

NEWSLETTER
for Members of
CALLERLAB

direction

'76 Convention Special

April 12, 13, 14, 1976

WELCOME TO CALLERLAB '76



Look around you. This is the largest and most experienced gathering of square dance callers ever held -- anywhere! For the next few days, we will be spending our time together in seeking solutions, in looking for directions and in gaining new friendships. It has been said before many times and in many ways: We will get out of this Convention exactly what we put into it. To this point the framework for our meetings has been set. The success of this Convention depends on what we do with this framework, on what we accomplish in our few days together. Let us accept this time as a great opportunity to look more closely at our professional responsibility, to ourselves, to the calling profession in particular and to all of square dancing in general.

How to Get the Most Out of This Convention

Your Convention Planning Committee has come up with a busy three days of meetings. Nevertheless, the program is scheduled in such a way that it will be possible for you to attend all the major meetings and to select, in a few instances, those subjects that are most important to you. When it comes to choices of more than one meeting to attend (as in the case of the four topics on Tuesday afternoon or the three Monday evening) couples who are attending may find it wise to split up with the husband attending one session, the wife another. Comparing notes later will give each Convention delegate a broader concept of the Convention picture. Wrap-Up Notes will come to you with your June issue of DIRECTION Newsletter.



SMOKERS: It will be greatly appreciated if you will step out into the hallways if you would like to smoke. Thank you.

Your Convention Badge: Wear it with pride. While we are here together at the Convention your badge will serve as your "open sesame" (or ticket) to the various Convention meetings, meals and other Convention events. Wear it after the Convention to tell other dancers and callers that you are part of the CALLERLAB idea.

PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY - Our Challenge and Our Goal: Like its two predecessors, the 1976 CALLERLAB Convention is solution oriented. Its purpose, rather than seeking out problems, is to determine solutions -- directions that we in CALLERLAB can take during the coming year. There will be many times when your thoughts, beliefs, reactions and feedback are needed during the discussion of the Convention's key topics.

The Convention's Two Major Topics: At our first session Monday afternoon you will hear two of our committee heads speaking on the two prime topics of CALLERLAB '76. Bill Peters, San Jose, California, will talk on the proposed Accreditation Program which his committee is developing. Jon Jones, speaking for Johnny LeClair, will tell of the results of one year's study on the Mainstream Basics. At 9:00 o'clock Tuesday morning all delegates will be assigned to meeting rooms for the morning session. There will be eight rooms, with an equal number of delegates in each one. At this time the delegates in four of the rooms will discuss the Accreditation Program. At the same time those in the other four rooms will discuss the Mainstream Basics. Halfway through the morning the moderators for these two subjects will change rooms so that those who have been discussing Accreditation will now be spending the balance of the time discussing the Mainstream Basics, and vice versa. By the end of the morning session each of the eight groups will have compiled suggestions relative to each of the subjects and before the Convention is over these suggestions will be combined for consideration as a statement of the CALLERLAB position by the Convention as a body.

The Four Other Convention Topics: At the initial meeting, Monday afternoon, four committee chairmen will each speak on special topics that are of considerable interest to the members of this organization. Dave Taylor will speak on National Convention Liaison; Cal Golden on Ways and Means; Lee Kopman on Dance Level Identification and Jack Lasry on Quarterly Movements. At our first meeting following the noon break on Tuesday, four large rooms will be set up so that we can discuss in depth each of these four topics. Delegates are free to select which meeting they would like to attend. Each of the committee chairmen will be on hand to discuss his topic and a moderator will conduct the floor discussion. The goal of these discussions will be a consensus that can be reflected and endorsed in the Wrap-Up of the Convention.

Committee Meetings: A majority of the CALLERLAB committees will hold meetings in designated rooms starting Tuesday afternoon at 3:10 PM. Progress reports will be determined and directions for the committees during the coming year will be worked out. Due to space problems, just those actual members of the committees will attend these sessions.

A CALLERLAB Information Meeting: An innovation this year is a specially designed meeting to acquaint those new to CALLERLAB with our association's activities, its goals and its direction. Excerpts from past Conventions will be included and veteran members, including members of the Board of Governors, will graphically point out the purpose of CALLERLAB and its position on a number of prime subjects. An opportunity for questions from the floor will be afforded participants.

The Pivot Demonstration Units: Following our dinner Monday evening, there will be "live" demonstrations illustrating key situations in the square dance field. These will include, in addition to an intriguing demonstration of old tyme dancing, three topics:

VARIETY that can be generated using just the standard mainstream basics; CONTRAS; and BODY FLOW and MECHANICS. Following the demonstrations in the main dining area, the participants will be invited to select any one of the three pivot topics and adjourn to a special room where the conductor of that specific demonstration, along with a well-informed panel, will discuss the subject in depth. Time will be allowed for questions and general discussion before the evening session breaks up.

