


**C**ommunity  
**D**ance  
**P**rogram **Journal**



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**The CDP Committee**  
of  
**CALLERLAB**  
The International Association  
of  
Square Dance Callers

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**Attention !!!**  
**An Important 1995**

**CALLERLAB Convention Proposal**

Would **YOU** be interested in attending a special session for people interested in the Community Dance Program to be held one day in advance of the 1995 CALLERLAB Convention in Pittsburgh???

**Purpose** — To exchange dances and ideas. To share information on how to establish and maintain a CDP. To visit with other dance leaders who are interested in the Community Dance Program. To learn from each other. To share experiences and problems and develop solutions. To meet people with similar interests face to face.

**The Proposal** — Interested leaders would arrive in Pittsburgh in time for a Saturday evening meal. Following the meal we would have access to a room in the convention hotel to dance, talk and exchange ideas. There is a possibility of additional activities on Sunday morning if there is interest.

The program would be based on who attends and the ideas received from this announcement. The big question is whether enough people would be willing to attend such a meeting.

If **YOU** would be interested in attending, write, call, telegraph, fax or otherwise contact Calvin Campbell, 343 Turf Ln. Castle Rock, CO 80104 (Tel: 303-790-7921) as soon as possible. If we can get 15-20 or more who would be willing to attend the meeting is on.

**Over 40 People Attend CDP Clinic at National SD Conv.**

Calvin Campbell presented a two hour clinic on the Community Dance Program at the National Square Dance Convention in Portland in June.

Between 40-50 people participated in a very active session. Cal had prepared a 30 page booklet illustrating the dance types, formations and music used in a typical Community dance

program. This was used as the basis for dances and demonstrations. The booklet also included an extensive reference list of other resource documents.

If the enthusiasm of the participants is any indication, look for more CDP activities at the next national convention

**Texas State Federation of Square & Round Dancers**  
**Appoints a Community Dance Coordinator**

Don & Kathleen Johnson of HCR 61 Box 276, Gateville, Texas, 76528 have been appointed to a new and challenging position to be known as Community Dance Coordinator for the Federation.

They are interested in contacting CDP leaders in or near Texas to promote dancing and to participate in possible CDP programs to be held at the Texas State Festival.

**\*\*\* Notice \*\*\***

Three CDP promotional items were prepared for the National SD Convention.

- ✓ A generic three fold brochure to introduce people to the CDP. Size 3.75 x 4.25 inches. Handy to stick in a pocket.
- ✓ Buttons in several different background colors and with pins on the back. See page 4 for an example.
- ✓ A 30 page booklet with sample dances & Cal's approach to selling the CDP.

All are available from Cal Campbell, 343 Turf Ln. Castle Rock, CO 80104. Call or write him for details. Some will cost and some are free.

## CDP Questions & Answers

by Bob Osgood

Many callers (and concerned dancer-leaders) are curious about the American Community Dance Program, what effect it will have on square dancing as we know it today and whether or not it's something for them to consider. This column is designed to answer some of their questions.

**Question:** *Why is the program limited to just 24 basic (movements) when there are so many to draw from?*

**Answer:** It's not a case of being "limited" so much as it is to be "challenged" by what we have to work with.

**Q:** *How's that again?*

**A:** All right. Let's look at it this way. Many of us are concerned that square dancing with its many "levels" has become too much for many potential dancers. Long lists of basics that take months of class time have made it discouraging for a person who has other things to do with his or her life. What is needed is a program consisting of fundamentals that can be learned in six 2-hour lessons and then an on-going program of dancing once a week or twice a month, the CDP could be the answer. This would be a form of square dancing that would allow the participants to be full-fledged square dancers where they can be "involved" but not "committed".

**Q:** *What you're suggesting, then, is to scrap square dancing as it is today and start over with a 24 basic program?*

**A:** Absolutely not. We're suggesting no such thing. Those people out there who are happy with what is being presented will continue. Callers who are working with them will go on as they have been as will the round dance teachers and cuers.

**Q:** *Then why come up with something new and unproven and think it may work?*

**A:** Well, in the first place, it's not new and it's not unproven. But we'll get

back to that in a minute. First of all, however, we need to come up with a choice, something different that will appeal to the young married, working couples who have all but disappeared from the square dance scene today. We have apparently forced out of the activity many who want and need a neighborly, friendly activity like square dancing, but for one reason or another have not found what they're looking for in today's square dancing. And the first thing we need to change is the concept of the initial learning period.

