



Photos & Features

Remembering 55 Years of the Callahans

Roving Reporter

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The only couple that I know that remember all 55 years of Mike Callahan's square dancing history among us are Ted and Ruth Phillips; and they were members of the Teen Club at the time.

Looking back at Mike and Wanda's now 40-year celebration of their Shamrock Squares club, and with years of old *Promenaders* at my fingertips, I felt "prompted" to look back through my own historic picture files and share some select few of them with you...in the hope that you might just happily smile in remembering some of the good square dancing friends that are no longer with us.

So, with just these few words of introduction, take a few moments to scan through the pictures, and for those of you that know or knew them, let your hearts be gladdened by the special "knowings"...and make a point of telling people like the Callahans how much you treasure all that, through them, we continue to enjoy. You might also count the times you discover our treasured friends, Ted and Ruth, and tell them, too...

Happiness Is Right Around "Your Corner"...









“Your Support of This Publication Will Determine Its Continuance!”

Ralph Weber, 1962

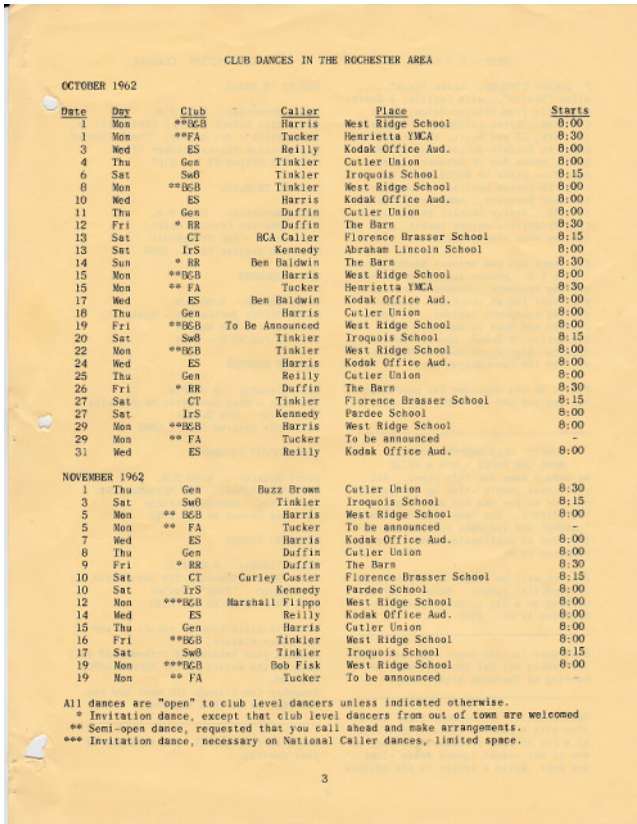
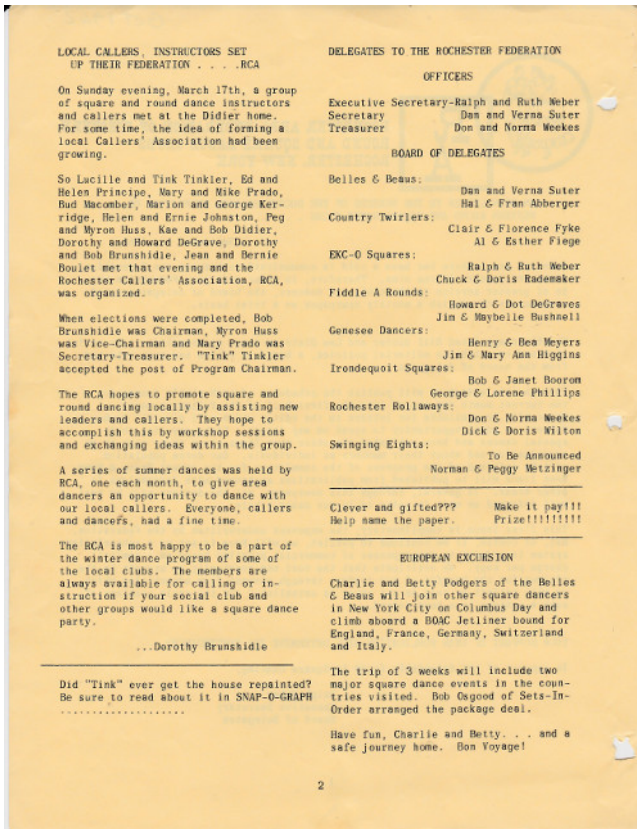
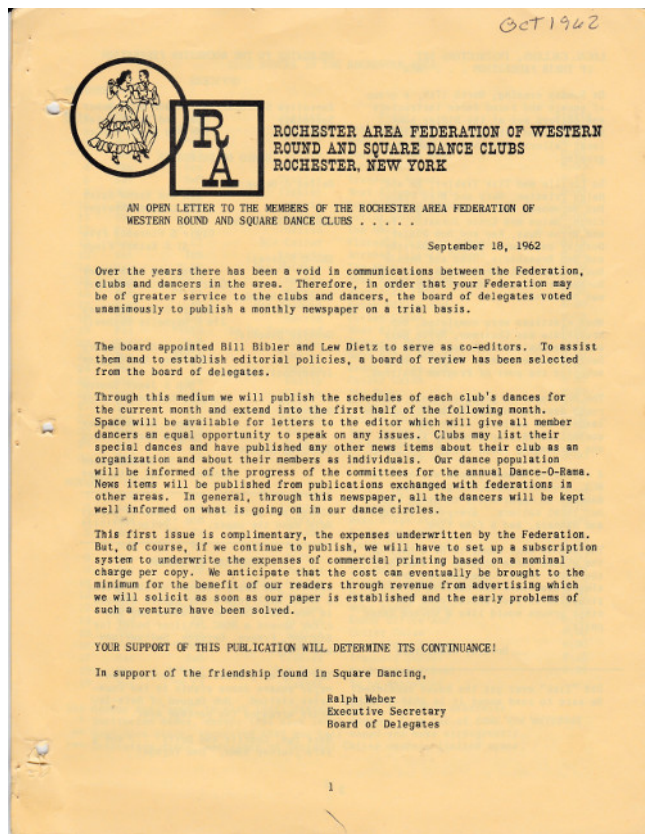
The support was resounding, and Vol. 1, Issue 2 was in the mail the next month, November 1962, and already wearing the PROMENADER name. Grace Boyer made the winning name suggestion, selected from over 50 entries. Grace was a member of the Irondequoit Squares and the Swinging 8's. She walked away with \$5.00 worth of prizes for her efforts.

