



A publication of the  
**Committee for  
Community and Traditional Dance**  
of  
**CALLERLAB**  
The International Association  
of  
Square Dance Callers

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## Beginner Dance Party Leaders Seminar Plans for 2011

The **12th Beginner Dance Party Leaders Seminar (BDPLS)** will be begin at 9 a.m. on Saturday, April 16th, and end at 1 p.m. on Sunday, April 17th. This event is just prior to the 38th Annual CALLERLAB Convention to be held in Las Vegas, Nevada.

This year we plan to focus on three aspects of Beginner Dance Parties and the skills needed to lead them. The leaders will include Bob Riggs, Calvin Campbell, John Cook, Betsy Gotta, Susan Morris, and Dottie Welch.

**1. Saturday morning** will focus on dance material for community dance groups that meet infrequently and use a limited vocabulary of basic calls.

9:00 a.m. - Community Dance vs. Party Dance

10:00 a.m. - Contrasts in a Square Dance Environment

11:00 a.m. - Limited Basic Material for Community

**2. Saturday afternoon** will focus on you as the leader presenting dances in various formations that use common terms and concepts already used by square and round dance leaders.

1:00 p.m. - It's All About Music

2:00 p.m. - Simple Sicilian Circles

3:00 p.m. - Participants learning to present a dance (Bring a dance to try or we have many.)

4:00 p.m. - Mixers for Dances

**3. Sunday morning** will focus on the skills of

dance presentation and entertainment. This will include some dance ideas that can be used in a variety of situations.

9:00 a.m. - Genderless Dances

10:00 a.m. - Connecting the Music to a Dance

11:00 a.m. - Old Dance Patterns for Modern Parties

12:00 a.m. - Where to Start and How Much to Do

Cost will be \$50 per leader. Spouses and/or partners may attend free. Checks should be made payable to CALLERLAB. To charge by Pay Pal, Discover, MasterCard or Visa please call Wade at the CALLERLAB Home Office at 1-785-783-3665 or e-mail him at: Wade@CALLERLAB.org.

**Convention Welcome Dance 3-5 p.m. Sunday**

**Sunday afternoon** will feature the usual Convention Welcome Dance hosted by the CCTD. At this event any leader desiring to present community dance or one night party material is welcome to participate. Please contact the M.C., Bob Riggs, at: bob@SquareDanceEtc.com.

This issue of the Community Dance Journal includes several dances taught during the 2010 BDPLS held in Niagara Falls, New York. Plan to join us this year in Las Vegas to add more of these dances to your repertoire.

## Beginner Dance Party Leaders Seminar 2011

April 16 & 17, 2011

Riviera Hotel, Las Vegas, Nevada

Gather material and enhance your ability to successfully lead community, party, and educational events for new dancers.

Please look for details in the article above.

## Trios

### Wild Turkey

By Bob Howell

**Formation:** Lines of three facing counterclockwise around the room.

**Music:** Originally "Sherbrooke" on Grenn 15008. Music with a marching rhythm works well.

#### Prompts:

*Intro* - - - -, - - Walk forward

**1-8** - - - -, **Right hand person**  
**Right Hand Around**

**9-16** - - - -, **Left hand person**  
**Left Hand Around**

**17-24** - - - -, **Centers forward**

**25-32** - - - -, - - **All Walk forward**

#### Description:

1-8 The lines of three walk forward 8 steps counterclockwise around the hall.

9-16 The center person of each line turns the person on their right with a right Arm Turn or hooked right elbow turn.

17-24 The same person turns the person on their left with a left Arm Turn or hooked elbow.

25-32 The center person moves ahead to join the next group.

#### Variation:

The "Wild Turkey" center person can move forward to either end ahead making a new center person.

### CD Journals Now on the Website

All back issues of the CD Journal are now available on the CALLERLAB website.

From the home page, select Documents; then select Community Dance Journals from the list at the right.

An index of the dances and articles will soon be there as well.

## Trios Facing

### Rattlesnake Trio

Presented by Otto Wartemann at BDPLS in Niagara Falls, 2010

Author Unknown

**Formation:** Lines of three dancers facing each other arranged in a Big Circle like spokes of a wheel. Those with their left shoulder towards the center of the hall are line "ONE" and those with their right shoulder towards the center of the hall are line "TWO".

