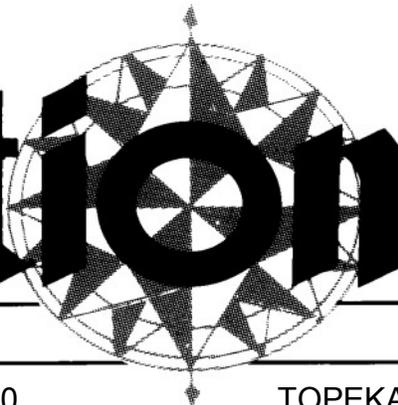


# direction



The International Association  
of Square Dance Callers

VOLUME XXXVII NUMBER THREE, JULY-AUGUST 2010

TOPEKA, KANSAS

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## FROM THE CHAIR Tim Marriner, Chairman



Usually this is the time of year when schools close, families go on vacations, and square dance clubs cycle down to a crawl; an “off season” almost. It might be a great time for a maintenance check on your equipment, your skills, and even your clubs. During this slow period, why not do a little assessment of where you are and what you want to do during the next year. It's never too late to work on some self improvements. Whether it's looking for new music you might have missed while you were busy, or obtaining the latest teach orders, check off sheets, definitions, teaching tips or the many other informative documents from our website; now is the time. You might even consider attending a caller's school, just as a way to recharge your own batteries. Another idea might be to take on a more active role with mentoring a newer caller in your area. Lend a hand to someone that might assist you with your upcoming workload before the season starts again in September. CALLERLAB is soon to launch a mentoring program for anyone that wishes to help train other callers. Contact the Home Office for more details.

Along these same lines, how are your clubs running? Do you need to take on a more active role as leader to help direct the future of your group? If your club is suffering, why not offer more leadership. Get involved. Help your groups become more socially active. Don't be a bystander reminiscing the good ole days; create good ole days today! Throw a party. Host an

*(Continued on page 2)*

MAINSTREAM EMPHASIS CALL: Split/Box Circulate  
ADVANCED EMPHASIS CALL: Turn and Deal  
FUTURE CONVENTIONS:  
APR 18 - 20, 2011 Las Vegas, NV  
APR 2 - 4, 2012 Nashville, TN

### CALLERLAB OFFICE HOURS:

8:00 am to 4:30 pm Central Time, Monday - Friday  
Phone: 1-785-783-3665  
1-800-331-2577 (Business Only)  
FAX: 1-785-783-3696  
E-mail: CALLERLAB@aol.com.  
Website: [www.callerlab.org](http://www.callerlab.org)

### INSURANCE QUESTIONS & CERTIFICATES

Marsh Affinity Group 1-800-503-9227

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open house for your neighborhood. Enjoy the fellowship with square dancing offered as an added spice.

Think you can't conduct a good party dance? Order the DVDs of the Beginner Dance Party Leadership seminars offered before our CALLERLAB conventions from our Home Office today to learn how. These DVDs are professionally done and are worth every penny. On the same note, why not just plan to attend next year's seminar before our Las Vegas Convention. Now **"That's Entertainment!"** which by the way, is our theme for next year's convention. Odds are it's going to be a blast within the entertainment capital of the world! Come early, stay late, but plan now to attend.

Didn't get a chance to "Explore the Roar" of this year's Convention in Niagara Falls? Order a 2010 year book to see what you missed. Better yet, order the CDs or MP3 of the informative seminars offered from Convention CDs Inc. to hear what you missed. While you are at it, you might consider ordering a set for your area callers' association, so others can learn from the vast wealth of knowledge offered at our Conventions. Again, see our website for more information. Also, look at the topics offered over the many years to get some ideas of seminars you might offer at your area leadership meetings. Don't have leadership meetings? Start one!

Become proactive! You own a business; run it with enthusiasm. Take charge, or your lease may run out. Happy calling!

### FOUNDATION CONTRIBUTIONS:

Donations to the CALLERLAB Foundation may be tax deductible. Please make a contribution today to help preserve square dancing for tomorrow.



## FROM THE PAST CHAIRMAN John Marshall

### IS THIS HOW YOU THOUGHT IT WORKED??

Recently a couple of our long-standing members made a suggestion about how CALLERLAB might save on operating/convention expenses. The idea was to reduce the size of the Board of Governors (BOG) and the Executive Committee (EC), thereby reducing the cost of travel, food, and lodging for the Convention. While the input was, and always is, appreciated, this idea indicated that some, and possibly many, of our members, might not be aware of how our Board of Governors and Executive Committee work.

As you probably know, the full voting membership elects the 25 BOG members. The eligibility requirements to run for the BOG can be seen on the website at [www.CALLERLAB.org](http://www.CALLERLAB.org). Upon election, the BOG member participates throughout the year in BOG e-mail discussions and must respond to all BOG votes. Further, each Board member is required, at his/her **own expense**, to attend each convention for the next three years in order to participate in the annual BOG meetings and the general business meeting on Wednesday morning. The BOG meetings are held from 2:00 to 5:00 and 8:00 to 11:30 PM on the Sunday of Convention week, and again Wednesday afternoon from approximately noon until as late as 5:30 PM. The only "extra's" the BOG members receive is dinner on Sunday evening between meetings and lunch on Wednesday between meetings. The BOG members pay the same costs for all other convention expenses as all the other attendees. There is one exception to these rules, and that applies to the Chairman of the Board. The Chairman must be in attendance at the convention to perform his/her required duties. Throughout the year, the Chairman is involved

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*DIRECTION* is the official newsletter of CALLERLAB, The International Association of Square Dance Callers, with offices located at 200 SW 30th St., Suite 104, Topeka, Kansas, 66611, Phone: 1-785-783-3665; Email: CALLERLAB@aol.com. *DIRECTION* is published and mailed first class or electronically to all members and affiliates of CALLERLAB. *DIRECTION* is edited by Dana Schirmer, Executive Director.

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.

(Continued from page 2)

almost daily with the management of the organization. Consequently, CALLERLAB pays for the Chairman's Convention package and travel to the Convention. Annual dues are not included.

Next, let's explore the structure and subsidy of the Executive Committee (EC). The five member Executive Committee (Chairman, Vice Chair, three members-at-large) is elected by the BOG to serve a term of one year. It should be noted that while most Chairmen are elected for two consecutive years, it is not automatic; nor is it automatic that the Vice Chairman will be elected as the next Chairman. In addition to the BOG requirements, the EC members (with exceptional support from the Home Office staff) are charged with handling the day-to-day CALLERLAB, Board of Governors, CALLERLAB Foundation, and Foundation Board of Directors business. The EC member must also attend two additional meetings each year, generally in May and October. These meetings usually start on a Sunday evening or Monday morning and continue through late Wednesday afternoon. They have large and often complicated agendas. A big part of the spring meeting is dedicated to the planning of the upcoming Convention. The EC members are reimbursed for their travel, lodging and meals associated with these two meetings. They are not compensated for income lost from scheduled dances or their regular employment.

So as you see, other than minimal, closely controlled operating costs, and the reimbursement of, what I assure you, are conscientious and conservative expenses, CALLERLAB would save very little money by reducing the size of the BOG. It is my opinion that having as many BOG members as we do is one of the best ways to get broad sweeping input from our membership. It speaks well of both our organization and its dedicated members that so many are willing to give of their time, money, and considerable talents in the effort to promote and preserve square dancing. I hope this clears up any misconceptions. Please keep thinking and continue sharing your ideas on how to; improve CALLERLAB, help all callers improve, and how to help insure square dancing's successful

In memory of **Marion Pearce-TX**



future!

## **PAY IT FORWARD!**

### **Equipment Needed for Youth Callers**

The CALLERLAB Foundation Board recognizes the importance of supporting Youth Callers as a way to lend support to the square dance activity. The Board also recognizes that some Youth Callers may need assistance obtaining calling equipment. Therefore, the Board has established a grant program as a way to provide assistance to these Youth Callers.

