

62nd

Anniversary
Celebration

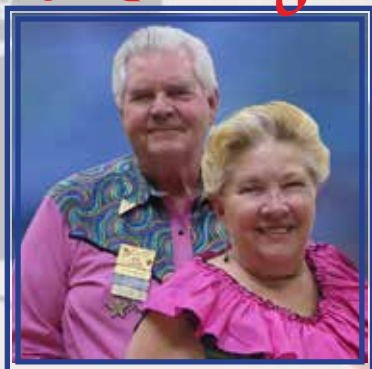
Tidbits

VALLEY TRAILERS SQUARE DANCE CLUB

Editor

Bob Mitchell

Presidents' Message



The year is almost over and there are many good times yet to be had. By the time you receive this Tidbits, we will be at the Monster Mash with everyone trying to win the \$50.00 prize for the most original costume. Being that there are five Saturdays in October, we will have a Halloween Haunt dance for all of the advanced dancers. Make sure you don't miss these dances. On November tenth, the LA Senior Federation will be honoring all the members who have reached the age of 90. This year we have

three: Germaine Selim, Tom Nelson, and Bob Neel. They will each have an escort to the luncheon. We will catch a bus at Wilkinson Senior Center and return to Wilkinson after lunch.

Don't forget November 19th, the date for our 62nd Anniversary Dance with two great callers; Mike Seastrom and Charlie Robertson are always a great hit together. As you all know, this dance will be the rollout of our new outfits. Please if you haven't already purchased your outfit, time is getting short, so get a move on. We all want to look the same and make a statement about our club.

Hope to see you in a Square real soon and yellow rocks to all.

Don and Renee

Board
Meeting
Nov. 2 7:30 pm
Tom & Mary
Beattys' House
All VT Members
are Welcome

November
2016

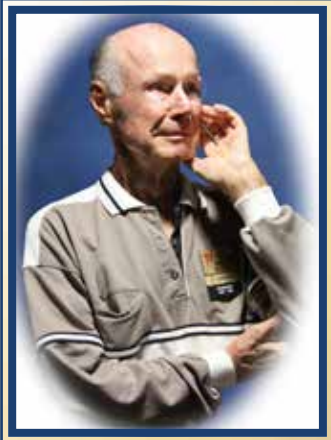
A New Face For Valley Trailers

We are very excited to announce that we have launched our new face on the Valley Trailers' website. The address for the site is unchanged from where you found it before, it's the content that is different.

If you happen to be looking for the next Valley Trailers' Club dance, or you just feel like catching up on the latest in Tidbits, current events, and photos – all you have to do is scroll through the many tabs on our website menu bar. Those in need of a quick brush-up on some calls that our wonderful square dance teachers have been teaching us (Mainstream through Advanced), we even have a page for you. And for those of us who simply can't get

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Caller Coordinator



For years, way before Carole and I became members of the Valley Trailers, Mike Seastrom and Charlie Robertson were calling and teaching for our fine club, and we have been very fortunate to have them around. The Vally Trailers Square Dance Club will be celebrating 62 consecutive years of square dancing, and we will be having the two of them on stage for the celebration.



Mike Seastrom

What a night it will be! Charlie and Mike both started out calling when they were only about 12 years old, and both have taught classes for the Valley Trailers at various times over the years. The

success of the Valley Trailers club is due in no small part to the efforts and talents of these two guys, and we are very fortunate that both of them are available to help us celebrate this milestone for the club.



Charlie Robertson

Many of you know all about these two fellas, and I know that some members who do not dance anymore will show up just to watch and hear their harmonious performance.

Carole and I will be there, will you?

Bob Davis



Don't Forget

Look for Valley Trailers on Facebook and SmugMug. Both are accessible through the web at valleytrailers.org.

Thank you

The Friedman family, Mark and Mehrnaz, wish to express their gratitude for all the kind wishes and condolences they received from the Valley Trailers on the recent passing of Mark's mom, Ida. It was very much appreciated.

A New Face

Continued from page 1

enough of square dancing, check out the website for the dances in our local area.

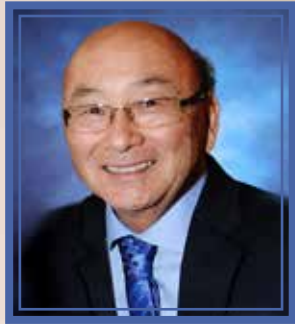
Be sure to visit us often as we will be adding and growing the website every day with new features and information. Last but not least - always follow us on Facebook – it is great to be talking to all.

