

# Convention Wrapup

P. O. Box 788, Sandusky, Ohio 44870

May 1, 1975

## SECOND CALLERLAB CONVENTION SUCCESSFUL

Your personal comments and letters and phone calls since the convention have proved the point. It was a success, most every way you look at it. The Chicago convention went smoothly. Most everyone enjoyed it. But most important, things GOT DONE, under the "Time for Action" banner.

There were those who said, "When you put 565 people together for three days you can't expect them to agree, much less ACCOMPLISH anything". Others said, "It's a brainwashing", - "It's too expensive and nobody will come", - "You're getting too organized", and "Your program will FLOP because you aren't organized enough".

Despite the doompeddlers, the biggest undertaking of its kind ever to be staged went off with hardly a hitch.

Its official name was the "Second International Square Dance Callers Convention", sponsored by Callerlab, and held at the Marriott Hotel in Chicago March 24, 25, 26, 1975. Historians take note. Although there were less than 400 callers in attendance, the total calling experience was 5,240 years. All states and Canadian provinces were represented except three states and four provinces. Furthest callers from home were Bob Fyfe, Yellowknife, Northwest Territory, Canada; and Vern Wood, Wasilla, Alaska.

## THANKS A MILLION

As Executive Secretary for 1974-'75, I want to sincerely thank those on the Executive Committee who wrestled a hundred mighty and minute obstacles together to create a program we could put forth as appropriate. They are Dave Taylor (general chairman), Frank Lane, Marshall Flippo, and Angus McMorran (our liaison representative from Canada). These men worked hard and sacrificed much to make this second one a top-notch convention. There were countless letters and phone calls. There were three full-day meetings, involving flying in from different directions and rolling up our sleeves around a paper-laden table, as we hammered out the details. Somehow, it all fit together.

## MORE THANKS

Mona Bird, our office secretary, received regular wages for working for the organization all year, but she (and husband Mel) are to be especially recognized for devoting many hours of strictly voluntary time at the convention itself. Much credit for our efficient books and records goes to Mona, and in a matter of days all these records will be turned over to Bob Osgood, the new Executive Secretary.

A team of stenographers was also hard at work during the convention to make extensive notes for our permanent record of proceedings. (only a small portion of these records will be printed in this newsletter) These girls were all volunteers from the Chicago area, arranged for by Dave Taylor. "Bouquets" are especially due to Virginia Bloemsma, our efficient "head stenographer". Several hundred dollars were saved by this steno service versus the method used last year of transcribing everything from miles of recording tape.

Other girls assisting were Betty Higus, Edna Arnfield, Valerie Maneck, Tessa Noe, Joyce Glass, and Jean Shull.

Three other girls who covered assignments in the registration booth and elsewhere were Myrtis Litman, Orphie Easson, and Cathie Burdick. Thanks to all.

We are grateful also for the photography services of Tim Vetter of New Hampshire, and for the remote microphone services of Cal Campbell of New Mexico. Both were valuable to us, and we don't think it would be too commercial to mention that Tim has a photography studio and Cal is marketing a wireless mike, in case anyone is interested. (see complete address in the program book)

A tiny word about the great cooperation we got with the Marriott management may also be in order!

#### HIGHLIGHTS OF THE CONVENTION

Dave opened the first general session Monday afternoon with a welcome and some reminiscences of the event in St. Louis a year ago. He set the stage for the upcoming meetings.

Lee Helsel spoke on "Our Professional Organization" also in that first session. Most of his remarks follow: "Callerlab as an organization is doomed to failure, or Callerlab is to become a smashing success. These statements represent opposite poles of attitudes. I would like to offer you the following and what we are talking about when we talk about a professional organization. We are not the first group to go through this, nor are we the last. The physicians have gone through this procedure, engineers and educators. All have gone through an organizational period. Many, many, organizations at the National levels now are professional organizations roots.

"First; we must establish and set our objectives and goals; we must set forth reasons for being organized. This is in terms of our common interest, and to further that field and the professionals in it. We now have a common goal. We are professional leaders and part of the membership of Square Dancing standards. We need to outline the perimeters, to talk about a number of things, to be specific. How far can we go?

"Second: We must establish and maintain standards in our development; it is time for us to start sharing with **the newer and younger**, and developing callers, the experiences that have been of help to us. The matter of accreditation of callers, accreditation of callers who coach other callers, accreditation of caller's schools, the registry of callers themselves, standards of membership--at the moment, they are crude, but they represent the first part of the structure of our professional organization.

"Third: Establishment and adherence to a code of ethics. It has been presented to the Board of Governors by the committee, and will be presented to the convention. However, a professional organization is only as good as its individual members. We have the privilege to adhere to that Code of Ethics.

"Fourth: Develop (and we have a start already) and increase our unique body of knowledge in relation to square dancing. Essentially this means that we do not remain craftsmen, but we move on to the professional scene. A craftsman knows what to do, but the professional not only knows what to do, but when to do it.

"Fifth: Individuals in the organization make a contribution to the organization, rather than just receiving benefits from the organization. It is our hope that you folks will make a contributions rather than receive benefits.