The goal of this grant program is to provide useable equipment to Youth Callers at little or no cost to the youth. To make this grant program feasible, we ask callers and cuers to assist by donating equipment to the Foundation for the purpose of assisting the youth. Let's "Pay it Forward" and help a Youth Caller in their endeavors to become callers. Contact the Home Office and advise what equipment you may have available. Donations may be tax deductible (check with your tax advisor).



### **FIRST DONATED EQUIPMENT PROVIDED TO YOUTH CALLER**

**Vernon Jones** from Springtown, Texas is the first caller to donate equipment to the CALLERLAB Foundation to be used for the Youth Equipment Grant Program. Vernon donated a Hilton 300 turntable/amplifier to the program and brought it with him to the 59<sup>th</sup> National Square Dance Convention in Louisville. **Dick and Vicky Henschel**, Hilton Audio, were at the Convention and took some time to do a quick mechanical check of the equipment and provide some new foam for the turntable and needle rest. They also suggested some maintenance/care comments. Thanks, Dick and Vicky!

The equipment was immediately provided to **Samantha Cina**, Marysville, OH. Samantha is eleven years old and has been dancing for five years. She has attended Miami Valley

(Continued on page 4)

(Continued from page 3)

Callers Association training seminar in Dayton, OH and the Grand Square, Inc. Callers School held in Louisville, KY.

Samantha advises: "I enjoy square dancing and would like to see it continue and grow. I would like to share my enthusiasm with dancers and provide them with a fun and healthy dance experience."

Congratulations to Samantha and also thanks to Vernon for his donation. Samantha is still in need of other equipment such as a microphone cord, speaker, speaker cord, speaker stand, etc.

## EQUIPMENT GRANT APPLICATIONS

Youth wishing to submit an application may download from the CALLERLAB Foundation website at:

<http://tinyurl.com/CallerlabGrant>

Applications are to be submitted to the CALLERLAB Foundation office:  
200 SW 30th Street, Suite 104,  
Topeka, KS 66611.

More information is available from the Foundation office at [CALLERLAB@aol.com](mailto:CALLERLAB@aol.com).

## BOARD OF GOVERNORS ELECTION

The ballot for the 2010 BOG election is enclosed with this issue of *DIRECTION* for all voting members. Voting members who receive *DIRECTION* electronically will receive their ballot via U.S. mail. Members eligible to vote will be electing nine members to be seated on the Board following the 2011 CALLERLAB Convention in Las Vegas, NV. Board Members serve a term of three years.

**Clark Baker, Tim Crawford, Patty Greene, Bill Harrison, Jerry Jestin, Vernon Jones, Bear Miller, Tom Miller and Bob Poyner** will complete their current terms on the Board at the 2011 convention.

Valid petitions have been received from the following: **Clark Baker, Trevor Day, Patty Greene, Bill Harrison, Jerry Jestin, Vernon Jones, Bear Miller, Tom Miller, Tom Mohney, Mike Olivieri, Bob Poyner**

**and John Swindle. Tim Crawford** has chosen not to seek re-election to the Board. The results of this important election will be announced in the next issue of *DIRECTION*. Press releases announcing the results will be mailed to publications and callers' associations.

## RESOLUTION PROCEDURE

The Board of Governors has approved a process whereby any CALLERLAB Member (Active, Life, Associate, or Apprentice) in good standing may submit a proposal (resolution) to the membership for consideration, discussion, and vote. The resolution must be in writing, signed by the author, and seconded by a CALLERLAB Member (Active, Life, Associate, or Apprentice) in good standing. Written resolutions must be submitted to the Executive Director at the Home Office either in person, by e-mail, by U.S. mail or fax. The resolution must include the reason that the author feels the proposal is necessary.

Resolutions must be submitted by January 1st of the Convention year in order to be listed in the "Call to Convention" and placed on the Convention agenda. Please contact the Home Office for additional information or for a Resolution Submission Form.

## CALLERLAB AT THE 59th NSDC

CALLERLAB made its annual appearance at the 59<sup>th</sup> National Square Dance Convention in Louisville, KY. CALLERLAB also participated in the Showcase of Ideas. The CALLERLAB booth provided a positive presence before the dancing public and elicited a good response from everyone who stopped by to visit.

Thanks to the following members of CALLERLAB who volunteered to help staff the booth: **Tim and Donna Marriner, Scot and Erin Byars, Ed and Marilyn Foote, Patty and Steve Greene, Betsy and Roy Gotta, Paul Henze, Robert and Joanna Hurst, Lawrence Johnstone, Tom Miller, Ken Ritucci, Tom Rudebock, Lanny Weaklend, Bob Worley, Matt Worley, Vernon Jones.**

### USA WEST

The USA West Convention will be held in Greeley, CO from August 11 through 14, 2010. The website is: <http://usawest2010.net>.



## SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED

The following scholarships were recently approved by the Foundation Executive Board of Directors: **David Krediet Scholarship** - Billy Callaway, Charles Garner, Terry Passarino, and Jess Thomas; **GSI Scholarship** - Bruce Lowther, Miriam Merriwether, Larry Williams and Betty Williams; **Paul Place Scholarship** - Sue Dellere, Tammy Gough, Grant Roth and Muriel Curet. Congratulations, everyone!



## NEW CALLER-COACH CONGRATULATIONS!

The Caller-Coach Committee announces **Jerry Jestin** as CALLERLAB's newest Accredited Caller-Coach. Please join with CALLERLAB in recognizing Jerry in achieving this outstanding and inspiring accomplishment. Congratulations, Jerry!



## THE YOUTH BROCHURE IS FINALLY FINISHED!!!

By Hunter Keller

Hello CALLERLAB Members, We are very excited about this publication! The goal with this document is to promote square dancing to youth without the normal "come dance with us" approach. Everyone included in this brochure is a YOUTH dancer who loves the activity very much! This brochure has a wonderful design and it is very eye catching! There is also a place on the back for your contact information. If you would like more information on how to obtain a few of these brochures, please contact the Home Office. Thank you to all the people on the Youth Committee who volunteered their time and effort on this project. It is greatly appreciated! Have a Great Summer, The Youth Committee

## HOLIDAY OBSERVANCE

The Home Office will be closed Monday, September 6th for the Labor Day Holiday.



## CALLER MENTORING PROJECT - WE WANT YOU!!

By Betsy Gotta

Several people interested in learning to call attended the "So You Want to Be a Caller" education session staffed by CALLERLAB at the National Square Dance Convention. I am sure that each of them would be eager to work with an experienced caller as a mentor. If your friend wants to learn to call, are you comfortable helping them? The Caller Training Committee has created an outline of subjects that can serve as a guide as to what to focus on first. It is designed to guide the experienced caller in what to teach the new caller.



## ALL ABOARD THE CALLERLAB TRAIN TO SUCCESS!

The Home Office is happy to report that 94 callers who were not members in 2009 have joined our organization. Welcome to CALLERLAB!

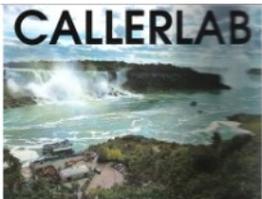
## WHEN RETURNING BALLOTS



When ballots are returned to the office, the outer envelope return address is verified and checked off on the voting mailing lists. Once this is done, the outer envelopes are then opened and the ballot envelope date stamped. We do not open the ballot envelope until a minimum of 100 ballots are received. Those are counted and tallied and we wait for more! This process maintains the secrecy of your vote.

