



# Grand Square

**OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER**

NORTHERN NEW JERSEY SQUARE DANCERS ASSOCIATION

SPRING ISSUE

MAY 1963

VOL. XIII

## NEW OFFICERS ELECTED FOR 1963-64



JANET & DICK



HAZEL & FRANK



MILDRED & DAN



LEW & EDNA

On Sunday, April 21st, delegates of the Association elected the following officers to serve for the 1963-64 season:

**PRESIDENT** - Frank & Hazel Preston: were introduced to square dancing in Perth Amboy. Shortly after, joined the Country Promenaders and have been active in the club for 10 years. Frank has held and Hazel is now completing the office of President in the Promenaders. Frank has been President of the Metuchen Square Dance Club and they are also members of Westfield Squares and Metuchen Round Dance Club. They were one of the founding couples of NNJSDA and were Registration Chairmen for the Seventh Atlantic Convention.

**VICE PRESIDENT** - Dan & Mildred Hulin: were introduced to square dancing in the Poconos over ten years ago. They have held office in the Tenafly Squares, Belles & Beaux, and Metuchen Square Dance Club. They are also co-leaders of two Round Dance groups in northern N. J. Dan was elected NNJSDA Treasurer for 1962-63 and finished the year as Vice President.

**TREASURER** - Dick & Janet Davis: graduated from the first NNJSDA Beginner Class in 1959. Members of many clubs, they have been active with the Metuchen Square Dance Club and have held office of President the of Westfield Squares. The Davis' have been active with NNJSDA beginner classes and on other Association committees. They were appointed by Frank Preston to Treasurer of NNJSDA last year to fill out the vacancy.

**SECRETARY** - Lew & Edna Sullivan: were active dancers in New Jersey for several years before being transferred to Baltimore where they were one of the organizers of the Mason-Dixon Square Dancers Federation. They also helped start a new club, the Merri-Mixers, in Baltimore. The Sullivans were transferred back to New Jersey in late 1962 and have been active with both Metuchen clubs and with NNJSDA activities.

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



As it is customary for the President to give a State of the Union Message each year, I thought it would be appropriate at this time to give a short State of the Association Message.

It has been a very successful year for the Association and, although it lost one club, the Bachelor & Bachelorettes, it did have three new clubs join, -- the Allied Squares, Ironia Reelers, and the M. T.'s Squares. The assets of the Association were increased with the purchase of a mimeograph machine and addressograph plates for mailing. Although the Beginner's classes were all small, there were 125 couples graduated from all the classes in the Associations territory. Financially, the Association was self sustaining, by their two fund raising dances, the Carnival of Callers and the Curley Custer dance. The Callers Carnival was like old times with all the Association Club Callers at one dance, and I would like to thank all the callers personally for the wonderful job. The Curley Custer dance was a good example of our growth, with 48 squares in attendance. I know that this was one of our best years and only possible because of the cooperation we received from all of you. With this continued cooperation, next year should be even greater.

(Frank Preston)

## HIGHLIGHTS OF DELEGATES MEETING

The Annual Election of Officers Delegates' Meeting was held in Fanwood, N. J. on Sunday, April 21st. Following are highlights of the items of business:

1. Report that over 125 couples graduated from the classes held in ten areas.
2. Delegates badges were distributed.
3. Report of the successful Curley Custer dance with \$360 profit.
4. Workshops will be held weekly in the V.F.W. Hall in North Plainfield, with Association callers participating.
5. New Promotional fliers have been printed and are available for circulation.
6. Summer dancing will be held alternate weeks at the Edison Lanes and the Bergen Mall beginning June 5th.
7. Ironia Reelers were voted into membership of the Association bringing the number of member clubs to 21.
8. A family day picnic for the whole family is being considered and firm plans will be developed.
9. The new officers were elected.

## FAREWELL TO THE SIEWERS

Twelve squares turned out to honor Lloyd and Carol Siewers and to wish them success on their new assignment in Appleton, Wisconsin. The testimonial dinner was held on Feb. 22 at the Hanover Presbyterian Parish Hall and was jointly sponsored by the Hanover Squares and The Allied Squares. Active in the affair were the Schoons, Johnsons, Brueches, Littells, and Gees.

