

Newsletter  
for Members of

**CALLERLAB**

The International Association  
of Square Dance Callers, Inc.



# CALLERLAB Convention

# 2024

Hyatt Regency  
DFW Airport



Everything is  
**BIGGER**  
in Texas!

March 24-27, 2024

#CALLERLAB2024

# Convention at a Glance

## Interest Sessions (All Sessions Audio Recorded)

Adapting Singing Calls	Mon	10:30 a.m.	Jonsson
Be a Common Sense Caller	Mon	2:30 p.m.	Jonsson
Computer 101 for callers	Mon	2:30 p.m.	Glasscock
Dealing with Adverse Situations	Tue	4:00 p.m.	Hobby
How to be an effective club caller	Tue	4:00 p.m.	Glasscock
Legends	Mon	2:30 p.m.	Hobby
Making Modules	Mon	1:00 p.m.	Enterprise 1 & 2
Marketing in Today's Digital Age	Tue	10:30 a.m.	Glasscock
Marketing: A Case Study	Mon	10:30 a.m.	Glasscock
Mentoring New Callers	Tue	10:30 a.m.	Jonsson
Music: More Than Background Noise	Tue	1:00 p.m.	Jonsson
Organizational Planning Meeting	Tue	4:00 p.m.	Hill
Orientation	Sun	4:00 p.m.	Hill
Relationship Calling	Tue	4:00 p.m.	Enterprise 1 & 2
Sight Calling with a Purpose	Mon	2:30 p.m.	Enterprise 1 & 2
Smooth Dancing and Body Flow	Mon	10:30 a.m.	Enterprise 1 & 2
Sneak a Peak	Mon	4:00 p.m.	Jonsson
SqView for Beginners	Mon	4:00 p.m.	Glasscock
SSD: The Philosophy Behind the Program	Mon	4:00 p.m.	Enterprise 1 & 2
Starting new clubs	Tue	2:30 p.m.	Hobby
Successful Square Dancing	Tue	1:00 p.m.	Hobby
Teaching Easy Hex	Tue	2:30 p.m.	Enterprise 1 & 2
The Mechanics of Great Teaching	Mon	1:00 p.m.	Hobby
Theme Tip - Advanced	Tue	2:30 p.m.	Jonsson
Theme Tip - Challenge	Tue	4:00 p.m.	Jonsson
Theme Tip - Mainstream	Tue	10:30 a.m.	Enterprise 1 & 2
Theme Tip - Plus	Tue	1:00 p.m.	Enterprise 1 & 2
Theme Tip - SSD	Mon	1:00 p.m.	Jonsson
Understanding CALLERLAB	Mon	10:30 a.m.	Hobby
Unleashing Creativity:			
Exploring Free Marketing Solutions	Tue	1:00 p.m.	Glasscock
Utilizing Square Dance Rotation	Mon	1:00 p.m.	Glasscock
Vocal Dynamics 101	Tue	2:30 p.m.	Glasscock

## Birds of a Feather & Other (Not Recorded)

ACC Informal	Tue	5:15 p.m.	Hill
BOG Informal	Mon	5:15 p.m.	Hill
Email Signatures	Mon	5:15 p.m.	Jonsson
Solo Dancers	Tue	5:15 p.m.	Jonsson
Tech Genius Bar	Mon	5:15 p.m.	Glasscock
Tech Genius Bar	Tue	7:45 a.m.	Glasscock

## Committee Meetings (Not Recorded)

Accredited Caller Coaches	Tue	2:30 p.m.	Vandergriff	Music Producers	Mon	1:00 p.m.	Hill
Advanced	Mon	4:00 p.m.	Vandergriff	New Callers	Tue	2:30 p.m.	McKee
Applications Review	Tue	10:30 a.m.	Vandergriff	Partner	Tue	2:30 p.m.	Hill
Basic & Mainstream	Mon	1:00 p.m.	Vandergriff	Past Chair Lunch	Mon	12:00 p.m.	McKee
Caller Training	Tue	1:00 p.m.	Hill	Plus	Mon	2:30 p.m.	Vandergriff
Challenge	Tue	1:00 p.m.	Vandergriff	Public Relations	Mon	4:00 p.m.	Hill
Choreographic Applications	Tue	1:00 p.m.	McKee	Social Connections	Mon	10:30 a.m.	Hill
CCTD	Tue	4:00 p.m.	Vandergriff	SSD	Mon	10:30 a.m.	Vandergriff
Definitions	Tue	10:30 a.m.	Hill	Ways & Means	Tue	10:30 a.m.	Hobby
International Advisory	Tue	4:00 p.m.	McKee	Women In Calling	Mon	2:30 p.m.	Hill
Marketing	Mon	4:00 p.m.	Hobby				



Convention Portal Link

## Dances

### **Aviators A**

CCTD	Sun	3:00 p.m.
Ways & Means	Sun	7:00 p.m.
Plus	Mon	9:00 p.m.
SSD	Tue	9:00 p.m.

