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EMPHASIS CALLS:
MAINSTREAM:
PLUS:
FUTURE CONVENTIONS:
APR 10 - 12, 2006 Charlotte, NC
APR 2 - 4, 2007 Colorado Springs, CO
CALLERLAB OFFICE HOURS:
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800-331-2577 (business only)
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Email: CALLERLAB@aol.com.
Website: www.callerlab.org

INSURANCE QUESTIONS & CERTIFICATES

Marsh Affinity Group 800-503-9227

CALL TO CONVENTION

In accordance with the By-Laws, notice is hereby given of the Call to Convention to be held at the Renaissance Suites Hotel, Charlotte, NC on April 10-12, 2006. All Members, Life Members (Gold Card Holders), Associate Members, and Apprentice Members are cordially invited to attend. Convention invitations and registration packets were included in the November issue of *DIRECTION*. If you did not receive a packet and wish to attend the convention, please contact the Home Office at 1-800-331-2577 or E-mail John at: JohnCALLERLAB@aol.com.

The By-laws provide the following concerning matters to be voted on at the annual meeting: **Section 4. Quorum.** The quorum for any meeting of the members shall be a majority of the Voting Members present at such meeting. However, if less than one-third of the corporation's Voting Members actually attend the meeting, then the only matters that may be voted upon are those which were described generally in the notice of the meeting. The Voting Members present at a duly held meeting at which a quorum is present may continue to do business until adjournment, notwithstanding the withdrawal of enough members to leave less than a quorum.

A motion to revise the CALLERLAB Program Policy will be presented, debated, and voted on during the 2006 CALLERLAB Annual Membership meeting. The meeting will be held at 9:00AM, Wednesday, April 12, 2006 in the Renaissance Suites Hotel in Charlotte, NC.

The motion proposes to revise the CALLERLAB Program Policy by adding a dance program called Basic. The proposal calls for this Basic Program to consist of the first 53 Calls on the Mainstream Program at the time the motion is approved.

MOTION TO REVISE THE PROGRAM POLICY

A motion to revise the CALLERLAB Program Policy will be presented, debated, and voted on during the 2006 CALLERLAB Annual Membership meeting. The meeting will be held at 9:00AM, Wednesday, April 12, 2006 in the Renaissance Suites Hotel in Charlotte, NC. The motion proposes to revise the CALLERLAB Program Policy by adding a dance program

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called Basic. The proposal calls for this Basic Program to consist of the first 53 Calls on the Mainstream Program at the time the motion is approved.

The following statements, one for and one against the Motion are provided for your consideration as you review the Motion and what you believe the result of the vote on this Motion should be.

The members present at the 2006 Annual CALLERLAB business meeting will vote on this Motion. It will then be submitted to all Voting Members by regular mail for a vote. If the vote by the Voting Members during the mail ballot does not overturn the vote at the Annual Business Meeting, the vote taken at the meeting will stand.

PRO (FOR) STATEMENT

The following is a Pro Statement speaking FOR the Motion to Revise the CALLERLAB Program Policy to create a dance program called Basic:

In an attempt to provide our members with both sides of this important issue, the following is submitted in favor of returning the Basic Program to CALLERLAB's list of programs.

When CALLERLAB voted to eliminate the Basic Program it caused a language problem in Europe. Since then attempts have been made to identify that group of calls with the term Mainstream 53. This has caused problems. Callers and dancers throughout Europe have proposed to reinstate the term Basic for their own use. We fear that this could lead to various locally defined programs thus defeating the world-wide acceptance of CALLERLAB programs.

A further reason for reinstating the Basic Program is the hope that active support from a committee would encourage use of the program. The square dance community has changed considerably since the program was eliminated. We are now more aware of a need to make available a less demanding form of square dancing if we hope to increase recruitment. While there is no assurance that Basic is the "correct" program, it is one with a long history that is widely known. This motion would return responsibility for the program to the

Mainstream Committee. It is our hope and expectation that changed attitudes would encourage expanded use.

Some have suggested that restoring this program would discourage experimentation with other approaches that are being encouraged under the Program Policy Initiative (PPI). We believe that the development of alternative approaches will continue whether or not Basic is restored. Such experimentation is underway primarily in areas where Basic has had no support in the past. Restoring the program for use by those who have used it in the past will have no impact on groups, callers or areas seeking alternative ways of introducing square dancing.

CON (AGAINST) STATEMENT

The following is a Con Statement speaking AGAINST the Motion to Revise the CALLERLAB Program Policy to create a dance program called Basic:

In 2000, the CALLERLAB membership voted overwhelmingly in favor of the Program Policy. In doing so they realized that the entry program for Modern Western Square Dancing would be Mainstream and as a result, the term Basic would be dropped. Many believed at that time that the ultimate result would be a reduction in the size of the Mainstream program making it more attractive to today's busy people. To reinstate the term Basic now would be a mistake and would do absolutely nothing to solve the problems that are facing Modern Western Square Dancing today. Compared to the overall number of MWSD clubs, there were virtually no Basic clubs in existence before the term was dropped. Out of those very few clubs, none ceased dancing because the term no longer existed. The Basic program was not a preferred program before and there is no evidence that it will become a preferred program now. It is not going to make a major difference in our activity therefore we should not be reinstating now. Using the term "MS 1-53" will work and has worked in place of the term Basic. Dances and festivals used to advertise dances as Basic or some subset of Basic such as, Basic 1-25 or Basic 1-33. Now they are advertising dances as MS 1-53 or MS 1-25 and MS 1-33. In the overseas area, the reason given that Basic should be re-

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DIRECTION is the official newsletter of CALLERLAB, The International Association of Square Dance Callers, with offices located at 467 Forrest Ave., Suite 118 Cocoa, FL 32922; Phone: (321)639-0039; E-mail: CALLERLAB@aol.com. *DIRECTION* is published and mailed first class or electronically to all members and affiliates of CALLERLAB. *DIRECTION* is edited by Jerry Reed, Executive Director.

DIRECTION is computerized, therefore, it would be most helpful to have articles, reports or letters to the editor submitted on computer diskettes whenever possible. *DIRECTION* uses Corel Word Perfect 12 on a Windows based computer. Computer diskettes or CD's containing articles, reports or letters to be published should be submitted in Word Perfect. Windows based MicroSoft Word or ASCII text files are also acceptable. Please enclose a printout of the article, report or letter. Unsigned submissions will not be accepted.

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 that describe square dance formations or arrangements MUST be in accordance with CALLERLAB standards.

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stored is based on the language problem. That in countries where English is not the native language it is easier to understand the term Basic but it is hard to understand the term MS 1-53. Yet when Basic was still a term these same countries would advertise dances and festivals as Basic 1-25 or Basic 1-33 depending on where their current dance classes were in order to accommodate them. Why is Basic 1-33 easy to understand and MS 1-53 hard to understand? It doesn't make any sense. A few places throughout the world have gone against CALLERLAB recommendations and reinstated the term Basic. They have used the Program Policy Initiative (PPI) as their reasoning for doing this. The PPI encourages experiments. The PPI wants the results of these experiments reported so that all can make more informed decisions. Currently there are many of these experiments going on throughout the world. Things such as different ways to conduct classes and the learning experience. Different teaching orders for the Mainstream program, different calls and teaching orders for the current MS 1-53 list. All of these are examples of different ways of thinking. Out of all these experiments we could be able construct a dance program that is marketable and attractive to today's prospective new dancer. Reinstating the term Basic simply to reinstate a name does not represent an experiment. It is simply a return to a way and program that has already proven that it does not work and is not wanted. Reinstating Basic is the wrong move.