"Sixth: An important element of a professional organization is the necessity for sharing common knowledge. The movement over these last few years is gaining by leaps and bounds. In essence, if we are to become and remain professional, we must share that common knowledge.

"Seventh: The ability to evaluate. Evaluate performance of professionals and to evaluate actions, and get away from opinions. Facts are important, and opinions do not take the place of facts.

"I will briefly give you the organizational structure of CALLERLAB. It is relatively a simple one. There are 23 members of the Board of Governors. We have voted to raise it to 25. The Chairman serves for one year period. He is the presiding officer of CALLERLAB for that year. He is directly responsible to the membership of this organization. Any person qualified for membership can become a member or delegate of this organization and are responsible directly to the membership. We have provided for a progression of replacement. Under the by-laws, 25 members will be allowed terms under standard order of procedure: five individuals a term of 1 year; five individuals a term of 2 years; five individuals a term of 3 years, five individuals a term of 4 years, five individuals a term of 5 years. At the end of five years, it is possible to replace all members of the Board of Governors. The election is in the hands of the delegates. The delegates and future delegates will be making decisions of this organization. As a professional organization, it means it is important for us to serve as a committee of the whole. Board of Governors has an Executive Committee of five members. Chairman is a member of the Executive Committee. The function of this committee is to take care of the housekeeping, and many details.

"The Executive Secretary is responsible to the Executive committee, and they in turn to the Board of Governors, to carry out the wishes of this organization.

"Standing and Ad Hoc Committees could go on forever: 1 - Ways and Means, and additional committees labeled as Ad Hoc.

"The functions of the Board of Governors: 1. Administration of the organization. 2. Recommend policy and/or problem solutions to membership. 3. Implement decisions of the membership. At the direction of the membership on voting - either by ballot or otherwise.

"The functions of the Ad Hoc Committees: Define problem needing solution; recommend solution. Fact finding and consideration of alternatives. To be made in writing and certainly available to the membership.

"Functions of Membership: Decisions regarding major problems needing solution. Policy making process: Any member here has the prerogative of bringing up a problem in writing to the Board of Governors. That concern should be in writing, not elaborate, but understandable, and delivered to the Board of Governors. The Board of Governors will make a decision as to whether it should be assigned to an Ad Hoc committee, or bringing it to the committee of the whole. Membership makes the decision and then the Board of Governors is given the job of implementation of that.

"Do we have a professional organization? I think the point is open. There is lots of work to do. We know what we want to do, have a sound start, but do not have a finished and polished organization.

"The present Board of Governors feels we can and will become a professional organization; they represent experience. They have a sensitivity to what you are saying, and have a broad view of the total activity.

"What are some of the pitfalls? We can grow too rapidly, but need more specific goals. Another of the pitfalls is that we can get the idea we are a fraternal organization, rather than a professional organization. The Board of Governors decided to continue the membership the same as it was - each will invite two other members to join. Another pitfall, is lack of communication - two ways. A professional organization has to work all year long. You have to do some work; we have to do some work. We must move in an organized manner. Another pitfall - on the part of the delegate. He wants to belong, but doesn't want to work. Everyone must accept the responsibility of participating. The last pitfall is the attitude of defeatism on the part of the members. An optimistic attitude will make the difference. I urge you toward the pole of CALLERLAB as an organization that will become a smashing success."

Frank Lane then spoke on the subject of "One Year Later" as follows: "Of the three major presentations made at St. Louis last year, "How We Dance" probably was the broadest scope and therefore, required the least positive, immediate action. I'm certain, almost, at least 98% of those present last year, and also those in attendance at this convention, would readily agree to have their names placed on a resolution, extolling the merits of smooth, gracefully rhythmical square dancing. By the same token, we would be happy to be listed as opposing rough, uncomfortable, poorly timed square dancing. So at last year's convention, we adopted the following resolution:

"In order to reaffirm our belief in good square dancing practices in the areas of styling and elimination of rough dancing for the greater enjoyment of all participants in our activity, be it resolved that: CALLERLAB endorses the principles of dancing execution and styling as documented in the American Square Dance Society's Basic and Extended Basic programs. The particular emphasis of this endorsement is for the hands-up position for Ocean Wave type movements, such as swing thru and spin the top .

"Now, since the last sentence in that resolution has been the basis for many heated discussions these past twelve months, let's set it aside for just a few moments while I comment on the rest of the resolution and what if any effects it has had on our square dancing movement since our last convention.

"I, personally, feel that callers and dancers over this entire hemisphere have become more styling or execution conscious this past year. Probably because there has been more written on these subjects in our national and regional square dance publications and this is, I hope, related to the fact that CALLERLAB came forth with the previously stated resolution.

"As I'm sure most of you know, I am heavily engaged in caller training . Each year at our Caller Colleges, I am appalled at the number of individuals who decide to be callers, who have virtually no knowledge of square dance basics; and let me point out these are not all beginning callers. Many have been calling ten years or more. How can we be teaching a new generation of dancers to understand square dancing when we don't understand it ourselves?