So, please remember when you submit your ballot, be sure to put the ballot envelope inside another envelope and address the outer envelope, including your name and return address (the address where you received the ballot). ***If your name and mailing address are not on the outer envelope, your ballot will not be counted.***





## 2010 CONVENTION YEARBOOK

# 2010

Convention Yearbook

The 2010 CALLERLAB Convention Yearbook is now available through the Home Office at a suggested donation of \$20.00. This is the second year that the Ways and Means Committee has produced a book filled with clear, colorful, captioned photographs of Convention attendees. Also included are articles by the Chairman and the Executive Director. For those who attended the Convention, you will want to have a copy to help remember the events and people who attended. What a great memento of a terrific event. If you didn't attend the Convention, you may wish to purchase a copy to see what you missed.

Special thanks to **Scot** and **Erin Byars** and the Ways and Means Committee for producing a masterpiece of memories to keep forever. Thanks also to **Bill** and **JoAnn Boyd** for print-

ing these books. To order yours, please contact the Home Office by e-mail at [CALLERLAB@aol.com](mailto:CALLERLAB@aol.com) or by phone at 785-783-3665. What a great gift for friends who attended or may have wanted to attend.

### YEARBOOK APPRECIATION

The Home Office received the following note from **Jon** and **Deborah Carroll-Jones** regarding a yearbook they purchased and sent to their friends, **Dick** and **Mary Hinkle**, who are round dance cuers in the Niagara Falls area.

Dear Jon & Deborah,  
Thank you, thank you, thank you!!!! That was so nice of you to send the Convention Year Book!!!! Wow such a great book - now that took someone a lot of time AND effort. Not an easy task to get all that in pictures, names and completed by NOW! Wow, we were impressed and grateful. "Thank you so very much!"  
Thanks again,  
Mary & Dick

## Las Vegas - 2011 That's Entertainment

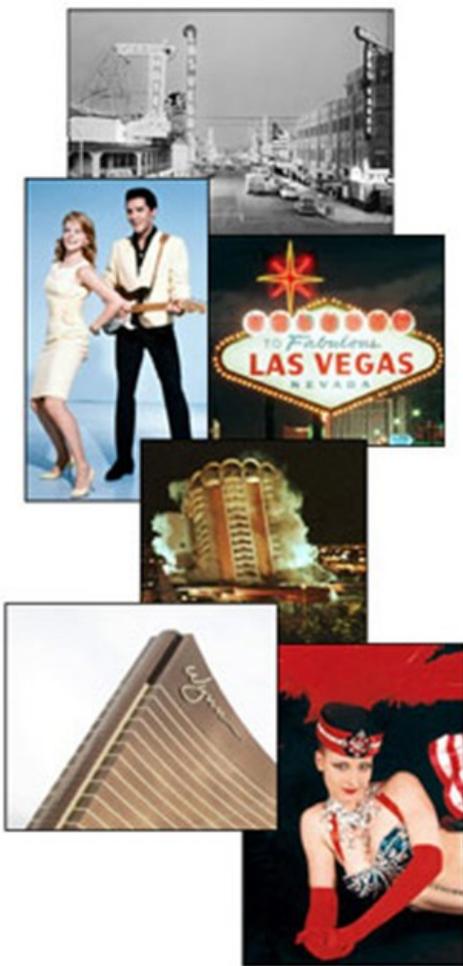
The Convention Planning Committee has chosen the theme "That's Entertainment" for the 2011 CALLERLAB Convention at the beautiful Riviera Hotel and Casino. There will be plenty of lights and glamour mixed with Committee meetings and interest sessions. Take advantage of the pre-registration incentives by registering before August 31, 2010 at the 2010 rates (registration form is the last page of this *DIRECTION*).

### Las Vegas History - In the Beginning

It's a safe bet - and those are rare around these parts - that the San Pedro, Los Angeles and Salt Lake Railroad Co. had no idea what it was setting in motion when it auctioned off the first parcels of land that became the town site of Las Vegas in 1905.

Those few acres of dusty land in the middle of the Mojave Desert have become the most exciting city on the planet: a major metropolis of nearly 2 million people, to which around 40 million people a year visit.

When Vegas turned 100 years old in 2005, the city that sleeps only when it passes out from exhaustion threw a yearlong series of centennial events.





## DON WILLIAMSON CALLER COACH EMERITUS

What are “Good Morning Country Rain”, “Jacqueline’s Waltz”, “Early Morning Secretary”, “Elvira”, “West Virginia”, and “Pink Cadillac”? Four of them are considered to be some of the best selling singing calls of all time. The other is one of the top selling round dance records and one of the most popular “classics”. They all share two things. They were all recorded on Red Boot Records, and they were arranged and produced by one of square dancing’s most iconic figures – **Don Williamson**. In the early 1970’s Don heard a relatively unknown caller (with an amazing voice) from Tallahassee, FL. Don was so impressed with this young caller that he added him to his Red Boot Records label and had him put a vocal on a song that he had in the can. That song, “Early Morning Secretary”, and that caller, **Elmer Sheffield Jr.** quickly became household words in the square dance industry. The rest, as they say, is history. The song went on to become one of the biggest selling square dance records in modern history. Elmer went on to become one of the biggest names in the calling industry, eventually forming his own square dance label – ESP Records.

During his lifetime, **Don Williamson** has worn many hats – teacher, coach, husband, father, caller, semi-pro shortstop, line dance instructor, recording artist, record producer, AWESOME baritone singer, and now, it is my honor to announce that Don will be wearing a new hat. In 2010, Don joins a very elite group of callers who have attained Emeritus status as an Accredited CALLERLAB Caller Coach.

Don was born and raised in South Chuckey, TN on a small farm, and attended Chuckey High School. Growing up, his mother encouraged him to sing in church. During high school, he participated in plays and musicals. It was here that he was further influenced by the director – Orphilla Collie. Most of us remember her better by her stage name – **Minnie Pearl**.

During the summer of 1954, he met his lovely wife to be, Mildred, on a blind date. It was love at first sight, and they were married on October 13, 1954. Don and Mildred have three children

– Stan, Nancy, and Lisa.

Like his marriage, Don’s calling career has spanned more than 50 years. He and his lovely wife, Mildred, started dancing and calling in 1959 while Don was recreational director for the city of Greenville, TN. His predecessor was a caller named **Louis Calhoun**. The name **Louis Calhoun** is very fondly remembered by those of us who have been in the activity for a few years.

Since that time, Don has called in almost all 50 states, Canada, and numerous foreign countries. He has called and taught lessons for clubs in East Tennessee and Western North Carolina. He calls all levels through C-1, and currently calls for the Johnson City Grand Squares, the Knoxville Squares, the Asheville Allemanders, and teaches lines for Don’s Tennessee Twisters Line Dancers. He and Mildred have been elected into the Hall of Fame by both the Tennessee and Western North Carolina Square and Round Dance Associations.

Don was invited to participate in CALLERLAB’s first convention in St. Louis, MO in 1974, and has been a member since that time. He has served two terms on the Executive Committee, and is currently active on the Caller Coach, Caller Training, Partners, and RPM Committees. He received his 50 Year Calling Certificate in 2009. Don was involved in caller education almost throughout his calling career. He received his Caller Coach Accreditation in 1997. Since that time, he has conducted numerous full week schools, seminars, and clinics all over the country.

Don and Mildred, for over 50 years, have been an inspiration to both callers and dancers. Don’s influence, through his recordings and teachings, has had an impact worldwide. To achieve the honor of Caller Coach Emeritus requires the vote and approval of the entire CALLERLAB Caller Coach Committee. Speaking for the members of that committee, **CONGRATULATIONS Don!!!!**



**By Tony Oxendine**

## 60<sup>th</sup> NATIONAL SQUARE DANCE CONVENTION

The 60<sup>th</sup> National Square Dance Convention (NSDC) will be held in Detroit, Michigan June 22 through June 25, 2011. The Convention venue is super and we encourage all callers and dancers to make plans to attend. CALLERLAB supports the NSDC, and will be having a booth at the convention. Help preserve the Nationals by attending next year and encouraging others to attend also. The website is: <http://www.60nsdc.com>.



