Newsletter
for Members of

CALLERIA

The International Association
of Square Dance Callers



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PLUS EMPHASIS CALL: Spin Chain the Gears ADVANCED EMPHASIS CALL- Transfer and (Anything)

#### FUTURE CONVENTIONS:

APR 14 - 16, 2014 Reno, NV
MAR 30 - APR 1, 2015 Springfield, MO
MAR 21-23, 2016 Lansdowne, VA
APR 10-12, 2017 West Region

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#### **NEW MISSION STATEMENT**

To foster the art of square dance calling and improve caller skills.



### FROM THE CHAIR By Barry Clasper

During our recent Convention in Cary, NC, I had a few people ask where we came up with the Convention theme, "Accentuate The Positive". On the first

occasion, I blurted out without thinking, "Don't you think it's about time?" Later I decided deeper thought wouldn't improve on it, so that became my standard answer. It is definitely "about time".

In recent years it has become fashionable to reminisce nostalgically about the "golden age" of square dancing when tens of thousands of dancers attended the U.S. National, many weekends and festivals had waiting lists, and clubs had huge beginner classes. We lament the decline of our beloved activity and greet each new failure to achieve the standards of past glory as confirmation that indeed the sky is falling. The song "Gloom, Despair, and Agony On Me" (Red Boot 3101) comes to mind.

And this attitude has infected dancers as well as callers. Last year, 4 other callers and I ran a partial Basics dance for our amalgamated beginner classes. I overheard something there that highlighted this issue for me. We had 13 squares packed into a small gymnasium. Most of our beginners were there as well as a lot of Mainstream, Plus, and Advanced dancers from the surrounding area. Everyone was having a great time—super energy in the hall, big smiles all around. We (the callers) were jazzed and excited to have a big crowd with so many existing club members attending, and obviously having a great time with the beginners (as opposed to being there to "do their duty"). As I passed by a pair of dancers chatting, one a beginner and one a veteran, I happened to overhear the veteran say something like, "It's really a shame. This dance would have been so much bigger a few years ago. There aren't as many beginner classes as there used to be." Prior to this remark, the beginner had been wearing an expression of wide-eyed excitement at how much fun the dance was. Afterward she appeared to be looking around for the lifeboats so she could escape this sinking ship.

In the veteran's eyes, 5 or 6 squares of beginners drawn from 5 groups covering an area of about 100 miles in diameter represented failure; just another demonstration that square dancing is dead. Ain't it a shame? She remembered in the "good old days" that area would have contained 20 beginner groups, each one with 5 or 6 squares. The accuracy of that memory is debatable, but that's what she thinks. By conveying that attitude, she tainted the experience for someone who was excited about having a great time at an event that was so much fun.

We need to stop doing this. It is one thing to recognize our problems, what we can do better, what we need to do to increase our numbers, etc. It is quite another to sabotage what we do manage to achieve by conveying the impression it is second-rate compared to our glorious past. It is true that things are not what they once were. We need to regroup, retrench, and rebuild. In many ways, it is like we are starting over from scratch. It is definitely frustrating, but only for those of us who remember. For new dancers, none of that matters. They only care that they are having fun NOW—and that they can expect to continue having fun in the future.

So let's stop waxing nostalgic about the golden age and focus on building our new future. Let's celebrate each new dancer who walks in the door as someone who is helping us build that new future. Let's focus on giving the dancers in front of us today the best time we can, and then work to give them an even better time tomorrow. Let's share our successes, and what made them successes, with each other. And let's also share what we learn from our failures so we can do it better next time.

As the song says: "Accentuate the positive. Eliminate the negative. Latch on to the affirmative, and don't mess with Mister In-Between."

"Discipline is the bridge between goals and accomplishments." *Mother Theresa* 



# CHAIRMAN'S CONVENTION SPEECH By Elmer Sheffield, Jr.

Good evening, ladies and gentlemen. It is my pleasure to welcome each of you to the 40th annual CALLERLAB Convention here in Raleigh, NC. I trust that you had an enjoyable trip coming here, and I wish you a safe trip going home. I sincerely hope that you are enjoying our Convention and that you are gaining a wealth of knowledge.

Tonight will be my last speech to you as Chairman of the Board of CALLERLAB. As I was preparing this final speech, I was reminded of the words of Winston Churchill. He said, "There are only two things harder than making an after dinner speech. The first is trying to climb a wall that is leaning toward you, and the second is trying to kiss girl that is leaning away from you; both very challenging." I have enjoyed my two years as your Chairman. I have made many new friends and lost a few old ones. I do want to assure you that every decision I made was for what I thought was the betterment of square dancing.

The beginning of my term was very trying. As you probably know, my wife, **Margie**, had a stroke and I suggested to the Home Office that maybe I should step down. We discussed this and the decision was made for me to continue. On the home front I had to learn to cook, clean, wash dishes, mop, and even attempt to wash clothes—at which I did not do a very good job. I also took my job as Chairman of the Board very seriously, and I was determined to do a good job. I approached both of these jobs with a positive attitude. In fact, our theme for this year is "Accentuate the Positive", and I ask that each of you do this: it has worked for me.

This past Saturday a group of us held a vision workshop that was hosted by **Denise Ryan**, the same vibrant young lady that spoke at our Opening Session. What a fireball! We had a very

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good meeting with lots of discussion, and our CALLERLAB Mission Statement was rewritten. I would like to stress to each of you that your participation in our organization is very important. YOU are CALLERLAB! Your ideas and suggestions will be listened to. Do not feel that just because you are not a big name or are not well known that your thoughts will not be heard. You can make a difference. Remember: nothing ventured, nothing gained. We have those in CALLERLAB who feel we need no changes whatsoever. After all, we have been doing it this way for over 50 years. To those, I say that if your classes are larger, and your clubs are larger, and your festivals and weekends are thriving, then by all means keep doing what you have been doing. Just remember that if you keep doing the same thing you will keep getting the same results. Change does not always come easy and the wheels of change turn slowly. Do not give up on your ideas: "Accentuate the positive."

I would like to bring you up to date on a few of the things I was able to accomplish this year, even with some minor resistance. Our rewrite of the abridged definitions had been kicked around for about four years with not much getting done. A CALLERLAB Member, **Jerry Story**, asked if he could finish them—again with minor resistance. I allowed him and a selected committee to finish this project. It is now complete and on our website for anyone who wishes to use it. A job well done, and I thank these guys and gals.

The second thing that I wanted to try was to have a meeting with members of the American Callers Association to discuss mutual problems and to see if we could work together to correct them; again—minor resistance. I arranged a meeting in Nashville last year preceding our Convention. The meeting went well and we did have a chance to discuss problems that we all face with; recruitment, teaching and retention. We were all pretty much in agreement that perhaps a shorter entry program that could have new dancers dancing in 10 to 12 weeks might be a start. We had planned to have another meeting in October, but we were unable to arrange it.

This idea was still churning in my head, and I did not want to let it die. I had tried a similar program in my local club, and we went from 1 square to 8 squares at our dances. I asked 2 callers from CALLERLAB (Bill Harrison and Tim Marriner) and 2 callers from the American Callers Association (Paul Marcum and Gary

Shoemake) if they would help me—and they agreed with enthusiasm. These 4 guys worked together for 4 months comparing, shaving, and adjusting until they came up with a shortened teaching entry program made up of the most used calls that could be taught in a 12 week program. Let me make it clear that this is not a new list, nor are we suggesting to do away with Basic or Mainstream. It is a suggested program that may help you with your new dancers. Keep in mind that I said if what you are doing is working then keep it up; but if you want to try something a little different, then here it is. I also forgot to mention—again with minor resistance.

I truly hope your enthusiasm for our activity is still growing and that your creative juices are flowing. Together we can bring our great activity back to where it should be. I thank you for your attention and your support for the last two years. I can assure you that all of my attempts at change have been for the betterment of square dancing and CALLERLAB. Thank you very much.



# MIKE JACOBS RECEIVES THE MILESTONE AWARD Presented by Betsy Gotta

Our recipient tonight is primarily known for calling one of the aspects of the square dance activity. He has, however, been

active in many different parts of the activity. Once again, the specialty for which the person is known is only a part of the entire picture.

This person was born in Kentucky and started square dancing at age ten. He started calling as a teen, and set a goal of becoming a full-time caller. He achieved that goal, calling extensively throughout the United States, Canada, Europe, Japan, and Scandinavia. He has called all programs, including Basic and C-4.

In addition to his interest in square dancing, this individual was a complex person with many interests. In high school, he played catcher on the baseball team and always maintained an interest in all aspects of baseball. He also was interested in musical theater and performed in his college production of "The Fantasticks". Other interests included trivia, reading, old movies, and cooking. Our recipient was on the

debating team in both high school and college. The debating skills he learned there allowed him to argue a point strongly without taking the discussion personally.

In square dancing he was mentored in his early career by **Ray Bohn** and **Stew Shacklette**. As his calling career continued, he started to mentor new callers and became a CALLERLAB Accredited Caller-Coach. He enjoyed following the career of callers he mentored, and maintained an interest in their development.

In 1998 USDA hosted a meeting to start the idea of the various national square dance organizations working together to promote the activity. This meeting included **Larry Cole**, who represented CALLERLAB. Larry brought the idea back to CALLERLAB. Then, as Chairman of the Board of CALLERLAB in 1999, Larry took this idea to ROUNDALAB.

The idea that a coalition of the major national square, round and contra dance groups would enable us to pool our resources to better promote our dance activity was not necessarily totally popular with the various organizations. Our honoree, who took over the job of representing CALLERLAB from Larry, believed in that idea and was instrumental in bringing it to fruition. Jim Maczko stated that it was tonight's recipient who made the rest of us realize that it was important enough to come together. In June 2002, after the St. Paul National Square Dance Convention, this individual brought Jerry and Del Reed and Tom and Bev Rudebock to the USDA Hospitality Suite to discuss bringing all of the dance groups together. This was followed by a group meeting in conjunction with the CALLERLAB Executive Committee meeting in Florida in October 2002.