"The issue (hands up) brought about much discussion and arguments in each of our three meeting rooms (in St. Louis a year ago). At the conclusion of these meetings a preliminary vote was taken. At this point let me say that had I had to forecast the outcome of this vote based on my 36 years in square dancing, 22 years of full time traveling, I would have forecast a hands up victory by 60-40%, or 65-35% margin. Needless to say, I was amazed when the vote went 45-5, 49-1, and 36-8 for a total of 130-14 in favor of hands up. When the resolution was made, and voted on by the entire assembly, after further discussion, the final vote was carried with 2 opposed and 8 abstentions."

One of the most effective and "visible" committees at work this past year was Jack Lasry's Experimental Basics Committee. Many have said this committee has done more to put Callerlab "on the map" than any other.

"We recognize that our committee must attempt to select a figure or two that will be acceptable to the mainstream dancer. For many selections that we made, we feel they were a little complicated, and they would have liked an easier figure. The figures in the generally accepted plus 10 groups make for much better "new figure" experimentation.

"As many of you know one of the major goals of this year's convention is to determine if additional plateaus of dancing with well defined lists of basics is desired and worthwhile. If it is so determined, I would like to see our committee expanded in number and scope to select experimental basics for several plateaus on a three month basis. The mainstream dancers would have no more than the two figures every three months, but the advanced level dancers would have not only the mainstream figures but one or two additional at their plateau, and that should allow for a program that truly would meet the desires of the various interests."

Bill Peters reviewed his year-long committee work on Accreditation as follows: "Now, in our initial contacts with various committee members, it was generally agreed that our subject was so big - and so critical - that it was unrealistic for us to attempt to achieve the whole ball of wax in the one short year between the St. Louis convention and this one here in Chicago. There was no way that we would be able to do justice to our total assignment in that period of time, and it was therefore decided to concentrate our efforts of the first portion of our assignment - the section that deals with Caller School Curriculum, Staff Qualifications and Teaching Methods. It was generally felt that if we could, in this first year, make some headway toward ultimately accrediting callers by upgrading and standardizing caller school curricula and by developing standards for those who teach new callers, it would be a valuable and worthwhile thing. That is what we have tried to do since last year." (See curriculum on another page.)

NOTE: Bill's committee will proceed during the coming year to discuss other aspects of accreditation.

#### OUR APOLOGIES REGARDING FULL REPORTS

We had intended to cover more of the "caucus" activity, as it has been called, or the "club" groups, or group discussion sessions in this report, but space simply does not permit it. We would rather produce a 16- or 17-page report that members will READ than a 40-page report that will sit on the shelf. It should be noted that we HAVE well over 40 pages of material that could be printed here, all in typewritten form from our good stenographic staff. We will turn it over to Bob Osgood for whatever use he wishes to make of it. Perhaps further excerpts can be used in future issues of Direction, if appropriate, or at least members can check with Bob on specific details of what was said. You have the important "meat" of the convention, we feel, in this Wrapup report.

As a reminder only, we'll simply list the headings and personnel involved in each group, for the record, as follows:

- "The Basics - Tools of Our Trade" - Johnny LeClair
- "Dance Standards" - Angus McMorran
- "An Identification System" - Jack Lasry & Jim Mayo
- "A Good Mix" (Round Dancing with square dancing, plus contras, mixers) - Manning Smith
  - "Second Viewer" - Frank Lane
- "International Exchange" (and establishing a good relationship of sharing) - Earle Park,
  - with Fred Staeben, Orphie Easson
- "The Record Tune Clearing House and Problems of Taping" - C. O. Guest
  - "Second Viewer" - Marshall Flippo
- "Halls - Their Problems & Solutions" - Melton Luttrell
  - "Second Viewer" - Bob Page
- "Creating a Dynamic & Functional Local Callers Organization" - Vaughn Parrish & Jon Jones
  - "Second Viewer" - Al Brundage
- "Accreditation - Caller-trainers, Caller Schools, Callers" - Bill Peters
  - "Second Viewer" - Herb Egender
- "History/Heritage/Archives/Legacy" - Bob Howell
  - "Second Viewer" - Don Armstrong
- "The One Year Dancer" - Jerry Helt
  - "Second Viewer" - Dick Leger
- "Economic Survey & Standards" - Jerry Haag
  - "Second Viewer" - Arnie Kronenberger
- "The Two Year Dancer" - Earl Johnston
  - "Second Viewer" - Dick Jones
- "Our Benefits Program - Where It Stands" - Bruce Johnson
  - "Second Viewer" - Bob Osgood
- "The National Convention - Let's Talk It Over" - Dave Taylor
  - "Second Viewer" - Cal Golden

#### COMMENTS

Will Orlich has sized up some of the important work of the convention this way: "The CALLERLAB Convention in Chicago seemed to fulfill the many hopes of our current S/D leadership. In our opinion, it certainly was a success because (1) the Experimental Basics Committee had filled the request of some kind of suggested control over the floor of new ideas being exposed to everyone - and they were told to continue; (2) the Caller Accreditation committee was assigned the job of developing and implementing a set of standards and requirements by which the caller-teachers or coaches could function to do the job; and (3) the long-awaited and much desired Callerlab Tentative Basic list for "MAINSTREAM" dancer training was presented and also unanimously adopted for one year field testing... and will be in little need of constant change over the years even though it will be subject for review at possibly each Callerlab convention.