## POST-CONVENTION VOTE RESULT

Following the 2010 CALLERLAB Convention, 771 ballots were mailed to eligible voting members, asking whether or not the actions taken at the 2010 CALLERLAB Convention should be rescinded (overturned). The results of the Convention action were reported in the minutes of the Annual Meeting which were mailed to all members with the Flash 2010 issue of *DIRECTION*.

The Bylaws specify that a minimum of one-third of the mailed ballots (this year 257) must be returned in order to constitute a quorum. Additionally, two-thirds of those responding must vote to rescind the vote or it stands as taken.

The MOTIONS printed below were presented to the membership during the 2010 Annual Meeting on Wednesday, March 31, 2010. All three MOTIONS were approved by the Membership at the meeting and were submitted to the voting Members by mail ballot. Of the 771 ballots mailed, 307 valid ballots were returned by the June 30, 2010 deadline. Returned ballots have been counted and each MOTION was approved as presented.

The following MOTIONS stand approved by the Voting Members at the 2010 Annual Meeting of the Members and ratified by the mailed ballot:

*MOTION: Be It resolved That: Article I, Section 1 of the CALLERLAB Bylaws be changed to read as follow: Section 1. Principal Office.*

*The principal office for the transaction of business of the corporation is 200 SW 30th Street, Suite 104, Topeka, KS 66611. The location of this office may be changed by the Board of Governors as it sees fit."*

*MOTION: Be It resolved That: Article II Membership, Section 1, Classes Of Membership, Paragraph (C) (2) Apprentice Member of the CALLERLAB Bylaws be changed to read as follows - "(2) Privileges. Apprentice Members shall have all privileges of Active Members, except serving on the Board of Governors, receiving minutes and financial statements, voting, and serving on committees.*

*MOTION Be It Resolved That: Article V. Section 2 be changed to read as follows:*

**"Section 2. Regular Meetings.** *The Board of Governors shall meet twice each year, as follows:*

*Each year, preceding the Annual Meeting of the members or a special meeting held in lieu thereof, the Board of Governors shall hold a meeting at the place designated for that meeting. During this meeting the Board shall conduct such business as may be required prior to the Annual Meeting of the Members. During this meeting the Board shall also vote to confirm the election of the Chairman, Vice Chairman, three (3) EC Members, and two Alternates who were elected during the Board meeting the previous year.*

*Immediately following the Annual Meeting of the members, or a special meeting held in lieu thereof, at the place designated for that meeting, the Board of Governors shall meet for the purpose of conducting business as designated and approved by the Board and the transaction of other business as may be required. To provide continuity of leadership, the Board of Governors shall also elect a Chairman-designate, Vice-Chairman-designate, Executive Committee-designates, and two (2) Alternates-designate, intending that they be elected to office a year hence.*

## VOTING RESPONSE LOG

The Board of Governors (BOG) has established a policy that a report of the BOG and Executive Committee (EC) Voting record in response to issues (LOGs) which require a response be sent to the Membership at least once a year. The following is a report of the voting actions taken by the 2009/2010 (BOG) and the 2009/2010(EC).

BOG Response Log	Total	Total	Voting %
Clark Baker	7	7	100%
Skip Brown	7	7	100%
Scot Byars	7	7	100%
Cal Campbell	7	7	100%
Deborah Carroll-Jones	7	7	100%
Barry Clasper	7	7	100%
Larry Cole	7	7	100%
Tim Crawford	7	7	100%
Betsy Gotta	7	7	100%
Patty Greene	7	7	100%
Bill Harrison	7	7	100%
Robert Hurst	7	7	100%
Mike Jacobs	6	6	100%
Jerry Jestin	7	7	100%
Vernon Jones	7	7	100%
Tim Marriner	7	7	100%
John Marshall	7	7	100%
Jim Mayo	7	7	100%
Bear Miller	7	7	100%
Tom Miller	7	7	100%
Tom Rudebock	7	7	100%
Elmer Sheffield	7	7	100%
Jerry Story	7	6	86%
John Sybalsky	2	2	100%
Norm Wilcox	7	7	100%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>169</b>	<b>168</b>	<b>99%</b>

The following is a report of the voting actions taken by the 2009/2010 CALLERLAB Executive Committee (EC)

EC Response Log	Tot	Tot	Voting %
Tim Marriner	22	22	100%
John Marshall	22	21	96%
Tim Crawford	22	21	96%
Bill Harrison	22	22	100%
Clark Baker	22	22	100%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>98%</b>



## YOUTH MEMBERSHIPS AVAILABLE:

In 2007 the Bylaws were modified allowing callers less than 21 years of age to join as a Youth Member at a reduced membership rate of \$25 a year. If a U.S.A. Member, BMI and ASCAP Licensing and Insurance still needs to be purchased at the normal rates. The By-laws read as follows:

### II. Membership

#### Section 1. Classes of Membership

##### (G) Youth Member

(1) A person who is otherwise eligible for Active, Associate, or Apprentice membership, but who is less than 21 years old and applies for this Membership Category shall be considered a Youth Member as defined below;

(2) Several categories of Youth Members are identified as follows:

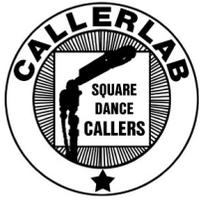
- (a) Youth Active Member
  - 1) Definition: The same as Active Members
  - 2) Privileges: The same as Active Members
- (b) Youth Associate Member
  - 1) Definition: The same as Associate Members
  - 2) Privileges: The same as Associate Members
- (c) Youth Apprentice Member
  - 1) Definition: The same as Apprentice Members
  - 2) Privileges: The same as Apprentice Members

Applications may be obtained by calling the Home Office or by downloading it from the CALLERLAB website:

<http://tinyurl.com/CallerlabYouth>

#### INSURANCE NOTIFICATION

CALLERLAB Liability Insurance covers our Members only. Clubs and officers are not covered by this policy. However, United Square Dancers of America (USDA) can provide this service. CALLERLAB encourages clubs to contact USDA for liability coverage. The website is: <http://www.usda.org/insuranc.htm>



## CALLERLAB GIFT CERTIFICATES

Does your club honor you with a gift for your birthday or maybe for Christmas or both? CALLERLAB would like to give them the opportunity to give their caller a gift certificate. These certificates are offered in the following denominations: \$25.00, \$50.00, \$75.00, \$100.00 or more. The gift certificates may be redeemed for CALLERLAB merchandise, membership dues, or convention fees.

With the holiday season near, now would be the time to order the certificate for their favorite caller. We can send it to them in time for Christmas.

If anyone would like to order a gift certificate for their caller, please send the request to CALLERLAB@aol.com or call the Home Office at 785-783-3665.

We accept MasterCard, Visa and Discover.

### GIFT CERTIFICATE



# CALLERLAB

THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION  
OF SQUARE DANCE CALLERS

200 SW 30<sup>th</sup> St., Suite 104  
Topeka, KS 66611  
Phone: 785-783-3665  
E-mail: CALLERLAB@AOL.COM

*This certificate entitles*

*In the amount of \$ SAMPLE*

*Authorized by \_\_\_\_\_*

### HISTORY COMMITTEE ESTABLISHED

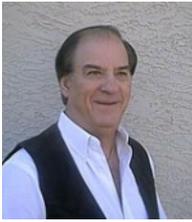
CALLERLAB announces the formation of the History Committee, created in May 2010. **Jerry Reed** will serve as Chairman and **Jim Mayo** as Vice Chairman.

