

NNJ
SDA

Grand Square

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER

NORTHERN NEW JERSEY SQUARE DANCERS ASSOCIATION

Sept 63

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



CALLERS CARNIVAL



THOMAS A. EDISON HIGH SCHOOL
WESTFIELD

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 30,

8:00 P.M.

BOB KECK RESIGNS AS GRAND SQUARE EDITOR

Only those associated directly or indirectly with writing and publicity can fully appreciate the outstanding achievements of our retiring editor, Bob Keck.

We have all enjoyed "Grand Square" since its inception four and one half years ago. The first edition was published on April 26, 1959, and during this long span of time, the lion's share of writing, composing, set-up, publication, etc., has fallen on the shoulders of Bob. As we all know, he has been more than equal to the task. Every Association member looks forward to receiving this most interesting and informative publication.

The ability of one person to accomplish so much is remarkable; however, to achieve such success in this endeavor, when he is actively engaged in his own livelihood, is indeed, amazing. It meant forsaking many dances that he and Terry would have enjoyed attending - the countless hours at the desk in his study (which would be downright drudgery to most of us) - the constant follow-up for articles and news - mailing list revisions - and booster campaigns. All of this, he did without compensation, and too little appreciation.

But Bob is one of those rare individuals capable of more than ordinary results. For all these years, he has continued, almost single-handedly, publishing our highly-acclaimed news median.

Now, however, Bob has informed us that he will be unable to continue as editor, as his firm has scheduled him for extensive traveling in the future. It is with deep regret that we must accept his resignation, and we feel very grateful for his loyal service. We are certain that he will attain the pinnacle of success in his business endeavor.

Bob was the N.N.J.S.D.A.'s first Vice President for two years. He was the second President, and continued as an advisor thereafter. He was chairman of the highly successful 7th Atlantic Convention, and has been active in all phases of the Association. Certainly he is deserving of all the honors that could be bestowed upon him. One person could do no more to promote this wonderful recreational hobby of ours. We are going to miss him sorely in the Association, and more important, we are going to miss his presence and personality.

Bud Sibbald

NOVEMBER, "GRAND SQUARE BOOSTER MONTH"

The entire month of November has been set aside as Booster Month. Delegates will be supplied with "Booster" insignia to be worn with your club badge at all dances you attend during the month.

A contribution of \$1.00 per couple will make you a "Grand Square" Booster. The funds collected will enable us to issue up to six issues of this magazine each year. Your delegates will contact you for your support.

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"FROM BEHIND THE MIKE" - by Barney & Virginia Hartenstein

We want to take this opportunity to say how deeply grateful we are to all those who so unselfishly gave so much of their time, thought, and effort in organizing the Association for the purpose of holding classes to teach square dancing. It was through their efforts that we were introduced 4 years ago to this wonderful hobby of ours.

After our graduation, we had, like other new dancers, joined with or danced at many Association clubs, and out of it we formed an ever-widening circle of close friendships, in addition to enjoying that good feeling of fellowship and fun. Even as we subsequently traveled to other areas in attending festivals and conventions, we never failed to be impressed with the friendships, fellowship, and fun similarly shared through square dancing by people from all parts of the country.

Recently, however, we have had occasion to be disturbed at watching a good many beginners and average dancers fade away, and we wonder if the cause can be traced to the upward progressing club levels. If so, the future of square dancing may suffer seriously through the loss of this large and important group of dancers.

As a new caller and round dance instructor, our dream is to see more dancers that do not judge their clubs by the number of new steps or novel movements taught in a given evening or season, but rather on the number of new faces and friendships formed, and good times shared.

We hope you might make this your clubs theme for the coming season - Happy dancing!

ASSOCIATION DELEGATES MEET

Only 2 clubs were absent from the delegates meeting held on Sept. 29, in Fanwood. 3 new clubs; the "Hix & Chix", Ramsey, N.J.; the "Staten Squares", Staten Island, N.Y.; and the "Y" Squares, Westfield, N.J. were voted into the Association.

Summer dancing was bigger than ever this year, with the Association holding 4 dances at Edison and 3 at Paramus. Member clubs conducting summer programs were Allied Squares, Bell Labs, Rahway Square Set, Richmond Dancers, and the Hanover Squares.

