

CONFIDENTIAL

NEWSLETTER

for Members of

CALLERLAB

(wing of A.S.D.S.)



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THIS COULD BE THE START OF SOMETHING BIG

If enthusiasm counts for anything these days then CALLERLAB is off to a fine start. Our CALLERLAB meeting held at Asilomar the first weekend in February was so loaded with meaty ideas and suggestions for future "direction" that it has taken the better part of four months to sift the fifteen hours of recorded conference talk into eighty pages of single-spaced typewritten transcript which, when refined even further, has resulted in this Wrap-Up.

We will try to boil down for you the various suggestions and decisions that came from this meeting. First we should mention that this newsletter is the result of the expressed needs of all of those present for some means of communication among ourselves. It was pointed out that what this group does not need is another set of mimeographed monthly dance notes. On the other hand, it was felt that there was indeed a need for good tested material that fit into several categories.

Marshall Flippo, for one, thought that we could come up with a good collection of proven dances that could be used while working with the Basic 1 to 50 Program of American Square Dancing and some additional dance material that could be used with the Extended Program (Basics 51-75). It was his feeling, backed up by the others present, that if we all were assigned basics we could get to work on some good useable, different examples which could be sent in and included in the next issue of "Direction."

A second thought expressed the idea that we could benefit from each other's suggestions relative to some of the new experimental movements. A simple comment from one of you that such-and-such a movement was awkward and that you were avoiding it or that so-and-so had good possibilities and some tested drills and dances were enclosed might prove helpful to others of us in this group.

Undoubtedly there are other good uses for a newsletter directed just at members of CALLERLAB and not designed to try to influence others or to compete with other newsletter services. "Direction" can be our means of making progress reports on the various task assignments we have accepted. It's also an excellent method of getting agendas of future meetings out to members and to serve as a wrap-up to a meeting such as the session recently completed.

CALLERLAB '72 - IN A NUTSHELL

The meeting was called to order by CALLERLAB '72 Chairman Arnie Kronenberger at 2:30 P.M., Sunday, February 6, 1972. Present during all or part of the meeting were Don Armstrong, Marshall Flippo, Jerry Haag, Jerry Helt, Bruce Johnson, Arnie Kronenberger, Frank Lane, Jim Mayo, Bob Osgood, Bob Page, and Bob Van Antwerp.

Bruce Johnson was called on to offer a dedication and said basically, "There is one of our group not present with us in body at this time who is as responsible for

this get-together of caller/leaders as any single man could be. I'm sure that there are others who share with me the feeling that somehow Ed Gilmore is with us today at this meeting. Because Ed has given so much to each one of us and because his influence will undoubtedly be felt during our meetings, I would like to dedicate the spirit of this meeting to our friend, the late Ed Gilmore."

RESUME OF OPENING REMARKS by Bob Van Antwerp

In addressing his remarks to the opening of CALLERLAB '72, Bob Van Antwerp in part said the following: Square dancing has taken a new direction in the last few years, and each one of us who is a part of CALLERLAB has an important part to play in that direction. Those who are here today have been selected for their loyalty to the activity, their willingness to help, and their true sense of purpose. Above all, you have demonstrated in the past your dedication to this activity. We have a great deal to accomplish in just a short period of time and so we will not concern ourselves with trivial matters. This is not a unionized type of group, nor do we have any selfish motives in mind. Rather we are dedicated to the good of the entire square dance activity.

Though each one of us has his own beliefs on how the activity should expand and exist, by working together we can form a bond for the betterment of CALLERLAB with no intentions of control or monopoly. We need to think of solutions rather than problems. We need to look toward the affirmative rather than to the negative and to aim toward specifics rather than to too many generalities. We are here to implement the 8 statements that we have agreed to earlier. To set deadlines for this implementation and to strive to meet them.

Because we have all profited from this activity I feel that it's our devotion and feeling of responsibility that will say to each one of us that we put something back into it. A need exists for direction and re-direction if the activity is to flourish. We have set our sights high toward accomplishing the goals outlined by these statements. We should be careful while we are here not to set timetables for the completion of projects which are impractical; not to accept assignments that cannot be accomplished. We need to determine the feasibility of financing this project and we need to set a pattern and qualifications for the acceptance of new members to CALLERLAB.

Our goals should be aimed toward the purpose of establishing national unity in our activity and we should believe in what we are endeavoring to do through this group of respected individuals. And while we are here together we should enjoy this time with each other as we set out to accomplish something tangible.

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~~Following quite closely a pre-planned agenda, reports on the previously agreed upon 8 statements plus additional extra statements were made by the group. You may wish to refer to your earlier CALLERLAB notes for the full write-ups on each of the statements. Basically the reports resulted in the following:~~

STATEMENT ONE - Let's Put the Dance Back into Square Dancing.

STATEMENT TWO - An Accepted Form of Standardization is Vital to the Growth and Continuation of This Activity.

These two statements were discussed one after the other and the complete list of 75 basics were checked off in relation to the standard form in which they were being danced as well as the trouble spots and styling recommendations. It was felt that both Styling and Standardization were already outlined satisfactorily in

(1) The Caller/Teacher Manual for the Basic Program of American Square Dancing (Basics 1-50), and in (2) The Caller/Teacher Manual for the Extended Basics Program of American Square Dancing (Basics 51-75). The group then passed the following two motions covering the manuals and their contents.

MOTION: CALLERLAB '72 endorses and recommends the Caller/Teacher Manual for the Basic Program of American Square Dancing (published by The Sets in Order American Square Dance Society) as an accurate description of the terms which form the foundation of American Square Dancing.

MOTION: CALLERLAB '72 endorses and recommends the Caller/Teacher Manual for the Extended Basics Program of American Square Dancing (published by The Sets in Order American Square Dance Society) as an accurate description of terms commonly used in contemporary square dance programs.

The two motions were passed unanimously.

SOME BACKGROUND INFORMATION AND DATA ON THE TWO BASIC CALLER/TEACHER MANUALS

Due to the great amount of discussion on the first two statements relating to standardization and styling, a short explanation of the background of these two manuals seems in order. Most of us in CALLERLAB have witnessed the time in earlier days of contemporary square dancing when there was no successful standardization and where there were as many as 6 ways to Promenade, 4 or 5 ways to do a Swing, 2 or 3 hand grips for a Right and Left Grand and any number of interpretations for the different basics. The activity was allowed to grow, dancers were encouraged to travel and callers moved from one area to another only when it became possible to achieve a certain degree of standardization. Standardization has been all-important in the growth of the activity but not as a means of controlling individual pleasure or regimenting dancers in such a way that the fun disappeared. Through standardization the basic terms mean the same thing in one area that they do in another. Standardization insures that a certain call starts and finishes in an agreed upon manner and that where possible a pre-determined number of steps are used for each movement.

In order to form some degree of direction for the activity, a study was made a few years ago involving the help of more than 100 callers and teachers from all parts of the square dance world. The object was to determine what basics were most important to the activity and in which order they might be presented to the new dancer. The tremendous flow of new terms and experimental movements posed a threat to the activity as a whole and some stabilizing factor had to be decided upon. The Basic Program of American Square Dancing - Basics 1 to 50 - was a result of several years study made with the help of a great many leaders. The second manual for the Extended Basics Program of American Square Dancing also reflected the help of a number of callers. Its final check out and approval was made by the three members of CALLERLAB assigned to study statements One and Two. As recently as one month prior to the date of publication final revisions and suggested changes occurred and it was felt at that time that the manual was as nearly workable as anyone could make it.