FROM THE CHAIR

This is my last chance to write to you as Chairman. At the conclusion of the Wednesday morning meeting of the convention, my term as your Chairman will end. Often in this final note to you, one would reflect on the past, but I'd rather give you my wish list and take a look forward.

These past two years as your Chairman have been rewarding, frustrating, eye opening, grueling, and fun, all at the same time. I experienced politics at its peak and I watched sectors of this organization accomplish an amazing amount of work.

It's true that everyone in this organization has the best intentions for the future of square dancing; it's our ideas about how to reach that common goal that differ. That difference of opinion leads to, at times, a painful pace for some, and a sense of comfort for others who find discomfort in the idea of change. Validating and legitimizing those varied ideas of how to reach that common goal has been my consistent message, and is my biggest wish!

I continue to send the same message that I have for two years. I wish those of you who have had success and those of you who have tried and failed, would volunteer your story to the Program Policy Committee so we can learn, and perhaps find, a way to guarantee the future

of square dancing. We have a procedure to hear and monitor your experiments the *Program Policy Initiative*. I believe that encouraging experimentation can lead to a solution for square dancing in the same way that companies test market products before they change their existing product. Seldom does a company hit the market with a changed product before testing it....that is all I ask: that whatever we do, we have data to support it.

In the midst of all the politics, the strong feelings, and the perceived complacency, the common thread of a desire to find a way to guarantee the future of square dancing is there. It will be this organization that leads the way, I'm sure of it, and I believe it will be found out there on the floor, not in the Boardroom of CALLERLAB. CALLERLAB'S roll will be to manage the findings, and formulate an effective delivery tool, and management of the ongoing evolution of the programs, whatever they eventually become. I hope we do just that....lead the way.

My final parting words are simple. Support that common thread of a prosperous future however you feel you need to. Be a member of CALLERLAB, and get on a committee. Be heard. Speak your piece. Be part of the solution, not part of the problem. Don't give up...it's in our hands!

Thank you for the support you've shown me over the years, but more importantly, thanks for supporting the greatest organization of Callers in the world; CALLERLAB.

MEMBERSHIP DUES

Our membership year is from April 1 through March 31 of each year. This means current memberships will expire on March 31, 2006. Dues renewal notices were mailed December 21st, 2005 to all members. If you have not received your renewal notice please contact the Home Office at 1-800-331-2577 or E-mail John at: JohnCALLERLAB@aol.com.

During the past two years we have been able to maintain the cost of membership through money saving measures. We continue to look for and to implement money saving ideas.

We look forward to another great year and stand ready to provide the very best in service to all CALLERLAB members.

Friends of the Foundation

Elmer Garrett, California
Susquehanna Swingers, Delaware
Tom & Elmer Mohny, Pennsylvania
Jon Jones and Deborah Carroll Jones, TX

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL POLICY

Unless you have already renewed for the 2006/2007 membership year, your current membership expires March 31, 2006. If you reside in the USA, your BMI/ASCAP music performance license and group liability insurance coverage also expire that day. Your membership renewal dues and fees must be received at the Home Office by March 31, 2006 to prevent an interruption in your membership. CALLERLAB membership dues for the 2006/2007 membership year are \$95.00. If you live in the USA, you will also need to pay your insurance and BMI/ASCAP fees. **On April 1, 2006, a \$10.00 late fee will be added to the dues for a total of \$105.00 in addition to any insurance or license fees.**

ELECTRONIC MAILING - THANK YOU

As we have previously announced, the Home Office has implemented electronic distribution of *DIRECTION* and other mailings. In several past issues we have asked those Members who would like to receive *DIRECTION* electronically to notify the Home Office. We are extremely pleased to announce the response has been tremendous. Nearly half the mailing is done electronically. This service not only gets the newsletter to our Members more quickly, it also provides a financial savings to the organization. We wish to say a very big THANK YOU to all Members who have agreed to receive *DIRECTION* electronically. The system has been working very well. If you would like to participate in this service please contact the Home Office (CALLERLAB@aol.com) to sign up. An obvious requirement is that you have regular access to an E-mail account and access to the Internet. If you are already receiving *DIRECTION* via E-mail, there is no need to respond. The Home Office is always looking for ways to reduce operating expenses and electronic mailing of *DIRECTION* and other mailings is an excellent cost savings measure.

Today's mighty oak is just yesterday's
nut that held it's ground.

ELECTRONIC PROCESSING - YOUR CHECKS

We are pleased to announce the Home Office is now enrolled in a system which processes incoming personal checks electronically. This system is similar to the process we use for credit card transactions and will allow us to process and clear your checks faster. You need to be aware that we are using this system and that your personal checks will be processed the day we receive your payments. This system is much more efficient than our previous practice and will help the Home Office staff to be more productive. If you have questions or concerns about this new process, please

contact the Home office (Phone 1-800-331-2577 or E-mail Gail at GailCALLERLAB@aol.com).

DISCOVER CARD (No Longer Accepting)

A year ago we contracted with Discover Card to accept Discover Card payments. During the initial period we had a very reasonable fee structure from Discover. At the end of the initial period there has been a considerable increase in the fee structure. We have not been able to negotiate a more favorable fee.

We are therefore ending our relationship with Discover Card and will not be able to accept Discover Card for payment after April 15, 2006. We are sorry for any inconvenience this may cause.

2006 CALLERLAB CONVENTION UPDATE

As of this writing, 80 callers and 40 partners have registered for the 2006 convention in Charlotte. You must register for the convention before March 19, 2006 to avoid the \$25 per person late fee. If you plan to attend, we encourage you to register NOW.

Convention invitations were mailed in November. If you did not receive an invitation, or have misplaced it, and wish to attend the convention, please contact the Home Office at 1-800-331-2577.

While the convention does not officially begin until 9:00 A.M. Monday, April 10, 2006 several activities have been planned for Saturday, April 8th and Sunday, April 9th, for those callers and partners arriving early for the convention. These activities include:

Saturday - April 8, 2006

9:00 A.M. - 6:00 P.M. Beginner Dance Party Leaders Seminar

Sunday - April 9, 2006

9:00 A.M. - Noon. Beginner Dance Party Leaders Seminar

3:00 - 5:00 P.M.. CDP Dance

6:00 - 7:00 P.M. Reception & Social Hour

8:00 - 9:00 P.M. Orientation Session

9:15 - 10:30 P.M. Talent Show

Convention registration will be open on Saturday afternoon from 1:00 to 5:00 P.M. and on Sunday from 10:00 A.M. to noon and 2:00 to 5:00 P.M. for early-bird arrivals. The registration desk will not reopen until Monday morning.

