

Valley Trailers

Bob Mitchell, Editor

December 2018

Presidents' Message



**Renee & Don Krall,
Presidents**

First of all, Renee and I would like to wish you all

a joyous Holiday Season and a happy New Year.

As many of you are aware, Renee has had a lot of bad luck this year. To start off, four months ago she had a very mild stroke. Next, a month ago at 4:00 in the morning, she fell going to the bathroom and had a compression break in her back. She's home now and doing well. Thanks to all for the well wishes and cards that we have received.

I would also like to address the Club members who do not attend any of our club's

dances, nor those of other local clubs. I will not name any names, but you all know who you are. If there is a reason that you don't attend, I would like to hear from you as to why you don't. Dancing at class is good practice, but going to a real dance is where the fun begins.

We hope to see all of you at the Holiday Party coming up on December 9, and yellow rocks to all.

**Don and Renee,
Presidents**



64th Anniversary Photo

Caller Coordinator



**Bob Davis,
Caller Coordinator**

Well now, here we are at the end of the year and we have two dances to please and to taunt, a rarity for December.

OK, who is calling at dance number one is none other than Dan Preedy, coming down from Mead, Washington, just a stone's throw from Spokane. Dan started dancing in 1968, started calling in 1975, and never looked back, and now is sought after all over the country. When you go to the Nationals you'll see Dan, and at so many other state gatherings I won't even try to mention, as I may leave one out and be called on it. His motto is "Calling is my life's passion besides my wife". You're going to enjoy his humor and his

calling, so go up and shake his hand and let him know you're glad he is here.

What about the Valley Trailers number two dance? Why don't we ask Ken Ritucci to join us on stage on the 29th, OK? This is a fifth Saturday dance, and Ken calls all the way from Basic to C2; however, with the dance being two days before New Year's Eve, let us party and open the floor to all. So this dance will be Plus and Advanced with an agenda to please everyone. What a great way to close out the year, with all of our members together to share the admiration of the dance and of our Club.

Here comes 2019; live your aspirations.

**Bob Davis,
Caller Coordinator**

Club Member

Drawing

Ray Cianci's name was pulled from the hat at the Club's November anniversary dance, and fortunately for Ray, he was present to collect his \$20 prize. Now the pot goes to \$10 for our December dance with Dan Preedy, so do plan to be there. You might be the next winner!

Board Meeting

**December 10, 7:30,
at Tina and Larry's
home.**

**All VT members are
welcome.**



Carole Davis

To all you naysayers and non-believers, let me tell my story. I first met Carole in the kitchen at the Wilkinson Center at the January 1995 Valley Trailers' dance. At an after party at Abe's restaurant, we conversed across the table and found that we had lived a parallel life for 50 years and never knew it. This story is so unbelievable that there had to be a higher authority in charge. Call it what you want, but read on.

Carole and I were born five years apart, delivered by the same doctor, in the same hospital, in Tulsa, Oklahoma. We both graduated from Canoga Park High School and I dated a couple of her friends, and I suppose Carole was in the group at the same time. Carole and her first husband, Jere, were at several gatherings over the years with my sister and brother-in-law, and I was there too, but we never really communicated, just another strange coincidence.

Carole and I were married 22 years ago. We traveled the world together, from the Arctic to the Antarctic, every day a new adventure with my wife, my friend and

soul mate. In my whole life I have never known a person so generous, sometimes to a fault, of her time, her assets, and her love.

Carole was a pre-school teacher for years and to this day people would walk up to her and say: Aren't you Miss Carole? My child was in your class 30 years ago." Turns out her different voice carried beyond the normal.

It is a long story and my intentions were just to thank all of you for the too-many-to-count cards and letters and emails and phone calls.

On November 17th there was a celebration for Carole, not to mourn that she died, but to celebrate that she lived and loved and was loved by so many.

Bob Davis





*Remembering
Carole*



VP Report

Time marches on and we are already into the Holiday season.

Please remember to sign up for the Holiday Party that will be held on Sunday, December 9, from 1:30 – 5:00 at the Wilkinson Center. To cover the costs associated with the event (food, decorations, hall rental, entertainment), we will be asking members to pay \$10 apiece. Guests will be asked to pay \$15.