## GRAND SQUARE

P. O. Box 56, Metuchen, N. J.

Your official newsletter, GRAND SQUARE, is published three times a year --- Fall Issue (Oct. 15th), Winter Issue (Feb. 1st), and Spring Issue (May 15th). All material to be included must be in the Editor's hands 30 days before the issue date. Advertising rates and circulation on request.

Bob Keck --- Editor in Chief  
Nelson Oliphant --- Club News Editor - South Area  
Peg Tirrell ----- Club News Editor - North Area  
Fred Schreiber ---- Advertisement & Boosters

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2. Review round taught at previous meeting
3. Dance current favorites and older classics, cued first time through.

DONATION - \$1.50 per couple



## SUMMER DANCE SCHEDULE

### NNJSDA DANCES

Association Summer Dance program will provide enjoyable square dancing every other Wednesday from 8:00 to 10:30 P.M. Alternating locations in the north and south areas will make NNJSDA dances available to all. New graduates are particularly encouraged to take advantage of this program for practice and to meet other Association Dancers. The charge will be \$2 or a season ticket is available for \$10.

#### At Edison Lanes

June 5 - Al Aderente  
July 3 - John Carroll  
July 31 - Vin Caruso  
Aug. 28 - Barney Hartenstein

#### At Garden State Auditorium

June 19 - Slim Sterling  
July 17 - Marty Winter  
August 14 - Jim Flammer

#### Directions:

Edison Lanes, Route 1, Edison. Easily reached by leaving the Parkway at Route 1 and travelling approx. 3 miles south. The Lanes are on the right.

Garden State Auditorium, located under Bamberger's in the Garden State Plaza Shopping Center on Routes 4 & 17. Northbound on the Parkway, use Exit 161, shopping center is on the right.

### OTHER DANCES

#### 1. Rahway Square Sets

Thursdays, June 27, July 11, 25, August 8, 22 -- 8:00 to 10:30 P. M. -- Admission free  
Tennis courts in Rahway Union County Park (off St. George Ave. opposite Koos Bros.  
Callers, Dick Lighthipe and others

#### 2. Allied Squares

1st and 3rd Wednesdays during June, July, and August.

#### 3. Bell Labs -- 2nd Tuesday of each month.

## ENTERTAIN RETARDED CHILDREN

Congratulations to the Hortons, Kruses, Massings, Hoffmans, Petruskies, Art Poulsens, and Stan Poulsens for donating their time to square dance at the Totowa Home for Retarded Children. This type of contribution is certainly rewarding. Al Aderente also contributed his calling for the group.

## GRAND SQUARE BOOSTERS

The Editors of GRAND SQUARE are grateful to all who boosted our Newsletter for 1962-3. With following boosters, the total for the year came to about 254 or about 39% of our mailing list which is the best record yet. However, nearly two out of three dancing couples are not boosting. With rising costs of printing, handling, and mailing, GRAND SQUARE is not quite able to keep its head above water. Start the 1963-4 year right and send in your booster dollar now.

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Edna & Jim Flammer  
Dorothy & Paul Pulman  
Betty & Bud Sibbald  
Bill & Sue Pitney  
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Wally & Ann Moran  
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Ted & Stella Krochak  
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Bill & Alice Henseler  
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Nat & Lucille Casden  
Dick & Janet Davis  
Ed & Helen Schlesinger  
Harlan & Veronica Kennedy  
Nick & Florence Bradford  
Bob & Sue Brown  
John & Georgia Galbraith  
S. J. Fuller

John & Ellen Sutton  
Chet & Jeannette Andres  
Dan & Mildred Hulin  
Harold & Dot Borg  
George & Florence Coughlin  
Walt & Marge Dietler  
Ralph & Winnie Nason  
Roy & Connie LaRue

Sam & Doris Omansky  
Jim & Niva Gaccione  
Stan & Gladys Ketterer  
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Stan & Laura Richardson

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## BEHIND THE MIKE

"....We'll have these moments to remember...."