Of course we are talking about the beginnings of the publication you are now reading: The Promenader!

I am including the first issue here, and hopefully the second issue also, once we work out the mechanics for doing it. In any event, the two make some very interesting reading and paint a portrait of dancing then — not so different from now.

Read on. You might find some refreshing ideas.

Dick Halstead, Roving Reporter/Federation Historian



SNAP - 0 - GRAPH

F. HOWARD TINKLER... alias "Tink"... alias "Dearie"... wife Lucille, a South-arn belle from Winston-Salem, North Carolina...

Six years ago saw Western Square Dancing on T.V... became interested in the calling approach... needed a new rug and paint job at the time...

P.S. - In the meantime has purchased the rug and had the house painted.

HURRY! HELP WANTED PRONTO! NAME THE PAPER - WIN A PRIZE

We need a name for this paper. All you clever people think up as many entries as you can and send them to the editors...

Entries will be judged by a committee of impartial judges. Ralph Weber is working on a big surprise prize. Deadline is Oct. 25th.

Somewhere in this paper, you can find the reason why Hal Abberger will be dancing on Thursday nights only.

NEXT ISSUE... a "between tips" interview with a popular caller... profiles of a lot of your friends...

INSTRUCTION CLASSES

BELLES 'N BEAUS

Every Wednesday, 8:00 P.M. Craig Hill School on West Craig Hill Rd. Instructors - Art Harris, "Tink" Tinkler...

COUNTRY TWIRLERS

Every Wednesday, 8:00 P.M. First Baptist Church, Chili. Instructor - Bob Brunschidie...

EKC-O SQUARES

Every Monday, 8:00 P.M. Kodak Office Auditorium - State St. Instructor - Joe Reilly...

GENESEE DANCERS

Every Tuesday, 8:00 P.M. The Barn - East Henrietta Rd. Callink Instructor - Don Duffin...