Apprentices are invited to attend the CALLERLAB Convention even though they are unable to become Active Members until they meet all of the requisite qualifications for membership. CALLERLAB members come from all 50 states, nine Canadian provinces, and from fifteen overseas countries. Delegates who attend the conventions have an opportunity to sit down and dis-

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cuss mutual concerns with others from all over the world. Many callers frequently find that what they thought was a unique problem is, indeed, shared by others. While the serious side of square dancing takes up most of the convention time, there is still time to prove the square dancing slogan, "Friendship is square dancing's greatest reward".

Charlotte is a wonderful vacation destination with many historical sites, landmarks, and outdoor activities. There is much to do in the Charlotte area which makes it a desirable vacation spot. We are looking forward to an entertaining, interesting, informative, and satisfying convention.

COME JOIN US IN Charlotte, April 10-12, 2006!

2006 DANCE PROGRAM TRIENNIAL REVIEW

The CALLERLAB Program Policy requires a review of all CALLERLAB dance programs for content every three years. This review is conducted by each applicable dance program committee and is known as the "Triennial Program Review." This review is conducted as follows: first the Mainstream Committee completes its review of the Mainstream Program, then the Plus Committee conducts its review of the Plus Program, then the Advanced Committee conducts its review, and finally the Challenge Committee conducts its review. During these reviews each program committee will review the applicable dance program to determine if any changes are required. Changes can include additions or removal of calls from the program. The committees may also decide that NO CHANGES are needed. A review of the initial work on the 2006 Program Reviews will be done at the 2006 CALLERLAB Convention in Charlotte, NC April 10-12, 2006.

The Home Office would like to remind members that ALL members, including Associate Members, who have been calling over three years are eligible to be on committees and to vote on committee business. This includes this VERY IMPORTANT Triennial Review of the dance programs. If you are interested in the content of the dance programs, PLEASE join the program committee for the program(s) you call regularly. Please be aware that you must be calling the program you wish to join. Contact the Home Office to join any of the CALLERLAB committees.

25 YEAR CERTIFICATES

Are you eligible for a 25 Year certificate in 2006? We would like to let all members know the policy and procedure in place concerning this very important and historic milestone in any caller's career. The following is the policy for presenting the 25 Year Certificates: 1) During the CALLERLAB convention the 25 Year Certificate will be presented to each member who be-

comes eligible during that year and is attending the convention, 2) Certificates will be mailed to the members who become eligible in that year but do not attend the convention, and 3) members who became eligible in previous years and are attending the convention will be acknowledged. If you believe you are eligible this year (started calling in 1980) please contact the Home Office to confirm we have the correct information in our files.

BEGINNER DANCE PARTY LEADER'S SEMINAR

At 2006 CALLERLAB CONVENTION

A Beginner Dance Party Leader's Seminar will be held on Saturday and Sunday just prior to the start of the 2006 CALLERLAB Convention in Charlotte, NC. The seminar will start at 9:00 A.M. on Saturday, April 8 and end at 1:00 P.M. on Sunday, April 9. The seminar will be held in the Renaissance Suites Hotel, Charlotte. Cost will be \$25 per leader. Spouses and/or partners will be admitted free. Checks should be made payable to CALLERLAB and sent to 467 Forrest Ave., Suite 118, Cocoa, FL 32922.

Staff members will be well respected leaders in these fields.

PROGRESSIVE VOICE TRAINING 2006 CALLERLAB CONVENTION

We are very pleased our voice coach, **Dr. Arden Hopkin**, will join us again this year in Charlotte. The first phase of the Progressive Voice Training Program was introduced at the 2004 CALLERLAB convention in Reno with phase two and three in subsequent years. There will be a certificate of completion awarded after a caller has completed all three phases. There will be specific curriculums for the general caller, for women in calling, and for caller coaches - each being designed for the specific category of caller.

INDIVIDUAL VOICE SESSIONS IN CHARLOTTE

Professor **Aden Hopkin**, from Brigham Young University, Provo, Utah has attended numerous CALLERLAB conventions to provide interesting, entertaining, and informative sessions on the function, care, and use of the voice. His experience with past CALLERLAB conventions has provided him a unique expertise to help square dance callers. He will be joining us again this year in Charlotte to staff our Voice Sessions. We have arranged for Arden to provide individual voice sessions (20 minutes each) to callers who may want this individual attention. There are a limited number of these individual sessions available due to Arden's other convention commitments, but he will make as much time available as is practical.

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The fee for these individual sessions will be \$30.00 for a 20 minute session. If you would like to schedule a session with Professor Hopkin, please call the office (1-800-331-2577) and speak with Gail or E-mail Gail at Gail-CALLERLAB@AOL.COM. Payment MUST be made BEFORE the convention (check or credit card) to guarantee your spot. These sessions will be on a first come first served basis. There are a limited number of individual sessions, if you are interested, please contact Gail immediately.

SHARE COSTS

If you are interested in sharing costs with another caller attending the 2006 CALLERLAB Convention in Charlotte, please take note of the following: CALLERLAB takes no responsibility for those who choose to share costs. We offer this information only to help those who would like to share costs. All arrangements must be made between those sharing the costs. If you are one of the many callers attending the convention in Charlotte, without attending partners, why not share expenses? If you are willing to share a room with another caller who is attending the convention why not do so? The only consideration would be whether or not you snore or are a restless sleeper. You may consider sharing a room, provided neither you, nor the one you will be sharing with, has a problem with those aspects of your sleeping habits. Give it some thought and contact the Home Office. The Home Office will advise you if there are others who are looking to share and provide you E-mail or telephone numbers for contact.

NO CALLER TRAINING SEMINAR IN 2006

We have previously indicated there would be a Caller Training Seminar held immediately prior to the 2006 CALLERLAB Convention. We are disappointed to announce there will NOT be a Caller Training Seminar this year in Charlotte, NC. However, we are pleased to announce there are discussions about holding the seminar prior to the 2007 CALLERLAB Convention in Colorado Springs, CO on Saturday, March 31 and Sunday, April 1, 2007. We are VERY interested in your comments about such a seminar in 2007. These seminars are 16 - 20 hours of lecture and hands-on training by Accredited Caller-Coaches in topics contained in the Curriculum Guidelines. Please contact the Home Office with your thoughts and comments. Your input is important and will add value to the discussion concerning the future seminars.

2006 CONVENTION EXHIBITORS

CALLERLAB convention exhibitor/vendor applications and information have been mailed to all exhibitors/vendors whose names we have on file. If you wish to participate as an exhibitor/vendor at the con-

vention in Charlotte and have not received an information/application package, please contact the Home Office at GailCALLERLAB@aol.com OR 1-800/331-2577. (Applications were mailed September 8, 2005).

To participate as an exhibitor/vendor at the convention, you must be registered at the convention hotel. If you are a CALLERLAB member you may display and sell products or services of any kind. Non-members may participate at the convention only if your product or service is primarily for square dance callers. If you have any questions, please contact the Home Office.