### General Assembly

(All Recorded Except Welcome Reception)

### **Aviators B**

Welcome Reception	Sun	5:00 p.m.
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### **Enterprise 1 & 2**

Opening Session	Mon	9:00 a.m.
The Proposal	Tue	9:00 a.m.
Annual Meeting	Wed	9:00 a.m.

# WELCOME TO CONVENTION!

From the Chair of the Board, Ted Lizotte

Welcome to the Hyatt Regency DFW Airport Hotel in Grapevine, Texas. We are so glad that you have elected to join us for our 49th CALLERLAB Convention. **Our theme this year is “Everything is BIGGER in Texas” and we are sure that this year’s thoughts and ideas will live up to that promise.**

**One of the biggest draws to convention is the people that attend. You’ll have time to greet old friends and get acquainted with new ones. The lifelong friendships that will grow out of the next few days will be ones that we are certain you’ll look back on and cherish the memory of.**

Besides reconnecting with colleagues and peers, the convention will once again present a litany of panels and discussions that will help you gain insight and grow as a caller.

**Again this year, we are hosting our version of the “Genius Bar”. We’ve asked a few of our more tech-savvy Members to see if they can assist others with their computer questions. Learning to call is difficult enough; figuring out how to work your laptop shouldn’t be. We’ll see what we can do to help.**

We are looking forward to a number of great things this year. We welcome back Past Chair Tim Crawford to deliver our Keynote Address at the Opening Session. **On Tuesday morning, look for the panel titled “The Proposal” as we consider a different future for our activity. Big things are potentially afoot.**

Additionally, let me thank each one of you for taking the time to attend this year’s convention. **These conventions are really the heart of CALLERLAB.** The camaraderie that evolves from this event helps to shape all of us who attend, and again, it wouldn’t be possible without you.

Lastly, kudos to the Home Office Staff for all the behind-the-scenes work that keeps this convention running.

I look forward to seeing everyone at some point over the next few days. Thank you for joining us and I hope you have a great time.

-Ted

## From the Home Office Staff:

We hope you enjoy the Convention! If you have any questions or issues, please be sure to stop at the Convention Home Office in Carter and let the staff know. We want your **Convention experience to be fantastic! If we don't know your problem, we can't fix it or even attempt to fix it.** We are here to serve YOU!

This year, you can access the Convention Portal online at [callerlab.org/convention/portal](http://callerlab.org/convention/portal) or by scanning the QR code. This **page is for convention attendees only! On the portal, you'll find a digital schedule, session handouts, maps, and more!** Check your registration packet for the password.



### CONVENTION MEALS WILL BE SERVED TO THOSE WEARING A BADGE!

Your Convention badge not only identifies you as an official attendee, but it is also your meal ticket for Convention meals. The wait staff have been instructed *not* to serve a meal unless you are wearing your badge.

If you require a special diet, your Convention registration package includes cards with your name, day and meal. Please take the appropriate card to the dining room with you. Place the card on the table in front of you. The wait staff have been instructed to collect this card and bring you a meal that accommodates your dietary restrictions.

While the formal Opening Session starts on Monday morning at 9:00 a.m., there are several events you will want to take advantage of during the weekend prior as well. Be sure to check out pages 5 and 6 to learn more.

All interest sessions will be recorded. The audio of the interest sessions will be available in MP3 format. CALLERLAB is offering a complete set of convention recordings via Dropbox for free to all convention attendees—make sure your name is on the list at the Home Office in Carter. If you would like to purchase a CD or USB format, they are available for \$40. This is a great value, and one that everyone should consider to help capitalize on the information provided at this Convention. Please see the Home Office staff for more information or to fill out an order form.

You are a major part of CALLERLAB. Make the most of your attendance at this Convention and be involved. Speak up if you have something to say, and ask questions if you're not sure. We encourage you to participate. Your opinions count!

## Home Office Hours

Located in Carter

Saturday	1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Sunday	10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Monday and Tuesday	8:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. & 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Wednesday	8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

The Home Office is your place to go for questions, documents, CALLERLAB shirts, swag, and lost and found. Our Home Office Staff and Volunteers are ready to assist you!

## Vendors

Located in the Industry and Leadership Foyer

Sunday	1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Monday and Tuesday	9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Be sure to visit our vendors. They have made a great commitment to be here for you, so let them know you appreciate their contributions to this Convention!

## Tech Genius Bar

Located in Glasscock

Monday 5:15 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. & Tuesday 7:45 a.m. to 8:45 a.m.

Again this year, there will be a Tech Genius Bar at the CALLERLAB Convention. Much like the Apple Genius Bar, the Tech Genius Bar will be staffed with experts who will be available to help attendees with one-on-one support for square dance related software.



Pre-register for the 2025 Convention online at [callerlab.org/convention/2025registration](https://callerlab.org/convention/2025registration).

All attendees who pre-register for next year before Tuesday at 5:00 p.m. will be entered into a drawing to win a FREE Convention Registration!