It should be pointed out that any individual or group of individuals could come out with their own collection of basics. It is quite possible that their list of 75 basics would be the same ones that we have selected here or perhaps with a few changes. It's possible that the order of teaching might be slightly different. However, it has been agreed upon by all those who worked on these books that the order of teaching is completely possible and workable and it is correct to assume that indi-

vidual callers and teachers will be at liberty to change the order as it fits their own style and purpose. However, the fact that 75 movements have been agreed upon out of the more than 1300 existing at this time seems to all of us to be a step in the right direction.

It should also be noted that no endorsement of this book by CALLERLAB has been requested by The Sets in Order American Square Dance Society and that this endorsement and recommendation has been the voluntary initiative of the members of this group.

Some of the terms, particularly in the Basic Manual, may not be in use in some areas at the present, but because of their reappearance from time to time and because they are considered basic foundation material for the activity, they have been retained. Glossary terms which are included in the back of each of the manuals form an important part of the repertory of some of the callers but were left strictly as optional material. For that reason they are not included on the basic check lists that accompany the teaching manuals. However, adequate blank spaces are provided on the check lists for individual caller choices.

As a result of several serious discussions held at CALLERLAB '72, the Basic Movements Handbooks, which are designed to be given to new dancers by their caller/teachers, will appear in two volumes rather than in one as in the past. The first, which will appear in the July issue of SQUARE DANCING, will cover the Basic Program of American Square Dancing (Basics 1 through 50). Along with the descriptions of each of the basics will appear a short paragraph on styling plus some illustration matter. The second Basic Movements Handbook which will appear in the center of the August issue of SQUARE DANCING will cover the Extended Basics Program. Along with the detailed descriptions of Basics 51 through 75, it will include styling tips and illustrations on these movements.

It is hoped that all of this will aid CALLERLAB in its campaign to help to develop a sturdy dance program in the future.

STATEMENT THREE - Caller/Teacher Leadership Training is the Responsibility of the Callers and Teachers.

From Bob Van Antwerp's report, here are a list of suggestions to be considered for future caller training:

The establishment of an apprenticeship program under the supervision of CALLERLAB to encourage caller training in areas on a one-to-one basis with a general program worked out by this group. . . . Consider the possibility of encouraging the different existing caller schools to start on different dates so that there will be a caller's school available in each quarter of the year. Also work on the locations of these schools so that they will be easily accessible to the greatest number of callers. . . . Consider the feasibility of a correspondence school for callers using cassette tape programs. A program could be worked out so that members of this group could personally analyze the calling tapes sent in by those who take part in the project. . . . Look into the feasibility of establishing a qualified board of instructors for callers' schools that would be registered and approved by CALLERLAB (they would not necessarily need to be members of CALLERLAB. . . . Consider the possibility of tying in a 3-day callers' course with national, state, and regional conventions. These courses could just precede the conventions with profits, after expenses, being earmarked for CALLERLAB. . . . Consider the possibility of adding a CALLERLAB "Seal of Approval" as this group's endorsement on individually run callers' schools.

Establish prerequisite entrance examinations for callers' schools. (Perhaps a

year and a half of dancing prior to taking the callers' course. The use of references of capable leaders toward the applicant. Local associations could select individuals applying for a caller's course. . . . Suggest that a study be made of material being used in callers' courses in order to establish a uniform curriculum. (It was further suggested that a central source be established to collect and catalog all callers' course notes that can be located. . . . Further discussion covered possible fees for callers' courses and mention was made that the size of classes be kept to 10 members per caller staff member, allowing adequate time for individual critique, etc.

MOTION: It was moved that a committee be appointed to prepare recommended curriculum for an approved 5-day caller/leader institute and that the report be submitted by the July mid-year CALLERLAB meeting.

The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

NOTE: As mentioned elsewhere in this wrap-up, the curriculum meeting was held in Connecticut on May 8th. A file and archives library for CALLERLAB is being established at our Los Angeles office and any members having copies of Caller Course Notes, curriculum outlines, etc., who might be willing to part with them are encouraged to send them to the office where they will be available for future study.

Frank Lane has been appointed chairman of the caller's course curriculum committee of CALLERLAB.

STATEMENT FOUR - Professional Standards for Callers and Teachers Need to be Established and Maintained.

Bob Van Antwerp's report was basically as follows.

The Code of Ethics establishes desirable standards of relationships to accomplish the declared purpose and objective for leaders, teachers, and callers in the square and round dance program. Each leader, teacher, and caller shall assume responsibility for the character of professional relationship among members of this profession and with the people they lead, the quality of performance expected by one another as well as the people and participants they lead and the prohibition of conduct which brings disrepute to the profession and individual.

Each leader, teacher, and caller shall attempt to recognize the needs and interests and establish goals for square and round dance programs in his area. He shall provide information, instruction, and leadership qualities. He shall respect the dignity of participants, other leaders, teachers, and callers as a person and maintain relationships based on integrity and conduct; respect the associations he works within and conscientiously perform delegated duties of his selected association. He shall contribute ideas and suggestions for improvements in the movement, respect the professional competence of his colleagues, refrain from actions, words, or deeds which negate mutual respect, cooperation, and team work. He shall develop and use his leadership qualities for growth in his particular field, engage in the activity for his own satisfaction and personal growth in addition to the monetary rewards and develop an awareness of the importance of sound, basic instructional classes for all ages. He shall share skills with other leaders, recognize the economic implications of groups to pay out of reach for services and endeavor to adjust his financial remuneration to that which the group can afford to pay without hardship and providing services are satisfactorily rendered, and he shall utilize all forms of media to publicize and further the activity. As a qualified leader, teacher, or caller, he should be an active member of a round dance or

caller association, should support the principles for which it stands, participate in its affairs and functions and contribute personally to the development of professional standards.

Definition of a Square and Round Dance Leader, Teacher or Caller:

One who provides opportunities of enjoyment from square or round dancing, which in turn will satisfy and give meaningful fulfillment to the joy of dancing. This includes leadership desirable to achieve such a recreational experience for all participants as a quality of life.

At the completion of making his report, Van Antwerp stated that these points were suggestions only, and that we desperately needed an up-dated code of ethics for callers. It was stated that if we could come out with a new "Ten Commandments of Square Dancing" or something of that nature relating to caller ethics then this would become our backbone or foundation for CALLERLAB. It is hoped that all members will give some thought to this and forward to the office any suggestions that should be included in a code of ethics or samples of this type of material from area associations, etc.

STATEMENT FIVE - Today's Square Dancing is Due for a Reappraisal.

Bob Page sent the discussion to the group who decided that virtually everything that we have been discussing and would probably be discussing would be tied in to this particular heading. It was expressed that perhaps the subject of "attitudes" was more involved than the mechanics of dancing. The topic seemed to boil down to what we have today and what we could have under the best possible conditions. It is a fact that we appear to be losing far too many potential dancers. It is felt that in many areas the normal attrition or drop-off of dancers is being accelerated through various problems that are allowed to sneak into the square dance picture. It was pointed out that perhaps the weakness lay in some of the social aspects and someone else said that perhaps the philosophy that went into the early background and formation of the activity was lacking. It was also expressed that inadequate teaching and an inadequate club program was responsible for what deterioration existed. What we need is a way to help callers develop the ability to bring people along from the point where they are non-dancers until they are thinking and dancing like square dancers. You have people who are doing the teaching who really, themselves, don't know what it's all about.