HOTEL RESERVATIONS FOR THE 2006 CONVENTION

The 2006 CALLERLAB convention will be held at the Renaissance Suites Hotel, Charlotte, NC April 10-12, 2006. Reservation information will be sent to all members who register for the convention. Please make your room reservations with the Renaissance Suites Hotel at 1-800-468-3571. This number will be provided again with your convention confirmation package. Room cost is a fantastic bargain at \$89.00 plus tax, single or double. You must register with the hotel no later than March 17, 2006 and you must identify yourself as part of The International Association of Square Dance Callers, CALLERLAB Convention. The convention rate is only good until the room block is filled.

IN MEMORIAM

Karla Driver, Texas
Jim Erbaugh, Florida
David Sutton, Illinois
Daniel Geisler, Kansas
Andy Williams, Vermont

SHOWCASE OF TALENT DIXIE ON A RUBBER BAND?

Showcase of Talent (sub titled: I can do some great things besides call a great dance) is in need of performers for Sunday night following the Orientation Session. We know there's talent out there amongst the membership. It doesn't have to be singing or playing an instrument. Are you an orator with a favorite poem, story, soliloquy, dissertation? Can you do magic? Can you do a make-over on a volunteer? Can you add numbers in your head really - really - really fast from someone saying them? Are you a clown, or not, who can make balloon animals? Can you and a partner sing a duet or play the harp? Can you lead a sing-a-long and play the zither? Can several of you get together and play some ballroom music for the rest of us to dance to? Can you show us and make your favorite recipe without

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oven or stove? Can you show us a very quick crafty item we can all make at home? Can you play Dixie on a rubber band? Can you do ballet, tango, ballroom dancing to show us. (Bring the music.) Can you tell us about the worst, the best, the funniest thing that has happened to you or you've seen as long as you've been in calling or a partner to, from or at a square dance. I'll need that in writing before the session.

Partners! Partners! Partners! You can be a part of this event too. I am inviting all partners and Guests to bring us their talent too. It's not exclusive to callers.

Email **John Swindle**: JohnCALLERLAB@aol.com Or **Bev Sutter**: dosidobev@yousq.net Or send a resume of your talent to Bev Sutter, 5533 Northwood Court, Asbury, IA 52002-2531. Thank You All.

WHY ATTEND?

We have thought about this question several times over the past few years and would like to share our thoughts with you. Here are a few reasons we have for attending conventions:

- 1) Renew friendships, or build new ones
- 2) Find out, 1st hand, what is going on in the square dance world
- 3) Visit places, sights, and sounds you might not otherwise visit
- 4) Take a tax deduction for at least part of your visit
- 5) Observe the inner workings of the CALLERLAB committees
- 6) Meet the Board of Governors and the Executive Committee
- 7) Take an active part in discussing CALLERLAB policy
- 8) Take the opportunity to voice your opinion
- 9) Take part in interesting and informative interest sessions
- 10) Discuss square dancing with other callers from all over the world
- 11) Meet the Home Office staff

Contact the Home Office with your ideas for a convention theme, topics for interest sessions, or potential panelists for sessions. If you have a particular interest or skill, volunteer to be on a panel featuring that subject. Give us your input concerning future convention locations. The convention planning committee is interested in your input.

**CALLERLAB
CONVENTION
Charlotte, NC
April 10 - 12, 2006**

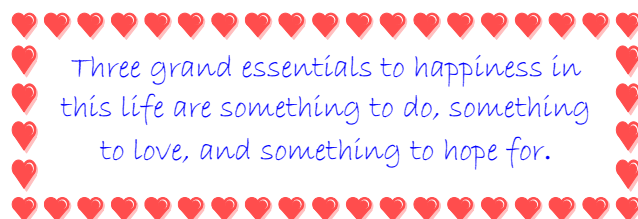
THINGS TO DO AROUND CHARLOTTE, NC.

We have included the following list of things to do in and around Charlotte.

Carolina Place Mall - 704-543-9300 - carolinaplace.com;
Carolina Raptor Center - 704-875-6521 - [carolinaraptor-](http://carolinaraptor-center.org)

center.org; Charlotte Regional Farmers Market - 704-357-1269 - ncdamarkets.org; Comedy Zone - 704-348 - thecomedyzone.net; Concord Mills Shopping - 704-979-3000 - concordmills.com; Dale Earnhardt Inc. 877-DEI-ZONE DaleEarnhardtInc.com; Daniel Stowe Botanical Garden - 704-825-4490 dsbg.org; Discovery - 704-372-6261 - discoveryplace.org; Historic Rosedale Plantation - 704-335-0325 - rosedale.htm; Levine Museum of the New South - 704-333-1887 - museumofthenewsouth.org; Lowe's Motor Speedway - 800-455-FANS - lowes-motorspeedway.com; McDowell Nature Preserve 704-588-5224 - parkandrec.com; Paramount's Carowinds Theme Park - 800-888-4386 - carowinds.com; Renaissance Golf Club - 704-357-3373 - renaissanceparkgolf-course.com; The Mint Museum - 704-337-2000 - mint-museum.org; Wing and Haven Gardens - 704-331-0664 winghavengardens.com.

For more information go to MapCharlotte.com or Charlottetrip.com.



CALL FOR PAPERS

(Suggestions For Convention Sessions)

Have you ever wondered why a subject you have thought of has never been selected as an interest session at a CALLERLAB convention? Well, now is your chance to submit your ideas to the Convention Planning Committee for consideration for the 2007 CALLERLAB convention. Submission of ideas should be on a single page and include brief information on what your idea is and who would be good panelists. Your idea will be reviewed by the Convention Planning Committee. If it is selected, you will be asked to submit a more detailed description of the session and you may be asked to moderate the session. Ideas for the 2007 convention in Colorado Springs, CO are due in the Home Office not later than April 15, 2006.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE

Could you use some financial assistance in furthering your square dance calling career? Why not apply for a scholarship administered by CALLERLAB?

Members wishing to attend a reputable callers college may apply for the George White Memorial Scholarship, the Jerry Schatzer Fund, The Tex Hencerling Fund, the Heyman Scholarship Fund, or the GSI Education Fund. These scholarships are funded by private donations in the name of the fund honoree and are administered by CALLERLAB.

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Applications for the 2006 CALLERLAB and CALLERLAB Foundation scholarships, must be received by the Home Office no later than May 1, 2006, in order to be considered by the Executive Committee at their Spring 2006 meeting.

CALLERLAB also sponsors an association grants program. The intent of this program is to help make quality caller training available to caller associations that are affiliated with CALLERLAB and could not otherwise afford it.

CALLERLAB Affiliated Callers Associations may apply for a grant of up to \$150 a day, to a maximum of \$450, under this program, providing they are able to establish that the intended program could not be held without some form of financial assistance and that it has received no CALLERLAB training grant for a period of at least three years prior to the date of the proposed clinic or training program.

To qualify for a grant, the association must submit a written application at least four months prior to the date of the intended program.

Contact the Home Office for full details on scholarships and grants.