As I looked out upon 18 sets of graceful dancers moving smoothly last Saturday night to the calling of Dick Jones and myself, I couldn't help but recall other Saturday night dances in that same hall some 16 years ago, then a weekly occurrence.

The caller then was a short cherubic-faced gentleman from Newark. . . .Charlie Zintel; one of the most popular callers in Northern New Jersey at that time. He had been calling for the weekly Saturday night dances there at John & Mildred Jacobs' cozy little Hilltop Barn in Bloomfield throughout the war years. . . . in fact, since October 15, 1940. Prior to that, the Swing Billies with Bill Britt as caller had kept the dancers going. Square dancing had been featured since New Year's Eve, 1935. For a little better than a year after that New Year's dancers cavorted upon a cement floor.

In 1948, calling to recorded square dance music was still something of the future. "The Hilltoppers" band backed Charlie in those days. Instruments included fiddle, trumpet, piano, and drums. Fox trots, waltzes, lindy jitterbug, and polka numbers were danced between sets.

The square dancing was generally far from smooth and graceful. In fact, it seemed that the most popular dances were the ones of simplest pattern and longest swings. A full 16-count swing was featured in "Up the Aisle and Separate" to TA-RA-RA-BOOM-DI-AY. "Push Her Away and Watch Her Smile, Step Right Up and Swing Her Awhile," a visiting couple "Jitterbug Square" was always loudly demanded. In fact, of the dances done then, only the Ladies Chain figures of "Just Because" and "My Little Girl" are still heard in our present-day club and class square dance programs. "Forward 6 & Back, Right Lady High, Left Lady Low" was called to CAMP-TOWN RACES; "Roll the Barrel" was done to LUCY LONG; "You Did It So Well, Now Do It Again" echoed to the strains of WHEN THE WORK'S ALL DONE NEXT FALL; and of course, there was the inevitable "Swing her in the center and go six hands around, now kiss the little lady if you dare!" while the band played LISTEN TO THE MOCKING BIRD.

Even the component figures of each square dance little resembled today's versions. Allemande Left was a left elbow swing with the corner. . . . two, three, four, even five times around; Grand Right and Left consisted of a box the gnat-box the flea sequence at full speed around the square, accompanied by much yipping and yelling. Hands were seldom offered as two couples executed Right & Left Thru, and Sashay was a galloping sliding step, usually across the center of the set.

Attendance at these Saturday night dances seldom ran less than 250 per night, and records kept by John & Mildred Jacobs showed occasional highs of better than 400. Those who know the barn incredulously question how so many danced, when we consider the hall comfortably filled with 16 sets. Actually, at no time was the entire crowd dancing at once.

This writer made his first guest calling appearance at Hilltop during the summer of 1948, only weeks after having his own regular series of Friday night dances in the American Legion Post, Sparkill, New York. Jim Flammer, another of the regular weekly dancers at Hilltop 15 years ago, also called there a few months later, and eventually succeeded Charlie as regular caller until the dances were discontinued during the mid-1950's. Another of the present New Jersey callers who danced to Charlie Zintel those Saturday nights was Dick Pasvolsky. Charlie Trojahn, then of Spring Valley and now residing in Hackensack, was another frequent dancer and guest caller.

Most of the old crowd who gathered at the fifty-cent admission rate to swing and stomp their way through the dances have long since died off, moved away, or gone on to other pastimes. I can recall only a few who still make a majority of the affairs held at the barn today.

Yes, these were moments to remember. I can't say I would advocate going back to the wild-rough-house swinging dances of those days. And yet, I can't help but think. . . . what was it that made those dances so popular? Could it just possibly have been the fact that a person who had never square danced in his life could wander in and know enough square dancing to dance comfortably at any of the regular week-end dances held in the Barn?

Progress has been made: rough-house dancing is taboo, complex figures have replaced long hard swings, but the number of participants seems to have dwindled. I wonder. . . . but then, there are always those moments to remember.

