



Fenton "Jonesy" Jones
Milestone, 1976

Mention the name "Jonesy" and an entire generation of square dancers sits up and takes notice. Here is one of the few men who has bridged the activity from the traditional to the contemporary.

Jonesy, who started his calling in Southern California during the early 1940s looks and sounds "the way a caller should." This was evidently the opinion shared by quite a few motion picture, television, and record producers who featured him in their productions. He's appeared in films made by Fox, Columbia, and Monogram and in television shows by General Electric's Halls of Ivy, Bonanza, Warner Brothers, and MGM.

Among the first to make square dance recordings, "Jonesy" initially appeared on the Black and White label in 1946. Since then he has called for Imperial, Capitol, MGM, and Mastertone records. His many years of recording on the C.P. MacGregor label set a high standard for other labels to follow.

As the trends of square dancing changed, "Jonesy" kept abreast of the changes while retaining enough of the basic groundwork of the activity to remind the dancers that square dancing was not a fad. Square dancing has been a great part of "Jonesy's" life and as he and his wife, Florence, traveled across North America on their infrequent calling tours, the Joneses always managed to portray the true spirit of friendliness of this activity.

A member of the Square Dance Hall of Fame, Fenton likes to quote a bit of advice which he's never forgotten. "Jonesy," this friend said, "if you want to become a successful caller, never change the size of your hat band!" Jonesy never has.