Our recipient functioned as Chairman for that meeting and his diplomacy helped the representatives begin to communicate. Groups represented were: CALLERLAB; American Callers Association (ACA); Contralab; International Association of Gay Square Dance Clubs (IAGSDC); National Square Dance Campers Association (NSDCA); National Square Dance Convention Executive Committee (NEC); ROUNDALAB; Single Square Dancers USA (SSDUSA); United Square Dancers of America (USDA); and USA West Square Dance Convention Policy Board (USA West). At that time, several of those

organizations had issues with (and some distrust of) other organizations. This year's recipient got the representatives to speak together and focus on common interests instead of their differences. He was also serving as Chairman of the Board of Governors of CALLERLAB at this time.

The group continued to meet two to three times a year with different groups hosting and serving as rotating Chairs. Our honoree chaired the meeting in June 2003 following the Oklahoma City National Square Dance Convention, and again in October 2003 he chaired the meeting following the CALLERLAB Executive Committee meeting. This meant that our recipient, Mike Jacobs provided a major leading role in organizing the group now known as ARTS Dance.

In March 2004, the first officers were elected: **Jim Maczko**, Chair; **Henry Israel**, Vice Chair; **Edythe Weber**, Treasurer; and **Jerry Reed**, Secretary. **Mike Jacobs** was serving as Chairman of the Board of CALLERLAB during this whole time period (2002-2004). Unfortunately, we lost Mike in December 2009.

Mike was known primarily for calling Advanced and Challenge Programs, but he worked with a Senior Basic group, and taught two beginner classes while he was involved in the ARTS Dance development.

Ladies and Gentlemen, I am honored to represent CALLERLAB in presenting the Milestone Award to **Mike Jacobs**. Mike's daughter, **Kristy Dalton**, is here to accept the award.



## JERRY HELT RECEIVES THE GOLD CARD

Presented by Elmer Sheffield

The CALLERLAB Gold Card is awarded to those individuals who

have made outstanding contributions to CALLERLAB. Three Life Members are in the audience tonight; **Jon Jones, Melton Luttrell,** and **Jim Mayo.** 

It is my privilege to present a Gold Card this evening to an individual who has been a tremendous ambassador of CALLERLAB. He has already received the Milestone Award for his contributions to square dancing, and has the admiration of many callers and dancers around the world. An individual who is a giant of a man who stands five feet and six inches tall.

He has continued to support the development of leadership and has placed great importance on home club programs. This individual has served in the development and advancement of CALLERLAB (having served on the Board of Governors), and has supported various local, state, and national square dance events. He has always been a strong advocate of the recreational values that square dancing affords. He is one of a few callers who has bridged the traditional with the contemporary.

In 1979, he was inducted into the Square Dance Hall of Fame. Tonight he will receive the Gold Card. This caller started his calling at the age of 12 as a 4-H assignment. That was in 1943. This year he celebrates 70 years of calling and has called more years than any other CALLERLAB Member. Through it all, his partner, Kathy, was by his side.

It is with great pleasure that I present the Lifetime Member Gold Card to my friend, **Jerry Helt!** 



# BILL ACKERMAN RECEIVES THE SPECIAL RECOGNITION AWARD

Presented by Clark Baker

Special Recognition Award recipients are chosen by the CALLERLAB Executive Committee. The Award recognizes significant contributions to the square dance activity or to CALLERLAB. In this particular case, we are talking about a *significant* contribution to the square dance activity.

Significant not only in the effort that he expended, or the span of time it took him, or the diligence expended in his craft, because tonight's recipient knew that many callers would be relying on his work output. A single error could cause hours of frustration for callers and their dancers. Significant because tonight's recipient solved a problem that some said was impossible,

and gave the solution away for free.

As callers, we are generally in the business to make money. Not a lot of money, but usually we do charge for our services. The contribution we recognize tonight was, and continues to be given away for free. That's right, it is intentionally available to any caller or dancer (or budding computer programmer) for free. All of us can use it, and even take it apart to see how our master programmer accomplished a task that some said was impossible. Not only that, we can build upon it, because the source code is available to all of us.

Our recipient attended the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and earned a Bachelor of Science in Mathematics in 1967, a Master of Science in Electrical Engineering and Computer Science in 1977, and a PhD in the same area in 1984.

The contribution we recognize tonight is the computer program "SD", and its author and driving force, **Bill Ackerman**. "SD" is a checker-moving program that is **powerful**, **sophisticated**, **accurate** and **reliable**.

Callers traditionally worked out their choreography by moving tea cups or sugar packets or dolls or checkers through the material. This was a slow and error prone process. Callers, especially those who needed to pre-choreograph their dances, needed a faster and more accurate way to create their choreography. In addition, especially in the Challenge dancing arena, the choreography was becoming more complex with the addition of phantoms and concepts, and the nesting of concepts, and later the addition of meta-concepts.

Bill started thinking about a computer program that could "do it all", and did some prototyping in LISP in the 1980s. The production version of the program is written in a descendent of "C" programming language and was started in 1990. Here are some statistics:

93,000 lines of C++ code 26,000 lines of database 2,500 calls in the database

The numbers tell us that "SD" is big, complex, and took a lot of work. Virtually all challenge callers use "SD" or a similar program to write their material. The use of computer checker moving programs has changed challenge square dancing. It is certainly more accurate, it is certainly more consistent from one caller to another, and it has probably gotten harder since callers don't have to push their checkers through the material. There is a lot more that I could say here, but let me tell you a bit about Bill.

Bill started square dancing in 1977 with MIT's Tech Squares, and calling in 1982. He has called at 16 National Conventions and over 20 New England Conventions, and has been a non-staff caller at several National Advanced and Challenge Conventions.

He assists in the teaching of the Tech Squares beginners class which takes place twice a year. He is usually teaching a workshop to get people to their next level, depending on demand. This could be anywhere from A1 to C-3A. Finally, Bill also calls one-time party dances.

I want to conclude by reading an excerpt from the "SD" manual. It will give you a sense of Bill, and the thought that goes into everything he does, even the user manual. Also, the last line shows a bit of his sense of humor.

"SD" is a square dance caller's helper. The program assists you in writing sequences for Western square dancing by doing the checker pushing. You tell the program what call you want to call next, and it computes the resulting set-up and shows it to you.

"SD" is intended to be used to write challengelevel dances where the sequences are often complex and the checker pushing tedious and errorprone. Most challenge callers write out the sequences they will call before they get to the dance, unlike Mainstream callers, who often invent the sequences on the fly from the stage.

#### What "SD" Is Not

"SD" knows nothing about timing, body flow, or esthetics. This program is not appropriate for traditional square dancing. A good traditional square dance sequence requires, among other things, extremely accurate control of timing and phrasing. The program is not capable of this.

Since the emphasis here is on checker pushing, you will find various Mainstream staples missing, such as Circle Left, Grand Square, and Do-Sa-Do. Since these calls are *zeros*, there is no

reason to have them in a checker-pushing program.

It is most emphatically not the goal of "SD" to present a polished graphical display of the dancers or to show animation. The goal is to write sequences so that you can create pleasing animation among live people. If you want to enjoy the esthetic visual patterns created by square dance choreography, we recommend that you turn off your computer and go to a dance.

The use of this program is not a good way to learn to call or to improve your calling or dancing skills. In fact, reliance on a computer program to write material could easily make you a worse caller, or interfere with your attempts to improve your calling skills.

The knowledge of calls and concepts that this program can provide is only a tiny part what you need to learn in order to be a good caller or dancer. To call successfully, you need to master many skills, such as timing, flow, judging difficulty, floor interaction, and choosing precisely the right words to say. This last skill is as important at high levels as at low levels. Subtle differences in the words you choose, and their timing and inflection, can have a tremendous influence on the success of the dancers. "SD" attempts to print the correct words in all cases, but you will only succeed if you have a deep understanding of what the words mean and how they should be delivered. That understanding can only be obtained through a great deal of experience calling at that level.

Quality, correctness, and reliability are fundamental and extremely important design objectives of "SD". Before any version is released, it passes very rigorous diagnostic tests. These tests include verification of large amounts of C-4 material from recent National Advanced and Challenge Conventions, and other C-4 weekends. The elusive but ever-sought-after goal is to make a program that never makes mistakes, is able to write virtually all of the non-bogus material called by the top challenge callers (whatever computer program they may have used), and is developed and tested carefully, so users can be assured that this ability will be maintained in all future releases.

"Do the things today that others won't so that tomorrow you can do the things that others can't."

\*Unknown\*\*

#### Judgment, Controversy, and Warning Messages

Not all callers exercise good judgment in their calling, and occasionally some controversial, or even illegal, things are called. It is not possible for a computer program to enforce good judgment or good taste. "SD", nevertheless, sometimes prints warning messages of various types to alert less-experienced callers that something might be unusually difficult or controversial, or might violate some definition or some commonly accepted notion. These warning messages are intended for callers less competent than you. "Ignore them."

#### CHAIRMAN'S AWARD Presented by Elmer Sheffield

This is my second year as the Chairman of CALLERLAB. Last year I did not present a Chairman's Award, so this year I choose to present two. Both of these individuals have not only been of great assistance to me, but to CALLERLAB.

The first is a person who has not been calling very long, and has only been a Member for about five years. During this time, he has made a great impact on CALLERLAB. A self-described "computer geek", he has rebuilt and enhanced each of the computers in the Home Office with minimal costs to CALLERLAB. He answers the phones, processes the mail, and provides assistance to the Executive Director. His enthusiasm has helped recruit and maintain Members. He continues to stand ready to assist anyone who needs help, including your truly. I would like to present the Chairman's Award to Wade Morrow of the Home Office Staff.