The sign-up sheets will be available at Tuesday night class. Of course, if you can't make any of those, you can call one of us if you need to get your name in the count. The sign-up sheets also list a place to indicate if you would be bringing an appetizer or dessert to add to the party.

As has been our custom, we would like you to bring an unwrapped children's gift. All gifts will be donated to children in need.

We are also looking forward to seeing everybody at our dance on December 29th. This will be a Plus dance with two A-1 tips. The caller is Ken Ritucci.

Cindy Mower will cue the rounds. Come and stretch out the Holiday season with your Valley Trailers friends.

We want to take a minute to thank all who attended the fund raiser at Mimi's and express our gratitude to all Valley Trailers and their friends who have contributed to the success of our events in 2018.

**Tina, Sue, and
Marlene,
Vice Presidents**



the quickest way to start a fight on
Thanksgiving



Valley Trailers' 64th Anniversary Dance

The dance to celebrate our 64th year as a club was a wonderful success. Dee Dee Dougherty and Mike Seastrom gave an outstanding performance as dual callers, and Cindy Mower was as big a hit with the cueing of the rounds as she always is. There were 18 squares on the floor which made the dancing a little tight, but no one complained; that's a good problem to have. Eleven different clubs were represented by the dancers present with the Buckles & Bows having the largest number at 36. That's four and a half squares from just one club, 25% of the total attendance!

The success of this dance is due in no small part to the efforts of many Club members who supported it. The hall decorations and the planning and layout of the refreshments were primarily the result of the efforts of Anita Sheidenberger. The refreshments were mostly provided by Club board members. The raffle of the gift baskets was a huge success with many happy winners. Marci Brewer

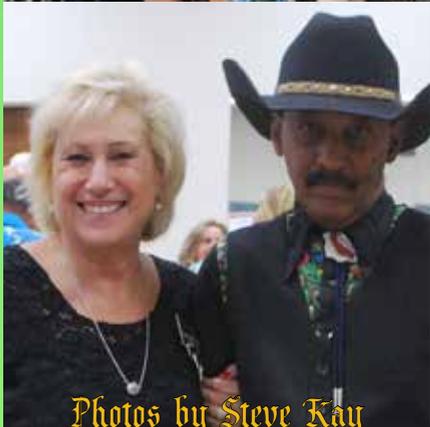
and Lou Netza were the principals in keeping everything on track in the raffle room. Vicki Moore was responsible for the make-up of the raffle baskets, and Tom and Mary Beatty get the nod for collecting the most gift certificates. Our vice presidents, Sue, Tina, and Marlene, provided the leadership and overall coordination to make it all go so smoothly.

It seems that most square dancers like a tip where the caller yodels, but not many of them do it. However, Dee Dee did not disappoint and yodeled a very nice tip that drew a round of applause when she finished. It was a nice touch for a special dance that had a lot of the Valley Trailers' friends and regulars in attendance in addition to the Club members. Look forward to our 65th anniversary next year. You can be sure that it will be even bigger and better than this year's, although that will be a tall order to fill.



Freda Levitt models the sweater for which she was the high bidder in the silent auction. Mike Seastrom's mother made the sweater.





Photos by Steve Kay



Photos by Steve Kay

November Visitation



The Heels & Souls of West LA celebrated their 59th Anniversary with a farewell dance on Friday night, November 2, at the Felicia Mahood Hall. The theme of the evening was "The Best is Yet to Come." However, the November Club visitation by eight Valley Trailers members, including President Don Krall, was not enough to overcome the somber nature of the special event.

Caller Mike Sikorsky did his best to create a festive atmosphere with his usual superb Plus tips and ending with the much anticipated hot hash to close out the final page of the Heels and Souls.

The club could not over-

come the inevitable conclusion brought about by having on average for their club dances only three squares in attendance at their every other Friday night dances. However, there is still hope for square dancing on the Westside. The Heels & Souls are combining with the Red Ribbon Squares, and both clubs are optimistic that the best is yet to come with the new "Ribbons & Souls" club which begins dancing in the new year.

