NEWSLETTER for Members of

CALLERLAB



The International Association of Square Dance Callers

VOLUME XXVII NUMBER FIVE - AUGUST 2000

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CURRENT QUARTERLY SELECTIONS:

MAINSTREAM: None

PLUS: None

ADVANCED: Interlocked Diamonds (5/99)

EMPHASIS CALLS:

MAINSTREAM: Half Sashay (1/00)

Cloverleaf (1/00)

PLUS:

Crossfire (11/99)

FUTURE CONVENTIONS:

APR 9-11, 2001 St. Louis, MO

MAR 25 -27, 2002 Eastern Region

APR 14 - 16, 2003 Central Region

CALLERLAB OFFICE HOURS:

9:00 am to 4:30 pm Eastern Time, Monday through Friday

Phone: (321) 639-0039

(800) 331-2577 (business only)

FAX: (321) 639-0851

Email: CALLERLAB@aol.com

Website: www.callerlab.org

INSURANCE QUESTIONS & CERTIFICATES A.H.Wohlers & Co. 1-800-503-9227.

FROM THE CHAIR

ello everyone, I hope your summer is going great. The positive attitude, which began in Dallas, was present again in Las Vegas and continues to run strong. The 49th National Square Dance Convention (NSDC) in Baltimore was well run and proved to be a great source for fun, fellowship and dancing. I spoke with many people who were interested in the marketing campaign. Jim Hensley was on hand to talk with any and all who would listen. It is clear that we continue to develop strong support for the Foundation. The first of three focus group surveys will soon take place in Charlotte, North Carolina. You can read more about these surveys elsewhere in this issue of DIRECTION.

Ellen and I, along with Mike Jacobs, attended the ROUNDALAB Convention just prior to the 49th NSDC. We had a good time and experienced a well-organized convention. ROUNDALAB had completed their project of choreographing a round dance to the God Bless the USA record. ROUNDALAB paid the cost of the first pressing and the proceeds will go to the Foundation. They demonstrated the dance and then auctioned off the first copy of the record with the proceeds going to the Foundation. I offer sincere thanks and congratulations to ROUNDALAB for their project. Mike Jacobs and I made a marketing presentation to the ROUN-DALAB Board on Monday evening, which was well received. Jim Hensley, Marketing Director for the Foundation, also made a presentation to them on Wednesday. CALLERLAB and ROUNDALAB enjoy a great relationship and we sincerely hope for continued involvement with the Foundation.

On June 23rd Ellen and myself, along with Del and Jerry Reed and Jim Hensley, were invited to dinner with the National Executive Committee (NEC). This was the second year for the dinner and they again invited leaders of the major national organizations to attend. Everyone was invited to speak on any subject they wished regarding the square dance activity. I thanked the NEC for their participation in the Founda-

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tion's marketing campaigns and told how Jim Hensley stresses we must all do this as one unit. The marketing project can not be accomplished by one group alone. I was both surprised and happy that the NEC again donated \$2000 to the Foundation. The United Square Dances of America also donated \$1000 to the Foundation. A hardy wave of the flag of thanks to both groups.

I sincerely invite all of you to become more involved with CALLERLAB and the Foundation. The next convention is being held in St. Louis, April 9-11, 2001 at the Airport Marriott. The Marriott is a great convention facility and their staff is very pleasant and helpful. Our theme for 2001 is "Gateways: Unity, Marketing and Growth." Jim Hensley will be on hand to speak about the Foundation and the Marketing Plan (The Phoenix Plan). There will be many fantastic interest sessions to tantalize you as well. So, sign up early.

POST-CONVENTION VOTE RESULT

ollowing the convention, 887 ballots were mailed to eligible members, asking whether or not the actions taken at the convention should be rescinded (overturned).

The bylaws specify that a minimum of one-third of the mailed ballots (296) must be returned in order to constitute a quorum. One hundred fifteen (115) ballots were returned by the June 2, 2000 deadline. Since 115 ballots were not sufficient to constitute a quorum, the convention decisions stand as voted and reported in the minutes of the 2000 Annual meeting which were mailed to members with the April 2000 issue of DIRECTION.

REVISED PROGRAM POLICY

uring the recent CALLERLAB convention a Revised Board Of Governors Program Policy was presented, discussed, and approved by the membership. During the convention Program Policy Committee (PPC) Chairman, Kip Garvey,

introduced the revised policy during the opening session, moderated an interest session to discuss the policy, and chaired a committee meeting. All of this was designed to provide convention attendees with an opportunity to learn about the revised policy, discuss it, and understand it. During the Annual Meeting Committee Chairman Garvey presented a motion and discussion of the revised policy which was approved. The motion to approve the updated Program Policy Statement also included a directive to the Board of Governors to implement the updated Program Policy Statement.

This revision was the result of many months work by the Program Policy Committee and the Board Of Governors. In 1998 the Board Of Governors (BOG) directed the PPC to review CALLERLAB's current program policy. The committee found the current policy to be vague, contradictory, and inadequate. The committee worked for two years on a revision to that policy and determined that the membership desires dance programs which are standardized, contemporary, and stable. The committee further determined that the membership desires a long range plan for the maintenance of the dance programs. The committee also determined that the membership desires that maintenance of CALLER-LAB's dance programs will be done by the appropriate dance program committee (Mainstream, Plus, Advanced, and Challenge).

Currently, at the request of the Board of Governors, the Program Policy Committee is drafting a set of directives that, when finished, will be given to the program chairpersons of each dance program committee. The directives will set guidelines for implementation of the Revised Program Policy, and will set the stage for possible modification of our dance programs into the near and distant future in compliance with the majority opinion of the membership.

REMEMBER -VOTE TODAY!!

DIRECTION is the official newsletter of CALLERLAB, The International Association of Square Dance Callers, with offices located at 467 Forrest Ave., Suite 118, Cocoa, FL32922,(321)639-0039. DIRECTION is published bi-monthly and mailed first class to all members and affiliates of CALLERLAB. DIRECTION is edited by Jerry Reed, Executive Direction.

DIRECTION is computerized, therefore, it is helpful to have articles, reports or letters to the editor submitted on computer diskettes whenever possible. DIRECTION uses Corel Word Perfect 8.0 as its word processor, on a Windows based computer. Computer diskettes (3 1/4") containing articles, reports or letters to be published should be submitted in Word Perfect format. Microsoft word for Windows or ASCII text files are also acceptable. Please enclose a printout of the article, report or letter.

The opinions expressed in articles submitted by members or affiliates do not necessarily reflect the policies of CALLERLAB. All articles submitted for publication must be signed by the author.

The Editor reserves the right to exercise discretion in accepting, editing or rejecting any material submitted for publication. Articles submitted for publication which describe square dance formations or arrangements MUST be in accordance with CALLERLAB standards.

BOARD OF GOVERNORS ELECTION

n this issue of DIRECTION, we present the nominees for the Board of Governors. Members eligible to vote will be electing eight (8) members to be seated on the Board following the 2001 CALLER-LAB convention in St. Louis. Board Members serve a term of three years.

Gregg Anderson, Deborah Carroll, Randy Dougherty, Mike Jacobs, Martin Mallard, Tony Oxendine, Jerry Story, and John Sybalsky will complete their current terms on the Board at the 2001 convention. Gregg Anders, Randy Dougherty, and Deborah Carroll have chosen not to seek reelection.

Short biographic sketches are included to aid you in making your decision. Members eligible to vote in this election will find a blue ballot enclosed with this issue of *DIRECTION*. WE ENCOURAGE YOU TO EXERCISE YOUR RIGHT AND PRIVILEGE TO VOTE! Return your ballot **NO LATER THAN SEPTEMBER 30**, 2000.

Please read the instructions on the ballot carefully. Do not sign the ballot.

The results of this important election will be announced in the next issue of *DIRECTION*. Press releases will be mailed to publications and callers associations announcing the results.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

s of July 15th, we have a total membership of 1,947 callers and are adding new members every week. The current membership is broken down as follows: Voting Members 863; Associate Members 980; Apprentice members 104.

A total of 1787 BMI/ASCAP licenses have been issued; 917 for less than 50 dances a year and 845 for over 50 dances per year. We have a total of 25 callers and partners licensed to teach Country Western dances.

251 callers have not renewed their membership for the current year. Their insurance coverage and BMI/ASCAP license is no longer valid. If you have not yet received a white membership card from the Home Office, your membership has expired. Please contact the Home Office if you believe you paid your dues but have not yet received a membership card.