IMPORTANT NOTE: Those speakers who have been asked to give their own views on particular subjects may be overlooking points which you feel are important to bring out. CALLERLAB can only be successful if all viewpoints are heard and a fair discussion carried on. Please know that your ideas are important. However, please do not monopolize any meeting, thereby discouraging others from expressing their views. Any statements (or resolutions) coming from this 1976 Convention should, as nearly as possible, represent a majority cross section of the thinking of the CALLERLAB members who attend.

THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS: All members of CALLERLAB, in good standing, play an active role in the direction of this association. The 25 member Board of Governors conducts the business of CALLERLAB. Each member of the Board of Governors serves a term of five years. Each year CALLERLAB members elect five new members to serve on the Board. The Board of Governors selects, from among its members, five who together with their Executive Secretary and Chairman of the Board serve as an Executive Committee whose job it is to handle the actual day-to-day running of this organization.

The 1975-1976 CALLERLAB Board of Governors

Don Armstrong	Jack Lasry*
Al Brundage	Johnny LeClair*
Stan Burdick*	Joe Lewis
Marshall Flippo	Melton Luttrell
Cal Golden	Jim Mayo (Chairman)
C. O. Guest	Angus McMorran (begins term April '76)*
Jerry Haag	Bob Osgood (Executive Secretary)*
Lee Helsel	Bob Page
Jerry Helt	Vaughn Parrish (begins term April '76)
Bruce Johnson	Bill Peters
Earl Johnston	Dave Taylor
Arnie Kronenberger*	Bob Van Antwerp
Frank Lane	

*Indicates '75-'76 Executive Committee Member

Take This Convention Home with You: At this stage of the game only a small percentage of the total number of callers in the world are personally represented by membership in CALLERLAB. Much of what we cover here at this Convention is of great interest to all callers. For that reason why not plan a CALLERLAB meeting at your own area callers' association. Give the local callers a rundown of the discussion points and explain to them the statements and/or resolutions coming from this 1976 international meeting. In the event that there is no formal callers' association in your area, why not get together informally with callers who might be within driving distance and plan a Saturday morning coffee klatsch where you can explain the latest CALLERLAB accomplishments. It may be that there are several of you from the same area here at this Convention. If so, why not work together in planning to take home some of these ideas. In this way the annual CALLERLAB meeting will be more than just a once-a-year event. With your help it will last throughout the year.

Start Thinking NOW about New Members for CALLERLAB: Even as this Convention is underway, planning has already been started on next year's CALLERLAB Convention. You will find included in this Registration Packet two candidate nomination cards. If possible, please complete and turn them in when paying your dues at the registration booth before the end of the Convention. Or, if you mail them in note the deadline date, June 15, 1976. Remember the requirements for being a member of CALLERLAB involve a personal recommendation by at least one current member. In addition are these necessary qualifications:

- (1) A candidate must be currently calling square dances and have been calling regularly at least once each week (on the average) for the past three years.
- (2) A candidate must endorse the CALLERLAB Code of Ethics.
- (3) Having been personally nominated and meeting the first two requirements, the candidate must attend a CALLERLAB annual Convention and having attended the Convention and having paid membership dues for the coming year, the candidate will become a member. Any change in these membership requirements will be noted in coming issues of DIRECTION Newsletter.

Visit our Exhibitors: This year we are pleased to present a room set aside just for those who supply the square dancing needs of callers. You will find all types of equipment, clothing, supplies, etc., for sale in the Exhibitors' Area (see floor plan). The times the Exhibitors' Area is open are shown on your program.

Roster of Exhibitors: American Square Dance Magazine, Ashton Co., Hanhurst's Tape and Record Service, Hilton Audio Products, Jane's Record Service, Lou-Mac Records, The Ox Yoke Shop, Red Boot Record Co., Square Dancing Magazine and Yak Stack.

The Official CALLERLAB Recognition Pin: Be one of the first to display one of these new emblems designed especially for CALLERLAB. In a tarnish-proof, gold-like metal, these attractive pins will retain their appearance for many years. For men, the emblem can be adaptable either as a lapel pin or as a tie tack -- attachments for both are included. For ladies, your version of the pin will work either as a necklace or a bracelet. Pins are available at the booth during the Convention. Price: \$5.00 per pin (man's or lady's). The profits from the sale of these pins will go into our treasury.

Plan to Attend Next Year's Convention: A new location, a selection of hotels (with a variety of room prices) and many other attractions are in store for us. Announcement of the Convention site and more details during this year's Convention.

Your 1976-1977 Membership Dues: The registration desk area will be open during breaks in the program for the convenience of members. Our goal is a 100% sign-up of members for the coming year.

Your Convention Wrap-Up will be a part of the next issue of DIRECTION Newsletter. Along with the next quarterly movements report you'll be receiving a condensation of some of the highlights of our third big get-together. With it you'll also receive the 1976-1977 CALLERLAB Directory, listing all of the paid-up members for the coming year. In addition there will be voting information relative to the next Board of Governors' election. As a member, you have all of this and much more to look forward to in the coming months. As you will note from the reports at our annual meeting on Wednesday morning, CALLERLAB is really beginning to roll!