is delinquent shall be mailed a written notice of delinquency at the address as shown on the records of the corporation. If the delinquency is not cured within 60 days following the sending of the notice, the membership shall be terminated.”

Article II. Section 4. (B) - Add new sub-section Article II, Section 4. (B) (7) which will read as follows:
“(7) Notwithstanding any termination of membership, all sums (other than unpaid membership renewals) due to the corporation from any Member shall still be due and remain a debt in favor of the corporation and shall be enforceable against the Member or his/her estate.”

The second resolution, as amended, reads as follows:

A motion to clarify the current Bylaws, Article IV, Board of Governors, Section 6 (A) and Section 6 (B) be amended regarding filling vacant Board of Governors positions.

Whereas it is possible for a candidate for the Board Of Governors (BOG) to receive sufficient votes to be elected to the BOG but is unable to assume the office to which elected,

Whereas clear procedures are required to determine how to proceed if an elected Member is not able to assume the office of BOG to which elected, and

Whereas clear procedures are required to determine how to proceed if there is a vacancy on the Board after the elected Members assume office.

Be It Resolved That: Article IV. Board Of Governors, Section 6 (A) and Article IV. Board Of Governors, Section (B), of the Bylaws be amended to read as follows:

(A) Elected Member Unable to Assume Office (Resignation or Other Reason) Before Taking Office. If a Governor resigns or is unable to assume office for any other reason during the period between the election and taking office, this place shall be filled by the unsuccessful candidate from the same election with the next highest vote total. Multiple such situations shall be filled in order from the remaining unsuccessful candidates. If there are no unsuccessful candidates, the office shall be filled by election at the next Annual Meeting or special meeting held in lieu thereof.

(B) Vacancy on the Board After Elected Members Assume Office. If a Governorship becomes vacant after the elected Members assumes office, this place shall be filled by the unsuccessful candidate from the most recent election with the next highest vote total. Multiple such situations shall be filled in order from the remaining unsuccessful candidates. If there are no unsuccessful candidates the office shall be filled by election of the next annual or special meeting held in lieu there-of.

CHAIRMAN’S SPEECH PRESENTED AT 44TH CALLERLAB CONVENTION
By Vernon Jones

Square dancing is a great activity. Square dancing in the past 20 years has suffered greatly due to changing habits and more competition for leisure time. Square dancing must change. Working together we all can make this happen.

Thank you and good night! (Vernon now turns to leave the podium - but in jest!)

The Chairman’s speeches for the last 20 years have all echoed this sentiment: therefore, we shouldn’t have to dwell long on this same subject that has been spoken about by people who are far more eloquent at speaking than I am. But, here we are once again and this topic remains the main topic of conversation in the square dance world.

Previous chairmen, in their last talk as chairman, have all expressed thanks to many people and I would like to be no different. I thank the Home Office staff, JoJo, Royce and Donna. I thank the CALLERLAB Executive Director, Dana Schirmer. Only a few people know how hard he works and how much time he devotes to this organization. His efforts are to be commended. Dana, we will never be able to repay you for all that you do and on behalf of the membership of CALLERLAB, Thank You!

I want to thank the Executive Committee and the Board of Governors for your confidence and support. I would also like to thank my wife, Kayla, (who has witnessed the times when I would throw up my hands and say things that I can’t repeat here) for her great support and encouragement.
Without the effort and support from her and all of you I would not have been able to uphold my duties. Thank you all!

The theme for this year’s Convention is “Build the Base Now”, and truer words could not be more prevalent! All square dance people around the world must work harder at generating a more sustainable base by “Building the Base Now!” Without this, everything else will slowly fail. We must stop dwelling on the good ole’ days and the way things were done back then and focus on new ways and ideas that will meet the needs of today’s people and “Build the Base NOW!” Whenever someone attempts a new method of doing anything in square dancing, they are met with obstacles and roadblocks that are not natural, but instead are thrown up by existing square dance people. These existing square dance people may not like what is being attempted (and that is certainly their prerogative), but what is amazing to me is the lengths these same people will go to in order to stop others from trying something different in an effort to Build the Base NOW!” It’s as if these people would rather see square dancing stay the same (and suffer the same results) than change what they are comfortable doing instead of making an effort to “Build the Base NOW!” Frederick Douglass said “Without a struggle there is no progress.” Therefore, it is time to fight or we will not move forward!

For last year’s speech I talked about what do we all want to be remembered for and how the “The Time is Now!” This year I ask all of you, “What legacy do you want to leave behind?” Do we want to leave this situation as it is now, or do we wish to leave it in better shape than we found it and “Build the Base NOW!”

There are many keys to “Build the Base NOW!” The main key, in my opinion, is to not only attract new people but to show these people a good time, keep these people in square dancing and “Build the Base NOW!” The way to keep these people and “Build the Base NOW” is to cater to them. If we want to attract new people - we must cater to them. If we want to show them a good time - we must cater to them. If we want them to go dancing and enjoy themselves - we must cater to them. And on the subject of them going dancing, we must not just send them to dances; we must accompany them, dance with them, encourage them, and give them compliments. Sending new people to dances is like sending your prom date to the prom with someone else and being surprised when they go home with that someone else. Catering to new dancers will “Build the Base NOW!” And, if you have talked to everyone you know about square dancing, then it is time to talk to someone you don’t know and “Build the Base NOW!”

It is time to put aside our differences and concentrate on building square dancing. It is time to stop fighting with each other and concentrate on “Building the Base NOW! It is time to stop worrying about who might not agree with us, getting our picky little feelings hurt, and concentrate on “Building the Base NOW!” It is time to work towards leaving a legacy that has square dancing in better shape than it was given to us and “Build the Base NOW!” Thank you!

VIC & DEBBIE CEDER RECEIVE CALLERLAB’S MILESTONE AWARD

Presented by Clark Baker

Tonight’s Milestone is unusual as it is one of the rare instances in which it will be awarded to a couple. Let’s think of him as “The Entertainer” and the two of them as “The Easy Winners”. They were born in the same hospital, one in 1960 and the other in 1962. At the age of 14 his mother and sister dragged one of our recipients to a square dance class. They told him he didn’t have to keep doing it but he did have to try. He stuck with the lessons until he broke his arm. He returned to the class next year, which is when our other recipient enters the scene. This would be 1975. They became partners for several years and then an “item” in 1978. They continued to dance with the teen club until it dissolved.

Jumping ahead, our recipients were married in Japan in 1988 by the Japanese square dancers with kimonos and everything. Their actual marriage
was back in the States in 1989. They have never lived far from where they grew up and have several hobbies outside our dance activity. Fortunate to live in a climate where things grow, their whole backyard is devoted to 40 chickens, several ducks, and growing 15 different fruits, 15 different vegetables, and many herbs. They have recently become beekeepers, and their 2016 harvests brought in over 100 pounds of honey.

Our recipients enjoy round dancing and contra dancing, but they especially enjoy swing dancing. This would be the East Coast or jitterbug style. They once entered a local swing dance competition where “Doc” Severinson was the judge. While they came in second, “Doc” later told them that their style of swing dancing was more authentic than the more impressive aerials that the winning couple did.

Our recipients have mathematical, logical minds and by high school they were learning Advanced dancing. A year later they were learning Challenge dancing. At that time he developed an interest in calling and started by walking their tape group through some sequences he had written. Later he called written sequences to taped music, then purchased a Hilton and a microphone, and really started learning how to call.

He started calling Challenge square dancing in 1981 and several years later I received a cassette tape from his dancers. They said they thought their caller was real good and we should see what we think. The tape was labeled “Vic Ceder C4-001 Winter ’84”. As I remember, our group thought his choreography was good, interesting, creative, clever, and we looked forward to more tapes from him.

CALLERLAB’s Milestone Award is our highest award. Our recipients tonight, Vic and Debbie Ceder, have unselfishly worked in an uncharted area of square dancing, their work has had broad influence on our activity, and it has stood the test of time. I have more to say about their contributions, but first a brief history lesson.