"We also would like to personally give a big thank you for a job well done to ALL those who attended and especially to the officers, all Committees and most pointedly to Johnny (and Marge) LeClair's BASIC LIST for MAINSTREAM dancing which you now have to work with this coming year. While this committee was specifically assigned to create the suggested list only, the decisions overlapped into "standardization" and the "correct traffic patterns" involved in EACH movement. This was needed in order to decide where the BASIC movement family ended (for teaching purposes) and where the ADVANCED level program could be considered to be involved. Rather than have a whole new team take up this definite area for report at next year's Callerlab convention, the current committee will continue with perhaps the help of an increased committee membership."

### TIDBITS

Jack Lasry again urges ALL Callerlab members to send suggestions of quarterly movement choices directly to him in Florida.... just a postcard will do, and you don't have to be a member of his committee.

Bob Osgood reports that there are still MANY members who've failed to send the nominee forms back since the convention. He needs your suggestions of two persons you'd like to see invited to next year's convention, plus your committee preference list, plus your convention evaluation remarks. PLEASE DO IT NOW.

### PLATEAU IDENTIFICATION SYSTEM or "CODE"

It is significant that some very good ideas were proposed on this subject both by delegates and by the discussion leaders, Jack Lasry and Jim Mayo. It was hoped that a system could be adopted at this convention to assist dancers to know exactly what plateau preference exists for every club wishing to participate in a "coding" process. Although many ideas came forth, it was decided to give the matter further study in a new committee to be headed by Lee Kopman (Jack Lasry & Jim Mayo assisting) and perhaps a positive plan can be adopted at next year's convention. Members interested in this committee may contact Lee.

### CALLERLAB DANCES URGED

All members were urged by Arnie Kronenberger to sponsor Callerlab dances in various areas (see guidelines attached).

### NOTE SERVICE MEETING RESULTS

Bill Davis asked us to mention that the meeting of Note Service Publishers produced an important result. Fifty dance formations (8-chain thru, line formations, etc.) were identified and standard nomenclature to refer to these formations will henceforth be used in all publications.

### NEW EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Announced were these leaders: Jim Mayo, chairman, Johnny LeClair, Arnie Kronenberger, Stan Burdick, Jack Lasry, Bob Osgood (Executive Secretary) and Angus McMorran (Canadian liason).

### ONLY FOUR NOT JOINED AS OF THIS DATE

That fact speaks for itself, and assures 99% support for Callerlab in 1975-76.

### FINAL REPORT

At this moment a few outstanding bills remain to be paid, but members can be assured there will definitely be at least a \$2,500.00 surplus as we close the books, which will be turned over to Bob Osgood. As soon as the audit is finished, a complete financial report will be sent to each member.

Stanley Burdick,  
Executive Secretary, 1974-75

## REPORT FROM BENEFITS PROGRAM MEETING

Those meeting today suggest that a questionnaire be drawn up and sent to every member of CALLERLAB to determine the benefits needs of the members and provide us with a group profile of CALLERLAB (Insurance, Travel, Credit, etc.).

The fields we are most interested in are (1) INSURANCE - HEALTH AND ACCIDENT, LIFE, DISABILITY, EQUIPMENT, INCOME, RETIREMENT AND LIABILITY. (2) TRAVEL DISCOUNTS - AIRLINES, AUTOS, ACCOMMODATIONS AND TRAINS. (3) CREDIT - CREDIT UNIONS, LOANS, SAVINGS, CLOTHING, STORES AND EQUIPMENT.

Prior to next year's meeting CALLERLAB should have a program (or programs) ready to present to the membership covering the above categories.

Submitted for Bruce Johnson (Chairman)

By Dick Bayer  
Frank Lane  
Bob Osgood



RESOLUTIONS PASSED - March 26, 1975  
Callerlab Convention - Chicago

RESOLUTION ONE - Caller Training Curriculum

As the first step in the implementation of the 1974 CALLERLAB Resolution calling for a program of accreditation:

The "CALLERLAB Caller Training Curriculum" is accepted and approved by CALLERLAB as a guideline for use in callers' schools. (See EXHIBIT A)

RESOLUTION TWO - Accreditation of Caller-Trainers

In furtherance of the objectives of the 1974 CALLERLAB Resolution calling for development of standards of qualifications for teachers of callers:

The CALLERLAB Accreditation Committee is directed to develop and if possible, to implement during the next 12 months a workable program of provisional accreditation of those who teach callers.

