May 2017





Editor: Bob Mitchell



Presidents'
Message



Renee & Don Krall, Presidents

Hear ye! Hear ye! It's that
time of the year to think about
giving back to your club
by taking a position on the
upcoming new board. Danny
Ball has taken on the job of
Nominating Committee
Chairperson as an existing

BAKERSFIELD

member of the Board. will be looking for a couple of non-board members to help him fill the slate for the new board whose term will start in August, 2017, and run through July, 2018. There is nothing more gratifying than to put your ideas into action by being a board member. Also remember that all Club Members are always welcome to come to any of the Board meetings; the time and place are listed in the newslettereachmonth. Again, please give this some deep thought for this is the only way

to keep our club as one of the top clubs in this area.

Hope to see you in a square real soon. Yellow rocks to all, **Don and Renee Krall, Presidents**

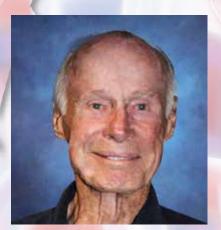
Board Meeting



Tom & Mary
Beatty's Home
All VT members are
welcome.

Valley Trailers Square Dance Club

Caller Coordinator



Bob Davis, Caller Coordinator

Get ready, get set, here comes the DONALD; Donald Schadt, that is! For May 20th, our super instructor will be on our stage looking out over the flock, many of whom were in his class a short time ago. He knows his stuff; from 1954 to present, Don has been involved with square dancing, and his father also was a square dance caller. For more than 50 years, Mr. Schadt has called, taught, and danced square, round, folk, and ballroom dancing all over the US of A.



Don Schadt, Caller

To quote Don, "You can have doctors, lawyers, politicians, scientists, teachers, garbage collectors, housewives---and because they're all wearing western clothes, nobody knows what their stature is, and it brings all kinds of people together from all walks of life." Don Schadt is a great guy, and enjoyable to dance to, he is one of the reasons I still, after 30 years, love to square up, and maybe if I am lucky enough I'll be in your square and we can break down together.

See you on the twentieth.

Bob Davis



Policy on Club Outfits

This is a friendly reminder to both new and old members that the Club outfits are to be worn only for official Visitations and when the Club deems it appropriate, i.e., Anniversary dance, graduation, etc. The Club outfit should not be worn at our regular dances or Recommended dances.

VT Club Shirts



Nick Koulax. Sue Cohen, and Gail Koulax

Here are two photos showing the Club Tee shirts that some of our members have ordered. They are still available and come in the usual range of sizes, so contact Sherril Ptashne if you would like to order one.

Do you see anything unusual about this photo? If not, a second look will show you that Sue has more flexibility than you may have realized!



Vice Presidents' Notes



Rob & Joy Starks, Vice Presidents

We hope you are planning to attend our April 15th dance with Charlie Fagan calling at the Wilkinson Center. Rounds begin at 7:15 pm with Cindy Mower and squares begin at 8 pm.

We have again been planning and making fantastic decorations for our May 20th Western Hot Dog Hoedown. There will be saddles, tack, hay bales, and a rustic jail for those who are rowdy. It's time to dust off your cowboy duds, saddle up your horse, and come to the roundup at the Wilkinson Ponderosa We are featuring Don Schadt calling and Cindy Mower cueing. In true cowboy fashion, you can kick up your heels to a couple of line dances. Oh, and of course, there will be hotdogs with all the fixin's.

> Rob and Joy Starks, Vice Presidents

Cohen's Corner



Sue Cohen, Visitation Chair

Bakersfield



The Bakersfield Fiesta was our March visitation with 22 members attending the weekend. Jean and Roy Woodard ventured north to join us for Saturday afternoon and evening. They were greeted warmly by caller Justin Russell whom they had chauffeured around when he was younger.

Almost half of our dancers were in the Advanced hall for the majority of the weekend. Some of us rotated between the Mainstream and Plus halls depending on who was calling. Roy Okada told me we had thirteen danc-

ers in the Plus hall when he "scanned" the halls that evening. He reported that the Plus hall had 30 squares, the Advanced 16, 11 in Mainstream, and five in the Challenge hall. There was also a round dance hall but he didn't venture down there. Lynn and Ron Bernheim were mainly in the round dance hall although they did join us for the Grand March.

