The Gold Card (life membership) is given in recognition of and appreciation for long and important service to CALLERLAB. The list of recipients is very short, particularly for an organization that is 36 years old. This is not because there have been few who have worked hard for the organization, but rather because the standard of service for which this recognition is given is so high.

Tonight I am honored and pleased to make this presentation to one who surely meets the standard. Although he is not able to be with us this year, I want to let you all know that he has given generously and steadily throughout the 28 years since he first joined. Most of his service to CALLERLAB has been out of the public eye. Yes, he has served on the Board of Governors and has chaired important Committees and led panels at many Conventions, but much of what he has given has been shared wisdom and experience.

As one example, about 15 years ago we advertised for a new Assistant Executive Director. We had many applications and narrowed the field to just a few. The final interviews for which the selection of Jerry Reed was made were held at the home of our newest Gold Card Member. He had been an active part of the selection committee over the several month process and his guidance was invaluable. He is a man with perhaps the largest business interest in the world of square dancing. He has been generous in many ways, both financial and in sharing business knowledge. He has given freely of his judgment and experience during difficult negotiations and interactions both within CALLERLAB and with other organizations.

Nearly everyone in this room has done business with Bill Heyman (or Peggy) over the years and I ask you to join me in this recognition of his contributions and service to CALLERLAB.