The callers must know "why" as well as "how" when it comes to teaching the basic movements. The discussion that followed was that it was a "follow the leader" situation. It was pointed out that if there was more material available using the 50 movements that it would alleviate this problem. The general discussion carried on to the problem of the new movements and what confusion they seem to carry with them. It was admitted that this would be one of the main problems needing a good answer if we were to involve callers from across the country.

STATEMENT SIX - The Combination of the Various Parts of the Square Dance Activity Should be Encouraged.

In making his report, Don Armstrong referred the group to Chapter 12 in the November and December, 1971, issue of SQUARE DANCING having to do with the importance of Variety that would include variety in music, in forms of the dance, etc. A great deal of discussion was spent on the importance of the members of CALLERLAB as leaders in the calling field to be versatile in their calling and teaching; to be able to handle the rounds, contras, quadrilles, etc., as well as the singing calls and patter calls. With true variety members of this group could provide a tremendous evening of dancing pleasure by using only a limited number of

the basics. Don encouraged the members of the group to dare to use contras and other dance forms. "You are in a tremendous position to influence. I don't say that you have to be a crusader but you can slip them (contras, etc.) in every once in a while."

Considerable discussion was spent on the importance of caller/leaders being able to handle square dancer's rounds.

Don: If you are capable of dancing round dances and are a fairly capable round dancer, it then makes you more capable of using judgment.

STATEMENT SEVEN - The Selfish Exploitation of Square Dancing Should be Vigorously Discouraged.

Because the person assigned could not be present, a formal report on this statement was not made at this time. It will be covered at a later meeting.

STATEMENT EIGHT - The Over-Organization of Dancer/Leader Groups Can Pose a Problem to the Future Progress of the Activity.

It was pointed out that at the earlier meeting Dave Taylor had volunteered to put out a questionnaire to dancer associations (and possibly to caller associations) inquiring about several aspects of their activities and organization. This will be checked out with Dave in direct correspondence.

It was suggested that perhaps a leaflet entitled "Tips to the Club President from Your Caller" might help to serve as a means of communication between the caller and a dancer stepping into the role as president. The following ideas might be incorporated into such a folder. "First of all, congratulations! I suppose you know what you're getting yourself into but you know that I'm here to help. Here are a few little pointers that, over the years, I have discovered have helped others: (1) When using the microphone be sure that you have the attention of the people. Just after a tip is over, and when everyone is busy being friendly is a poor time for an announcement. When you have an announcement, if you'll check with me I'll try to pick an ideal time when you'll have everyone's attention. If you will see me ahead of time, I can help you adjust the microphone, etc...." Something of this nature might be the beginning of a public relations program on the part of CALLERLAB aimed at putting the caller back into the position of directing.

Helt: When you're hired to do a job, especially for a home club or a club on a regular basis, you should tell the group what you are offering them besides simply calling the dance. You're offering your services, your years of experience, consultation, leadership guidance and continuity in the club. Many clubs and a lot of club presidents are not aware of this. Unfortunately, many clubs today are not doing this. They are hiring the caller and they expect him to come and call and that is that.

An extra statement came in at this point which added more thoughts on the same subject.

EXTRA STATEMENT - The Importance of the Club Caller System.

In discussing this statement Arnie pointed out that the club caller was in a position to serve a very valuable function for square dancing, and that there is a very strong bond (or should be) between the caller and his regular club. He said further in part "When you have accepted the job, you have accepted a fiduciary relationship. You have accepted this job in mutual trust and confidence. It's got to be mutual. Without establishing a mutual trust and confidence, you have no direction to go. In many cases this is never brought out. That's where we lack in public relations."

It was pointed out that this pamphlet (discussed earlier) could be presented by the caller to his club president and could contain a list of helpful suggestions. It was also suggested that this phase of the calling activity should be covered thoroughly in callers' courses.

Arnie: I think the inclusion in a caller leadership course relative to what the caller's responsibilities are to the club and the club's responsibilities to the caller would be a great idea. . . . I think one of the biggest things we can pass along to new callers through these callers' schools is the benefit of our experience in human relationships as well as other knowledge.

EXTRA STATEMENT - The National Square Dance Convention is Missing the Boat.

Jerry Helt in making his report said in part that among the plus factors of the Convention was the fact that square dancing can receive some good publicity. It's a large event; attracts great numbers and can attract national recognition for square dancing. He felt that this is a good opportunity to reach and train callers and reported that this year for the first time a caller's course would be run in conjunction with the National. He suggests that CALLERLAB consider the possibility of conducting the caller's course in the future as a part of the National Convention.

In a discussion that followed it was suggested that we look into the possibility of finding a way to be of help to the National Convention while at the same time using this method to reach and train new caller leadership. It would be an excellent method of reaching area callers.

Jim Mayo: I think that the convention is doing more damage to what this group is trying to promote than we could correct in a month of Sundays. . . . I very much dislike the idea that the National Convention, which is a pure dancers' group, be involved in training callers. I find this totally offensive. . . . I think that the National Convention demonstrates as a showcase what we're trying to stand against and holds it up as "the thing to do." I think that we ought to face the fact that this is not a callers' thing and I think we ought to start something that is. If we really believe that the calling at the National Convention is sub-standard due largely to the fact that many of the top callers are not present, then perhaps we should do something about this by attending and raising the standards.

Don Armstrong: Would it be feasible, say in 1973, for this group to offer the chairman of that group one night or one afternoon and night or one day of programming conducted by CALLERLAB? This would put the responsibility back on the shoulders of the callers. You would be calling within your own structure. You can program intelligently. The things that you try to tell callers how to do, you can demonstrate because you can get up there and do your own type of programming. I feel that this should be offered only on the basis that the programming is the responsibility of CALLERLAB. The Convention would simply assign a hall which members of CALLERLAB would be in charge of.

Jim: Let me offer the example of NECCA because in New England we pretty much do represent the callers. We went to the people who were then running the New England festival and said to them, "Let us turn this into a really representative operation. We, the callers, will provide the callers that you would like to have on the program on one condition; we split the proceeds and do the program. We also furnish the sound." Though there was some resistance at first, they went along with us and we have been very successful (and made considerable money) ever since.

The question was asked at this point how many would be willing to go to the National in 1973 in Salt Lake City and participate if the type of program that we have been talking about were turned over to the callers to operate. The majority indicated

their willingness, but no formal vote or count was made. (There will be more discussion on this at the mid-summer meeting.)

A CALLERS' CONVENTION

A suggestion was made that the time of the members of this group and that of other callers might be better spent by a "Callers' Convention" just for callers. It would be a National Callers' Convention, not in any way in conjunction with the now existing National Square Dance Convention. It was felt that if this were not held at the same time, that it would not offend or hurt the National Square Dance Convention and that it would be an entirely different type of function. Guesstimates were made as to the possible number of participants and it was felt that perhaps 500 callers might be counted upon to attend based on an estimate of 9,000 total caller population. Someone questioned whether callers' wives would be included. Nothing further was mentioned on this. (This will be on the summer agenda.)