CALLERLAB

CALLERLAB 2001

(Gateways: Unity, Marketing, Growth)

ost of you have no doubt heard about the wonderful spirit we experienced at the convention in Las Vegas last spring. It was a continuation of the uplifting experience we had in Dallas last year. There was a feeling of optimism in the air. We talked about how to do a better job of marketing our favorite activity. Jim Hensley, Marketing Director for the Foundation, reminded us of all the positive things square dancing has to offer. He also presented a summary of the results of a recently completed professional Internet survey of non-dancers. The results of this survey are encouraging. He also discussed the long term Marketing Plan (The Phoenix Plan) which was approved by the Foundation Board Of Directors during their annual meeting.

The second convention of the new millennium will build on the spirit of cooperation with the theme "Gateways: Unity, Marketing, Growth". This theme reflects the key points of Phase one of the Phoenix Plan. That is, the building of unity among the various organizations, associations, and clubs involved with square dancing. The theme also plays on the fact that this convention will be held in St. Louis, MO, also known as the Gateway To More Dancers". The dates are April 9 -11, 2001. We hope you are making plans to be there.

The convention program will focus on marketing plans and on ways to make the best qualities of square dancing better known. Major sessions will include the demographics of who we are and reports on the results of ongoing market research projects. Other sessions will discuss planning for better marketing and how to do the best job with new dancer dances. The range of interest sessions will include using the individual marketing methods as well as plans to employ market research professionals. Of course, many of the most popular past sessions will be repeated including Voice sessions with Professor Arden Hopkin and the very popular Digital Music session introduced in Las Vegas. There will be technical sessions as well, including Showmanship, Smoothness, Multi-cycle Programming and Choreographic Development. This year we will also repeat a popular session of special interest to Advanced and Challenge callers. All of these will have some of our most experienced leaders as panelists to share their skill and knowledge.

Jim Hensley, Foundation Marketing Director and Mike Seastrom, Marketing Committee Chairman will host an interest session to discuss implementation of the Phoenix Plan and future marketing plans.

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CALLERLAB is you! The annual convention is your opportunity to meet and talk with others who share your interest. It is also an opportunity to sit in on committee meetings and become acquainted with others involved in the "hands-on" real work of CALLERLAB. We hope you plan to attend!

PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICER

he importance of the current marketing plan (The Phoenix Plan) dictates a well organized and effective public relations campaign to support the plan. Your Executive Committee (EC) has determined that a single point of contact for public relations information would be most beneficial. To that end, the EC is soliciting volunteers to fill that position, named the CALLERLAB Public Relations Officer. The candidate for this position must have had experience in the public relations field and have demonstrated expertise in producing effective public relations related results.

The person selected to fill this position would work directly with the home Office, the Marketing Committee, the Fund Raising Committee, and others as required to help publicize the goals and accomplishments of The Phoenix Plan. The person selected would also be responsible for the following tasks: 1) develop the relationship between callers at large and CALLERLAB for the purpose of promoting the goals, objectives, plans, and procedures of the organization in a positive way, 2) identify and promote Mini-Labs to caller organizations upon approval of the EC or Board Of Governors, 3) help promote attendance and facilitate attendance and member needs at the CALLERLAB conventions and Mini-Labs, and 4) perform other public relations tasks as may be assigned by the EC.

Interested candidates are requested to notify the Home Office not later than November 30, 2000. Please include a short resume of public relations experience, phone number, address, and e-mail address.

THANKS TO NEC and USDA!!

uring the 49th National Square Dance Convention in Baltimore, MD, Larry Cole, Chairman of the Board, was presented with two wonderful donations to The Foundation. One was from the National Executive Committee (NEC) in the amount of \$2,000 and another donation of \$1000 was from the United Square Dancers of America (USDA). Both organizations have shown their support for the goals of The Foundation and for the ongoing fund raising efforts to benefit The Foundation, square and round

dancing.

The Foundation Board Of Directors recently approved a long range marketing plan known as "The Phoenix Plan". Phase One of this three phase plan is intended to bring all square dance organizations together to achieve a single goal. That goal is to spread the word about the many benefits of "square dancing" to the non-dancing public. Plans are well underway for professional market research through Internet surveys and Focus Group surveys to be conducted and analyzed by a professional Market Research company. The donations from the NEC and USDA will certainly help with the funding for The Phoenix Plan.

REMEMBER -VOTE TODAY!!

CALLERLAB MEMBERSHIP ROSTER

he Executive Committee has determined that, in order to hold down printing and postage costs, a membership roster will not be automatically distributed to all members this year. The cost of printing and mailing a roster to our entire membership is well over \$9,000.

New members who have not yet received a roster or members requiring an updated roster should order one from the Home Office by calling 1-800-331-2577. FOR ORDERS AFTER SEPTEMBER 30TH THERE WILL BE A CHARGE OF \$10.00. Orders will be accepted via phone, U.S. Mail, e-mail, or FAX. The Home Office will print enough rosters to fill those orders plus a small supply for occasional requests. Once this supply is exhausted, no further printing is anticipated.

CALLERLAB AT THE NSDC

ALLERLAB again qualified for a vendor booth at the 49th NSDC. We also participated in the Showcase Of Ideas. Information about the Foundation projects, including *The Phoenix Plan*, was available in the booth.

The booth gave CALLERLAB a positive presence before the dancing public and elicited a good response from everyone who stopped by to visit.

Thanks to the following CALLERLAB members who volunteered to help staff the booth:

Tim Crawford
Randy & Lee Dougherty
John & Freddie Kaltenthaler
Bill Harrison
Tom Miller
John & Linda Saunders

Special thanks go to John & Freddie, they certainly served "beyond the call to duty" by manning the booth for over four hours on Friday evening.

PERMANENT CALLERLAB BADGES

or the convenience of those who have not yet ordered their CALLERLAB permanent badge, a badge order form has been included with this issue of *DIRECTION*. Badges are \$7.00 each, postage included (US funds only, please). Florida residents are reminded to include 6% sales tax or \$.42 per badge.

SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE

ould you use some financial assistance in furthering your square dance calling career? Why not apply for a CALLERLAB scholarship? Applications are available from the CALLERLAB Home Office.

CALLERLAB offers the following scholarships for callers who wish to attend a reputable callers' college. The George White Scholarship is funded by friends and family of George White. The Heyman Scholarship is funded by friends and family of Bill & Peggy Heyman. The Tex Hencerling Memorial Scholarship is funded by the Overseas Dancers Association and individual contributors. Other scholarships are available through enterprises such as ASD Magazine, Supreme Audio and many local callers associations.

Applications for 2001/2002 scholarships must be received by the Home Office no later than May 1, 2001, in order to be considered by the Executive Committee at their May meeting.

YOUTH GROUP CALLERS

he Home Office is interested in creating a list of members who work with youth groups. This information will be used to help with the Market Research information being gathered as part of phase one of the *Phoenix Plan*.

If you call for a youth group please contact the Home Office and let us know. We will need the location (city and state), age range of the dancers, name of the group, approximate number of dancers and the caller's name.

WHAT IS CALLERLAB DOING FOR SQUARE DANCING?

t the 1995 convention in Pittsburgh, Herb Egender suggested that we should do more to market CALLERLAB to the dancer. We now solicit your assistance in getting the word out.

Enclosed with this issue of DIRECTION, you will find a flyer titled What Is CALLERLAB Doing For Square Dancing?. We ask that you make several copies of this

flyer and leave them out at your dances. Ask the clubs to post a copy on their bulletin board, too. If your area has a square dance publication, please see that they also get a copy. Thank you.

"FRIENDS OF THE FOUNDATION"

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the CALLERLAB Foundation, we wish to express our appreciation for the generous donations from the following "Friends of the Foundation":

Sundown Square Dance Club, California Gene Arnold, Redlands, CA Ed Gilson, Adrian, MI

Lames O Johnstone II

Lawrence O. Johnstone, Ukiah, CA

Jim Shay, Syre, PA

Texas State Callers Assn., Arlington, TX

Square and Round Dancers of South Nevada, Las Vegas Square Dance Callers Assn. Of No CA, Vallejo, CA

Christopher Helper, Mooresville, NC

John and Dimple Williford, President NEC

Bill and Bobbie Shepard, USDA

M. Ackerson, Batesville, AR

Denver Area Square and Round Dance Council, CO

Your contributions will enable the Foundation to increase public awareness of the fun and fellowship that makes square dancing a popular recreation today. Foundation projects that will help preserve and promote square dancing are important to the growth and image of the Foundation. Caring people are what will keep our activity alive.

All contributions will help us expand our resources and do a far more extensive job in the preservation of square dancing.

