



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

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2013 BDPLS and Convention Welcome Dance Plans

Beginner Dance Party Leaders Seminar

We invite anyone interested in planning and presenting Beginner Dance Parties to attend the annual seminar organized by the Committee for Community and Traditional Dance. This unique opportunity is held each year just prior to the CALLERLAB CONVENTION. The BDPLS is a chance to dance and carry away appropriate choreography for solo dances, trios, mixers, contras and squares.

The 14th Beginner Dance Party Leaders Seminar (BDPLS) will begin at 9 a.m. on Saturday, March 23rd, and end at 1 p.m. on Sunday March 24th. This event will be held at the Embassy Suites Raleigh-Durham Research Triangle Hotel in Cary, North Carolina.

The schedule this year will include presentations on how to program Beginner Parties and lots of suggestions about dances that can be taught. Planned topics include the following:

- * Entertainment with Four Basics
- * Contras 101 and Contras 102
- * Non Dancer Parties — You Can Do It
- * Core Basics + Party Basics
- * Beginner Dance Party Squares

There will also be opportunities for you to present a dance or two, so come prepared to share something, or to try something new.

The staff will include Cal Campbell, Betsy Gotta, Jim Mayo, Chris Pinkham, Bob Riggs, and Dottie Welch. Registration is \$50 and should be done through the Home Office.

Convention Welcome Dance

On Sunday, March 24th from 3 to 5 p.m., the Committee for Community and Traditional Dance will be hosting the Convention Welcome Dance. This is open to all those arriving to attend the 40th CALLERLAB Convention.

All interested leaders are encouraged to present a dance appropriate for a Beginner Square Dance Party or a Community Dance. Please contact the MC, Bob Riggs, to arrange a scheduled time (bob@SquareDanceEtc.com).

Inside This Issue

This issue of the CD Journal features dances that were presented during the 2012 BDPLS in Nashville, Tennessee. They demonstrate the typical variety of dances used at Beginner Parties including an energetic Sicilian Circle, a Circle Dance for couples that can mix partners or not, a Facing Trios Dance, and two Traditional Square Dance figures. There is also an Alternate Duple Contra which is designed to introduce this type of dance to a group with some previous contra dance experience.

Beginner Dance Party Leaders Seminar 2013

**March 23 & 24, 2013
Raleigh (Cary), North Carolina**

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

Square or More

Star Teacher
From Jim Mayo's
Little Black Book

**Allemande Left your corner,
Dosado Partner,
Gents Star Left once around,
Turn Partner by the Right,**

**Allemande Left your corner,
Swing Partner,
Circle Left.**

**Allemande Left your corner,
Ladies Star Right once around,
Allemande Left same corner,
(Go full around)
Dosado Partner,
Pick up corner and Promenade.
(or Swing and Promenade)**

Usage: Although this sequence was designed for a square of four couples, it could also be used with a small circle of five or six couples. The first two pieces could be used as a Break Figure for a Singing Call and the last piece could be used as the Corner Progression Figure. If the dancers are efficient, add the Swing before the Promenade.

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/General", then "Community Dance Journals" from the list at the right.

The CD Journal Index is in Dance Program Documents, Community Dance Program

Sicilian Circle

Dip and Dive for Jillian
Bob Riggs, Colorado

Formation: Couples facing couples around the hall like spokes of a wheel, designate couple #1s facing promenade direction with gents on the inside and couple #2s facing clockwise with gents on the outside.

Music: Something lively with a forward drive and clear 8-beat phrasing.

Usage: This dance was designed for energetic teenagers at the request of Jillian. The Dip and Dive figure is a wonderful, wind-in-the-face action that will be enjoyed by all those with good forward mobility and bendable backs.

Prompts:

Intro or

- 57-64** ----; -- **Star Right;**
1-8 ----; -- **Star Left;**
9-16 ----; -- **Ladies Dosado (optional with twirls);**
17-24 ----; -- **Gents Dosado;**
25-32 ----; -- **Circle Left;**
- 33-40** ----; -- **Circle Right;**
41-48 ----; **1s Arch, Dip and Dive (4 times);**
49-56 ----; ----;
57-64 ----; -- **Star Right;**

Description:

- 1-8 Each four facing dancers make a Right-Hand Star and turn it for eight beats.
- 9-16 The dancers quickly turn toward the center of the star half around and rejoin handholds to Star Left for eight beats ending in their original starting position.
- 17-24 The two ladies Dosado with each other on the diagonal. (Optional twirls are solo and usually to the left.)
- 25-32 The two gents Dosado with each other on the diagonal.
- 33-40 The same four dancers join hands and Circle to the Left for eight beats.
- 41-48 The same four dancers Circle to the Right for eight beats ending in their original starting position.
- 49-64 The couple 1s (gents on inside and facing promenade) arch and the couple 2s dive under the arch to begin a Dip and Dive sequence. After the first dive, the couple 2s arch and move forward over the next couple 1s while the couple 1s move forward and dive through the arch formed by the next couple 2s. Repeat all this one more time for a total of four dives.

Contra

To Turn a Phrase

Bob Isaacs

Usage: This was presented at the 2012 BDPLS by Betsy Gotta as an introduction to Alternate Duple Contras for dancers with some contra experience. There are three important ideas:

- 1) Partners stay together but dancers meet new corners or neighbors each time through the dance sequence.
- 2) Move one direction along the line until you reach the end. Crossed over couples move down, the others move up.
- 3) At the end, wait out one time through the dance, change sides, and begin moving the other way along the line at the beginning of the next dance sequence.

Formation: Alternate Duple Contra Lines — from facing lines with all gents in the right line, couples 1, 3, 5, etc. cross over.