Literature, diplomas, and attendance pins will be available for beginner classes. Class Chairmen should contact Frank Preston regarding their needs of these items.

Sunday, April 12, '64, is the date of the Association sponsored dance featuring a national caller. Metuchen High School is the place. Dancing from 7:00-10:00. More details later.



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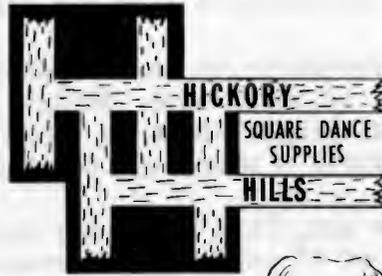
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DANCERS BRAVE COLD AT SHOPPING CENTER

Six sets, representing seven member clubs, were dancing to keep warm at the Menlo Park Shopping Center on Sept. 24. Beulah Samec kept the dancers rocking, to the keen enjoyment of many shoppers (and the dancers).

Country Promenaders, Metuchen Square Dance Club, Rahway Square Set, Richmond Dancers, M. T. Squares, Merri-Eights, Westfield Squares, and Dick Lighthipe's Teen-age group, were the clubs taking part.

PATIENCE! PLEASE, Please, please!!!

It is our intention to bring you as much late news as possible in each issue of "Grand Square", and your cooperation is needed.

Because of the pressure of business, and the job of getting ourselves organized, this issue (and perhaps the next one, too) may be a little late.

We realize only too well, the fine job done by Bob Keck; and any person who thinks he can come anywhere near equalling Bob's work is either a genius or a fool (I admit that I am no genius)

We do hope that you will be patient, and, in return, we promise you that we will do everything we can to bring you an enjoyable bi-monthly publication.

Our plans are that we will publish the next issue of "Grand Square" about the middle of November. Please have your news and coming events in our hands not later than November 10.

Bill Geier

WERE YOU THERE? ? ? ? ?

64 familys, totaling several hundred people attended the Family Day 1963. The weather was beautiful for our day at Birchwood Manor in Whippany.

Picnic dinners, washed down by soda, provided by your Association, were enjoyed by all.

A softball game ended in a hurry when Jerry Gerold's guitar started toes tapping to square dance music. Adults & Children danced to Jerry's calling. Al Aderente spelled him off to call a few tips for the experienced dancers.

Community singing in the grove during intermissions was enjoyed. Fun? You bet!

FREE ISSUES OF "AMERICAN SQUARES"

We have received the following letter from the American Squares Magazine.....
..."We wish to invite your readers to help us celebrate our 19th Anniversary Year. We will send 3 FREE issues of "SQUARES" to any reader of your magazine who requests us to do so. In order to qualify for this excellent offer, the name of your magazine must be included in the request. (Ed. note- "Grand Square") Mail requests to 19th Anniversary Offer, AMERICAN SQUARES, 6400 N. Leoti Ave., Chicago 46, Illinois.

ROUND OF THE MONTH - NOVEMBER

We have been informed that the "Round of the Month" for November is "Hi Lillie, Hi Lo". Rounds of the month will be arranged two months in advance, giving instructors and dancers time to work on them.

This will be the last list of Grand Square "Boosters" printed in the Grand Square. Your insignia in November will be your recognition. We believe that you will be more interested in news from your club, the Association, and other clubs, than in who has or who has not contributed. However our sincere thanks in advance to all of you for your support.

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|-------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| Ken Heilman | Howard & Billie Hurmence | Hartley & June Ferguson |
| Hanley & Vi Clapp | Jack & Dot Reeve | Art & Dot Schettel |
| Don & Pauline Koechlein | Paul & Dorothy Pullman | Mort & Alfretta Jones |
| John & Adeline Lofstrom | Dick & Caroline Carey | Bob & Lynn Long |
| Ross & Irene Nichols | Jeff & Dickie Delchamps | John & Lee Kalba |

"PEEKIN' AT PEOPLE AND PLACES"

HILLTOP SQUARES

This area is indebted to the Hilltop Squares for the inspiring Max Forsythe dance last July. Regularly scheduled dances are on an "invitation only" basis, with Jim Flammer calling many of the latest calls.....some so new that the ink is hardly dry on the printed page.

MERRY SQUARES

Will dance only on the first Fridays now, but will plan some special dances in between. Punch is served between tips, with various ladies scheduled to display their culinary talents, at least where cakes and cookies are concerned.