My second Chairman's Award will be presented to a person who is not a caller, but who again has provided a special expertise to CALLERLAB. She has only been a part of CALLERLAB during the past five years; however, she has been very noticeable in her presence. This person has the ability to take one of my articles, written in country boy verbiage, and make it sound "pretty". From DIRECTION, CALLERLAB documents, publications and our VIEWPOINT in the American Square Dance Magazine, she provides editorial magic. Even this speech would have been a lot more polished had she had the opportunity to work her magic.

Her expertise has also arranged for the meals you have received during this Convention. I'm very happy to present the Chairman's Award to **Royce Dent** of the Home Office Staff.

### HALF CENTURY CERTIFICATES Presented by John Marshall

Prior to 2013, a total of 167 CALLERLAB Members have received the Half Century Certificate. Of the 75 current CALLERLAB Members who have previously received this award, 18 attended the 2013 CALLERLAB Convention in Cary, North Carolina.

This year, six callers attended the Convention and were recognized for their Half Century Award Certificate. They were: Carter Ackerman, Pennsylvania; Gregg Anderson, Colorado; Doug Jernigan, Georgia; Chuck Olsen, Michigan; Bob Poyner, Florida; and Mike Seastrom, California.

In addition, there were ten active CALLERLAB Members who earned their Half Century Award Certificate this year, but were unable to attend the Convention. They are: Andy Petrere, Louisiana; Berlon Graham, Florida; Chuck Hansen, Arizona; Dave Williamson, Canada; John Holman, Indiana; Larry Dunn, New York; Larry Rohr, Nebraska; Lee Dixon, Georgia; Sid Leighton, Australia; and Sonja Mogel, Massachusetts.

#### QUARTER CENTURY CERTIFICATES

Presented by Skip Brown

Quarter Century Certificates are awarded to CALLERLAB Members who have been calling for 25 or more years. The first awards were made in Baltimore in 1986, and they have been awarded annually since then.

Since 1986, a total of 1,409 CALLERLAB Members have received the Quarter Century Certificate. Of those, 716 are still Active Members and 103 were at the 2013 CALLERLAB Convention in Cary, North Carolina.

This year, three callers attended the 40th CALLERLAB Convention and received their Quarter Century Awards. They were:

Terry Hebert, Canada; Ted Lizotte, New Hampshire; and Fran Wadel, New Jersey.

Additionally, 22 Members who will celebrate their 25th anniversary of calling this year were unable to attend the 2013 CALLERLAB Conven-They are: **Biorn Wagner**, Germany: Bryan Clark, Canada; Charlotte Jeskey, Ore-Chuck Martin, Washington; David Myers, Kansas; Don Haney, Wyoming; Francois Lamoureux, Nevada; Hans Wandtner, Germany: Jerry Quam, California; Ken Perkins, South Carolina: Larry Dudgeon, Larry Wood, Oregon; Missouri; Hildebrand, Illinois; Lori Morin, Rhode Is-Marine Ramsby, Sweden: Krautkramer, Wisconsin; Rich Stewart, New Mexico; Ron Brown, New York; Sven Koewing, Germany; Terry Young, Washington; Tom Strickland, Ohio; and Virginia Yerta, Kansas.

#### BOARD OF GOVERNORS' SERVICE AWARD

Presented by Barry Clasper, Chairman

The Board of Governors' Service Award is presented to retiring Board Members in recognition of their commitment to CALLERLAB as demonstrated by the selfless sharing of their time, talent, and leadership skills. This year, we have two retiring Board members.



Skip Brown began calling in 1976. He joined CALLERLAB in 1983 and attended his first CALLERLAB Convention that same year. He has attended 27 CALLERLAB Conventions. He has

served on the Board since 2007 and has served on many CALLERLAB Committees. I'm pleased to present the Board of Governors Service Award to retiring Board member, **Skip Brown**.



Elmer Sheffield began calling in 1968. He joined CALLERLAB in 1975 and attended his first Convention that same year. He has attended 24 CALLERLAB Conventions. He has served on the Board

since 2007 and has served on many CALLERLAB committees. I'm pleased to present the Board of Governors' Service Award to retiring Board member, **Elmer Sheffield.** 

After serving CALLERLAB for four years, **Wade Morrow** has accepted another job. We wish him great success on his new position. Thanks, Wade, for your years of service to CALLERLAB!

### SMALL WORLD AWARDS Presented by Don Casper

The Small World Award is presented to Members residing outside Continental North America and Hawaii who are attending a CALLERLAB Convention for the first time. This year, Naru Okumura of Japan attended his first Convention and received the Small World Award.

Previous Small World Award recipients attending the Convention were: Juli Burr, Germany; Walt Burr, Germany; Don Casper, Germany; Trevor and Chris Day, England; Masaharu (Doc) Hiraga, Japan; Shozo and Miyoko Nishimura, Japan; Tac Ozaki, Japan; Jeannette Staeuble, Switzerland; and Masaru Wada, Japan.

#### APPRECIATION AWARDS

The Appreciation Award is presented to recognize CALLERLAB Members who have given unselfishly of their time, energy, and knowledge in support of CALLERLAB Committee work, Convention assistance, or significant CALLERLAB programs.

CALLERLAB and the Foundation had a vendor booth at the 61st National Square Dance Convention in Spokane, WA. The Home Office manned the booth with the help of the following, who gave unselfishly of their time: Tom Rudebock; Brian and Debbie Freed; Wade Driver; Jon Jones; Deborah Carroll-Jones; Betsy and Roy Gotta; Ken Ritucci; Tom Miller; Laura Morrow, and Donna Schirmer.

Much of the work of CALLERLAB is done by our Committees. Dedicated Committee Chairmen and Vice Chairmen are the people who make it happen within the Committee structure. Your Executive Committee has approved presenting Appreciation Awards to outgoing Committee Chairmen and Vice Chairmen: Tom Rudebock, Mainstream Chairman; Lanny Weaklend, Mainstream Vice Chairman; Arnold Gladson, Lesson Systems Chairman; and Vernon Jones, Lesson Systems Vice Chairman.

CALLERLAB Accredited Caller-Coaches Jerry Junck, Betsy Gotta, Ken Ritucci, Doug Davis, Randy Dougherty and Tony Oxendine participated in the caller training sessions at the 61st NSDC in Spokane, WA.

### NEW MISSION STATEMENT "To foster the art of square dance calling and improve caller skills."

#### CALLERLAB PRESENTS NEW MISSION STATEMENT

#### By Barry Clasper



Periodically, every organization needs to review its reasons for existence, its goals, and the activities aimed at achieving those goals. Given the significant changes in the circumstances sur-

rounding square dancing over the past 10 to 15 years, the EC felt that such a review was timely for CALLERLAB. On the Saturday before this year's Convention, members of the Board of Governors and the Past Chairmen's Committee met under the guidance of a professional facilitator to examine where we are and where we want to go.

A major outcome of this meeting was a revised mission statement for CALLERLAB. An organization's mission statement needs to encompass the full gamut of its activities and yet be so concise that members can remember it and, ideally, recite it verbatim. Whenever members undertake an action on behalf of the organization they should be able to measure it against the mission statement and ask themselves how it contributes to the mission.

CALLERLAB's new mission statement is NOT a new mission. It is a more concise restatement of our existing mission that allows members to memorize it and use it as a benchmark when setting priorities. The new mission statement is:

### "To foster the art of square dance calling, and improve caller skills."

We believe this captures in 12 words the essence of the old mission statement, which was 117 words. We hope Members will memorize these words and call them to mind whenever they evaluate a CALLERLAB activity: how does it contribute to this mission?

It is easy to see how our traditional activities fit into this mission: education, providing communication channels (both between members and with other organizations) setting and documenting standards, and promoting the benefits of square dancing. All of these are easily embraced by this mission statement.

There is, however, one activity that at the moment must be our highest priority. The art of square dance calling cannot flourish without dancers. And we are all painfully aware of our current unhappy situation in that regard. Therefore, we believe our current first priority (our "job #1") must be increasing the number of square dancers. The EC and the Board of Governors are currently considering initiatives aimed at that goal. When priorities must be chosen, that goal will be our first priority. We ask that you join us in this endeavor. Devote your thoughts and energy towards increasing the number of dancers—now. When something you try succeeds, tell us about it. When something you try does not succeed, try to figure out why and tell us about that.

#### WANT TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE?

CALLERLAB is an association of Members helping Members. Most of CALLERLAB's work is conducted by our Committees and is reliant on the work of the Committee Chairman, Vice Chairman and the Members of each Committee. Members' opinions and Committee decisions are the life blood of CALLERLAB.

CALLERLAB is always looking for responsible leaders to help our organization successfully meet its goals. A list of current Committees, their Chairman and Vice Chairman is found at: tinyurl.com/CALLERLAB-Committee. If you are interested in joining any of these Committees, please contact the Home Office. If you are interested in serving as a Chairman or Vice Chairman of a Committee or if you want to offer more assistance with a special task, please give that information when you contact the Home Office. If you have an idea for a project or task you think would be valuable for a Committee to undertake, again, please contact the Home Office. This information will be forwarded to the appropriate Committee.

CALLERLAB is also interested in finding individuals who think they possess the ability to be a moderator or panelist at an upcoming annual Convention. If you would like to serve in this capacity, please contact the Home Office. Remember — YOU are CALLERLAB!

#### CALLER-COACH CORNER NO! B-51 IS NOT A BOMBER Basic As An Entry Level By Daryl Clendenin



I think if you look over your club's classes for the last few years, you'll find that quite a few new people have at least begun square dance lessons. Which is to say that we're

not doing that bad a job of recruiting, but where are those people today?