The Committee function will be to identify and preserve materials that will represent, depict and record the history of CALLERLAB. This will include documents, pictures, and other materials regardless of media. The preservation will include storage in several forms including written/printed, photographed and electronic. The Committee will also make recommendations about the appropriate storage form and method. An important additional function will be the recommendation of ways of making both Members and non-members aware of the history of CALLERLAB. Materials will also be made available on the CALLERLAB website.

### KENNETH REID MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND

The CALLERLAB Foundation has received a bequest from the estate of **Kenneth Reid**, square dance caller from Chico, California. **Kenneth Reid** died on September 20, 2009 and, per his wishes, the Trustee has contributed \$10,000, as a gift, to the CALLERLAB Foundation to be used explicitly for scholarships. These funds have been received and the Foundation Executive Board has established a scholarship fund in **Kenneth Reid's** memory. Those wishing to make contributions to this scholarship fund in **Kenneth Reid's** memory may do so by sending a memorial contribution to the CALLERLAB Home Office.

There is now a Microsoft Power Point file with 29 slides which provide information about CALLERLAB and the Foundation. Go to:  
<http://tinyurl.com/CALLERLAB-History>



## THE OZZIE AWARDS

By Wade Driver

Square Dance Record Producers around the world have finalized preparations for the very first Square Dance Music Award (SDMA) voting and presentations. This award has been named the "OZZIE" after Bob Osgood who was the editor of *Sets in Order Magazine* for many years, a Charter Member and founder of CALLERLAB, and one of the very first square dance music producers on the Decca label. The voting is taking place now and the presentations will take place on April 16, 2011 at the Riviera Hotel in Las Vegas, Nevada.

The award recipients will be decided by votes submitted by dancers and callers from around the world. Please visit [www.musicforcallers.com](http://www.musicforcallers.com) and cast your vote for your favorites in 20 different categories ranging from your favorite singing call to your all time favorite caller.

The process will proceed as follows. Between now and October 1, 2010, votes will be gathered for all of the categories. These votes will be tabulated and the top eight frontrunners in each category will receive a final nomination. On October 15<sup>th</sup>, the voting process will begin again to select a winner from each group of eight nominees. On March 15, 2011 the votes will be tabulated and a winner will be declared in each category.

These winners will be announced at the first SDMA banquet, roast, and awards ceremony on April 11, 2011 in Las Vegas. It is going to be an amazing and fun filled night that no one will want to miss. The evening will include a welcome reception, a prime rib banquet, a **Marshall Flippo** Roast, the award presentations, and a square dance. We have also arranged for a special room rate of \$69.00 per night at the Riviera Hotel and Casino. Callers and dancers will be coming in from all over the world so be sure to make your reservations early – space is limited. For more information, please visit: [www.musicforcallers.com](http://www.musicforcallers.com) or email: [ozzie@musicforcallers.com](mailto:ozzie@musicforcallers.com)

### Did you know

Over 90 people are already registered for the 2011 Convention in Las Vegas



## WHAT'S IN IT FOR ME?

### A Partner's Role at a CALLERLAB Convention

By Erin Byars

Each year your caller ventures off to the CALLERLAB Convention, and each year they beg you to come along. You think, "Do I want to sit for three days listening to arguments about whether you can legally do "Crossfire" from lines facing out? Does the hotel have HBO so I can catch up on "current" movies that were in theaters just three short years ago?"

Many partners have faced the same dilemma. Below are a few views and ideas which might help you decide to join us.

**"I'm the type of person who likes to get involved, but I don't think anyone will welcome comments from a mere partner."**

You are so wrong! Not only are many partners lively participants in most of the panels and discussions: partners are actually encouraged to join many CALLERLAB Committees! These Committees include Caller Association Liaison, Calling in Schools, Definitions, Handicapable, Lesson Methods Committee, New Initiatives, Research and Development, Recruit, Promote, Maintain (RPM), Ways and Means, Youth, and of course, the Partners' Committee. Often partners are more than someone who makes sure a caller's shirts are ironed, but a person who is actively involved in all aspects of leadership. Those are skills that CALLERLAB can utilize.

**"I'm not really interested in working on a Committee, but I would love a chance to visit with other partners and find out if they face some of the same challenges I do, and how they overcome them."**

The CALLERLAB Partners' sessions are just what you are looking for! Many facets of being a caller's partner cannot truly be understood – except by another caller's partner. Here, behind closed doors, we discuss our successes and our frustrations among others who face the same issues day-to-day. At last year's gathering in Niagara Falls, we had partners whose caller had been calling only one year, and others whose partner had been calling close to 50

(Continued on page 12)

(Continued from page 11)

years, plus everything in between. There was so much wisdom there! And each person was there to share and support the others.

**“I just need a break – what will be available for me?”**

Two words – Las Vegas! In 2011, the CALLERLAB Convention will take place at the Riviera Hotel and Casino in Las Vegas, Nevada. Who can resist just a few pulls on a slot machine handle or the shopping? The Mirage has a white tiger habitat on display, and also features an erupting volcano! Treasure Island has a nightly show on Buccaneer's Bay called Sirens. There are also tours at the Ethel M Chocolate Factory. Please visit <http://off2vegas.com/freestuff.html> for a listing of free activities.

**“Am I expected to stick like glue to my caller's side, or do I get to choose which Committees meetings and presentations I want to attend?”**

There are no restrictions or expectations on which events a caller's partner will attend. Sometimes my caller and I split up because we can cover more ground that way. Other times we both enjoy attending the same session. You will be welcome to attend any session, and encouraged to participate in all but a few. Or, if nothing strikes your fancy, there is usually a lounge area where folks meet to visit and relax.

One of the things I love about a CALLERLAB Convention is that there are no expectations - I can be as involved just as I wish to be. And later, there are the evening banquets followed by dancing. “Wait, you mean my partner can actually dance with me instead of being stuck on stage the entire night? Sign me up!”



**2011 CALLERLAB  
CONVENTION  
INFORMATION**

The Convention Planning Committee has chosen “That’s Entertainment” as the theme for the 2011 CALLERLAB Convention in Las Vegas, NV on April 18-20, 2011. The Convention theme provides an emphasis that we provide entertainment to the dancers in various ways. As always, there will be technical sessions to peak your interest as well as Committee meetings. There will also be sessions that will chal-

lenge you in new and innovative ways. In addition, Las Vegas offers vast vacation opportunities with plenty of lights, glamour and glitter --- now “That’s Entertainment”!

The Convention will be held at the beautiful Riviera Hotel and Casino with newly remodeled guest rooms and plenty of activities to keep everyone busy. Room rates are only \$69 per night. Sessions will include something for everyone whether entertainment, technical, choreography or leadership. Many of the Committees will also be having meetings during the Convention. Come be a part of what CALLERLAB is all about - people sharing experiences with others to help improve square dancing. Meet Callers from around the world; members of the Board of Governors; recording artists; legendary callers; VIP’s from other organizations, and many others.

Register early to take advantage of the same Convention rates as 2010. Just a \$100 deposit per person will ensure you the 2010 rate. (Registration form is shown on the last page of *DIRECTION*). Hotel reservations can be made by visiting the Riviera’s website at: <http://tinyurl.com/2011-Hotel>

You may also call the hotel directly at 1-800-634-6753. Please indicate that you will be attending the CALLERLAB Convention in April, 2011 and that you wish to register at the International Association of Square Dance Callers’ Convention rates.