NEW SCHOLARSHIP

We received the following information from **Lone Blume**, CALLERLAB Member and Board Member from Denmark. She has provided some exciting news about a new scholarship for caller training being offered by Global Traveling Friends (GTF). What is GTF you ask! Well, GTF is an International Traveling Square Dance Club. The Club aims to support square dance education for callers and dancers alike. Awarding scholarships to caller schools, run by CALLERLAB Accredited Caller - Coaches, is but one of the activities of this group of dedicated dancers and callers. Anyone can apply for a scholarship, you do not have to be a member of GTF. Traveling Club means that we meet at least once a year to have a club dance. Each time we dance we are in a different location in Europe. In 2006 the dance location will be Plön, Germany. The club now has more than 50 members; currently we have members from Germany, Denmark, England, USA, Sweden, Holland, France and Switzerland. For more details, please see the attached information.

BDPLS and HISTORY & HERITAGE DVD SALES

We are pleased to announce the availability of a series of DVDs for the Beginner Party Leaders Seminar (BDPLS) and an important and informative interest session of the History & Heritage of square dancing and CALLERLAB. CALLERLAB and the CALLERLAB Committee for Community & Traditional Dance, under the leadership of **Calvin Campbell**, have sponsored

Beginner Dance Party Leader Seminars (BDPLS) featuring some of the most talented callers in the field of square dance parties. The BDPLS series has four DVDs featuring presentations during the BDPLS at the 2004 CALLERLAB Convention in Reno, Nevada. The DVDs may be purchased for the modest price of \$20.00 each or \$70.00 for all four in this series. A description of each of the four DVDs is printed in the attached Press Release. A fifth DVD titled *History - Heritage - Tradition - 2004* is also available. This DVD may also be purchased for \$20.00. A set of all five DVDs may be purchased for \$80.00. See the attached Press Release for more information. This information has also been posted on the CALLERLAB web site at:

[http://www.callerlab.org/documents/callerlabdocs/BDPLS_DVDs_Descrip_\(05-12-15\).pdf](http://www.callerlab.org/documents/callerlabdocs/BDPLS_DVDs_Descrip_(05-12-15).pdf)

2006 CALLER SCHOOLS

In the November/December 2005 issue of *DIRECTION* we announced a new service to CALLERLAB Members. Any Member sponsoring a caller school meeting the criteria listed below could submit the information for that school to the Home Office and we will list the school in *DIRECTION*. This is tremendous opportunity to publicize these schools to help spread the word about caller training opportunities. The following are the guidelines and criteria: 1) Any CALLERLAB Member in good standing may ask that a school be listed; 2) The school must meet the following: A) Must use the CALLERLAB caller school curriculum, B) Must be at least 40 hours of class time, and C) School staff **MUST** include at least one CALLERLAB Member in good standing at the time the listing is made; and 3) Schools meeting these requirements and sponsored by CALLERLAB Affiliated associations or organizations may be listed.

We are pleased to announce several Members did respond. The information provided to the Home Office for these caller's schools is provided in the attached Press Release.

LOST MEMBERS

Mail sent to the following member/s and Publications has been returned to the Home Office. **Dan Tolson**, Fairfax, VA; **Theodore Carpenter**, CA; Lubbock Area SRD Federation; National Capitol Area S/D Leaders Assoc. If you know of their whereabouts, or know of someone that might have a current address for them, please contact the Home Office on 1-800-331-2577. Thank you.

CRACKER BARREL & SQUARE DANCING

We received the following information from several CALLERLAB Members. It is worth noting that Cracker Barrel is promoting square dancing. Next time you are in a Cracker Barrel, pick up their 2006 Al-

(Continued on page 9)

(Continued from page 8)

manac. On Page 9 - There is a full page about square dance and it's promotion by Henry Ford. Check it out and send them a Thank You. Just think of all the thousands of customers that it may reach.

MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

The CALLERLAB office is pleased to announce a Membership Drive for 2006/2007. Our goal is to get members recruiting new members for CALLERLAB, or getting some of our past members to rejoin. CALLERLAB's incentive for this program will be earning cash rewards which can be applied to future dues or convention fees.

All CALLERLAB members receiving this announcement are eligible to participate.

Callers recruited in this membership drive must be joining CALLERLAB for the first time, or have NOT been a CALLERLAB member for at least two years prior to rejoining. Renewing Members must NOT have been a CALLERLAB Member in the 2004/2005 Membership Year nor in the 2005/2006 Membership Year.

New or rejoining callers must qualify as a Member, Associate Member, or Apprentice Member.

A completed copy of the Membership Drive form identifying both the new member and the member who will receive the recruiting credit, along with their membership application must be submitted to the Home Office. (A copy of the form was included in the Press Release included with the November/December 2005 issue of *DIRECTION*). Information about the drive and a form may be found on the CALLERLAB web site at: [http://www.callerlab.org/documents/callerlabdocs/Mbrship Drive Info \(Approved\)\(REV A\)\(05-11-21\).pdf](http://www.callerlab.org/documents/callerlabdocs/Mbrship%20Drive%20Info%20(Approved)(REV%20A)(05-11-21).pdf)

Awards will be issued, in the form of vouchers, as follows: 1st new member - \$95.00; 2nd new member - \$50.00; 3rd new member - \$25.00.

The vouchers will be good for dues and/or convention registration fees only. Music license fees, group insurance fees, and sales items are excluded.

You will be hearing more about this membership drive in later issues of *DIRECTION*. If you have any questions regarding the membership drive please contact the Home Office at: CALLERLAB@AOL.com or call or write; CALLERLAB, 467 Forrest Ave., Suite 118, Cocoa, FL 32922, 1-800-331-2577.

CALLERLAB & THE ARTS ONLINE

As we have reported previously, CALLERLAB is one of ten national dance organizations which have come together to form The Alliance for Round, Traditional, and Square (ARTS) Dance. The goal of The ARTS is to increase the number of dancers in our activity. The ARTS has discussed ways to promote the activity to increase the non-dancing public's awareness of the

many benefits and fun available through square dancing. Any such effort will cost money and The ARTS has been looking at ways to raise the needed funds.

As you know square dancers do travel, not only for dancing activities but for personal and business travel as well. Over the past few years the online travel opportunities have increased tremendously. The ARTS Board has recognized this as an opportunity to help raise funds for the activity.

The ARTS has teamed with the online travel company YTB Travel to develop an online travel site for use by dancers. This site not only provides valuable savings on travel but also returns money to The ARTS and the activity. For more information, please visit the ARTS travel site at: <http://www.arts-dancetravel.com/>

55th NSDC - SAN ANTONIO, TX

The 55th National Square Dance Convention (NSDC) will be held in San Antonio, TX June 21-24, 2006. San Antonio will be filled with colorful costumes and happy people! This annual celebration is the "World's Greatest Square Dance Event". The staff of the 55th NSDC is preparing for the big show and looks forward to welcoming dancers and callers from all over the world. If you have not ever attended a National Convention we encourage you to do so. This four day event provides you, as a caller, the opportunity to showcase your talents before a very large audience. Please consider attending the 55th NSDC in San Antonio. The callers hotel is very close to the convention center and the 55th NSDC staff is looking forward to our participation. If you attend, we encourage you to wear your CALLERLAB badge to show your support. For more information, please visit the 55th NSDC web Site: <http://www.55thnsdc.org>.