Modern Western Square Dancing came into its own in the 1950s. At that time, computers cost a million dollars and filled a room. Over time computers got cheaper and were connected together on networks. By 1980 the personal computer arrived. CALLERLAB, in 1983 and for several years afterwards, offered an interest session on computers explaining why you might want one and what you could do with your own computer in your square dance business. In the 1990s, with the advent of the World Wide Web, dancers, callers, and clubs started creating their own websites. For example, Dosado.com was started in 1995, and CALLERLAB.org was started in 1999.

Vic has a degree in mathematics and is a computer programmer. In the 1990s he was interested in learning more about databases and building websites, especially websites whose pages are dynamic. That is, the pages are created by running a computer program and not simply static text. By 1999 he had created ceder.net, and it was open for business. The initial website had pages for tape sales, special events schedule, the beginning of a caller/cuer database, a choreography database for short sequences and get-outs, and lists of calls, definitions, and frequency counts.

You are probably familiar with this phrase, “if your only tool is a hammer, everything looks like a nail.” This idea was first reported by Abraham Kaplan in 1964 who said, “I call it the law of the instrument, and it may be formulated as follows: Give a small boy a hammer, and he will find that everything he encounters needs pounding.” Well, Vic is our small boy, a database is his hammer, and to square dancing’s benefit, everything he encounters needs to be in a database with Debbie’s help.

Many dancers, callers, and clubs created websites and a universal truth emerged – it is much easier to create your website than it is to maintain it, especially over years and decades. Many websites have fallen into disrepair. However, Vic and Debbie have kept ceder.net working, up-to-date, organized, reorganized, and they were always adding new content. For example, when Debi Bliss wanted to give up her wonderful website with a large collection of square dance articles and information, the Ceders got permission to incorporate that into their website, assuring that Debi’s work would continue to remain accessible and searchable. I expect this “saving information from defunct websites” has happened several times. When others have great websites with useful content, ceder.net links to them. As the World Wide Web grew, the Ceders
simply did their own thing, using their own esthetics, and did their part in helping square dancing grow.

Unlike most square dance websites, ceder.net is still around and better than ever. I expect most of you have used it, perhaps recently. Here are some statistics to give you a sense of what they have accomplished and maintain:

Square Dance Article Co-op -- 420 articles
Caller and Cuer Database -- 1992 callers and cuers from 22 countries
Club Database -- 1193 square and round dance clubs from 26 countries
Choreography Database -- 8,845 sequences
Events Database -- 61 events listed in 2017 (197 in 2012)
FAQ Database -- ~600 Frequently Asked Questions and Answers, including choreography questions and opinions
Square Dance Resources -- by Country, State or Province
Square Dance Links – organized and curated
Square Dance Calls -- 500 calls with their own definitions, examples, and commentary
  • While for sale in book form, individual call definitions are available online for free
  • Translated into five other languages
  • Respected and used around the world
  • CALLERLAB used their C3A definitions as our starting point
Record Database -- square dance music, cue sheets, and lyrics
I listed the record database last because I wanted to say a few words about it. Vic and Debbie have been collecting square dance records. I expect their goal is to have one copy of each square dance record ever produced. While the records sit on shelves in their house, each is entered in the database.
  • 16,945 records, representing 376 record labels
  • 13,972 sound clips – Yes, they have digitized that many records. (The website presents the first 30 seconds of sound.)
  • 12,479 cue sheets – Yes, they have typed in that many cue sheets.
  • 3,702 lyrics

Think of what an outstanding piece of square dance history they have captured. While they can't sell or give away the digitized records, these sound recordings are preserved and catalogued. Vic and Debbie are their own square dance record museum.

Two other important aspects to the website:
1) ceder.net allows users (callers and clubs) to create and maintain their own entries. This reduces the workload on Debbie. 2) When appropriate, database entries from one database contain links to other databases. For example, the entry for a square dance caller shows the clubs they call for, the events they are calling at, the records they have recorded on, and the articles they have written.

In addition to ceder.net, Vic has created two other pieces of software, which are widely used and deserve mention. The first is a square rotation program used by some groups to assign dancers into squares throughout a dance or weekend. The square mixing methods we used before programs like his square rotation program were not as easy to use and effective. The other program is his Ceder Square Dance System which he uses to write choreography by having the computer move the checkers, catalogue choreography so he can quickly find the appropriate next sequence he wants to call at a dance, display the sequences while calling, catalogue the digital music on his laptop, and play the music. By integrating all these functions into a single program, Vic is able to have one set of controls and fewer “oops” moments while calling with a laptop. He makes this software available for a fee and it is popular in the Challenge community.

We learned that Vic started calling in 1981. What I didn't say is that he is self-taught. He is a dancer and a keen observer of callers as they perform. He knows and remembers what he likes and dislikes in choreography, music, delivery, etc. and has worked to produce in his calling a product that he and Debbie would enjoy dancing to. We hope that each caller new to Challenge square dancing brings something to that activity and Vic’s contributions and ideas have been outstanding. He has put calls together in ways we haven’t seen before, but that make sense. He has embraced the field of asymmetric choreography and is the king. He has added new calls and concepts to our vocabulary.
Vic is not only a Challenge caller. He teaches beginners lessons and calls Mainstream and Plus. Here is a Mainstream example of Vic's choreography, taken from ceder.net's choreography database available to any of you.

(Zero Line)
Pass Thru,
Wheel & Deal,
Centers Half Sashay, [as most of you probably realize this is clever because of body flow and not the usual next call]
Zoom, [this also has great body flow]
Centers Square Thru 3,
Dosado To A Wave,
Swing Thru,
Boys Run
(Zero Line)

In addition to everything I have said, they are really nice people and good friends. Please join me in awarding CALLERLAB's Milestone to Vic and Debbie Ceder.

DEBORAH CARROLL-JONES RECEIVES CALLERLAB'S MILESTONE AWARD

Presented by Patty Greene
The most prestigious award CALLERLAB can bestow on an individual is the Milestone. It is presented to callers who have made significant contributions to the square dance activity. Recipients are awarded the honor based on five criteria:

1. Must show outstanding and significant contribution to the field of square dancing and have shown leadership in uncharted fields, which has resulted in the betterment of square dancing.

2. Contribution must have stood the test of time.

3. Unselfish contribution, divorced from personal gain and monetary rewards. Requires attitudes that think of others first.

4. Must maintain and conduct self in professional manner, reflecting the high standards of leadership to which we have dedicated ourselves in our day to day actions.

5. Must have exercised broad influence in the square dance activity although local geographic and highly specialized activity may lead to recognition.

It gives me great pleasure to tell you about this year's recipient; but I have to tell you; it will be difficult to keep their name under wraps for very long.

Our awardee began square dancing in 1979 and began a caller apprenticeship in 1982. She called her first dance in 1983, and has been calling full-time through A-2 since 1984. She is a sought-after staff caller for festivals and events both in the United States and all over the world. In addition to a busy travel schedule, she also maintains a local square dance program as club caller for a growing, vibrant club that is moving and shaking.

Our awardee has recorded many well-known and loved singing calls that are still used at dances today, recording on Rockin' M Records, Hi Hat, Global, Blue Star, Royal, Chaparral, and Chic.

Active Member of CALLERLAB since 1985, serving on the Mainstream, Plus, Advanced, Career Callers, Caller Training, Accredited Caller Coach, Accredited Caller-Teacher, Application and Review, and Women in Calling Committees.

Board of Governors member since 1994, serving as vice chair and on the Executive Committee.

Chairman of the Women in Calling Committee from 1998-2015.

Vice-Chairman of the Caller Training Committee from 1993-1999.


Accredited Caller-Coach since 1995, the 30th caller in the world at that time to have achieved that status. She is one of only
three women world-wide to be an Accredited Caller-Coach.

Oh - and she did all that while raising her daughter!

By now, I suspect that you have figured out that our awardee is Deborah Carroll Jones.

From the moment that I met Deborah, I have observed first-hand her unwavering dedication to callers. She is a mentor, friend, and teacher. She will champion and will fight for someone if the situation calls for it. She will support and mentor anyone who may cross her path or ask her to, and has a talent for both building confidence and giving constructive feedback and assistance in the growth of a calling career. She is fiercely protective and supportive about the next generation of callers coming through the ranks, and is always willing to help whenever and wherever she can. She does all of this without any expectation of payback – and many times at the expense of her personal time, talents, and money.