MISCELLANEOUS COMMENTS ON THIS SUBJECT: How many callers would be willing to travel halfway or more across the country to attend one of these 3-day sessions and face the expense, the time, etc.?....I would like to see a callers' convention come about. I think that this group stands to influence most by leading callers....Such a meeting should be held on a Sunday, Monday and Tuesday....The way to get people to one of these things is by "strong-arming" them. You've got to go individually to the guy that you know and say, "Look, this is not a game! This is not accidental. We're not just playing something here, you've got to be there because we need you. It's not that you need us, it's that we need you"....I feel that we need something of this type. A convention of these people which, in effect, would be a convention and not just a get-together to impress somebody in order to obtain calling dates. After that I feel that we could progress to something else (extend our organization on a national or international basis). We should then look for extra fringe benefits, retirement policies, etc.

In speaking of size it was echoed that by starting small and gaining strength while providing something to offer other callers that this CALLERLAB group stood its best chance of growing. This rather than moving right into large dimensions as a national callers' association, etc.

ACTION ON A CALLERS' CONVENTION

A committee was appointed to look into the feasibility of setting up such a meeting 2, 3, or 4 years into the future and to decide upon the time, explore possible locations and to determine what is available in a centrally located spot. When asked how many would be in favor of such a meeting it received a unanimous affirmative vote.

SUGGESTED TIME: A Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday in 1973 (or 1974).

MOTION: It is moved that Jerry Helt be appointed as chairman of the Convention Site Committee to help determine the selection of the site and dates with an initial report to be made in writing back to the group by the July mid-summer 1972 meeting, if possible. And that one year from this meeting (February 1973) this group make plans for such a future meeting.

The motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

EXTRA STATEMENT - Communications.

Jim Mayo's discussion on communications and how it involves us, together with the

rather vigorous discussion from the floor, took considerable time. Here are some of the points from that discussion.

We are involved in "communications" at this very minute. We have some real questions about "why" and "what" should be done in the square dance program and "how" it ought to be done. We have here a fairly general agreement that too much teaching of new material is a bad thing. We do not have a sufficiently reasoned and supported point of view to be able to sell that attitude to somebody who doesn't agree with us. That, in a nutshell, is communications. Talking to somebody who already agrees with you is a form of communications. Talking to someone who doesn't agree with you is another, but equally important, form of communications.

Either we have to sell our product or be willing to grant some concessions and recognize the value of somebody else's product. Perhaps we can find a way that the two fit together and that there is a market for both without conflict through communications - a process of understanding. One obvious means of communication, of course, is between callers. Callers talking to callers. Callers of approximately an equal stature; callers of approximately the same experience in the activity with a large body of understanding as a background for communication. That's the kind of communications we have with this group. We basically agree. We don't have a lot of discrepancies in our attitudes. Perhaps that's the easiest phase of communication.

Another communication situation is the one where an experienced caller with a background of traveling and exposure to the activity nationwide talks to the club caller in a small town. His information about square dancing is very different. His understanding and background against which you discuss square dancing is very different from the one that we have here. That's another communications problem. For a group that hopes to influence, it's important to understand that to be conscious of the difference between members of a group like this and between members of another group of callers that lacks background and experience and framework of understanding, are two different things.

Sometimes the words that you use don't mean the same thing to dancers in Chicago that they mean to your dancers in Los Angeles or San Francisco or Denver. The same word "challenge" means something very different in Rochester, New York, than it means in Los Angeles. And so, with dancers and callers communicating, you end up with varying situations. If we're going to influence dancers as well as callers, we need to understand the different types of communication in which we're going to be involved.

One form of communication is the written word. One of the frightening things about written communication is that once it's there it can't be taken back. When it's published it's out and you don't have the opportunity to modify it and say, "Well, let's look at this a little differently." It's there and they can go back and read it. It's a frightening aspect of written communication and it may be one of the reasons why we're reluctant to write letters; we're not sure that we're understood unless we're comfortable with the written communication medium.

The other form is verbal; talking, face-to-face communication or by telephone, but mostly face-to-face. An individual caller talking to another individual caller. You've all experienced the problem of gaining understanding even with that simple person-to-person communication. Again, partially because the words we use are not carefully defined and because they mean different things in different places, depending on who is using them, communication is difficult. One other form of communication that we all need to be aware of is "communication by example" and I think for this group that it's a very important thing. We need to show what it is that we want to say. It is not enough for us to write it and speak it, we're going to have to live it.

When you get right down to it, communications is going to be a primary function of this group. It is a method by which everything else that we do becomes a fact. I've found out that when I'm talking to people what I understand to be the truth doesn't mean a thing. The real question is, "What do you understand to be true?" Unless I can talk to you in your understanding, we aren't going to communicate. When we start talking about influencing and persuading, I think we should try to be very much aware of the background and experience and frame of reference; the meaning words have for the other guy much more so than we concern ourselves with what these words mean to us. Let us face the fact that we have a definition of "challenge" but it doesn't matter a bit when we're talking to a challenge caller in Rochester. What matters is what he means by "challenge." When we talk to somebody about "smoothness" we'd better know what he means by the word "smoothness." What we mean by it doesn't make any difference if we're going to communicate.

(A great deal of discussion was given to changing an individual's viewpoint and to have people understand our definition and come around to our way of thinking.)

Arnie: It gets back to my field, which is selling a product. I would say that 90% of the people whom I approach do not want that product until I give them sufficient reason and show them that that product will do them some good.

Jim: That technique will work beautifully. If we use that technique, we'll stand a very good chance of succeeding. When we talk to some of the men who may think differently than we do let us talk to them clearly and pointedly to their needs, not to ours.

The discussion went on to explain that perhaps our real goal will be to influence the people who have not yet solidified their thinking and who definitely do need and will accept direction. Arnie brought up the point that he hoped that the folks in the East wouldn't think that we are trying to convert them to our way of thinking, but that it's a case of our benefiting also from their experience.

Arnie: I would like those guys back there to join in this group so that we can partake of their experience and the good things that they have in their program so that we can use them out here or anywhere. By taking the best parts of what they are doing and the best parts of what we are doing and what the other parts of the country are doing and blending them into as much good thinking as possible, then we're making progress.

Thought: Understanding the other man's viewpoint is an initial step in communications.

Jim: Let me suggest one additional point in the field of communication. You started off this meeting yesterday by saying that one of the purposes of this group is to influence, and clearly it is. I think that if we are to influence we must represent the whole of this activity as we try to spread that influence and I would urge that we test our ideas and attitudes in the genuine fire before we make large efforts to spread. Therefore, I urge that we don't include a token objector if we are really sincere. If we are to be a truly influential group on the national square dance scene, it is important that we really represent not just a group of callers who happen to agree on a particular attitude, but that we represent the best blend of the way the activity is and its leaders think it's going. I think that if we are not to divide the activity, we must represent it and that means some compromise. It means that we're not going to be able to universally sell the attitudes that we have; you're going to have to mix them.

Don: I don't think that whatever we do, Jim, that we're ever going to be all things to all people. I don't think that we're ever going to universally be able to sell any-

thing. I just wonder if we're trying to be all things to all people too soon.

Frank: I think that eventually we will become interested in every caller in every small corner of the land but first we've got to start small and build gradually as we go.

Page: I think we've got to work slowly and not fast.

Bob: This is still a baby and at this stage of the game it could die quickly if you put in too much divergent thought. If we can get to the place where we at least are "walking" before we bring in some of the other thoughts, the group should be pliable enough and strong enough to weather the experience.