RESOLUTION THREE - CALLERLAB Tentative Mainstream Basic List

In order to recognize the changing character of our activity and to provide an up-to-date guideline to the fundamental choreographic terms in use in the mainstream of square dancing today as well as to provide an important tool for the use of callers who train the new participants in our activity:

The "CALLERLAB Tentative Mainstream Basic List" is adopted for a one year trial period as a point of reference in the activity. This list shall be reviewed by a committee of CALLERLAB on an annual basis. (See EXHIBIT B)

CODE OF ETHICS -

Proposed that the Code of Ethics as read be adopted by CALLERLAB. (See EXHIBIT C)

NEWS - ALL PUBLICITY USES - IMMEDIATE RELEASE....

Five hundred and sixty-five callers and wives or spouses attended the Second Annual Square Dance Callers Convention, sponsored by Callerlab, at the Marriott Hotel in Chicago, March 24-26.

Following a theme of "Time for Action", the callers, both "local" and "nationally-known" callers, held discussions, heard speakers, and developed statements on some of the important issues of great concern to the square dance "world".

Delegates were entertained at the banquet Tuesday night by the star of stage and TV, "Jethro" of Homer & Jethro fame, as well as by a country western band. Frank Lane of Colorado showed points of styling with a set of dancers. Forty-five callers in attendance were awarded "Quarter-Century Club" certificates, showing they have called more than 25 years. Finally, the highlight of the evening was the awarding of "Milestone Award" trophies to four callers who have made a lasting contribution to the calling profession and the square dance activity.

These individuals are Joe Lewis of Texas, Al Brundage of Connecticut, the late Lloyd Litman of Ohio, and Les Gotcher of Florida. Those presenting the awards were Dave Taylor to Joe Lewis (received by Ray Smith for Joe); Earl Johnston to Al Brundage; Will Orlich to Lloyd Litman (received by Myrtis Litman); and Cal Golden (M.C. for the evening program) to Les Gotcher.

Bob Osgood of California was appointed by the Board of Governors as the new Executive Secretary of the Callerlab organization for 1975-1976. Jim Mayo of Massachusetts was named chairman of the Board of Governors. Stan Burdick of Ohio was recognized for his service as Executive Secretary during the past year.

Perhaps the most significant project that reached its climax and won approval as the result of this convention was the development of a new, updated list of 68 square dance basics, including "family" groups. This list does not replace the present well-established group of "75", but is meant to be supplemental for current, revised-order, instructional use only. It is also strictly experimental for a one-year period, and will be revised and updated at the next Callerlab convention in April 1976. As a "point of reference", this "Tentative Mainstream Basic List" was adopted.

Of equal importance, in the matter of caller training, a resolution was passed calling for the provisional accreditation of those who teach callers. A definite caller training curriculum was also approved as a guideline for use in callers' schools. Finally, a "code of ethics" for callers was adopted.

Some of the other subjects that were discussed during the three-day conclave concerned the calling profession, organizational matters, standards, club code, international concerns, the place of round dancing, record tune clearing house, taping, halls, local callers associations, heritage, the one year and two year dancer, economics of calling, and the national square dance convention.

Special meetings were held of all Note Service publishers in attendance, all record producers in attendance, and the Board of Governors held several meetings, the results of which will be reported at a later date.

Each caller was asked to indicate a preference for assisting with one of fifteen committees which will function during the next year, and to nominate two candidates for possible invitation to the next convention. No actual square dancing took place at the convention.

It was announced that the convention will again be held at the Marriott in Chicago, April 12-14, 1976.

## THE MILESTONE AWARDS

One of the important highlights of the convention was the presentation, on Tuesday night, of the "Milestone Award" trophies to four outstanding callers, or their representatives. The Awards Committee and the Executive Committee made the selections, based on each recipient's superior achievement, lasting contribution to the calling profession, or service to the square dance activity.

The recipients were Joe Lewis of Texas, Al Brundage of Connecticut, the late Lloyd Litman of Ohio, and Les Gotcher of Florida. Those presenting the awards were Dave Taylor to Joe Lewis (received by Ray Smith for Joe); Earl Johnston to Al Brundage; Will Orlich to Lloyd Litman (received by Myrtis Litman); and Cal Golden (M.C. for the evening program) to Les Gotcher.

The trophies, awarded for the first time in this form, were of wood construction in the shape of milestones.

Letters have since been received from Al Brundage and Myrtis Litman, which we'll share as follows:

From Al: "I would like to thank you, the Executive Committee of Callerlab and the Board of Governors of Callerlab for bestowing on me the "Milestone" award at the 1975 Callerlab banquet. This was indeed a surprise to me, and although I had an idea something was brewing, I felt it was a gag of some sort.

"The presentation of the award was indeed a highlight for me particularly coming from my peers and callers for whom I have a great deal of respect. Thank you again."

From Myrtis: "Thank you. It is indeed an honor for Lloyd to have been selected for an award. To be selected from among a group of peers is an honor that exceeds all expectation. He had been a pioneer in developing a common language for callers that would make communication among them easier. It is gratifying to see that much of the terminology he developed has been accepted today. "Set Ups", "Zero Movements", "Get Outs", "Box 1-4", "Line 1p2p" are just some terms that he coined when he started writing the book Instant Hash in 1959. The book was completed in 1961 and Lloyd knew that it was ten years ahead of its time, but he did not have ten years left. In spite of all the health problems that he had, Lloyd never lost his enthusiasm for the square dance activity. He would be proud to see the activity continue under the leadership of such sincere, dedicated people as I saw at the Convention.