Music: Jigs or Reels

Prompts:

Intro or

57-64 - - - -; Long Lines Forward and Back;

1-8 - - - -; Whole Set Circle Left;

9-16 - - - -; Whole Set Circle Right;

17-24 - - - -; Ladies Arm Turn by the Left once and a half;

25-32 - - - -; Partner Balance and Swing;

33-40 - - - -; - - - -;

41-48 - - - -; - - Circle Left 3/4;

49-56 - - - -; - Corner/Neighbor Swing;

57-64 - - - -; Long Lines Forward and Back;

Description:

- 1-8 Dancers walk forward four beats and back up to place.
- 9-16 All dancers join hands and circle to the left eight steps.
- 17-24 All dancers circle to the right eight steps until they are again across from their partner.
- 25-32 Ladies should look for the lady diagonally to their right. These two ladies turn by the left arm once and a half around and end across the set facing their partner.
- 33-48 Partners join both hands, step forward and touch, then back and touch to balance (repeat if desired). They then Swing with each other. To end the Swing, the gent rolls the lady out on his right side and the couple faces in.
- 49-56 Each group of four dancers Circle to the Left 3/4 around ending facing up or down the formation with partners side-by-side. (Couples moving down are facing down.)
- 57-64 Neighbors are now facing each other. These two dancers Swing. End the Swing in long facing lines with the lady on the right side of the gent (progression complete).

Mixer or Not

Island in the Sun

Stew Shacklette, Kentucky

Formation: Circle of couples facing line of dance (CCW).

Music: "Island in the Sun", Grenn 12067

Prompts:

Intro or

29-32 - - Walk 8;

1-4 - - - -;

5-8 - Back away 4;

9-12 Together 3 & Touch;

13-16 - Side Touches;

17-20 - - (four times);

21-24 - - Turn Partner right;

25-28 - - Gents forward;

29-32 - - Walk 8;

Description:

- 1-4 Dancers begin with the foot away from partner and walk eight steps.
- 9-16 Partners turn to face each other, back away four and come together three steps and touch.
- 17-24 Partners join both hands, and beginning towards reverse line of dance, step to the side and touch four times.
- 25-32 Partners turn by the right arm full around, and men move forward to change partners.

Share Your Ideas

Send dance or theme ideas to

Dottie Welch

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Lawrencetown, NS

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Our goal is to publish
2 or 3 issues of the
CD Journal each year.

Traditional Square Dance

Dive for the Oyster

Formation: Four couples in a square

Music: Something with a traditional feel such as "Turkey in the Straw"

Intro, Break, Ending:

**Circle Left (16 beats); Circle Right (16 beats);
Into the Center and Come on Back;
Everybody Swing your Partner;
With Partner Promenade around the track;
Make your feet go wickety whack;**

Figure:

**First Couple Lead to the Right;
Those four Circle Left half around;
Dive for the oyster, Dive;
Dig for the clam, now Dig;
Dive for home and the happy land;
On to the next and Circle Four halfway;**

**Dive for the oyster, - Dive;
Dig for the clam, now Dig;
Dive for home and the happy land;
On to the last and Circle Four halfway;**

**Dive for the oyster, - Dive;
Dig for the clam, now Dig;
Dive for home and the happy land;
Everybody Swing your own;
Promenade around you go;
Go all the way around to home;**

Repeat for Second, Third and Fourth Couples.

Description of the Figure:

- 1-8 The designated couple leads to their right to face the couple on their right. Those two couples join hands and Circle to their left, halfway around.
- 9-16 The four dancers maintain their circle handholds for the next two calls. Couple #2 makes an arch and couple #1 ducks under the arch then backs out. Then couple #1 makes an arch and couple #2 ducks under and backs out. Couple #2 arches again and Couple #1 Dives Thru and moves on to the next couple leaving Couple #2 at their home spot.

Listen on YouTube: ["Dive for the Oyster—Loy"](#).

Facing Trio

Three's Greet

Bob Howell, Ohio

From *Sharing A Treasury Of Dances*

Usage: Trios allow dancers without partners to easily join in. This has a nice rhythmic gimmick with the stamps and claps.

Formation: Lines of three people facing lines of three people arranged in a big circle like spokes of a wheel. This works best when there are at least 18 dancers.

Music: Any strongly phrased music

Prompts:

Intro or

**57-64 - - - -; - - Walk 2, Stamp, Stamp, Stamp;
1-8 Back up 2, Clap 3; - Walk and Stamp;
9-16 Back up and Clap; All six Circle Left;
17-24 - - - -; Same six Circle Right;
25-32 - - - -; - - Centers Dosado;**

**33-40 - - - -; - - Ends Dosado;
41-48 - - - -; Everybody Forward and Back;
49-56 - - - -; Pass Thru onto the next;
57-64 - - - -; Walk two and Stamp three;**

Description:

- 1-8 Dancers in lines of three walk toward each other two steps. Everyone stamps their feet quickly three times in two beats of music. Dancers in lines back up two steps. Everyone quickly claps their hands three times in two beats.
- 9-16 All six dancers join hands and Circle to the Left for eight beats.
- 17-24 All six dancers Circle Right back to their original place in eight beats.
- 25-32 The center dancers in each line Dosado with the center dancer they are facing.
- 33-40 The end dancers in each line Dosado with the end dancer they are facing.
- 41-48 The dancers in lines of three walk forward three steps and touch then back up three steps and touch.
- 49-64 The lines Pass Thru (each dancer passes right shoulders by the dancer he/she is facing) and the lines move on around the big circle to meet the next trio.