Roy Okada

Photos from VT 64th Anniversary Dance



Photos by Steve Kay





RIVCO
November 8 - 11, 2018



Clothing Rack Report



Have you seen us recently?? We are having fun on Tuesday nights meeting and greeting and supporting our students at our VT Dance Classes on Tuesdays, and flash sales will continue through the 4th quarter from time to time there. I have some more cute aprons which can be worn to dances -- or even in your kitchen for the Holidays! Hey! Isn't that what they're really for?? I also have a nice selection of finger towels favored by our male dancers -- or even for your guest bathroom for the Holidays! And I have a beautiful selection of ladies' dance shoes, size 9.

Our next "full trailer" sale is scheduled for Sunday, January 27th, at the Student Stomp, so tell your friends at other clubs that

we are on for January! We will whip up a flyer soon. Thanks to all for your beautiful donations that help raise funds for our Club. A big thank you to Judie Goldstein for her help collecting and sorting and repairing your donated treasures. And a big thank you to my hubby, José, for setting up our clothing racks on Tuesdays, as well as his patience living in our own "Petticoat Junction" at home!

Want to pitch in a little here and there? I would love volunteers to come by the house to size and tag our goodies, especially for the January sale. Tea and fellowship awaits you!

Donations of gently worn and clean dance clothes continue to be accepted at the Tuesday night dance class; see me or Ethel Ball, and by Judie at the Wednesday Advanced class. Hint: I am receiving a number of requests for the prairie style skirts so if you have any you would like to share with your square dance community, please do!

See you in a square!

Sue Neal-Simental



RIVCO
November 8 - 11, 2018



Host and Hostess

Please be there by 7:00 pm. It is your responsibility to find a replacement or switch with someone if you are unable to help, and contact Mary Beatty at 818-363-0009.

12/15
Kay Goeden
Hal Gould
Joyce Hatter
Joyce Stillwell

12/29
Paul Libis
John Tucker

1/19/2019
Eddy Galeano
Linda Thau
Jean Woodard
Roy Woodard

2/16
Paul Kayne
Lourdes Koch
Steven Koch
Sandy Sabatino

Refreshment Committee Schedule

December 15
Steve and Joyce

December 29
Steve and Joyce

January 19
Shawn and Pat

Kitchen Patrol

Please be there by 7:00 pm. It is your responsibility to find a replacement or switch with someone if you are unable to help. Also advise Mary Beatty and Anita Sheidenberger.

12/15
Barbara Brown
Bill Drowatzky
Barbara Weintraub
Larry Weintraub

12/29
Mary Beatty
Tom Beatty

1/19/2019
John Carpenter
May Carpenter
Ray Cianci
Judith Toomey

2/16
Ricky Campos
Linda Kaplan
Marlene Lovett
Irma Taylor

Happy Birthday!

12/04 Lynn Bernheim
12/05 Ethel Ball
12/08 Ronald Bernheim
12/10 Viva Johnson
12/13 Ricky Campos
12/21 Rozanne Feldman
12/27 Mehrnaz Friedman
12/27 Paul Kayne

Happy Anniversary

12/03
Chuck and Minnie McMurray

12/25
Ron and Lynn Bernheim

12/29
Don and Kristy Schadt



Editor Sez



Bob Mitchell, Editor

The annual RIVCO event in Indio was this past weekend (November 9 – 11), and we made the trek out there again. I haven't kept a careful count, but I think this makes the fifth time for us, and as usual, it was a well-organized and fun event. We didn't hear any figures on the attendance, but it seemed that both halls were filled to about the same level as I remember from past years, and perhaps even a bit more in the Advanced hall. We hear often that the RIVCO and Bakersfield weekends are off considerably in attendance from what they were several years ago, and I don't doubt that this is the case, but in the few years that we have been

going, the participation level seems to be quite stable. If I am correct in this assessment, then that is good news for these two relatively close to home events.