She is passionately involved in the education of callers, and to that end, in 2001 developed the “Lone Star Callers College Syllabus”. The New England Square Dance History Museum selected this syllabus to be the very best one ever and a copy is on file at that location. This syllabus is still in use today by many caller-coaches as a model for their student handouts.

I believe that Deborah’s active pursuit of the education and training of callers has made a substantial difference in our activity, but for me, it is the influence she has had on women in calling that will continue to stand the test of time.

Would the women callers in attendance please stand for a moment? Take a look around; this is part of the sphere of influence of Deborah. Many of us would not be standing here with you, without the encouragement and example of Deborah and those who went before her. Thank you! You may be seated.

Under her leadership, the Women in Calling Committee has produced many resources relating to the training of us women. Her groundbreaking “Stages” document was conceived by, researched by, and developed by Deborah, and was instrumental in opening conversations about issues that are specifically faced by women – both callers and partners. She organized the “WIC Top 10 Singing Calls and Partner Lists”, which are a great resource for caller-coaches for music suggestions. She also arranged to have women callers, historical and current, highlighted in an on-going series for the American Square Dance Magazine. Her actions and willingness to put herself out there and speak her mind have broken through the silent gender barrier that was once very prevalent in the square dance calling community.

I know that many joke about the “good old boy network”, but it was, for a long time, a reality. Many of our first female callers struggled to fit in and garner the respect of our male counterparts and receive recognition for their contributions. When Deborah came on the scene and refused to be anything other than herself, she picked up the torch and stepped up to fight for her right to sit at the table of leadership. And fight she did. She was the first female to be asked to be on staff for many festivals in her early career, including the Tuscon Square Dance Festival, the Mid Winter Festival in Oregon, the Silver State Festival, the Bakersfield Fiesta, and the McLeod Square Dance Resort to name a few.

While at times it is still an upward battle, I strongly believe that Deborah’s willingness to stick to her ideals and her belief in equality has played a huge role in paving the way for those to come. In fact, I do not believe that I would be standing before you as your Chair-elect had she not put herself out there and fought for a place at the table.

On behalf of CALLERLAB, the square dance activity, and especially your sisters in crime, it gives me great pleasure to present the Milestone Award to Deborah Carroll-Jones.

THANKS TO OUR EXHIBITORS

We wish to thank those who exhibited their products and services at this year’s CALLERLAB Convention.

They were:

Hilton Audio of Texas (Paul Cote);
Suzie Q Creations (Susan Elaine Packard);
Petticoat Junction (Dave and Bonnie Harry),
Ron Black, Randy Dougherty and Reinhold Roedig.
LIFE MEMBERSHIP
PRESENTED TO JERRY REED

Presented by
Bill Heyman

The Gold Card Life Membership is reserved for those who have worked to make CALLERLAB a more valuable and successful leadership organization.

There have only been 22 recipients of this prestigious award in the history of CALLERLAB, of whom 10 are still living.

Seven of those recipients are in attendance tonight. Each of them, in their own special way, have made significant contributions to CALLERLAB and to the square dancing activity in general.

The three Gold Card recipients NOT in attendance tonight are Frank Lane, Jerry Helt, and Herb Egender.

May I ask the seven Gold Card recipients who are in attendance tonight to stand, and remain standing, as I read your name: Jim Mayo; Daryl Cledenin; Jon Jones; Betsy Gotta; Melton Luttrell; Marshall Flippo; Bill Heyman.

Tonight’s recipient started calling in 1978 when the club caller at their on-base club in the Philippines was transferred. He sent Jim Mayo a letter asking how he could go about learning to call. Jim’s response congratulated him on being willing to take on the job and offered some suggestions of reading material. He also recommended that he go to a calling school if he could. A few years later he had returned to the East Coast and came to a callers school run by Bill Peters and Jim Mayo.

He was a good student and continued calling as he made the transition to civilian employment after a long career in the military. He joined CALLERLAB in 1983 and has attended our Conventions regularly ever since. He was elected to the BOG in 1995. All of this makes him a fine caller, but not necessarily a candidate for Gold Card life membership.

In 1996 he resigned from the BOG in order to accept the position of Assistant Executive Director. He was chosen by a committee made up of Tony Oxendine, Jim Mayo and Bill Heyman (who have nominated him also for the Gold Card).

It was his expectation and that of the committee that he would spend a number of years as the Assistant to George White. Unfortunately, that was shortened to just three when George died suddenly in 1999.

Our recipient tonight, then became our Executive Director and was thrown into a complicated and demanding transition living in Florida with an office in Minnesota.

His success in making that transition and his subsequent performance as Executive Director (ED) for CALLERLAB for the next decade are the basis for our recommendation that he be recognized by the being awarded the Gold Card.

The position of Executive Director of CALLERLAB is, by its very definition, one that is an outstanding contribution to square dancing. It is underpaid, requires an extraordinary collection of abilities, the patience of Job and beyond that, considerable experience as a caller.

The job is not only divorced from personal gain, but requires that one consider the needs of the members way before thoughts of oneself. He has never tried to put his own gain ahead of our organization.

Tonight's Gold Card recipient has all of these abilities and has made them available to CALLERLAB over more than a decade of employment as both Assistant and full Executive Director.

When considering still living and active participants in our activity, we believe that the successful passing of the responsibility to a successor is adequate. In his case, he not only passed on a successful organization, he continued as an Assistant for another few years, assuring that the transition to his replacement was as smooth as it could be.

We, CALLERLAB, expect that our ED will at all times represent the organization even beyond his or her personal existence. We ask that our ED be at all times the most complete demonstration of leadership and professionalism that one can describe. Our recipient, again, has lived up to this standard throughout his time as our employee. Furthermore, even after leaving our employment he continued...
his leadership contribution to the activity as Chair-
man of the ARTS, another position that expects the
extraordinary with virtually no compensation
offered in return.

The nature of CALLERLAB assures that our ED
will exercise “broad influence.” The ED is our
spokesperson not by their choice, but rather by
ours. We ask that they choose their words so that
we are well represented. We do not allow that their
actions reflect other than well on our behalf. The
views of the ED are always subordinate to those of
the organization - even when they are personally
not in concurrence. He has, on many occasions, had
a broad influence on the official views of
CALLERLAB and that assures us that his views
have broadly influenced the activity as well.

He also accepted the chairmanship of the
CALLERLAB History Committee. In this position
he was a very active leader and assured that the
Convention session recordings were preserved in
digital form and made available to all of us.

He is an outstanding leader with a total dedication
to our activity and the ability to lead others in the
best interests the square dancing. He deserves to
be recognized with the Gold Card Life Membership.

Please join me in presenting this award to every-
body's friend, Jerry Reed!

THOMAS BERNHED
Special Recognition Award
Presented by Barry Clasper

CALLERLAB bestows the Special
Recognition Award in recognition of an outstanding
contribution to the square dance activity. Today's
recipient most certainly fits the criteria.

I remember my first foray into using digital music.
I had been booked to do my first overseas weekend
in 1999 and I really didn't want to lug records
across the ocean. In those days the most practical
option for a portable digital music player was the
Sony Mini-Disc technology. It was small (too small
if you had big fingers), but allowed hundreds of re-
cords to be stored in a very small space. Of course,
it required you to spend hundreds of hours digitiz-
ing your vinyl records by playing them into the de-
vice in real time, and then setting track marks at
appropriate loop points to permit infinite playback
times.

Compare that to today's world where we can buy
our music in MP3 format, instantly download it to
our laptop, where we can instantly play it and work
with it. We can put our entire music collection on
that laptop and carry it all with us everywhere we
travel. That laptop also displays our singer cue
sheets, workshop notes, schedules, modules, get-out
sheets, and many other things we might need when
calling or preparing to call.

What enabled us to get from the Mini-Disc world of
the late 1990's to what we have today? Well, first
there was a dramatic improvement in what laptops
could do. My IBM ThinkPad 560Z (circa 1998) was
a high end ultra-light machine. It weighed five
pounds, had 96MB of RAM, and a 1.5GB hard
drive. And it was pretty expensive. After subtract-
ing the hard drive space required for the operating
system, utilities, and other data files, that size
hard drive might be able to store a couple of hun-
dred records Ten years later, typical hard drives
were 200 times larger, and RAM and processing
speeds had made similar improvements. Today a
modest laptop brings more computing power and
storage capacity than any caller is likely to need at
a price-point within most budgets.