The Trail's End dance was fun on Thursday night with Jay Henderson calling. Justin Russell filled in for Bob Baier over the weekend and did an admirable job. Darryl Lipscomb, Vic Ceder, and Sylvia and Jet Roberts filled out the callers' list.

Six of our members stayed on the fairgrounds in our RVs. We enjoyed the usual campground activities with Cindy Bell in charge. This was my fourth Fiesta and the dwindling attendance was very apparent with so much open space on the lawn areas. I remember how spread out the vehicles were in the past. Our motel people were spread around at their favorite locations.

PLAN AHEAD for March 16-18, 2018, to enjoy the many hours of floor time available here next year. Hunter Keller, Michael Kellogg, Mike Seastrom, Jerry Story, and Bronc Wise are the scheduled callers. Wow, what a line-up!

Sue Cohen, Visitation Chair

Eddle Stanton





Valley Trailers Square Dance Club

Membership



Mary Beatty, Membership

I am pleased to welcome our newest Club members from the March graduating class and hope that you will include them in your squares when you see them at a dance:

Dianne Gross
Pat Krokaugger
Eddie Stanton
Lori Stanton

See you in a square!

Mary Beatty,

Membership



Welcome!

Bakersfield Fiesta Observations

The local square dancing old-timers at the annual Bakersfield Fiesta lamented the inexorable decline in attendance at what was once the premier West Coast square dance festival weekend. In 1968, vocal artist Mary Hopkin captured the spirit of the heyday of square dancing. In her song were the lyrics "Those were the days, my friend, we thought they'd never end. We'd sing and dance forever and a day."

It used to be that thousands of square dancers would gravitate to the Bakersfield Fairgrounds every year to celebrate their chosen recreational activity. However, this year the 51st annual Bakersfield Fiesta only attracted about 850 participants. Two years ago, there were over 1100 dancers and last year it was a little over 1000. The Grand March of the participating clubs on Saturday night made the reduced participation apparent. In previous years, the main hall

dance floor would be filled for the first tip by the combined dancers of the different levels, but not this year.

The sad reality is the aging demographics of the square dance community and insufficient new younger people being brought into the activity. A prime example is the Las Vegas group who would normally have a large contingent at the Fiesta. This year they attributed their smaller numbers to the fact that many of their members are getting too old to make the long weekend trip, according to one member who did attend

The need to support the Bakersfield Fiesta next year is apparent. Rumors of discontinuing the annual event due to rising costs and decreasing attendance do not bode well for those who truly love square dancing and wish it would never end.

Roy Okada





Cindy Bell makes the final preparations for her famous margarita after-party.







ASquareD Report



Linda Kaplan, A Square D Rep

On March 29, 2017, the New York Times reported on a study comparing 174 healthy seniors (60 and 70 year olds) who did regular stretching exercises for six months with seniors who learned to square dance for six months. The square dance group practiced three times a week for an hour. After six months, the tests were repeated and MRI scans showed denser white matter in the part of the brain involved with processing speed and memory. The study also revealed that the square dancer group had increased brain activity in the white brain matter that sends messages to parts of the brain. Additionally, the study reported the many benefits of activities that specifically include moving and socializing.

ASD has installed new 2017/2018 officers. Lutz and Vicki Moeckel are ASD's new

presidents. Many thanks to Alan Lubberts for being an involved and concerned president for the last two years. I will remain the District Director for Ventura/Santa Barbara/San Fernando Valley.

I received a copy of an article written by Jeanne Shannon of the Lads 'N' Lassies for their monthly newsletter. I wanted to share part of what Jeanne wrote because she expressed so eloquently what square dancing is to so many of us. I invited Jeanne to join the Valley Trailers' march at Bakersfield since she was sitting right by us as we prepared to march for opening ceremonies. In part, this is what Jeanne wrote: "Walking in the parade with all the other clubs has a special meaning - the feeling of inclusion that we are all a part of this community of square dancers. There were several people sitting on the sidelines watching; perhaps if they were also asked to participate in the march, they would have felt more included and proud to be a part of this community of dancers. If square dancing is to grow, we will need to find ways for dancers to feel included. Being a single woman at the dance is a challenge. You either wear a singles badge and hope someone will ask you to dance, sit on the sidelines hoping for a partner, stand close to the dance floor, or learn to dance the man's part. Dancing is also a time to meet new people and learn their thoughts about

square dancing, and catch up with old friends. I recognized several of our workshop participants at Bakersfield. I feel somehow our workshop had a little something to do with their confidence in square dancing. Good for them!!!".

