

NEWSLETTER
for Members of
CALLERLAB

direction



Volume Three - Number One

June 1975

NO NEW QUARTERLY MOVEMENTS FOR JULY-AUGUST-SEPTEMBER

When the Quarterly Movements Committee was originally formed with Jack Lasry, Miami, Florida, as chairman, it was decided that no more than two movements would be suggested by the Committee for mainstream dancing in any one quarter. During the December 1975 to March 1975 quarter just one movement, "Coordinate," was selected. Now, for the first time because the Committee members who voted did not strongly support any one or two movements, the quarterly movements clearing house suggests no quarterly movement for the next three months' period. The Committee suggests that during the summer months workshops concentrate on the existing quarterly movements, Recycle, Walk and Dodge, Coordinate, Transfer the Column and Half Tag, Trade and Roll and drill on any of the basic 75 and CALLERLAB mainstream movements. It should be pointed out that it would have been relatively simple for the Committee to suggest one or two of the more than a dozen new figures recently invented. The Committee deserves special credit for its restraint and for adhering to the purpose of the clearing house -- to suggest one or two movements when, in the judgment of a majority of the Committee members, there are movements warranting this special attention.

ELECTION TIME -- Nominations Due for Two Board of Governors' Seats

The by-laws of CALLERLAB specify that the maximum size of this group be twenty-five members. At present there are twenty-three members. Two new members are to be elected in the next few months and introduced to the membership at the 1976 CALLERLAB Convention. Ordinarily, for a person to qualify for membership on the Board of Governors, he must have been an active dues-paid member of CALLERLAB for three years or more. To overcome the present two-person vacancy the by-laws stipulate that for this special election only, the requirement of membership is two years as a dues-paid member. The enclosed roster indicates by an asterisk (*) in front of the name those who are eligible at this time for nomination to one of the positions.

Procedure of Nominating: According to the by-laws anyone who is eligible (*) may put his own name up for nomination or another member may do this for him. To be eligible a candidate for one of the existing vacancies must submit a petition bearing the names of no fewer than twenty-five active, dues-paying members of CALLERLAB supporting the individual's nomination. This information must be received at the CALLERLAB offices in Los Angeles by August 10, 1975. Those on the enclosed roster which are not enclosed in parentheses () are dues-paid members. (Note: At this stage, with the transfer of records still incomplete, the list may have a few discrepancies. For that reason, anyone who has not paid his current 1975-76 dues should refrain from signing a nomination petition.) Nomination forms stating: "I support the nomination of _____ (name) _____ as a member of the CALLERLAB Board

CALLERLAB -- Message from the Chairman

This is the year in which CALLERLAB will move from its past status as the hope of a few into its future role as the representative of an important part of the community of square dance callers. Success in this role depends on the active support of the membership. There is important work to be done. The square dance activity needs the leadership of callers and this can be achieved only if we can cooperate among ourselves to develop a common purpose and direction. CALLERLAB should not attempt to establish rules and enforce them. This organization should provide a forum in which all reasonable positions may be considered and the most desirable may be identified so they may serve as guidelines to us all. We accept the common goal of encouragement of the best in square dancing and the discouragement of that which might cause it harm. However, this does not mean that there is only one "good" way. We have developed a recreational activity with potential appeal across a broad cross section of the population and with the possibility of many levels of commitment by dancers and callers alike. Let us rejoice in the scope of this potential and work together to encourage all aspects of our activity, not just that part which interests each of us individually. There is room for us all from traditional to challenge and from the one-night party to the weekly experimental club. We share a great deal and our differences are smaller than we think sometimes. Give to CALLERLAB a willing hand and an open mind. Square dancing needs the leadership of those who have worked to build it. CALLERLAB is an effective means of furnishing that leadership. Let all who speak with you about CALLERLAB know of your support. Look on the positive side of our accomplishments. We can not accomplish all that needs doing immediately, but we have done a great deal and with your help we will do much more.

Jim Mayo

of Governors" can be submitted with all signatures on a single form -- or, for time saving convenience, several of these forms with one or more signatures on each may be gathered at one point, stapled together and submitted as a single petition. A person nominated for membership on the Board of Governors will be asked if he will accept the nomination. He has the right to withdraw his name from the list of candidates before the ballot is published.

All nominations will be checked and cleared by a nominating committee and those satisfactorily meeting all requirements will appear on a ballot going to all members in good standing with the September issue of DIRECTION Newsletter. Along with the ballot will be a return envelope and deadline instructions for returning the ballot. The election of the two Board members will be by simple majority. In the event of a tie involving more than two members, a run-off election will be held and ballots will be enclosed in the December issue of DIRECTION Newsletter. Final results of the election will be announced at the 1976 Convention at the latest.