But what made laptops a practical option for
square dance music was not really the advances in
hardware. To be useful, programs were needed to
play, catalog, search, and categorize the music.
Typical generic music software was nowhere close
to meeting caller requirements. This need spurred
the creation of several square dance music players
in the early to mid-2000s. But one program rose
quickly to lead the pack: SqView.

SqView was developed by Thomas Bernhed, a
caller in Sweden. Thomas worked in IT for Volvo,
and decided to combine his programming expertise
and calling background to develop a program aimed
specifically at the needs of square dance callers.
His program not only plays music, but allows for
tempo and pitch changes, looping of music, re-
cording of dances, keeping track of what music has
been used, displaying cue sheets, lyrics, and chore-
ography, tip timing, and much more. He provided all this functionality as a free internet download, complete with documentation, and continues to provide technical support via e-mail to this day. The original version runs on Windows computers and more recently Thomas released an Android version which makes it usable on tablets and smartphones.

SqView is now used by hundreds of callers throughout the world. If you look over a caller's shoulder as he or she plays music, you are most likely looking at SqView. It has truly transformed the way square dance callers work. It enabled the full blossoming of digital music for square dance use. Today when you buy a piece of square dance music, instead of receiving two tracks, which is all you could get on vinyl, you may well get half a dozen or more: high key, low key, with background vocals or without, with instrumental leads or not.

While SqView is not unique (there are other such programs available), it is the one that came to dominate the field. This happened because Thomas Bernhed provided a highly functional tool, freely distributed, well supported, and frequently enhanced. His generosity has persisted for many years and continues today as he maintains SqView to run on new versions of Windows and also adapts it for other platforms.

Thomas's contribution to square dancing has been truly transformative and he did it with no thought for compensation or even recognition. Those of you who have the privilege of knowing Thomas personally will recognize that as typical of him.

I am proud to announce that Thomas Bernhed is the latest recipient of the CALLERLAB Special Recognition Award for outstanding contributions to the square dance activity.

NEW CALLER-COACH CONGRATULATIONS!

The Caller-Coach Committee proudly announces Jack Pladdys, as CALLERLAB's newest Accredited Caller-Coach. Please join CALLERLAB in recognizing Jack's attainment of this outstanding and inspiring achievement. Congratulations, Jack!
that example to Taminations.

Ladies and gentlemen, I know many of you have had the opportunity to use Taminations. I am pleased to introduce you to the author of that application and present the CALLERLAB Special Recognition Award to Brad Christie!

**DONNA SCHIRMER**  
*Award of Excellence*

Presented by Jerry Junck

This award is presented to CALLERLAB members for recognition of outstanding service to, or support of CALLERLAB. The award is a plaque with the CALLERLAB logo, "AWARD OF EXCELLENCE," the date of the presentation, and the following inscription engraved: "For Outstanding Contribution to CALLERLAB."

The Executive Committee unanimously approved this award be presented, not so much for her work at the CALLERLAB office, but for the things she does that she is not paid to do. Such things include shuttling EC members to and from the airport, assisting the Executive Director with on-site inspections and special meetings with hotel and other convention providers, running errands for the EC and BOG during meetings, and many other tasks. In addition, the Executive Director has noted many times that she has been the guiding force since 2010 in coordinating our Conventions.

The Executive Committee recognizes that each of our Past Executive Director’s wives has been instrumental in CALLERLAB, but Donna Schirmer has been far more involved in her role in the organization.

During the last few years, Donna has also conducted used square dance clothing sales with the proceeds going to her youth clogging group, and a percentage being donated to CALLERLAB for the Youth Activities Committee. Funding from these donations has been used to purchase free Starter Kits for youth callers. Her donations to the Youth Activities Committee have totaled nearly $1,300 with at least 10 starter kits being distributed to youth callers.

On behalf of the Executive Committee, the Board of Governors, and CALLERLAB, it is my privilege to present the "AWARD OF EXCELLENCE" to Donna Schirmer.

**CHAIRMAN'S AWARD**  
*Presented by Vernon Jones*

Shauna Kaaria for her contributions and efforts with the Ways and Means fund raising events.

Harlan Kerr for his contributions in researching corporate legal issues and contributions to the Mainstream Committee.

**MAINSTREAM COMMITTEE**  
*Harlan Kerr, Chairman*  
*Jeff Palmer, Vice Chairman*

The Mainstream Committee Annual Meeting at the 2017 CALLERLAB Convention was well attended and members engaged in enthusiastic discussion on a number of topics. This resulted in a number of items that will be placed before the full Committee for consideration via HO LOGs.

The first item discussed was the August 2016 vote to separate the Basic and Mainstream lists. As a result of this decision the Basic list is now numbered 1-51, and the Mainstream list is numbered 1-17. This decision was made with an 87% "YES" vote by the Committee. As a follow-up to this action, the Chair asked the Committee if they preferred having the Home Office publish the two lists as separate, stand-alone documents or as two lists contained in one document. After some discussion the members present voted that the list should be published as separate documents (24 “YES”; 1 “NO”). Since Convention meeting votes are “straw polls”, this recommendation will be presented for a vote via HO LOG to the full Committee. Once this step is complete, the Home Office will publish the revised lists.
The Chairman then presented a summary of the work completed to date on the definition Rewrite Project. In 2016 the Mainstream Committee had a backlog of 15 calls that had been submitted to them by the Definitions Committee for review, but not voted on. In order to address this, a somewhat aggressive approach to review was carried out over the last four months. The result of this effort is that the list of outstanding calls to consider has been reduced to five. The Chair praised the Mainstream Committee for their hard work on this project. The current timeline is to finish the remaining calls by the first of June, at which point the Committee will be able to approach the Rewrite Project at a much more relaxed pace.

The adoption of the revised definition of Tag The Line, raised two questions that were discussed. The first of these was a suggestion to add “Tag The Line, Out” to the command examples. The Chair made the point that command examples in definitions, are not necessarily exhaustive. After discussion, Clark Baker, Definitions Chair, said he was amenable to making the change. This will be finalized by the Definitions Committee. The second issue was a concern about the comment at the end of the Tag the Line definition about two person lines. It was moved that at Basic and Mainstream, lines be defined as three or more dancers. The vote on this motion resulted in a tie, which was broken by the Vice Chair, but it was agreed that this needed to go before the full Committee for consideration as an HO LOG.

The Chair presented a resolution asking that the Board of Governors consider changing the name of the Committee to the Basic and Mainstream Committee. The resolution pointed out that this would clearly recognize the two programs overseen by the Committee while maintaining their interrelationship. There was positive discussion followed by a unanimous vote supporting the resolution. Since the Convention vote is a “straw poll” this resolution will be submitted to the full Committee for consideration. If approved, it will be sent to the Board of Governors for consideration.

The Committee also considered a proposal to have selected emphasis calls throughout the year. It was agreed that this was a good idea, but there were varying ideas as to how often this should take place and how it should be undertaken. After a few motions, that were then withdrawn, the Committee voted unanimously that this should be undertaken by a sub-committee that would select both Basic and Mainstream emphasis calls, and determine how many times a year this would take place. This proposal will be put before the entire Committee for consideration. If approved, a process for selecting the subcommittee will be put into place.

It was moved and seconded that Partner Tag be added back to the Mainstream list. After discussion, the Committee members present voted to not approve this proposal. As this is a straw poll, the issue will be brought before the entire Committee via HO LOG with the recommendation that it not be approved.

Following the above discussion, it was moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed.

Chairperson Harlan Kerr expressed his gratitude to the Vice Chair Jeff Palmer, and the full Committee for their hard work, commitment and dedication. The meeting was adjourned.

CALLER TRAINING COMMITTEE
Betsy Gotta, Chairwoman
John Marshall, Vice Chairman
What’s in a Name? Communication!!