So to conclude, square dancing is great for mind, body, and soul. See you in a square.

Linda Kaplan, A Square D Rep



We were dark in March because many of our members were planning to go to the Bakersfield Fiesta, so there was no Club member drawing for the month. The pot remains at \$60, which has been well guarded and earning interest at the rate of 0% since February, so be sure you don't miss the opportunity to take it home with you after our dance in May.



Cohen's Corner



Sue Cohen, Visitation Chair

On the first of April, we had our Mystery Bus Trip and visitation to the Buttons and Bows in Anaheim Hills. This club was elated to have us visit them. They had a delicious spread with a wide variety of treats and enough cake to feed an army.

Our 33 travelers enjoyed dancing to Steve Moore. who had been recommended to us by another caller. We might see him at one of our dances a few years from now. He was a very energetic caller and even yodeled. We brought three squares and they said that ten squares were in attendance. They were very gracious hosts and asked their club members to be sure to sign up on the rotation board so our singles could dance. Some of our wives also shared their men.

Our trip started slowly--we met in the back, behind the theatre, as instructed. But the bus wouldn't go in the

back, so we ventured to the street. Then two bad accidents slowed our driving time to the restaurant. After eating, we just made it there in time for the first tip.

Shauna and Vic Kaaria and Steve Woodard joined Steve Moore for a tip. It was great having a chance to dance to more than one caller.

> Sue Cohen, **Visitation Chair**

Pictures by Sue Cohen



Long ago, when men cursed and beat the ground with sticks, it was called witchcraft. Today, it's called golf.









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.

5/20 **Evan Ball Toba Burg Wally Manning Janie Manning** 6/17 Kay Goeden **Hal Gould Eddy Galeano** Linda Thau 7/15 **Bonnie Bench Joyce Hatter** Virginia Heidt **Phyllis Perkins** 7/29 (Advanced) Marci Brewer Joyce Stillwell

Refreshment Committee Schedule

May 20
Steve and Joyce Kay
June 17
Anita Sheidenberger
July 15
Steve and Joyce Kay
July 29
Anita Sheidenberger

I DON'T UNDERSTAND
HOW I CAN
REMEMBER EVERY WORD
OF A SONG FROM 1964,
BUT I CAN'T REMEMBER
WHY I WALKED INTO THE
KITCHEN JUST NOW.

Host/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 call Mary Beatty at 818-363-0009.

5/20 Jeff Cohen **Sandy Cohen Alan Epstein** Janice Smalley 6/17 **Marty Henriks Sandy Henriks** Adel Kirby **George Kirby** 7/15 **Bob Cirillo Madeline Johnson** Roy Okada Sandy Okada 7/29 (Advanced) **Deborah Arter Richard Light**

Pictures by Sue Coh<mark>en</mark>







Don Goldstein	5/07
Dianne Gross	5/08
Don Krall	5/08
Judy Adler	5/10
Roy Woodard	5/10
Dottie Carlisle	5/13
Ray Cianci	5/13
Sandy Cohen	5/15
Otis Rogers	5/16
Teri Wynn	5/16
Bob Neel	5/17
Bob Sorensen	5/17
Sandy Sabatino	5/18
Nick Koulax	5/20
Mike Seastrom	5/26
Birdie Brown	5/29
Pat Krokaugger	5/29
Eddie Stanton	5/29
Susan Burger	5/31
Cecilia Phillips	5/31
	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •



Richard and Irene Narita 5/27 John and May Carpenter 5/29





Bob Mitchell, Editor

Editor Sez

recently browsing through wheresthedance. com and came across a Friday night dance in Anaheim by the Ramblin' Roques with Jerry Jestin calling. We don't normally go to these dances because it's a long drive just for one dance, and especially so because of the Friday evening traffic one would have to endure to get there, but there were some extenuating factors in this case. One was that we had not danced to Jerry before, and I always like to experience a new caller, especially one whom I have reason to believe may be a better than average caller, which was the case with Jerry just based on where I have seen him booked to call before. One example in particular is that we went to a weekend event last year where Jerry was scheduled along with one other caller, but was replaced at relatively the last minute with