IRONDEQUOIT SQUARES

Every Saturday, 8:00 P.M. Laurelton School - 478 Henrietta Rd. Instructor - George Kerridge...

SWINGIN' EIGHTS

Every Tuesday, 8:00 P.M. Hoson Rogers School - 219 Northfield Rd. Instructor - "Tink" Tinkler...

There is still time to enroll in any of the above classes. Contact your interested friends and sell them on the merits of the SQUARE DANCE PROGRAM...

Smile at your corner, put sunshine in your dancing.

EKC-O SQUARES Cont'd.....

to a rousing start and was followed on Sept. 26th by Art Harris doing his usual stellar dance calling. A fine year is anticipated. EKC-O Squares dances are held each Wed. starting at 8:00 and they are open to all club level dancers at \$1.00 per person.

On Wednesday, Oct. 17th, we will have our first national caller of the season - Ben Baldwin, Jr. of Champaign, Illinois. You will remember Ben for his fine calling at the last Dance-O-Rama. Admission is \$1.00 per person, 8 to 11:00.

The EKC-O Squares wish to thank the Rochester area dancers for the support of their summer program of square dancing. As a result, an equally fine program is being prepared for next summer for all to enjoy. -- Ed Fox

In the next issue... news about the 1965 Dance-O-Rama... a look at the new dancers... complete list of November-December dances... another SNAP-O-GRAPH.....

SWINGING EIGHTS

Our club dances the first and third Saturdays of every month at the Ironquoit School, corner of Washington Ave. and Colebrook Road from 8:15 to 11:30 P.M.

The first half hour is given over to round dancing with Mike and Mary Prado instructing. "Tink" Tinkler calls the squares for the balance of the evening. The opening dance was on September 29th and attracted a sizable number of dancers.

"Singing" Sam Mitchell will call for us on December 15th at the Hoson Rogers School. -- Norm Metzinger

BELLES 'N BEAUS

I think that's the name of the Club. Nobody ever tells me anything. If it is the Belles 'N Beaus someone said the club was six years old and they act like it.

The two guys who had something to do with starting the club are Fred Retillick and Bernie Boulet, and I guess their wives helped a little. Now there's a whole crowd dancing at West Hodge School on Alcott Road, about 61 couples I'd say.

Monday is the big night for them. They don't have too much room, and when they goof they need more room, so they have only a party open club. I think they call it Semi-.

I'll take a guess at who the officers are:

Bob and Kay Didier must be President, because he gets to use the microphone. Jim and Ollie Shear must be Vice-President because he is in charge of the Coke machine.

Fred and June Krasselt must be Treasurer because he takes everybody's money. Ed and Sharilyn Taylor must be Secretary, as she is usually looking over her glasses and marking down every time I goof. Bob and June Miller, Charlie and Betty Podgers and Hal and Fran Abberger must be all Directors, because they're always telling people where to go.

They have a beginner's class started, but if you know someone you don't care much for, tell them they are still welcome to join the class, entries close October 17th. Call Bob Didier at FI 2-0167 or Ed Taylor at FI 2-4950.

The class dances, I think, every Wednesday at the Craig Hill School on West Craig Hill Drive. I must be right because I was there last week and it was the day after Tuesday, that's Wednesday School.

Class is taught by our Callers Tink Tinkler and Art Harris, that's the long and short of it. Their wives, Lucille and Vera, help a little. They bring matches.

CLUB NEWS

COUNTRY TWIRLERS

The Country Twirlers started their Fall season Sept. 8th with "Tink" Tinkler as our regular caller.

Our open dances are the second and fourth Saturdays of each month from 8:15 to 11:15 at Florence Brassler School in Chili, with do-nuts and coffee after each dance.

On Sept. 22nd, our dance was open to all dancers that want to learn Western dancing. Many new couples have shown interest by joining our beginners' club which started Sept. 26th, Bob Brunschidie instructing. Our beginners' club will dance every Wednesday at the First Baptist Church in Chili.

On Nov. 10th we have the one and only Curley Caster from Maryland as our caller. Curley has served as staff caller at institutes in Massachusetts and Georgia and completed his 3rd year at Al Brundage's Funstitute at West Point. Curley is a recording artist for the Top label of the Green Recording Co. Sales of tickets are limited. Get your ticket early. See you at the dance.

