

Valley Trailers

Bob Mitchell, Editor Tidbits March 2019

Presidents' Message



Don & Renee Krall,
Presidents

As of this writing on February 5 at 8:00 in the morning, I am at the Swim Stadium in downtown Los Angeles.

This coming Sunday will be the Sweetheart Ball In Hawthorne. Unfortunately I have only sold 12 ribbons for this event. In past years, our Club has had one of the biggest showings of support for our sweetheart couple. I hope that by the time Sunday comes around, the Club attendance will be doubled. If you feel that it's too far to drive, put together car pools for the next big event that comes along.

Remember that the people

on the nominating committee will be out scouting for Club members to be on the next board starting in August. Please listen to them regarding what positions they need to fill for the upcoming year. Also, even if you are not on the board now but you have some ideas to help the Club, please come to one or more of the board meetings. The time and location are always published in Tidbits. All Club members are always welcome, so come and see just how your Club is run.

Mark your calendars for May 3rd, the date of the Senior Federation Spring Luncheon. This is held for members of the 25 Valley area clubs, and as you can see by the number of them, they are not all square dance clubs. It is a great way to meet new people and have a good time.

Hope this finds all well, and yellow rocks to all.

**Don and Renee,
Presidents**

Club Member Drawing for February

Alan Epstein's name was pulled from the hat for the Club Member Drawing at our February dance, but unfortunately for Alan, he wasn't there. However, he may take some consolation from the fact that Jean Woodard was present last month when her name was pulled, so he only missed out on \$10. Next month the pot goes to \$20. Winning that likely wouldn't be a life-changing event for any of us, but it's still better than a poke in the eye, so plan to come join us when Justin Russell will be our caller.

Board Meeting

March 11, 7:30 pm
at
Anita and John's home
All Club members are welcome.

Caller Coordinator

A stroke of luck for the Valley Trailers: With close communications with other clubs in Southern California and the changing of weekends for the Bakersfield gathering, we were fortunate enough to get Justin Russell on our stage after nearly a decade of absence.



Justin Russell, Caller

When we first had Justin call for us, he was with Hunter and the duet was astonishing. Justin's mother was with him then as he was under age. His accomplishments at such a young age are more than this page can handle, so I'll just give you a couple of samples. From 2008 to 2011, Justin did some recordings in Nashville, and his first singing call was nominated for singing call of the year. He now holds

a degree in political science with a minor in sociology. He is young and ambitious with a great voice, and we are grateful to the stars that this opening occurred for our club.

You're going to like what you see and hear on our stage come March 16th, so don't miss out.

There is a lot to celebrate this March with two Valley Trailers dances. This month has a fifth Saturday, so we get to do an Advanced dance with Michael Kellogg on stage leading us through the moves with his sometimes tricky calls to make the evening have a bit of a challenge. The question is, are you up to it? Mr. Kellogg is sought after all over the globe from Germany to Japan and of course all over the USA.



Michael Kellogg, Caller

Remember, breaking down is easy, how quick you recover is the test. It has been a joy to me seeing the results of the hours spent to bring to our Club the best there is to keep square dancing strong and viable. So my hope is that all you Advanced dancers will come out on March 30 to show Michael your appreciation with a big clap.

**Bob Davis,
Caller Coordinator**



VT FEBRUARY Club Dance



Bill Drowatzky, Michael Hogan, and Paul Kayne

The third Saturday in February, while following several days of heavy rains and just ahead of two more forecasted storms to pass through, turned out to be a bright, sunny, blue-sky day with the temperatures around a cool 60 degrees. However, for our caller, Mike Hogan, who had flown in from a 1 degree day in Omaha the day before, he thought it was summer time!

Mike called a very nice dance with lots of variations in his choreography that flowed very nicely. If you ever found yourself momentarily confused, all you had to do was keep moving in the direction you were already going, and more than likely you would

be right. His music selections were lively with a nice beat and it made for a pleasant evening of dancing.

The attendance came to 13 squares and approximately 20 couples round dancing to the cues of Cindy Mower. Eight squares were still there for the last tip of the evening. Mike was at a bit of a disadvantage when calling the star tip for four squares because in all of the country except for a small slice along the west coast, there is no distinction between A1 and A2, it's just all Advanced, so he slipped in a few A2 calls on us without meaning to. It's not clear how much this affected the dancers, but there were a few missteps seen attributable to this. Considering that there are about 40 calls on the A1 list and another 25 on the A2 list, including concepts, which together is about the same as the number of Mainstream calls, perhaps someday Caller Lab will eliminate the distinction and solve this problem. That would be nice.