DISNEY WORLD & SQUARE DANCING

Disney World Orlando, FL is planning a square dance weekend festival in July 2006. The event will be held in the World Showcase in EPCOT. Disney promises discounted Park Tickets including dancing events, and a great staff of callers and cuers. More details will be published when available.

FROM OUR MEMBERS

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

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

HAYLOFT STEPPERS - WINNING WAYS

The October 2005 issue of Northeast Square Dancer reported the club had their 45th anniversary.

(Continued on page 10)

(Continued from page 9)

sary dance with 17.5 squares. "It is hard to believe that about 6 years back, Hayloft Steppers almost folded, but was saved by a few club members who truly believed in the club. Now, our club is a thriving, friendly, family club. Hayloft has continuous lessons for Mainstream and Plus all year round." We received a report from George Auger, past President of The Hayloft Steppers. The report has been posted as a WINNING WAYS report on the CALLERLAB web site at:

[http://www.callerlab.org/documents/winningways/06-01-17 \(Hayloft Steppers\).pdf](http://www.callerlab.org/documents/winningways/06-01-17%20(Hayloft%20Steppers).pdf)

"BLAST" PLUS SESSION

(January 2006)

We received the following information from **Mike Callahan**, a CALLERLAB Member from Spencerport, NY. This report provides information about "BLAST Plus" Sessions. A "BLITZ" or "BLAST" Session is a very concentrated introduction of a specified set of calls, in this case calls from the CALLERLAB Plus Programs were covered.

BLITZ Report -

On Saturday afternoon, January 21, 2006 myself and two other area callers, Ron Brown and Jerry Carmen, ran a "Blast" Plus workshop. The pre-requisite for attendance was that the dancers should have been through a Plus workshop or at least familiar with some of the Plus calls. We also advertised it as a workshop for those who didn't feel confident dancing the Plus Program. The program ran from Noon to 5 P.M. and admission was \$25.00/couple. We explained to the dancers who attended that we were teaching/walking through, work shopping, and reviewing as many Plus calls as we could from only the most common positions that they might hear the calls at an open dance. We programmed 3 tips per hour alternating the 3 callers with no singing calls. We were able to get through the entire Plus program in 5 hours and 15 minutes.

We are happy to report that we had almost 8 squares in attendance. We felt that this was a great success because we actually only advertised the workshop for about 2 months. The dancers who attended had a super time and raved about it. It was amazing to see that almost every dancer there danced almost every tip. We are actually thinking now of not only doing this again next year but also having a "Mainstream Blast" for new graduates perhaps in early next September.

Mike Callahan, Ron Brown, Jerry Carmen

For more information, please contact: **Mike Callahan**
E-mail - User846119@aol.com

SUCCESS WITH MS 1 - 35

This report provides information about a club in Germany and their caller Heiner Fischle. The

club has reportedly been successful using the first 35 calls on the CALLERLAB dance program lists. This information is provided as a source for a different idea about square dancing and destination points.

Heiner writes: In June 2004 I was asked to start a new SD group at Hameln/Weser (of Pied Piper fame). I promised we could attend the next Student Party (= MS 35), and we made good on this. In December 2004, we danced Basic 35 pretty well.

Then in February/March 2005, some new members dropped in, one or two every fortnight. At first I tried to combine teaching "basic Basics" with teaching Ocean Waves; but soon I dropped back to something like the ABC method. (I learned about the ABC method only some months later; however it is the strategy I use at Open Country Hannover since years.) In May, we had 18 members, and we could dance Basic 35 again. Then we dived into the Ocean Waves. November 2005 we are up to Basic 53, and down to 10 active members. 3 were left behind due to illness/rehabilitation. 2 of the new members found a job which prevented them from attending. 2 charter members said, they never intended to take square dancing that seriously. (One of them had suggested our name in September 2004.) Of the last missing one, I have no data.

Some of the active members asked to slow down the learning rate. So we decided to stay for a while within Basic 53. It helped to reach that decision that there are some events where you can dance this program, e.g. the ECTA Student Jamboree, Pentecost Monday at Ham-burg, Hall 7 at the European SD Convention. (Don't worry about the terrible fire at Hemel-Hempstead; it will not affect this event.) But in February, latest in March we will tackle the final dozen of MS Calls.

So these are my conclusions:- You can run a Basic 35 group for years. (Open Country Hannover started in September 1986)- Basic 53 is helpful, sometimes, for a while (but not as a destination program) - Basic 36 ... 53 is the area where attrition sets in.

April 10-12, 2006

**Renaissance Charlotte Suites
Hotel
Charlotte, NC**

1-800-468-3571



PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

(February 2006)

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



PRESS RELEASE

Beginner Dance Party Leader Seminar/History and Heritage DVD Series

CALLERLAB and the CALLERLAB Committee for Community and Traditional Dance, under the leadership of Calvin Campbell, have sponsored *Beginner Dance Party Leader Seminars (BDPLS)* featuring some of the most talented callers in the field of square dance parties. We are pleased to announce a series of DVDs of the seminar is now available. The series has four DVDs featuring presentations during the BDPLS at the 2004 CALLERLAB Convention in Reno, Nevada. The DVDs may be purchased for the modest price of \$20.00 each or \$70.00 for all four in this series. The following is a description of each of the four DVDs. A fifth DVD titled *History - Heritage - Tradition - 2004* is also available. This DVD may also be purchased for \$20.00. A set of all five DVDs may be purchased for \$80.00.

Before the Dance - 2004

Presenter Bob Riggs - This DVD is one of the presentations during the BDPLS held immediately prior to the 2004 CALLERLAB Convention. There are many "behind the scenes" activities and plans required before we actually call a Beginner Dance Party. This session features one of the leaders in the field of beginner parties to illustrate how to prepare for the dance. This DVD includes five sections: 1) Beginning - An introduction of the session includes information about how to prepare for the dance, topics covered include various types of parties; 2) Dances Needed - Information about various types of dances available for the parties, suggestions for planning dances and the importance of being flexible; 3) Telephone Skit - A scripted skit to simulate a typical telephone exchange, from initial contact to final agreement; 4) Back To Bob - Follow-up to the Telephone Skit, more information about how to prepare and gather information about the dance; 5) Comments - Input from the audience, includes comments and personal experiences.

Dancing Outside the Box and Beginner Dance Mixers - 2004

Presenter Calvin Campbell - This DVD is one of four presentations during the BDPLS held immediately prior to the 2004 CALLERLAB Convention. There are many different types of dances which can add to the variety of the dance, entertainment, and fun of a Beginner Dance Party. Some of these dance forms are not part of the program we find at a typical Modern Western Square Dance. Learning and using these dance forms can add to a caller's ability to entertain dancers who attend Beginner Dance Parties. This session features one of the leaders in the field of beginner parties to introduce many of these dances. This DVD includes two sections: 1) Dancing Outside The Box - Includes an introduction of the following dances: No Name Contra, Tunnel Contra, Thiel's Trio, TBC Trio, Sicilian Circle, Siege of Carrick, ONS Mescolanza, and Dumbarton Drums; and 2) Beginner Dance Party Mixers - Includes an introduction of: the following Mixers: I Don't Know Why, Light In The Window, C.J. Mixer, and Kiwi Ring.