# Pre-Convention Activities

## Saturday – March 23, 2024

1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. - Registration

Carter

Early birds may check in and pick up their convention packet. The Home Office Staff and Volunteers will be available during this time to answer questions.

### **9:00 a.m. Community Dance Leader's Seminar**

Aviators A

This session presents various ideas for conducting beginner dance parties. Enhance your abilities to present dance parties by attending. There is an additional cost to attend, so register with the Home Office staff. Bob Riggs, Chair and Mike Preskitt, Vice Chair of the Committee for Community and Traditional Dance, will host this event.

## Sunday – March 24, 2024

9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. - **Community Dance Leader's Seminar**

Aviators A

Continuation of Saturday Session (see above)

10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. - Registration

Carter

Convention Registration continues

1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. - Vendors

Industry and Leadership Foyer

Be sure to visit our vendors. They have made a great commitment to be here for you, so let them know you appreciate their contributions to this Convention!

3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. - CCTD Dance

Aviators A

The Committee for Community and Traditional Dance (CCTD) will host a welcome dance session highlighting the Community Dance Program. Mike Preskitt and Allynn Riggs will emcee this event. A variety of subjects will be presented.

4:00 p.m. - Orientation Session

Hill

*Pam Clasper, Shelly Lizotte, Sherry Pladdys & Ray Savell*

This session is designed to be an informative one, especially for the first-time attendee, but it is also a good review for attendees who have not been to a Convention for some time. There will be an opportunity to ask questions after the formal session is over. We encourage you to ask any questions you may have about the Convention or about CALLERLAB.

5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. - Welcome Reception

Aviators B

The Executive Committee will host the Reception. Look for them in the receiving line. This is also a good opportunity to chat with members of the Board of Governors (identified by a red ribbon on their badge), their partners, and various committee chairs and vice chairs (blue ribbons). The reception also provides a chance to renew acquaintances and make new friends. Make sure to greet those wearing the “**First Time Attendee**” ribbon. A cashless bar will be available. Hors d’oeuvres will be provided. The Home Office Staff and Volunteers will be on hand to answer questions.

\* Dinner is on your own Sunday evening. Dine at any of the Hyatt Regency DFW restaurants:

- **Jacob’s Spring Grille**
- **Jett’s Coffee Bar**
- ACES Lobby Bar
- **Mister G’s**

7:00 p.m. – Square Dance

Aviators A

The Ways and Means Fund Raising Dance: The Ways & Means Committee will host a dance featuring the calling talents of Scott Bennett, Jon Jones, Deborah Carroll-Jones, Darryl Lipscomb, Charlie Robertson, John Sloper, Mike Seastrom, and cuer, Jan Toms. Donations accepted at the door will go to the CALLERLAB Foundation.

Remember, you can access the 2024 CALLERLAB Convention Portal online at [callerlab.org/convention/portal](http://callerlab.org/convention/portal) or by scanning the QR code. Find maps, the online schedule, handouts and more.



This page is for Convention attendees only! Check your registration packet for the password.

**WANTED:** Candidates to run for the Board of Governors. Candidates must have a sincere interest in the future of CALLERLAB and the square dance activity. Monetary pay is non-existent, but personal rewards are priceless and you get to work as a leader for the organization. Convention is a good time to pass a petition to run for the Board. To be eligible, candidates must have been a Voting Member in good standing for the past four years and provide a Petition with 25 signatures of Voting Members. Stop by the Home Office in Carter for more information.

# Monday, March 25, 2024

8:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. - Registration Carter  
The Registration Office will be open for late registrants and for attendees who have questions about the Convention or about their membership. CALLERLAB merchandise will also be located in this room.

8:30 a.m. - Moderators and Panelists Meeting Glasscock  
Ted Lizotte, Chair of the Board, will provide a brief welcome, share convention reminders, and answer any questions before the Convention begins. The Home Office will provide equipment instructions.

9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. - Vendors Industry and Leadership Foyer  
Be sure to visit our vendors. They have made a great commitment to be here for you, so let them know you appreciate their contributions to this Convention!



9:00 a.m. - Opening Session & Keynote Address Enterprise 1 & 2  
Ted Lizotte, Chair of the Board, will be presiding along with Teresa Berger, Executive Director. The Board of Governors, VIPs and representatives from various square dance organizations will be introduced. Teresa will present an overview of the Convention and announce any changes to the schedule. Tim Crawford will give a Keynote Address.



10:15 a.m. - Beverage Break Foyer

————— 10:30 a.m. to 11:45 a.m. - Breakout Sessions —————

Smooth Dancing and Body Flow Enterprise 1 & 2  
*Jeannette Staeuble, Philipp Aff*  
How do you keep dancers moving on the floor while calling a dynamic program? This panel will demonstrate how to keep your dancers energized by utilizing both clockwise and counter-clockwise body flow (choreographic symmetry).

## Adapting Singing Calls

Jonsson

*Patty Greene, Hunter Keller, Tim Tyl*

This panel will discuss how you can adapt your singing calls to best fit your program and elevate the experience for your dancers.