To make a tax-deductible donation or memorial to the Foundation, send it to The CALLERLAB Foundation, 467 Forrest Ave., Suite 118, Cocoa, FL 32922

IN MEMORIAM

Gean Dentino, IL in memory of Don Armstrong Betty Cone, in memory of Fred Adams L. Jack Hallman, In memory of Fred Adams In Memory of Martin Miller: Elmer and Linda Claycomb Phillip and Marjorie Dove Warren and Virginia Hess

Donald and Joanna Stevens Ernest Petersen and Ruth Steffes



CERTIFIED SQUARE DANCE TEACHERS

im Wass, Chairman of the CALLERLAB Accreditation Committee, is pleased to announce that applications are being accepted for certification under CALLERLAB's new Certified Square Dance Teacher (CSDT) program. The CSDT program is a voluntary program, provided as a member service of CALLERLAB. It is intended to provide a credential to callers who are square dance teachers.

The program focuses on teaching beginners and seeks to provide a credential that can be recognized by educational and recreational institutions as well as our square dance community. The CSDT program evaluates education, experience, knowledge, and skill as pertaining to square dance teaching. CALLERLAB members with over five years calling experience, who are actively calling and teaching, and have completed caller training are eligible. Applicants evaluated as meeting the eligibility requirements will participate in written and oral examinations.

The CSDT program is provided as a member service of CALLERLAB, square dancing's professional leadership. Anyone desiring more information about the CSDT program may phone CALLERLAB at 321-639-0039 or write to CALLERLAB, 467 Forrest Avenue, Suite 118, Cocoa, Florida 32922, or email CALLERLAB@aol.com or CSDTProgram@aol.com.

INTERNET VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

im Hensley, Marketing Director of The Foundation, is looking for volunteers to conduct searches of the Internet to find and retrieve Market Research studies which may be used to support the research being done by The Foundation. This task will require access to the Internet. Volunteers will search the Internet to identify Market Research studies from educational institutions, businesses, research companies, marketing associations, and other organizations or associations which have gathered market research data. Jim has determined there is a tremendous amount of data available, now the challenge is to find and identify it, retrieve the data, and use it to support the *Phoenix Plan*.

If you would like more information or would like to volunteer, contact the Home Office.



OFFICE HOURS EXPANDED

e are pleased to announce that the office hours for the Home Office will be expanded, effective September 11, 2000. The new office hours will be 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM, Eastern Time, Monday thru Friday. The Home Office Staff stands ready to provide whatever support we can.



AFFILIATED CALLER ASSOCIATIONS

ny recognized caller association may "join" CALLERLAB as an "Affiliated Association" in order to secure benefits for the association and its members.

Affiliated associations receive the CALLERLAB newsletter, *DIRECTION*, along with press releases and other announcements sent to all CALLERLAB members. They may also purchase all the same booklets, and materials available to CALLERLAB members.

Affiliated associations are eligible for an Education Grant of up to \$150 per day (to a maximum of \$450) to help them contract an Accredited Caller-Coach to conduct a clinic or seminar for local callers.

The association may also purchase liability insurance to protect the association and its officers during association sponsored events. The annual rate for this insurance is only \$25.00.

Once an association has purchased the liability insurance, any association member (caller) who is not a CALLERLAB member, may also enroll under the CALLERLAB group liability and accident insurance policy for \$15 per year.

Affiliated organizations are expected to subscribe to the CALLERLAB Code of Ethics and otherwise support CALLERLAB policies and recommendations.

Is your association a member? Why not? The low cost of membership and the \$25 insurance package is one of the best bargains in square dancing. For complete details, contact the Home Office.

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The following 47 callers' association are currently affiliated with CALLERLAB:

Birmingham Area Callers Assn.

Calgary Callers Assn.

Callers Association of Modesto Area

Callers Chnic (SW Ontario S&R Dance)

Callers Society of Denmark

Canadian Western Dance Instructors Assn.

Central Ohio Callers Assn.

Country Dance & Song Society

Czechoslovak Callers & Teachers Assn.

Denver Area Callers & Cuers Assn.

East Texas Callers Assn.

Edmonton & District Callers & Instructors

European Callers and Teachers Assoc.

Federation of Lake County Area Callers

Illinois Square Dance Callers Assn.

Indiana Square Dance Callers Assn. Inc.

Ka Mo Callers and Partners

Kentucky Callers Assn.

Lloyd Shaw Foundation

Metrolina Callers Assn.

Miami Valley Callers Assn.

Minnesota Square Dance Callers Assn.

Nagoya Callers Assn.

Narragansett Callers Association

New Style Callers Assn.

New Zealand Callers & Cuers Assn. Inc.

North Alabama SD Callers Assn.

North Texas Callers Assn.

Nova Scotia S&RD Teachers (ANSSRDT)

Old Colony Callers Association

Omaha Area Callers & Cuers Association

Orange County Callers Association

Peoria Area Callers & Instructors Inc.

Square Dance Callers Assn of the Sacramento Valley

Square Dance Callers Assn. Of Northern California

Square Dance Leaders of the Baltimore Area, Inc.

Santa Clara Valley S/D Callers Assn.

Square Dance Callers of Great Britain

Texas State Callers Assn.

Toledo Area Western Dance Leaders Assn.

Toronto & District Square & Round Dance Assn.

Tri-State Callers Assn.

Tulsa Area Callers and Teachers Assn. (TACT)

Upper Vancouver Island Callers & Teachers Assn.

Vancouver & District Callers & Teachers Assn.

Victoria & District Caller Teacher Assn.

Wolf River Area Callers Assn.



OFFICE CLOSING

he Home Office will be closed Monday,
September 4th and Tuesday, September
5th for the Labor Day hohday. We will
be back in the office on September 6th.
Enjoy your hohday!

"Did You Know?"

ere are some interesting facts we thought you might be interested in:

1. Only 11 of the 25 members of the Board Of Governors are full time callers?

- 2. 15 Board Members were first elected after 1994?
- 3. Four Board Members were first elected in 1998?
- 4. Members may apply for a one year waiver of convention attendance?
- 5. No Mainstream calls have been added since 1990?
- 6. CALLERLAB awards scholarships to caller colleges; there is nearly \$4000.00 available?
- 7. Jerry Reed is the Executive Director of CALLERLAB?
- 8. The new home office address is:

467 Forrest Avenue

Suite 118

Cocoa, FL 32922

- 9. The new home office phone number is: (321) 639-0039
- 10. CALLERLAB is on the web at: www.CALLERLAB.org

ELECTRONIC DIRECTION

he Home Office, in conjunction with the Web Site Committee, is investigating the methods and procedures which will allow us to implement electronic distribution of DIRECTION. In order to prepare for this, we need to know how many members would prefer to receive the newsletter electronically. An obvious requirement is for members receiving DIRECTION electronically to have an e-mail address and access to the Internet.

Any Member who would prefer to receive DIRECTION electronically must submit an email request to <u>CALLERLAB@aol.com</u> no later than November 30, 2000. <u>REQUESTS BY ANY OTHER MEANS WILL NOT BE ACKNOWLEDGED NOR ACCEPTED.</u> We do not have an estimate of when we will be able to implement this plan, however, all members who respond by email will be informed when to expect implementation.

EQUIPMENT INSURANCE AVAILABLE

id you know that CALLERLAB members can purchase affordable equipment insurance through the same company that provides our group liability coverage?

Most homeowners' policies do <u>not</u> cover your square dance equipment once you take it from your home to call a square dance. We know of several callers who have had equipment stolen and found out too late that it was not covered by their homeowners policy.

We urge you to check with your insurance agent about coverage and cost. We think you'll find our insurance to be the best insurance bargain around. If you have any questions about this CALLERLAB benefit, call our Insurance Administrator at 1-800-323-2106, extension 229, for complete information or contact the Home Office for a brochure.

Opinions expressed in letters or articles from our members are those of the writers and do not necessarily reflect those of CALLERLAB, nor the editor

The Editor reserves the right to condense, omit, or re-write all or any part of material submitted to CALLERLAB for publication.

FROM OUR MEMBERS

THANK YOU

From Gail & John Swindle

s many of your know, our son, Barry, was critically injured in an auto accident April 18, 2000. John and I flew to Atlanta from the CALLERLAB convention not knowing whether he would be alive when we arrived. It has been rough on all of us with John & I living in Florida and Barry & his wife, Kim, living near Atlanta. However, we have had a wonderful support system, friends, family and most of all God. Barry is one of many living, breathing Miracles and we all know only God can create a miracle. Barry also has a wonderful and attentive wife who has been through a lot and with God's help has brought him to where he is today. John and I would like to thank all our many square, round dance and caller friends who have given our family the emotional and spiritual support that we needed in our time of crisis. On August 1 Barry was 34 and on August 3 he went home. Of course he has many more hours of therapy, but with Kim's continued love and support and with the continued prayers from all our friends, hopefully, he will continue to heal mentally, emotionally and physically. Again, thank you from the depths of our hearts and souls and may God richly bless each of you.