**Music:** "I Found a New Baby" on Blue Star 2263

**Usage:** Trios get everyone on the floor involved and moving quickly.

#### Prompts:

*Intro* - - - -, - - Number One line lead Rattlesnake

**1-8** - - - -, - - (continue)

**9-16** - - - -, **Number Two line lead Rattlesnake**

**17-24** - - - -, - - (continue)

**25-32** - - - -, **All six Circle Left**

**33-40** - - - -, - - **Circle Right**

**41-48** - - - -, - - **Dosado the person in front**

**49-56** - - - -, - - **Pass Thru and say "Howdy" to the next line**

**57-64** - - - -, - - **Number One line lead Rattlesnake**

#### Description:

1-16 Rattlesnake: The three dancers in the number ONE line join hands to form the snake. The left end person of the line leads the snake in a weaving path around the near end person of line number TWO, in front of the center person, and behind the far end person, and then back to home.

17-32 The left end person of the number TWO line leads the three dancers in that line in a similar weaving path behind the near end person, in front of the center, behind the next, and home.

33-40 All six dancers join hands and Circle to the Left for eight steps.

41-48 Same six dancers Circle to the Right for eight steps.

49-56 Facing pairs of dancers do a Dosado (pass right shoulders, slide sideways, and backup passing left shoulders to face again).

57-64 Lines Pass Thru (each facing pair of dancers pass right shoulders) and then move on to the next trio and say "Howdy".

**Trio Patter Calling:** Here are some other ideas for "patter" calling to trios. Or try combining some of these to create your own Trio Dance:

- All six make a Right-hand Star (or make a Left-hand Star).
- Boys only (or Girls only) Star Right (or Star Left).
- Outside dancer of ONE Line lead that line around the TWO Line.
- TWOs make arches while ONEs dive under (pass right shoulder).
- Two center dancers place hands on each other's shoulders and crouch down while others make a Right Hand Star over the top.
- Center two Circle Left while the others Circle Right around them.
- Right ends (or Left ends) Dosado (or Arm Turn).
- Lines do a half Dosado to face a new line.
- Lines Weave (half Dosado then left half Dosado) to face the third.

## Mixer

### Vogue Mixer

By Mike Seastrom, presented at BDPLS in Niagara Falls

**Formation:** Circle of couples with partners facing each other and men standing with their backs to the center of the Circle.

**Music:** "Vogue" by Madonna or "Boot Scootn' Boogie" on ESP 178

**Usage:** This requires quick footwork and some agility. Caution the dancers to be gentle with the kicks. It requires opposite footwork.

#### Prompts:

*Intro - - - -, -- Hands joined in Butterfly, Side, Close, Side, Touch*

**1-8 -- Both ways, -- Outside dancer Twirl**

**9-16 -- Reverse Twirl, -- outside step, knee up, step, kick**

**17-24 - - - -, -- Step, knee, step, back kick**

**25-32 - - - -, Moving apart step Side, Close, Side, Kick away**

**33-40 Together and Insider forward, Side, Close, Side, Touch**

#### Description:

- 1- 8 Towards line of dance using the gent's left and the lady's right foot first: step to the side, close the other foot beside the first, step to the side, touch the other foot beside the first, then move towards reverse line of dance repeating the action using the other foot first.
- 9-16 The inside dancer repeats the action of 1-8 while the outside dancer twirls under the lead hand turning clockwise. Then the change hands and the outside dancer twirls back the other way turning counterclockwise and moving towards reverse.
- 17-24 All step forward on their outside foot, raise inside knee together, step forward on the inside foot and both dancers touch toes in front with outside feet. All step forward on their outside foot, raise inside knee together, step forward on the inside foot and both dancers touch outside feet together behind.
- 25-32 Moving sideways away from partner step to the side, close the other foot beside the first, step to the side, swing the free foot across in front. Then moving sideways inward and on the diagonal so man is moving forward and lady back one dancer, step to the side, close the other foot beside the first, step to the side, touch. Face new partner to begin again.

#### Share Your Ideas

Do you have questions or a favorite  
Beginner, Community, Traditional or Contra dance?

Please send, suggestions and articles to:

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Nova Scotia, Canada, B2Z 1S3

Our goal is to publish two or three issues of the  
Community Dance Journal each year.  
Apologies for no 2010 issue. Chores for the July 2010 Canadian  
National in Nova Scotia absorbed all available time and energy.

## Square & Spares

Party nights are often a bit chaotic with dancers forming circles of various sizes instead of neat squares of eight. Also you may find some family groups of three instead of two as "partners". All kinds of Circle calls can be used successfully. Here are some ideas to use for these square and spares groupings.

#### **Leader Backtrack:**

Circle Left (or Circle Right)

Go Single File, Leader in couple step out and go the other way around the outside. Meet Partner with a Dosado, all Promenade.