See you in a square.

**Gail Koulax
Web Master**



Roy's Reviews



Roy Okada

Big Turn Out for Mike Sikorsky

Caller Mike Sikorsky continues to be a prime attendance draw for the Valley Trailers' third Saturday club dance. Excluding the anniversary dance in November, Mike consistently attracts the largest number of squares for a regular Valley Trailers' dance, and this year was no exception as there were 17 squares attending the September dance. There were over 50 members of the Valley Trailers present who looked forward to Mike's fast paced tips and his signature hot hash. They were not disappointed!

The square dancing format was the usual alternating Mainstream and Plus level tips. However, it was Mike's tempo that made the eve-

ning very interesting. The six squares doing the A-1 star tip almost pulled off a flawless performance, but the same could not be said for the nine squares doing the hot hash tip at the end of the evening.

Even more surprising was the number of round dance couples enjoying the selections cued by Cindy Mower. Having over 40 couples doing the two-step is rather remarkable. It bears repeating that the sponsorship by the Valley Trailers for Cindy's Thursday night round dance class is the main reason for the increase in participation. VT President Don Krall deserves kudos for the heightened interest in round dancing and the success of the Valley Trailers' Saturday night dances.

Roy Okada



The reason we have communication problems is that we don't listen to understand, we listen to reply.

Oops!

Last month we showed two photos of Jeff and Sandy Cohen in Philadelphia at the Liberty Bell and Independence Hall with their diplomas from our Plus class, but we got Jeff's name wrong, so here it is again with the name correct this time. Sorry about that, Jeff!



Jeff and Sandy Cohen, recent class graduates and new Valley Trailers members, display their diplomas in front of the Liberty Bell and Independence Hall during their recent trip to Philadelphia.





*Valley Trailers
September Dance
Caller:
Mike Sikorsky
September 17, 2016*



A Square Dancer's Dream Vacation

I am quite sure that many of you have dreamed of visiting the islands of Hawaii or sailing on an ocean cruise ship and square dancing every night. What if you could do both on the same trip? And have five callers escorting you personally for two weeks both on land and at sea? Is it a fantasy or wishful thinking? Incredibly, Buddy Weaver and Ken Bower have fashioned just such an unbelievable Hawaiian tour package for square dancers that goes from January 30 through February 11, 2017. Joining them for this will be callers Ken Ritucci, Dan Preedy, and Mike Bramlett.

The first half of the tour centers on the 52nd Aloha State Square Dance Festival in Waikiki. Buddy and the members of the Hawaii/Maui square dance clubs have donated a great deal of their time and effort to produce the annual Aloha festival for your dancing pleasure. The proceeds enable the local clubs to sustain their Islands square dancing program for the coming year. The festival is similar in this regard to the Bakersfield Fiesta format.

The second half is truly a square dancer's dream. Unlike other theme cruises, Buddy and Ken intend to have as much square dancing as time and space allow

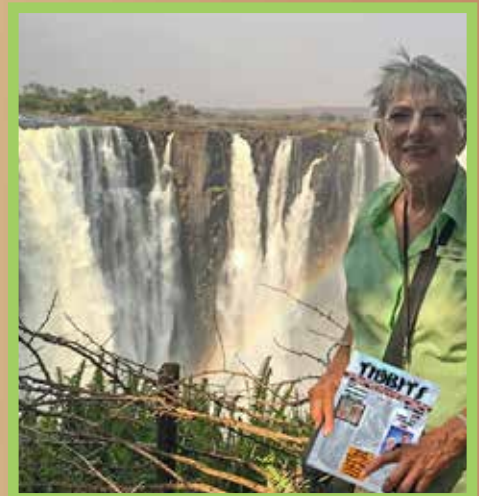
on the NCL Pride of America. The decadence of any cruise is the 24-hour dining experience, and this one will be no exception. It is there that you will have the opportunity to meet other square dancers from all over the U.S. Visiting the four islands of Hawaii is spectacular enough, but add square dancing and you are truly in paradise.

For more information, call Dee Bower at (760) 200-1031 or go to www.alohasquaredance.com.
Mahalo and Aloha!

Roy Okada



VT Members Continue to Travel the World

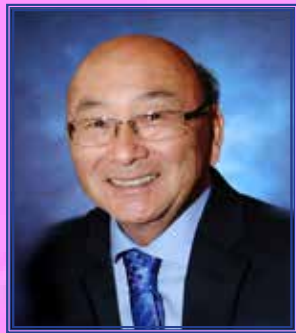


Any ideas about where Sue Cohen went on her recent trip? Think antipode and you won't quite be there, but at least you will be in the right part of the world. That and the view in the photo should be all you need to figure this out. Ask her about it when you next see her - she had an exciting trip.