Buckles & Bows
44th Anniversary Dance
February 23
Caller: David Mee



Sweethearts Ball

Sue and José Simental were our sweethearts this year at the Sweetheart Ball. I understand there was a large crowd and it was a good dance. And unluckily, Tom Beatty got tripped in the first tip, so they only danced two tips. There was a good supply of baskets that were raffled off. I don't think any of our people won one. Many thanks to Don Krall who drove a full RV of dancers to this event.

After the dance, many showed up at Marie Calender's for our fundraiser, possibly close to 30. There were also members who hadn't danced —Tina and Larry Matz, Sandy and Jeff Cohen, Irma Taylor, Ricky Campos, Ed Palmer, and me who supported the Club. Some of us even bought pies which added to the profits for the day.

**Sue Cohen,
Vice President**



A Note From Our Sweethearts

We had sooo much fun Sunday, February 10th, at the Sweetheart Ball! We were treated to a ride in the Royal Coach thanks to Don Krall and laughed and told stories with our friends. Giggling is good medicine!

The Ball was well attended and the room was crackling with excitement. José and I danced every tip! Except for the Hot Hash and the Advanced, that is.... Then we lined up with the other Sweethearts from the other clubs in the area to be formally introduced and they took pictures of us -- so there is evidence for posterity that we were there representing the Valley Trailers. We had fun dancing with the other Sweethearts and made some new friends and visited with some old friends. The dance floor was packed with happy dancers enjoying Mike Sikorsky's singing and antics.

After that, we all went to Marie Callender's for our

Valley Trailers fundraiser and were treated to a very nice dinner. Renee Krall joined us for dinner and it was so nice to see her; that was the cherry on our Sunday. By the time we got home and took off our dance shoes, we were tired but still glowing from all the fun and all the LOVE that you all showered on

us. Thank you all for loving us and supporting our efforts for the Valley Trailers Club; we appreciate the acknowledgement and it has been our pleasure to suit up and show up as your 2019 Sweethearts.

Hugs,

Sue & José Simental



A Letter to the Editor

We don't normally print letters to the editor in Tidbits for the simple reason that we don't get any, but last month we did get a letter from one of our visitors at our January dance with Lanny Weakland, and we share it with you here.



Hi Bob and Dolva,

Thanks so much for sending me a copy of your monthly newsletter. Wow, you have some ambitious members to print such a nice newsletter each month. Thanks for including pictures of Carol and me in it. Receiving the Rover Badges really was a highlight.

I need to ask you a favor. Our dance association (Northern New Jersey Square Dance As-

sociation) prints a booklet (Grand Square) for all the clubs in Northern NJ. We include in it various travel locations that some of our members visit. Our editor would like to print the picture that was taken of your president Don with Carol and me. Would you kindly ask your photographer to send the picture to me in JPG format?

Thanks again for your hospitality. It was so nice to visit your club. Everyone was so friendly.

Yellow Rocks!!

**Arlene Remington
Belles & Beaux**



Save The Date

April 27 is the date for our Mystery Bus Trip, and we will not be going to Home-town Buffet for dinner!

More info is coming.

Another Play Opportunity

I can still obtain seats for the play "Newsies" at the theater in Simi Valley on March 31, and I will be collecting money starting in March. We have about 39 planning to attend so far. Arrangements have been made to eat at Red's again before the play. Call or email me to be added to the list.

**Sue Cohen,
Vice President**

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.

3/16

Donald Pipes
Hiroko Pipes
Pat Krokaugger
Robert Sterndale

3/30

Marci Brewer
Kathryn McKee

4/20

Pamela Bailis
Brian Scanlon
Bill Tapp
Flo Tapp

5/18

David Ptashne
Sherril Ptashne
Dorothy Stabinsky
Bette Jo Weinstein

Refreshment Committee Schedule

March 16

John and Anita

March 30

Shawn and Jean

April 20

Steve and Joyce

Happy Birthday

3/01 John Carpenter

3/02 Vicki Moore

3/12 Mylta Woodruff

3/13 Pam Bailis

3/18 Linda Currie

3/18 Marvin Schlossman

3/21 Irene Narita

3/25 Madeline Johnson

3/27 Bette Jo Weinstein

3/29 Kelley Benedict

3/31 Shelly Fried

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 Shawn O'Driscoll.