## Marketing: A Case Study

Glasscock

*Justin Russell, Allan Hurst*

We've discussed many options of marketing in the past; now we'll follow one marketing plan from A to Z. Panelists will show you how to take a marketing strategy from idea to implementation.

## Understanding CALLERLAB

Hobby

*Ken Ritucci, Harlan Kerr, Dana Schirmer*

What is CALLERLAB? Sure, you've heard our mission and know we oversee the program lists but that's just the tip of the iceberg. Join our panel of CALLERLAB leaders for an overview of our association and learn how it works practically.

## SSD Committee Meeting

Vandergriff

*Buddy Weaver*

Join the SSD - Social Square Dance Committee as they discuss the triennial review currently taking place along with updates to SSD Documents.

## Social Connections Committee Meeting

Hill

*Mike Seastrom*

The SC Committee is looking forward to hearing your ideas about fun ways to enhance the social connections at the events we attend and lead. Come and help us help you!

11:45 a.m. - Lunch

Enterprise 3 & 4

Be sure to wear your convention badge for all meals!

## Past Chair Committee Lunch

McKee

*Past Chair Harlan Kerr*

The Past Chair Committee will be meeting to discuss ways in which the committee can be of value to CALLERLAB. The committee members have a wealth of information as well as leadership and stand-by to assist in any way.

————— 1:00 p.m. to 2:15 p.m. - Breakout Sessions —————

Making Modules 🗣️

Enterprise 1 & 2

*Bob Riggs, Jack Pladdys*

The panel will explain how to develop modules at varying programs. Things to keep in mind include module length, body flow, hand availability and much more!

Theme Tip – SSD 🗣️

Jonsson

*Jeremy Butler, Justin Russell*

Each panelist will highlight a call from the SSD Program. They will demonstrate how to teach it, how to call it, and how to extend it.

Utilizing Square Dance Rotation 🗣️

Glasscock

*Barry Clasper, Lisa Seastrom*

Does your club have issues with "cliques" at your dances or lessons? Square Dance Rotation is an effective tool to mix the dancers and level out the dance experience within the squares. Come learn about some versatile options to mix both singles and couples prior to each tip.

The Mechanics of Great Teaching 🗣️

Hobby

*Ray Brendzy, Betsy Gotta*

This session is more than just teaching the calls. The panel will help you become a dynamic teacher in all environments. Learn from life-long educators about appealing to various learning styles.

Basic and Mainstream Committee Meeting

Vandergriff

*Harlan Kerr, Michael Braithwaite*

The Basic and Mainstream Committee Meeting will focus on discussing areas identified by members as priorities including items prioritized in current HO Log discussions. A primary area will be updating the Basic Teaching Order. Also included will be items submitted by committee members for the agenda. Finally the committee will discuss and identify areas of focus for April 2024 through March 2025.

Music Producers Committee Meeting

Hill

*Shauna Kaaria, Tony Oxendine*

Closed meeting for the Music Producers Committee to provide updates on site management and review future plans.

2:15 p.m. - Beverage Break

Foyer

Sight Calling with a Purpose 🗣️

Enterprise 1 & 2

*Ken Ritucci, Kris Jensen*

What if we told you Sight Calling isn't really calling "on-the-fly"? Come learn about planning for the unplanned during this session on Sight Calling.

Be a Common Sense Caller 🗣️

Jonsson

*Mike Seastrom, Charlie Robertson*

No two dances are the same. Learn the tricks of the trade necessary to be successful at your home club and also at large festivals. Our panelists will guide you to making better decisions in different circumstances.

Computer 101 for Callers 🗣️

Glasscock

*Scott Bennett, David Toms*

Does utilizing a computer make you nervous? This panel will simplify using a computer to call. Come learn what programs exist for callers and best practices for using a computer for calling.

Legends 🗣️

Hobby

*Jerry Junck, Melton Luttrell, Jon Jones, Daryl Clendenin*

Join this outstanding panel as they discuss how we got to where we are today. With more than 200 collective years of calling experience, this panel is well qualified to provide information about our past and the rich heritage of square dancing and calling.

Plus Committee Meeting

Vandergriff

*Tom Davis, Hiroshi Nakagawa*

The Definitions Committee has completed HO LOG 23-1206-001 (Anything) and Spread and approved a new definition for (Anything) and Spread. So, we need to introduce this content discussed by the Definition Committee in the CALLERLAB Convention.

Women in Calling Committee Meeting

Hill

*Juli Burr, Kris Jensen*

There will be a review on the past 12 months zoom seminars and discussion of suggestions for future zoom seminars. We will discuss future WiC projects, such as WiC Institutes. There will be a presentation and short discussion on dealing with sexual harassment led by Patty Greene.

3:45 p. m. - Break (No Beverages)

SSD: The Philosophy Behind the Program  Enterprise 1 & 2  
*Barry Johnson, Buddy Weaver*

What is SSD and why is SSD designed the way it is? Join this panel as they discuss the need for this type of program and how to implement the SSD Philosophy.

