



Martin Mallard
Milestone, 1994

It all began in Canada in 1954 when, after continuous urging by his wife Terry, Martin attended a beginner square dance evening. By the time the session was over, he had signed the two of them up for a course of square dance lessons. A few weeks into the series, the class caller announced that, with the enthusiastic spread of the activity, there would be a definite need for more callers. It just happened that a new callers course would be starting the following week. So enthusiastic was Martin that, although barely into his own lessons, he signed up. The result: it was one night in dance class for the Mallards, then the next night in callers school.

His long calling career started in 1955 when he was asked to call for a group of patients at a local hospital. Later that same year, he called his first new-dancer class and the club that formed from it is still actively dancing to the same caller today, some 38 years later. Teaching a beginner class each year since 1957, Martin and Terry helped to form many of them into healthy clubs that have continued to dance on a regular basis, over the years.

Twice president of his area's callers and cuers association, Martin has given unselfishly of his time and efforts in advancing the availability of square dancing in Canada. He assisted in the formation of a Provincial square and round dance society. He served four times as either chairman or co-chairman of the Canadian International Convention, and over the years, he has received numerous awards for his leadership and many accomplishments.

Working with over 100 dancers for more than three months, the Mallards provided the leadership for the 1989 televised opening ceremonies of the Jeux Canada Summer Games in Saskatoon. Over the past almost four decades the Mallards have been involved in many of the great square dance happenings in Canada.

A member of CALLERLAB since 1974, Martin has served two terms on the Executive Committee and has served as chairman of the Mainstream and Ethics Committees. He received his CALLERLAB Caller-Coach Accreditation in 1992 and has conducted several caller clinics since that time.