



A publication of

The Committee for Community Dance of CALLERLAB

The International Association
of
Square Dance Callers

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Who is Coming to Reno???

The Committee for Community Dance (CCD) will have a busy schedule associated with the upcoming 2004 CALLERLAB Convention. The 5th **Beginner Dance Party Leader's Seminar (BDPLS)** will be held on the Saturday and Sunday prior to the start of the convention (See the ad on the last page.) Staff and subjects will include:

Calvin Campbell -- Dances and music that uses formations other than squares.

Yona Chock -- Dancing through history and the applications in schools.

Ron Counts & Kit Gavin -- One step beyond Beginner Parties.

Michelle Jacobs -- Beginner Parties for the handi-capable.

Chuck & Becky Jaworski -- Line Dances for Beginners.

Jim Mayo -- Singing call dance routines for beginner parties.

Bob Riggs -- Questions you need to ask and information you need to get before the party.

Stew Shacklette -- Play Parties for adults and children.

We have traditionally held a **Saturday evening dinner** to enjoy the company of each other and catch up on what has happened in the last year. Let Cal know if you are interested in participating.

Sunday afternoon, the CCD hosts a **beginner level dance** for all the incoming callers and partners. We encourage each of you to bring dances

and music that fits this theme. This is your chance to perform. The session will be recorded on audio tape. Please contact the MC, Bob Riggs (RLRiggs@aol.com).

The **CCD meeting** will be held at 9:00 AM on Tuesday morning. We will be discussing the Beginner Dance Party Leader's Seminar, the CD Journal, the proposed videos for the CALLERLAB Foundation and any other topics that occur.

We need help. The Beginner Dance Party Leaders Seminar needs to have volunteers to handle sound and cameras. No experience is necessary.

We would like to have all sound for the seminar run by one person. This will hopefully eliminate the awkward pauses while speakers try and figure out how to work with strange equipment.

We will be video taping each session with three camcorders. Two mounted on tripods and one mobile and moving around the room. If you are coming to the seminar and would be willing to help, contact Cal at cal@eazy.net or 303-790-7921.

If any of you are bringing sound equipment and would be willing to let it be used for the BDPLS we would appreciate the use of it. We need mini disk players, laptop computers, and CD players. We also need wireless microphones. Once again, contact Cal if you can help.

Book Review

Jim Mayo has published a book titled "Step by Step Through Modern Square Dance History." It is a comprehensive look at square dancing over the last half of the 20th century. Jim includes his own observations and also the observations of many other callers.

He provides a logical analysis of the separation of traditional square dancing and what we now know as Modern Western Square Dancing. The book is laced with numerous examples and anecdotes which illustrate each step along the evolutionary trail.

The book is 200 pages in length and comes in both a softbound and hard bound edition. The hard bound editions is printed on acid free paper and features a high quality cover.

Books can be ordered directly from:

Jim Mayo
PO Box 367
Hampstead, NH 0384-0367

For prices and shipping contact Jim at JMAYO329@aol.com

The books are also sold by Supreme Audio.

The Lack of Reference

Material

An Editorial by Cal Campbell

The publication of Jim Mayo's book "Step by Step Through Modern Square Dance History," gives me the opportunity to discuss the subject of how well we have done to "toot our horn" to the general public.

Many times it has been pointed out that square dancing is the best kept secret in the world. That statement is probably correct. We have a very low visibility in the public eye.

One of the most neglected areas is square dance publications that are accessible for the general public to read or view. I recently went to the local library to access a common computer based file system for 30-40 libraries in the Denver metro area. I did word searches on combinations of square dancing, contra dancing, etc. What I found was discouraging. Very few libraries had any books about square dancing and those that did had primarily old books. Twenty to thirty years old.

This means that if someone is curious about square dancing, the only view they will be able to find is that of "traditional" square dancing. While "traditional square dancing" is fine, it is only part of a bigger picture.

I also looked to see what was available on VHS and DVD. Once again the results were disappointing. I found only one VHS tape series that featured Modern Western Square Dancing. It was well planned and the content was acceptable, but it was obviously produced with low resolution video equipment and poor lighting.