Sneak a Peak  Jonsson  
*Jeannette Staeuble, Tom Rainer, Michael Braithwaite*

Would you like ideas for different patten and singing call music? Join this unique session as the panelists share their music libraries. They will give you examples of the music they use and include details about where and why they use it.

SqView for Beginners  Glasscock  
*Travis Cook, Glenn Rogerson*

Join this panel for a step-by-step guide to using SqView for beginners.

Marketing Committee Meeting Hobby  
*Jack Pladdys, Brian Freed*

Our focus will be to finalize the current Class Survey project, ensure timely updates of the web site by creating a team to assist the Home Office, and discuss next steps in Marketing Committee activity.

Advanced Committee Meeting Vandergriff  
*Ray Brendzy, Jeremy Butler*

Come and join us for a general discussion on projects you may wish to pursue. Meet your fellow Advanced Callers and participate in meaningful discussions.

Public Relations Committee Meeting Hill  
*John Harden, Ron Giuliana*

Join the PRC meeting – you don't have to be a member to attend! We will discuss the ongoing project on updating and improving CALLERLAB Benefits Tri-Folds (Association, Membership, and Convention). We will also discuss ideas on improving our use of Social Media in promoting CALLERLAB, the Convention, and International events. This will include existing Facebook activities as well as looking into other Social Media platforms. As always, we are open to other suggestions to help us carry out our mandate, as found in the Committee Brief (<https://callerlab.org/download/public-relations-committee/>).

————— 5:15 p.m. - Birds of a Feather (BOF) Sessions —————  
& Tech Genius Bar

If you need a room for a special meeting or just to get together, please contact the Home Office in the Registration Area. *Empty appearing rooms may be designated for other purposes.*

Tech Genius Bar

Glasscock

*Hosts: Amanda Skidmore, Dorothy Cook*

*Techs: Scott Bennett, Travis Cook, Barry Johnson, Bob Riggs, Glenn Rogerson*

Stop by the Tech Genius Bar for one-on-one computer support. Bring your specific questions and your laptop for assistance. Support is provided on a first come, first served basis as time allows.

BOF: Email Signatures

Jonsson

*Brian Freed & Mike Seastrom*

Email signature templates - organically promote social connections and yourself. Through a simple signature block, you'll be able to communicate to help connect and promote yourself and our activity.

BOF: BOG Informal

Hill

*Dottie Welch, Wendy VanderMeulen*

Members of the Board of Governors (BOG) will be available for you to speak with on an informal basis. We would like to hear your thoughts and ideas about CALLERLAB or square dancing.

### Convention Recordings

All interest sessions will be recorded. The audio of the interest sessions will be available in MP3 format. CALLERLAB is offering a complete set of convention recordings via Dropbox for free to all convention attendees—make sure your name is on the list at the Home Office in Carter. If you would like to purchase a CD or USB format, they are available for \$40. This is a great value, and one that everyone should consider to help capitalize on the information provided at this Convention. Please see the Home Office staff for more information or to fill out an order form.

### 2024 Convention Survey

Be sure to complete the post-convention survey that will be sent to your email following the convention. The Executive Committee reads all of the feedback to help plan for next year.

## Monday Evening Activities

6:00 p.m. – Reception Begins Foyer

6:30 p.m. - Doors Open for the Banquet Enterprise 3 & 4

7:00 p.m. - Banquet Enterprise 3 & 4

Introductions - MC Shauna Kaaria

Dinner Served

*Salad*

*Smoked Airline Chicken Breast*

*Creamed Corn, Bacon Lardons, Tuscan Kale, Dark Chicken Ju*

*Rolls*

*New York Cheesecake*

Committee Chairs and Vice Chairs Recognition

BOG Service Awards

25 Years of Calling Recognition

Other Special Awards

Good Night - MC

*\*All award recipients—please stay for photographs immediately following the banquet.*

9:00 p.m. - Plus Dance

Aviators A

Tom Davis will MC a dance featuring the Plus Program. Be sure to attend and enjoy an entertaining dance with callers: Ken Burke, John Carlton, Travis Cook, Patty Greene, Mike Hogan, Lawrence Johnstone, Jerry Junck, Shauna Kaaria, Hunter Keller, John Kephart, Hiroshi Nakagawa, Jack Pladdys, Justin Russell, Tim Tyl, Masaru Wada, Kristy Woods, and Chuck Woods. There will be an A2 Star Tip at 10:30 PM with Jeremy Butler & Eric Henerlau.

*See you tomorrow!*

# Tuesday - March 26, 2024

## From the Home Office Staff:

We hope you are enjoying your Convention. If you have any questions or issues, please be sure to stop at the Convention Registration area in Carter and let the Home Office staff know. **We want your Convention experience to be fantastic! If we don't know your problem, we can't fix it or even attempt to fix it. We are here to serve YOU!**

8:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. - Registration Carter  
The Registration Office will be open for attendees to ask questions about the Convention or about their membership. CALLERLAB merchandise will also be located in this room.