Bowling Alone

A book report by Jim Mayo

ocial capital is the central topic of a book published early in the year 2000. The book, Bowling Alone, was written by Robert D. Putnam who is a Professor of Public Policy at Harvard University. The core idea of social capital is that social networks have value. Physical capital is the facilities and equipment that improve productivity. Human capital is the education and training that make people more effective. Social capital has that same kind of value. It refers to the "connections among individuals - social networks and the norms of reciprocity and trustworthiness that arise from them." Strong connections and trust allow people to resolve collective problems more easily. Social capital also "greases the wheels that allow communities to advance smoothly. Where people are trusting and trustworthy ---- everyday business and social transactions are less costly."

In the book Prof. Putnam presents information that answers many of the questions that square dance leaders have been asking for the last fifteen or twenty years. We have wondered why the participation in square dance clubs has been dropping steadily throughout that period. The book presents astoundingly detailed and thorough research with explanations and examples that make it easy to understand. Although square dancing is not specifically included in any of the research, it is clear that square dancing is no different from any of the other social activities that are discussed in detail. The course of membership in square dance clubs has followed a pattern over the last fifty years that is very closely duplicated by every participatory membership organization in the United States.

World War II resulted in a massive outpouring of patriotism and collective solidarity. At war's end those energies were redirected into community life. The two decades following the war saw a vigorous growth in membership which included every type of organization from the Grange and Elks to 4-H, Boy Scouts and PTA's. By the late 1950's, on average, these membership rates began to plateau. They peaked in the late 1960's or early 1970's and then began a decline that, again on average, cut the membership in half by the end of the century. This is a membership pattern familiar to all of us. After establishing that the pattern was, indeed, universal, Prof. Putnam asks "Why, beginning in the 1960's and 1970's and accelerating in the 1980's and 1990's, did the fabric of American community life begin to unravel?

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With careful and meticulous analysis the book explores many of the "obvious" candidates for the cause of this shrinkage in participation. These include time and money pressures, mobility and urban sprawl, technology and mass media and an additional category called generational differences. Although each of these elements contributes a share, the most striking factor is the last. By reassessing a huge body of research conducted over the past half century the impact of differences between generations can be separated. In the professor's words: "By any standard, these intergenerational differences are extraordinary. Controlling for educational disparities, members of the generation born in the 1920's belong to almost twice as many civic associations as do members of the generation of their grandchildren born in the late 1960's. --- The grandparents are more than twice as likely to trust other people as the grandchildren are. --- They vote at nearly double the rate of the most recent [generation of adults.] --- And well-established life cycle patterns give little reason to expect that the youngest generation will ever come to match their grandparents' levels of civic engagement."

We, in square dancing, began to detect signs of slow-down in our recruiting success sometime in the early 1980's. Bill Peters, at about that time, was the first that I heard voice the view that "We have been recruiting from the same generation since the beginning of Modern Western Square Dancing." In my experience this book is the very first "outside" confirmation of the truth of that observation. By far the majority of square dance club members were born before WWII. Bowling Alone makes it perfectly clear that the pattern of joining and belonging to groups like our square dance clubs changes substantially as we move from that generation to the baby boomers and the X generation.

Reading this book has made a very substantial impact on my thinking about the past and the future of modern western square dancing - and probably of traditional square dancing as well. I have worked and studied for at least two decades to try to understand how the changes that we have made caused the decline in participation. This book has made clear to me that our changes had a very moderate impact on our ability to maintain the popularity of our activity. The bulk of the decline resulted from the generational differences and a general decline in participation in groups such as ours. I will now give up trying to find out what we did wrong - and trying to fix it in the hope that the fix will restore the popularity we once had. I now understand that the challenge facing us is to find ways to compete more effectively in a shrinking marketplace. We may also have to learn from past mistakes but without the sense that they have caused the problems we face.

Professor Putnam does not leave us without suggesting a course of action to correct what he believes is a serious deficiency in our society. He suggests several goals for the next decade. Some of them fall within the reach of our activity. He asks us to find ways to increase the access to social capital for those coming of age during the next ten years. Making square dancing more successful could be a huge step toward that goal. He urges us to "find ways to ensure that by 2010 Americans will spend less leisure time sitting passively alone in front of glowing screens and more time in active communication with our fellow citizens." Square dancing is a wonderful alternative leisure time recreation with no glowing screens in sight. Finally he urges "Let us find ways to ensure that by 2010 significantly more Americans will participate in (not merely consume or appreciate') cultural activities from group dancing to songfests to community theater to rap festivals." Clearly we have a common interest.

We have known - even before we knew the term - that square dancing is a wonderful way to build social capital. It brings together people from all walks of life into a cooperative, usually community-based, group. We have all seen the strength of the sense of belonging and genuine lifelong friendships that are created in square dancing. We now have an advocate to tell us with overwhelming evidence how important are these contributions to the health and strength of our society. Square dancing is not only fun, it is also a valuable gift that we can give to all who take part and to the communities where we live. Let us redouble our efforts to make the joy we know available to our neighbors.

Included in the research data showing a steady decline in community participation over the generations is a bright sliver of hope. The data show that the newest generation is a bit more likely to volunteer in programs that benefit the community than folks in the previous generation. Whether or not there is a change in this trend, it seems clear to me that one place where we in the square dance world might focus some energy is with that next generation. We have the time and the talent to share the fun of square dancing with young folks at every level of school. Learning to square dance is an investment in social capital. The earlier we teach the values of working and playing together the more likely we are to reinforce the appreciation of social capital. We can do well for square dancing while doing good for the community.

(Editors Note: I too have found this to be a fascinating book, especially in light of the Market Research being conducted as part of Phase One of the Phoenix Plan)

CANDIDATES FOR THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS



MILT FLOYD, Minneapolis, MN began dancing in 1983 with the Honeywheelers square dance club. While going through lessons and learning to dance I became intrigued with the way the moves worked. I spent a considerable amount of time talking with the caller and asking questions about the hows and whys. At my first state convention in 1984, I attended a seminar titled "So You Want To Be A Caller?" After the convention I contacted my caller and asked her if she would be willing to work with me. She said yes, and the journey began. In August of 1984 I attended a caller school in Estes Park, Colorado, under the tutelage of Frank Lane. In January of 1985, I called my first dance.

I currently am the club caller for two Mainstream clubs, one Plus club and have an Advance group. I teach Basic & Mainstream on Monday nights using the Multi-Cycle Dance Program that I developed. This club dances year-round and we start new dancers 4 times each year. We average about 20 new dancers each session. On Tuesdays I teach Plus and call Plus workshops. On Wednesdays I teach Mainstream to a blind club. On Thursdays, my wife CJ and I, teach Round Dancing. On Sundays I teach Advance. Most Friday and Saturdays I call dances from Basic through A2 throughout Minnesota, Wisconsin, Iowa, Illinois and other states. I record on Silver Streak Records and have had success with several of my releases.

I am currently on the Mainstream, Plus, Plus QS, R & D, and Website committees for CALLERLAB. If elected to the CALLERLAB BOG I will strive to serve the members to the best of my abilities. I am a strong advocate of the Mainstream program and will work to develop it according to the plan unveiled at Las Vegas. If we don't bring new dancers into the activity and provide them with a program to dance to, eventually, we will all be out of a job. I am also a firm believer in technology. I believe we need to use the Internet for promotion and advertising. I believe we need to embrace the new technologies in the music industry and work toward making them more accessible to the callers who want them. I feel we need to continually analyze our image and the way the public perceives our activity. I feel we need to evolve and continue evolving if we want to continue to grow.

Your vote will be greatly appreciated.



BETSY GOTTA, North Brunswick, NJ, has served previously for 12 years on the Board of Governors and after a year off would like to serve again.

Betsy has been square dancing for 47 years and calling for 38 years. She has called for beginner dances, Mainstream through C-2A and Contra. In her career, has taught over 50 sets of beginner lessons, as well as teaching Plus, Advanced and Challenge lessons/workshops. She has also taught callers and has earned accreditation as a CALLERLAB Caller Coach. Currently calling about 240 night per year. She has also worked on the New Jersey State Convention, 3 National Conventions, and local events. She is a charter member of the local caller's association, CCNJ and member of the Gay Callers Association. Her husband Roy cues rounds. They are members of Legacy(former Executive Committee and Board of Directors) and ROUNDALAB.

Since retiring from her day job as supervisor at the Middlesex County Board of Social Service, she will have more time to devote to being a member of the Board of Governors. Betsy thinks Modern Western Square Dancing is a good wholesome activity, which has a place in the society of the future. We need to focus on the positive aspects of the activity, and move to relate to the current trends in society. We, the members of CALLERLAB, need to follow up on the marketing effort, and to reach out to those people who might commit to learning the vocabulary of the club square dance activity. She will work hard for CALLERLAB whether elected, or she will continue as a regular member of the association.