When we talk to other callers about choreography or mentor other callers, they need to know what we mean. The terms for certain FASRs have been changed. This change was a result of a request to the Caller-Coach Committee to review the naming of and acronyms for our FASR set-ups. A committee of three Accredited Caller-Coaches reviewed the request and recommended the following changes.

FASR Naming
P = Partner
C = Corner
O = Opposite
R = Right Hand Lady
PL = Partner Line
CL = Corner Line
OL = Opposite Line
RL = Right Hand Lady Line
PLO = Partner Line Out of Sequence  
CLO = Corner Line Out of Sequence  
OLO = Opposite Lady Line Out of Sequence  
RLO = Right Hand Lady Line Out of Sequence

The names of following FASRs have been changed:

a. Change Zero Line (ZL) to Partner Line (PL).
b. Change Zero Box (ZB) to Corner Box (CB).
c. Change Zero Box Out of Sequence (ZBOS) to Corner Box Out (CBO).
d. Change Across the Street Box (XB) to Right Hand Lady Box Out of Sequence (RBO).
e. Establish Across the Street Box + R & L Thru as Right Hand Lady Box (RB)
f. Change Lead To The Right Box (LRB) to "Lead Right Box" which would match the acronym.

One reason for some of the changes was that if a Zero Line was set up and the caller called a Right and Left Thru, it was no longer a Zero Line. The same reasoning applied to a Zero Box.

Also, this change eliminates the confusion between Zero Box – where you can correctly call Allemande Left and 0 (zero) box which would refer to standard facing couples.

0 (zero) is the current designation for the standard / normal boy-girl arrangement for all of the formations.

These changes were approved for inclusion in documents which were created and maintained by the Caller Training Committee, by vote of the Committee. Those documents are in the process of being updated and callers will be hearing and seeing the new designations more and more as we get used to them. So remember, the old 1P2P line which changed to a Zero Line is now changed to a Partner Line.

The Caller-Coach Committee has been using the updated terminology, and any documents produced by that Committee will also reflect these changes.

The Home Office will be closed on May 29 and July 4, 2017 observing U.S.A. Holidays!

PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Wendy VanderMeulen, Chairwoman  
Tom Rainer, Vice Chairman

The PR Committee has been up and running for one year now. One of the main emphases of the year was to promote and encourage attendance at the 2017 CALLERLAB Convention. Attendance in 2016 was 250; at this past Convention, it was 310. We’d like to think that the efforts of the PR Committee had a major hand in the increased attendance!

The PR Committee held a meeting on Monday, April 10 at the CALLERLAB Convention. A small group had a lively discussion. Matters of importance:

- All callers are encouraged to be active in Facebook, and to specifically search out the PR Committee Facebook Page: https://www.facebook.com/groups/CALLERLAB.PR.Committee and become active in it. That may require asking an existing page Member to invite you. It is a closed group because it is intended for callers only. The purpose of the page is to encourage CALLERLAB Membership and CALLERLAB Convention attendance. Discussion is welcome.

Many of you will receive personal e-mails asking for your “positive stories” on why you are a CALLERLAB Member, why you go to Convention, what was the highlight of attending this year’s Convention, or some other such positive thing about CALLERLAB. Please be prepared to respond when you get the e-mail. This is an extension of the “Positive Stories” initiative which started late in 2016. Your responses may be printed in DIRECTION, on the Facebook page, and/or distributed by e-mail from the Home Office. The point of the stories is to encourage non-CALLERLAB-member callers to join CALLERLAB. Therefore, published stories are also meant to be shared through Facebook and local caller newsletters, websites, and whatever other means imaginable. Your efforts in helping to share these stories are greatly appreciated.

The PR Committee will once again be sending out various flyers to promote attendance at the 2018 Convention in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Numbers increased by 60 from 2016 to 2017; can we do it again for 2018! Whenever you see
one, PLEASE do your part to get the word out there by passing it on to your circle of caller friends, whether or not they are CALLERLAB Members. Distribution has to be widespread in order to be effective.

The result of the “What is CALLERLAB?” survey (324 responses; no way of knowing how many people received the survey) that was sent out last year has indicated that there is STILL a lot of education needed about CALLERLAB to callers. Do your part by explaining why you are a Member. Encourage other callers in your area to become members. If you need any documentation to help you, contact me (wendyv@sympatico.ca) or the Home Office (callerlab@aol.com) for assistance in getting what you require. We cannot promote anything we do unless we take a proactive approach. By being proactive, we can increase membership in CALLERLAB, and attendance at CALLERLAB Convention, as well as increase the number of dancers on the floor.

WOMEN IN CALLING
COMMITTEE
Susan Morris, Chairwoman
Kris Jensen, Vice Chairwoman

This year we welcomed many newer callers to our midst. Some were attending Convention for the first time. We spent a few minutes sharing the history of this Committee and some of the projects that have been accomplished in the past.

We are privileged to have many women on the Committee who have been calling a number of years. This year Deborah Carroll-Jones shared her story with us.

We want to remind all women callers and caller-coaches of the “Stages” document published in 2008. It is available on the CALLERLAB website under General Documents.

Remember, if you are a woman caller you are not automatically put on this Committee. It is open to any women caller, and all you have to do is let the Home Office know that you would like to participate on this Committee.

If there is anything we can do for you, please let us know.

YOUTH ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE
Peggy Pingel-Chairwoman
Donna Schirmer-Vice Chairwoman

The Youth Activities Committee had 12 attendees with a productive conversation about how to support youth callers. Our plans are to continue to work with the Caller Training Committee about a Youth Mentoring Program and a possible extension with the Caller-Coach Committee and the Music Producers Committee. Goals are to assist youth in learning to call and to produce music that is attractive to youth.

Do you know of a youth that is considering calling? Contact us through the Home Office so we may assist. Youth callers are eligible for a free Starter Kit as well as reduced membership fees and Convention Waivers.

HISTORY COMMITTEE
Pam Clasper, Chairwoman and
Jim Mayo, Vice Chairman

The History Committee is embarking on a project regarding our digital archives. A significant amount of our history has been digitized, but is in many places. We plan to locate as much of this as we can and then create and index what we find so it is easily searchable. To do this, we need your help. If you know of any square dance history site, collection or even a web page, please let us know.

You can send the information to the Home Office or to Pam Clasper, Chair of the History Committee at pam@clasper.ca. Thanks in advance for your assistance.

CHOREOGRAPHIC
APPLICATIONS COMMITTEE
Dottie Welch, Chairwoman
Elmer Claycomb, Vice Chairman

In case you missed our announcement in the December issue of DIRECTION, please take a look at http://teaching.callerlab.org.

This online teaching resource is ready for use for all the calls in Basic, Part 1. Our goal is to have Basic, Part 2 completed by September. This is the
place to easily find all the information you need to teach a given call. Go here to find the definition, standard applications, call analysis, modules, teaching hints, patter choreography and singing call examples, as well as other useful ideas.

SUSTAINABLE SQUARE DANCING COMMITTEE

Jerry Story-Chairman
Noah Siegmann-Vice Chairman

First of all, from the Sustainable Square Dancing Committee, we want to thank Dana and Donna and their entire staff for an outstanding job putting on the 2017 Convention in Mesa. Well done! Great hotel and a lot of fun!

After listening and observing different discussions during the Convention concerning this new direction, we can all rest assured, the ball is rolling and the activity is a few steps closer to becoming “sustainable” once again. It was blatantly obvious to everyone that the SSD initiative was working well where it is being applied “correctly” and disaster where it is being used “incorrectly”. Those who prepared a “home” for these new dancers, doing it correctly, were successful. Those who tried to create a “factory” where these new dancers had no place to fellowship (after 12 weeks), no place to dance “together”, and no choice but to continue on (no different than before), all failed miserably. Actually, they caused more damage than had they done nothing at all.

Collective wisdom is to “focus” on creating a beautiful new “home” for our new dancers to enjoy. Out of this new “home” will come those who choose for themselves if/when they move on to Plus dancing. If we are to ever succeed we must stop trying to take new dancers all the way to the big leagues.

This is the detrimental “factory” so many clubs and dancers are hell bent to try and keep, unsuccessfully, creating. The only way it could ever be called successful would be to totally ignore the lack of quality and incomplete teaching of B/MS/Plus. This amalgamated version of square dance thru plus “the factory” has all but destroyed our beautiful activity.