7:45 a.m. to 8:45 a.m. - Tech Genius Bar Glasscock  
*Hosts: Amanda Skidmore, Dorothy Cook*  
*Techs: Scott Bennett, Jeremy Butler, Brian Freed, Barry Johnson, Jack Pladdys, Glenn Rogerson*

Stop by the Tech Genius Bar for one-on-one computer support. Bring your specific questions and your laptop for assistance. Support is provided on a first come, first served basis as time allows.

9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. - Vendors Industry and Leadership Foyer  
Be sure to visit our vendors. They have made a great commitment to be here for you, so let them know you appreciate their contributions to this Convention!



9:00 a.m. - The Proposal  Enterprise 1 & 2  
*Ted Lizotte*

We all understand that Square Dancing is declining. The SSD Program was put in place to help build up our base, but long term, what other impactful changes could be made to assist with the long term stability of our activity? Additionally, how do we continue to assist newer callers, which will inevitably lead to more dancers?

Join us during this session to hear firsthand about a proposal for a revamped structure within our programs. A call back to the way things started, to position us for a brighter future.



10:15 a.m. - Beverage Break Foyer

Theme Tip – Mainstream 

Enterprise 1 & 2

*Travis Cook, Martin Kromer*

Each panelist will highlight a call from the Mainstream Program. They will demonstrate how to teach it, how to call it, and how to extend it.

Mentoring New Callers

Jonsson

*Ed Foote, Vernon Jones, Daryl Clendenin*

Part of the future success of the square dance activity will be the recruiting of new callers. Come learn tips and techniques for current callers and club leaders to encourage development of new callers. This session will present ideas to help fan a spark to those interested in the art of calling and share resources available for mentors.

Marketing in Today's Digital Age 

Glasscock

*Mike Hogan, Hunter Keller, Ray Owens*

How we market to potential dancers needs to evolve! There are many tools you can use to reach prospective dancers, but you need to know who your target audience is. The panel will discuss different outlets that you may want to consider using to reach your recruitment goals.

Ways & Means 

Hobby

*Justin Russell, John Sloper*

The Ways & Means Committee is looking for fundraising ideas to benefit the CALLERLAB Foundation. This year we are focused on two initiatives. One, how can we raise money & awareness around the 50th Convention in 2025 in Greenville? Second, the committee would like to create a campaign around legacy gifts. It would be an ongoing campaign to create awareness to remember our nonprofit, the Foundation, when creating/updating their will or estate planning designation. Recommendations, suggestions & input are all encouraged.

Applications Review Committee meeting

Vandergriff

*Tim Crawford, Buddy Weaver*

We will be meeting to review the decisions of the past year as well as undertake a review of past decisions to ensure recent definition changes did not affect those decisions.

Definitions Committee Meeting

Hill

*Guy Steele, Dottie Welch*

The major topic of discussion will be the current draft of the "Additional Details" document. We hope that this document is very near to publication. We will also discuss any currently active definition changes to calls in the various programs.

## 11:45 a.m. - Lunch

Enterprise 3 & 4

Be sure to wear your convention badge for all meals!

### ————— 1:00 p. m. to 2:15 p.m. - Breakout Sessions —————

#### Theme Tip – Plus

Enterprise 1 & 2

*Tony Oxendine, Mike Hogan*

Each panelist will highlight a call from the Plus Program. They will demonstrate how to teach it, how to call it, and how to extend it.

#### Music: More Than Background Noise

Jonsson

*Shauna Kaaria, Wade Driver*

Learn the tools needed to utilize music more effectively in your calling. What is the feel of the song? How can callers use music to create a better experience for dancers? Panelists will share how to use your music to really enhance your calling.

#### Unleashing Creativity: Exploring Free Marketing Tools

Glasscock

*Ray Owens, Teresa Berger (moderator)*

Join our technology expert, Ray Owens, as he demonstrates a couple of powerful marketing tools -- without breaking the bank. Discover the endless possibilities for creating eye-catching flyers and organized calendars using websites Canva.com and Teamup.com.

#### "Successful" Square Dancing

Hobby

*Vernon Jones, Eric Henerlau*

Join these panelists as they share real life experiences of successfully using SSD in their local areas. This panel will show callers how to successfully implement the SSD program. This is not just leaving out calls from your Mainstream Program.

#### Challenge Committee Meeting

Vandergriff

*Sue Curtis*

The Challenge Committee will discuss the Triennial Review proposals and other possible improvements to the Challenge programs.

#### Caller Training Committee Meeting

Hill

*Betsy Gotta, John Marshall*

The Caller Training Committee will meet to discuss upcoming projects and brainstorm ideas about how to attract dancers to make the transition to being a caller. The revised Starter Kit includes step by step directions to call a first tip at a dance. We plan to discuss guidelines for beginner parties and whether beginner party guidelines would be helpful to new callers. Please bring your ideas to help.

## Choreographic Applications Committee Meeting

McKee

*Dottie Welch*

Review of the initial versions of the first ten calls in the Advanced Online Teaching Resource. Identifying volunteers to work on creating, collecting and checking choreography for this resource. There will also be an opportunity to address any new issues related to the Standard Applications documents.