We counted 11 Valley Trailers members there, but that may be an undercount since we spent most of our dancing time in just one of the two halls, so we could have easily missed some. However, we did dance in the other hall some too, so I believe that this count is reasonably close if not exact. It's too bad that we don't get more Club member participation in these events. The management of the Indio event has a promotional thing to encourage more club member participation for all clubs by offering a \$50 payout to any club with two squares in attendance, and \$100 for any club with three or more squares. I wasn't paying close attention when club reps went up to collect their awards, but it seemed that at least five or six clubs got some money. Perhaps we can coordinate an effort for our club next year and help the Club treasury.

But the main incentive for people to go to these

weekend events isn't money for the Club; that's just a bonus. The main incentive is that it's just plain fun. You get to dance with your friends as well as with people you never saw before. You can get all the dancing you want, and perhaps even a bit more. This much dancing squeezed in between Friday evening and Sunday noon does a lot for sharpening your dancing skills and quickening your reaction time. You get to dance to some very good callers that you otherwise likely wouldn't get to hear. A lot of socializing goes on in the breakfast rooms at the various motels. You get to go to lunch and dinner with both old and new friends. And where else are you going to get free pizza and ice cream when the dancing is done for the day? If you're a people person who enjoys square dancing, and round dancing is available as well, then these weekend events are pretty hard to beat. So mark your calendars for March and November of next year, for Bakersfield and Indio respectively, and get in on the fun. And if you're willing to travel a little farther,

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from page 13.

just check out wheres-the-dance.com, or better yet look at the weekend events listing in Tidbits, and go have some fun. You will be surprised at the number of new friends that you will make too.



Square Dancing in Texas

It was not all that long ago that the city of Houston, Texas, was the Mecca of the Texas Two-Step and square dancing. Most notable of all was "Gilley's," made famous by actor John Travolta in the movie classic "Urban Cowboy." The mid-70s and 80s was the heyday of square dancing, and the Houston area alone had over 40 square dance clubs at the time.

The old adage that everything is bigger in Texas would certainly hold true with the Super Square Dance Cruise out of Houston written about in last month's Tidbits. However, the group picture gives a misleading impression of the state of square dancing in Texas. Many of the dancers in the photo are from clubs scattered across Texas whose dance attendance typically varies from two to five squares. Many of these clubs are barely hanging on because of the lack of callers and teachers. The passing on

of many old-time callers has had a dramatic effect on the recruitment of new dancers.

The local clubs are often unable to book the better callers for their club dances because these callers generally have to travel for some distance, and the clubs are unable to cover the callers' travel expenses plus their calling fees. So many small clubs rely on recorded material on CDs for their dances rather than have a live caller. As you might imagine, it is pretty hard to recruit and develop new dancers this way. This has also driven many experienced dancers to travel to weekend conventions and special events such as the TEX-PACC event described in last month's Tidbits in order to do Plus and Advanced level dancing with top-name callers, and further depressing the attendance at the local clubs.

Today, Houston has only two clubs remaining. The larger of these is the Tomball Promenaders with 96 members. It is a sad reflection of the future of square dancing in the state of Texas.

Roy Okada

Plus Class Coordinator's Report

The Plus class is doing well. A few students who were experiencing some challenges are now getting the more difficult Plus calls while others will need more floor time. It's all about time, lots of floor time and practice. Most of you will be successful and will continue to enjoy dancing.

If anyone has concerns or questions or suggestions, I am always available. Thank you all for participating in our class.

**Linda Kaplan,
Plus Class
Coordinator**



Membership



I would like to thank all of the members who sent in their dues in a timely manner. Your new Club roster is attached (if you receive a hard copy of the Tidbits), OR it will be sent out electronically by Bob Mitchell separately from the Tidbits.

Please welcome our newest members, Adrienne Kirman and Val Simmonds, who graduated from our September class.

This is a reminder to all members to check the Tidbits each month to see whether you are scheduled to greet dancers or help in the kitchen at our dances. Also, come support the Club at our various functions, i.e., fundraisers, theatre parties, picnic, holiday party, etc., even if you no longer dance. We'd love to see you!

Happy Holidays!
See you in a square!

**Mary Beatty,
Membership Chair**

WELCOME
TO THE AGE WHERE
YOUR SECRETS ARE SAFE
WITH YOUR FRIENDS...
THEY CAN'T REMEMBER
THEM EITHER.