Don't Miss This!!!!
20th Riverside County
Square Dance Festival
November 10, 11, 12, & 13
Six Callers: Tony Oxendine, Johnny Pres-
ton, Mike Sikorsky, Ken Bower, Gary
Shoemake, Buddy Weaver
Contact: Gary or Lisa Shoemake
865-387-2217

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More Roy's Reviews



Roy Okada

Bronc Wise of Colorado; what do you know about his calling abilities? That was the question of the night at the Happy Squares' September club dance, although there were many advanced level dancers there who already knew the answer. The 17 squares, including 17 Valley Trailers members, soon realized that Bronc had a unique talent for creating formations and intriguing calls. Consider the call, if you will, of spin chain and triple exchange the gears. This was a recommended dance for the Valley Trailers, and it is likely that all who were there would agree that it was an appropriate recommendation.

Gus and Lynn DeFore cued a pleasing repertoire of round dances that was satisfying for every couple on the dance floor. Gus even previewed two dances he is currently teaching for those interested in learning how to round dance.

The Happy Squares made their refreshments available

after the first tip was done, which was a very nice arrangement. Usually it is chaos as dancers rush to the open serving area during the star tip. The ice cream social was perfect for the warm September evening.

For this Happy Squares club dance, Bronc flew into LA from Denver on Saturday morning and left for Denver the following day. That is love and dedication to the world of square dancing.

Roy Okada





49th Anniversary Dance

The Sierra Hillbillies' 49th Anniversary dance narrowly averted disaster with the help of the dynamic duo of Hunter Keller and Ken Bower. You could say that "God and Country" saved the September 18 Sunday anniversary event. There were 24 Valley Trailers among the 12 squares attending in spite of the last minute change of dates for the Sierra Hillbillies. Incredibly, club president Alan Willis managed to delay their scheduled anniversary dance by one week in order not to conflict with the square dance to benefit the American Cancer Society sponsored by the Valley Trailers.

Originally, Paul Waters was to be the solo caller and Cindy Mower was the cuer for the celebration. There were high expectations because the facility had just been renovated with a new wood dance floor and updated air conditioning. That was until Alan learned about the Cancer benefit dance being scheduled on



Ken Bower: Caller, Alan Willis: Club President, Callers Paul Waters and Hunter Keller.

the same afternoon as the anniversary event. Instinctively, a rather upset Alan called Hunter and demanded to know "how could you do this to us?" Recognizing the problem, Hunter proposed a solution. If the Sierra Hillbillies would delay their anniversary dance by one week, he and Ken Bower would call along with Paul Waters to make this the most memorable dance ever at the Santa Clarita Senior Center. Hunter was a prophet as the Sierra Hillbillies' 49th anniversary dance was a huge success.

Roy Okada



Lads 'n' Lassies' 53rd

Anniversary Dance

The truth of the age-old adage that it takes a woman to make it happen was much in evidence at the Lads & Lassies' 53rd anniversary dance. With the odds stacked against her, Joyce Stillwell single-handedly orchestrated a very unexpected Saturday night outcome. The turnout was a marvelous 19 squares, which included 22 Valley Trailers there on an official visitation.

Remembering the 52nd anniversary of the Farmers & Charmers earlier this year that had only seven squares, Joyce did not want to have it repeated for the Lads & Lassies. She booked Mike Seastrom to be the caller for the evening, and in his typical fashion, the easy-going Mike called some beautiful tips for a most enjoyable evening.

The round dancing crowd was out in large numbers dancing to the cues of Jim Elder. It also appeared that a quarter of the anniversary attendees were members of the Lads & Lassies. It was very impressive to say the least and all thanks to Joyce and her e-mail campaign.

Roy Okada



Vice Presidents' Notes



*Joy & Rob Starks
Vice Presidents*

Our two costume dances, October 15th for Mainstream and Plus dancers and October 29th for Advanced dancers, are quickly approaching. David Mee will be our caller for both dances. One lucky person will be the winner of our \$50.00 prize on the 15th. Don't be left out; make up a costume and join the fun!

November 19th is our Anniversary dance celebrating the Valley Trailers' 62nd year. Two well-known callers, Mike Seastrom and Charlie Robertson, will call for us, and our new club outfits will make their debut that evening. In order to help defray the cost of two callers, we would appreciate any members who would be willing to donate gift cards for our raffle. You can give them to Rob and Joy Starks or anyone on the Board. Rounds begin at 7:15 p.m. and squares are from 8:00 to 10:30 p.m. at the

Wilkinson Center.