The term of a member of the Board of Governors is five years. At the 1976 Board of Governors' meeting, just prior to the 1976 Convention, all twenty-five then existing members of the Board will draw lots to determine whether they will serve one, two, three, four or five year terms. Five members of the Board will be scheduled to go out of office each year starting at the time of the 1977 Convention. Prior to the 1977 Convention members will have an opportunity to nominate and elect five Board of Governors' members who will each serve five years on the Board.

THE 1976 CALLERLAB CONVENTION

Coming to you soon will be your copy of the 1976 Convention brochure. By mailing these out at this early date, it is hoped that more members will be able to attend the Chicago meetings next April. As soon as you receive your brochure please fill out and return your registration form which will be included. Also included will be a hotel registration form. This should be filled out and sent to the Marriott. When communicating directly with the Marriott, either by letter or phone, please mention the CALLERLAB Convention.

The Marriott in Chicago is a large Convention hotel and it proved most satisfactory for our needs this past March. However, it is quite possible that by next year we could outgrow the space provided by the Marriott. For that reason all applications must be on a first-received-first-considered basis. The brochures going to non-members who have been suggested for membership will include a personalized invitation asking each to attend. It is suggested you wait at least until the end of June and then, doublechecking the enclosed roster of names, contact those persons whose names you have submitted and encourage them to attend the Convention and become members. This personal touch does wonders.

Convention Procedure: All those thus far suggested as candidates for membership in CALLERLAB have been sent "qualification letters." These letters simply state that the person has been "suggested" for membership and that this is a routine check to see (1) if he meets the requirement of calling on the average of once a week for the past three years and (2) if he subscribes to the CALLERLAB Code of Ethics. If he responds in the affirmative on a return post card enclosed with his letter, then he will be sent an invitation for the next year's Convention. To all those who have nominated candidates for membership, if you see your candidate nominees, encourage them to send in their qualifications post card even if they know that they cannot attend this year. If they feel they may be at all interested at a future date we would like to know about it.

At this date, slightly more than 65% of the existing dues-paid members have taken advantage of their opportunity to nominate two (qualified) callers for possible membership. There is still time to receive and process more names, but they must be received by July 15, 1975. Names submitted by any member in excess of two will be kept on a standby list and these people will not be sent a "qualifications" letter unless there is room for additional names or unless the same names are submitted by another member as one of their two-name allotment. At this time CALLERLAB is particularly interested in making sure that caller/leaders in each area are included in our membership ranks. Please check the enclosed roster and let us know of any obvious omissions prior to the July 15th deadline. These can be included as part of your allotment of two recommendations. Incidentally, the names in parentheses () are the non-member candidates whose qualifications we are now checking.

A special mailing has gone out to the heads of all 153 area callers' associations to ascertain if that association is represented in CALLERLAB by at least one of its members. If not, we have asked for name suggestions.

Those persons invited previously to attend the 1974 or 1975 Conventions and who were, for one reason or another, unable to attend and are therefore not at the present time members of CALLERLAB, have been sent the same qualification letter

and will, if they return an affirmative answer, be sent an invitation to attend the 1976 Convention.

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS AND REPORTS

Of the approximately 198 members who have thus far turned in their new member suggestion forms, nearly all have indicated a choice of committee assignment. At the moment many of the committees are filled. Some of the committee rosters are being revised and specific committee assignments may not be completed for several weeks. Attempts to involve every member in CALLERLAB work for the coming year may take a little time, but you will be personally notified as soon as possible. If you are especially desirous of serving on a particular committee because of your interest, or experience and background, please drop the Executive Secretary a note stating this and the facts will be relayed to the committee chairman involved.

Committee reports, some reflecting the work of more than a year, will be featured in a future issue of DIRECTION Newsletter. Just what the committees are setting out to accomplish and what they have already accomplished will all be covered in the reports.

CALLERLAB SUGGESTED MAINSTREAM BASICS

Already a number of area publications have published the list coming from the 1975 CALLERLAB Convention. A copy of the mainstream list as it is being used as an "insert" in the Basic and Extended Basic Caller/Teacher Manuals will be sent to all members in a coming issue of DIRECTION. Johnny LeClair, Chairman of the Mainstream Basic Committee, requests that members take advantage of the opportunity to test this list during the coming year. Observations, suggestions and any discussions on the list should be sent directly to Johnny LeClair or may be sent to this office to be forwarded to the Committee.

ETCETERA, ETCETERA, ETCETERA

Finances: The final transfer of files from Sandusky to Los Angeles should be completed soon. Either enclosed with this issue of the newsletter or coming soon will be a final financial report from Stan Burdick, 1974-1975 Executive Secretary. At the present time our bank balance stands at \$11,129.73. With a total of \$1,765 in outstanding bills, this leaves a working capital total of \$9,364.73. We are currently running a deficit of approximately \$23,870 of our \$35,000 1975-76 budget.