If the dancers know when Minnie is to bring her carrot cake, the hall will be filled to capacity. A large group attended Marty Winter's week-end on October 11-12, at Narrowsburg, N. Y. As the folders said, "A good time was had by all".

TENAFLY SQUARES

The T.S. began their season on October 11 with Jim Flammer at the mike. Dancing is on the 2nd Friday of each month at the Presbyterian Church hall, Tenafly. We dance from 8:30 to 11:00, with refreshments following. Here is one place where parking is no problem- IF you don't mind climbing up the steps to the hall. After all, this little bit of exercise just gets you in trim for the first tip.

TENAKILL TWIRLERS

Bestest of all surprises was the announcement that Terry Swensen and John Beck will be married on Nov. 8. Congratulations!

The T.T's have a date for 4 sets to dance at the World's Fair on June 16, 1964.

A dangling "T" (honoring the past Presidents of the club was presented to: Doc & Peg Tirrell, Joe & Judy Bromberg, Al & Alice Fulmer, and Charlie & Pauline Widmer.

HILL CITY SQUARES

Dancing is on the 1st & 3rd Thursdays at Wilson School, Summit. Beulah Samec is the caller. Officers are Byron & Louise Jamison, Presidents; Rudy & Billie Jahn, Vice Presidents; Marion Hansen, Secretary; and Dennis & Gloria Johnson, Treasurers.

Special dances coming up are: October 31-Jim Cargill, and February 22-Bob Brundage.

PLAINFIELD PROMENADERS

Our season opened on Sept. 13th. John Carroll, our regular caller was ill and could not be with us. Beulah Samec Pinch-hitted, and slammed a homer with a top-notch calling job.

MERRI-EIGHTS

Members of this club danced for five consecutive evenings at the Middlesex County Fair. Our regular season is well under way, with dances being held on the 1st & 3rd Fridays of each month at the Irwin School, East Brunswick. Beulah Samec is our regular caller, and new officers are: Presidents, Joe & Alma Massing; Vice Presidents, Art & Vera Paulsen; Secretaries, Bill & Kay Geier; and Treasurers, Jim & Vivian Horton.

Beginners classes, sponsored by the club and the Adult Education Department, are being held at the East Brunswick High School every Monday evening.

BELL LAB SQUARES

We expect our average attendance of 5 Squares to hold and improve. We have referred six couples to classes in Plainfield, Bernardsville, New Providence, and Whippany. Harry Holmes pinch-hit for Vin Caruso, our regular caller, at our August dance.

We welcome back from Arizona, the FRANK HARDY'S!

BELLES & BEAUX

We will continue meeting at the Church of the Atonement, Tenafly, where the acoustics are excellent and the room is spacious. Jim Flammer calls our dances - refreshments follow.

CIRCLE EIGHTS

Held very successful outdoor open-air summer dances in Tenafly, signing up some couples for the beginner classes being given in the area in the fall. This active group is sponsored by the Tenafly Recreation Commission. Presidents are Ed & Ann Fenner. Marty Winters calls.

IRONIA REELERS

Don & Charlotte Simpson, who founded the Reelers, recently moved to California, where Don has a new position with Lockheed. They wish to be remembered to all their friends, and hope to continue with their dancing out west. Vin Caruso calls the dances for us at the Ironia Elementary School, Ironia, on the 1st & 3rd Thursdays.

NIAGARA SQUARE DANCE CLUB

"Square Fete", a week-end with George Campbell, Al Aderente, and Bob & Edith Thompson, was attended by many of our dancers. Charlie and Audrey Weigmann spent a week at Niagara Falls (2nd honeymoon)

Lee & Florence Geisler had a fine trip through the Canadian Rockies and western U.S.A., as did Ed & Elsie Rice and Bob & Mitzie Fleetham. My! What travelers we have. It sure was good to have them all back with us for our opening dance.

WESTFIELD SQUARES

We dance at Tamaques School, Westfield, every Wednesday, with Beulah Samec calling. Our officers are: Presidents, Wally & Ann Moran; Vice Presidents, Bob & Betty Hawekotte; Secretaries, Nelson & Jeanne Oliphant; and Treasurers, Dick & Janet Davis.