Has your club had square dance lessons each of the past three years? If so, how many of the graduates of those lessons actually joined the club and are still dancing? Let's take it a bit further: how many of them actually survived through the full set of lessons to graduate and are dancing in a Mainstream club? I'd be willing to bet the percentage of survivors is less than 25 percent. The club insurance files reflect our dancer population over the past 5 years.

According to insurance information, Oregon Federation membership numbers since 2009 are:

2009: 3,064 -

2010: 2,835 (-129)

2011: 2,698 (-137)

2012: 2,458 (-240)

2013: 2,264 (-194)

These numbers don't just take into account the folks that have dropped out of dancing, but also includes those that have started. "That's a very linear progression and will take us to **ZERO** by the year 2024!"

#### What can clubs do?

Keep getting more people into the classes, and once they are there, KEEP THEM! I'll once more go out on a limb and say, "If we could just keep the dancers that we lose after they complete beginner's lessons, we'd be in great shape." It has always been hard to get new people interested in devoting the time necessary to get to club level. It seems a real shame that some of us aren't doing a very good job of keeping the ones that are recruited. As I travel around the Country, I hear stories of clubs that have graduated as high as four squares of new dancers. Unfortunately, these same clubs are crying because very few of the new graduates remained with the activity. Why is this? Why is it that someone, who has spent the time and money to learn how to dance and seems to enjoy it, doesn't continue after graduation? Folks, we need to look at this problem really hard. Though recruiting is very important, I submit that if we were to just keep those that we graduate, most of our problems would be over. We have met the enemy and it's us!

We continue to cater to a smaller, more select group of people. The program levels are so well established that callers are no longer attempting to create new moves. They are finding new and interesting ways to use the existing moves within each level (DBD). Our existing dancers would say that this is a good thing. Well, maybe so. But, if our current dancer population is accustomed to a huge variety in the application of the movements, it makes it even more difficult for new dancers to join their ranks. We can't continue to make the mountains higher and expect very many new climbers to meet us at the top. These days we seem to insist that the new dancer comes up to meet our level of dancing, rather than us dropping to meet theirs. Can you imagine the pressure this puts on new folks who are already lacking confidence?

#### Why B-51?

When square dancing ceased being a "social recreation" and became a "hobby", our problems began. The difference between recreation and hobby is the difference between just going bowling, or being part of a tournament league. The first requires little, the second requires a lot. The idea of B-51 is to recreate a social program of dancing.

It has been said, "Most of us callers call material that is far too difficult for the recreational dancer." Today's dancers are survivors. It is evident that the recreational dancer has not been intrigued with the challenge and has left the activity. Movements 1-51 on the list make up the Basic 1 and 2 Programs of square dancing. Notice that B-51 is only 17 movements fewer than the 68 that make up Mainstream.

#### How can the clubs and callers help?

My opinion (along with many other caller leaders) is: we need to get a quicker, easier entry level established and accepted. I'm not suggesting that we change the dance level at our clubs to B-51, but our area could benefit from local dances at an easier level of difficulty. Keep the club level at Mainstream and when the students reach the 51 Basic level, have some real dances for them to attend while they finish their Mainstream lessons and hopefully join the club.

For the dancers whom we are losing, those who are slower to learn, the ones who need to angel the next two sets of lessons, the ones who make it through ten lessons and never get any further and mainly those that we are losing because it's too much too quick, it creates a program where they can survive until they can make it at the Mainstream level. You know to whom I refer.

Here's something you might consider. Think about last year's students who made it through the full set of lessons but aren't dancing. You can just about consider them a total loss. Let them know about this more relaxed dance program. Without the pressure of anything beyond a ten lesson level knowledge, they can comfortably dance. That's right, ten lessons as an *entry level* for real dancing. As they get comfortable at B-51, they'll be looking for a good Mainstream club to vary their dance experience. Everyone wins—the dancer and the club.

If extended applications of the Basic moves were saved for workshop tips at the B-51 dance, ten lessons could be within reason for an entry level and ten lessons would be a considerably more marketable.

#### Women in Calling Deborah Carroll-Jones, Chair

Attention Women Callers! We need several things from you ASAP! American Square Dance Magazine is still offering space in the magazine to feature bios of women callers. This is a nationwide way of putting our WIC members in front of the dancers and calling population. Please make it a point to be *pro-active* in this regard by sending a bio of about 300 words and your photo to me at: <a href="mailto:deborahcjones@net.att">deborahcjones@net.att</a>. I will forward them to the <a href="mailto:American Square">American Square</a> Dance Magazine.

Do you have any audio/video recordings of yourself or other women callers? **Jim Mayo** is actively seeking audio for possible inclusion on an excellent new website: <a href="https://www.squaredancehistory.org">www.squaredancehistory.org</a>. Collectibles must be sent to **Jim Mayo** at <a href="mayo329@aol.com">jmayo329@aol.com</a>.

Our prime directive for this year will be the marketing of our activity to recruit new dancers (and how we go about it), as well as what we do to connect with them to keep them. Women have a way of doing this that can be very different from our male counterparts. Please start thinking of those things you do or have done that have been successful. We will be passing these along to the Marketing Committee for dissemination to all our Members. We have an opportunity to share our strengths and experiences in a crucial area with all CALLERLAB Members!

### Choreographic Applications Committee Dottie Welch, Chair

The Choreographic Applications Committee is beginning to work on creating an online teaching aid to provide an up-to-date resource for callers who are teaching entry level square dancing. The intention is to create a series of call-specific online reference pages corresponding to our recommended teaching order. Each page will include the current definition, standard applications, and teaching tips information for the call. There will be diagrams, quick cues, call analysis information, relevant modules, and teaching choreography for the standard applications with matching singing call figures. If appropriate, it will also include contra style drills and some choreography for extended applications. There will be a corresponding downloadable document for each page.

The goal is to provide a consolidated teaching resource which includes recommendations from those with experience. We hope that access to this information will make teaching more efficient and satisfying to both the teacher and the dancers.

Callers interested in participating in the creation of the online teaching aids are encouraged to attend the CAC meeting in Reno during our annual CALLERLAB Convention next year or to join the Committee.

"A pessimist sees the difficulty in every opportunity; an optimist sees the opportunity in every difficulty." Winston Churchill

### Committee For Community & Traditional Dance Bob Riggs, Chairman

The Committee For Community & Traditional Dance met at the Convention in Cary, NC to review its 2012-2013 accomplishments and to plan for the coming year.

Community Dance Journal (CD Journal) All past issues of the CD Journal were made available on the CALLERLAB website early in the year along with a comprehensive index that allows you to find a dance by name and then identify the issue in which it appeared. Three new issues of the CD Journal were added during the year. This was accomplished through the efforts of **Dottie Welch**.

#### **Community Dance Material**

The Committee developed a format for posting of community dance material and proposed both the format and a process to the webmaster and Home Office. At this time, finalization of the content structure is underway, and we hope to have the first content posted to the site in the next couple of months. Stay tuned for an announcement in *DIRECTION*.

Beginner Dance Party Leadership Seminar (BDPLS) The Committee sponsored the BDPLS prior to the 2013 Convention in Cary, NC. Fifteen participants and 6 leaders conducted 11 sessions that included a variety of square dance material and contra dance material along with other dance forms to provide spice to your one night party. The participants had an opportunity to plan a party and have microphone time to present one night party material. We are planning on our 15th seminar in Reno in 2014. In addition, the Committee discussed topics that we believe would be of general interest to CALLERLAB Members and could be submitted for publication in future issues of *DIRECTION*.

The Committee further discussed how the material we historically have referred as a Community Dance Program really fits into the realm of a limited basics program. The vast majority of the material we use should be thought of as square dance material performed in squares, two couple mini sets, Sicilian circles, etc.

If you have any questions about the above information or would like to ask about Committee activities, please contact **Bob Riggs** at: Bob@SquareDanceEtc.com.

### New Initiatives Committee Mike Olivieri, Chairman

Planning on trying a Flash Mob Square Dance? Wondering what the success rate is on twice a week lessons? Looking for new ideas on how to recruit new dancers? All of this and more can be found on the CALLERLAB website. Just click on

"Documents/General Documents" and look for "New Initiatives Reports" and the "Winning Ways" documents to find the latest and greatest ideas submitted to CALLERLAB. If necessary, you can contact the Home Office for a hard copy.

Even though we have a good start on successful ideas that have been submitted to the New Initiatives Committee, we are always looking for more new, out of the box ideas. So, if you or your club have tried something different that worked, and you think even one other person (or club) might be interested in trying it, please submit it to the New Initiatives Committee through the Home Office. Be sure to include as many details as possible, as well as your contact information in case we have questions. Who knows? Maybe your suggestion or idea will be the next big success story on the CALLERLAB website.

#### Youth Helping Youth

The Prairie Cloggers, located in Topeka, KS, is a youth clogging group under the direction of **Donna Schirmer**. Each year, the group conducts a used square dance clothing sale to help with various expenditures. This year the group decided to donate \$450 from the proceeds of this sale to the CALLERLAB Youth Activities Committee to assist youth callers. So far, three youth callers (just starting their calling careers) have received free Starter Kits, compliments of these funds. In addition, **Royce Dent** held a raffle at the CALLERLAB Convention in Cary, NC. Proceeds from this raffle were split between the Youth Activities Committee and the Foundation.

#### ATTENTION!! EXPIRED MEMBERSHIP

The 2012/2013 CALLERLAB membership year ended on March 31, 2013. If you have not yet renewed for the 2013/2014 membership year, your membership has expired and this will be the last issue of *DIRECTION* until you renew. If you live in the U.S.A., your BMI/ASCAP licenses and liability insurance have also expired. If you have not yet received your renewal package, please contact the Home Office at: <a href="mailto:CALLERLAB@AOL.com">CALLERLAB@AOL.com</a> or by telephone at: 1-800-331-2577.