**On behalf of the  
CALLERLAB Foundation,  
we wish to thank the following  
for their generous donations.**

**Scholarship Donations**

**Ernie Kinney**

**Foundation Donations**

**Ernie Kinney**

**James Saxe**

**Wayne Janssen**

**Tom Mohny –In Memory Of:**

**Norm Cross**

**Gloria Rios Roth**

**Bob Howell**

## CANDIDATES FOR THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS 2010/2011



**CLARK BAKER**, Belmont, Massachusetts, began dancing in 1974, calling in 1977, joined CALLERLAB in 1980, and has attended 30 conventions. He has served on many Committees, contributing in a variety of areas including Call Definitions, Research and Development, Choreographic Applications, Formations, and Quarterly Selections. He is past Chairman of Research and Development, and was our Quarterly Selection Coordinator. Completing his fourth term on the Board of Governors, he serves as Chairman of the Definitions Committee, and on the Executive Committee.

Clark is known for his ability to listen logically and rationally to several sides of a discussion, and assures that everyone is focused on the crux of the issues. He wants our organization and our members to embrace technology, while preserving our heritage. While we continue to entertain our existing base of dancers and dance programs, our future will more likely be drawn from those who would enjoy a more casual exposure to square dancing - be it dancing in schools, one-time party dances, ABC program, or contras and traditional squares. While there is no magic bullet to suddenly "fix" square dancing, there can be positive, constant change that can affect gradual improvement, without disenfranchising anyone. Not all problems are of CALLERLAB's making, and not all problems are suitable for CALLERLAB to tackle.



**TREVOR DAY**, Manchester, England, has been calling since 1979. He calls weekly for two clubs and teaches the CALLERLAB Basic, Mainstream and Plus programs. Trevor has called within Europe and the U.S.A., is an Accredited Caller and Council Membership Officer of the Square Dance Callers' Club of Great Britain, and Chairman of the Northern Area (of England) Regional Callers' Assembly. He is an Active Member of the European Callers' and Teachers' Association (ECTA) and has attended conventions annually since 2006.

Trevor has been an active CALLERLAB member for 17 years and has attended the last 11 CALLERLAB Conventions and two European Mini Labs. He is currently the Vice Chairman of the Overseas Advisory Committee for Great Britain and a member of the Mainstream, Plus, Choreographic Applications and Definitions Committees.

Trevor believes that, "We can enlarge our dance community allowing new ideas to broaden the appeal and accessibility for future generations throughout the world. By adopting broader and properly structured changes to our current policies and programs, we can retain the fun and enjoyment we have all had as well as encompass our heritage. In addition, we can expect those who may not have English as their first language to join our worldwide activity." He seeks your vote to serve on the Board of Governors.



**PATTY GREENE** currently lives in Monroe, NC. She began calling in 1995 and, with the exception of the past five years, has taught at least one class/workshop yearly since 1996. She has taught for clubs in New Hampshire and North Carolina, and calls regular club dances and party nights for clubs in the New England, North and South Carolina areas. She also calls for local and National conventions. Patty is a staff caller for Royal Records. She has served in positions of leadership since she started calling for area and local committees and conventions. She is the President of the Metrolina Callers' and Cuers' Association, and a member of the North Carolina Callers' Association. By day, she owns PKG DesignWorks, a website programming development company.

Patty joined CALLERLAB in 1996, regularly attends CALLERLAB Conventions, has served on many panels, and has participated in many of the special convention theme dances. She is a member of the Definitions, Mainstream, and Women-in-Calling Committees. She believes strongly in the retention, teaching, and entertaining of our dancers, and the education and leadership development of callers. Patty will offer a fresh perspective, strong organizational skills, a sense of humor, and the ability to think "out of the box" to CALLERLAB Members. She welcomes the opportunity to continue to represent her peers and work towards the growth and preservation of this versatile activity.



**BILL HARRISON**, Cheltenham MD, started square dancing at the age of seven and began calling in 1970. In 1985 he began calling full-time. He has home clubs in the Baltimore, Southern Maryland, and Northern Virginia areas where he calls the CALLERLAB Programs through C2. He also teaches beginner lessons using the Multi Cycle program.

Bill joined CALLERLAB in 1977. He has served as Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Career Callers' Committee for a total of seven years, Chairman of the Advanced Quarterly Selection Committee for four years, Vice Chairman of the Advanced Committee for four years, and is presently Chairman of the Advanced Committee. He has served five terms on the Board of Governors, including two years on the Executive Committee. He is a member of the Advanced, Applications Review, Challenge and Mainstream Committees.

Bill states that he is running for the Board of Governors (BOG) for another term because he wishes to continue the work that has been started in his past terms. He has seen much change in the BOG over the years and feels a big part of this change. Much work has begun with building the activity and education within the organization. He wishes to follow through as a Board Member for another term. The future of square dancing is one of his major interests.



**JERRY JESTIN**, originally from Alberta, Canada is based in Yuma, AZ and College Station, TX. Jerry called his first dance in 1967, and since then has been on staff for of callers' schools, seminars, conventions and festivals all over the world.

Jerry has been calling full-time for over 30 years. He does over 600 sessions a year including lessons for beginners. Jerry is also a very proficient round dance cuer and instructor. This gives him an extra insight into the harmony and cooperation of the two activities. Jerry has recorded over 30 square dance records on seven labels (currently TNT and Gramophone Productions) and has choreographed at least a dozen round dances.

Jerry has been a member of the Board of Governors for four terms and is an active member on three CALLERLAB Committees. Just recently, Jerry became the 38<sup>th</sup> CALLERLAB member to become an Accredited Caller Coach. Jerry tries very hard to understand the square dance picture from the local perspective as well as from a professional perspective. He cares deeply about the preservation of our activity for future generations, but realizes that there must be changes to keep up with an ever changing world. Therefore, a vote for Jerry would give him the opportunity to help make square dancing a vital part of tomorrow's activities worldwide.



**VERNON JONES** has been calling for 32 years. He is a Member of CALLERLAB and has served as Vice Chairman and Chairman of the Callers' Association Liaison Committee. He has also served as the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Teaching Methods Committee. He is a member of the Mainstream, Plus, Advanced, Teaching Methods, Callers' Association Liaison, Definitions, Recruit, Promote, Maintain (RPM), RPM Ad Hoc, Mainstream Definitions Ad Hoc, and Research and Development Committees. He serves on the Board of Governors and is serving a third term on the Executive Committee.

Vernon has been on the staff of four Grand Square Inc. Callers' Schools at the National Square Dance Convention. He is currently on staff of the 2011 Grand Square Inc. European Callers' School and Festival to be held in Sweden. He travels the U. S. A. calling, but he is most proud that he is a local caller with a regular club and teaches new people to learn our activity.

Vernon believes that if we are to grow our activity again, we must find an easier way to attract and keep new dancers while giving them the fun and enjoyment they are looking for. He would appreciate your vote for the Board of Governors.



**BEAR MILLER** - Who is he? Why should I vote for him? Bear lives in Littleton, Colorado and began dancing in 1990. He started calling and joined CALLERLAB in 1992. He calls approximately 24 nights per month and is passionate for square dancing. Bear is a club caller for 4 clubs and has conducted over 80 classes of varying levels. He is in the Denver Area Council's Hall of Fame, and has been President of his Caller's Association twice. At Denver's 53rd NSDC, Bear was the Vice-Chair of Square Dance. He is currently Chairman of the Caller Association Liaison Committee.

Respected by his peers, Bear is noted for his attention to detail and seeing a job to its completion. Your confidence got him elected to the Board of Governors. The Board needs that "local" caller input to give it diversity. Our Chairman challenged us at Convention to make a difference in the next few years, and Bear would like an opportunity to meet that responsibility head on. He believes that we have a lot of serious matters, but they are always much easier to manage with a twinkle in our eye. He would appreciate your vote for "Bear" for the Board of Governors.