Bill Haynes, whom we have danced to. So if Jerry was in the same league as Bill, then I definitely wanted to go to this dance. But a conflicting bit of evidence was a report I heard recently where Jerry had been booked to call for a local club here in the Valley, and the story was that quite a few dancers had left after the first couple of tips. I was skeptical of this report and was looking forward to the opportunity to check him out.

Another factor was that we have gotten to know several of the Rogues' members, mostly from going to weekend-long events, most recently at Bakersfield, and have found them to be good dancers and fun to dance with, but had never gone to one of their dances, so this was the perfect opportunity. A third consideration was that there was a dance in Westminster the following Saturday afternoon that we were definitely planning to go to whether we went to the Rogues' dance or not, so we decided to make a weekend out of it. There is a Motel 6 within walking distance of the hall for the Saturday dance, so that was a short drive from the Rogues' dance late on Friday night instead of the 50+ miles back to Northridge at midnight, a nice relaxing sleep-in and a leisurely breakfast Saturday morning, and it was off to the afternoon dance.

The Friday night dance was a lot of fun. The Ramblin' Roques is a large club, and

they all seem to dance very well. Jerry's choreography was excellent and very enjoyable, not overly difficult, but interesting enough that you had to stay focused, and I didn't see anyone leave the dance early, at least not in the early part of it, so I don't know what to make of the earlier report about unhappy dancers. I can only conclude that either the report was garbled by the time it got to me, or that the unhappy dancers were relatively new and inexperienced at it, or perhaps some of both.

Jerry is from Yuma, but travels a lot with his calling, especially to Canada and Europe, so he doesn't get to our area very much. My advice is this: If you're an experienced Plus level dancer and you enjoy a good mental workout, then if you get the opportunity to dance to him, don't miss it. On the other hand, if your preference is for relaxed, easy, vanilla style dancing, then he probably isn't going to be among your favorite callers. But one of the nice things about square dancing is that there is enough variety among callers and clubs that you can pick and choose what suits you best for the kind of dancing you like to do. Finding out which callers best suit your idea of a good time is all part of the fun, and you will likely find that the list of callers you like best will change as your experience level grows.

10

Don Schadt's Surprise

It was announced at the Happy Squares' dance on April 8 that, after 23 years of teaching their new dancer class, Don Schadt will be stepping down from that role. Taken by surprise, the club members expressed sadness upon hearing of his decision. For many of them, it was Don who brought the wonderful world of square dancing into their lives. The same sentiment would of course hold true for the Valley Trailers, but the good news for us is that Don plans to continue with our Tuesday night class, so it is apparent that his love for square dancing has not diminished. The growing success of his family-owned company is a contributing factor in his decision.

Don was extremely pleased to see 15 Valley Trailers members at the recommended Happy Squares dance. Considering that the State Convention in Victor-ville was being held on the same weekend, having nine squares in attendance was quite noteworthy.

The "Pink Cadillac" will travel to the Wilkinson Senior Center on May 20th for the Valley Trailers' next Club dance. Be sure to be there and thank Don Schadt personally for

everything he has done for the past 50 years of square dancing.

Happy Trails until we meet again!



Deserved

Commendation

Joy and I want to commend Don and Renee Krall for doing such a great job as Wagon Masters. I am sure we speak for everyone who attended the March Camp-Out /Picnic at Travel Village. Don and Renee arrived on Thursday to start setting up for the weekend. Don drove the motor home and Renee drove their truck towing the Club's trailer which contained all the tables that were needed, bean bag boards, dog race cut outs, and anything else that was needed for the Saturday festivities. Six Valley Trailers' rigs arrived on Friday and many members came up on Saturday to enjoy the bean bag toss and partake in their choice of delicious sandwiches made of fresh cut meat and fresh bread. All this was put together by Don and Renee. Saturday evening was a great pot luck dinner. Don was the MC for the evening; **Bob Davis and Dave Ptashne**

provided our singing entertainment. On Sunday morning, Don and Renee served the RV'ers a breakfast of scrambled eggs, fresh fruit, and croissants. We all helped load up the trailer and put everything away. To the Kralls this was just another Valley Trailer activity, but to all who attended it was much more. Next time you see them, thank Don for his presidency and thank them both for a job well done as wagon masters!