"I also want to make a few personal comments. It has been a joy to have been at the convention and see top-notch, professional callers working and planning together. Having seen the leadership and the work of the committees of Callerlab I know that square dancing is in good hands. My fondest memories are associated with square dancing, and I continue to be the recipient of so many of its benefits. I wish I could contribute something myself, but about all I can do is cheer you on in your endeavors."

## SEARCH FOR THE PERFECT TUNE

A Vagabond went forth in search of the perfect tune... For many years he roamed the world, here and there he discovered perfect notes, and he strung them together as he went on his way...

From a bluebird singing its heart out at dawn...  
From the thundering music of a waterfall...  
From an old man playing his fiddle in front of his mountain cabin...  
From a mother singing a lullaby to the child in her arms...  
From a little brook babbling over the rocks...  
From the voices of children singing in a choir...  
From rain drops drumming on the roof...  
From a gentle wind rustling the leaves of the trees.

There came the day when the vagabond was satisfied.... He had gathered the notes he needed, and he sat down to create the perfect tune.....

When the perfect tune was finished, he took it to a great orchestra that his masterpiece might be presented to a waiting world by the finest musicians....

All the musicians agreed that the tune was perfect, but no one agreed as to how it should be rendered....  
The violins wanted more emphasis... The cymbals and drums wanted their parts stressed... The woodwinds and brass failed to see eye to eye about the relative importance of their parts....

The orchestra leader and his players could not agree on how the perfect tune should be interpreted....  
And so the perfect tune was never played.... The world knows the perfect tune for harmony and peace among men.... There is no secret about it.... It is as old as the ages.... Seers, prophets and sages have extolled it.... The perfect tune is the expression of love and good will....

All that is needed is that men transcend their differences so that the perfect tune may be played on the heartstrings of all people everywhere.....

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NOTE: This was read by Jack Lasry as part of his opening "update" remarks - considered applicable as we work together.

## CALLER SCHOOL CURRICULUM

Here is the document, now officially adopted, to guide ALL trainers of callers:

**LEADERSHIP**

This subject is to cover the basic responsibility that a caller has to the square dance activity and should provide guidance in such things as personal and professional ethics, philosophy, human relations, public relations, and basic leadership techniques.

**THE MECHANICS & TECHNIQUES OF CALLING**

The curriculum should include training and instruction in the areas of Timing, Rhythm, Phrasing, Voice and Vocal Technique, Techniques of Command, the Duties of a Master of Ceremonies, and Showmanship (appearance, proper dress, stage presence, personal delivery and style).

**TEACHING**

A caller school should provide the opportunity for each student to improve and upgrade his knowledge of square dance choreography and the mechanics of dance movements - every caller should thoroughly understand at least the 75 basics before he can say he is a caller. He should be provided with training and guidance in teaching methods (verbal, show and tell, etc.) and in learning how to organize and conduct his own beginner class so that he may build his own program - rather than wait for bookings or try to reshuffle present groups.

**PROGRAMMING**

The curriculum should include a detailed study of basic programming techniques to include programming for one call, one evening, one weekend - or an entire season.

**CHOREOGRAPHY**

This defined as the techniques of constructing dance patterns and deals with such things as body mechanics, flow of movements, standard or uniform execution, position dancing, hand sequences, simplicity or complexity of material, patter techniques as opposed to singing call techniques. In this category, the curriculum should provide training and guidance in sight calling, memory calling, (including the use of zeros, equivalents, set ups, get outs, etc.). A caller's school should NOT teach a caller to read.

**BUSINESS ASPECTS**

The curriculum should include a discussion of fees, taxes and accounting, contracts, insurance, and the importance of good business ethics. There should also be a comparison of the business aspects of conducting a caller-operated program as opposed to a dancer-operated program.

**ROUND DANCING**

Every caller should have a knowledge of the basic round dance movements and terminology and the curriculum should cover this subject. There should be some guidance in teaching simple rounds and mixers. A knowledge of contras and their use should also be included.

**EQUIPMENT**

This subject deals with a caller's ability to use and operate public address equipment with maximum effectiveness and deals with such things as equipment, acoustics, etc.

**THE CALLER'S PARTNER**

The curriculum should include some discussion of the role of the caller's partner - the partner's opportunities and responsibilities should be discussed.

**RESOURCES**

Each student should be provided with information about sources of additional training and training material such as books, magazines, archives, standards, publications, etc.

## HISTORY, HERITAGE & TRADITION

Each student should be provided with key information so that he may interpret the history and heritage of the movement. He should understand the over-all history and background of modern square dancing, i.e., what makes it tick and how we came to where we are today.

