

# Gold Card (Life Member) - 1996

Bill Davis

Presented by Kip Garvey

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## **GOLD CARD AWARD** Presented by Kip Garvey

**T**he Gold Card is a special honor bestowed upon members who have served CALLERLAB in an outstanding and meritorious fashion. Members so honored by the Board of Governors are entitled to privileges and benefits of active membership. To date there have been only six Gold Cards issued. These were issued to Arnie Kronenberger, Bob Osgood, Lee Helsel, Bob Van Antwerp, Cal Golden, and Herb Egender.

Mr Chairman, esteemed members of the Executive Committee and Board of Governors, honored guests, fellow colleagues and associates.

It is with great and mixed emotions that I stand before you tonight to make this presentation. When a time comes for any of our illustrious, long time callers who have given so much of their time and effort unselfishly, with no hidden agendas, toward the betterment of this organization and square dancing, CALLERLAB expresses its heartfelt thanks with permanent membership and member benefits afforded by CALLERLAB. As is often the case, recipients of this award are no longer actively calling square dances, and not by their own choice. And this in itself is the reason for my deep feelings of regret at this moment.

For the man who freely contributed so much of his advice, experience, knowledge, and depth of understanding for the benefit of dancers and callers alike over the last 46 years, is unable to communicate his ideas to us any more, and most likely won't for a long while to come.

Calling since 1955, this caller has attended 22 CALLERLAB conventions. He received his Quarter Century Award in 1980. For 12 of his 22 years he effectively served on the Board of Governors, chairing several committees, and was instrumental in developing a great deal of our existing resource material.

In 1989 CALLERLAB bestowed their highest award, the Milestone Award to him, in recognition of his unselfish contributions to the growth and development of our calling profession.

A renowned and prolific author, as early as 1966 he wrote the first relevant white paper on sight calling technique. In 1972 he wrote a paper introducing asymmetric square dance states. He authored the Sight Caller's Textbook, the Extemporaneous Caller, the Big 5, the Top 10, and for the past 11 years published a syndicated article entitled "Circle Right" published in

many square dance publications.

He served on the Mainstream Quarterly Selections Committee, the Plus Quarterly Selections Committee, the Advanced Quarterly Selections Committee, the Challenge Committee, the Research and Development Committee, the Caller Training Committee, the Caller Coach Committee, is a liaison representative for the Caller Association Liaison Committee, and is currently chairman of the Program Policy Committee.

Last May he suffered a sudden and totally unexpected, debilitating stroke that left him unable to speak or otherwise communicate his thoughts and ideas with us. This a great loss to us and to our square dancing community.

It is a distinct honor and pleasure at this time to present this Gold Card award and membership to my dear friend, to our dear friend, Dr. William "Bill" Davis. Accepting this award for Bill, in absentia, is John Sybalaky.