(Slim Sterling)

## CLUB NEWS

**CIRCLE EIGHTS** - in February welcomed George and Mary McNett from the SAND E MANDERS Square Dance of Dharhran, Saudi Arabia. The McNetts also brought their club banner. The George Miltons and Jim Browns took the club banner with them to the Monadnock Club at Keene, N. H. Many club members are planning to spend a square dance week-end at the Poconoc in late May including the Mosiers, Mallisons, Lefelars and possibly the Ehrenbergs and Pullmans. The Chip Hendrickson and Dick Jones dances were very successful and hope to repeat next year. A summer dance program is being developed.

**BELLES & BEAUX** - had a real successful season in their new hall at the Church of the Atonement, Tenafly. Jim Flammer is at the mike. With an all time high membership, the club will end the season with their annual dinner-dance on May 24th (open to all). The club welcomed back the Appletons after a long absence due to illness. The Appletons will become President next year. Other officers: Jim & Alma Mitchell, V.P.; Don & Barbara Howell, Treasurer; Cathy & Marvin Johansen, Hospitality.

**GRAND PROWLERS** - of Whippany will be having Dick Jones as their guest caller on May 29. Those dancers who attended the January 19th dance when Al Brundage called won't want to miss this one either. According to Presidents Frank and Hilda Howlett, the club will close their regular dancing season with a free dance and also hope to have a covered dish supper and dance sometime in July. Contact them at 33 Glenwood Ave., Bloomfield for more information.

**HILL TOP SQUARES** - The LaRues spent part of the winter vacationing in Florida. There they were joined by Presidents Arnie and Dawn Klook and danced their way back North with a stop at Washington, D. C. for the annual Spring Festival. It was a natural that they meet Sam and Doris Omansky there before too many dancing hours had elapsed.

**MERRY SQUARES** - Correction to all square dancers who've saved the last publication from the NNJSDA. Merry Squares is an OPEN club. Guests are always welcome. . . as evident in April when the recent graduates of the Association Class in Tenafly attended. They all did very nicely and seemed to enjoy themselves. Merry Squares had a guest caller, Vinnie Caruso, at the end of March. Their annual election of officers will be held in June - at the annual Buffet-Supper Dance to be held at the Schweizers in Wayne.



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## CLUB NEWS (cont.)

**TENAFLY SQUARES** - According to some, the Tenafly Squares closing dance in May is the best of the season. By tradition, this is a members only dinner dance - though who can actually dance after eating all those mouth-watering specialties of the taws is a good question.

**IRONIA REELERS** - dance 1st and 3rd Fridays at the Ironia School on Dover-Chester Road in Ironia - average about 4½ squares. Come on down to their next dance and meet the new officers Dave and Betty Manning, presidents; Rus and Cindy Deats V.P.s; LeRoy and Edith Varga, secretaries; Bob and Kay Tarrant, treasurers and Joe and Mary Kuletz, refreshments.

**WAYNE SQUARES** - have welcomed the influx of visitors from other clubs during the past few months, making an average of 7 squares. Don Kean's workshops between 8:30 and 9 o'clock have been an added attraction at the dances in Alps Road School on the 2nd and 4th Saturdays. In January, Carl and Jeannette Yedinack were elected presidents; Vince and Vira Bubieniec, vice-presidents; Bill Groth and Hilda Kurlle, secretaries; Hanley and Vi Clapp, treasurers; and Bill and Win Baker, artists. Plans are being made for a summer class in round dancing. For more information contact the presidents at 930 Pines Lake Drive West in Wayne.

**TENAKILL TWIRLERS** - last dance on May 17th is always their Graduation Ball for the club's beginners class. This is the evening the group (called Valley Promenaders) that has been meeting in the Bromberg's basement has been working toward ever since their first lesson in September. Traditionally every class has a graduation outfit - many hand made; and every year the various classes return in their "class dress". The club members will watch the graduates turn in their Valley Promenaders badge for the black and white badge of a Tenakill Twirler and begin their graduation waltz "Tammy". The folk dance class will recess until the 2nd Wednesday in September. The regular round dance class that meets 3rd Mondays plans to wind up this session with a dessert party after the last get-together in May. A class in the basic steps of the waltz and two-step will again be offered free to all Tenakill Twirler members on Mondays in August at the Reformed Church on the Hill in Cresskill. There are no regular club dances planned for the summer.