MIKE JACOBS, Flemington, New Jersey, started dancing in 1962, calling in 1971, going full time in 1979. He has lived in the Washington, DC area since 1987 and has just recently relocated to New Jersey. He calls Mainstream through C-4, and travels nationally and overseas. Mike has been a member of CALLERLAB since 1976, working on many committees and panels. He has chaired both subcommittees on the Advanced Teaching Order, the Membership Committee, the Career Callers Committee, the Advanced Quarterly Selection Committee and is an Accredited Caller Coach.

He was elected to the Board in 1995, has served on the last two Executive Committees and is the current Vice Chairman of the Board. "I believe square dancing and CALLERLAB are at a crossroads. No matter what road we decide to take, it is our execution of those decisions that will make or break us and our activity. The implementation of our new marketing plans are just a first step in revitalizing our activity. We must prepare for the effects that the introduction of a new group of dancers will bring to the activity and more importantly, the maintenance and support of these new dancers. I feel I can help plan for our future by working with the Board of Governors."



STEVE JACQUES, Pasadena, MD called his first square dance in Boston in 1967. He now lives in Baltimore where he calls Mainstream through Advanced for a full dance and workshop program for five home clubs. He is an accredited member of CALLERLAB and the current president of SDLBA.

If elected to the Board of Governors, Steve's goal is to begin a movement to change the attitudes of those involved in square dancing. He would like to see our activity go back to the basics and fundamentals of working as a team; both as a team of experienced callers and helping new callers develop their talents. He would like to accomplish this by being more visible and accessible to the new callers for help and by incorporating more education into the CALLLERLAB Convention. More than attending the same meetings, our new callers need training, education, and know-how if they, and square dancing, are going to survive.



VERNON JONES, Pooleville, Texas, lives with his wife Kayla and two daughters Amber and Lindsay. He started square dancing in 1972 and began calling in 1978. He calls regularly for Graham Promenaders in Graham, TX along with numerous dances filling up virtually every weekend through out the year. When not calling he is employed at Weldon Contractors in Arlington, TX as Director of Service. He joined CALLERLAB in 1980 and is currently Chairman of the Callers Association Liaison Committee as well as being a member of the Mainstream Committee and The Foundation Fund-raising Committee. He belongs to the Texas State Callers Association and the North Texas Callers Association and has served the association as Bylaws Review Committee Chairman and Vice President and President. Vernon has recorded on Blue Star Records, Global Records and currently for Alliance Records. He asks for your vote as he "wants to represent the members of CALLERLAB."



JERRY JUNCK, Wayne, Nebraska began square dancing in 1965. He started calling a year later, while still in high school. For the next 20 years, he was the club caller for a number of clubs in northeast Nebraska and traveled as much as his farming operation would allow. The spring of 1986 brought with it the decision to devote full time to calling square dances.

An accredited member of CALLERLAB since 1976, he has served as chairman of both the Rural Area Considerations Committee and the CALLERLAB Foundation. He was a member of the Board of Governors for nine years, having served on the Executive Committee six of those years. Jerry was Chairman of the organization in 1997 and 1998.

Jerry firmly believes in the development of new callers and the continuing education of established callers. He is co-author of a new book on choreography called, "Standard Choreography". Designed with the newer caller in mind, it provides examples of danceable choreography from standard formations to assist in teaching new dancers. As an accredited CALLERLAB coach, Jerry conducts caller schools and seminars around the country and is a permanent staff member of the Heart of America Caller's School in Kansas City, Missouri each summer.

During the winter months, Jerry and his wife, Sharon, make their home in Mesa, Arizona, where he is the resident caller for three travel trailer parks. While there, he maintains a complete program of square dancing from Beginners through A-2.

Jerry records for Chinook Records and has been the featured caller at many festivals and weekends around the country. Traveling extensively during the summer months, he thoroughly enjoys the traveling side of calling and the many friends he has made throughout the activity. He takes special pride in calling smooth, flowing choreography with the basic philosophy that......"SQUARE DANCING SHOULD BE FUN".



MARTIN MALLARD and Terry Mallard, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan. They have been active in square and round dancing and the training of callers for 46 years. During those years both worked full time and called 5 nights a week. Now retired, they still call 5 to 6 nights a week. Their current clubs are clubs they started, ranging in age from 39 to 46 years. They have been active members of CALLERLAB since 1975. Have attended all the CALLERLAB Conventions and served on the CALLERLAB Board of Governors since 1983. Served as Mainstream Chairman and are members of several committees. Martin is presently Chairman of the Caller-Coach Committee. They have taught classes for beginners each year, and for the last 10 years have taught classes for Plus and A-1. Both are very active in their Local, Provincial and National Square Dance organizations. They are currently—Vice President of the Canadian-Square and Round Dance.

In 1991 Martin obtained his accreditation as a Caller-Coach. In 1994 Martin was awarded the Milestone by CALLERLAB. Their concern is the recruitment and training of new dancers and callers and the retention of them. These people are the future of our great activity. Their belief that CALLERLAB is the only organization that can lead Square dancing into the future. As a full time club caller it would be a privilege to represent you on the Board.



TONY OXENDINE, Sumter, SC has been a member of CALLERLAB since 1978. He has served on the Board of Governors and the Executive Committee. He has served two terms as Vice Chairman and two terms as Chairman of the Board of Governors. He was instrumental in starting up the 'God Bless the USA' project that has generated tens of thousands of dollars for the Foundation. At the 2000 CALLERLAB Convention in Las Vegas, Tony was presented with the CALLERLAB Milestone Award.

Tony is an Accredited Caller Coach, conducting schools and clinics in the US as well as abroad. He is also a full time caller, routinely traveling well over 150,000 miles annually. He has called in over 45 states and in numerous foreign countries. Because of this extensive traveling, and the "one on one" interaction with callers at the various schools and clinics, Tony has developed a unique perspective into many of the problems that callers (as well as dancers) face.

If reelected to the Board, Tony promises to work hard for the good of the organization and for the membership.



ROBERT (BOB) RIGGS, Englewood, Colorado began calling in 1975. Bob is serving as Vice-Chairman of the Community Dance Program committee and has participated in Mainstream committee, Plus committee and RPM committee activities. As a professional caller and teacher, he has conducted seminars for CALLERLAB, on Non-Dancer Parties and Community Dances and been the caller/cuer for the same club for the past seventeen years. Bob's work for Burnstand, Inc. takes him all over the US providing a broad experience with the culture and the people of this country.

As a member of CALLERLAB since 1985, the Lloyd Shaw Foundation since 1989, the Denver Area Callers and Cuers Association since 1983 and an affiliate member of Legacy since 1992, Bob brings a diverse experience in local, regional and national leadership of the square dance activity. Teaching and dance entertainment are his specialty whether the forum is a dance party, a square dance or a dance convention. Bob and his wife Allynn are co-directors of the Lloyd Shaw Foundations' Rocky Mountain Dance Roundup, which features, Squares, Contra, Rounds, Ballroom, etc.

CALLERLAB's role is that of leader capable of making the tough decisions. Bob would very much appreciate the opportunity to bring his experience with dance diversity and local and regional activities to the Board of Governors. The leadership of CALLERLAB will be a primary factor in the continued evolution of dance in American Society.



TOM RUDEBOCK, Leetonia, Ohio, called for his first square dance while still a freshman in high school. He has been calling for 40 years, party nights through the Advanced program. He travels on weekends and has called in 11 states. One of his most rewarding experiences was to teach and call for 4-H Club members for several years. He has served on panels at the last 4 National Square Dance Conventions and records on the RAWHIDE Square Dance Label. He is currently serving as treasurer for the Ohio Square Dance Convention in 2002. He has a very active local program, currently teaching "new dancer" classes for three clubs, and calling club dances on weekends, averaging 200 dates per year. In 1995 he was selected 'Honor' Caller of the Year by the Akron (OH) Square and Round Dance Federation. Tom has served his local community in the past as a 12 year member of the local school board and a 21 year member of the Columbiana County Fair Board. Tom enjoys calling for its opportunity to bring enjoyment and fellowship to other dancers. He enjoys the challenge of calling a dance filled with FUN and with smooth flowing and interesting choreography. He is very interested in dancer recruitment and retention and the desire of clubs to get "new dancers" active sooner. He is very much in favor of a national marketing campaign. Tom is currently serving as vice chairman of the CALLERLAB Resolutions Committee and would welcome the opportunity to represent his fellow callers on the Board of Governors.











LLOYD "SPARKY" SPARKS, LaGrange, KY began dancing and calling in 1978; joined CALLERLAB when eligible but dropped out the next year. He felt CALLERLAB was not serving the square dance community as it advertised. However, he still used CALLERLAB's list and definitions to call and teach. I was critical of CALLERLAB, its members and services. Finally I was convinced that I could not effect change from outside the organization. I rejoined and am now trying to be as active as possible. I have not held any offices or chaired any committees, I have been very active in the Advanced and Challenge Committees.