-- Esther Fliege

IRONDEQUOIT SQUARES

The Squares, enthused by obtaining Don Kennedy for our caller look toward a good year of square dances. Don is a Buffalo caller who made a hit last Spring when he called a dance or two in Rochester. Don has promised to call several invitational workshops during the year to present the latest movements in western square dancing, and as usual, all of our dances are open to Rochester club members.

The lesson sessions committee, Don and Lois Brewer, Joe and Andree Brodser, Al and Phyllis Penbrook, George and Loren Phillips launch the new classes Saturday, Oct. 6th at the Laurelton School. George Kerridge will be the caller-instructor. -- Bob Boorum

ROCHESTER ROLLAWAYS

The Rochester Rollaways is a club made up of dancers who wish to enjoy more advanced dancing than is otherwise available in the Rochester area.

The club dances every 2nd, 4th and 5th Friday of the month from Mid-September to Mid-June. We dance at the Barn on East Henrietta Road.

Don Duffin is our club caller and has been our caller since the inception of the Rollaways.

From 8:30 until 9:00, the club dances rounds under the direction of Charlie and Frankie Tucker. Square dance time is from 9:00 till 12 midnite.

Our dances are restricted to members and, on specified nights, to prospective members invited by active members. Out of town visitors are welcome as guests anytime.

The Rollaways conducted an advanced workshop series this summer with Don Duffin doing the calling and instructing.

Four national callers are scheduled this season: Ben Baldwin, Lloyd Littan, Bonnie Schneider and George Campbell. -- Don Weekes

EKC-O SQUARES

The EKC-O Squares 1962-63 season started Monday, Sept. 17th, when a new beginners' class was introduced to the fun of square dance by our caller-instructor, Joe Reilly. The club members danced a few tips and they were well received by the enthusiastic newcomers. Classes will meet each Monday at Kodak Office Auditorium for a series of 30 lessons prior to their graduation next April.

The club dancing started Wednesday, Sept. 19th, with a fine turnout. This year, our callers will be Joe Reilly and Art Harris, alternating each week. Joe got things off

BELLES 'N BEAUS Cont'd.....

and ash trays and keep time to the music by stamping their feet.

Well, they asked me to write about the club, I did. So now I'll probably be dancing on Thursday only.

-- Hal Abberger

GENESEE DANCERS

The Genesee Dancers opened the 1962-63 season with two open dances in September at the Barn. At these dances they introduced Western Square Dancing to prospective members of their class in the basics. This class, which starts October 2nd, will meet every Tuesday at the Barn at 8:00 P.M. Don Duffin will be the instructor.

Every Thursday night the Genesees will dance at Cutler Union from 8 till 11 o'clock. The dances are open to all area club members. The admission fees for non-members will be \$1.50 a couple except in the case of a National Caller. At this event the admission will be \$2.50.

The last Thursday of each month will be known as Party night. There will be a novelty dance, a game or some gimmick, as well as a light lunch.

The HALLOWEEN dance on October 25th will be a costume party.

On Thursday November 1st, the popular Buzz Brown from California will be the caller. An invitation is extended to all the other clubs in the Federation to come and enjoy this dance with the Genesee Dancers. -- Bee Meyers

The Difference between a high level and a low level club:

In a low level club you walk through first and then dance.

In a high level club you try to dance first then you walk through.

-- Lee Heisel

FIDDLE A ROUNDS

Fifteen enthusiastic couples were at the Sept. 17th go-round of the Fiddle-A-Rounds, a real big showing at the start of the Fall Season, rounds do grow in popularity. If you want to try 'em, don't stop here keep reading.

Helen Principe was welcomed from an extended hospitalization. Glad to have you around again, Helen. And guests Betty and Sam Bruce, ex-Binghamton dancers, now from Greece, were roundly welcomed and arrived just in time to learn another round, "Kiss Waltz". Dig this, it is 32 measures without a "repeat". If this excites your curiosity about rounds, please continue to read.

Frudholm's will attract the Tuckers and Principes for a week-end of rounds on October 6th.

