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**The CDP Committee
of
CALLERLAB**

**The International Association
of
Square Dance Callers**

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Introduction to Community Dance Program Video

A 25 minute video introducing the Community Dance Program has been completed. The video includes square dancing, contras, trios, mixers, line dances, and big circle dances. Each dance form is explained and then the video shows a live performance of an example dance. Each demonstration dance is played only a few times through each routine to prevent the repetition from becoming boring.

The target audience is anyone who is curious about the Community Dance Program. This includes leaders, prospective dancers, and organi-

zations such as recreation departments. It will also serve as an excellent introduction of the CDP concepts to square dance clubs and caller/cuer organizations.

The tapes will be available from the CALLERLAB Home Office. The price is still under discussion. Much will depend on the volume of copies that will be sold initially. If you are interested in purchasing a tape you might consider making the Home Office aware of that interest. This will boost the number of potential initial sales and could result in a lower purchase price.

The Electronic Network Continues to Grow.

Over the last several weeks there have been several lively discussions on the computer networks about teaching beginner square dance classes. The CALLERLAB Home Office monitors these discussions and has picked up two articles Cal Campbell added to the discussion. One was published in the August edition of *DIRECTION* The next edition of *DIRECTION* will publish the other article.

The two most active discussion groups seem to be on America On Line and the Internet. The address to subscribe to the Internet square dance callers discussion group is:

sd-callers-request@dmshome.youngstown.oh.us.

This group can be reached from any service that has connections to Internet. The list is managed by Doug Sewel who is a square dance caller.

The America On Line square dance discussion board can be reached by going to the Exchange and opening the Hobby Board. From there look for the topic County Western and Square Dancing.

Join the fun and let's get some discussions going about the Community Dance Program.

CDP Events at National SD Convention Well Attended

The Birmingham convention was smaller than the average, but the sessions featuring the Community Dance Program drew large crowds.

The CDP clinic had over 100 people in attendance. People stayed until the end of the sessions and then several remained to ask questions.

The panel discussion with Cal Campbell, Stan Burdick and Mike Seastrom had 50-60 people. Once again the discussion was lively.

Jerry Helt featured on a new CDP video.

The Kentucky Dance Foundation has published a new video titled, "Jerry Helt's Community Dance Party." The video is about one hour in length and generally follows the theme of a dance party.

Jerry uses many square dances, some mixers, and several line dances. He also uses a clever dance called the 'Kingston Flyer' featured in this issue on page 4.

A cassette tape is included with the video. This would enable people to watch a dance on TV and then do the dance.

For price and additional information please contact:

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First, Teach Them How to Dance

by Calvin Campbell

Many of us are starting another round of square dance lessons at this time of year. All of us are faced with the daunting task of trying to make every minute of lessons count and still keep it fun. Sometimes the "un" part becomes secondary to the perceived pressure of needing to teach too much terminology in too little time. We lose track of the fact the real goal is to teach people to dance.

The first few weeks of lessons are critical in the process of learning to dance. During this time the new dancer will either learn to move to music or to ignore it. The leader must take the time to let the dancers practice walking in time to the music. The leader must make the effort to see that they use records and dance routines that enhance this effort. Music like *76 Trombones* (TNT 250), *Pittsfield Drum & Bugle Corps* (UR-1), and *Yankee Doodle Dandy* (Grenn 12241). The march beat makes the dancers want to walk in time to the music.

The second part of learning to dance is to teach the dancers that the movement they do and the music they hear are directly related. They need to understand that movements such as *Two Ladies Chain* and *Right & Left Thru* are meant to take eight comfortable walking steps.

The third step is practice. The dancers must be given time to practice dancing each movement in time with the music. They must be allowed the opportunity to do it enough times that the timing, the music, and the movement become automatic. Then, and only then, are they dancing. Quadrilles are invaluable for this purpose. *Stars and Stripes Quadrille* was published in the March 1995 issue. *First Night Quadrille* is featured in this issue.

How do we fit all of this into a crowded schedule, still keep it fun, and get through the teaching list before summer? The answer is to for-

get the pressure to move on to the next term. Take the time to teach them to dance in the first few weeks of lessons. If you lay the foundation of music and movement well enough at the beginning the dancers will learn terminology much quicker later on.

There are lots of other tools to help the skilled leader. The first is to get them out of a square. The square formation is a very inefficient teaching formation. Many of the movements we teach involve facing couples. Place the dancers in a large circle of couples facing couples (Sicilian Circle - see the June 1995 CDP Journal). From this formation you can hash call just like you do in a square. Then, let the dancers practice what they have learned by using a prompted dance such as *Hello My Baby* published in the June 1995 CDP Journal. The dancers can move to the music instead of hearing you constantly yammering in their ear. They are dancing.

Use dances in other formations that use square dance terminology. *Theil's Trio* published in the CDP Journal in May 1993 uses Arm Turns and can be taught the first night of lessons. The music is an old patter record called *Phase Craze*. The dance is a 'ball' and when the record is finished the dancers will know how to Arm Turn both right and left and do it in time to the music.

Mixers can also help teach and reinforce square dance terminology. *10' O'clock Mixer* (Grenn 12180) uses Forward & Back, U-Turn Back, Arm Turns and Swing. *Molly Mixer* (MacGregor 2028) uses Circle Left/Right, Forward & Back, DoSaDo, Swing and Couple Promenade. *Bubbles Mixer* (Grenn 15005) uses Circle Left/Right, Star Left/Right, DoSaDo, Swing, and Couple Promenade. Each of these provide a change-of-pace while giving the dancers the opportunity to practice dancing square dance terminology in time with the music.