Our annual Holiday Party has been in the making for some time now. We hope you will make time in your holiday plans to spend the afternoon together with Valley Trailers, friends, and family on December 11th from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m. We ask members to bring either a dessert or appetizer depending on the first letter of their last name, and friends or family to pay \$5.00 each to help defray the cost of their meal. In early November, special invitations you can give to your friends and a signup sheet will be available at class Tuesday evening from 7:00 to 9:45 p.m.

Rob and Joy Starks



Club Member Drawing

The Club member drawing at the September 17 dance generated a bit more interest than usual for a couple of reasons. One was that the pot was \$50, which is larger than it has been for quite some time. The other is that Club policy is that in September, names continue to be drawn until a winner is present, and this time, on the fourth round of draws, Norm Hirsch came up the winner. Were you one of the three whose names were drawn but weren't there? You'll probably never know, but you could well have been. It pays to come to the Club's dances in addition to having a lot of fun with very nice people.



Holiday Party

Our members are working hard to make the Holiday Party a success. These individuals are making gingerbread houses to decorate the tables. But this is only the beginning. They will turn the Wilkinson Center into a grand event with food, music and dancing. So get your dancing shoes on and join us. We look forward to having a great turnout. Mark your calendar for December 11, 2016.



Kitchen Patrol

Please be there by 7 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.

11/19

Larry Matz
Tina Matz
Marc Moore
Vicki Moore

12/17

Norm Hirsch
Chuck McMurray
Minnie McMurray
John Tucker

1/21/17

Alan Fick
Eddy Galeano
Jean Woodard
Roy Woodard

Host/Hostess

Please be there by 7pm. 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.

10/29

Sandra DeBear
Gary Menke

11/19

Dawn Conner
Joan Kallet
Linda Kaplan
Larry Pettyjohn

12/17

Gail Koulax
Nick Koulax
Shawn O'Driscoll
Robert Sterndale

1/21/17

Hjordis Bakke
Chris Cilibrasi
Tom Potter
Sheila Woodard

Membership



I would like to thank all of the members who have sent in their dues, and also those members who have sent in their MIS (Member Information Sheet) to tell me that they are not renewing, in most cases because they are no longer dancing.

If you have not renewed your membership, this will be the last newsletter you will receive. For those who wish to renew, you still have time. I will accept renewals until October 24 so that your name will be included in the new Club roster and you will continue to receive the newsletter.

Please welcome our newest members from the September graduating class:

Jeff & Sandy Cohen
Alan Epstein
Rozanne Feldman
Richard & Irene Narita
Phyllis Perkins

See you in a square!

Mary Beatty

A recent study found that women who carry a little extra weight live longer than the men who mention it.



Pam Fiala	11/03
Joan Kallet	11/07
Mark Friedman	11/08
David Ptashne	11/08
Dori Madden	11/11
Jeanette Brown	11/13
Sandy Henriks	11/13
Richard Narita	11/15
Donald Pipes	11/16
Janice Roth	11/16
Patricia Streeter	11/16
Wally Manning	11/21
Jacob Sobel	11/23
Carol Potratz	11/25
Gail Koulax	11/26



Bob and Sandy Licht	11/10
Donald and Hiroko Pipes	11/11
Steve and Joyce Kay	11/13
Tom and Mary Beatty	11/16
Wally and Janie Manning	11/23



Social Justice



Linda Kaplan

Social justice. That's what our topic of discussion was at the last ASquareD board meeting in Hawthorne that I attend each month. We had a detailed dialog of what exactly is social justice. The conversation was about tolerance, fairness, equality, and consideration. The board members had differing thoughts about what this means and how we can apply these interpretations to square dancing. It was a good discussion, and one that I brought to my district meeting last month. Some of the delegates were uncertain as to how social justice applies to square dancing. We talked a bit and all agreed that social justice is simply being polite and respectful to each other, whether in squares, in line waiting to get a snack, or when the club president is announcing activities. The discussion was a brief one and at the time, as district director, I thought the discussion was sufficient

and I moved on to the next topic on the agenda. However, because of my dance experience this past month, I have come to realize that this topic must continue to be considered and discussed.