## ONE NIGHT STAND

The curriculum should include training and guidance in the techniques of conducting a successful one-night stand type of square dance evening.

## SELF-STUDY TECHNIQUES

Each student should also learn how to continue his training program as a square dance caller through effective practice techniques, self-evaluation, and the value of seeking out and participating in additional training activities (seminars, clinics, association meetings, schools, etc.).

## SINGING CALL TECHNIQUES

The curriculum should include training and guidance in the techniques of the Singing call (memorized, pre-learned, improvising/adaptation techniques, singing call showmanship).

## CODE OF ETHICS

C

The professional caller must wholeheartedly prescribe to the established standards of relationships to accomplish the declared purpose and objective for callers in the square dance profession.

I acknowledge -

1. That I have an obligation to the dancers; therefore I shall provide information, instruction and leadership to enable and encourage the dancer to develop to his full potential so that he may derive the maximum satisfaction and pleasure from the activity.

2. That I have an obligation to club organizations. Therefore, I shall participate in the development and maintenance of a sound and respected club organization, and shall endeavor to discharge this obligation to the best of my ability and to advise them wisely and honestly.

3. That I have an obligation to the profession; therefore, I shall respect the dignity of the leaders, teachers and callers as persons, and shall maintain a good reputation for personal integrity.

4. That I have an obligation to the activity as a whole; therefore, in my personal, business and social contacts, I shall be conscious of its heritage and its future, and conduct myself accordingly.

5. That I have an obligation to continue to work for professional growth, to adhere to uniform nomenclature, to learn, to lead and to contribute to the total square dance movement to the maximum of my ability.

6. That I have an obligation to all associations dealing with the activity; therefore, I shall promote a spirit of cooperation between the various elements of the association.

I accept these obligations as a personal responsibility and solemn pledge both in spirit and in fact, in a manner consistent with the highest standard of professional services as a member of Callerlab, the International Association of Square Dance Callers. I shall discharge these obligations and dedicate myself to that end.

CALLERLAB TENTATIVE MAINSTREAM LIST  
(in suggested teaching progression)

B

- |   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| <p>1. CIRCLE LEFT AND RIGHT</p> <p>2. FORWARD AND BACK</p> <p>3. DO SA DO</p> <p>4. SWING</p> <p>5. PROMENADE FAMILY<br/>(Full, 1/2, 3/4)</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">A. Couples</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">B. Single File</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">C. Wrong-way</p> <p>6. ALLEMANDE LEFT/ARM TURNS</p> <p>7. GRAND RIGHT AND LEFT/WEAVE</p> <p>8. PASS THRU</p> <p>9. "U" TURN BACK</p> <p>10. SPLIT THE COUPLE/RING<br/>(Around one, two)</p> <p>11. COUPLES SEPARATE/DIVIDE</p> <p>12. COURTESY TURN</p> <p>13. CHAIN FAMILY</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">A. Two Ladies</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">B. Four Ladies</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">C. 3/4 Chain</p> <p>14. DO PASO</p> <p>15. RIGHT AND LEFT THRU</p> <p>16. STAR FAMILY<br/>(2-8)</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">A. Right Hand</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">B. Left Hand</p> <p>17. STAR PROMENADE</p> <p>18. INSIDE OUT-OUTSIDE IN</p> <p>19. COUPLES LEAD RIGHT/LEFT</p> <p>20. CIRCLE TO A LINE</p> <p>21. BEND THE LINE</p> <p>22. ALL AROUND LEFT HAND LADY</p> <p>23. SEE SAW (TAW)</p> <p>24. GRAND SQUARE</p> <p>25. BOX THE GNAT/SWAT THE FLEA</p> <p>26. SQUARE THRU FAMILY<br/>(Full, 3/4, 1/2)</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">A. Standard</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">B. Left</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">C. Mixed sex</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">D. Same sex</p> <p>27. CALIFORNIA TWIRL</p> <p>28. DIVE THRU</p> <p>29. CROSS TRAIL</p> <p>30. COUPLES WHEEL AROUND</p> <p>31. SINGLE FILE TURNBACK</p> <p>32. ALLEMANDE THAR/WRONG WAY THAR</p> <p>33. SHOOT THAT STAR<br/>(1/2, 3/4, Full)</p> <p>34. SLIP THE CLUTCH</p> <p>35. HALF SASHAY FAMILY</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">A. Standard</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">B. Roll Away</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">C. Ladies In, Men Sashay</p> <p>36. ALAMO STYLE/BALANCE</p> <p>37. STAR THRU</p> | <p>* 38. COUPLES BACKTRACK</p> <hr/> <p>39. TURN THRU</p> <p>40. PASS TO THE CENTER</p> <p>41. EIGHT CHAIN THRU<br/>(1-8)</p> <p>42. OCEAN WAVE/BALANCE<br/>(R/L)</p> <p>43. SWING THRU FAMILY</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">A. Right</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">B. Left</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">C. Alamo</p> <p>44. FLUTTERWHEEL/REVERSE</p> <p>45. SWEEP A 1/4</p> <p>46. VEER LEFT/RIGHT</p> <p>47. RUN FAMILY<br/>(R/L)</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">A. Boys</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">B. Girls</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">C. Ends</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">D. Centers</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">E. Cross</p> <p>48. TRADE FAMILY</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">A. Boys</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">B. Girls</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">C. Ends</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">D. Centers</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">E. Couples</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">F. Partner</p> <p>49. CIRCULATE FAMILY</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">A. Boys</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">B. Girls</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">C. All Eight</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">D. Ends</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">E. Centers</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">F. Couples</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">G. Box</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">H. Single File</p> <p>50. SPIN THE TOP</p> <p>51. TRADE BY</p> <p>52. ZOOM</p> <p>53. WHEEL AND DEAL</p> <p>54. DOUBLE PASS THRU</p> <p>55. CENTERS IN/OUT</p> <p>56. CAST FAMILY<br/>(3/4, 1/2, 1/4)</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">A. Off</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">B. In</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">C. Right</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">D. Left</p> <p>57. CLOVERLEAF</p> <p>58. SLIDE THRU</p> <p>59. FOLD FAMILY</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">A. Boys</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">B. Girls</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">C. Ends</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">D. Centers</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">E. Cross</p> | <p>60. DIXIE STYLE</p> <p>61. SPIN CHAIN THRU</p> <p>62. PEEL OFF</p> <p>63. TAG FAMILY<br/>(Full, 1/2)</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">A. Line</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">B. Partner</p> <p>64. CURLIQUE</p> <p>65. WALK AND DODGE</p> <p>66. SCOOTBACK</p> <p>67. FAN THE TOP</p> <p>68. HINGE FAMILY</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">A. Couples</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">B. Single</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">C. Partner</p> <p style="margin-top: 20px;">* At this point the list<br/>corresponds with the Basic<br/>50 Teaching Program</p> |
|---|---|--|