Don: I don't think we're afraid of opposition. Back at our meeting in Colorado 11 years ago I think we were afraid to take a stand of our own. It was the fear that we would "commit" something rather than "omit" something and for that reason none of us wanted to take any action.

At this point, the discussion went to the choice of new members for CALLERLAB.

Page: I still think that we ought to have pretty stiff requirements for next year until we're really sure that we have a good foundation and strength to build on. Once we get the strength, then we can go faster.

Don: At this point the group is more in the nature of an advisory committee as much as anything else. I think that we should try to think of people (to be added to the membership) who are capable of thinking of both sides. This is important. Whether or not they represent one picture or another picture isn't as important as "are they capable of constructive thought" and don't misunderstand me, I think this is something you have to think about. We're trying to come up with people who will work; who are willing to listen to two sides. Communications is a two-way street. I think that we have to think of people who are capable of constructive thought and who are capable or willing to listen to not just our point of view but all points of view.

(In selecting new members for CALLERLAB, it was decided to send each the 8 statements and to express the feeling that those who set up the group subscribed to these and that "we do not necessarily require that you subscribe to all of them but that we would like to invite you and get your expression of opinion..." This will give him an idea of knowing what he's getting into... In bringing in a new person, we have to think in terms of not only what we can do for him as much as what he might do for us. We are in a position to benefit from the people whom we bring in but we also stand the chance of that person bringing along with him whatever problems he may possess. At this stage of the game, are we strong enough to withstand any additional problems? It's great to be extremely democratic and bring great ~~variance of thought into the group, but if an individual has a problem that goes deep~~ then you have to weigh it with what you feel is the good that can come out of his being brought in.)

A list of names of callers taken from recent issues of SQUARE DANCING magazine of those who have been featured as Caller of the Month, Feature Caller, Recording Artists, etc., (but without any prior screening) was circulated among the group. Additional names suggested by members of the group were added to the lists. Jim Mayo took his copy of the list with him and was to see that Al Brundage and Earl Johnston had copies. Copies were sent to Dave Taylor and Johnny LeClair and all were cautioned to treat the list and the voting in strict confidence.

The final outcome of the vote resulted in 14 names and each individual has been sent a letter of invitation to become a member of CALLERLAB. A complete roster of

CALLERLAB members, including the new list, will be found in this wrap-up.

EXTRA STATEMENT - What Can This Group Do to Be of Help to Caller/Leaders in the Future?

Marshall Flippo suggested that the great majority of thought in this direction had been brought up or would be brought up in connection with the other reports. He stated that it was one thing to provide callers' schools but that it was another to get potential callers to attend them. A program should be set up, he indicated, to encourage callers to attend existing callers' schools. He felt that there should be a better way to publicize the existing schools and that additional schools should be set up in areas where no caller's schools exist at the present time.

He echoed the thought that a Callers' Convention has a good chance of helping caller/leaders in the future.

He emphasized again that if all present members of CALLERLAB would divide among themselves the 75 basics and each write from 5 to 10 good dances using each particular figure that it would contribute to lasting good to the activity. He mentioned that callers coming to him for help were not looking for zero movements or equivalents, but they wanted nice, smooth pattern dances that they could memorize. Up to now, he said, he's not been able to recommend such a collection as being available.

He felt that "A History of Contemporary Square Dancing" is a "must" to be available in developing future leadership. He also echoed the importance of using the basic check list as a means of encouraging an emphasis on the use of basics 1 to 50 and 51 to 75.

He stressed the importance of pushing the basic manuals and handbooks so that they would be used. "I just wish", said Flippo, "that these had been available when I started calling."

HALL OF FAME - Action Taken by Callerlab.

As an unprecedented action the group present at the CALLERLAB '72 meeting went on record as having the opinion that Bob Osgood should be a member of the Hall of Fame.

MOTION: In recognition and grateful appreciation for over 30 years of dedicated service to American Square Dancing, the members of the Square Dance Hall of Fame, together with the members of CALLERLAB '72 resolved that on February 7, 1972, Bob Osgood shall be inducted as a member of the Square Dance Hall of Fame.

The motion was seconded and carried unanimously and the members present indicated that they would sign such a statement and arrangements would be made directly with artist Gene Anthony to commission a portrait of Bob Osgood for the Hall of Fame Gallery.

EXTRA STATEMENT - The Need for An Experimental Movements Clearing House.

In Jerry Haag's report he said that it's apparent that we need a central location to which all the new material could be sent. However, because there are a number of caller note services, virtually everything that they receive is put into print. Jerry proposed that perhaps there was something that might be set up within CALLERLAB where the members report within their own newsletter what movements will work best each month. He suggested that we as a group could send our reports on the new movements, along with teaching suggestions, to a central source for distri-

bution to all members. It may even be that an existing basic, and not necessarily a new one could be the subject from time to time.

It was discussed that material could be sent to a number of individuals who would evaluate it before it would be sent along for publication. In this manner the work of one or two individuals could benefit all the members of CALLERLAB. If one person had thoroughly investigated a new movement, explored it and worked it out, he would save the other guys in the group a great deal of time. In this manner a great amount of the material could be eliminated without wasting the time of each member. Jerry indicated that when he finds a new movement that works well, he sits down and develops figures for his own use and that it wouldn't be too much additional trouble to have the material typed up and sent in.

It was expressed several times during the conversation that while the idea is fine, this does put a considerable amount of responsibility on each individual as well as on the central source of reproducing the material and wondered if this was a realistic proposal.

Arnie suggested that in line with our plan for a newsletter that any of the group when they run across a good movement or something that is new, or a suggestion of any type, that it be sent to Bob, perhaps along with a note, i. e., "We had a note from Jerry Haag last month. He ran across such-and-such and he recommends its useage along with some of the drills that he has worked out."

It was felt that this type of service publication for CALLERLAB would be along the lines used by other (non-dancing) professional societies and that it would be an added inducement for our group. It was suggested that we do not take on the responsibilities of a clearing house but that we do this type of work for our own members. The question kept coming back "Will we do it?" Will we give lip service to this and then let it drop?

Arnie: It's a matter of establishing a pattern. We haven't done this before because such a vehicle wasn't available. If we start doing it now and establish a pattern, we'll be thinking about the newsletter and as you continually receive things from the other guys, you will be reminded to contribute something yourself.

It was decided that we should give the newsletter idea a trial and that each person should communicate regularly with Bob, sending in what information is possible so that a newsletter pattern can be established. NOTE: Rather than phone calls or verbal messages on tape, the best way to send information in will be by written (Hopefully typewritten) copy with the heading "For The CALLERLAB Newsletter." A useful gimmick, a simple mixer or any ideas that might prove helpful to the others in the group will be the type of thing that we are looking for. Basically the newsletter will be a means of communicating between all of us and we will start on a regular schedule just as quickly as possible and as soon as we begin to get material from each one of you.

Arnie: Most of us receive a singing call record that has good music but a bad dance. Some of you have the ability to sit down and re-write a portion of the figure to make it danceable. You can take a good old record and make a good new singing call in this manner. The suggestion might be "Here's the 2-line change that I use with such-and-such a record. I also find that I can use the same change with such-and-such a record."

MOTION: We as members of CALLERLAB send our material to Bob Osgood to be reproduced in a newsletter, which will then be sent to all members of CALLERLAB and limited just to them. This material would be good, new, complex, simple, or old.