I attended two club dances recently and at both of these, people walked out of squares. They had their reasons, I'm sure, but was that respectful, considerate, or fair? At a second dance I attended that same weekend, a very seasoned dancer yelled at another dancer from an adjacent square when he was asked to move his square so that her square could have a little more room at a very jam-packed dance. At yet another club dance, two people left an already established square. Those remaining almost didn't get enough people to form another square, but eventually they did. After the tip, I asked the people who left if they had been dancing long, hoping that they were new dancers who hadn't been informed of square dance etiquette, but no, they said they had been dancing for several years. I told them it's inconsiderate to walk out of a square. The man, with a rather nasty attitude, began to justify why they walked out of the square. He told me that one of the dancers in the square he left had clawed his partner's hand and hurt her in a previous tip, that one of the dancers was really bad, that another dancer who was learning the opposite po-

sition was really poor, that dancing with these people wasn't something he wanted to do, and that under circumstances such as these it's OK to leave a square. I was furious! Privately I asked the caller if leaving a square was ever acceptable in this area of Los Angeles. He laughed and said, "It's never OK anywhere to leave a square". As I was talking with the caller, this "nasty man" approached me again to justify his bad behavior. Several tips later, the president of the club came up to me to apologize for what happened and much to my amazement, there was "nasty man" again at my side to justify his actions, except now he was blaming me for him leaving a square. Yes, he started to blame me, which I thought was hilarious since he was the one who walked out of the square, not me. In another tip, same dance, same night, a dancer yelled at my partner because he was helping her and she felt she didn't need the help. Wow – what a night, and I'm leaving lots of other stuff out!!

To wrap this up – dancers, please be nice to each other. Please be considerate and understanding of others. If a dancer "claws" your hand, gently ask him or her to be more careful. It will help that dancer, who probably wasn't aware of what he or she had done, and make it more pleasant for every-

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Getting to Know Club Members Better



Gary Menke

I was asked to write something about myself, and after careful thought, I decided to write about something I was involved in that has had an influence on everyone's life today.

My educational background is in mechanical engineering, electrical engineering, technical illustration, technical writing, and design drafting. Late in the 1960s while I was in college, I worked for a company called Advanced Communications located here in Chatsworth. I worked directly with the engineering department drawing schematics and printed circuit boards for command destruct receivers. One day I was called to a meeting in engineering and was asked, "Can you draw the exact waveforms generated by an oscilloscope?" I replied that I could. The waveforms that

I drew were words used for the very first voice synthesizer. These words were "Belly out of boron."

A presentation was made to the Air Force. The concept was that a pilot, while in a dogfight, could be warned of problems with his aircraft by voice through his headset in lieu of flashing lights. The Air Force thought it was a great idea and Advanced Communications was contracted to develop the "Aural Warning System." In those days, even with integrated circuits, the device was the size of a suitcase. Today you can hold it in your hand. So when you hear the words "Recalculating," think of me.



Social Justice

Continued from page 11

one else. If you think you're in a "bad" square, don't walk away - make the best of it. The tip will end soon enough and you can have something to talk about later, or feel good about yourself because you helped someone less skilled than yourself. I haven't broached the subject of presetting squares but that's for another article, though I have brought up this subject before. Square dancing is a wonderful activity for so many reasons. Let's keep it fun, safe, friendly, and respectful.

Troll caution: Some clubs have dubbed veteran dancers as trolls, meaning dancers who pester ladies by dominating their time dancing, asking for phone numbers, and encouraging them to accompany them to other clubs' classes. While it's important for new dancers to dance with a variety of partners and experience other instructors and callers, they should not cave in to the pressure of some of these people. It's important for Valley Trailers to be welcoming all the time to all dancers at class and at our dances. We're a great club with wonderful people. Let's show how generous we are by being inclusive and considerate.

**Linda Kaplan,
ASquared Rep**



Bob Mitchell, Editor

Editor Sez

I have wondered from time to time why there is such a large variation in how much time it takes different people to get to the point of being able to square dance reasonably well. Some people go through Mainstream and Plus classes in nine months, or twelve months, and then can go to club level dances and do reasonably well. Others go through a Mainstream class two or three times and still struggle with it, and there isn't necessarily an obvious difference in intellect among the people in these two categories. Of course I'm sure that it is a continuum across the distribution of learning speeds, and not just two distinct groups at each end of the distribution, but it is the end members that are the most visible, and that is what prompted me to be thinking about the topic.