Ladies and gentlemen, we need to build “homes” for the new dancers not factories. This attitude has definitely taken root around the Nation. However, it will never be enough until more clubs and seasoned dancers wake up and begin providing a “home” for our new dancers.

CALLER PARTNERS COMMITTEE

Erin Byars, Chairwoman
Janet Olivieri, Vice Chairwoman

Do you love your partner? You know you do! Well, your partner is always working behind the scenes to make square dancing more fun for everyone.

Right now the CALLERLAB Partners Committee is working on the creation of an Emergency Fund to help callers and/or partners who find themselves in a financial bind.

Part of this plan includes raising the monies to allow us to provide this service. Plans are underway to hold a square/round dance in Albuquerque next year on the Saturday just before the CALLERLAB Convention. Plan to arrive a day early to come and play with us!

COMMITTEE FOR COMMUNITY AND TRADITIONAL DANCE

Bob Riggs-Chairman
Calvin Campbell-Vice Chairman

The Committee for Community and Traditional Dance (CCTD) met on Monday, April 10th at the CALLERLAB Convention in Mesa, AZ. The meeting was a lively discussion including a progress report on continuing activities.

- Community Dance Leader Seminar (CDLS), also known as the Beginner Dance Party Leader Seminar.

The Committee again sponsored this seminar on the weekend prior to the Convention (04/08-09/2017). This seminar presented relevant topics from the CALLERLAB caller training curriculum: Dance Parties (limited basic events including dance parties and community dances) (Bob Riggs), School Programs (Paul Moore), Sicilian Circles (Susan Morris), Music (Betsy Gotta), Quadrilles (Calvin Campbell), Square Dance Modules (Dottie Welch), Mixers (Wayne Weston), How to sound large halls (Wayne Weston), Dance starters (Bob Riggs), Programming (Bob Riggs). The Committee thanks the members of the Committee that contributed as presenters to the seminar.
The Committee plans to sponsor the seminar again next year in Albuquerque, NM. Within the framework of the caller training topics we will present methods and materials for entertaining groups with a limited set of our square dance basics.

- **Publication of CD Journal:** This year we published two editions of the *Community Dance (CD) Journal*. A big Thank You goes out to **Dottie Welch** for her efforts in editing this fine source of information for its subscribers. Please help her by sending topics, community dances, dances suited to be used at dance parties or simply ideas or concepts for which you would like more information. Some related references include:
  - Dances.Callerlab.org
  - Knowledge.Callerlab.org
  - LloydShaw.org
  - cdss.org
  - squaredancehistory.org
  - sdfne.org
  - and many more.

- **Dances.Callerlab.org:** This sub-site of the CALLERLAB website has been set up to provide everyone access to dance material that can be used for these limited basic events. Currently, there are Square dances (Quadrilles, Traditional Squares, visiting couple), Contra dances, Circle dances (couple dances, mixers), Trios and other formations suited to the dance events. This collection of dance material will continue to grow with contributions from you, from material presented at the CDLS and from the worldwide activities of community dance practitioners. Contact **Dottie Welch** or myself, **Bob Riggs**, at bob@SquareDanceEtc.com.

- **Community Dance Starter Kit,** i.e. a kit for those callers that would like to start conducting or have more material for dance parties and/or community dances. The Committee continues work this year on developing this Starter Kit. Currently, there is a wealth of resources available, so much so it is hard to determine what would work for any individual caller. Your thoughts on the core topics and material are encouraged. Please send them to Bob@SquareDanceEtc.com.

Contact the Home Office to join this Committee, the *CD Journal* and access dances.callerlab.org to become familiar with the wonderful world of community and traditional dancing.

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**BOARD OF GOVERNORS SERVICE AWARD**

**Presented by**

**Vernon Jones, Chairman**

The Board of Governors Service Award is presented to retiring Board Members in recognition of their commitment to CALLERLAB as demonstrated by the selfless sharing of their time, talent, and leadership skills. This year, we have two retiring Board members.

“**Bear**” Miller began calling in 1991. He joined CALLERLAB that same year and attended his first CALLERLAB Convention in 1997. He has attended 15 CALLERLAB Conventions. He has served on the Board of Governors since 2011, and has served on many CALLERLAB Committees. I’m pleased to present the Board of Governors Service Award to retiring Board member, “**Bear**” Miller.

**Bob Poyner** began calling in 1963. He joined CALLERLAB in 1975 and attended his first Convention that same year. He has attended 40 CALLERLAB Conventions. He served on the Board of Governors from 2006 to 2008 and returned in 2010 to present. He has served on many CALLERLAB committees. I’m pleased to present the Board of Governors Service Award to retiring Board member, **Bob Poyner**.

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**HALF CENTURY CERTIFICATES**

**Presented by Mike Callahan**

Prior to 2017, a total of 218 CALLERLAB Members have received the Half Century Certificate. Of the 91 current CALLERLAB Members who have previously received this award, 21 attended the 2017 CALLERLAB Convention in Mesa, AZ.

This year, six callers attended the Convention and were recognized for their Half Century Award Certificate. They were: **Bert Swerer,** California; **Jerry Junck,** Nebraska; **Garry Dodds,** Canada, and **Elmer Sheffield, Jr.**, Florida. They received...
their certificates last year, but were recognized at this year’s Convention. Also Ray Brendzy, Canada received his certificate in 2015 and Darryl Lipscomb received his certificate in 2011. This is the first Convention since they received their certificate that we are able to acknowledge them.

In addition, there were eight active CALLERLAB Members who earned their Half Century Award Certificate this year but were unable to attend the Convention. They are: “Yodeling” Bill Gordon, Pennsylvania; Dan Nordbye, Arizona; Gene Record, Kentucky; Jerry Walker, Washington; Nev McLachlan, Australia; Otto Warteman, Texas; Wayne Baldwin, Texas, and Mike Kelly, Missouri. Congratulations!

SMALL WORLD AWARDS
RECIPIENTS ATTENDING
44th CONVENTION

The Small World Award is presented to Members residing outside Continental North America and Hawaii who are attending a CALLERLAB Convention for the first time. This year, no new awards were presented. However, previous Small World Award recipients attending the Convention were: Don Casper, Germany; Trevor and Chris Day, England; Masaharu (Doc) Hiraga, Japan; Oliver and Andrea Kuester, Germany; Hiroshi Nakagawa, Japan; Jeannette Staeuble, Switzerland; Ingeborg Koerber-Luecker and Bernd Koerber, Germany, and Al Stevens, Alabama (received while living in Germany).

QUARTER CENTURY RECOGNITIONS
Presented by Ken Ritucci

Quarter Century Certificates are awarded to CALLERLAB Members who have been calling for 25 or more years. The first awards were made in Baltimore in 1986, and they have been awarded annually since then.

Since 1986, a total of 1,463 CALLERLAB Members have received the Quarter Century Certificate. Of those, 534 are still Active Members and 96 were at the 2017 CALLERLAB Convention in Mesa, AZ.

This year, one caller, Jim Smith, California, attended the 44th CALLERLAB Convention and received his Quarter Century Award.

Eleven attended this Convention and received their 25 year certificate by mail in the year they reached this milestone. This is the first Convention that we have the opportunity to honor them by name. They were: Rob Krum, Washington; Rich Stewart, New Mexico; Mike Magnant, Iowa; Brad Caldwell, Texas; Seth Levine, Arizona; Ray Savell, Texas; Paul Moore, California; Don Wood, Washington; Frank Anderson, Georgia; Phillip Moorehouse, Arkansas; and John Kephart, Texas.

Additionally, 22 Members who will celebrate their 25th anniversary of calling this year were unable to attend the 2017 CALLERLAB Convention. They are: C.J. Smith, California; C.R. Boyd, Indiana; Dave Decot, California; David Staples, North Carolina; Del Powell, California; Donald DiPirro, Wyoming; Evelyn Yeagle, Tennessee; Frances McAlister, Australia; Joe McRory, Texas; Joe Kromer, Germany; John Blaylock, Ohio; John Geen, Texas; John Oldfield, Illinois; Lloyd Husted, New Mexico; Mary Mehus, Iowa; Rachel Phillips, California; Ralf Bender, Germany; Robert French, California; Stan Mangogna, California; Steven Ackerman, Florida; Sven Klusacek-Siem, Germany and Tom Nickel, Wisconsin. Congratulations!