Kay and Jim Boris returned after a long absence, mountain climbing, skiing, square dancing, round dancing -- too bad such vim and vigor isn't contagious.

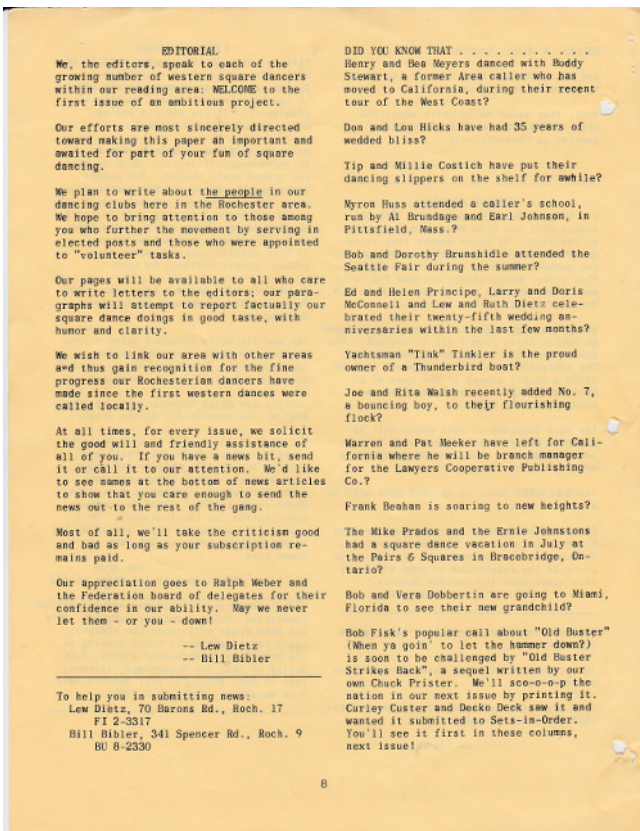
Georgia and Ralph Guenther will be "Hosting" at the Henrietta Y during October.

You were urged to read to this point because you should know that Perky and Charlie Tucker will welcome all beginners at their Sunday afternoon round dance instruction classes on Oct. 14th. Phone is OS 1-3976. There is no known substitution for the Tuckerway. Be a square if you want to enjoy yourself, but to put whipped cream on the cake, be a-round also.

-- Joe Anon

(Ed note: What club does Joe dance with?)

Under sponsorship of Irondequoit Recreation Commission, Helen and Ernie Johnston, Mary and Mike Prado will teach two classes, basic and intermediate round dancing at the Duke School, Wednesday nights, 8:00. Basics on 1st, 3rd Wednesdays, Intermediate on 2nd, 4th. For full details call Norm Metzinger, phone FI 2-7462.



Over a Half Century of Published Promenader Issues

Actually I had feared that a “Half Century of Promenader Issues,” a full set, plus extras, might extend wall-to-wall in my downstairs second office/workshop!

The good news in terms of “manageability” is that as you can see, they all fit nicely on my father’s old office desk that I now use as an overflow work area, and “Man Cave”!

Irma’s worst fears as expressed in her first reaction were:

“What are we going to do with all of them?”

Alas! All has now been peacefully allayed. As you can see, the full set, from the last published issue in 2014 on the extreme left in the picture, to the very first issue mailed out in October of 1962, covers just a little over three feet of desk space, and includes the stack of “Extra Copies” stacked flat behind my right shoulder. The two black and one grey plastic containment open boxes add stability...needed especially for the early four-page plain paper stapled issues.

My plan is to devise a way, working with Sid and Peter, to copy these issues and make them “Historic Documents” under the HISTORY TAB in our website. These first two issues are very revealing in terms of how our Promenader came to be, who was involved, and even the Promenader title itself. I envision just scanning

them. However, we will see how enlightening talks with Peter and Sidney resolve this.

My quick survey revealed that the first editors were Lew Dietz and Bill Bibler, with Bill continuing until September, '68 and Lew until September '69, when Carl and Anita Warschkow took over these duties until February, '71. On a personal note, Carl and I worked together at then RF Communications. I have not explored all the interim editors, but I do know that Carl and Elaine Mallaber were editors for four years until Betty and Andy started their tenure with the September 1998 issue, and were still at the helm with our last printed issue ending in 2014.