Father/Daughter Dance - 2004

Presenter Gerry Hardy - This DVD is one of four presentations during the BDPLS held immediately prior to the 2004 CALLERLAB Convention. A Father/Daughter Dance is a common type of Beginner Dance Party. Most active callers possess the basic skills needed for this type dance . This session features one of the leaders in the field of beginner parties to show how those skills can be used to teach various dance formations and dances. This DVD includes nine sections: 1) Beginning - An introduction of how to begin the dance; 2) Big Circle - Shows how to dance in a Big Circle and how to teach various calls; 3) Sicilian Circle - Introduces this formation of two facing couples arranged in a big circle; 4) Squares - Transition from Sicilian Circle to squares; 5) Singing Calls - Introduces the use of singing calls; 6) Alabama Gal - Introduces a dance with all daughters; 7) More Squares - More dancing in squares using calls previously introduced; 8) Solomon Levi - Introduces this dance in squares; and 9) Barnacle Bill - Introduces this dance in squares, includes introduction of "Change Over".

Handicapable Dancing - 2004

Presenter Michelle Jacobs - This DVD is one of four presentations during the BDPLS held immediately prior to the 2004 CALLERLAB Convention. Calling for Handicapable Dancers requires certain skills and perceptions which can be studied and learned. This session covers those skills by one of the leaders in the field. This DVD includes six sections: 1) Start - An introduction to the session; 2) The Square - Introduces disability awareness with a description of various disabilities; dancers are given props to simulate these disabilities; 3) Calling - Sample calling to the dancers who are simulating different disabilities; 4) Dancing - continuation of sample square dance calling and dancing; 5) Marketing - How To Start - information about how to start a handicapable group and where to find more information about handicapable dancing; and 6) Other Dances - Information about other dance forms which can be used with Handicapable Dancers.

History - Heritage - Tradition - 2004

Moderator, Jim Mayo and Panelists, Herb Egender and Jon Jones - This has been one of the most popular sessions at several CALLERLAB conventions. Our History, Heritage, and Tradition are very important aspects of our activity. This information is sometimes overlooked as we deal with the "puzzle" aspects of modern day choreography. This panel is well qualified to provide information about our past and the rich heritage of square dancing and calling.

* * * * * 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



PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

(February 2006)

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



PRESS RELEASE

2006 CALLER SCHOOLS

The following is a listing of Caller Schools sponsored and staffed by CALLERLAB members. This listing is provided as a service to CALLERLAB for information. This listing does not constitute endorsement. For further information, please contact the school of your choice.

Name of School - Northeast Caller School
 Staff - Ken Ritucci, Norm Poisson, Ed Foote, and Andy Shore
 Date - Oct 5-9, 2006
 Location - Manchester, NH
 Contact - Ken Ritucci
 Phone: 1-413-734-0591 or E-mail: KENRITUCCI@AOL.COM

Name of School - PRIDE Caller's College
 Staff - Jerry Story, Tony Oxendine, Deborah Carroll-Jones and Jon Jones
 Date - October 29 - November 2, 2006
 Location - Pride Resort, Maggie Valley, NC
 Contact - Linda or Kristy
 Pride Caller's College c/o Pride RV Resort
 4394 Jonathan Creek Rd.
 Waynesville, NC 28785
 Phone: 1-800-926-8191 or E-mail: JerryStory@aol.com

Name of School - GSI Callers School
 Staff - Jon Jones, Deborah Carroll-Jones, Jerry Junck, Tony Oxendine
 Date - June 11-15, 2006
 Location - Holiday Inn Select, St. Peters, MO
 Contact - Tony Oxendine
 2640 Goldeneye Ridge
 Sumter, SC 29150
 Phone: 1-803-840-0746 or E-mail: tony@tonyoxendine.com

Name of School - Rocky Mountain Caller's School
 Staff - Tim Marriner and Ron Markus
 Date - May 24 - 29, 2006
 Location - Vail Valley Resort, Vail, CO (1-800-258-9458)
 Contact - Ron Markus
 3842 E. Edison Place
 Tucson, AZ 85716
 Phone: 1-520-795-6543 or E-mail: ramcaller@juno.com

Name of School - Don's Caller's School Beginning & Newer Callers
 Staff - Don Williamson, Sue Williamson, Jim Dillard
 Date - June 12 - 16, 2006
 Location - Charray In, Greeneville, TN (1-800-852-4682)
 Contact - Phone: 1-423-638-7784 or Regular mail: 52 Crest Drive, Greeneville, TN 37745

***** 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

DATE _____

NAME _____

If you are a member of CALLERLAB and have been calling 3 or more years, you are eligible to serve on committees and vote on committee business. Some committees have prerequisite or calling criteria which must be met.

Please indicate your choice below, print your name above and return to the registration desk in Reno or mail to the CALLERLAB Home Office. Thank you!

- ☐ Accreditation Committee
- ☐ Advanced Committee*
- ☐ Caller Association Liaison Committee**
- ☐ Caller Training Committee*
- ☐ Canadian Advisory Committee (Must Reside in Canada)**
- ☐ Challenge Committee*
- ☐ Choreographic Applications Committee
- ☐ Committee for Community and Traditional Dance (CCTD)**
- ☐ Definitions Committee
- ☐ Education Committee**
- ☐ Foundation Fund Raising Committee**
- ☐ Grant Writing Committee**
- ☐ Handicapable**
- ☐ Mainstream Committee
- ☐ Multi-Cycle Committee**
- ☐ Overseas Advisory Committee (Must reside outside the USA/Canada)**
- ☐ Periodic Selection Committee
- ☐ Plus Committee
- ☐ RPM Committee (Recruit, Promote & Maintain)**
- ☐ Research and Development Committee**
- ☐ Women in Calling Committee
- ☐ Youth Committee**

Please check below if you are a partner who would like to be a member of the Partner's Committee.

- ☐ Partners Committee**

**Mail to: CALLERLAB
467 Forrest Ave., Suite 118
Cocoa, FL 32922**

* Committees that require prerequisites. The Home Office will send applications if required.

** Committees which Callers Partners may join.

Visit the CALLERLAB website (www.callerlab.org) to learn more about any of the above committees.



55th National Square Dance Convention®

San Antonio, Texas

June 21-24, 2006

"Circle Eight in the Lone Star State"

News Release

Press Release



Square Dancing at the 55th

Callers are registering for this event to provide dancers with a great program of square dancing at this convention. We have acquired the best rooms for this activity the convention center has to offer. We know you are going to really enjoy the square dance portion of this convention. All programs will be presented from 10:00 AM until 10:00 PM.

Programs are as follows;

Mainstream Dancing – Will be in three halls at this facility.

- Ballroom B – Offers over 21,000 square feet of wooden dance floor.
- Gallery – Offers over 15,000 square feet of dance floor and will offer High Energy Dancing and Hexagon Square Dance Clinics each day.
- Exhibit Hall A – Offers over 90,000 square feet of dance floor and will present other events during each day.