Ways and Means -- Raising Funds for CALLERLAB operating expenses is a job for all members: The Ways and Means Committee headed by Al Brundage and Cal Golden is hard at work to raise the needed funds to meet the current \$35,000 budget. High on the list of money-raising projects are the CALLERLAB dances presently being scheduled. We understand that a number of these have already been held or are being held during the summer months. Enclosed is a guideline sheet for these dances (also included with your Convention Wrap-Up received last month). Please contact either Al or Cal if you are planning one of these events. The net proceeds may be sent directly to this office and a receipt will be returned to you. Any other ideas for raising funds in a dignified manner befitting the CALLERLAB image will be very much in line. Again, please notify this office or your Ways and Means Committee heads of your ideas and plans.

A Great Idea!: This office recently received the following letter from the treasurer of the Shasta Cascade Square Dancers and Callers Association in Redding, California. "Dear Sir: At a recent meeting of our association it was voted to send One Hundred Dollars (\$100) to CALLERLAB. Please accept the enclosed check in that amount. Our best wishes for continued success in CALLERLAB." The check for the amount of \$100 has been deposited in the CALLERLAB bank account and a letter to the SCSDCAR with the thanks of all of us was immediately mailed. This idea of fund raising, both from callers associations and possibly from dancer associations as well should not be overlooked as a means of helping meet our budget needs.

The San Antonio square dance film is available for use by CALLERLAB members. The rental fee is \$10 for each week the film is requested. Merely mail in your request for a time period (if possible include an alternate time period in case the film is already scheduled during your first choice). We must have the \$10 rental fee before the film will be mailed to you which will usually be two weeks before the film is needed. At the time you receive the film we will give you instructions for either mailing it back to us or on to the next scheduled member.

Callers' Confirmation of Booking Agreement: A form designed as an informal letter of agreement between the caller and the group for which he is to call, is enclosed. You may, if you wish, make copies of this and use it in your own program. Any comments or suggestions pertaining to this contract will be appreciated and should be sent directly to Marshall Flippo.

Check our address and phone number: For mailing purposes our Box Number is 48547, Los Angeles, California 90048. If you are planning to come and visit the office our address is 462 North Robertson Boulevard, (one block south of Melrose Avenue) Los Angeles, California 90048. The CALLERLAB telephone number is (213) 652-5581. Give us a little warning to make sure we'll be in. We'll enjoy seeing you.

Changes of Address: Members are requested to please keep this office informed as quickly as possible of any move. Those working on committee assignments and all members of the Board of Governors are requested to supply the office with telephone and address contacts while on the road. All members should work out some system to have CALLERLAB mail forwarded to reach them when on a tour. COMMUNICATIONS is vital in the functions of CALLERLAB. Your assistance in sending in a written response, even if only on a post card whenever such a response is necessary, will be very much appreciated!

Styling plays a major role in CALLERLAB. Perhaps equally important as the list of Mainstream Basics coming out of the recent Convention and the Quarterly Movements Clearing House which has been in effect for the past year, is the subject of STYLING and "How We Dance." The beauty of CALLERLAB is that for the first time there is a place where callers can meet and discuss those segments of styling that may differ from one area to another. There is no real "right" or "wrong" (as long as the dancing is comfortable, smooth and blended to the music) but the advantage of universal standardization does appear important. Such discussions as those we've had on "hands up" or "hands down", as an example, can only lead to a better understanding of each others area situations. We do not intend to deal lightly with any matters that are important and future issues of DIRECTION should bear this out.

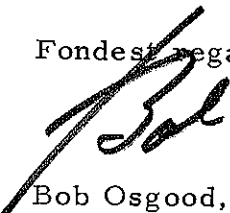
Coordination with The National Square Dance Convention: In line with the decisions to

eventually be in a position to influence the Annual National Square Dance Convention and to help it overcome some of its problems, members of CALLERLAB will be very visible in the thick of things at the Kansas City Convention later this month. To this date, leaders selected for the Callers' Training Seminars at the Conventions have all been members of CALLERLAB. This year our members represented will be Frank Lane, Cal Golden and Jim Mayo. Next year when the Convention moves to Anaheim, California, the Callers' Seminar Leaders will be Lee Helsel, Johnny LeClair and Bob Page.

Name of the Game -- COMMUNICATE: The size of CALLERLAB is growing and with its growth comes additional responsibilities for your Executive Secretary and his staff. Because many projects are in the works it is greatly appreciated when you respond promptly with your opinions, answers to questions and other input. Quite frequently we will give deadlines for a specific task. In other cases we have established a two-week response period. In other words if we have not received a response from members on a subject we will assume that, in this case, no answer within two weeks signifies approval and we will proceed on that basis. Of course we'd much rather hear from you by letter whether your answer is "yes" or "no". We need that personal contact in order to provide you the type of organizational direction you want.

Our next issue of DIRECTION will be early September. At that time you'll receive your Quarterly Movements report for October, November and December. To close we quote those famous words delivered at our recent Convention by Bob Howell, "We have met the enemy and it is us." Have a good summer and keep in touch.

Fondest regards,



Bob Osgood, Executive Secretary

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