Rob and Joy Starks





If your mind goes blank, don't forget to turn off the sound.



Plus Coordinators' Message



Joy & Rob Starks, Plus Coordinators

March 14th was the beginning of our newest Plus class and already our 14 students have made good progress. We are enjoying working with them. Our goal as coordinators is not only to help our class learn to dance but also soon to welcome them into the Valley Trailers' family as new members. It is truly a joy to be a part of the square dancing community!

As always, there are many excellent angels willing to answer any questions and work through calls with the students. Our wonderful caller, Don Schadt, is patient and very willing to review any calls the students are finding confusing. A great resource that I have used frequently is saddlebrooksquares.com. There you can see live dancers going through each Mainstream and Plus call. Another helpful resource is the Taminations app. It is free and can be downloaded to your phone

or Ipad and studied any time you want. Both of these sites have helped me immeasurably to improve my dancing.

Rob and Joy Starks, Plus Coordinators

Mainstream Coordinators' Message



Danny & Ethel Ball, Mainstream Coordinators

Hello, everyone! We hope that our new class members are enjoying square dancing. Beginning next week, we will have a special session every Tuesday night for our Mainstream class. Those who would like extra practice, or those who need a review of the calls that were taught the previous week, or those who missed a Tuesday night and would like to catch up, are all invited to come at 6:30 p.m. for an additional 30 minutes of practice conducted by Tom Beatty. The pre-class begins at 6:30 p.m. so it would be a good idea to arrive a little earlier to sign in. Tom will be practicing the calls that Don Schadt has already taught. If you are having trouble with any particular call, just ask Tom and he will review it for you.

Those of you who completed the Mainstream class but are not yet members of our Plus Class, please remember the best way to prepare for the Plus Class is to at-Mainstream dances. tend Check the flyers on the table on Tuesday nights, or go online to wheresthedance. com and you will find dances at the Mainstream level that vou can attend. Attendance at these dances will help you become better dancers and prepare you for the Plus class.

As always, we would like to acknowledge and thank all of the Club members who come to "angel" our Mainstream class members. Your participation is very important and is appreciated by the class members as well as the Mainstream Coordinators!

Ethel & Danny Ball, Mainstream Coordinators



Local Club Dances

Boots & Slippers

P

P

P

5/21 Dick Hodnefield 6/24 Charlie Robertson 7/22 Jay Henderson

Buckles & Bows

5/27 Andy Allemao 6/24 Buddy Weaver 7/22 Bob Jones

Farmers & Charmers P Lads 'N' Lassies

5/06 Dan Nordbye 6/03 Mike Seastrom 7/01 Ken Ritucci

Happy Squares

5/13 Hunter Keller 6/10 Ken Ritucci 7/08 Bob Baier

Sierra Hillbillies

5/07 Vic Ceder 6/06 Jay Henderson 7/02 Ken Ritucci

Trail Dusters

5/13 Pat Carnathan 6/10 Vic Ceder 7/08 Hunter Keller

Western Weavers

5/12 David Mee 5/26 Phil Farmer 6/09 Dale Hoppers 6/23 Carrie Masters 7/14 Dan Nordbye 7/28 Ken Ritucci

Official Visitation

UT Club members - Don't forget to wear club COlors.

Date: May 6

Club: Lads 'N'Lassies

Level: Plus

Caller: Dan Nordbye Theme: Salsa Swing

Location: Wilkinson Senior Center

Recommended Dance

Date: May 13

Club: Trail Dusters

Level: Plus

Caller: Pat Carnathan
Theme: Cupcake Dance

Location: Wilkinson Senior Center Time: Rounds 7:00. Squares 8:00



Looking for a dance?
Go to "wheresthedance.com".