Plus Dancing – Will be in two halls at this facility

- Ballroom A – Offers over 28,000 square feet of wooden dance floor and will be presented with round dancing between tips. An hour each evening will highlight callers from other countries.
- Bridge Hall – Offers over 16,000 square feet of dance floor for plus dancing.

Solo Dancing

- Rooms 202 A & B - Offers over 2,500 square feet of dance floor for those dancing in this hall.

Youth Dancing

- Rooms 204 A & B – Offers over 2,500 square feet of dance floor for the Youth Dancers attending this convention.

Advanced Dancing

- Room 102 A & B – Will provide over 2,500 square feet of dance floor for those who choose this hall for dancing.

Challenge Dancing

- Room 201 – Will provide the Challenge Dancers with over 1,500 square feet of dance floor.

Line Dancing

- Room 203 A & B – Will provide over 2,500 square feet of dance area for those who choose to line dance.

We anticipate a great line up of callers and line dance instructors for your dancing enjoyment and hope to see you at the 55th National Square Dance Convention® in San Antonio, Texas.

Round Dancing at the 55th

Circle 8 in the Lone Star State. You can Circle 8 in the Lone Star State in the Round Dance halls. It's time for you to register to come to the great 55th National Square Dance Convention in San Antonio, June 21-24, 2006. You will be upset if you miss this one!

We will have a great program for you. You will dance in round dance halls with wall-to-wall wooden floors! You will have great sound! You will have a great staff of your favorite teachers! You will have nine (9) figure clinics for nine (9) different rhythms and different levels from which to choose. And nine (9) dances taught by the nine (9) clinicians in the clinic rhythm.

There will be four evenings of dancing with your favorite cuers. There will be three after parties hosted by upcoming conventions. This is a great opportunity for you to come and enjoy Texas at its very best. We are working hard to ensure your enjoyment and the best learning and dancing situation possible.

So, won't you join us in San Antonio for the great floors, great sound, great round dance program and the ambiance of a great city in Texas? In order to do all this, you need to be registered. Do it today!

Exhibitions Galore!

While in the Lone Star State and enjoying the wonderful 55th Convention bring your tired legs and feet to the Exhibition Hall. We have put together the best of the best for you to see. Here you will enjoy a wide variety of exhibitions.

We have groups of all sizes and ages from all over the country for your enjoyment. They will be performing everything from clogging to contra and rounds to square dancing! The groups plan to perform several times each day so please check out our schedule and make plans to watch.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Editors of publications who include detailed information about the 55th NSDC at least 3 times during this year prior to May of 2006 will be invited to attend the 55th Press Breakfast. Send copies to: 55th NSDC Publicity Tracking, P.O. Box 810779, Farmers Branch, TX 75381-0779



55th National Square Dance Convention®

San Antonio, Texas

June 21-24, 2006

"Circle Eight in the Lone Star State"

News Release

Press Release



Post-Convention Cruise June 25 – July 2, 2006

After days and nights of dancing at the 55th National Square Dance Convention® in San Antonio, you will be able to rest and relax for 7 days and nights aboard the ROYAL CARIBBEAN "Rhapsody of the Seas" during the post convention cruise of the Western Caribbean. The luxurious cruise ship will depart from Galveston, Texas at 5:00 p.m. on Sunday, July 25. The ship will be at sea until 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday when it will arrive at Montego Bay, Jamaica, for a day of sight seeing. Thursday the ship will arrive in George Town, Grand Cayman and Friday in Cozumel, Mexico. Arrival back in Galveston will be at 8:00 a.m. on Sunday, July 2.

Royal Caribbean's "Rhapsody of the Seas" is one of the largest and most comfortable luxury ships available. With dramatic walls of glass and a retractable canopy, the ship has already embarked on the course other cruise ships will some day follow. When not enjoying the magnificent ocean views, guests can enjoy swimming pools & whirlpools, shopping, rock-climbing wall, Casino Royale, and ShipShape Day Spa and Fitness Center.

For available information regarding this tour, please view the cruise brochure at <http://www.55thnsdc.org>. Or, you can book your cruise at Satovacations.com or call 877-698-2554. We hope you will take part in and enjoy the activities of a National Square Dance Convention® and the post-convention cruise.

Memorial Tree Dedication Service To Carl and Varene Anderson Thursday, June 22, 2006

The National Executive Committee of the National Square Dance Convention® began a living memorial to the founders of the National Square Dance Convention® in Riverside, California in 1952. Carl and Varene Anderson, the first General Chairman, are both deceased. Their dream will live on with each national convention.

A tradition was started in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma on June 26, 2003 with the planting and dedication of a tree in their honor.

On Thursday, June 22, 2006 at 10:00 am, this tradition will continue with the 55th National Square Dance Convention®. The dedication of a Monterrey oak tree, which was planted in February 2005, a few feet from the sidewalk on the West side of the Dancing Fountains, will be presented by the National Executive Committee. The location of the oak tree will allow dancers to view it for many years. You will want to include this Tree Dedication Service in your convention activities, Thursday, June 22, 2006 at 10:00 am.

For the Aviation Enthusiast

Aviation enthusiasts will find San Antonio a real treasure. Lackland Air Force Base has a very large number of static displayed aircraft. If you find yourself on I-10 exit the Lackland AFB ramp. Head south through the main gate and you will soon see off to your left a park dedicated to old Air Force aircraft. They are arranged in a circle with name plates and descriptions. This park has a lot of aircraft on display, but Lackland has aircraft on display all over the base. On your way back out you will notice to the south a SR-71 Blackbird and a F-4 Phantom on a side road. If you follow this road a little way you will find yourself approaching Kelly Field. As you pass the Texas National Air Guard ramp you might catch site of a C-99, it was the cargo version of the B-36. While on Kelly notice the huge hangers on east Kelly they are big enough to swallow C-5 Galaxies. You can find a B-58 Hustler on display at the east Kelly gate.

Another aviation museum will be on Fort Sam Houston. The U.S. Army bought its first airplane after acceptance trials at Fort Myers, Virginia on August 2, 1909. It was a Wright aircraft designated Flyer 3. Two months later the aircraft was sent to College Park, Maryland where two officers were selected for pilot training. After the pilots were rated they were soon reassigned to other duties. Lieutenant Benjamin Delabau Foulis was then selected to fill the aviator gap. Foulis flew with Orville Wright during the acceptance trials, but was not trained to fly. He was told to pack up the aircraft and move to Fort Sam Houston. Foulis arrived in San Antonio on February 5, 1910, with eight men, his 17 crates with Flyer 3 in them and \$150.00 for the first year operation expenses.

The Fort Sam Houston Museum has the Birth of Military Aviation display that describes the early days of the Air Force.


Save Your Feet For Dancing
Buy A Bus Pass


FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Editors of publications who include detailed information about the 55th NSDC at least 3 times during this year prior to May of 2006 will be invited to attend the 55th Press Breakfast. Send copies to: 55th NSDC Publicity Tracking, P.O. Box 810779, Farmers Branch, TX 75381-0779