As CALLERLAB has developed it seems that the management is turning into a who's who in the calling world. It is very hard for a "no Name" caller to achieve enough votes to reach the Board.

We are now embarking on several programs that will greatly affect this activity. I do not want this to happen without a voice on the Board speaking for the average caller. Yes, I have called in the US and Europe, but I still operate a business and I am still an average person.

JERRY STORY, Mission, Texas, began his calling career in 1970 at the age of fifteen. Upon finishing high school, Jerry went on the road full-time calling dances throughout the United States. He has called in a dozen different countries and does annual weekends in Japan, Germany, Sweden, and England. He feels because of his extensive traveling he can offer insight to square dancing from much of the world.

For the past fifteeu years Jerry has resided in Mission, with his wife Kristy of 20 years and sons Joshua and Jacob. They run a winter square dance program consisting of 9-12 sessions weekly. He calls for beginners and up through C-1 which gives him awareness of the different levels. Jerry helped establish the McAllen RGV Callers' Association which he has participated in for ten years. Their main focus is beginner classes.

He has been a member of CALLERLAB since 1976 and was Chairman of the Alternative Dance Program Committee last year. Jerry is tremendously dedicated to the preservation of the art of square dance calling and the square dance activity. He would very much appreciate the opportunity to bring his perspective as a full-time caller for over twenty-five years to the Board of Governors. If elected, he will have the chance to give back to the activity which has been so good to him through the years.

JOHN SWINDLE, Melbourne, Florida, began calling in 1969. He has been a member of CALLERLAB since 1975 and has attended eight conventions. He has called for numerous clubs from Mainstream to A2. He is now retired from The Georgia Power Company and calling and traveling full time.

John has been a member of CALLERLAB for 25 years and now that he is retired from his day job would like to become more involved. He has been in the square dance activity for 50 years. He has no answers but would like to have the opportunity to help with finding answers to some of the questions that plague the square dance activity and CALLERLAB today.

JOHN SABALSKY, San Jose, California, has been calling since 1973, teaching beginners and calling for clubs and workshops in New England and California. He also travels a bit in the US and Europe. He joined CALLERLAB in 1979; ever since then, he's been active in efforts to standardize definitions, to accredit callers and teachers of beginning dancers, and to educate ourselves. You may have attended one of the Convention panels he has helped run over the years, covering topics like body flow and controlling difficulty.

CALLERLAB is a group of caring people, committed to making the square dance world better. We work best when we're sure that we all share that vision, and when our caring and commitment are reflected in how the organization works. During my term on the Board, I've worked to make that happen; the new by-laws that I helped draft bring back real, binding votes at our Convention, while making it easier for members who can't travel easily to demonstrate their commitment to our ideals and stay active in decision-making. I've championed greater openness on the Board--not because the Board is doing ill, but because all members need to SEE how much good the Board does. As a Board member, I've been guided by what members have told me they wanted. I look forward to continuing my work on the Board, and I ask that you tell me what YOU want the organization to be.

JIM WASS, Riverdale, Maryland, first square danced in 1961. He began calling in 1989 and with his wife Ann created a caller-run program the next year. He now calls regularly for two Mainstream clubs in the Washington, D.C. area and does some traveling in the region. He also calls for a developmentally disabled group and has done work in local schools.

Jim joined CALLERLAB as an apprentice in 1989 and attended his first convention in 1992. Jim has served on the Education, Training, and Recruit-Promote-Maintain committees. He has chaired the Accreditation Committee for four years and has guided it toward a certification program for callers who are square dance teachers. This program is being pilot tested this year.

Jim's day job takes considerable time away from square dance calling. His work in business process reengineering and computer consulting gives him a perspective on business improvement that can benefit CALLERLAB. Jim is particularly interested in new dancer recruiting and caller training and would like to promote efforts in these areas and pursue the interests of callers and dancers everywhere through service on the CALLERLAB Board of Governors.





BOARD OF GOVERNORS PROGRAM POLICY

Revised January 4, 2000

It is CALLERLAB's objective to establish and maintain modern western square dance programs. This policy is established in order to achieve that objective.

- 1. CALLERLAB identifies, names, populates and manages modern western square dance programs.
- 2. Dance programs are listed in the order dancers learn them. The first dance program is the entry program designed for dancers who first enter into modern western square dancing. Currently, the CALLERLAB dance programs and their respective abbreviations are:

a. Mainstream	MS
b. Plus	PL
c. Advanced 1	Al
d. Advanced 2	A2
e. Challenge 1	C1
f. Challenge 2	C2
g. Challenge 3A	C3A

- 3. Dance program content includes a list of calls, respective call definitions, usage rules, concepts, and glossary terms.
- 4. Each dance program contains calls and other content from all prior programs.
- 5. Callers are required to teach dance programs completely and thoroughly. Dancers are expected to learn the dance programs in the listed order.
- 6. A CALLERLAB Standing Committee manages one or more dance programs. Currently, the dance programs are managed by the following committees:

a. Mainstream Committee	MS
b. Plus Committee	PL
c. Advanced Committee	A1 and A2
d. Challenge Committee	C1, C2 and C3A

- 7. Dance programs are updated every 2 years. Changes shall be slow and deliberate.
- 8. Each dance program through Advanced shall have a suggested teaching order developed by the respective dance program committee.
- 9. Each dance program shall contain only as many calls as can be comfortably taught to dancers in a single teaching season. Dance programs shall be neither too large, nor too small in this regard. The definition of a teaching season for a given dance program shall be determined by that dance program's committee.



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE August 2000





CALLERLAB REVISED PROGRAM POLICY

During the recent CALLERLAB convention a Revised Board Of Governors Program Policy was presented, discussed, and approved by the membership. During the convention Program Policy Committee (PPC) Chairman, Kip Garvey, introduced the revised policy during the opening session, moderated an interest session to discuss the policy, and chaired a committee meeting. All of this was designed to provide convention attendees with an opportunity to learn about the revised policy, discuss it, and understand it. During the Annual Meeting, Committee Chairman Garvey presented a motion and discussion of the revised policy. The Revised program Policy was approved, following debate both for and against the issue. The motion to approve the updated Program Policy Statement also included a directive to the Board of Governors to implement the updated Program Policy Statement. In accordance with the bylaws, the approved motion was sent to all voting members for a mail vote to rescind the motion. Return of at least 1/3 of the ballots is required to establish a quorum. Less than 20% of the ballots were returned, therefore, the vote at the convention stands approved.

This revision was the result of many months work by the Program Policy Committee and the Board Of Governors. In 1998 the Board Of Governors (BOG) directed the PPC to review CALLERLAB's current program policy. The committee found the current policy to be vague, contradictory, and inadequate. The committee worked for two years on a revision to that policy and determined that the membership desires dance programs which are standardized, contemporary, and stable. The committee further determined that the membership desires a long range plan for the maintenance of the dance programs. The committee also determined that the membership desires that maintenance of CALLERLAB's dance programs will be done by the appropriate dance program committee (Mainstream, Plus, Advanced, and Challenge).

Currently, at the request of the Board of Governors, the Program Policy Committee is drafting a set of directives that, when finished, will be given to the program chairpersons of each dance program committee. The directives will set guidelines for implementation of the Revised Program Policy, and will set the stage for possible modification of our dance programs into the near and distant future in compliance with the majority opinion of the membership.



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



DRESS CODE CALLERLAB Position Paper (December 1999)

During the 2000 CALLERLAB convention in Las Vegas, NV a Position Paper on a proposed dress code was presented to the membership for a vote. This Position Paper was approved by the convention attendees. The vote to approve the Position Paper was not rescinded by the membership during a mail ballot on this issue. The following is that Position Paper.

For many years now square dance leaders have debated the issue of square dancing attire. In 1991 LEGACY adopted a resolution to update the dress code and provide guidance and flexibility in the choices of dress and skirt style. The resolution considered square dance image problems, general preference for more comfort in recreational wear and the high cost of square dance attire as primary reasons for change. The National Council of Square Dance Organizations (NCSDO) has proposed modifying the definition of square dance attire and presented this proposal for consideration. Many organizations have been debating this issue and there seems to be strong sentiment on each side. The CALLERLAB Board of Governors has debated the issue and realizes that there exists a great potential for dividing dancers by mandating a more relaxed square dance attire to all participants and events. Therefore, CALLERLAB recommends the following compromise to the issue of square dance attire:

Whereas, "traditional" square dance attire provides a connection to the history of our activity, adds to the visual enjoyment of participants and spectators, enhances individual dancer styling included in individual calls, and provides for the protection and mutual comfort of dancers (i.e., shoes, long sleeved shirts, etc.), we support the choice of dancers, clubs and festivals selecting "traditional" as appropriate attire.