One last observation before I end this for now, hoping to have piqued interest to the extent that we may soon have a small committee to work with me in recovering historically interesting information...such as, how many know the clubs that were active then: it is all in there, including club officers and a wealth of other information. The clubs then were: Belles 'N' Beaus; Country Twirlers; EKC-O Squares; Fiddle A Rounds; Genesee Dancers; Irondequoit Squares; Swinging 8's; and the Rochester Rollaways.

For anyone interested, we will happily offer access to these files at any time we are home. Heated in winter/air-conditioned and humidity-controlled year around...but during January, February, and March we are away for the winter!

Dick & Irma Halstead, Roving Reporters and Federation Historians



Cayuga Cut-Ups and Boo Bull Squares Host National Caller Johnny Preston

Roving Reporter

Dick Halstead
dickhalstead@gmail.com



The Cayuga Cut Ups have a long history of bringing in great national callers, like Johnny Preston, who just returned from thrilling square dancers in Europe. So if you missed the Cut Ups Dance on Aug. 13 at the Apple Station in Cayuga, NY, then maybe you caught up with him at one of the Boo Bull dances at the Henrietta Fire Hall on Aug. 18!

I didn't get an accurate count of squares at the Cayuga dance, being busy dancing myself, but the place was packed with exuberance and smiling friendly faces. It would have been hard to find someone NOT smiling!

I also point out that when other callers show up to dance, you know we are dealing with an exceptionally talented caller. Among the pictures here, you will find: Ron Brown, Dick Schweitzer, Gil Porter, Keith Harter, and Richard Rosenfield...also professional cuers, Lisa and Geoge Treichler, Jeannie and Keith Harter, and Eileen and Carl Webster.

Prompting me also to remember that Mark Thone has his own devoted following and had the floor full of round dancers between tips...making it a perfect night for dancing.

Dick Halstead, Roving Reporter





How To Be A Good Angel

The monthly magazine *American Squaredance* carries a regular column called "Callerlab Viewpoints." The topic in the current issue (Volume 70, Number 9 – September, 2015) covers a very timely topic, so we present the column below in its entirety (with minor changes to adapt it to our area):

Callerlab Viewpoints, by Mike Seastrom

The following has been edited from "Square Dance Nebraska — Ideas." A special thanks to Mike Bramlett for sharing some great information on the subject of how to be a good angel.

Is your halo on straight? It is important that as many club members as possible come to the class as "angels." What are "angels"? They are the wonderful people who volunteer their time to ensure that new dancers have the best possible learning experience.

"Angels" provide new dancers with their first real look at a club. How "angels" behave and treat new dancers, other "angels," and visitors will affect class members' decisions regarding whether or not to join your club.

"Angels" are also role models. No matter what the instructor and club try to communicate to the students regarding etiquette, attitudes, or styling, class members inevitably take their cues from what they see "angels" doing. So it is important that "angels" be extra careful to be good role models.

Smile, be enthusiastic, and enjoy the dancing. Be friendly, courteous and gentle. This is sometimes easier to say than do, especially if it has been a long day. Let's be honest; some of us have personal agenda, perhaps disagreements with club policies, or less than cordial relationships with specific club members. These issues are out of place at new dancer events and must be put aside.

Although most of us do the right things instinctively, the majority of the time it can't hurt to reiterate certain points. The following advice for "angels" has been extracted from several sources, including articles in square dance publications and handouts prepared for other clubs.

"Angels" Are Not Teachers

This is perhaps the most common misconception that can cause problems. The primary teaching function of an "angel" is to teach by example and be in the right place at the right time. One important thing you can do is establish hand holds after every move. Not only does this help students maintain their orientation in the square, but it's also a very good habit for every dancer to develop.

It is always tempting to explain something your square is not getting, and the new dancers will often ask you to do this — **but you must resist**. It diverts the student's attention from the teacher and one of the most important things for a new dancer to learn is to listen to the teacher/caller. Sometimes you can clarify a simple point for students between tips; this is fine, but not while the caller is at the microphone.