The CALLERLAB office will be CLOSED from June 24 through 30, 2013 while the staff attends the 62nd National Square Dance Convention in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

#### Caller Training Committee Betsy Gotta, Chairman

The Mentoring Project Document, that has been the primary project of the Caller Training Committee, was edited by **Ed Foote** in the fall of 2012. Thank you, Ed. It has been revised and submitted to the Committee membership for approval or revision. The Committee will be discussing a revision of the Reference Sources section of the Curriculum Guidelines and Technical Supplement. We need to review the current list to see what items are still being published and are current. We also need to add documents that have been created since the current list was generated (1996?) so that we can include them in the Reference Sources List.

The Home Office has received a question about what pre-requisites a person needs before they start to learn to call. The Committee will discuss whether or not this document is needed and what pre-requisites would be included.

Also, in a response from a Member, the Committee will discuss whether its votes should be open (so that all members can see the votes) or private.

The Caller Training Committee seeks to serve all callers (including its members) by helping them to continue to learn and to become better at their craft. We are seeking ideas and suggestions for ways to serve the needs of both new and experienced callers. If you are interested in training callers, please consider joining this Committee. Certification is not required.

"Thank You" to the **North Carolina Callers Association** for providing sound equipment and assistance during the 40th Convention!

#### Challenge Committee New Chairman



The Executive Committee has approved the appointment of **Bill Ackerman** to Chairman of the Challenge Committee. Best wishes to Bill for agreeing to chair this Committee, and a

wholehearted "Thank You" to Barry Clasper for his years of service to CALLERLAB as the previous Chairman. Barry has now moved on to become the Chairman of the Board.

#### THANKS TO OUR EXHIBITORS

We wish to thank those who exhibited their products and services at this year's Convention. They were:

Hilton Audio (Dick and Vicky Henschel)
Sandy's Square Dance Boutique
Reinhold Roedig
Suzie Q Creations (Susan Elaine Packer)

#### CONVENTION VOLUNTEERS

We wish to take this opportunity to thank everyone who assisted in whatever capacity at this year's Convention! This includes all of those who served as moderators or panelists, Partner's Committee members, our registration staff, those who served as emcees, presenters (invocation and award presentations), committee chairman and vice chairman, our exhibitors, the members of the Executive Committee and the Board of Governors, and especially, all of our attendees.

To all of you who attended and helped out in any way, please accept our sincere thanks for your contributions to a great Convention!

#### NEW CALLER-COACH CONGRATULATIONS!



The Caller-Coach Committee announces **Tom Miller** as CALLERLAB's newest Accredited Caller-Coach. Please join with CALLERLAB in recognizing Tom in achieving this outstanding and inspiring accomplishment.

Congratulations, Tom!

#### BOARD OF GOVERNORS ELECTION

If you would like to be a candidate for the Board of Governors, petitions can be obtained from the Home Office. Your valid petition, a brief biographic sketch, and a current photo must be in the Home Office no later than July 1, 2013!

Candidates must have been a full Member for no less than 3 years and must obtain the signatures of 25 Active (voting) Members. Nine positions will be elected to 3-year terms on the Board, beginning with the Board of Governors meeting immediately following the 2014 Annual Meeting.

# 10 Tips for Dealing with Crazy People Who Don't Accept Change as Gracefully as You Do — By Denise Ryan-Firestar

Sometimes we all feel that people who don't think like we do are crazy. They just don't seem to get it! Well here are some tips for trying to deal with them:

- 1. Try to listen more if you are an extrovert (you get your energy from being around people). Try to talk more if you are an introvert (you get your energy from spending time alone).
- 2. Keep an open mind. You might not always be right. (I know, it's a long shot, but....)
- 3. Take responsibility for yourself. (You can't control them-only you.) Know when they are really too difficult to work with not everyone is someone you want to spend a lot of time with.
- 4. Try empathy. They really might be going through something horrible and their insanity is only temporary.
- 5. Treat others with respect. (The Golden Rule) We often get back what we give out.
- 6. Always praise good work. A sincere compliment costs you nothing and goes a long way. Sometimes this goes a long way in helping a person become less crazy.
- 7. Be patient. Some people can't grasp concepts and ideas as quickly as you can.
- 8. Consider a different method of communication; texting and e-mail are easy to miscommunicate with. Try the phone. Better yet, consider a face-to-face conversation. (Just make sure they wear their straight jacket.)
- 9. Give other people a break. They may not be as excited, as sweet, as smart, or as perfect as you. And the day may come when you're not as excited, as sweet, as smart or as perfect as they are.
- 10. Give yourself a break. All you can do is be yourself and do your best. You won't get along with everyone, and that's okay.

#### 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.

#### From **Lori Morin**:

Thank you so much for the 25 Year Award from CALLERLAB. My, my! Where does the time go? Twenty-five years! I've been telling folks I'm 35—now what am I going to do? I didn't know you (CALLERLAB) were keeping score for me. Seems like **Dick Leger** was just teaching me how to call. Now I look back over the years remembering all the places we have traveled calling for clubs in the U.S.A., Bermuda, and the Eastern Caribbean, calling at National Conventions, NE Conventions and weekends/cruises, clubs, churches and Scouts. What more could one want? I have enjoyed those 25 years immensely.

Now I prefer to stay in New England and call Basic and Mainstream to timing, of course, and to our local people. I have met so many wonderful friends over the years and danced with most of them.

If I had to say what I like most about square dancing (besides dancing) it would be teaching, fun nights, and classes. There is nothing like the new dancers just catching on to a new dance figure or being hugged at a dance at the end of the night in appreciation for teaching them something new they never thought they could do. Makes it all worth the time.

It would have been nice to attend CALLERLAB, but I believe I mentioned before, Dave had a stroke a few years back and loss a fair amount of vision. I pray to God every day thanking Him for letting Dave remain in our lives. So we keep things simple here in RI. Of course, I work at my beauty salon regularly, which I love. I call for my club, teach two classes, demos, and whenever New England clubs need me I help out. Keeps us busy enough.

A ten page letter wouldn't begin to state how much I love this activity. I could write a book on timing and easy Basic/Mainstream figures because I've written so much new material and we've collected so much material and tapes over the years. Certainly wouldn't be hard. Anyway, thanks a million times over for reminding me of the 25 years. It's been quite a ride—and I'd do every bit of it again!

Love to our friends at CALLERLAB!

P.S. When I read the Award, it mentioned, "having called for thousands of dancers over the years," it brought tears to my eyes thinking back of all the dancers who we brought together as friends and in marriage and the dear friends we have lost.

Also, it was signed by **Elmer Sheffield**, the first traveling caller (except for **Dick Leger**) we ever met...25 years ago. Thank you! Thank you!

"You often meet your fate on the road you took to avoid it." Goldie Hawn

### Chairmen Tapes By Jim Mayo

At the recent Convention we played some clips from audio recordings of many early callers. They were taken from the collection of the Square Dance Foundation of New England. **Ted Lizotte** suggested to me that our historical collection should continue into the present, which will be history someday. In particular, he suggested that it would be good to have recordings of live dances by each of the past CALLERLAB Chairmen.

We have tapes from several of the early Chairmen. In the days when they were traveling it was common to have several tape recorders running at every dance. These days it is unusual to record a dance. We would like to build the collection and this is a request to share. If any of you have recordings (we would like a live dance, not a record) of dances called by any of those we don't have in the collection, we would appreciate an MP3 copy or the tape. We can make the digital copy. The list of past Chairmen for whom we do not have recordings is:

Tony Oxendine
Jerry Junck
Laural Eddy-Mosley
Larry Cole
Mike Jacobs
Tim Crawford
Tim Marriner
John Marshall
Elmer Sheffield, Jr.

#### WHAT DID YOU MISS?

If you did not attend the 40<sup>th</sup> CALLERLAB Convention, what did you miss? You missed a lot! The Convention hotel, the Embassy Suites, allowed plenty of areas to socialize and mingle. Free hot breakfasts every morning as well as a free Managers Reception every evening. As in the past few years, **Bob Riggs** and the Committee for Community and Traditional Dance hosted a Beginner Dance Party Leadership Seminar on Saturday and Sunday preceding the Convention. The Music Producers hosted the second Ozzie Award presentations on Saturday evening.

During the Sunday evening reception, guests were treated to bluegrass music performed by the group, Victoria Lee and New Ground, a youth group that presented a lively atmosphere for attendees. This same evening, **Gregg Anderson** and **Mike Seastrom** conducted a "High Energy" Dance Party with plenty of fun and laughter.



At the Monday morning Opening Session, attendees were treated to a motivational speech by Denise Ryan, a Raleigh area professional speaker. It was obvious that Denise did extensive research on our activity, as she pre-

sented ideas using terms and observations that are common to square dancing. During the rest of the Convention, moderators, panelists, attendees, and the Board of Governors were noting various comments that Denise had presented.

Monday and Tuesday provided many opportunities to attend interest sessions and committee meetings. Evening banquets provided entertainment and award presentations followed by dancing entertainment.

What surprises await next year's Convention? Guess you'll just have to attend to find out. It will be CALLERLAB's 41st Convention and it will be held in Reno, NV. Register now! Shuffle up, deal the cards, and make plans for Reno!

#### In Memoriam

Tom Dillander West Point, KY



#### Marjorie Wyman Charitable Annuity Trust Receives

#### Foundation Directors Award Presented by Tom Rudebock

The Foundation Board Of Directors has established three awards to recognize noteworthy or contributing support to the Foundation.