**Q:** *What do you mean by that?*

**A:** When a potentially interested square dancer today asks how long he will have to attend class before he is invited to dance with his friends in a Mainstream or Plus club and you tell him truthfully that it will take the better part of a year, what is his reaction? And, if he's not discouraged with that and asks when the next class starts and you tell him not for six months, what do you suppose his reaction will be?

**Q:** *I hear what you're saying, but what does CDP propose?*

**A:** Six sessions with new sessions starting soon after the previous series has been completed thereby enabling the new "graduates" to recruit others for the next series.

**Q:** *Six sessions just to learn 24 basic movements and that's it?*

**A:** Not quite. In those six weeks a person will not simply be taught to square dance, but he will be taught to be a square dancer. As a caller today, the 24 basics that make up the CDP list can be taught in as few as three or four lessons. But, remember, teaching is not learning and there's a lot more to dancing than just getting from point A to point B. There's a right way, a comfortable and courteous way to dance every basic from a simple DoSaDo to a Grand Square. There are ways to Swing, to Promenade and to Circle to a Line. Each movement takes a specified num-

ber of steps to complete and only if a dancer has been taught these elements will he derive the full benefit of dancing them. All of this has been spelled out for us over the years by caller-leaders. During these six weeks a dancer can be taught everything he needs to know about dancing. Now mind you, he will not have learned everything. There's a difference between "teaching" and "learning". You can't "learn" anyone to square dance, but you can teach him correctly and the more he or she dances the more competent a dancer that person will become.

**Q:** *With only 24 basic movements how do you expect to retain the dancer's interest once the class has been completed?*

**A:** The good way to answer that is to first look at contemporary square dancing—the way it is today. Essentially (excluding the rounds) it is danced in a square formation to the accompaniment of mostly modern western music. Now, take a look at the curriculum for the CDP. In addition to the squares, and utilizing the same 24 basics, are dances done in circles, facing lines, and in many other formations and to an amazing variety of music.

**Q:** *Early on you said that the CDP, wasn't new and that it wasn't unproven. What do you mean by that?*

**A:** While it all started a number of years ago and acknowledging that times have changed and situations may be different, people then were looking for a social recreation that couples could enjoy with their neighbors, just as they are today. The word had gotten out that square dancing was fun and easy to learn. One typical high school decided to give it a try, made arrangements with a caller, and ran a fair amount of publicity in the local press. When the opening day arrived for the seven-week course, enthusiastic beginners lined up outside of the gym and a

**Square Dancing**

Star Promenade is featured in the following singing call routines. They were picked up from Les Henkel new book "A Treasure of Dances."

Singing Call - Intro/Brk/End

Join hands Circle Left...

Allemande Left...

Right Hand Around Partner...

Men Star Left...

Star Promenade your partner...

Ladies roll out, turn around &

Promenade the other way...

Same two DoSaDo...

Allemande Left...

Promenade home

Singing Call Figures

4 men Star Right inside

let's walk around & then...

Back with a Left Hand Star it's the

other way around my friend...

Pickup corner arm around

Star Promenade in style...

Back out at home & join hands

you'll circle 'bout a mile...

New corner Left Allemande...

Swing new partner...

Promenade the land

Corners all Left Allemande...

Partner DoSaDo ...

Men Star Left once around...

Partner Star Promenade...

Men back out & ladies in, Star

Promenade we're gone again...

Back out at home & corner

Swing...

Promenade home

Heads/sides go Forward & Back...

Same 2 Right Hand Star...

Left Hand Star...

Pickup corner arm around

Star Promenade...

All back out & Circle Left...

(2 men - 2 ladies)

Swing the nearest lady...

Promenade home

**Contra Dance**

This dance is done in a "beckette" style contra formation, but the progression has the couples slanting to the right for a Right & Left Thru. A little different. The tricky point in the dance follows this when each couple is facing a new pair. If the dancers haven't used this direction of progression before, they can become confused. The dance was written by Allynn Rigg's of Englewood, Colorado and dances very nicely.