Labor Day Jamboree

Mainstream, Plus, Advanced
September 1, 2, 3, 2017
Callers: Charlie Robertson,
David Mee, Mike Seastrom,
Don Wood
Arcadia
Info: 626 548-8365

61st Annual Jubilee
October 6 - 8, 2017
Callers:
Michael Kellogg,
Bill Harrison,
Andy Allemao
Plus, Advanced,
Challenge
San Jose, CA
Info:
scvsda.org/jubilee
408-774-1570

70th Annual Silver State
Square Dance Festival
Plus - A2

May 12, 13 14, 2017
Callers: Michael Kellogg,
Joe Saltel, Jerry Story
Info: 775-424-3471

Reno, Nevada

Harvest Hoedown

Oct. 27, 28, 29, 2017
Mainstream, Plus,
Advanced
Callers:
Charlie Robertson,
Ray Brendzy,
Bobby Poyner,
Matt Worley
Yuba City, CA
Info: (530)520-0115

Fiesta 2017

November 3, 4, 5
Mainstream thru
Challenge
Callers:
Don Moger,
Eric Henerlau,
Andy Allemao,
Pat Carnathan
San Diego, Balboa Park
Info (619) 890-4058

November Magic

November 3, 4, 5, 2017
Plus Weekend
Callers: Jet Roberts & Kip Garvey
Plymouth
Info: 800-339-6981

Advanced Dances

Phantom Squares

A2 7:45 PM **May 12** Bill Eyler June 9 Vic Ceder July 7 **Betsy Gotta**

Canoga Park Women's Club

Valley Trailers **Presents** Ken Ritucci

July 29 2:00 - 4:30 **A2 Workshop** Wilkinson Center

Amador Adventure April 28, 29, 30 Callers: Jet Roberts & Joe Saltel A2 - C1 Plymouth. CA Info: Harlan Bowen 707-489-6819

Valley Trailers A1 & A2

8:00 - 10:30 PM April 29 Caller: **Dan Preedy**

Wilkinson Senior Center. Northridge

Memorial Day Weekend

May 26, 27, 28 Caller: Romney Tannehill A2 w/C1 Hemet

Trailblazers

1st Saturday C1 11:00 AM -1:30 PM A2 3:00 - 5:30 PM May 6 Ross Howell June 3 Bill Haynes July 1 Tim Ploch 5946 Westminster Blvd. Info: John Melstrom

714-968-3888

Weaver Believers

4th Friday - A2 **May 26** June 24 July 22

8:00 - 10:30 PM Canoga Park Women's Club Caller - Buddy Weaver

Cayucos Capers

Aug 4. 5. 6 A2

Callers: Joe Saltel. **Jet Roberts**

Info: 707-489-6819

Labor Day Weekend

Sept 1,2 3, 2017

Callers: Bob Baier & Jet Roberts Los Baños

Info: 707-489-6819



Sonday	Monday	Tosadas	Mequesque	Thoraday	Priday	Saturday
	~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~	Square Dance Class	Board Meeting 7:30 Tom & Mary's House All members welcome	Round Dance Class	5	6 Visitation Farmers & Charmers, Lads N Lassies Caller: Dan Nordbye
7 Sierra Hillbillies Caller: Vic Ceder	8	9 Square Dance Class	10	Round Dance Class	12 Western Weavers Caller: David Mee	13Recommended Happy Squares Caller: Hunter Keller Trail Dusters Caller: Pat Carnathan
14	15	Square Dance Class	17	Round Dance Class	19	Valley Trailers Caller: Don Schadt
21	22	Square Dance Class	24	Round Dance Class	26 Western Weavers Caller: Phil Farmer	27 Buckles & Bows Caller: Andy Allemao Boots & Slippers Caller: Dick Hodnefield
28	29	Square Dance Class	31			17

#### **Valley Trailers Dance Schedule**

Date	Theme	Caller	
5/20	Western Hot Dog Hoedown	Don Schadt	
6/17		Pat Carnathan	
7/15		Charlie Robertson	
7/29	Advanced, A1/A2	Ken Ritucci	
8/19		Rick Gittelman	
9/16		Mike Sikorsky	
9/30	Advanced, A1, A2	Dan Nordbye	

Web: valleytrailers.org Phone: (818) 360-8750 Email: VTsdClub@gmail.com

