



**Jim Mayo
Milestone, 1984**

There was a time, some years ago, when if the term "New England Caller" was mentioned, one might expect a person attired in anything but western wear calling the traditional dances of the area. The scene changed by the mid-1950s and the New England area is proud of its western style of dancing and its fine western style callers. One of those who has helped to create the new image is Jim Mayo of Hampstead, New Hampshire.

Those who have known Jim, recognize him as an outstanding caller and teacher. The callers themselves look upon him as a leader among leaders. Over the years, countless numbers have attended callers' schools, clinics, or workshops conducted by Jim. All have been impressed by his depth of knowledge, by his availability to those who seek assistance, and by those who have come to him for leadership training.

Jim started his dancing in 1947. His days of calling started a few years later and although he has become familiar to dancers and callers across the country, he is

looked upon by his fondest supporters as a "home-club" man, a caller who has not only taught the newcomers, but has kept them happily dancing over many years.

Jim has written articles for a number of publications and is the author of a series of booklets on various aspects of square dancing. He has recorded on a number of square dance labels and over the years his calling has taken him across North America to Australia, New Zealand, and to Europe.

As a charter member of CALLERLAB, Jim has served the organization as its first Chairman of the Board, as an accredited Caller-Coach and in many other ways. Together with his wife Jo Ann, the Mayos are very much a part of the square dance scene.

In 1978, Jim became a member of the Square Dance Hall of Fame. In 1993 the New England Square and Round Dance Co-operation Committee presented the Mayos with the Yankee Clipper Award for distinguished service to square and round dancing in New England.