**Allynn's Mountain Reel**

Allynn Riggs

**Formation:** Contra lines. Couple facing couple across the set. The formation requires an even number of couples.

**Record:** LS 194 or a good reel.

**Prompts**

*Intro* - - - -, *Across Two Ladies Chain*

**1-8** - - - -, - - **Ladies DoSaDo**

**9-16** - - - -, - - **Men DoSaDo**

**17-24** - - - -, **Ladies Chain Turn a Quarter More**

**25-32** - - - -, **Promenade Go Up & Down**

**33-40** - - **Wheel Around, - - Come Back**

**41-48** - - - -, **Find Those Two & Half Promenade**

**49-56** - - - -, **Slant Right & Right & Left Thru**

**57-64** - - - -, **Straight Across Two Ladies Chain**

**Description**

1-8 Two Ladies Chain across the set.

9-16 Same two ladies DoSaDo.

17-24 Opposite men DoSaDo.

25-32 Two Ladies Chain and the men Courtesy Turn the ladies 1/4 more to face up or down the floor. The line on the prompter's left will be facing away and the line on the caller's right will be facing the prompter.

33-40 Promenade the direction you are facing for six short steps. Wheel Around as a couple and walk the opposite direction.

41-48 When each couple is across from the original opposite couple in the foursome the two couples Half Promenade across.

49-56 Each couple faces the couple diagonally to the right and does a Right & Left Thru. Two couples, one at each end of the set will have no couple diagonally to their right. They should face across the set and wait in place for 8 counts.

57-64 All couples face across the set and Chain the Ladies.

*Notes* Allynn's original dance "Snow Mountain Reel", uses a Hey for Four instead of the ladies & men DoSaDo.

*Did you notice the proposed meeting for people interested in the Community Dance Program??? – See page 1*

## Con't from Q &amp; A Page 2

half hour before the first class was to start the course was sold out. At the time callers had about 16 basics to teach, but this wasn't about basics. It was about becoming square dancers and having a great time in the process. The beauty of this program was that a great percentage of these dancers coming from the short course lessons remained in the program for many years.

*Q: And, one final question. If this is a simplified program is it designed for the new or inexperienced caller?*

**A:** The best way to answer that is with another question. If you have a horse that's never been ridden would you choose a rider whose never ridden a horse? Of course not! If we're sincere about a program that has unlimited possibilities, that is looking at a greater potential than anything we've seen in a long time within the square dance activity, then we need our best teachers, our strongest most proven leaders. We aren't looking for callers who will run the new dancers in the front door and out the back. We're aiming for a permanent program based on what we've learned in the past, leaders who can help to make the dream become a reality.

### Don Armstrong publishes a Dance Workbook

"The Dance Workbook" is a collection of 231 dances including contras, quadrilles, squares, folk dances from 12 countries, mixers, couple dances, line and novelty dances.

This book is for leaders who already understand the dance terminology used in each category. The book also contains suggested tunes for use with live bands.

Price and other details are available from

**Don Armstrong**  
PO Box 1060  
Canon City, CO 81215  
Tel: 719-275-8755

### Video Published by Kentucky Dance Foundation

*Jerry Helt's "DANCE PARTY"* is a 90 minute tour of a live dance party conducted by Jerry. The material includes a wide variety of dances. An audio tape of the performance is enclosed in the same package.

The video and the cassette tape are an excellent illustration of how to quickly teach and demonstrate simple and fun dances. The tape is worth having just for studying Jerry's skill in these areas.

The video and audio cassette set would also be very useful in areas where leaders are unavailable or for new leaders.

For Information Contact:

**The Kentucky Dance Foundation**  
2800 Hutcherson Lane  
Elizabethtown, KY 42701-8908

#### **Novelty Dance**

The following dance is really English in origin. It is a good example of a different way to dance with four couples. The music is excellent

#### **Clopton Bridge**

English

**Formation:** Four couple contra lines. Four men on the caller's right facing four ladies on the caller's left.

**Record:** LS E-27 or any other 4 x 64-count music

**Tip:** As the top couple slides to the foot of the set the other three couples move up one place.

#### **Counts**

*Intro* - - First Lady, Fourth Man Turn Right Hand Around  
**1-8** - - - -, Same Two Left Hand Around  
**9-16** - - First Man, Fourth Lady Right Hand Around  
**17-24** - - - -, Same Two Left Hand Around  
**25-32** - - - -, Center Four Star Right  
**33-40** - - - -, Same Four Star Left  
**41-48** - - - -, Head Couple Slide (Sashay) to the Foot  
**49-56** - - - -, All Two Hand Turn Your Partner  
**57-64** - - First Lady, Fourth Man Turn Right Hand Around