3/16

Rozanne Feldman
Birdie London
Al Masters
Bob Mitchell

3/30

None Assigned

4/20

Marty Henriks
Sandy Henriks
David McDonald
Val Simmons

5/18

Linda Currie
Bob Davis
José Simental
Sue Simental

Happy Anniversary!

3/03

Mark and Mehrnaz Friedman

3/21

David and Sherril Ptashne

3/23

Marc and Vicki Moore



Editor Sez



Bob Mitchell, Editor

We got a flyer for the upcoming Bakersfield Fiesta in the mail a few days ago, and I was impressed by the lineup of callers that are going to be there. This is not to say that the Fiesta doesn't always have good callers, but just that there usually aren't this many nationally recognized callers on the staff. There is one caller in the lineup from Wisconsin who is new to the Fiesta, and in fact even new to California, that I don't know, but I checked him out on-line and he has some impressive reviews, so it would seem that no matter which hall you dance in, you're looking at some fun dancing.

But in order for it to be fun,

you have to be there, and the Valley Trailers' representation at this annual event has been tapering off in the last few years, which I find to be unfortunate. I don't know why this is, although it is apparent that the average age of our membership goes up some every year, and with this comes reduced energy and enthusiasm for a weekend long square dancing effort. But for those with the energy to do it, this is a very fun event where you can dance as many or as few tips as you want. It is well organized and you can move from hall to hall, choosing the level of dancing and the caller that suits your whim at the moment. Levels range from Mainstream and Plus to Advanced and at least one level of Challenge. There is one hall dedicated to round dancing, so that is also on the list of options available to you.

Every year we hear reports about how the attendance at this event is dropping, and how some of the clubs that put it on are folding, so it's hard to say how much longer this event will continue. However, in the five years that we have been going, the attendance seems to me to have

stayed about the same, although I do believe that it is well off from what it was when square dancing was in its heyday in the '70s and '80s. So if you haven't gone to this event before, or even if you have, now would be a good time to start making plans to go this year. It is always a good time, it's close to home as these events go, it will help support the longevity of the event, and a focused weekend-long event like this does wonders for sharpening your square dancing skills.

**Bob Mitchell,
Editor**



Plus Class Coordinator

Hello Plus Dancers:

Our Plus session is almost at an end and many of you have shown a lot of improvement while a few may need a bit more time to get the hang of the Plus calls. I will be speaking with some of you to let you know how you are faring and when we will be testing at class. We will ask Don Schadt to call Plus calls at club level pace at the last two classes before the new session begins.

See you in a square,
**Linda Kaplan,
Plus Class
Coordinator**



Mainstream Coordinators' Report

Hello, everyone! As most of you know, we have not been coordinating the class for the past couple of months because our son, Evan, had a heart transplant on December 26th and we needed to be with him. We are hoping to be able to return to our duties as coordinators of the Mainstream Class this month. In the meantime, we'd like to thank everyone who contributed to the fundraiser to help Evan with his medical expenses. We appreciate your support and thoughtfulness throughout this time. Your kind words and beautiful cards have been a blessing. We feel so fortunate to be a part of such a caring and loving Square Dance community.

Please inform your friends and family that our new Mainstream class will begin this Tuesday, March 12th, at 7:00 pm. They need to arrive at 6:45 pm to en-

roll in the class. The first lesson is free to new class members. Please encourage your friends and family to join in. We look forward to meeting all the new people who will be starting the second week of March.

**Ethel & Danny,
Mainstream Class
Coordinators**



Bakersfield Fiesta

I'm hoping to see the largest turnout of Valley Trailers in years at the Bakersfield Fiesta this year. If you've attended before, you know that all levels dance separately, but we are together for the Grand March on Saturday night. It's a great place to strengthen your Mainstream skills.

On the website there is a list of nearby motels. Prices (from January) were from \$47 on up to over \$100 a night. Be sure to mention square dancing or the Fiesta for a price break at some of them.

If you can't come for the weekend, some dancers come for Saturday only. Talk to those who have attended before.