Whereas, traditional attire can at times be an inconvenience to dancers, and even deter people from joining and/or participating altogether, we support the choice of dancers, clubs and festivals selecting the NCSDO proposal of "proper" square dance attire, which would include dress slacks and dress jeans for men and women and short sleeved dress shirts for men. It should be noted that even if an event is advertised as "proper" attire, "traditional" attire is always appropriate.

Whereas, proper attire may allow for a myriad of choices, there may be times when traveling, weather and other conditions would discourage dancers from following either traditional or proper dress codes. In that event, leaders are encouraged to advertise those dances/sessions/festivals, etc. as "casual" attire. It should be noted that if an event is advertised as "casual" attire, "traditional" and "proper" attire are always appropriate.

We encourage clubs and leaders who run dances and weekend festivals to specify "traditional attire," "proper attire," or "casual attire" to their individual dances, sessions and events. We further support a policy of tolerance and encourage all square dance leaders and participants to embrace the joys of friendship, sociability, and fun, first and foremost in whatever extent of participation they enjoy.

****** E N D *******

We thank you for the coverage you have given us in the past and for your continued support in the future.



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 2000



********* S T A R T *******

PHOENIX PLAN Research Results Are A STRPRISM!

CALLERLAB, through its Foundation, has completed the analysis of its initial research study. It was conducted as a 'first step' of, The Phoenix Plan, a new marketing program. And the 'findings' were surprisingly pleasant! The survey, conducted by StarWorks Inc, a Michigan based Research firm, under the direction of Jim Hensely, the Foundation's Marketing Director, was a preliminary study of general public opinion with the following objectives:

- -Assess the image of Square Dancing
- Explore potential for expanding interest in Square Dancing
- -Test viability of "Boomers" as a target for marketing efforts
- Identify other possible marketing targets

The nearly two thousand respondents, who were balanced geographically and demographically, were given three questions, establishing: If they had ever square danced, whether they had negative, positive or neutral opinions about it, and whether they might consider joining a square dance class.

The findings were surprisingly positive in many areas. Square dance activity is a wide open market, with less than 15% of our population ever having experienced it as an adult. The image issue was decidedly stronger than anticipated. In this study, it proved to be moderately POSITIVE, with only a small minority (12%), having a negative opinion. Most people were neutral, but a THIRD were positive. People who had contact with square dancing as an adult, were twice as likely to be positive. Experiencing the activity apparently breeds goodwill. Almost all income levels reacted the same way, with lower level incomes being twice as positive. Positioning square dancing as a 'Fun-Social-and Healthy' activity would draw one in six, to consider joining a class, with another 40% maybes.

Additional work will be needed to validate results, but this preliminary study showed the general context for square dancing as relatively favorable. There is considerable potential for expanding interest in this activity. The 'Baby Boomers' are a viable target market for square dancing. Other marketing targets should include singles, who have been married and people with lower incomes.

In August, 2000 the Foundation will began a series of Focus Group Research Studies in three cities, Charlotte NC, St Louis MO, and Portland, OR. These will be in depth, face-to-face sessions, with a professional moderator questioning a small, representative group of carefully chosen people, in detail, about their opinions and feelings. In each city we will visit with three separate groups, two who have never square danced and one group who dropped out of square dancing, after only a few lessons. Names of discontinued dancers will be obtained through local callers and club leaders. If you know of people who have dropped out of a square dance class, please send that information(name, address and telephone number) along with your name and telephone number to the CALLERLAB Office. These sessions, which are video taped and reviewed, will give everyone better insight into our problem areas.

Hopefully, other square dance organizations will want to participate in similar research studies to learn more about their individual market area. The results of our final report will be made available through the Foundation at a later date this Fall.

THE FOUNDATION 467 Forrest Ave, Suite 118 Cocoa, Florida 32922 (321)639-0039 CALLERLAB@AOL.COM

******* E N D *******

We thank you for the coverage you have given us in the past and for your continued support in the future.

THE CALLERLAB BOARD OF GOVERNORS





THE CALLERLAB MILESTONE AWARD

CONGRATULATIONS go to TONY OXENDINE, Sumter, South Carolina, the newest recipient of the CALLERLAB Milestone Award. This prestigious award was presented to Tony at the 2000 CALLERLAB convention in Las Vegas, Nevada. Tony has been deeply involved with square dancing since he first learned to dance in 1972. He entered square dance calling in 1974 when it was well developed. The techniques of club calling were well understood and widely practiced and the methods and presentations of traveling callers had become reasonably standardized. It was also just before the CALLERLAB Mainstream Program was developed. The establishment and acceptance of a standard list of calls required a new way of calling. A caller could no longer simply introduce new terms (moves) as a means of "leveling" the ability of the floor. Tony quickly realized he needed to develop presentation skills which would permit the dancers to enjoy this new style of choreography. He combined a unique presentation style and a masterry of choreography, with an uncanny sense of showmanship. Through these skills he quickly became one of the most popular festival callers. This provided other callers the opportunity to observe his many talents to bring enjoyment to the dancers. His presentation and showmanship skills had a tremendous influence on the way other callers viewed their presentations and provided them a model to follow.

In addition to his leadership on stage, Tony accepted, somewhat reluctantly, a position of organizational leadership by serving on the Board Of Governors. Later he was called upon to assume an even greater leadership role when he was elected Chairman Of The Board. This turned out to be a turbulent time for CALLERLAB and few will ever know how very important and valuable it was to have Tony as our Chairman at this critical time. His leadership and stature represented CALLERLAB most effectively during some difficult negotiations. His energy, devotion, leadership, and diplomacy were exemplary.

His professionalism, showmanship, leadership, and other talents have had a broad influence on the square dance activity, callers, and CALLERLAB. He has unselfishly devoted vast amounts of time and money toward the preservation and promotion of square dancing.

The Milestone Award is CALLERLAB's highest honor. It is presented to individuals who have met the five point criteria in the field of square dancing and been selected by representatives of the membership. This most prestigious award is presented to callers who have made significant contributions to the square dance activity.

CALLERLAB
467 Forrest Ave, Suite 118
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(321) 639-0039
E-mail: CALLERLAB@ aol.com
On the web: www.callerlab.org

******* E N D ******

We thank you for the coverage you have given us in the past and for your continued support in the future.



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 2000 ********** S T A R T ********



Decals & Raffle

During the recent CALLERLAB convention in Las Vegas CALLERLAB members Tim Crawford and Tom Miller announced a fund raising project involving Square Dance promotion. Decals were designed and manufactured for sale and include a raffle ticket for a drawing to be held next year. The decals were provided at cost by CALLERLAB member Larry Letson. Larry also generously donated the raffle tickets for this project.

The raffle is for two wonderful prizes: 1st Prize is a \$1000.00 travel voucher and 2nd prize is a \$500 Luggage set. The raffle drawing will be held at the 2001 National Square Dance Convention in Anaheim, CA in June, 2001. The raffle tickets are \$4.00 each. The decal reads: SQUARE DANCE! with a smaller message FOUNDATION PRESERVATION & PROMOTION. They are a 3 1/2 by 5 inch white with red lettering and are appropriate to be used on brief cases, books, walls, car bumpers, and many other places.

Over \$5,700 was donated to The Foundation as a result of this Decal & Raffle fund raising project during the CALLERLAB convention in Las Vegas. In addition to the donations collected at the convention many CALLERLAB members took decals home with them to sell. This has resulted in an additional \$2,000 donation to The Foundation. If all the decals are sold, over \$35,000 will have been donated to The Foundation.

If you would like more information about this very worthwhile project, contact the CALLERLAB Home Office. Phone:(321) 639-0039 or e-mail: CALLERLAB @aol.com or write to The Foundation address below.

THE FOUNDATION 467 Forrest Ave, Suite 118 Cocoa, Florida 32922

****** END ******

We thank you for the coverage you have given us in the past and for your continued support in the future.

THE CALLERLAB BOARD OF GOVERNORS



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 2000 ********* S T A R T ********



CERTIFIED SQUARE DANCE TEACHER (CSDT) PROGRAM

Jim Wass, Chairman of the CALLERLAB Accreditation Committee, is pleased to announce that applications are being accepted for certification under CALLERLAB's new Certified Square Dance Teacher (CSDT) program. The CSDT program, provided as a member service of CALLERLAB, is intended to provide a credential to callers who are square dance teachers.

This voluntary program focuses on the teaching of beginners and seeks to provide a credential that can be recognized by educational and recreational institutions as well as our square dance community. The CSDT program evaluates education, experience, knowledge, and skill as pertaining to square dance teaching. Eligibility requirements include CALLERLAB members with over five years calling experience, active calling and teaching, and completion of caller training. Applicants evaluated as meeting the eligibility requirements then participate in written and oral examinations.