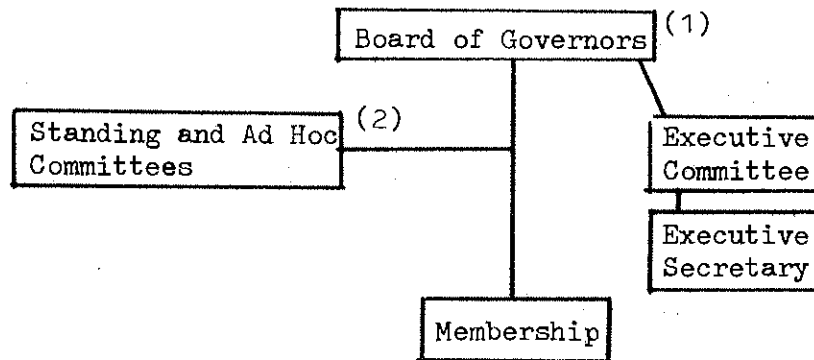
## GUIDELINE FOR CONDUCTING CALLERLAB AREA DANCES

1. It is not a "benefit" for Callerlab. The word "benefit" should not be used in any publicity.
  2. The report of the dance which should be sent to the Executive Secretary, should be accompanied by a full disclosure of the finances of the dance. This should be submitted within a reasonable time following the event.
  3. The dance should not conflict with other dance events in the area. Clearances should be made well in advance through associations, federations, or the proper channel in the area. Notice of intent to hold an area dance should be sent to the Callerlab office when plans are finalized. (At least 30 days in advance)
  4. Checks and reports should be sent to Bob Osgood, Executive Secretary; 462 N. Robertson Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90048.
  5. Area Callerlab members should be invited to cooperate in organizing and conducting the dances.
  6. Under no circumstances will callers be reimbursed for any services connected with these dances (calling, sound systems, etc.) Token fees for round dance cuers may be paid if necessary. Out-of-pocket expenses are considered legitimate (flyers, phone calls, tickets, etc.)
  7. In conducting these area dances, callers should uphold the code of ethics and other standards of Callerlab.
  8. Publicity may read " Fund Raising Event for Callerlab Activities."
  9. Insurance to cover liability for this specific dance will be an acceptable expense. It is strongly recommended that this insurance be secured.
  10. Those planning such dances should remember that area dancers will form good or bad opinions about Callerlab on the basis of how these dances are conducted.
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General Organization, Functions and  
Policy Making Process of Callerlab \*

ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE



- (1) 25 members - 2 additional elected 1976  
- 5 elected and replaced  
1977 and each year thereafter  
- Term of office - 5 years
- (2) Appointed by Board of Governors

\* Adopted by the Board of Governors - March 23, 1975

FUNCTIONS OF ORGANIZATIONAL COMPONENTS

BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Administration of organization  
Recommend policy and/or problem solutions to membership  
Implement decisions of the membership

STANDING AND AD HOC COMMITTEES

Define areas of concern or problems needing solution  
Fact finding and consideration of alternatives  
Recommendations

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Housekeeping and administration as directed by Board of Governors

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

As directed

MEMBERSHIP

Decisions regarding major policy and/or problem solutions

POLICY MAKING PROCESS