**Sue Cohen,
Vice President**



Bakersfield Alert

The Best Western Plus/Hill House is one of the motels listed on the web page that Sue mentions. This is a very nice motel with reasonable rates, breakfast included, and convenient to the fairgrounds, but it has a track record of losing reservations. If you choose to stay here, best to call a week or so in advance to be sure they still have you on their books.

Editor



Local Club Dances

Boots & Slippers
03/30 Gary Shoemake
04/27 TBA
05/25 TBA

Buckles & Bows
03/23 Dark
04/27 Eric Henerlau
05/25 Andy Allemao

Farmers & Charmers,
Lads 'n' Lassies
3/02 Paul Waters
4/06 Scot Byars
5/04 Dan Nordbye

Happy Squares
03/09 Bronc Wise
04/13 Jay Henderson
05/11 Rick Hampton

Sierra Hillbillies
03/03 Ken Bower
04/07 Ken Ritucci
05/05 Darrin Gallina

Trail Dusters
03/09 Andy Allemao/
Dick Hodnefield
04/13 Mike Seastrom
05/11 Michael Kellogg

Western Weavers
03/08 Vic Kaaria

Official Visitation

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

Date: March 9
Club: Happy Squares
Level: Plus
Caller: Bronc Wise
Theme: 50th Anniversary Dance
Location: Simi Valley Senior Center
Time: Rounds at 7:15. Squares at 8:00

Recommended Dance

Date: March 3
Club: Sierra Hillbillies
Level: Alternating Mainstream & Plus
Caller: Ken Bower
Theme: Cat in the Hat
Location: SCV Senior Center
Time: Rounds at 2:00, Squares at 2:30



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

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



Weekend Events

Mainstream thru Challenge

Los Banos Delight

March 8, 9, 10

A-2

Callers:

**Jerry Story &
Jet Roberts**

Info: Harlan

707-489-6819

Bakersfield Fiesta

March 22, 23, 24

**Mainstream -
Challenge**

Callers:

**Vic Ceder,
Darryl Lipscomb,
Tony Oxendine,
Charlie Robertson**

For Info.

**Pam & Mike Jenefsky
661-487-0472**

Wing Ding

March 1, 2, 3

**Mainstream-
Advanced**

Callers:

Charlie Robertson

Andy Allemao

Jet Roberts

Merced County

Fairgrounds

Info:

925-323-8330

**California
State Square Dance
Convention**

Imperial, CA

April 17 - 19

**Mainstream -
Advanced**

Callers -

**Kip Garvey,
Dan Nordbye,
Bob Baier, Joe Saltel,
Mike Seastrom,
Jet Roberts**

Info:

209-996-0844

Amador Adventure

April 26, 27, 28

A-2

**Joe Saltel,
Jet Roberts**

Info: Harlan

707-489-6819



Advanced Dances

Valley Trailers
Advanced Dances

March 30
Michael Kellogg

June 29
David Mee

Wilkinson Center
Northridge

Weaver Believers
4th Friday - **A1/A2**

8:00 - 10:30 PM

January 25

February 22

Canoga Park

Women's Club

**Caller - Buddy
Weaver**

Phantom Squares
A2 7:45PM

March 8
Bronc Wise
April 12
Tim Ploch

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

Sunday after the
A2 Friday dance,
Canoga Park
Women's Club

Trailblazers

March 2
Vic Ceder
April 6
Rob French
May 4
David Heffron

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**



15

March 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2 Farmers Charmers/ Lads n Lassies
3 Sierra Hillbillies	4	5 Square Dance Class	6	7 Round Dance Class	8	9 Happy Squares Trail Dusters
10	11 Board Meeting	12 NEW Square Dance Class	13	14 Round Dance Class	15	16 VT
17 St. Pat's Day	18	19 Square Dance Class	20	21 Round Dance Class	22	23 Buckles & Bows Boots & Slippers
24	25	26 Square Dance Class	27	28 Round Dance Class	29	30 VT
31 Newsies Play						16

Valley Trailers Dance Schedule

Date	Caller	Theme
3/16	Justin Russell	Wearin' of the Green
3/30	Michael Kellogg	Advanced
4/20	Andy Allemao	Let a Smile be Your Umbrella
5/18	Jay Henderson	Hot Dog Hoedown
6/15	Don Schadt	School's out, Relax



Web:
Phone:
Email:

valleytrailers.org
(818)360-8750
VTsdClub@gmail.com