**TOM MILLER** lives in a small community located in Western Pennsylvania named Chest Springs. Tom started calling in 1975. He is a full-time traveling caller, traveling extensively across the United States, Canada, and Europe. He maintains a home program, which includes teaching new dancers yearly and clubs that range from Mainstream through the Challenge 1 program. Tom also keeps an active handicapped group. Tom is a recording artist for ESP Records and is a charter member of the Appalachian Callers Association of Western Pennsylvania. Currently, Tom is serving on the Board of Governors for CALLERLAB, active on several CALLERLAB Committees, and is currently Chairman of the Youth Committee. In the

past, Tom has worked hard with fund raising events for the CALLERLAB Foundation. With all of this experience, Tom has a large overview of the current trends in the activity. He feels it is vitally important to recruit and maintain new dancers in order to preserve the heritage of square dancing. He is asking for your support in order to continue representing the Members of CALLERLAB.



**TOM MOHNEY**, Oil City, Pennsylvania, has been an accredited member of CALLERLAB since 1978 and welcomes the opportunity to serve on the Board of Governors. Tom is currently a member of the Mainstream, Plus and Advanced Committees. He started dancing in 1966, and started calling in 1972. He has introduced scores of new dancers to the activity and has conducted countless workshops. Tom has participated on the staff of the Pennsylvania and West Virginia State Conventions and numerous benefit dances. He calls regionally and maintains two home clubs.

Tom thinks Western Square Dancing is a wonderful family oriented activity which has many physical, social and educational benefits. He feels CALLERLAB needs to continue its marketing efforts to reach people who could enhance the activity. Tom's professional expertise in education provides him with administrative and people skills, in addition to a diverse experience with cultures.

Tom believes in the ideals of CALLERLAB and what the organization has accomplished. He knows that CALLERLAB is a key in the future of square dancing. The challenge is to develop new perspectives and directions in a changing society. If elected Tom says, "I will work to strengthen and promote the activity that all of us so dearly love."



**MIKE OLIVIERI**, Northglenn, CO, is currently in his 14<sup>th</sup> year of calling Mainstream and Plus level dances. He loves to do party dances, introducing non-dancers to our activity and traveling throughout Colorado, Wyoming, Kansas, and Nebraska calling for clubs. He has his own club in Denver that dances every week. He teaches lessons for local clubs. He is a member of the Northeast Colorado Callers' and Cuers' Association and the Denver Area Callers' and Cuers' Association and holds offices in both organizations. He also mentors three new callers in the area.

He joined CALLERLAB the year he began calling. He has attended 12 consecutive CALLERLAB Conventions around the Nation. He is currently Vice Chairman for the New Initiatives Committee and a member of Ways and Means, Handicapable, and Caller Coach Committees.

Square dancing is starting to gain popularity again, especially with the younger generation. He would like to help advance this move by being a member on the Board of Governors. His name is Mike Olivieri and he approves this message. Thank you for your support.



**BOB POYNER**, DeFuniak Springs, FL, began calling in 1963 while stationed at Eglin Air Force Base, FL. In 1966 Bob moved to Plainfield, IL. While working full-time, Bob was club caller for seven to nine clubs in the Chicago area. He called in several states, averaging four to six nights a week teaching and calling. He was a member and officer in the Chicago Area Callers' Association and the Illinois Callers' Association.

After retiring in 1990, Bob moved to DeFuniak Springs. He presently calls for five clubs from Basic through A-2 levels. He has attended and called at over 38 National Square Dance Conventions.

Bob has been a member of CALLERLAB since 1975, Northwest Florida Callers' Association since 1993, President, Northwest Florida Callers Association, Florida Callers' Association since 1993, serving as an officer and President, from 1997-2001. He is also a member of the Alabama Callers' Association.

Bob served on the CALLERLAB Board of Governors from 2006-2009. He would like to return as a member of the Board of Governors and would very much appreciate your vote.



**JOHN SWINDLE**, Rockledge, Florida, began calling in 1968, and has been affiliated with square dancing for 60 years. He has called for numerous clubs from Mainstream to A2. He currently calls for four local clubs and travels to substitute for other callers upon request.

John has been a member of CALLERLAB since 1975, has attended 18 Conventions, and has worked in the CALLERLAB office for 10 years.

He has no answers, but would like the opportunity to help find answers to the many questions that adversely affect square dancing endeavors and CALLERLAB today. John says, "I would like the opportunity to give back to CALLERLAB some of what I have received in the last 35 years."



# CALLERLAB CALLER MENTORING PROJECT OUTLINE

By Betsy Gotta

Chair, Caller Training Committee

An Ad Hoc Committee is now developing exercises to help the Caller Mentor work with a new caller. First, the outline, exercises, and resources will be published as a booklet. Then, experienced callers will be needed as mentors to assist with the development of new callers.

Some of you may wonder, "Why do we need new callers?" New callers often look at innovative and different ways to attract people to our activity. Their excitement often translates to the experienced and potential dancers whom they reach. But if a new caller does not provide a good dance experience, especially to a beginner group, the people attending the square dance party may never try square dancing again. If we can bring callers together who are interested in mentoring, we can be ready to help a new caller find a mentor. With these guidelines, any caller can be sure they have covered the important topics. Imagine next year at the National Square Dance Convention - we could have a list of potential mentors organized by State so the individuals interested in calling could find a mentor. Contact the Home Office to join the Caller Training Committee, work on the Ad Hoc Committee, or to sign up as a mentor. Additional new, well trained callers will benefit the entire square dance activity!

This document is intended to help guide experienced callers who are working with a new caller. It is not intended to replace caller schools or undermine CALLERLAB Accredited Caller Coaches (ACC). We recognize that there are callers who are willing to work with (mentor) a new caller, but do not want to undergo the extensive work to become an ACC. These Caller Mentors may want guidance to get the new caller started or a path to help the new caller continue to improve. The idea is to have a clear, 12-step plan to mentor callers. Below are the steps and some suggested ideas for each. Physical proximity is essential for mentoring.

- I. Terminology - Cool Caller Jargon
  - A. Formation, Arrangement, Sequence, Relationship – FASR
  - B. Set-Up versus Resolve
  - C. Modules, Zeros, Equivalentents - Get In Modules, Get Out Modules
  - D. Choreography Sequence – Example, Chicken Plucker
- II. Music - Calling is Vocal Commands Set to Music
  - A. Down Beats and Phrasing
  - B. Practice Saying Calls in 2 Beats to the Rhythm
  - C. Singing Calls – Rationale: The singing call gives the new caller something to say.
  - D. Delivery - Command Tone
  - E. Chord Structure and Pitch Matching
- III. Microphone Techniques
  - A. Learn to Hold Mic.
  - B. Recite Poetry - Chant to Music
  - C. Sing a Song - Karaoke
- IV. The Start of Patter - Chicken Plucker as a Framework
  - A. Gives New Caller Something to Say - Can be read first (large type), then memorized.
  - B. Practice Delivery and Timing
  - C. Modules Used Within the Framework of Chicken Plucker
    1. Alternative Get Ins
    2. Using Zeros
    3. Equivalentents for the Chicken Plucker Routine Such as Square Thru 3, Trade By instead of Right & Left Thru, Dive Thru, Pass Thru
    4. Alternative Get Outs
    5. Easy Sight Resolution Within the Framework of Chicken Plucker
  - A. Working with a Limited Vocabulary - How Many Calls? Recommend a Number?