(Although the motion was never completed and passed, it did appear to have the unanimous support of the group.) It was suggested that we might be wise in asking the membership of CALLERLAB not to reproduce this material, particularly when we're using negative recommendations.

EXTRA STATEMENT - A Caller Registry - A Means of Accrediting Callers.

In making his report Arnie stated that there is a need for published prerequisites for a caller, and that in a recent letter from Willard Orlich he stated, "I would like to see CALLERLAB establish prerequisites for the callers profession based on such conditions as the following:

- (1) The individual must have gone through dancers lessons plus having a minimum of two years dancing experience.
- (2) He must be a graduate of a formal callers' training period.
- (3) Must teach a beginners class before going on to advanced calling programs as such.
- (4) Be sponsored and guided by a recognized caller/leader. (This for brand new callers especially.)
- (5) Recognition of each caller ability such as (a) teacher, (b) festival leader, (c) institute member, (d) club caller, 50 to 75 advanced plateau, (e) social caller, one-night stand type, (f) caller leader teacher.

The formal training mentioned under item 2 should include all phases of caller teaching leadership, aptitudes, etc., and not just a weekend deal - in other words an in-depth training period."

In the discussion that followed, it was stated that most professional associations have standards. Arnie pointed out that in his business, members utilized the initials "CAS" which refer to Certified Advertising Specialist and which mean that the individuals have gone through a cram course to cover the topics making up his industry and that this establishes a criteria for putting the initials CAS after your name. In the insurance business the initials "CLU" is as high as you can get on the ladder. It means that you have taken a course and that you have a complete understanding of all the different forms of insurance and that you are qualified to speak or sell or talk on any of these subjects with assurance and understanding.

In the discussion it was stated that if there were such a way to list qualifications of callers that it could be used in a number of ways. Eventually, when the American Square Dance Society releases its Callers Directory a special star or indication in front or following the names could mark the individuals as having met certain standards. Such a notation could be one means of encouraging certain ethics and attitudes among callers' groups. Unless callers met these certain standards, they would not be recognized by the initials. The problem of policing or following through on such a program was left for later discussion. Also, the means of accreditation would have to be determined. It was decided that the first action would be to build CALLERLAB into a significant group where its name and accreditation would have some value. Actually our goals are toward future callers more than those calling at the present time and our projection is several years in the future.

It was felt that this subject of a caller directory, of listing qualifications for membership and establishing a basic set of minimal standards should all have the attention of this group in the not too distant future. (It will be on the mid-year meeting agenda.)

ADDITIONAL SUBJECT - Fees for Calling.

At several times during the 2 days of meetings, the topic of financial remuneration came into the picture. This had to do with the amounts charged for participants in a callers' school; the fees traveling callers charge on the road not only for calling a one-night dance but for calling on a festival program where he may work as

much as 7 to 9 hours in a single day. The amount charged at vacation institutes was also brought up and some discussion was devoted to regular callers' fees for classes and home-club calling.

Included in the discussion was the suggestion that home club callers giving up an evening of calling when a traveling caller is brought in be paid their regular fee if the size of the group present allows for it. It was also brought up that if an unusually large group is in attendance that perhaps the traveling caller, though not being paid on a percentage basis, could receive extra pay.

Along with this discussion it was suggested that perhaps a questionnaire could be prepared and sent to all members to answer, if they wished, giving their views on the financial situation. In this way each of the callers would know how the others treat the situation and that perhaps this would help to eliminate the "competitive" aspects of being selected for a calling date.

Bruce was appointed to write up a questionnaire that can be included with a future newsletter going to CALLERLAB members and that they be encouraged to fill it out and return it and the results marked CONFIDENTIAL be published in a future issue of the newsletter.

It was suggested that an article be prepared for SQUARE DANCING magazine aimed at association and club presidents on the subject of working with professional traveling callers. This would cover not only the subject of fees but the various information that you, the traveling caller, would benefit by knowing.

Bruce suggested that a "Club Package" could be made available to club presidents including an Organizational Handbook and additional pamphlets that could be created on various subjects including "How to book a caller", "The care and feeding of traveling callers", etc.

Frank pointed out that he and other callers he knows prefer not to be housed in dancers' homes.

THE FUTURE OF CALLERLAB

A realistic appraisal of the CALLERLAB project was made by Bob Osgood. The discussion covered the needs of such a group as this and the more than 10 years of planning in this direction that has preceded the February, 1971, meeting. It was pointed out that the nucleus of this group were members of The Sets in Order American Square Dance Society's "Hall of Fame" and that this group meeting in February 1971 in turn made a selection of caller/leaders to be added to the group and that the meeting this year would add another 14 names to the list. With the enthusiasm of all of these leaders brought together there would be no limit to the number of ideas and projects that could be dreamed up. The discouraging thing, of course, would come with the realization that there is no facility established to follow through with the suggestions.

To implement even a few of the ideas would require many man hours, not a little financing and some direction. While there was a great willingness on the part of all members of CALLERLAB to be of help, the fact remained that each individual was completely involved in his own career and the many responsibilities he owed to himself and his family.

As a solution, and as a protection to the amount of time and money already spent in caring for CALLERLAB to this point, Bob Osgood offered to operate CALLERLAB as a "caller wing" of The American Square Dance Society. He stated in part, "I'll select from among you at least one member to serve on the Society's Board of

Governors as caller-liaison who will be completely apprised of the financial status of the group and will help me to interpret the wishes of all of you relative to the future of CALLERLAB. I hope you all realize that I'm not out looking for new things to do with my time nor am I seeking great fame or fortune. But in looking at all of this realistically, it seems to be a logical answer; with our office, our files, know-how, equipment, etc., we are in a position to carry on the business of CALLERLAB. Your trust in me in the past while working with me on these sessions, in writing articles for the training of caller leadership, appearing together on panels and workshops, institute staffs, recordings, etc., would tend to indicate a trust that I assure you will never be violated. In summary I propose that CALLERLAB continue on with its actions and that it operate within the framework of The American Square Dance Society while taking advantage of the Society's office space and manpower but otherwise free to set its own goals and objectives.

In the discussion it was pointed out that the last two CALLERLAB meetings were planned almost at the last minute and that in order to grow, sufficient planning should be made now so that an entire year could be spent in planning for next year's meetings.

Arnie: What has happened here and what has happened last year and what has happened in July has been 99% due to Bob's efforts. My business activities have become such over this past year that I'm forced to retire from calling. I think most of you with your travel calling would have found yourself in much the same position. And it's been due to Bob's efforts that we were able to get the agenda for this meeting out at all. Bob and June, his secretary, have done all the correspondence for me. It has almost been 100% Bob's doing that we are here today and it appears that the suggestion that Bob has made may be a solution for us. I think that we do owe Bob a great vote of thanks for making this get-together possible and for his being the driving force in keeping the fire burning under each one of us.

Don: I'm primarily a businessman and I'm very much a realist. The things that it takes to succeed in a group of this type at the moment we don't have. All we have is desire. We can't implement with desire alone. And from a hard-core practical standpoint I think that it's (Bob's proposal) a tremendous proposal.

Arnie explained to the group how he and Osgood looked into the feasibility of bringing a former YMCA executive secretary with a minimum salary of \$15,000 a year into this program to carry the ball for us. "It was apparent that if this thing were to ever get off the ground we would need a general secretary just to pull everything together because we realized how busy each one of us were in making a living. In order for any of us to devote the time that Bob has done would require giving up a great portion of our calling or our work in order to get it done and I'm not too sure that any of us are prepared to do this.