Another difficult point is just **how much help** you should give in getting dancers into the right place. Dancers, after all, must learn to do the moves on their own. To gently guide someone through a maneuver, if they have a momentary lapse of memory, might be okay and sometimes one can help by indicating nonverbally where a person should go. Just remember that we accomplish little by pushing or pulling a dancer through an action when he or she doesn't know what was supposed to have been done.

It is better to let a square break down rather than to use force getting people into the right place. A broken down square is an indication to the instructor that dancers are having problems. Be sure the teacher is aware of problems. Raise your hand if necessary and ask the teacher to explain something if your square is having trouble.

But be careful not to embarrass any dancer by the way you ask for help. It is much better to say that "the square is not getting a certain move" rather than saying "Steve is not getting a certain move."

Encourage students. Let them know that all new dancers make mistakes and that things get better with practice. Also, "angels" make mistakes too. It is good to admit to them cheerfully, as it makes the students less tense about their own mistakes.

Club Styling

Club styling is always a major source of contention. It is important new dancers learn the calls with standard CALLERLAB styling; that is, without the added flourishes that are done in certain areas. The teacher will introduce these regional differences at appropriate times after the calls are mastered. "Angels" must use only the styling which has been taught to the class.

This is not always easy. How many remember to Swing Your Partner without a Twirl at the end? It is really very important not to introduce more confusion into a new dancer's learning experience. Some students are going to want you to teach them how it's done before they have mastered the call, but you should resist the temptation.

Some Random Additional Advice

- Square Up With Everyone, not just a few friends. Seek out the new dancer who is having difficulty and ask them to dance with you. Make sure that new dancers are not sitting out because "angels" are dancing.
- End Conversations Promptly when the teacher begins a tip. If you are not dancing, keep your conversations far away from the dance area.
- Cheerfully Lend A Hand if you are asked to help set up or clean up, help with refreshments, or take attendance.
- Watch For security problems, accidents and dangerous situations like spills or debris on the floor.
- Notify The Instructor if there are problems with the sound.
- Don't Complain about the hall, the floor, the caller

- or anyone attending the class.
- Don't Criticize students or other "angels."

- ambassador for your club.
- Have fun! "Angels" are a key part of whether a new dancer joins your club.

Remember:

- Your name badge.
- You are an example to the new dancers and an

(For American Squaredance subscription information, send email to: AmericanSquareDance@gmail.com)

Sybil Briggs

A Square Dance Tribute to an Outstanding Leader

I cannot remember ever entering the Washington Irving School without receiving a smiling, hugging welcome from Sybil Briggs. And pretty much the same can be said for visiting the Village Squares or Country Twirlers, or for attending any Rochester Area Federation meetings over the past many years. Almost the same can be said for the Southern Tier Wheelers. The list could go on and on. The Rochester Area Federation has lost one of its most outstanding leaders, and for many of us, a dear friend.

You may recall that Ed and Sybil were the 2001 Daphne-Norma Leadership Award recipients. Earlier, though it was somewhat less publicized, this couple also received the Circle of Service Award for their work in revitalizing Rochester's travel club, the Circul-8-tors. This goes back a few years, but as chairpersons of DOR for seven straight years, they returned this centerpiece of our calendar into profitability at a time when it was thought to be failing.

Sybil and Ed were officers of the Southern Tier Wheelers when we joined in the early '90s. That was in the days when there was a "Waiting List" to join. The club had more than 150 members, and they would not all fit on the dance floor. Happily, Irma and I were approved in a month, and I know we have Ed and Sybil to thank for that. Like Irma and me, Ed and Sybil served for many years as NSDCA North East area representatives, an area that covers all states north and east of Virginia, with the one exception of Pennsylvania.

Of course, going back to the early 1960s and with their former spouses, Millie Briggs and Fred Northrup, we find that they have been members and officers in many clubs, including the Village Squares, the Country Twirlers, and the Victor Swing-A-Longs. Sybil was at one time president of the Lilac Squares. She and Ed also round danced with the Seneca Silhouettes. Who can forget the pork roast/barn dances that Sybil and

Fred Northrup hosted through the '80s and early '90s in Bloomfield, which she and Ed continued until they moved to Chili. The barn had a specially rebuilt floor to make the dancing comfortable and safe.

We all extend our condolences to Ed, and share in his loss. ...but our trials here merely fit us for an eternity with those we love.

Dick Halstead