The highest award the Foundation can give is the Foundation Directors Award. This Award is recognizes individuals and organizations which have demonstrated very exceptional and extremely outstanding or contributing support to the Foundation or to square dancing. It is presented to individuals or organizations which have met the following criteria:

Very exceptional and extremely outstanding service to The Foundation, or

Very exceptional and extremely outstanding service to square dancing, or

A very substantial donation to the Foundation of \$5,000 or more in a calendar year

In 2012, the Marjorie Wyman Charitable Annuity Trust donated \$5,000 to the Foundation to establish a scholarship in memory of **Mike Jacobs**. Please join me in thanking them for this very generous donation.

Accepting this award on behalf of the Wyman family are Roy and Betsy Gotta and Tom Miller.

The 2012/2013 membership year ended with a total membership of 1,523 which represents an increase of 11 members from the previous year. We are happy to report this is the second consecutive year that our membership has increased. Thanks to all who helped!

#### FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIPS

The CALLERLAB Foundation Mission Statement reads, in part: "The mission of the CALLERLAB Foundation is to preserve and promote the folk art of American square dancing and related dance forms."

The following scholarships are available from the Foundation.

The **Dave Krediet** Memorial Scholarship Fund. In accordance with the wishes of Dave's family, proceeds from this scholarship fund will be used exclusively for disbursement to any caller wishing to attend a caller's school.

The **Paul Place** Memorial Scholarship Fund. In accordance to the wishes of Paul's family, proceeds from this scholarship fund will be used exclusively for disbursement to any caller wishing to attend a caller's school, with emphasis to newer callers.

The **Grand Square**, **Inc**. Scholarship Fund is available to callers who have indicated a desire to learn to call or a desire to improve their calling, or a square dancer or organization which has indicated a desire to sponsor a seminar or clinic to provide training to dancers or callers to help them better serve square dancing.

The **Kenneth Reid** Memorial Scholarship Fund. Proceeds from this scholarship fund will be used exclusively for disbursement to any caller wishing to attend a caller's school.

The **Music Producers'** Scholarship Fund. Proceeds from this scholarship fund will be used by any caller (calling less than two years) to attend a caller's school.

The Mike Jacobs Memorial Scholarship Fund, in accordance with the wishes of the Marjorie Wyman Charitable Annuity Trust. Proceeds from this scholarship fund will be used exclusively for disbursement to any caller wishing to attend a caller's school.

General CALLERLAB Foundation Scholarship Fund. Proceeds from this scholarship fund will be used exclusively for disbursement to any caller wishing to attend a caller's school.

If you would like to make a tax deductible donation to the Foundation or to one of the scholarships administered by the Foundation, please send your donation to: The Foundation, c/o CALLERLAB, 200 SW 29th Suite 104, Topeka, KS 66611.

A good friend is one who inspires you to live according to your higher ideals. *Anonymous* 

### DONATIONS TO THE FOUNDATION

#### In Memory:

Tom Dillander ......West Point, KY

Jon Jones and Deborah Carroll-Jones

John Cook Dennis Clark

Dana and Donna Schirmer

Paul Henze

Ray Donohoo

Sanford Hall

John and Gail Swindle

Lottie Buckbee

Gerald McWhirter.....Oklahoma City, OK

Jon Jones and Deborah Carroll-Jones

<u>Paul Place Memorial Scholarship Fund</u> Village Squares

#### Foundation Donations:

Mavis McGaugh
D. Dalton
Donn Thomson
Glen Tusler
Heinz Zbinden

JK Fancher
Bud Garrett
Mike Preskitt
Dick Henschel
Ed Clafin

Carlton Trudo Jim Wass

Jeannette Staeuble Wayne Janssen
Marty Northrup Bobbie Goode
Jerry Gorshorn Michael Halley
Jerry Helt Gene Arnold

#### **Scholarship Donations**

Mavis McGaugh John Burke D. Dalton Mark Hammett Walter Bull Bill Evler Mike Preskitt Dick Henshel Joan Judge Heinz Zbinden Wes Mohler **Carlton Trudo** Jeannette Staeuble **Marty Northrup Bobbi Goode** Sid Acker

Bobbi Goode Sid Acker Michael Halley Tina Allaway

Bryan Nolde

Equipment Donations to
the Foundation
Received from:
Butch Adams; Jay Haines; Paul
Henze; Jerry Reed; and
John Swindle

#### SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED

The following scholarships were recently approved by the Foundation Executive Directors:

<u>Kenneth Reid Scholarship</u> Recipient: Tom Murray

<u>Mike Jacobs Memorial Scholarship</u> Recipient: Jim Coburn

<u>Paul Place Memorial Scholarship</u> Recipient: Robert Maiden.

Congratulations, Everyone!

#### **Donations to CALLERLAB**

**Richard Maurer** Doc Hiraga Abe Maier D. Dalton Rod Bradish Mike Preskitt Tim Aho Richard Berry **Ron Counts** Heinz Zbinden LaMar Podbevsek **Wayne Weston** Pat Boswell Sonja Mogel Marlin Spellmeyer **Chuck Moore** Dan McGovern **Bobbi Goode** Prairie Cloggers (Donna Schirmer)

#### 62nd NSDC Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

Are you attending the 62nd National Square Dance Convention?

If so, please wear your CALLERLAB badge and also stop by the CALLERLAB booth and pick up a CALLERLAB ribbon to wear. Sign up to assist in the booth or just stop by and visit. We are always happy to see fellow Members during the Convention.

Friday, June 28th will be our CALLERLAB Blue Shirt Day, and we encourage all Members who have a long sleeved blue shirt to wear it that day!

Hope to see you in Oklahoma City!



### Condensed Teaching System By Tim Marriner

The following informational paper should provide greater details as to the work that evolved out of an ini-

tial meeting between the American Callers Association (ACA) and CALLERLAB prior to the 39th CALLERLAB Convention held in Nashville, TN in 2012. One of the many topics discussed and agreed upon was the urgent need to find a way to reduce the teach time for new dancers. There was consensus between the groups that our current product is obtaining diminishing returns, mostly because it is being offered to the general nondancing population once a year. If the content was reduced, it could be offered every three months. In an effort to research this dilemma, CALLERLAB formed an ad hoc committee tasked with developing a reduced teaching framework that could be utilized by groups seeking a faster entry point for new dancers to merge with our activity. Two members from ACA were invited to join the committee that worked several months forging the final document entitled, "The Experimental Condensed Teaching Order".

The resulting "Experimental Condensed Teaching Order" partially reflects dance steps that have a higher frequency of use. It retains fundamental dance actions and includes more dancer friendly calls. It omits some actions that are redundant and others less utilized. It was not designed as a new list or a new dance program. It is not a Blast Class or a Fast Track to other dance programs. It is meant to illustrate how one could provide quality entertainment with less material in a reduced teach time. It also questions the necessity of omitted material within our current dance form, with hopes some change could be accepted by our activity.

A condensed teaching order could be utilized by a new stand-alone club in a market without outside influence or area conflicts. A caller could use such an order to establish a quick foundation of new members, by possibly teaching four groups within the timeframe it takes traditional groups one season. As a result, the window of opportunity to teach new dancers is open every three months as opposed to once a year with traditional methods.

One detrimental aspect of this style of teaching, however, is how it affects the mobility of dancers. A group with a limited vocabulary could only dance within their own community unless others outside of it could adopt the change. This could be of little consequence if there are many dancers to support the group. The opinion of the ad hoc committee, however, was that if dancers are being highly entertained, most would not miss the actions that were not initially introduced.

Another way a condensed teaching order could be used is parallel to an existing club. If a current club is willing to support new dancers with a limited vocabulary, they could be integrated at the dances by either alternating tips between the split programs or offering a staggered start time for the newer dancers and the existing club program. Workshops introducing the omitted material could be conducted during the dances as a means to merge the two co-existing groups over an extended period of time.

There may be other ways this idea could be implemented within our activity. What this suggested experimental condensed teaching order demonstrates is how flexible our existing programs could be when it comes to teaching methods. Regional associations could produce an alternative condensed teach format that better suits their needs, as long as the end result is the same. If certain calls or subset family of calls can be deferred to a later time, they could be introduced as directed over an agreed upon schedule within the region.

A group not experiencing any difficulty retaining dancers might not deem this experimental teaching method as useful. However, it may appeal to non-dancers less enthusiastic over the idea of committing to 30 weeks or more to reach a club entry program.

If a current dance group or region is in need of a new teaching approach, it is hoped they might consider adopting a condensed teaching order such as this and provide feedback as to its effectiveness.

If you have any questions, comments, results, or constructive criticism, please contact the CALLERLAB Home Office by phone or e-mail (CALLERLAB@aol.com).

NOTE: Thanks to **Elmer Sheffield** for establishing this ad hoc committee, and the cooperative work performed by **Bill Harrison**, **Paul Marcum**, **Tim Marriner** and **Gary Shoemake**.

#### Experimental Condensed Teaching Order —12 Sessions

Presented by Elmer Sheffield, Jr.

### Ad Hoc Committee Bill Harrison, Paul Marcum, Tim Marrison and Cory Shooms

Tim Marriner and Gary Shoemake (See introduction to this proposal on page 18)

#### Session 1

Circle Left/Right
Promenade
Wheel Around
Dosado
Stars Left/Right
Swing
Allemande Left/Arm Turns
Right & Left Grand/Weave
Ladies Chain

#### Session 2

Lead Right/Left Right & Left Thru Slide Thru Pass Thru/Double Pass Thru U Turn Back

#### Session 3

Ladies in Men Sashay/1/2 Sashay Bend the Line Veer Left/Right Trades

#### Session 4

Cloverleaf Grand Square Alamo Style Swing Thru

#### Session 5

Run Trade By Circulates

#### Session 6

Single Circle to a Wave Square Thru Wheel & Deal (out facing lines)

#### Session 7

Touch ¼/Hinge Scoot Back Ferris Wheel

#### **Session 8**

Pass to the Center Zoom

#### Session 9

Pass the Ocean Extend

#### Session 10

Cast Off 3/4 Fold/Cross Fold

#### Session 11

Recycle Sweep 1/4

#### Session 12

Flutter Wheel/Reverse Flutter

#### **Program Policy Initiative**

In 2005, the Board of Governors (BOG) approved the following policy:

The following is a list of the actions endorsed by the BOG.