Van Antwerp: I have been close to this thing along with Arnie and Bruce and Bob and I think that this is about the only direction that we can really take. If anyone thinks that Osgood is in this for the fame and the fortune, he can forget it.

Bruce: I don't have any reservations... I'm sure that underneath exists the problem that some may interpret this as an attempt by Bob Osgood to run or control CALLERLAB. I don't think that we can let ourselves be concerned with this. What he's proposing is very reasonable; it's very generous. I think that for too many years we've been too overly concerned about what other people think. I remember back to our meeting in Colorado ten years ago. We needed things being done but at that time Bob was so afraid what people were going to say about "Osgood trying to run things" that he let it go (and nothing more was done about the project for the next ten years). If we're working for the good of square dancing, what's the prob-

lem? From a logistic standpoint he's in the best position to do the job. To perpetuate this thing we're going to have to have someone do the thing that Bob has volunteered to take over.

Jim: It's perfectly clear that the quality of work to be done needs to have someone who can give it that kind of attention. I can't imagine anyone else being able to understand it enough and bring to it the skills necessary to accomplish any better than Bob. It's very clear that we have been made a very generous offer and we should accept it graciously. It's the only way that the thing has a chance of surviving.

Arnie: There is something else that should be understood. And that is that there are some decisions that have to be made in a hurry that Bob and whoever is appointed from the group to work with him are going to have to make without benefit of contacting each of the other members involved. We're going to have to depend on Bob and whoever else he selects to make decisions at a time when there is no time to contact the others. We have to understand that this is implied when going along with this proposal. The decision-making factor is going to be left at some time or another up to those two guys and we're going to have to go along with it.

Van: I would imagine that if Bob had a very difficult decision to make he would want to communicate with each one of us.

MOTION: It is moved that we accept with gratitude Bob Osgood's proposal to carry on the functions of CALLERLAB as a wing of The Sets in Order American Square Dance Society. That Bob Osgood serve as general secretary of CALLERLAB and that he appoint from among the members of CALLERLAB one who will serve on the SIOASDS Board of Governors and act as liaison between that group and CALLERLAB.

The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

Considerable time was spent in discussion on (1) a means of assuring those particularly in the East Coast that this was not a West Coast entity and that as soon as possible meetings be conducted in the Mid-West and as far in the East as possible so that the representation from all parts of the country can be assured. (2) It was suggested that a study of the finances of running CALLERLAB be made and that careful records be kept of all expenditures so that as soon as possible funding programs can be worked out to help defray CALLERLAB's various expenses.

SOME THOUGHTS ON THE FINANCING OF CALLERLAB

Arnie: I would like to get into a discussion relative to financing this group and what can be done to raise money to help defray the expenses of a secretary of Bob's staff and to help offset printing and mailing charges, etc.

One of the ways would be the running of a caller-leader school which we have discussed.

Profits from the posters and bumper strips for Square Dance Week 1972 are earmarked for CALLERLAB.

Last year \$150.00, the entire income from the callers' course held at Asilomar, was turned over to CALLERLAB.

Multiple-caller dances featuring members of CALLERLAB with all members being paid for their calling services but with profits directed to the CALLERLAB treasury.

A collection of calls created by members of CALLERLAB, or at least proven calls used by members be published. This collection of calls could be put out together as a CALLERLAB project and with CALLERLAB as the "author", deriving a royalty from each collection sold. The book itself can be produced and merchandised by The Sets in Order American Square Dance Society.

It is possible that a commission on the sale of subscriptions (memberships) to Sets in Order can produce revenue for CALLERLAB. For a limited time and on a trial basis, members of CALLERLAB who would like to try this as a money-raising feature of CALLERLAB will be furnished with special SIOASDS membership application forms which will sell at the regular price of \$5.00 and entitle the subscriber to a year's subscription to the magazine along with other benefits. \$1.00 of each \$5.00 membership received will be earmarked for CALLERLAB.

Additional suggestions were made in the limited time devoted to money raising. These included the possibility of special recordings featuring CALLERLAB members; the income from a callers' convention and any other services we as a group may be able to perform. Care was made in avoiding any programs that might be in direct competition with existing individual commercial enterprises.

Suggestions on this subject are needed and all will be discussed at the mid-year meeting.

A discussion was held on the possibility of sharing in the production and thereby in the profits of the National Convention by taking on a share of the responsibility and thereby insuring the national in the quality of the calling, teaching, etc.

Specialized caller training records such as the ones made by Ed Gilmore for the caller text were discussed as a means of realizing revenue.

A discussion was made on the possibility of charging a membership yearly dues and one of the group said, "I'd just as soon write you out a check for \$25.00 or \$50.00 (instead of trying to call a dance that would raise some money)." "If we pay \$25.00 apiece, that's 24 members, that would come to \$600.00 or so. Now I pay into three non-square dance associations amounting to \$550.00 each year that I pay out in dues." Someone remarked that all of this is deductible.

Van Antwerp: Well, I think what Bob is doing if I may just guess, if you're paying a stenographer time, secretarial time and if you give them 20 hours a week, you're sure to be paying them at least \$500.00 a month; figuring on half of that it would be at least \$250.00 a month for CALLERLAB. Using this as a guide, we're talking about \$3,000.00 a year.

Arnie: We not only have to think of day by day expenses but we have to have a kitty for project work or whatever may come in. We're not only talking about the \$3,000. but we're talking about other things, too, and it would be nice if we had a surplus in the treasury that could be built up. We don't have dollar one in there yet.

Bob: We're only guessing at what our overhead is now. I don't think that we'll ever reach an amount that will be impossible or out of line for us to meet. This is our first opportunity to realize our potential of working together and I'm sure that financing CALLERLAB is not going to be a great problem.

MOTION: It is moved that a recommendation of \$25.00 annual fee be set up to belong to CALLERLAB for all members and that a letter be submitted to the ones who are not present to get their feelings relative to this fee.

The motion was seconded by Bruce Johnson and carried unanimously.

Arnie: If those of us in attendance are in agreement, that's a place to start. I think this then should be communicated to those who are not here and see what their feelings are. We don't want to spend their money for them until we get a voice of their feelings. I think that along with Bob and Bruce and Van and anyone else who would like to work with us on this, we should make it a project to further explore any possibilities of financing the group by means in addition to annual dues.

MEMBERSHIP

Because of the nature of the growth of CALLERLAB, the following membership report is offered. The nucleus of this group was formed from the 14 members of The American Square Dance "Hall of Fame" (plus Bob Osgood who called this initial meeting together). Members of this group are shown on the following alphabetical roster as CHARTER MEMBERS (CM). Those who attended the organizational meeting in February 1971 selected a second group of 10 to whom invitations were sent to attend CALLERLAB '72. Those from this group who attended the February 1972 meeting are indicated as ACTIVE MEMBERS (AM). Those who had been invited to be members both at the 1971 meeting and at the 1972 meeting are designated as INVITED MEMBERS (IM). All members (CM, AM, and IM) will receive all communications from this group and will, of course, be considered a part of CALLERLAB. As soon as an INVITED MEMBER attends one of the February Asilomar annual meetings, he will be properly initiated into the group and considered to be an ACTIVE MEMBER.