Mainstream Coordinators' Report



Danny & Ethel Ball

Our new class is off to a great start with several new students and some continuing students. We are very fortunate to have Don Schadt back this year as our instructor. He is doing a wonderful job and everyone seems to be having a great time learning to square dance.

We would like to remind our new students to arrive early. Class begins promptly at 7:00pm, so please come a little earlier to allow time to get your name tags, pick up your card, and sign in for class. Tom Beatty has begun his 6:20pm review to reinforce the calls taught the previous Tuesday. If you are a new student, or if you

missed a class, be sure to come early to practice what was taught and get your questions answered. Feel free to ask Tom to review any call for which you feel you need some additional help. There is no additional charge for this extra 30 minutes of practice.

We would like to thank all of our faithful angels for helping our new students. It would be much harder for our students to learn without your help. We need angels to be partners with our students as well as to help fill in the squares so that we have experienced dancers in every square. We are also in need of some angels for the 6:20pm practice session. If you are available, please come early to help our new dancers. Those of you who have recently been promoted to the Plus class are also encouraged to arrive early and help our new students. It is helpful for our new class members and also reinforces the Mainstream calls as you start the Plus level.

One way in which our new students can help themselves is to attend more than one beginning class each week. Many students find it helpful to re-

inforce what they have learned by adding another night of dancing. There are flyers out on the tables about other classes that are available.

There is a dress code for square dancers and it is helpful if you can try to keep to this dress code. This includes long sleeved shirts for the men and close toed shoes for everyone. Please help us out by following the dress code.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask us. We are there to assist you in any way that we can to help you learn square dancing and to keep you caught up with the class.

If you are a student and would like to receive our Club newsletter by email, please let us know. See you all next week and keep dancing!

**Ethel & Danny Ball,
Mainstream Class
Coordinators**



Local Club Dances

Boots & Slippers
12/31 Dick Hodnefield,
Michael Kellogg, Rod Shuping
01/26 TBA

Buckles & Bows
11/24 Mike Sikorsky
12/22 Dark
01/26 Dee Dee Dougherty

Farmers & Charmers,
Lads 'n' Lassies
12/01 Mike Seastrom
1/05 TBA
2/02 TBA

Happy Squares
12/08 Hunter Keller
01/12 Gary Shoemake
02/09 Michael Kellogg

Sierra Hillbillies
12/02 Phil Farmer
01/06 TBA
02/04 TBA

Trail Dusters
12/08 Dark
01/12 Arlen Miller
02/09 Johnny Preston

Western Weavers
12/14 Ken Bower



Official Visitation

VT Club members - Don't forget to wear club outfits.

Date: December 1
Club: Lads 'n' Lassies
Level: Plus
Caller: Mike Seastrom
Theme:
Location: Wilkinson Center
Time: Rounds at 7:30, Squares at 8:00

Recommended Dance

Date:
Club: We aren't recommending a particular dance
Level: for this month, but there are several avail-
Caller: able, including some listed to the left on
Theme: this page, so pick one (or two or three), and
Location: go have a good time.
Time:



Weekend Events

Mainstream thru Challenge

Los Baños Delight

March 8, 9, 10

A-2

Callers:

Jerry Story &

Jet Roberts

Info: Harlan

707-489-6819

Winter Festival

Jan 18 - 20, 2019

Plus - A2

Callers: Bob Baier,

Tony Oxendine,

Mike Seastrom,

Jet Roberts

King City

Info: 281-933-0088

Wing Ding

March 1, 2, 3

Mainstream-

Advanced

Callers:

Charlie Robertson

Andy Allemao

Jet Roberts

Merced

County

Fairgrounds

Info:

925-323-8330

Amador Adventure

April 26, 27, 28

A-2

Joe Saltel,

Jet Roberts

Info: Harlan

707-489-6819

California State Square Dance Convention

April 17 - 19

Mainstream -

Advanced

Callers -

Kip Garvey,

Dan Nordbye,

Bob Baier, Joe Saltel,

Mike Seastrom,

Jet Roberts

Info:

