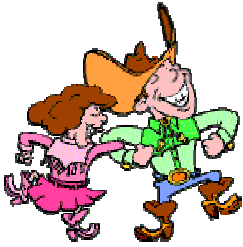


CALLERS CORNER

A forum for the exchange of information
between Callers & Dancers

Written by : Geoff Clarke



It's More than Just the Dancing !

Have you ever thought, when mentally considering those with whom you dance, how many times you are impressed with more than just the individual's ability to dance well? Think about it. Aren't there times when a friendly, outgoing individual makes an impression on your mind as being an excellent dancer, more than anything else you are impressed by his/her courtesy, willingness to dance with anyone who is setting up a square, willingness to take on 'club' responsibilities and his/her general "up" nature?

And aren't you impressed with the club member who is always on time for the first tip and who seldom, if ever, misses a dance night? These "little" points are equally as significant, in my way of thinking, as a person's ability to dance all of the square dance movements perfectly!

Because this side of square dancing is so important and because it is so frequently placed somewhere behind an individual's

ability to master the Basics, I'd thought it a good spot to place it Front & Center of this edition of Callers Corner.

And coupled with this, here's some of the "good" and "not so good" square dance manners that you should be aware of!

- When the tip is over, don't forget to say "Thank You" to all the dancers in your square.
- A good square dancer always joins the nearest square. *Passing any unfilled square to join another is considered 'poor taste'.*
- The Caller depends on the 'initial' dance to warm everyone up and set the pace for the evening. Coming in late may mean that you've missed the key move being introduced that evening!!
- **NEVER** leave a square before the tip is over (unless not feeling well) - it just ain't done by considerate dancers !
- If you've enjoyed your dancing take a minute & Thank the Caller. *If you've not enjoyed it, also be sure to tell the Caller !*

If you have any questions or comments you can send them directly to me by email at: askthecaller@squaresandrounds.com or by "snail mail" to the Square Times Editor, who'll pass it along. All questions will be answered and those that would be of interest to all will be published in this column, with anonymity ensured unless you request otherwise.

Ok, over to you!

Geoff



ASK THE CALLER

News Flash !!

**'ASK THE CALLER' IS NOW ON
EOSARDA & CSRDS WEB SITES !**

Folks,

It's hard to believe, but I've not yet received a single question from anyone else other than my own dancers ! Not a single question from any Square Dancer 'out there'! Surely, if I'm being asked questions directly by dancers there are 'readers' that also have questions about some aspect of MWSD (Modern Western Square Dancing)?

Perhaps you are shy ? Don't have time ? Think it's a silly question? Well, I'm of the opinion that there are no silly questions, but sometimes silly answers! So don't be shy - here's your opportunity. If you're 'wondering' about something, rest assured that there are probably many others with the same question in mind !! Just Ask !!

And to make it easier & to expand the 'world' of potential questions - Ask the Caller is now available through the EOSARDA & CSRDS web sites - thanks to John Sellers.

So how much easier can it be?

Let's hear from you !!

WHAT THE CALLER SEES !!



ARE YOU READY ?

As we approach the end of another Dance Season (yep, one more issue of Square Time after this one!), some dancers start to look towards 'next season'. Our first year **Basic** dancers are wondering if they'll remember all they learned come September? The new **Mainstream** dancers are also wondering the same thing - whereas the more experienced MS dancers are thinking that perhaps they want to try learning Plus. And some Plus dancers are contemplating the Advanced program.

What next then?

All new Basic dancers will have the opportunity during May to July to 'hone' their newly learned skills on a weekly basis at "Summer Dancing". For the other dancers there may be **Workshops** available such as "Improve" your current dancing skills or "Learn" or "Introduction to" something new. The availability of these workshops varies from year to year.

If **you** are 'thinking' about taking a Workshop & trying something new don't just "jump in" & hope for the best, prepare yourself & ask the tough question:-

"Am I ready... how do I know?"

***ASK YOUR CALLER whether or not
you're ready and be guided by the
answer you get !-***