It occurs to me that there is a situation similar to this in

the study of mathematics at the high school level. Some students go from Algebra 1 to advanced placement calculus in four years, make good grades, and enjoy the learning experience. Others struggle with pre-algebra, take it only because they need it in order to graduate, hate the ordeal, and are pleased to escape with a barely passing grade. So is there a correlation between ability to learn to square dance and an aptitude for mathematics? You could not conclude that from anything we've said here so far, but I often hear people say that people with backgrounds in fields such as mathematics, engineering, and physics tend to be better dancers who are more likely to go on to higher levels of the activity. Presuming this conjecture to be true, is it the case then that people attracted to these fields of study are more apt to have an aptitude for learning to square dance, or is it the case that having completed technical studies in areas such as these is helpful for learning to dance?

Out of curiosity, I did a Google search on "square dance mathematics," and was surprised at the number of hits that came back on the subject. I spent a fair amount of time reading through some of them, and found it to be quite interesting. I think based on what is in the literature on the subject, it would be safe to say that there is a high positive correlation between a love of and aptitude for

mathematics and aptitude for learning square dancing easily and being able to see the formations and apply the definitions quickly, especially at the higher levels. And this really shouldn't be surprising. Math has its structures, symmetry, axioms, theorems, and rules, and is basically about problem solving. Square dancing, especially at the higher levels, is all about rules, concepts, definitions, and quick, on-the-fly application of these to problem solving.

Here are links to two of the articles that came back from the Google search. The first one is http://articles.chicagotribune.com/2007-12-10/news/0712090194_1_square-dancing-square-roots-math-whizzes. This is an article that appeared in the Chicago Tribune a few years ago about a senior math major at a college near Chicago who signed up for a class titled Mathematics of Square Dancing. She took a ribbing from her friends when they heard about it, but she came to realize that there really are a lot of mathematical concepts used in square dancing. This is a fun, easy read, and I recommend reading it to anyone with any interest in either math or square dancing.

The second link is http://www.tiac.net/~mabaker/Lorenzo_squaredancing_thesis.pdf, and this one is a bit heavy

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Editor Sez

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er reading. The link takes you to a paper titled The Art of Square Dancing: Math in Motion, which was written as a Senior Honors Thesis at the same college referenced in the previous link. It starts out with a basic overview of square dancing and its background, and then proceeds into some mathematical developments about the movement of dancers in a square. If you have never been exposed to abstract algebra, you're likely to conclude that much of the article is written in Greek, but if you do have even a little background in that field, I think you will find it to be a very well done and detailed work. If this interests you at all, then I recommend that you start reading at the beginning and continue to whatever point you may get bogged down in the math, and end up with a new appreciation for a branch of mathematics that is known for not having a large number of real-world applications.

My conclusion from all of this is that, yes, there is a definite correlation between having an aptitude for math and having an interest and aptitude for square dancing. Of course this doesn't mean that if you didn't do all that well in your math classes, that you won't do well with square dancing, but just that it may not come as quickly and eas-

ily as it may for others. It may also mean that you shouldn't aspire to become a Challenge level dancer. Or it may be that my conclusion is just plain wrong. In any event, you should get out there and go for whatever level of dancing you enjoy most.

Plus Coordinators' Message



*Joy & Rob Starks
Plus Coordinators*

We are already five weeks into our new session. Our new class is a mix of new and returning students. We are fortunate to have Don Schadt's excellent teaching. Everyone appreciates both his knowledge of square dancing and his sense of humor. John and Nancy Hyde have graciously stepped in when Don was unable to be with us. It is great to have such a large hall for our class with wood floors and air conditioning that works if

we keep the doors closed! Our 'one student to one angel' program has really been successful. We can see the students learning faster than ever. Our continued thanks go to our faithful angels who come each week to work with our students.

Don't forget the RIVCO festival in Indio November 10 - 15. It is always a lot of fun and will give our recent Plus graduates an opportunity to get a lot of Plus level floor time with several different callers. We look forward to getting in a few tips with you there.

**Rob & Joy Starks
Plus Coordinators**



Our Plus Class Graduates and New Club Members

These are the graduates of the Plus class of September 2016. We are proud that all seven graduates have decided to become Valley Trailers members.

It is important to note the learning process they all went through to get to this point in square dancing. First, each new dancer is paired up with an experienced club dancer at each class. Ideally this "angel" knows the definitions of the calls and can explain each call to his or her assigned student during breaks as needed. Each square a student is placed in has at least three other angels with the same credentials.

The students have about 24 weeks with 1-1/2 hours each week to learn the calls and become capable of dancing at a club level dance.

Students are encouraged to attend club dances when they are ready. The angels, as well as other club members, are encouraged to invite the new dancers into their squares at dances. This helps the experienced dancers get to know the new dancers and introduce them to other club members. The new dancers can have a positive experience and will be

motivated to continue dancing with the club.