- 1) The Board would endorse experimentation with programs based on less than the full Mainstream program which would be directed at local area dancers only.
- 2) Different areas would, most likely, develop different exploratory programs, based on the needs, desires, and ability of the caller and group involved.
- 3) Groups would be asked to provide reports of the success (or failure) of the exploratory programs.
- 4) After a set period of time the information from the reports would be compiled, analyzed, and reported to the Board.
- 5) The Board would review the collected data and make a recommendation to the Membership.

Elmer Sheffield, Jr. envisioned the Condensed Teach Order with the idea of experimenting to see if a shortened teach time would help recruit and maintain newer dancers. Elmer encourages callers and clubs to try the above proposal, or modify as you wish to fit with your particular teach methods.

Change is perpetual: Try something new!





### CALLERLAB COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN AND VICE CHAIRMEN April 21, 2013

#### SPECIAL INTEREST - Executive Committee Liaison: Eric Henerlau

CALLERS PARTNERS: CH, Erin Byars; VC, Janet Olivieri

COMPETITION IN SCHOOLS - AD HOC COMMITTEE: CH, Scot Byars

HANDICAPABLE: CH, Michelle Mabie; VC, Charlie Wheatley

HISTORY: CH, Jerry Reed; VC, Jim Mayo

NDA LIAISON: Calvin Campbell

MUSIC PRODUCERS: CH, Wade Driver; VC, Buddy Weaver

MUSIC ETHICS - AD HOC COMMITTEE: CH, Paul Bristow; VC, Wade Driver

SQUARE DANCING IN COLLEGES & UNIVERSITIES (SDCU) – AD HOC:

CH Calvin Campbell;

WOMEN IN CALLING: CH, Deborah Carroll-Jones; VC, Patty Greene

YOUTH ACTIVITIES: CH, Justin Russell, VC, Donna Schirmer

#### PROGRAMMING & COORDINATING - Executive Committee Liaison: Tim Marriner

ADVANCED: CH Bill Harrison; VC, Skip Cleland

APPLICATIONS REVIEW: CH, Jon Jones; VC, Jerry Story

CHALLENGE: CH, Bill Ackerman; VC, Vacant

CHOREOGRAPHIC REVIEW COORDINATOR: Ed Foote

COMMITTEE FOR COMMUNITY DANCE: CH, Bob Riggs; VC, Calvin Campbell

DEFINITIONS: CH, Clark Baker; VC, Michael Maltenfort

MAINSTREAM: CH, Bear Miller; VC, Stephen Cole

PLUS: CH, Ken Ritucci; VC, Eric Henerlau

#### PLANNING AND RESEARCH-Executive Committee Liaison -Deborah Carroll-Jones

CALLER-COACH: CH, Paul Henze; VC, Tony Oxendine

CALLER TRAINING: CH, Betsy Gotta; VC, Ron Markus

CHOREOGRAPHIC APPLICATIONS: CH, Dottie Welch; VC, Elmer Claycomb

CALLING IN SCHOOLS: CH, Mike Callahan; VC, Cory Geis

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT: CH, Pam Clasper; VC, Cory Geis

#### **MEMBERSHIP - Executive Committee Liaison: John Marshall**

INTERNATIONAL ADVISORY: CH, Jeff Priest (Canada);

VC, Sweden, Denmark and Norway – Vacant; VC, England - Trevor Day; VC, Australia and New Zealand - Graham Elliot; VC, Netherlands, Belgium, Austria and Switzerland - Jeannette Staeuble; VC, Japan - Shozo Nishimura;

VC, Czech Republic - Tomas Doug Machalik; VC, Taiwan - Nancy Chen;

VC Germany - Dieter Goergner;

MARKETING: CH, Mike Hogan; VC, Jerry Junck

WAYS & MEANS: CH, Gary Felton; VC, Bill Boyd

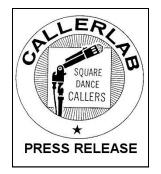
PAST CHAIRMAN COMMITTEE: CH, Elmer Sheffield

PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT: CH, Elmer Sheffield

**NEW INITIATIVES:** CH, Mike Olivieri



\* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* START \* \* \* \* \* \* \*



#### CALLERLAB PRESENTS NEW MISSION STATEMENT

Periodically, every organization has to take a step back from the daily fray and take stock of how it is doing. Are its goals still relevant? Is it still effective? Does its structure still work? Is it really working towards a better future? It has been quite a number of years since CALLERLAB has gone through this exercise, and our world has changed considerably since our last review.

Crucial to answering such questions is having a clear idea of our mission: why does CALLERLAB exist? Before we can determine how well we are doing, we have to know what it is we are trying to do. Since our annual Convention is the only time of year when a large number of us gather together, the EC decided to seize the occasion to start the process of updating our mission statement. Members of the Board of Governors and Past Chairmen were invited to participate in a day-long session on the Saturday before Convention to formulate an updated mission statement.

Ideally, a mission statement needs to be concise – as few words as possible. So few, in fact, that it can be easily memorized and called to mind whenever making a decision about where to allocate time and resources. Each decision should be made on the basis of how well it serves that overall mission. On the other hand, this concise statement must embrace and encompass all the areas the organization needs to concern itself with. This is a delicate balance.

We believe our meeting was highly successful in creating a mission statement that meets these criteria. People sometimes wonder why it takes a group a whole day to come up with a single sentence, but a sentence that conveys so much meaning in very few words takes a lot of discussion.

In the end, our new mission statement turned out not to be a radical change in substance from the old mission statement. However, it is dramatically different in form. The old mission statement was about two-thirds of a page long, contained a number of bullet points, and was not remembered verbatim by anyone. The new mission statement is a single short sentence:

### "To foster the art of square dance calling, and improve caller skills."

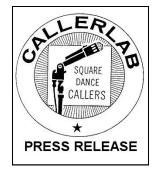
While it may be brief, this sentence incorporates or implies all the information contained in our previous mission statement. It is easily remembered, and can be used to measure each and every activity we undertake on behalf of CALLERLAB—how well will it further this mission?

One of the foremost implications of this mission statement is that it firmly establishes CALLERLAB as an organization of <u>callers</u>, concerned primarily with the art of square dance <u>calling</u>. For many, the first question that comes to mind is "What about dancers and dancing—are we not concerned with them?" Of course we are concerned with dancers and dancing. Without them there <u>is</u> no art of square dance calling. So dancers and dancing are a huge concern of CALLERLAB—but not our main mission. Our purpose is to "foster the art of square dance calling" and our interest in dancers and dancing must be viewed through that lens.

Today we are hugely concerned with the declining population of square dancers. Without square dancers there is no square dance calling. Therefore, JOB #1 for us is to increase the number of active square dancers. In today's circumstances, that is the first priority that flows from our mission statement. The following statement, which appears on our home page, provides our mission statement and lists the current top priorities that derive from it:



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#### CALLERLAB PRESENTS NEW MISSION STATEMENT

(continued)

CALLERLAB is an organization of square dance callers. The CALLERLAB Mission Statement is:

### "To foster the art of square dance calling, and improve caller skills."

In pursuing this mission, we engage in activities supporting a number of goals:

- 1. Increase the population of square dancers.
- 2. Maintain high standards of education for callers and dancers by establishing standard curricula, training materials, and accreditation standards.
- 3. Maintain high professional and ethical standards among callers.
- 4. Maintain open and continuous communication among callers, dancers, leaders, and other organizations associated with the activity.
- 5. Encourage high standards of dance practice, responsibility, and ethics among all leaders of dancing.

Primary among these activities are:

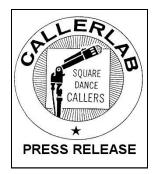
- 1. An annual international convention which provides meetings and education sessions targeting all our goals.
- 2. The maintenance of dance programs and definitions that set the standards which shape the practice of Modern Western Square Dancing.

Written and presented by Barry Clasper, Chairman of the Board of Governors

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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



\*\*\*\*\*\*\* START \*\*\*\*\*

### Plus Emphasis Call

#### SPIN CHAIN THE GEARS



Ken Ritucci, Chairman of the Plus Committee, is pleased to announce Spin Chain the Gears has been selected as the Plus Emphasis Call for the period starting June 1, 2013.

#### **DANCE ACTION - DEFINITION:** From Parallel Ocean Waves:

Each end and the adjacent center dancer turn 1/2 (180 degrees). The new centers of each Ocean Wave turn 3/4 (270 degrees) to form a new Ocean Wave across the set, as the other four dancers do a U-Turn Back (turning in toward the center). The centers of the wave, Trade and then release hands with each other. Four dancers on each side of the square now form a four-hand star and turn the star 3/4, forming a new wave across the set. Centers of this wave Trade momentarily reforming the wave across the set. The two outside pairs of dancers of the center wave now turn 3/4 (270 degrees) as the other four dancers turn back (turning away from the center).

**STYLING:** Dancers turning in Ocean Wave formations use styling as previously described for the basics Swing Thru and Spin Chain Thru. For star portions of basic, refer to styling as indicated by the basic Star Right. When turning into the star or out to the wave, use a flowing turn rather than an abrupt about-face. In Star patterns, ladies' outside hands may be used to work skirts.

