

Community
Dance
Program **Journal**



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

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Update On The Beginner Party Leader's Workshop At Las Vegas

The workshop for Beginner Party Leaders will be held at the New Frontier Hotel in Las Vegas on Saturday afternoon April 15th and Sunday morning April 16th 2000. The staff is still in the process of being formed. If you would like to volunteer please contact:

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Saturday morning will be available for any leaders who want to have individual instruction. Saturday evening

will be reserved for a dinner and I think the rest of the evening will be used for fun and Las Vegas games.

Apparently all the hotels in Las Vegas reserve rooms only for both Friday and Saturday night. This means the option of arriving on Saturday will not be available this year. You might just as well come in on Friday and enjoy the sights.

During the meeting of the CDP Committee in March several subjects were suggested. I've worked most of these topics into the schedule, but any additional suggestions will be welcome.

Dennis Leatherman will be in charge of putting together a syllabus. In addition, all the sessions will be video taped.

Keep in mind that this workshop is designed to meet the needs of both leaders who currently do beginner parties and callers who would like to know more about this part of the square dance recreation. All of you are invited to attend and are encouraged to advertise the workshop to other people you think might be interested.

Let's all work together to make this a well attended event. We need some new leaders.

Jack Murtha Passes Away

On July 25, Jack Murtha died of a massive heart attack at his home in California. I don't know how many of you had a chance to dance to Jack at the Sunday afternoon CDP dances at the CALLERLAB Conventions over the last few years, but he was a remarkable man. He always had something new to present that he had invented or researched. They were gems of dances which were clever and used very few basics.

I (Cal) had the pleasure of knowing and working with Jack for close to 40 years. We would run into each other at various workshops and dance camps. I was very impressed with him as a teacher's teacher. He understood the education process very well.

Jack published many records over the years under the Dancetime label and invented the Diamond Program which was aimed primarily at school age children. It was similar to the Community Dance Program, but concentrated more on the square dance aspects.

Jack was an artist at beginner parties and working with children. He had the personality and the skill to get large groups of people dancing very quickly. He shared this knowledge wherever he appeared and many of us learned much from his demonstrations.

Jack had many interests. He was instrumental in getting the CALLERLAB hearing enhancement program in place. Two years ago he brought several squares of dancers and a caller from China to dance at the CALLER-

LAB convention.

I thought it would be worthwhile to go back through the CDP Journals and gather together some of the gems that Jack sent in for publication over the years.

Some of them were his inventions. Some of them, I'm sure, were researched from others. I've included record numbers and other notes for your information. Take them out and use them and remember the man who danced until his dying day.

He will be greatly missed.

Cal Campbell

Square Dancing

Jack used the following routines in his dance program. Notice that each of the figure has the dancers moving in an easaily identifiable big pattern.

Head couples Promenade 1/2 ...
 2 Ladies Chain ...
 Same two Promenade 1/2 ...
 Pass Thru ... Courtesy Turn ...
 Pass Thru ... Promenade 1/2 ...
 Heads Lead Right ... Split 2 ...
 Separate ... Around 1 to a line ...
 Pass Thru ... U-Turn Back ...
 Pass Thru ... Left Allemande

Heads Promenade 1/2 ...
 Circle 1/2 and 1/4 more ...
 Pass Thru ... With the outside two
 Circle 1/2 and 1/4 more ...
 Back away to a line of four ...
 Pass Thru ... Courtesy Turn ...
 2 Ladies Chain ... Pass Thru ...
 Courtesy Turn ...
 Circle 1/2 and 1/4 more ...
 Pass Thru ... Left Allemande

No Partner Circle

This simple no-partner dance should work well in all age groups. It is especially useful with children from kindergarten to 8th grade.

Blue Bird

Formation: Single circle facing the center of the hall with adjacent hands joined to form arches.

Record: Folkcraft 1180

Description

One extra person in the middle of the set is the "blue bird". This person weaves in an out of the arches and stops some place on the outside and taps someone in the circle on the shoulder. The previous blue bird then places both hands on the new leader's shoulders. The new person becomes the blue bird and the pair weave in and out of some more arches.

The selection process is repeated and the line (train) becomes longer and longer until there are no arches remaining.

Quadrille

This quadrille had a corner progression and is 64 beats in length. It could be propted as a quadrille or used as the figure in a singing call or even adapted to a patter routine.

Gordo's Quadrille

Jack Murtha

Formation: Four couples in a square formation.

Record: Square Dancetime SD-002 "Gordo's Quadrille"

Prompts

- Intro - - - -, - - - -
- - - -, - - Heads Lead Right
- 1-8 - Split Two around 1 down the middle
Right & Left Thru
- 9-16 - - - -, - - Sides Lead Right
- 17-25 - Split Two around 1 down the middle
Right & Left Thru
- 25-32 - - - -, - - Circle Left
- 33-40 - - - -, - - Allemande Left
- 41-48 - Pass your partner- , Take the next & Promenade
- 49-56 - - - -, - - - -
- 57-64 - - - -, - - Heads Lead Right

Description

- 1-8 Head or side couples Lead Right and Split the outside two and Separate.
- 9-16 Around 1 down the middle and Right & Left Thru with the facing couple.
- 17-24 The other couple (sides or heads) Lead Right and Split the outside two and Separate.
- 25-32 Around 1 down the middle and Right & Left Thru with the facing couple.
- 33-40 Circle Left halfway to the man's home position.
- 41-48 Allemande Left
- 49-64 Pass by your partner and Promenade the next person 3/4 around to the man's home position.

Note: The intro on the Square Dancetime record is 16 beats of music. If you use another record, the number of lead in counts will need to match the intro of the record.