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New members will be suggested at the CALLERLAB '73 (February 4, 5, and 6, 1973) meeting at Asilomar - California.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

At CALLERLAB '72 provisions were made for interim planning and work meetings to be held by members of this group prior to our February annual meeting 1973.

A curriculum planning session for the purpose of coordinating special callers' courses was held May 8, 1972, at the Schine Inn at Bradley Field, just north of Hartford, Connecticut. The Monday session was scheduled to include Jim Mayo (in charge of planning), Earl Johnston, Al Brundage, Frank Lane (Chairman), Dick Jones, Ron Schneider, and Cal Golden. Other members of CALLERLAB were invited to attend if they were able. The outcome of this meeting will be passed along to other members of CALLERLAB in a coming newsletter.

The mid-year planning meeting will be held at the Asilomar Conference Grounds (in conjunction with the Summer Asilomar vacation institute) July 24, 25, and 26, 1972. In addition to CALLERLAB members present and on the Asilomar staff, (Don Armstrong, Arnie Kronenberger, Bruce Johnson, Bob Osgood, Manning Smith, and Bob Van Antwerp), Al Brundage has indicated his intention to attend and it is hoped that other callers living in the area (Bob Page and Lee Helsel) will also be able to attend, along with any other members who may be in the area at the time. Chairman of these planning sessions will be Don Armstrong and progress reports and additional planning will be done during the session.

International CALLERLAB Convention (See earlier section)

Preliminary work has been started on the possibility of a large callers' meeting to be held in the late fall of 1973 or 1974. Jerry Helt is investigating the possibility of various convention sites. One of the areas being investigated is Kirkwood Lodge in Missouri. The sale of this lodge by the Bill Hagedorns to the Pat Munns may slow down a decision in this direction.

Meeting location spots, while apparently favoring the West Coast at the present time, are based entirely on the fact that callers from quite a number of areas will be in a given area at one time, thereby assuring us of a fair attendance. Plans are under way to take advantage of similar get-togethers of callers in the East, Mid-West, etc. It has also been suggested that economic assistance can be worked out by helping to arrange calling bookings for CALLERLAB members just preceding or just following CALLERLAB meetings. Every effort will be made to move meetings so that they are equally accessible to everyone. At the same time the opportunity is not being overlooked to capitalize on the presence of a number of callers already slated for any given area.

It was suggested by the chairman that the following list of priority projects coming out of the more than 15 hours of discussion at CALLERLAB '72 be singled out into a separate list for easy reference and implementation. We have given ourselves so many projects to handle that such a list should be important.

It was urged by the group that in putting together the wrap-up Bob make some recommendations, i. e., "Here is the wrap-up. I'd suggest that by (date) we form a committee to do this or I suggest that this be put on the agenda for the next meeting or I suggest that I communicate with so and so."

Don: Nobody should feel that Bob is restricted by the group to only act upon motion. He should only have to act upon common sense.

Arnie: The decisions are going to have to be made by Bob and the member of his Board of Governors. The rest of us should abide by it until such a time as we can get the ball rolling. Priorities are going to have to be assigned and it has to be a decision on Bob's part with the help of 2 or 3 of us that can get together to say, "Yes, this is important" or "This is just going to have to wait" whether it's important or not. There's just not enough time to get it done. We've got more doggone meat on the table now than we can digest in a year and as much as we would like to run with the ball, we can't come up with everything at once.

WRAP-UP and FINAL ACTION ON CALLERLAB '72

Arnie: A run-down of the action completed during our two-day session:

We have inducted Bob Osgood into the American Square Dance Hall of Fame.

We have endorsed the teaching manuals.

We have established a committee to draw up a curriculum for a 5-day caller/leader training course.

We have asked Jerry Helt to look into the possibilities of a site for the location of a possible future Callers' Convention.

We have agreed on 14 names of individuals to be invited to join CALLERLAB.

We have decided to publish a newsletter as regularly as there is material to justify an issue.

We have provided that a handbook on "The Contemporary History of American Square Dancing" be put into the works immediately and all members of CALLERLAB be encouraged to pass along suggestions and ideas to be included.

We are in agreement that if the members would like to participate, that a collection of proven dances fitting into the basic program (basics 1-50) or the extended program (basics 51-75) can be produced by The American Square Dance Society for CALLERLAB. Somewhere between 800 and 1000 dances should be included in the book and its price should be kept low enough so that the book will be purchased and used by new callers. If the various members of CALLERLAB will contribute the dances to fill such a volume, CALLERLAB will be credited as being "The Author" with each contributing member being recognized in print and a royalty for sale of the books be put into the CALLERLAB working fund.

We have established SIOASDS as the headquarters and Bob Osgood as the General Secretary of CALLERLAB.

Arnie: I think that we've had a heck of a good meeting here. Last year we were groping in the dark trying to find our way. This year the meeting has been very productive and now it's up to all of us to make work what we have decided upon. I urge each one of us to be in correspondence with Bob more often so that we can help

his decision-making process. We are all guilty of being lax in our correspondence and I think we should try to make it as easy for Bob as possible because he's got a heck of a lot of work to do other than just this.

Don expressed the need to develop at a future meeting "What constitutes a meeting?" In other words, what would constitute a quorum? We're going to have to figure out a system to give people authority to make decisions for us. There will be many "work sessions" that are going to be just as valuable as our meetings. A lot of work will have to be done outside of the regular meetings.

In the discussion it was pointed out that the ball has been picked up by Bob and he will act as General Secretary to make sure that the work is put out. When we find out who will be at our next annual meeting, a person will be selected from that group to serve as Chairman for CALLERLAB '73.

Don: One of the things about CALLERLAB is that hopefully each one of us will be able to leave something, a legacy, an inheritance behind us. Several of us are phasing out of active calling but by participating in CALLERLAB we will find a way to help develop the future of the activity.

Frank: I hope that we can get more of the new generation of callers to be active in CALLERLAB while you fellows are still here.

Arnie: This thing is going on to the hands of callers such as Jerry Haag, Beryl Main, Ken Bower, etc., who are excellent at calling and through them this information will be passed on to newer callers and they in turn will help to advise and help along newcomers in future years. We are representing a 25-year "track record" which we are passing along to this group. I would hope that this idea can continue on forever.

It was decided that in the future the name of the group would be known as CALLERLAB. Each meeting would be designated CALLERLAB '73, CALLERLAB '74, etc.

A suggestion was made that at CALLERLAB headquarters in Los Angeles files and archives of CALLERLAB be established.

MOTION: It was moved that the General Secretary be instructed to establish a CALLERLAB archives and files starting prior to the Colorado meeting in 1961.

The discussion that followed did not allow for this motion to be seconded or voted upon. However, the action is being taken and all members of CALLERLAB having material that would be useful to the archives are invited to send it in.

~~Thanks from the group to Bob and Arnie were made by members present and a final remark by Arnie concluded the meeting.~~

Arnie: I think that it's important that none of us let Ed's (Gilmore) memory die. Twenty years from now the men who will be behind the mike calling should know that there was somebody like Ed, somebody like Bob, somebody like Pappy, who were responsible driving forces that made this activity go and get off the ground. I just don't think it's right that the memories of any of the men who have devoted so much of their time and lives should be forgotten.

Compliments to Arnie for an excellent job as Chairman - all agreed.

The meeting adjourned at 11:30 A.M., Tuesday, February 8, 1972.