2:15 p.m. - Beverage Break

Foyer

———— 2:30 p.m. to 3:45 p.m. - Breakout Sessions ————

### Teaching Easy Hex

Enterprise 1 & 2

*Christopher Schlitter, Tom Davis*

This panel will emphasize easy ways to set up hex dancing as well as resolution from the hexagon. Our panelists will help make this complicated topic easier to understand and utilize in your programs.

### Theme Tip – Advanced

Jonsson

*Tim Crawford, Darryl Lipscomb*

Each panelist will highlight a call from the Advanced Program. They will demonstrate how to teach it, how to call it, and how to extend it.

### Vocal Dynamics 101: Practical Tips for a Resilient Voice

Glasscock

*Scott Bennett, Wendy VanderMeulen (moderator)*

Explore essential strategies and practices to maintain and enhance your vocal health and vocal performance. This session will educate you about the dynamics of the voice as well as provide practical tips for using your voice as a square dance caller.

### Starting New Clubs

Hobby

*Larry Marchese, Chuck Woods, Kristy Woods*

Join this panel to hear real world experiences from callers who started a club from scratch.

### Accredited Caller Coach Committee Meeting

Vandergriff

*Ken Ritucci*

Closed ACC Annual Meeting. We will review the work done by the "Deep Dive Team" and anything else the committee members want to talk about.

### Partner Committee Meeting

Hill

*Allynn Riggs, Ri-Shea Schlitter*

The completion of the Committee's multiple year long project of updating the Partner Resources document will be the focus of this year's Committee meeting.

*Vernon Jones*

**If you self identify as a new caller then please attend this meeting. It doesn't matter if you are a committee member or not.** We will discuss the continuing Caller Coach seminars along with a couple of projects for the coming year.

3:45 p.m. - Break (No Beverages)

————— 4:00 p.m. to 5:15 p.m. - Breakout Sessions —————

Relationship Calling 

Enterprise 1 & 2

*Barry Johnson, Kip Garvey*

Have you ever wondered how some callers can call without relying on sight calling? How do callers "snapshot resolve"? Why do some callers seem to have total control of the floor? If you have ever asked any of these questions, you'll want to learn more about Relationship Calling. The panel will discuss how to utilize versatile systems of calling to have more control of your choreography.

Theme Tip – Challenge 

Jonsson

*Eric Henerlau, John Marshall*

Each panelist will highlight a call from the Challenge Program. They will demonstrate how to teach it, how to call it, and how to extend it.

How to be an Effective Club Caller 

Glasscock

*Jack Pladdys, Buddy Weaver*

This panel will provide a tutorial on how to keep your program fresh and keep your dancers engaged at groups you call for on a regular basis. Come learn tips on club leadership from our panel of successful club callers.

Dealing with Adverse Situations 

Hobby

*Deborah Carroll-Jones, Pam Clasper*

As callers and leaders, we are sometimes called on to address difficult situations. These include concerns about dancer roughness, hygiene, behavior and, at times, harassment. In addition, we must sometimes address concerns about the caller. Learn effective approaches to dealing with challenging situations, concerns and complaints in a manner that will de-escalate tension, and produce positive, productive outcomes.

Committee for Community & Traditional Dance

Vandergriff

*Bob Riggs, Mike Preskitt*

Discuss current projects. Identify how the committee can improve the practice of community dancing.

## Organizational Planning Meeting

Hill

*Ted Lizotte*

Chair of the Board, Ted Lizotte, will host this meeting with representatives of invited organizations. Discussions will include mutual interests in the square dance activity. Similar meetings in the past have resulted in better communication between these organizations.

## International Advisory Committee

McKee

*Tom Rainer*

All attendees are invited to join the International Advisory Committee Meeting for an in-person follow up discussion to our recent discussions via zoom on how to better support and engage international Members.

Items left with the vendors should be picked up before they close at  
5:00 p.m.!

## ———— 5:15 p.m. Birds of a Feather (BOF) Sessions ————

### Solo Dancers - What Do We Do With Them?

Jonsson

*Ri-Shea Schlitter*

We say that MWSD is a social and welcoming activity, but are we really? Are we driving away dancers who we can't afford to lose? Solo dancers often feel left out. Come hear the problems that solo dancers face and how some regions and cultures address the issue. Let's discuss what CALLERLAB can do as an organization to make EVERYONE feel included.

### Accredited Caller Coach Informal

Hill

*Ken Ritucci, Jack Pladdys*

Attend this informal session to discuss any aspect of the calling profession with Accredited Caller-Coaches. Information about accreditation and reaccreditation procedures will be available. If you are interested in coaching callers, we invite you to attend this session.

## 2024 Convention Survey

Be sure to complete the post-convention survey that will be sent to your email following the convention. The Executive Committee reads all of the feedback to help plan for next year.