I have talked to many teachers over the years and asked them what they had available, in their school systems, about square dancing. Most of them had nothing. Those that did find records or books found that they were purchased as long ago as fifty years.

I think we only have ourselves to blame. We have done a pretty good job of producing publications for callers within the recreation, but we have not done a very good job producing material that is attractive to the general public and specifically teachers in the education system.

Part of the problem is the format that most "insider" publications take. We tend to publish in the most economical medium. Many of the square dance references I have purchased, over the years, are in the type of binders you expect to see used for temporary or short run publications. Three ring notebooks, plastic binding, etc. Very few are professionally done with a page layout program or bound in a manner that makes them acceptable to libraries, schools, or for use as textbooks. These publications are fine for our internal use, but it means they will never be available in public libraries or used in the average public or private school.

I recently tried to start to change that. "Dancing for Busy People" has been republished in a binding that is very acceptable to libraries and schools. Jim Mayo's book has even gone further. He had two editions printed. One is the soft cover style that is called perfect binding. This binding style is used for many instruction books and is popular for textbooks.

The second binding is hard cover with the traditional sewn stitching that will keep the book from falling apart from hard use. It is also printed on acid free paper. Why is this important? It means that 100 years from now his book will still be usable and may still be in some libraries.

This brings me to another topic. How does such a book get into a public library or a school. There are several publications like "Books in Print" that are searched by librarians and teachers looking for books to purchase. To be listed in "Books in Print" your book must have what is known as an

ISBN number. The book should also have a Library of Congress number which provides another source for people to find out about it.

There are several publications which review new books. If Jim is extremely lucky, his book may be reviewed by one of these publications. He probably won't be lucky. Square dancing is not a popular subject right now.

There is one additional avenue that has been proven to be very effective in getting books into schools libraries and public libraries. Fifty percent of the books and videos in any library were purchased because of recommendations by readers.

It is a very simple process. Buy a copy of Jim's book and take it down to the local library and tell them you think it needs to be in their collection. Or, if you can't afford to buy a copy, still recommend the book to your librarian. It costs you nothing and you might be able to check it out in a month or so. At the same time you might recommend other books and videos that you know about.

We have a number of people who are starting to produce quality books, videos, CD's etc. The CD Journal is happy to review any items that fit the Beginner Party or CDP format. We can't print the price, but we can tell you where you can purchase them.

Let's start doing a better job of "tooting our horn." Let's see that the public gets a fair view of our recreation and let's support the efforts of authors. Every one of these people invest big dollars in their product.

Sicilian Circle

This is a very useful dance for Beginner Parties because the two hand claps tend to keep most of the people exactly in time with the music.

Siege of Carrick Traditional

Formation: Couples facing couples like spokes on a wheel. One couple is facing clockwise. The second couple is facing counterclockwise around the big circle.

Prompts

Intro _ _ _ _ , _ _ *Circle Left*
1-8 _ _ _ _ , _ _ **Circle Right**
9-16 _ _ _ _ , _ _ **Star Right**
17-24 _ _ _ _ , _ _ **Star Left**
25-32 _ _ _ _ , **Partner _ DoSaDo**
33-40 _ _ _ _ , _ _ **Clap & Swing**
41-48 _ _ _ _ , **Opposite _ DoSaDo**
49-54 _ _ _ _ , **Clap _ & Pass Thru**
55-64 _ _ _ **Bow, _ _ Circle Left**

Description.

- 1-8 Circle four to the left with the facing couple
- 9-16 Circle four to the right with the same couple. End facing the same direction around the big circle as when you started.
- 17-24 Same four Star Right.
- 25-32 Same four Star Left.
- 33-40 Face your partner and DoSaDo
- 41-48 Clap your own hands together on the first two beats of the phrase. Swing your partner on the last six beats of the phrase. End facing the other couple in the foursome.
- 49-54 DoSaDo the opposite person.
- 55-64 Clap your own hands together on the first two beats of the phrase. Pass Thru the couple you are facing and proceed to the next couple coming your way around the big ring. Finished with a bow.