HANOVER SQUARES

Dance the 2nd & 4th Fridays from 8:00 to 10:45, with Al Aderente calling. Workshops from 8:00 to 8:30. Special dance on Feb. 29, with Chip Henderson. Club dances regularly at Salem Drive School, Whippany.

RICHMOND DANCERS

A grand time was had at our Kick-off Dinner Dance on Sept. 14. A special feature was the presentation of diplomas to the graduates of the Spring-Summer class.

Fourteen sets danced to Beulah at an open-house dance on Sept. 28th. For many, this was their first exposure to Square Dancing, and resulted in a new class beginning on October 1 at the "Samec School of Dance."

Welcome home to our overseas travelers, Zena & Tom Duncan and Edna Geary-Scotland; Sam & Jean Henry-Ireland; Jim Laird-England; and Harry & Doris Laemmerhirt-Hawaii.

We're glad to hear Bert Starlin is back in circulation after his illness, and we wish a speedy recovery to the following members of the broken bone brigade: Vera Jamieson, Jean Henry, George Russell, and Ralph Manee. Vera so enjoyed being waited on by her Tommy that no sooner did she get the cast off one arm, than she broke the other.....Some people get all the BREAKS!

WAYNE SQUARE DANCE CLUB

Round & Folk dancing is being taught on the 2nd & 4th Thursdays at the Ramapo Mountain Lakes Country Club. Anyone wishing to join, please contact Hanley Clapp, (337-7578) for more information. They will demonstrate at the Pompton Lakes Woman's Club Tercentenary celebration on November 25th.

Weekly summer square dance sessions were conducted by Bob Shipp, poolside, at his home in Mahwah. On one occasion, a square dance was conducted in the pool. Doesn't this qualify them for a "Square Duck" badge? (Ed. note - It sure does)

John Carroll will be our caller for the 63-64 season. All are welcome to our dances on the 2nd & 4th Saturdays in the Alps Road School in Wayne, N.J.

We welcome back to New Jersey, Walt & Helen Bullock. They were the founders of the Wayne Square Dance Club. Helen says their teaching days are over - they just want to dance for relaxation and fun.

M. T. SQUARES

We dance at School # 19, Menlo Park Terrace, Metuchen, on the 1st and 3rd Saturdays of each month. Barney Hartenstein is the Square Dance Caller, and Ginny Hartenstein is our Round Dance Instructor.

Officers are - Presidents, Tom and Carmella Tompkins; Vice Presidents, Fred & Mae Schreiber; Secretary, Ruth Simon; Treasurers, Bruno & Jean Neri; Hospitality, Walter & Georgia Sobon; and Delegates, Skip & Shirley Van Bramer and Ed & Helen Ayers.

This is the only club we've heard of that has its own song. It's real nice when everyone stands at the end of their dance and sings a good night song.

Come visit us once, and we guarantee that you'll come often.

GRAND PROWLERS

No information received, but here is some space for you.....
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COUNTRY PROMENADERS

The first dance of the 1963 fall season was our biggest opening night ever. Twelve squares attended, and they danced with gusto (Ed note-Who he?) to Al Aderente's calling, and they danced with grace (Ed note-Who she?) to Bob and Edith's Rounds. All indications point to a season of dancing enjoyment for all at the Country Promenaders.

To many of our dancers who traveled to Square Dance vacations this past summer - WELCOME BACK! To one of our members, Jim Cameron, who is leaving on a World tour, we say "Bon Voyage", and we'll be looking forward to seeing you back with us in December.

Definition of Square Dancing:

Square Dancing is Friendship, set to music.

STATEN SQUARE SET DANCE

In appreciation for our having been accepted into the Northern New Jersey Square Dance Association, the Staten Square Set will hold a "Celebration Dance" on Saturday, November 2, from 8:30 to 11:00 at St. Alben's Church Parish Hall, 76 Old Amboy Road, Staten Island, New York.

Jeff Flash will be the caller, and the club welcomes all our friends from all the clubs in the Association to join us in our happy celebration.

YOUR CRITICISM REQUESTED

Because this issue of the "Grand Square" is a radical departure from the fine issues of the past, we sincerely request that you drop us a line telling us what you do like, what you don't like, and what changes, omissions, or additions you want to see. This is your magazine, and we want to please you.