CONVENTION VOLUNTEERS
Thank You!

We wish to take this opportunity to thank everyone who assisted in whatever capacity at this year’s Convention! This includes all of those who served as moderators or panelists, our registration and Ways and Means staff, those who served as emcees, presenters (invocation and award presentations), Committee Chairman and Vice Chairman, our exhibitors, the members of the Executive Committee and the Board of Governors, and especially, all of our attendees.

To all of you who attended and helped out in any way, please accept our sincere thanks for your contributions to a great Convention!
FROM OUR MEMBERS

Opinions expressed in letters or articles from our Members are those of the writers and do not necessarily reflect those of CALLERLAB, nor of the Editor. The Editor reserves the right to condense, omit or re-write all or any part of material sent to CALLERLAB for publication.

REMEMBERANCE OF DAVE TAYLOR

By John Hendron

I am a long-time caller and friend of Dave Taylor, a relationship which has lasted from the day we first met back in Chicago, Illinois until the day he passed away.

Dave was always a caller's caller and did so much to further the careers of so many of today's caller's.

It was my special privilege to have called on many occasions with him that it just about brings tears to my eye's to even think of it knowing he is gone.

We called a number of State festivals together as well as 12 years at Kirkwood Lodge in the Ozarks. I also did a number of weekends with him over the years,

He was always “up” and always had a smile, a devilish laugh and a super after party entertainer,

I can smile when I think of our weekend at Boyne Mountain with Dave, Singing Sam Mitchell and myself when for the after party we all three came out on stage dressed as ballerina dancers and actually danced the part to a laughing until almost crying group of dancers,

In his early years Dave was a teacher which he carried over into his love of square dancing and was a great teacher to the new dancers as well as new callers who were fortunate enough to have him for their teacher,

Dave was a recipient of a number of awards for his calling over the years both here as well in the overseas countries.

He was Chairman of CALLERLAB for two years. He leaves behind a loving caring wife, Valerie, as well as sons and a daughter whom he loved dearly. He was one of a few greats. He will be missed by many and remembered by all who knew him. Rest in peace, dear friend. It was a long enriched 90 years of fun for so many who crossed your path along the way.

REMEMBERANCE OF DAVE TAYLOR

By Lee Kopman

If you where ever at a festival and passed by a room not knowing who was calling, and heard a commanding voice, you looked in and much to your surprise there was this little guy in charge making sure the dancers where having the best time, moving to the music, and having success. Finally you asked, “Who is this caller?” “WHY EVERYBODY KNOWS – IT’S DAVE TAYLOR!”

He was quite a guy. He called for over 50 years, throughout the United States and Abroad, conducted callers calls, weekends and called at home six days a week.

Dave was also Chairman of CALLERLAB for two years. A true professional. Always available to help the beginner caller. I knew Dave for some 30 years. It was a relationship that I will always cherish. We will miss him.

YOUTH AT CONVENTION

By Courtney Sewell,
Youth Member

I have completed a presentation using interviews I was able to obtain while at the 2017 CALLERLAB Convention in Mesa, AZ. I am pleased and excited about sharing it with you. It is posted on YouTube because it is a large file. Viewers will need the following link to gain access.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KiOKWNHxmbI

Thank you for the Youth Wavier that assisted in my attending this year’s Convention. I enjoyed attending the Convention and I learned many valuable things. I look forward to the next Convention in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

NEC reception at the 66th NSDC on Thursday, June 22, 2017 (see attached invitation).
APPRECIATION AWARDS

The Appreciation Award is presented to recognize CALLERLAB Members who have given unselfishly of their time, energy, and knowledge in support of CALLERLAB committee work, Convention assistance, or significant CALLERLAB programs.

CALLERLAB and the Foundation had a vendor booth at the 65th National Square Dance Convention in Des Moines, IA. The Home Office manned the booth with the help of the following who gave unselfishly of their time: Janienne Alexander; Mike and Wanda Callahan; Tom and Cindy Hollinberger; Bob and Allynn Riggs; Lynn and Don Webster; Deborah Carroll-Jones; Jon Jones; Patty Greene; Mike and Janet Olivieri; Bob and Ann Poyner; Lottie Buckbee; Betsy and Roy Gotta; Tom Miller; Bill Harrison; Lawrence Johnstone; Dottie and Gary Welch; Scot and Erin Byars; “Bear” Miller; Dee Dee Dougherty Lottie and Bob Lottie; Cecil and Barbara Burton; Ashley Parker; Mike and Iris Huddleton; Brian and Debbie Freed; Dennis and Judy Grossnickle; and Donna Schirmer.

Much of the work of CALLERLAB is done by our committees. Dedicated Committee Chairmen and Vice Chairmen are the people who make it happen within the committee structure. Your Executive Committee has approved presenting Appreciation Awards to outgoing Committee Chairmen and Vice Chairmen: Stephen Cole, Chairman, Mainstream Committee; Jerry Reed, Chairman, History Committee; Jerry Junck, Vice Chairman, Marketing Committee; Eric Henerlau, Vice Chairman of the Plus Committee; and Ken Ritucci, Chairman, Plus Committee.

CALLERLAB Accredited Caller-Coaches Scot Byars, Betsy Gotta, Jerry Junck, Deborah Carroll-Jones; Jon Jones; “Bear” Miller, Tom Miller, Tony Oxendine, and Jerry Story participated in the caller training sessions at the 65th NSDC in Des Moines, IA.

DONATIONS TO THE CALLERLAB FOUNDATION

Ray & Kathy Donohoo  Donn Thomson
Bill Agerton  Mike & Debbie Preskitt
Mike Seastrom  Lisa Schreiber
Dottie Welch  Belinda Schlesener
Glen Tusler  Shozo Nishimura
Mavis McGaugh  Dave Schultz
J.K. Fancher  Richard Berry
Ed Clafin  Les Tulloch
Wes Mohler  Michael Winnick
Carlton Trudo  D. Dalton
Jane Carlson  Kris Jensen
Tim Crawford  Marty Northrup

Scholarship Donations

Mike & Debbie Preskitt  Mike Seastrom
Belinda Schlesener  John Burke
Leonard Gabriel  Mavis McGaugh
Dave Schultz  Tina Allaway
Edward LaPlante  Shaney Crawford
Wes Mohler  Pat Kelm
Valerie Patlaner  Michael Kious
Walt Stoner  D. Dalton
Anthony Egan  Jim Wass
Marty Northrup

Patron of the Foundation

Andy Shore
Janienne Alexander
Congratulations!

In Memory

Donations in Memory of:

In Memory of Dave Taylor:
Jon Jones and Deborah Carroll-Jones
Dana and Donna Schirmer

In Memory of Dave Sutter
Lottie and Bruce Buckbee
Dana and Donna Schirmer

In Memory of Tim Marriner
Mike and Debbie Preskitt

In Memory

Dave Taylor, Florida
Lee McCormack, Texas
Dave Sutter, Iowa
Len Siegmann, Wisconsin
If you would like to be a candidate for the Board of Governors, petitions can be obtained from the Home Office. Your valid petition, a brief bio-graphic sketch, and a current photo must be in the Home Office no later than July 1, 2017!

Candidates must have been a full Member for no less than 3 years and must obtain the signatures of 25 Active (voting) Members. Eight positions will be elected to 3-year terms and one position will be elected to complete a two year term on the Board, beginning with the Board of Governors meeting immediately following the 2018 Annual Meeting.

As of May 25th, sixteen (16) petitions have been received by the Home Office. Those petitions received are from Walt Burr, Barry Clasper, Al Frazier, Paul Henze, Barry Johnson, Harlan Kerr, Ted Lizotte, John Marshall, “Bear” Miller, Susan Morris, Mike Olivieri, Bob Poyner, Charlie Robertson, Justin Russell, Mike Sikorky, and Gloria Vivier. Please contact the Home Office if you have questions pertaining to completing or submitting a petition. Those interested in running may still complete petitions at the 66th NSDC.