## Tuesday Evening Activities

6:00 p.m. – Reception Begins Foyer

6:30 p.m. - Doors Open for the Banquet Enterprise 3 & 4

7:00 p.m. - Banquet Enterprise 3 & 4

Introductions - MC Travis Cook

Dinner Served

*Salad*

*Smoked Pork Loin with Candied Apple Compote*

*Loaded Sweet Potato with Bacon and Chives*

*Rolls*

*Dessert*

Executive Committee & Board of Governors Recognition

50 Years of Calling Certificates

Award of Excellence

**Chairman's Award**

Other Special Awards

Good Night - MC

*\*All award recipients—please stay for photographs immediately following the banquet.*

9:00 p.m. – SSD Dance Aviators A  
Buddy Weaver will MC a dance featuring the SSD Program. Be sure to attend and enjoy an entertaining dance with callers, Kip Garvey, Mike Hogan, Jeff Palmer, Debbie Steinkirchner, and Barry Johnson.

9:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m. - **Chair's Social** Aviators A Foyer  
Current Chair of the Board, Ted Lizotte will host a social in the Foyer. This informal gathering is a time to relax, network and make new friends. A cashless bar will be available.

## Wednesday – March 27, 2024

8:00 a.m. to Noon - Registration

Carter

The Registration Office will be open for attendees to ask questions about the Convention, about their membership, or to register for next year's Convention.

9:00 a.m. - Annual Meeting (Closing Session)

Enterprise 1 & 2

Ted Lizotte, Chair of the Board will be presiding. Teresa Berger, Executive Director, and Parliamentarian, Debbie Ceder will be seated at the front table. Ray Brendzy, Patty Greene, Barry Johnson, and Vernon Jones will serve as Sergeants-at-Arms. This is the Annual CALLERLAB Business Meeting as noted in the "Call to Convention". **\*\*\*REMEMBER YOUR VOTE CARD!\*\*\***

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Thank you for helping us make the  
49<sup>th</sup> CALLERLAB Convention a BIG success!

On behalf of the Board of Governors, Executive Committee, and Home Office Staff, we hope you have enjoyed this Convention and that you are going home with new ideas, refreshed energy, valuable connections, and unforgettable memories of your time in Grapevine, TX.

If you have comments that will help us plan for future Conventions, please let us know by filling out the post-convention survey sent via email following the Convention. **Next year's planning committee will review all comments and consider your ideas while planning for future Conventions.** Be sure to take a copy of this *DIRECTION* to dances and organizational meetings and share the happenings from CALLERLAB.

On behalf of the Board of Governors, Executive Committee, and Home Office Staff, thank you for your attendance and input at this Convention!

Make your plans now to attend the 50th CALLERLAB Convention at the Embassy Suites Golf Resort in Greenville, SC, April 13-16, 2025. Be part of history as we commemorate CALLERLAB's 50th Convention. Join us for special events, professional development, and memories that will last a lifetime. You can register for the 2025 Convention online at [callerlab.org/convention/2025registration](http://callerlab.org/convention/2025registration) or by scanning the QR code. Hope to see you there!

THANK YOU!

Teresa Berger, Executive Director

# 50<sup>TH</sup> CONVENTION

The logo for the 50th CALLERLAB Convention. It features a large, stylized number '50' in a gold color. To the right of the '0' is a circular emblem with a silver border. Inside the circle, the words 'CALLERLAB' are written in a curved path at the top, and 'SQUARE DANCE CALLERS' is written in a curved path at the bottom. In the center of the circle is a square with a white background and a gold border, containing a stylized gold square dance figure. A small gold star is positioned at the bottom center of the circle.

April 13-16, 2025  
Greenville, SC

## Schedule

\*Subject to change

### Saturday:

Registration opens  
Pre-Convention Caller Clinic  
with critique

### Sunday:

Welcome Reception  
Orientation Session  
Dancing

### Monday & Tuesday:

Opening Session  
Keynote Address  
Breakout Sessions  
Committee Meetings  
Lunch & Dinner included  
Receptions  
Banquets  
Dancing  
Live Auction

### Wednesday:

Annual Membership Meeting  
Closing Session

**Golden Celebration:** Be part of history as we commemorate CALLERLAB's 50th Convention. Join us for special events, professional development, and memories that will last a lifetime.

**Expertise:** Learn from the best! Our convention features workshops, seminars, and presentations. Whether you're a beginner or a seasoned caller, there's something for everyone.

**Networking:** Connect with fellow square dance enthusiasts from around the globe. Share experiences, tips, and tricks, and forge lasting friendships with like-minded individuals.

**Fun and Entertainment:** Enjoy nightly dances with caller showcases, and themed events. Get ready to kick up your heels and dance the night away!

**Explore Greenville:** Nestled in the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains, Greenville offers a charming blend of Southern hospitality, scenic beauty, and cultural attractions. Explore downtown's vibrant arts scene, dine at delicious eateries, and soak in the beauty of nearby parks and waterfalls.

**Don't miss out on this milestone event in the world of square dancing! Join us in Greenville for the 50th CALLERLAB Convention and create unforgettable memories.**



# HYATT REGENCY DFW Floor Plan