209-996-0844



Advanced Dances

Weaver Believers

4th Friday - **A1/A2**

8:00 - 10:30 PM

December 28

January 25

February 22

Canoga Park

Women's Club

**Caller - Buddy
Weaver**

Valley Trailers Advanced Dances

3/30

Michael Kellogg

6/29

David Mee

Wilkinson Center

Phantom Squares

A2 7:45 PM

December 9

Ben Rubright

January 11

Rob French

February 8

Sandie Bryant

C-1 12:15/C-2 3:30

Sunday after the

A2 Friday dance,

Canoga Park

Women's Club

A2

Workshop

7:30 to 9:30 pm

Mondays

Caller:

Romney Tannehill

Mel's Dance Hall

Westminster, CA

Trailblazers

Sandie Bryant

December 1

Todd Fellego

January 5

Ben Rubright

February 2

C1 - 11:00

A2 3:00 pm

C-2 11:00, C-3A 3:00

on Sunday

after Saturday Dance

Mel's Dance Hall

Westminster, CA

Romney's Stars

December 29

C1 at 4:30

Rounds at 6:30

A2 at 7:45

Mel's Hall

Westminster, CA

Romney's Stars

C1 & A2 Dance

7:00 PM

December 21

Mel's Hall

Westminster, CA

Round Dance Events

SUNDAYS

4th Sunday Parties, Phase II thru V, 1:30 – 4:45pm
5380 Bell St., Somis 93065 Gus & Lynn DeFore

5th Sunday Parties, Phase IV – VI, 1:30 – 4:30 pm
Wilkinson Center, Northridge Milo & Cinda Molitoris

1st Sunday Dance Parties, Phase II – VI 1:30-4:30 pm
Wilkinson Sr. Center, Northridge Cindy Mower

Selected 3rd Sunday Parties, Phase II – IV 1:30 – 4:30 pm
Wilkinson Sr. Center, Northridge Cindy Mower and/or Joe Scarlatella

MONDAYS

Phase IV & IV+, Occasional V Class, 5380 Bell St., Somis 93065
Gus & Lynn DeFore

Intermediate Round Dance Class, 7:00 – 9:00pm
Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, 11315 White Oak Ave.,
Granada Hills, CA 91344 Joe Scarlatella & Monica Shanks

TUESDAYS

Phase III & IV Class, 7:30-9:15pm, 5380 Bell St., Somis 93065
Gus & Lynn DeFore

Starting Tuesday, April 3, dance schedule
5:30 – 7:30pm, Phase 4 - 5 dance/teach
7:30 - 9:30pm, Phase 5 - 6 dance/teach
Valley Beth Israel, 13060 Roscoe Blvd, Sun Valley
Milo & Cinda Molitoris

WEDNESDAYS

Phase III & III+ Class, 7:30 - 9:15pm
5380 Bell St., Somis 93065 Gus & Lynn DeFore

THURSDAYS

Phase II Two-Step Class 6:30 - 8:00 pm
Phase III - IV + Classics and ROMs 8:00 - 9:30 pm
Wilkinson Center, Northridge Cindy Mower

December 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 Farmers & Charmers Lads & Lassies
2 Sierra Hillbillies 	3	4 Square Dance Class	5	6 Round Dance Class	7 Western Weavers	8 Happy Squares Trail Dusters
9 Holiday Party	10 Board Meeting 	11 Square Dance Class	12	13 Round Dance Class	14	15 Valley Trailers Caller: Dan Preedy
16	17	18 Square Dance Class	19	20 Round Dance Class	21	22 Boots & Slippers Buckles & Bows
23	24		26	27 Round Dance Class	28 Western Weavers	29 Valley Trailers Caller: Ken Ritucci

Valley Trailers Dance Schedule

Date	Theme	Caller	
1/19		Lanny Weakland	
2/16		Mike Hogan	
3/16		Justin Russell	
3/30	Advanced	Michael Kellogg	
4/20		Andy Allemao	
5/18		Jay Henderson	
6/15		Don Schadt	



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Email: VTsdClub@gmail.com