Note: The Pass Thru can be replaced by designating one couple to arch and the other couple to Dive Thru the arch. The arching couple can either be the couple facing clockwise or the couple facing counterclockwise. Just be sure to have everyone doing the same thing or you will find some head knocking going on.

Square Dance

I have talked to a number of dance party leaders that still use a square dance figure called Sally Goodin' at their parties. It is one variation of a dance memory game. Each of the lady's positions in a square are given a name. Sally Goodin' is the Right Hand Lady. Your partner is your Taw. The Opposite Lady is the Girl From Arkansas. The Corner is Old Grandma or Mother-in-Law. There has to be an understanding on the part of the dancers that Arm Turns start with the Right Hand Lady by a Right Arm Turn and always return to the Partner with a Left Arm Turn. The partner would go some like this.

First Gent turn Sally Goodin' by the Right Hand Around
Then your Taw (Partner Left)
Now the Girl from Arkansas (Opposite Right)
Then Back to the Taw (Partner Left)
And now Old Grandma (Corner Right)
Everybody Swing your Taw
Promenade all

I've seen a dozen other variations including some where the active gent turned someone else other than the partner with a left. Whatever routine you use, you will often find that someone will come up and tell you that dance isn't the way they remembered it.

For those of you who are going to attend the NSDC in Denver this summer, I have a clinic from 11:00-12:00 AM one of the mornings that is titled "40s-50s Hoedown." This is one of the dance routines we will be playing with. It was a different square dance world then, but many of the dance routines were great fun to do. Come join us.

Calvin Campbell

Beginner Dance Party Leaders Seminar

April 3 & 4, 2004

Hilton Hotel

Reno, NV

Cost \$25.00 per person

Learn to teach and lead
parties for people of all
ages who have never
danced before.

Easy

Square Dances

Contra Dances

Line Dances

Mixers & More

For More Information

Contact

Calvin Campbell

343 Turf Lane

Castle Rock, Co 80108

cal@eazy.net

Solo Dance

This dance comes out of Dancing For Busy People. I wrote it to give new contra dancers practice on dancing active and inactive positions. Today actives would be called 1s and inactives called 2s.

Beginner's Luck

Calvin Campbell

Formation: Contra lines. Couples 1, 3, 5, etc. active and crossed over.

Record: WW-913 "Engine #9" or ESP 185 "Have a Little Faith"

Prompts

- Intro* - - - -, *With the corner DoSaDo*
- 1-8** - - - -, **Corner Swing & put her on your right**
- 9-16** - - - -, **Circle Left**
- 17-24** - - - -, **Circle Right**
- 25-32** - - - -, **Actives go Forward & Back**
- 33-40** - - - -, **Actives turn partner Right Hand Around**
- 41-48** - - - -, **Inactives go Forward & Back**
- 49-56** - - - -, **Inactives turn partner Left Hand Around**
- 57-64** - - - -, **With the new corner DoSaDo**

Description

- 1-8 DoSaDo the corner.
- 9-16 Swing the same corner and finish facing across the set with the lady on the man's right.
- 17-24 With the couple across Circle Left
- 25-32 Same four Circle Right
- 33-40 Active dancers Forward & Back
- 41-48 Actives Right Arm Turn their partner (across the set.)
- 49-56 Inactive dancers go Forward & Back
- 57-64 Inactives Left Arm Turn with their partner (across the set.)

Note: This is the first contra in the series to identify active and inactive couples. The dance is designed to help the dancers become comfortable with the progression of active dancers toward the foot of the set and inactive dancers toward the head of the set. Every other time through the dance, some people at the head or the foot of the set will find there is no one in the corner position to DoSaDo and Swing. They are temporarily dead-at-the-head or dead-at-the-foot. At this point they should cross over to the opposite line and wait. At the start of the next sequence they either become active (at the head) or inactive (at the foot.)

Registration Fees should be sent to:

CALLERLAB

467 Forrest Ave, Suite 118

Cocoa, FL 32822

Spouses attending with a caller do not pay, but still need to register.