BOB OSGOOD’S
As I See (Saw) It

Is now available on Amazon.com for $24.95 plus shipping.

This is the story of Bob Osgood from his early years in New York City to his passing in Beverly Hills, CA. We get a picture of the Los Angeles area from a child's perspective during the Depression. More importantly we see Bob discover square dancing in a small country general store in Northern Arizona and the effect that experience had on him. Later, Bob was reintroduced to square dancing at a leadership conference held at the beautiful conference ground at Asilomar, near Monterey, California. These two experiences changed Bob permanently, and then he went on to change square dancing.

He studied under Dr. Lloyd 'Pappy" Shaw who inspired Bob to teach some of the first classes in the Los Angeles area. In the post WWII era, Bob started a square dance magazine, Sets in Order, which was the most widely read square dance magazine in the world. And Bob took square dancing worldwide with a series of tours to all parts of the world. Bob saw first hand the effect square dancing had on the military returning from the war and how square dancing had a profound effect on America.

When the square dance activity became widespread, Bob saw the need to have callers use the same terminology when calling. Bob was the drive behind the formation of CALLERLAB, The International Association of Square Dance Callers. This book gives all readers a chance to meet a charismatic man who was dedicated to helping people have fun.

BOARD OF GOVERNORS ELECTION

If you would like to be a candidate for the Board of Governors, petitions can be obtained from the Home Office. Your valid petition, a brief biographic sketch, and a current photo must be in the Home Office no later than July 1, 2017!

Candidates must have been a full Member for no less than 3 years and must obtain the signatures of 25 Active (voting) Members. Eight positions will be elected to 3-year terms and one position will be elected to complete a two year term on the Board, beginning with the Board of Governors meeting immediately following the 2018 Annual Meeting.

Thank You!
Donations to CALLERLAB

Mike Seastrom  Mike & Debbie Preskitt
Gary Evans  Bill Agerton
Tim Bressnick  Larry Wood
Steve Lassiter  Spike Reid
Dave Schultz  Wendolyn Morrissey
Terry Hebert  Carrie Masters
Ralph Peacock  Donald Seaman
Shinochi Katsura  Ron Counts
Dan Lyke  Harvey Hunsucker
Michael Barr  Don Mitcham
D. Dalton  Marty Northrup

CALLERLAB Convention Brainstorming Session

group on Facebook, if you wish to participate, just search on Facebook and ask to join.

www.facebook.com/groups/382322628617750

Want to become more involved? There are many committees looking for people to participate with their projects. Contact the Home Office if you need assistance in finding a committee you would like to join.
66th NSDC
CINCINNATI, OHIO

Are you attending the 66th National Square Dance Convention?
If so, please consider the following as optional support of CALLERLAB:

1) Wear your CALLERLAB badge.
2) Come by the CALLERLAB booth in the vendors’ area to pick up a CALLERLAB ribbon to wear.
3) Sign up to assist in the booth or just stop by and visit. We are always happy to see fellow Members during the Convention.
4) Friday, June 23rd will be our “CALLERLAB Blue Shirt Day”. This is optional, but if you do have a CALLERLAB blue shirt, plan to wear it that day and join in on the fun!

APPLICATION REVIEW COMMITTEE
By Tim Crawford, Chairman
Jerry Story, Vice Chairman

The Committee acted on two questions presented prior to the 2016 CALLERLAB Convention. The Committee discussed and voted on the following items. Their findings are also shown below as well as in a Press Release included in this DIRECTION.

Question 1:

Q: Is it proper to call Diamond Circulate and Spread at Plus? This is not covered in any of the 3 listed starting formations for "Anything and Spread".

A: This was voted improper given the current definition, Diamonds are not included as a formation from where any of the 3 following scenarios would apply:

(1) If only some of the dancers are directed to Spread (e.g., from a static square, Heads Star Thru & Spread), they slide apart sideways to become the new ends, while the original ends anticipate the Spread action by moving into the nearest center position.

ARC Comment: after a Diamond Circulate there are no inactive dancers.

(2) If the (Anything) call finishes in lines or waves (e.g., Follow Your Neighbor), the centers anticipate the Spread action by sliding apart sideways to become the new ends, while the original ends anticipate the Spread action by moving into the nearest center position.

ARC Comment: Diamonds are not Lines nor Waves.

(3) If the (Anything) call finishes in tandem couples (e.g., Wheel & Deal from a line of four), the lead dancers slide apart sideways, while the trailing dancers step forward between them.

ARC Comment: Diamonds are not Tandem couples.

Question 2:

Q: Given the 2 sequences below resulting in the starting formation for the Grand Square, is it proper to call Grand Square from this formation:

Heads Square Thru; Split two around one to a line; Centers face; Grand Square
And:

Heads Pass Thru; Separate around two; Line up 4; Centers Face; Grand Square

A: ARC determined this to be improper. The current definition does not include starting formation of lines. The definition states: Starting formation: Squared Set (also see Comments). Comments section also refers to starting position as squared set. ARC's mandate, unless otherwise requested, is to view the application through the lens of the program the call resides in, and in that regard, the members feel Grand Squares from Lines will create confusion.

CALLERLAB 44th CONVENTION HANDOUTS

Most of the handouts that we're used during the 44th CALLERLAB Convention in Mesa, AZ are now posted to website: callerlab.org in the "Members Only" area. You must click the Login button at the top of the front page. You will then be asked for your user-id which is your email address that CALLERLAB has on file for you. If you have not already used, you will need to ask to reset your password. Or you may order from the Home Office either on a USB memory stick or CD.
FUTURE CONVENTIONS:
- MAR 26-28, 2018 Albuquerque, NM
- APR 15-17, 2019 Richmond, VA
- APR 6-8, 2020 West Region
- MAR 29-31, 2021 Central Region
- APR 11-13, 2022 East Region

CALLERLAB OFFICE HOURS:
8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Central Time, Monday - Friday
Phone: 1-785-783-3665
1-800-331-2577 (Business Only)
FAX: 1-785-783-3696
E-mail: CALLERLAB@aol.com.
Website: www.callerlab.org

INSURANCE QUESTIONS & CERTIFICATES
Jenny@NorthWestBrokers.com
1-208-322-8300

CALLERLAB ON YOU TUBE
Recordings and Videos
During past several months, a project has been ongoing by the Home Office staff (with assistance from the History Committee) to post past Conventions’ interest session recordings to the website. This is still ongoing, however there is quite a library now available for people to listen to. Also, many videos have been posted including those from the CALLERLAB 44th Annual Convention held in Mesa, AZ in 2017. Please peruse the files and listen to or view as many as you wish. The link is: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCxD2eoL1pxDWyU4U_CyR_zw/videos. We hope you enjoy this site. Thanks to the History Committee, Jodine Romano, and Donna Schirmer for making this happen!

Whoever is happy will make others happy too.
Anne Frank

BECOME A VOTING MEMBER!!
You do not have to attend a CALLERLAB Convention to become a voting member.

CALLERLAB has an Alternative Involvement Form that can be completed. If you meet the qualifications, you may become a Voting Member. Ask the Home Office for more details.

MEMBERSHIP ROSTER
If you are needing a new Membership Roster, please contact the Home Office. The cost for postal mailing a hard copy of the roster is $6. You may also ask that a pdf copy be sent to you via e-mail at no cost.

COMMITTEE NEWS
The Executive Committee has approved Susan Morris as the new Chairman of the Women in Calling Committee. Thanks to Patty Greene for serving as Chairman for several years and to Susan for agreeing to serve.

The Executive Committee has also approved Kris Jensen as the new Vice Chairman of the Women in Calling Committee, succeeding Susan Morris. Thanks to Susan for serving in this position the past several years and to Kris for agreeing to serve.

THE 45TH CALLERLAB CONVENTION WILL BE IN ALBUQUERQUE, NM
MARCH 26-28, 2018!
We will be staying at the beautiful Embassy Suites with free parking, free hot breakfasts, free Managers social every evening!

MAKE YOUR PLANS TO ATTEND!

YOU ARE CALLERLAB—JOIN A COMMITTEE TODAY!