- B. Other Formations such as Big Circle or Contra Lines - Pros and Cons
- V. Understanding the Calls
  - A. Call Analysis Sheet as Tool
  - B. Work on Calls and What They Do
    - 1. Hand Availability
    - 2. Flow - Overflow
    - 3. Learning to Think in the Language of Square Dancing
  - C. FASR - What Formations and Arrangements Work for Each Call (Sequence and Relationship?)
- VI. Modules
  - A. Modules That Work Better from an 8 Chain Thru or Facing Lines
  - B. Rotating the Set-up (Example - Zero Box, Star Thru, Pass Thru, Bend the Line, Star Thru)
  - C. Conversion Modules - Magic Module
- VII. Teaching
  - A. How to Explain a Call
  - B. Where to First Show the Call From
  - C. Assign New Caller a Call to Teach that is Unknown to the Dancers
  - D. Invite Lesson Dancers for Caller Practice - Workshop Session with Mentor Guidance.
- VIII. Dance Parties
  - A. Working with a Limited Vocabulary - How Many Calls? Recommend a Number?
  - B. Other Formations such as Big Circle or Contra Lines - Pros and Cons
  - C. The ABC Idea
  - D. Possible Choices of Calls to Use - Learn Simple Dance Patterns
  - E. Line Dances and Mixers - Pros and Cons
- IX. Flexibility with Singing Calls
  - A. How to Change Figures
    - 1. Using Choreography from Books
    - 2. Creating Their Own Pattern
  - B. How to Adjust Figure for Groups Needing More Time (New Dancers, Older Dancers, Handicapped Dancers)
  - C. Adjust Presentation to Allow New Caller Comfort - Breathing, Using or Modifying Lyrics, Importance of Command Words
- X. Business Practices and Ethics
  - A. Tax Records
  - B. Contracts
  - C. How to Grow your Business
  - D. Start-Up Costs
  - E. Leadership and Ethics
- XI. Partner Support
  - A. The Role of the Partner
  - B. Business Manager?
- XII. Introduction to Sight Principles - Mentor chooses one formula and keeps student working within its boundaries. Committee shows examples. Teaching of sight resolution is optional, not mandatory.

A page listing resources will be included with the package. These would be things to review such as:

1. CALLERLAB New Callers' Pack
2. "American Square Dance Magazine"

Caller Training Committee  
Revised 7/10



# CALLERLAB ACCREDITED CALLER-COACHES



As of July 19, 2010

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## **Working With Squares and Rounds**

Ever wonder why one dance seemed fun filled and energetic and another seemed to drag on forever? More often the difference is due to communication. Officers and dance leaders can either work collectively to provide a great dance experience or they can work separately- likely pulling it apart. A great dance does not happen intuitively.

Music and complex of choreography create a mood that affects the ebb and flow of the entire event. When callers and cuers are working alternately, it is important to communicate and observe the work of each other. Great dance leaders instinctively blend their styles to complement each other's dance form to increase the overall dance experience. Working as a unit, they can craft a dance program that provides maximum enjoyment by all. If the opposite occurs, the event can feel choppy as if being a part of a tug of war match rather than a dance; or worse yet, a funeral dirge.

The following guidelines are offered to support the success of dance events that offer both squares and rounds.

### Prior to the Dance Event

1. Determine ahead of time what equipment is required, who supplies it, and when it must be provided. Stipulate needs in a contract, especially if a turntable is required.
2. Before the event, communicate any special needs or space required such as table arrangement, steps, lighting, decorations, or computer stands. Ensure they do not inhibit any leader's performance.
3. If the club officers have not previously provided you a written agenda for the dance (who does what and when), then please request such PRIOR to the dance so that the format for the evening is very clear to both leaders.

### Prior to Starting the Dance Program

1. Arrive early to set up equipment and introduce yourself to all the leaders and officers involved.
2. Coordinate with the dance officers:
  - a) How the program is to be scheduled and maintained.
  - b) Square Dance program and Round Dance phases expected.
  - c) Expected lengths of breaks between dances.
  - d) If a food break is to occur and what is expected during such a break.
  - e) If announcements and prize drawings are going to be made and when.
  - f) Whether or not workshops are expected.
  - g) If a particular dance theme should be followed.
3. Allow time for the other leader to set up if necessary.
4. Discuss any special quirks regarding the sound equipment with all dance leaders.
5. Understand how your equipment works and how it is to be connected before it's time to start.
6. If a sound check is needed, share signals to communicate if some change is necessary.
7. Provide your own microphone. Don't expect to use one belonging to another leader.
8. Share programming intent with the other leaders.

### During the Dance Program

1. Don't set up equipment or change things while the other leader is working.
2. Walk the floor perimeter while the other is working to ensure there is proper balance between voice and music.
3. If an input jack must be changed, turn off the microphone to avoid loud static or pops.
4. If plugs or settings need to be changed between leaders, be courteous and return them as found or replace them after you are finished.
5. Be careful and consistent with volume control, plugs, and settings.
6. Create a good rapport with the other leaders. Use proper showmanship techniques.
7. Be polite, move off stage when the other is working.
8. If folks wish to have a conversation or sign books, please be courteous and move away from the staging area to allow the other leader to work without distraction or noise.
9. Don't taunt or distract other leaders while they are working.

10. When working alternately, provide similar music or rhythms to assure flow when transitioning between dance forms.
11. Try to avoid music that would cause the room to become silent.
12. Offer a variety of music styles that awaken the spirit.
13. Be attentive to the others needs. Offer assistance if necessary.
14. Be a team with your fellow dance leaders. People enjoy friendly interchange between leaders.
15. Smile! Be friendly. Enjoy what you are doing.
16. Set a goal to elevate the enjoyment of the dancers to be greater than their expectations upon their entering the building.

#### At the End of the Dance Program

1. Using the microphone, thank the other leader(s) for their work.
2. Offer to assist the other leader(s) with taking down the equipment.
3. Don't pack up your equipment or decorations while the other leader(s) are working.
4. Thank the dancers, officers, club, and visiting dance leaders for attending.

#### Leaving the Building

1. Don't leave until the entire Dance Program is finished. If you must leave, then formally excuse yourself with good reason.
2. Stay after the dance to shake hands with everyone and thank them for attending.
3. Privately, be sure to thank the club leader(s) for inviting you to work for them.

#### Other Thoughts

Round Dance leaders should encourage their dancers to learn to Square Dance, and vice versa. It has been said that Square Dancing makes better Round Dancers, and Round Dancing makes better Square Dancers. Our dance activity has enjoyed a well balanced program of entertainment by combining both square and round dancing for many years. This union provides added value to both dance forms that is enjoyed by many.

People come to a dance carrying both good and bad experiences of the day with them. The collective group psychology results in some level of, or lack of enthusiasm. The Caller-Cuer team should have a goal of raising that level or collective attitude by at least one notch, thus giving the dancers a relief from the day, or an increased entertainment value causing them to leave feeling better than when they came in. This is created by the tone or enthusiasm of the leader-team. We have that control if we choose to utilize it.

If by chance both the Caller and Cuer have, or are willing to have, fun personalities, it is a great thing for them to interact with one another in front of the audience. We are entertainers and we should seek to entertain - as a TEAM. However, caution should be exercised in this area due to the potential for misunderstandings which might result in hurt feelings.

Callers are generally the prime reason for dancers attending a square dance. Good callers will have a program (written or unwritten) that they will execute over the evening. It is appropriate for the caller to share that concept with the cuer. And it is appropriate for the cuer to try to match or compliment that program. For example, a cuer should never put on a slow waltz immediately after a high-energy square dance tip. Talking together will maximize the resultant success.

The individual who is supplying the sound system should arrive early enough for the first performer to be able to start his/her program on time. The other performer should always have a full set of equipment available in case the supplier is unexpectedly delayed.

The best equipment should be used to get the best quality of sound for the dancers. Neither leader should bring poor quality equipment to the dance, and if one has better equipment than the other, please agree to use the better set.

When there are personality conflicts between you and the other leader, make contact with that leader on a separate occasion, and see if you can resolve your differences. If a solution can't be reached, call the club leadership and request that they not book the two of you together again, without disclosing the reason.

For Cuers: If rounds are done first, try to get the crowd upbeat for the caller by choosing appropriate upbeat music just before the caller takes over.

#### Conclusion

Keep these guidelines in mind the next time you share a program with another dance leader. If followed, they could provide you with more bookings, simply by being a part of a truly enriched dancing experience that others will want repeated!

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