#### **Use Odds and Evens:**

Have the couples in each group count off counterclockwise as 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6.

Odd numbers, Star Right then Star Left back to home.

Even numbers Promenade half and then come in and Circle Left back to home.

#### **Separate:**

Odd Numbers Separate (turn your back on your partner) and walk around the outside; pass partner over there, pass again at home, Bow to corner, Promenade partner.

This can also be done for just one couple, for two couples such as 1 and 4, or for everyone at once (the Grand Finale).

#### **Rip 'n Snort:**

From a circle with hands joined, the designated couple goes across the circle and through an arch made on the far side. Then the active couple let go of each other to separate around the outside and pull all the other dancers around to reform the circle. The two dancers who made the arch turn under their own arms.

## Contra

### Ohio River Contra

By Jerry Helt, 1976, when the river never froze

**Usage:** This is a relatively simple contra except for the Square Thru. It is not necessary to use the name Square Thru; there is time to cue the action.

**Formation:** Contra lines with couples standing beside their partner facing up or down. (From long facing lines each pair of facing couples Circle Left one-quarter.) The couple facing down the hall is the "Active Couple".

**Music:** A jig with clear eight beat phrasing.

#### Prompts:

- Intro* - - - -, *Actives As Couple Dosado Lady*  
**1-8** - - - -, **Same 3 Circle Left once around**  
**9-16** - - - -, **Actives As Couple Dosado Gent**  
**17-24** - - - -, **Same 3 Circle Left once around**  
**25-32** - - - -, **Pick up Lady, Lines go Down**  
**33-40** - - - -, **Turn Alone and Come Back**  
**41-48** - - - -, **Face in, Slow Square Thru**  
**49-56** - - - -, **-- (continue)**  
**57-64** - - - -, **Actives As Couple Dosado Lady**

#### Description:

- 1-8 The couple facing down the hall Dosado with the lady in the couple facing up the hall. (The ladies pass right shoulders, couple and lady slide back to back, then back up to home.) The inactive gent moves aside to make room.
- 9-16 The same three dancers Circle to the Left once around.
- 17-24 The couple facing down the hall Dosado with the gent in the couple facing up the hall.
- 25-32 The same three dancers Circle to the Left once around.
- 33-40 The active gent pick up the inactive lady to make a line of four facing down the hall (actives in center). The line marches down the hall six steps. On the last two beats, the dancers turn individually to face back up the hall.
- 41-48 Dancers march back up the hall. Then each half of the line turns as a unit to face in making long lines. Partners should be facing.
- 49-64 Each group of four do a slow Square Thru using a jig step at each turn. (Right pull by with partner, turn 1/4 to face neighbor, left pull by with neighbor, turn 1/4 to face in, right pull by with partner, turn 1/4 to face neighbor, left pull by.)

**Neutrals at the end:** Couples facing out at the ends after the Square Thru should Partner Trade to face in and then wait one sequence.

## Square Dance

### Down the Center Cut Off Six

Traditional Square Dance

Presented by Dottie Welch at BDPLS 2010

**Source:** This was published in Wes McVicar's 75 Favorite Square Dance Calls (printed 1949). Wes was the Director of the Y.M.C.A. Square Dance Club in Toronto, Ontario.

**Formation:** Square of four couples

**Usage:** Walk this through once or twice and the dancers should be ready to go.

**Music:** A jig or other music with clear cadence.

#### Prompts:

**First couple down the center and cut off six  
Lady go right and gent go left  
Right and Left Thru on the sides  
Swing when you meet and do it up neat  
Swing your head, your toe swing too (Heads)  
Roll 'em around like you used to do**

**Now down the center and cut off four  
Lady go gee and the gent go haw  
Right and Left Thru on the sides  
When you get home you swing some more  
Swing on the head, the toe swing too  
You swing her and she'll swing you**

**Down the center cut off two  
And all swing out like you used to do  
Now if she slips don't let her fall  
Go Allemande Left to the corners all  
Grand Chain all over the hall**

#### Description:

Part 1: The first couple walks across and between the third couple. The gent turns left while his lady turns right and they return outside back to place.

Part 2: The next time the first couple leads across but turns either left or right one person earlier than for "cut off six" so they go out between the side couple and the opposite couple.

Part 3: The last time the lady goes right between couple #2 and gent goes left between couple #4.

Grand Chain is a Grand Right & Left full around the circle.

Right and Left Thru is right hand to opposite, pull by, then courtesy turn half around with partner. If too hard, it can be replaced with Sides Circle Half.