INTERNATIONAL DANCING FESTIVAL

On August 8th, an International Dance Festival was held at the new Amphitheater in Roosevelt Park, Metuchen. Our Association was represented by the M. T. Squares, who received warm applause from the spectators for their demonstration of Modern Western Square Dancing. Virginia and Barney Hartenstein were at the mike.

SQUARE DANCING AT CONVENTION

The professional men of the Boy Scouts of America held their National Conference at the University of Illinois in September, and had Western Style Square Dancing as part of their evening social activities. Bill Geier called the dances.

RECRUIT - RECRUIT - RECRUIT!

Possibly you are one of those who had to have their arms twisted, and twisted hard, before you agreed to give Square Dancing a try - Now, aren't you glad you tried?

No matter how many newspaper articles you write, how many demonstrations you put on, or how many fliers you hand out, the best way, by far, to get new people into Square Dancing is to see them personally, talk to them about it, show them how - and then, bring them in!

CALLER'S CARNIVAL - NOVEMBER 30

Due to the excellent reports, and requests from a great many dancers, a Caller's Carnival will be held at the Thomas Alva Edison High School, Westfield, at 8:00 P.M. on Saturday, November 30.

Square Dance callers will be: Slim Sterling, Al Aderente, Beulah Samec, John Carroll, Jim Flammer, Bob Kellogg, Vin Caruso, and Barney Hartenstein. Bob & Edith Thompson will handle the Rounds.

Callers will draw numbers to determine their position in the program. Here is a chance for you to dance to eight (count 'em-8) callers in one room.

No tickets will be sold. Admission at the door will be \$1.50 per person.

CLUB GOOD TURN

The Merri-Eights Square Dance Club contributed \$25.00 to the Irwin School, East Brunswick. The money will be used to purchase books for the school library.

GRAND SQUARE STAFF

It takes a great many people and much effort to publish a newsletter. This is the first coordinated experience for us, and, while we may goof occasionally, we hope that you will bear with us until we get our feet on the ground.

Those responsible for this issue of the "Grand Square" are: Nelson Oliphant, Peg Tirrell, Fred Schreiber, and Bill Geier - with a great big assist from Frank & Hazel Preston.

In order to do a more efficient job, we will need additional help - specifically, someone to work on circulation, and a couple of good typists (preferably those with an electric typewriter available. If interested, please contact Bill Geier, 8 Sunrise Road, Old Bridge.

YOUR ASSOCIATION OFFICERS

Just in case you don't know who they are, here 'tis: Presidents, Frank & Hazel Preston; Vice Presidents, Dan & Mildred Hulin; Secretaries, Lew & Edna Sullivan; and Treasurers, Dick & Janet Davis.

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POCONO WEEK-END BIG SUCCESS

Almost 70 couples enjoyed the excellent facilities, fine meals, wonderful calling of Beulah Samec, Jim Cargill, and Bill Goddard, the grand instructions in Rounds by Bob & Edith Thompson; and even enjoyed the lack of sleep (a contribution of just about everyone) at Beulah's 4th annual Pocono Week-end at the Mountain Lake House in Pennsylvania. That week-end in September was one we'll never forget.

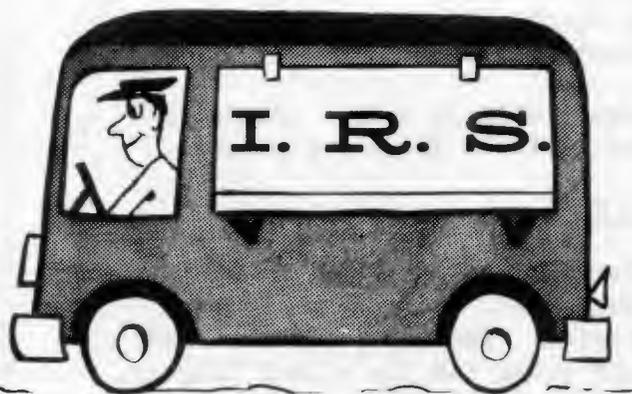
BULK MAILING OF GRAND SQUARE

Instead of the costly method of mailing the "Grand Square" individually to every dancer, each club delegate will receive 150% of its membership in bulk.

Thus, if your club has 40 members, your delegate will receive 60 copies. If you should happen to miss your club dance, you may get your copy at another club.

This will save us a great deal of money, and even more important, a great deal of time.

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