Thank you to our Plus Coordinators for a great job in putting the time and energy into helping our students really learn the basics and not graduating them before they are truly ready. You're doing a great job!



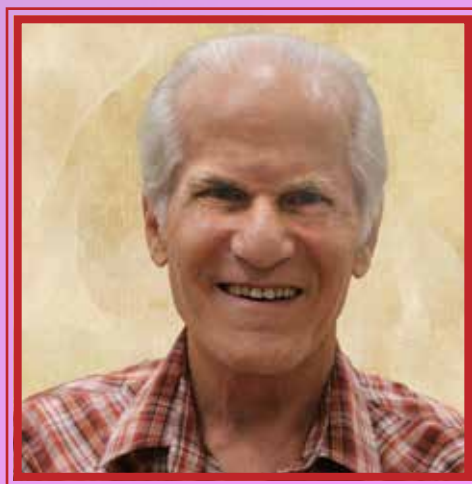
*Irene & Richard
Narita*



Phyllis Perkins



Rozanne Feldman



Alan Epstein



*Sandy & Jeff
Cohen*

Cohen's Corner

Sue Cohen goes to Africa

Sue Cohen recently went on a safari trip to Africa, and of course she had to get in some dancing while she was there. Here is her report on that part of her trip. When you get a chance, ask her about the animals she saw while there.

My only square dancing during the past month was at Lufupa Camp in the Okavango Delta of Botswana. The tour leader had never heard of square dancing. I was able to get help from five other fellow travelers, my tour leader, and one of the assistant managers at the tented camp. They learned a few calls like those we did at the church presentation and they had fun doing it. The only other dancing I did there was the "hora". I was going to show Martin, the camp manager, how to do it. When I did the first step, he knew what I was doing. Earlier, at our first lodge, six of us had danced the hora as our presentation to the staff after they had entertained us. We did tribal dancing around the campfire with the staff. At the other three camps we sang old songs and all fifteen of us sang enthusiastically. It appeared that our performance was enjoyed by all.

Sue Cohen

Look Out Don Schadt

Once a teacher always a teacher. Sue Cohen takes up teaching square dancing in Africa.



Holiday Hop

Jan 1, 2, 3, 4

Callers: Mike Seastrom,

Ken Bower,

Gary Shoemake

Plus Dancing

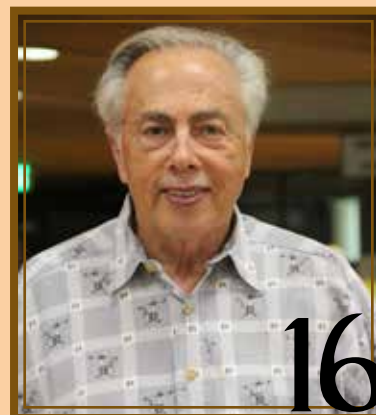
3 nights lodging,

3 breakfasts,

3 dinners

Laughlin, Nev

Info: 760-200-1031



Mainstream Coordinators Message



Ethel & Danny Ball
Mainstream Coordinators

Our new class is off to a great start! We have several new students as well as continuing students in our Mainstream class. We are very fortunate to have Don Schadt. He is a wonderful instructor and everyone seems to be having a great time learning to square dance. Tom Beatty has begun his 6:30 p.m. review class to reinforce the calls taught the Tuesday night before. The pace of the Mainstream class is rather quick, so if you are a new or continuing Mainstream student, please be sure to take advantage of the 6:30 p.m. review. This will help you if you miss a Tuesday night so that you can learn the calls that were taught while you were away. It can also help you remember the calls that were taught the previous week so that you are ready to learn the new calls. Check it out; we think that you will find the

review very helpful.

We would like to thank our "angels" for volunteering to work with our Mainstream students. Please remember that there is more than one way to help out. You might be asked to partner with a new or continuing student, or you might be asked to be one of the angels in a square with new students. Either way, we appreciate your expertise. Please be sure to check in with us at the start of the class to let us know that you are available to help out. Those who recently advanced to the Plus class might also think about coming to the Mainstream class to assist our new students. It helps the new students as well as reinforces the Mainstream calls for you as you learn the Plus level.

See you all next week!