#### **TIMING - 24**

#### **DANCE EXAMPLES:**

- 1. Heads Square Thru 4, Spin Chain The Gears, Swing Thru, Boys Run, Ferris Wheel, Centers Pass Thru, Left Allemande.
- 2. Sides Touch 1/4, Centers Walk And Dodge, Spin Chain The Gears, Swing Thru, Boys Run, Couples Circulate, Bend The Line, Pass The Ocean, Spin Chain The Gears, Boys Run, Boys Trade, Wheel & Deal, Dixie Grand, Left Allemande.
- 3. Heads Pass The Ocean (mixed sexes), Extend, Hinge, Centers Trade, Spin Chain The Gears, Hinge, Centers Trade, Girls Trade (down the line), Slide Thru, Pass To The Center, Centers Single Circle To A Wave, Right & Left Grand.
- 4. Sides Pass the Ocean (left handed), Extend, Trade The Wave, Left Swing Thru, Spin Chain The Gears (with the left hand), Girls Cross Run, Acey Deucey, Boys Run, Girls Trade, Bend The Line, Slide Thru, Pass Thru, Left Allemande.
- 5. Sides Pass Thru and Separate Around One To A Line, Pass Thru, Wheel & Deal, Girls Left Square Thru 3, Spin Chain The Gears, Split Circulate, Hinge, Extend, Right & Left Grand.
- 6. Heads Star Thru, Double Pass Thru, Leads Wheel Around, Single Circle To A Wave, Boys Trade, Spin Chain The Gears, Boys Run, Ferris Wheel, Centers Square Thru 3, Left Allemande.
- 7. Sides Lead Right, Touch 1/4, Centers Trade, Spin Chain The Gears, Recycle, Touch 1/4, Centers Trade, All 8 Circulate, Right & Left Grand.

#### Plus Emphasis Call

### SPIN CHAIN THE GEARS (Continued)

8. Heads Pass The Ocean, Extend, Swing Thru, Spin Chain The Gears, Recycle, Touch 1/4 & Roll, Left Allemande.

#### SINGING CALL:

- 1. Heads Square Thru Four, Spin Chain The Gears, Scoot Back, Boys Trade, Boys Run, Ferris Wheel, Centers Pass Thru, Swing Corner, Promenade.
- 2. Heads Pass The Ocean, Extend, Swing Thru, Spin Chain The Gears, Boys Run, Half Tag, Scoot Back, Swing Corner, Promenade.
- 3. Heads Touch 1/4, Head Boys Run, Left Swing Thru, Girls Trade, (With The Left hand) Spin Chain The Gears & Spread, Swing Corner, Promenade.

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We thank you for the coverage you have given us in the past and for your continued support in the future. THE CALLERLAB BOARD OF GOVERNORS

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE May, 2013







#### Advanced Emphasis Call

#### Transfer and (Anything)

Bill Harrison, Chairman of the Advanced Committee, is pleased to announce Transfer and (Anything) has been selected as the Advanced Emphasis Call for the period starting June 1, 2013.

**DANCE ACTION:** From columns (or other applicable formation): The #1 and #2 dancers Transfer the Column, omitting the final Extend, ending as an in-facing couple on the outside. The outer dancers walk forward to form a box (or other compact formation; this may be less than a full circulate) in the center and do the (Anything) call.

#### DANCE EXAMPLES:

Heads Star Thru & Spread, Touch ¼, (Right Hand Columns) Boys Roll, Transfer, and Wheel and Deal, All Roll, Allemande Left.

Sides Star Thru, Double Pass Thru, Girls Peel off, Transfer and 1/2 Tag, Girls Walk and Dodge, Touch ¼, Acey Deucey, Recycle, Right & Left Grand.

Heads Pass The Ocean, Chain Reaction, In Roll Circulate, Explode and Touch ¼, (Right Hand Columns) Transfer and Scoot and Weave, Scoot and Weave, Scoot Back, Extend, Right & Left Grand.

The following examples are sophisticated uses of Transfer and (Anything). It is recommended that you look at these with checkers before calling, so you may see exactly what is happening and be able to explain it to your dancers.

Heads Pass The Ocean, Chain Reaction, 1/4 Thru, Centers Run, Tag The Line, Boys Run & Roll, Transfer and Crossfire. Those Facing Pass Thru, Centers Swing Thru, Center 6: Circulate, Center Wave Recycle - End Girls Run, Double Pass Thru, Track 2, Mix, All Eight Circulate, Allemande Left.

Sides Wheel Thru, Pass and Roll, Acey Deucey, Centers Run, Bend The Line, Touch ¼ - End Boys Roll, Transfer and Diamond Circulate, Boys Cut The Diamond, Extend, Boys Trade, Right & Left Thru, Load The Boat, Pass and Roll Your Neighbor, Courtesy Turn that girl, Flutter Wheel, Reverse Half Sashay, Square Chain Thru, Right & Left Grand.

Heads Recycle, Fan The Top, Scoot Chain Thru, Acey Deucey, Extend, Girls Run, Touch ¼ - Center Boys Roll, Transfer and Peel and Trail, Center Diamond: Cut The Diamond, Centers Veer Right - Outsides Half Sashay, Right & Left Grand.

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\* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* START \* \* \* \* \* \* \*



#### Jerry Helt

#### CALLERLAB Life Membership (Gold Card)

CALLERLAB Life Membership (Gold Card) may be given in recognition of service to CALLERLAB. It may be presented to long-term CALLERLAB Members who have provided outstanding service to CALLERLAB and have been selected by representatives of the membership to be honored in this way. It is sometimes given to callers who have, in effect, retired from active calling. The list of those who have been given this recognition is short. It includes people who have worked very hard, and very effectively, for CALLERLAB. This award is an actual gold metal card.

This organization has many ways of recognizing its Members, and in some cases even non-members, for their contributions to the square dance activity. The Gold Card is reserved for those Members who have worked to make CALLERLAB a more effective leadership organization. The service that our Gold Card Members have given has come in many forms. Until this year, only 17 CALLERLAB Members have received Gold Card Membership: Bill Davis (deceased); Herb Egender; Marshall Flippo; Cal Golden (deceased); Lee Helsel (deceased); Bill Heyman; Jon Jones; John Kaltenthaler; Ernie Kinney; Arnie Kronenberger (deceased); Frank Lane; Melton Luttrell; Martin Mallard (deceased); Jim Mayo; Bill Peters (deceased); Gloria Rios-Roth (deceased), and Bob Van Antwerp (deceased).

At the 2013 CALLERLAB Convention in Cary, NC, another name was added to this impressive list. **Jerry Helt** was presented a GOLD CARD identifying him as the eighteenth Life Member (Gold Card) of CALLERLAB.

CONGRATULATIONS to Jerry and his wife, Kathy!

\*\*\*\*\*\* END \*\*\*\*\*\*\*

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

THE CALLERLAB BOARD OF GOVERNORS



### Press Release May 2013 \*\*\*\*\*\*\*START \*\*\*\*\*\*



#### APPLICATIONS REVIEW COMMITTEE (ARC)

Application Review Committee (ARC) has finished the review of the questions for 2013 and the results are listed below.

The questions included in this report were submitted through the Home Office. An agenda was prepared and submitted to the entire Committee for review and comment. This agenda was then presented at an open meeting at the CALLERLAB Convention. A straw vote was taken and that information was then submitted to the entire Committee for further review and discussion. It is noted that the straw votes taken at Convention were the same as the ARC final votes. Hopefully, all callers will review the decisions made and comply with the results to help eliminate misuse of call applications.

1. The formation is Left Hand Columns. The call given was Zoom 1 & 1/2 to end in parallel Right Hand Waves.

Is this application proper or improper at the Basic 2 Program?

This application was voted to be proper due to the reason below, as well as extensive usage.

Reason: The half-way point can be readily defined and seen by the dancers. The definition can easily be broken down to see where one-half would be. One-half Zoom is easily identifiable. Fractions are common extensions of calls where applicable. This application has been called by many callers and danced by many dancers all over the world for many years.

2. The formation is 1/4 Tag. The call given was Dixie Grand, and the caller expected the dancers to step thru and begin the action with the outside dancers.

Would this application be proper or improper at the Plus Program?

This application was voted to be improper. The correct application requires that the dancers in the center wave begin the action with their right hands joined. They should NOT start with the outside dancers. If the caller wants it to start with the outside dancers, it must be preceded with Pass Thru or Step Thru.

3. The formation is Left Hand Ocean Wave. The call given was Wheel Thru and, Left Wheel Thru from a Right Hand Ocean Wave. Is this application proper or improper at the A-1 Program?

This application was voted to be improper for the following reason.

Reason: The Advanced General Rules specifically exclude this application. Under "Ocean Wave Rules" there is the following statement: "The Ocean Wave Rule applies ONLY to these Advanced calls." Wheel Thru is NOT listed.

ARC Members are listed on following page

Respectfully submitted,

Jon Jones, Chairman Jerry Story, Vice Chairman

#### **CALLERLAB Application Review Committee Members**

Jon Jones, Chairman - Texas

Jerry Story, Vice Chairman - Tennessee/Texas

Bob Asp - Illinois

Clark Baker - Massachusetts

Paul Bristow - England
Stephen Cole - Washington
Ed Foote - Pennsylvania
Bill Harrison - Maryland
Robert Hurst - England
Jerry Jestin - Texas
Deborah Carroll-Jones - Texas

Tom Manning - Iowa
Tim Marriner - South Carolina

**Brent Mawdsley** - Canada Nev McLachlan - Australia Bear Miller - Colorado David Smythe - Australia Jeannette Staeuble - Switzerland Al Stevens - Germany Alex Stevens - New Zealand Hanna Tenenbaum - Sweden

Bill Treleaven - Canada
Wendy VanderMeulen - Canada
Masaru Wada - Japan
Buddy Weaver - California

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