**ALLIED SQUARES** - will be having summer dances on the first and third Wednesdays through June, July, and August. At each dance they will have a guest caller and they invite all dancers to join them. They have plenty of room and an air conditioned room in which to dance at the Allied Chemical Co., Columbia Rd., Morristown.

**BELL LAB PIONEERS** - are concluding a successful season featuring the calling of Vin Caruso. The club plans to continue dancing during the summer on the second Tuesday of each month.

**MERRI-EIGHTS** - now numbers 53 active couples including 21 couples from the East Brunswick class. To conclude the season, arrangements are being made for a dinner-dance to be held at the Spotswood Fire House June 15. The family style turkey dinner will be followed by a dance featuring club caller Beulah Samec. Space will be limited so make your reservations early.

**METUCHEN COUNTRY PROMENADERS** - has had a big year with Al Aderente doing the calling since January, keeping members up with new material and not forgetting the old favorites either. Bob and Edith Thompson are doing their usual fine job in teaching the rounds. On April 27 the recent class graduates were guests of the club, and May 25 ends the dancing season which will resume on September 28.

**MT SQUARES** - invite all for an evening of fun, friendship, and square dancing the 1st and 3rd Saturday of every month. Virginia Hartenstein teaches the round of the month at 8 P.M.; square dancing starts at 8:30. A season-closing dance is being held June 1, 8:30 to 11, at School No. 19, Menlo Park Terrace, with regular caller Barney Hartenstein.

**PLAINFIELD PROMENADERS** - rounded out the season with two special events. A Class Night was held on April 26 with the graduates of all classes in the area invited as guests. On May 10, all area clubs joined to to celebrate at a ninth anniversary party. John Carroll, regular club caller, called for both dances.

**WESTFIELD SQUARES** - has had a wonderful year thanks to Beulah Samec's top-notch calling and Bob Kellogg's excellent rounds. The club presented George Campbell of Miami, Florida for a special dance on May 1. The last dance of the season will be May 29.



## CLUB NEWS (cont.)

HILL CITY SQUARES - held their special mid-winter dance on Washington's Birthday Eve with Jim Cargill doing a fine job as caller. They were favored by the weather and so a large number of dancers enjoyed the dance. Next year officers will be: Byron and Louise Jamieson, Pres.; Rudy and Billie Jahn, Vice President; Stephen and Helen Siner, Secretary; Dennis and Gloria Johnson, Treasurer; and Marion Hansen as alternate Secretary and Treasurer.

## PATTER CALLS


Eavesdropping here and there, the editors were able to gather personal information about our dancers and interesting experiences:

Hulins and Sibbalds (Belles & Beaux) are making plans to attend Dance-A-Cade this summer. --- Dave & Peggy Davidson (also Belles & Beaux) attended Asilomar during trip to Calif. --- Jack & Betty Graves (Merri-Eights) are permanently returning to Calif. and their club, the Paws & Taws. --- The Washington Festival was attended by many of our dancers. Also seen in Washington was Ev & Jim Yonk who now reside in Ohio. --- Among the Florida travellers this winter were the LaRues (of course), the John Schneiders, and the Bob Hawedottes. --- Betty & Bud Sibbald received a well-deserved Association plaque as a token of appreciation for their many contributions to square dancing.

That's it for now --- not too much. Let's hear about all of your summer experiences for the Fall Issue.

## TEEN SQUARE DANCERS ACTIVE

The Teen Promenaders of Menlo Park meet on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of each month in the Menlo Park Fire House on Route 27 between 2:00 and 5:00 P.M. The club is open to all young people between the ages of 13 and 19. It is suggested that new dancers arrive early for instruction. The club is currently dancing four sets. Dick Lighthipe does the calling and Cookie does rounds. John Foard is helping to chaperone.



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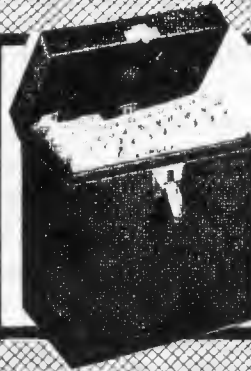
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