Ethel & Danny Ball



Plan Ahead Winter Festival January 20, 21, 22

**5 Great Callers:
Bronc Wise, Bob Baier,
Tony Oxendine,
Jet Roberts, Jerry Story
Plus through C1**

**For Info: Judi Willer
209-296-8524**

Local Club Dances

Official Visitation

Boots & Slippers

11/20 Hunter Keller
12/31 Dick Hodnefield

P

VT club members - Don't forget to wear club colors*

Buckles & Bows

11/26 Mike Sikorsky
12/24 Dark

P

* This means our current outfits. The new ones will make their debut at the anniversary dance on November 19.

Farmers & Charmers, Lads 'N' Lassies

11/05 Buddy Weaver
12/03 Michael Kellogg

P

Date: November 5
Club: Farmers & Charmers/Lads 'N' Lassies
Level: Plus with A1 Star Tip
Caller: Buddy Weaver
Theme: Fantasy Fun
Time: Rounds: 7:30, Squares: 8:00
Location: Wilkinson Senior Center

Happy Squares

11/12 Dark
12/10 Romney
Tannehill
01/14 Gary Shoemake

P

Recommended Dance

Sierra Hillbillies

11/06 Andy Allemao
12/4 Charlie Robertson

MP

Date: November 26
Club: Buckles & Bows
Level: Plus with hot hash tip at break
Caller: Mike Sikorsky
Theme: Turkey Trot
Time: Rounds: 7:00, Squares: 7:30
Location: Goebel Adult Center, Thousand Oaks

Trail Dusters

11/12 Vic Ceder
12/10 Dark
01/14 Arlen Miller

P

M - Mainstream

P - Plus

Western Weavers

11/11 Dark
12/09 Ken Bower

P

"Four years ago, my cousin ran for Congress."

"What's he doing now?"

"Nothing. He got elected."

**Looking for a dance?
Go to "wherethedance.com".**

Advanced Dances

Phantom Squares

A2 7:45 PM

November 11
Dark (Go to RIVCO)
December 9
Vic Ceder
January 13
Rob French

Canoga Park
Women's Club

Weaver Believers

4th Friday - **A2**

October 28
November 25
December 23

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

Valley Trailers

A1 & A2

8:00 - 10:30 PM
October 29
Caller:
David Mee

Wilkinson Senior
Center
Northridge

Fall Frolic

A2 Dancing

November 25, 26, 27
Caller:

Johnny Preston
Casa De Fruta,
Hollister
Info: Harlan Bowen
707-489-6819



Trailblazers

1st Saturday

C1 11:00 AM -
1:30 PM

A2 3:00 - 5:30 PM

November 5
Sandie Bryant
December 3
Todd Fellegly
January 2
Bronc Wise

5946 Westminster Blvd.
Info: John Melstrom
714-968-3888

October 23
and
November 27

Day of A
with Ken Ritucci
A1 10:30 - 1:00 PM

A2 2:00 - 4:30 PM
Cedarbrook Dance Center
Info - Ken Ritucci
413-262-1875

November Shuffle

A-2/C-1 Weekend
November 18 - 20

Callers: Romney
Tannehill

& Bill Haynes
Info: Beverly Tomkins
909-261-4890

Snow Ball Celebration

December 17
Mike Sikorsky - A2
Roseville, CA
Info 916-722-3933

November

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Visitation Farmers & Charmers Nov. 5 Caller: Buddy Weaver		1 Square Dance Class	2 Board Meeting 7:30 pm Tom & Mary Beatty's	3 Round Dance Class	4	5 Visitation Farmers & Charmers Lads N Lassies Caller: Buddy Weaver
6 Sierra Hillbillies Caller: Andy Allemao	7	8 Square Dance Class	9	10 Round Dance Class	11 Western Weavers Caller: DARK	12 Happy Squares Dark Traildusters Caller: Vic Ceder
13	14	15 Square Dance Class	16	17 Round Dance Class	18	19 VT Anniversary Callers: Mike Seastrom & Charlie Robertson
20	21	22 Square Dance Class	23	24 Thanksgiving 	25 Western Weavers Caller: Ken Bower BLACK Friday	26 Buckles & Bows Caller: Mike Sikorsky Boots & Slippers Caller: Hunter Keller
27	28	29 Square Dance Class	30	Recommended Buckles & Bows Caller: Mike Sikorsky Nov.26		

Valley Trailers Caller Schedule

Date	Theme	Caller
11/19/16	62nd Anniversary Dance	Mike Seastrom Charlie Robertson
12/17/16		Hunter Keller
01/21/17		Rick Hampton
02/18/17		Johnny Preston
03/18/17		Dark (Bakersfield)
04/15/17		Charlie Fagan
04/29/17		Dan Preedy
05/20/17		Don Schadt



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

