What is Most Important to You? Chances are it will be covered at the Convention.

Probably the "hottest" topic of square dance conversations today has to do with new movements. Within just the past twelve months hundreds of new terms have been poured into the square dance vocabulary. Is this a good sign or is it proving to be a problem? We'll see when we gather at the Marriott Hotel in St. Louis for the FIRST International (invitational) Callers Convention. Registration is from 10 am on Monday, April 8. Our important opening session starts promptly at 2 pm.

To be sure, there will be many HOT subjects covered in our three days together but this one (and perhaps one or two others) will come in for the greatest percentage of discussion. It is the goal of this Convention to come up with a firm resolve on this and at least two other subjects and by the time Wednesday rolls around we hope to be in solid agreement on many points relative to the future of square dancing.

So great has been the interest in this "new movements controversy" and so sincere have been the hopes for the success of CALLERLAB, that at least one entire area in the country is busily gathering signatures on a petition asking us to give very serious consideration to this one specific problem.

This First Convention is to be "Solution Oriented"!

Since you received your invitation to join us at St. Louis, you have undoubtedly had a good chance to think in terms of what many of us, by working together, might be able to accomplish for the good of square dancing in general and for the improvement of our professional standards in particular. You'll have your opportunity at this Convention to speak out and you'll hear others from all parts of North America and overseas "speak their piece." We won't all think alike. Our areas will be different. Our calling styles will not be the same. Our goals may even seem to be heading in different directions. One of our first objectives will be to recognize that by meeting together we can communicate, and we can, by compromising -- giving a little here, taking a little there -- come away from St. Louis with some definite directions. Let that be our goal. Let that be the true SPIRIT OF ST. LOUIS!

IMPORTANT -- Some information we need right away

The fact that you are receiving this newsletter is an indication that YOU are registered at the Marriott Hotel for the Convention. Attached is our RE-CONFIRMATION form which shows exactly how we have you registered, what you owe for housing, etc. If there is any change you must know right away or you may be billed extra by the hotel. Please check and IF THERE IS ANY DISCREPANCY let us know immediately (by airmail) so that we can inform the hotel and correct our records. If we show that your wife is coming and she's NCT, or if we don't show that she'll
be with you - and she will, LET US KNOW. Check, if you're a single, whether we have you rooming with another delegate or as single occupancy. If it isn't the way you want it - WRITE US NOW. This is the only re-confirmation you will receive; you will not receive anything directly from the hotel. Please bring this form with you to the CALLERLAB Registration Table at the Marriott Hotel on Monday, April 8th.

An Opportunity for You - And for Others

Just as you were personally invited to attend this Convention and thereby become a member of CALLERLAB, you will have the opportunity next month to suggest the names of several callers whom you feel should be included in 1975. We're undergoing this growth period gradually so that each person brought in to be a member will have received a personal invitation from one or more who are members. In this way it is felt that we can best grow in strength and on a strong foundation.

Be thinking now of names you would like to see included. Be on the lookout particularly for caller/leaders, solid club callers, dedicated individuals who can benefit as well as contribute to our program, and aim for areas not yet represented. Our goal will be to eventually include representation from every area in the square dance world.

The number of names each member can suggest for an invitation to CALLERLAB (future) will be announced at St. Louis, so be ready with your list.

If You're Flying In

You should have your air reservation by now. If you haven't, don't put it off and be disappointed. Remember, the St. Louis Marriott Hotel is only about five minutes from Lambert Airport. Hotel buses directly to the front door of the Marriott leave about every 15 minutes from the baggage level of the airport and run the reverse route just as frequently.

That's it then, until we can greet you in the lobby of the Marriott on April 8.

Your Convention Planning Committee:

Arnie Kronenberger
Bob Osgood (Executive Secretary)
Bob Van Antwerp

P.S. If you plan to arrive at the Marriott prior to the Convention or to stay over after the meeting, please write directly to the hotel and make your own room reservation - that is, for lodging other than the actual Convention days.