Don't reject the idea of using contra dance formations. Do you ever have lesson nights when there aren't enough couples to make complete squares? There are several contra dances that have couples facing couples in long lines. See *Skontra* in this issue. The routine is ideal for teaching Stars, Ladies Chain, and Right & Left Thru. The dancers need to understand the goal is to use all of the music and move from one place to another without stopping or hurrying. That's dancing.

The possibilities are endless and the value very great. As the leader, you may have to learn a new skill -- prompting. But when you learn it you will also find that it also improves your patter calling. Most of all, the people will become better dancers, learn quicker, and have more fun.



Square Dancing

In one of the discussions recently, a caller wanted to know some simple figures that would spice up the first few Square Dance lessons without adding new terminology. Here are a couple built around Arm Turns.

Arkansas Traveler Variation

#1 Man turn the opposite lady Right Hand Around ...
Back to your partner with a Left Hand Around ...
To the right hand lady with a Right Hand Around ...
Back to your partner with a Left Hand Around ...
To the corner lady with a Right Hand Around ...
Back to your partner and bow

The same routine can be worked using the heads or sides or even all four men. It is a good way to practice knowing the positions in the set. Try out a variation using the ladies going to each of the men in turn.

Four men turn the corner Left Hand Around ...
Put the ladies in the center back to back* ...
Men Promenade Single File around the outside ...
Turn this same lady once and a half ...
Put the men in the center back to back ...
Ladies Promenade Single File around the outside ...
Turn the same man by the Left Hand Around ...
Swing your partner

* The ladies/men step into the center of the set and face out so that all four people are back to back.

Several other variations can be built around the same theme. For example the men or the ladies could be asked to turn the oppsite or the right hand person once around before coming home.

Contra Dance

Skontra

Ken Kernen

Formation: Contra lines. Couple facing couple across the set. An even number of couples are needed

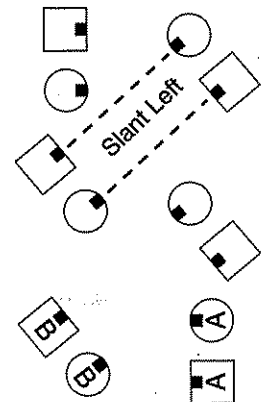
Record: Silver Sounds 155 or Mustang 179 "Columbus Stockade Blues"

Prompts

Intro - - - -, *Everybody Forward & Back*
1-8 - - - -, **With the couple across Circle Left**
9-16 - - - -, **Same four Star Left**
17-24 - - - -, **-- Star Right**
25-32 - - - -, **Men drop out & 2 Ladies Chain**
33-40 - - - -, **-- Chain Back**
41-48 - - - -, **Slant left and Right & Left Thru**
49-56 - - - -, **Straight across Right & Left Thru**
57-64 - - - -, **Everybody Forward & Back**

Description

1-8 Long lines Forward & Back
 9-16 Circle Left with the couple across
 17-24 Same four Star Left
 25-32 Same four Star Right
 33-40 When the men reach their home line, they step out of the star and the 2 Ladies Chain.
 41-48 Same 2 Ladies Chain back.
 49-56 As a couple, face diagonally to the left and Right & Left Thru with the new couple. Two couples, one on each end of the set, will have no couple diagonally to the left. They wait in place for eight beats of music.
 57-64 Right & Left Thru across the set. The two couples left idle, during the previous move, will change sides of the set during the Right & Left Thru and have a new home-line.



**Plan now to attend the
 CDP Swapshop
 on
 Saturday evening
 prior to the 1996
 CALLERLAB Convention**

Quadrille**First Night Quadrille**

Bob Dalsemer

Formation: Square**Record:** Jewell 707 "Susie"Prompt

Intro ----, *Head Couples Forward & Back*
 1-8 ----, **Same four Circle Left**
 9-16 ----, **Circle Right**
 17-24 ----, **Same four Star Right**
 25-32 ----, -- **Allemande Left**
 33-40 ----, **Grand Right & Left**
 41-48 ----, -- **Partner DoSaDo**
 49-56 ----, -- **Promenade home**
 57-64 ----, **Side Couples Forward & Back**

Description

1-8 Head couples walk Forward & Back
 9-16 Same couple Circle Four to the left
 17-24 Same four Circle Right
 25-32 Same couple Star Right
 33-40 At home position Allemande Left with the corner.
 41-48 Grand Right & Left
 49-56 Partner DoSaDo
 57-64 Promenade partner to home position.

Facing Fours**Kingston Flyer**

Author Unknown

Formation: Four men facing four ladies.**Record:** Blue Star 2410 "Freight Train"Prompts

Intro ----, *Head lady lead your line around*
 1-8 ----, ----
 9-16 ----, **Head man lead your line around**
 17-24 ----, ----
 25-32 ----, **Head couple down the center**
 33-40 --- **Turn, Come back to place**
 41-48 ----, **Separate & down the outside**
 48-56 ----, **DoSaDo at the foot**
 57-64 ----, **Head man lead you line around**

Description

1-16 The head lady in each line leads the line of four ladies around the line of four men.
 17-32 The head man in each line leads the line of four men around the line of four ladies.
 33-40 Head couple walk down the center of the set 8 steps.
 41-48 The same couple U-Turn Back and return to the head of the set.
 49-56 The head couple Separate and walk down the outside of the set to the foot of the set.
 57-64 At the foot of the set the same couple should DoSaDo and then remain at the foot of the set.

Dances, letters, articles &
 comments may be sent to:

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