The CSDT program is provided as a member service of CALLERLAB, square dancing's professional leadership. Anyone desiring more information about the CSDT program may phone CALLERLAB at 321-639-0039 or write to CALLERLAB, 467 Forrest Avenue, Suite 118, Cocoa, Florida 32922, or email CALLERLAB@aol.com or <u>CSDTProgram@aol.com</u>.

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(321) 639-0039
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On The Web: www/callerlab.org

****** E N D ******



WHAT IS CALLERLAB DOING FOR SQUARE DANCING?

CALLERLAB, an international organization of nearly 2000 square dance callers, held its first convention in 1974. However, the roots of CALLERLAB go back to the mid 1960's. CALLERLAB people have been working in many ways to help square dancing since then. To help everyone understand CALLERLAB and what it is doing, we offer this list of accomplishments.

- More than 20 years ago, CALLERLAB members developed dance programs that have been accepted world wide. These dance programs let you go anywhere in the world and dance.
- CALLERLAB members documented and negotiated international agreement on the definition of all the calls we use. For the first time ever, calls were taught the same way in California as they were in New England or old England, Germany, and everywhere else.
- CALLERLAB has printed and published thousands of pages of publications to help callers and dancers. These publications are used by dancers and callers everywhere, including the members of other square dance organizations.
- CALLERLAB members are featured in nearly all of the calling slots at the National Square Dance Convention and conduct the caller training sessions at these same conventions.
- CALLERLAB has established a Caller-Coach program to improve caller skills and thereby better serve dancers. CALLERLAB also provides a broad range of caller training sessions at its annual convention.
- When BMI & ASCAP threatened clubs in the U.S. with license fees for every dance, CALLERLAB and ROUNDALAB working together, negotiated a new form of licensing so that dance leaders could take over this obligation from the clubs.

CALLERLAB - SQUARE DANCING'S PROFESSIONAL LEADERSHIP

CALLERLAB, The International Association of Square Dance Callers 467 Forrest Ave, Suite 118, Cocoa, Florida, 32922 (321) 639-0039

SUMMARY OF THE 2000 CALLERLAB BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEETING

April 16 - 19, 2000 Riviera Hotel and Casino, Las Vegas, NV

The meeting called to order by Larry Cole, Chairman of the Board, at 2:00 PM Sunday April 16, 2000. The following Board Of governors (BOG Members were present: Gregg Anderson, Clark Baker, Doug Bennett, Calvin Campbell, Larry Cole, Tim Crawford, Larry Davenport, Randy Dougherty, Bill Harrison, Mike Jacobs, Jerry Jestin, John Kaltenthaler, Martin Mallard, Tim Marriner, John Marshall, Jim Mayo, Tom Miller, Wayne Morvent, Tony Oxendine, Deborah (Parnell) Carroll, Mike Seastrom, Nasser Shukayr, Al Stevens, John Sybalsky. The following BOG Member was excused and not present: Jerry Story.

The published agenda was presented reviewed, discussed, modified, and approved.

The following motions were presented, seconded, discussed, and voted on:

MOTION: Be it resolved that the meeting agenda be accepted as amended. MSC

MOTION: Be it resolved that John Sybalsky be appointed as Parliamentarian and Mike Jacobs be appointed Assistant Parliamentarian. <u>MSC</u>

MOTION: Be it resolved that Jerry Story be granted a waiver from attending the 2000 CALLERLAB convention. MSC

MOTION: Be it resolved that the election of the 2000/2001 Executive Committee conducted in Dallas Texas, TX in March 1999 be confirmed as follows: Chairman Larry Cole, Vice Chairman, Mike Jacobs, and members, Tony Oxendine, Tim Crawford, and Wayne Morvent. <u>MSC</u>

MOTION: Be it resolved that the current Mainstream QS and Plus QS committees be combined into a new committee named "Quarterly Selections". This new committee would operate under the current guidelines for the MSQS and PQS Committees. MSC

MOTION: Be it resolved that the Quarterly Selections Committee be disbanded. Moved, Seconded, and Not Carried

MOTION: Be it resolved that the Executive Committee review and take appropriate action for the "Report To BOG" from the following committees: Basic/Mainstream, Foundation Fund Raising, Mainstream QS, Marketing, Member Services, Program Policy. MSC

MOTION: Be it resolved that the URL for the CALLERLAB website appear wherever the CALLERLAB address is printed.

MSC

MOTION: Be it resolved that the Web Site Committee be designated as a standing committee. MSC

MOTION: Be it resolved that John Sybalsky be appointed the Web Site Committee Chairman for a one year trial period. Moved, Seconded, and not Carried

MOTION: Be it resolved that all files for the web site shall come in final form from the Web-Site Committee. They may be approved by the Executive Director, the Executive Committee, or the Board. After approval, such files shall be put up on the web site without further change.". MSC

MOTION: Be it resolved that the Web Site Committee investigate the "Work Outlook For 2000 – 2001" as described in the WEB-SITE Committee Report to the Board of Governors, dated April 19, 2000. MSC

MOTION: Be it resolved that Tim Marriner be approved as a CALLERLAB Accredited Caller-Coach. MSC

MOTION: Be it resolved that Paul Bristow be approved as a CALLERLAB Accredited Caller-Coach. MSC

MOTION: Be it resolved that the proposed email procedures in the paper titled "CALLERLAB Proposed Email procedure (Actions By The Board) Draft 5 – March 28,2000)" be approved. (MSC)

MOTION: Be it resolved that CALLERLAB members be allowed to invite non-callers to attend CALLERLAB conventions as a guest of that member. The member must attend the convention at which his/her guest is attending. Specific wording of this policy will be established by the EC and submitted to the Board for approval. (MSC)

MOTION: Be it resolved that CALLERLAB Mission Statement dated April 19, 2000 be approved. (MSC)

MOTION: Be it resolved that an Ad-Hoc committee be formed to investigate creation of a document dealing with the logical progression of difficulty through "Extended Applications". Prior to work on the document the Ad-hoc committee will make recommendations to the Board to identify the concept of the document to include: philosophy, content, and structure of the document. The Board will provide final approval of the document concept prior to creation of the document. (Moved, Seconded, Tabled)

MOTION: Be it resolved that an Ad-Hoc committee be appointed to develop the criteria and procedures for a CALLERLAB award. This award will be similar to the Milestone award, may be presented to any person living or dead who has made a significant impact on square dancing, CALLERLAB, or the calling profession. The Ad-Hoc committee will recommend a name for the award. If the award is named in honor of a person, that person will be the first recipient of the award. (Moved, Seconded, Not Carried)

(Note - Defeat of this motion, rescinds the creation of the new award in BOG LOG#0226-001)

MOTION: Be it resolved that the restriction against presenting the Milestone Award posthumously be rescinded. (MSC)

MOTION: Be it resolved that the BOG action logs for the past year be approved. <u>MSC</u> (Note – The Home Office will provide an Action Log for the EC to the BOG for review & approval)

MOTION: Be it resolved that the fiscal year-end financial report be approved for file. MSC

MOTION: Be it resolved that the ballots from the 1999 Board of Governors election be destroyed. MSC

MOTION: Be it resolved that \$1,000 be approved for Mike Jacobs to investigate re-incorporation of CALLERLAB in a state other than California. <u>MSC</u>

MOTION: Be it resolved that dangles (hanging bars) be allowed on CALLERLAB permanent badges for the following members: current and past Chairmen, current and past Vice chairmen, and current and past Board members, the dangles will be purchased by the member. (Moved Seconded, and Not Carried)

MOTION: Be it resolved that Jerry Reed be retained as Executive Director for the period April 19, 2000 through April 30, 2001. MSC

MOTION: Be it resolved that Larry Cole and Tony Oxendine represent CALLERLAB at the ROUNDALAB Convention in Baltimore, MD Jun 18-20,2000. MSC

MOTION: Be it resolved that CALLERLAB pay the expenses (lodging, and meals) of the 2000 ROUNDALAB representative. MSC

MOTION: Be it resolved that John Kaltenthaler represent CALLERLAB at the LEGACY Summit Meeting in Baltimore, MD June 22, 2000. MSC

MOTION: Be it resolved that the Board Book be adopted permanently and that the Board Member Orientation Ad-Hoc Committee be charged with providing a copy to each newest Board Member (Tim Marriner) for review. (MSC)



CALLERLAB ACCREDITED CALLER-COACHES



Emeritus

as of July 24, 2000

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** Emeritus Status

H:\Cocoa Files\APP\WP51\CLRCOACH\CALLERCOACH 2000.wpd August 8, 2000 (3:52PM)