

# September 2012

Caller: John Marus (johnmarus@cox.net) President: Dana McCrary (619-465-9205, Mccdnlyn@cox.net), Vice President: Chris Davis (619-434-1993, chrisdavis542@cox.net)

### PRESIDENT'S TWO CENTS

#### Membership renewal

We are still collecting next years club dues and insurance dues. Insurance will be the same as last year \$5:00 and you only have to pay through one club. If you pay through Ruffles and Beaus, you don't pay twice.

Our club gets its Public Liability and Public Damage (PL/PD) policy which allows our club to dance in both public and private buildings. Most of the facilities we use now days require \$1,000,000 of insurance just to walk in the door. The USDA Insurance program provides this insurance via a blanket policy that extends nation wide. If you don't remember if you don't remember if you paid, see the treasurer.

### Ghost Riders (live band) – Oct. 20 Round-up

The San Diego Square Dance Association is sponsoring a live band dance with the Ghost Riders ~ October 20, 2012 in the Balboa Park Club. This is our normal Third-Saturday Round-up. Because of the cost of the band, the door fee will be \$15.00 per person, prepurchase is requested. The tickets are available from Del and Abbie Birmingham. (They also are SDSDA V/P) Please plan on attending this dance if you can. We do have fliers available at club.

# Fiesta de la Cuadrilla November 2,3,4, 2012

The Fiesta committee is NOT making travel trips to the clubs to pre-sell Fiesta tickets this year. But will be selling them at Round-up at a discount, as if they were coming to your club's party night.

# **Square Dance Etiquette** (asking for help on unfamiliar calls)

We all make mistakes, miss calls, we have forgotten movements, haven't done a certain call in a while. We also all have calls that we never learned properly, or maybe learned a short-cut way of doing it rather than the proper way. If you are one of the many students that miss a lot of classes because of too many things occupying your busy schedule. This hurts both you as a dancer and also hurts the other dancers in the square because the good, more accomplished dancer has to spend part of their time helping keep the square straight

Each time the square gets flubbed up and the flow of the dance falters, we are not dancing any more. The more quickly the square can pick its self up into a workable square the better, even if partners have changed. Worrying about what happened is of less importance than concentrating on where you are going.

Keep in mind that our evenings have two levels. Class level until 8 PM and club 8 pm -10 pm. Asking a mainstream question or workshop request during a basic class is impractical. Asking plus level question or workshops request during basic and mainstream class is impractical. Sometimes, we have class members invited to join the club after 8 pm. Most regular dancers do not mind. Some dancers enjoy doing some of the mainstream and basic calls for practice. Sometimes we have guests come in after 8 pm from out of the area that do NOT dance the Plus, in that case John will

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call to their level. (He can make a very interesting, challenging basic dance, stumping even Advance Dancers!)

Most callers plan a dance days ahead of the dance. Many things are considered to make the dance FUN and enjoyable. John always puts on an enjoyable and balanced evening. It is not easy to present to offer a balanced in only 3.5 hours.

If you are having trouble with a call, it is sometimes much better is to wait for a break, put together a work shop square one on one. Usually there are plenty of dancers to help out with a workshop square.

John does his very best to provide the best possible evening possible each time he calls Its our job to give him the best dancers possible to work with.

#### Happy Dancing Dana \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

2013 California State Convention

Next years state convention will be held in Victorville, California on April 12, 13, & 14. There will be a supurb lineup of callers, cuers and line dance instructors. Start planning for next year's convention now.

### CLUB TRAVELS AND VISITATIONS

September 4<sup>th</sup> Flying A's Anniversary Dance at the Balboa Park Club.

# Websites

INFORMATIONAL WEBSITES:

Most of the websites have links to dancing in other local tins, including overseas, and is available via our website's "links" feature.

singlespinners.sdsda.org/ www.sdsda.org www.PalomarSDA.org www.backcountrysda.com www.squaredance.org www.61nsdc.com - Spokane www.NSDCNEC.org www.wheresthedance.com/ www.facebook.com/singlespinners

2013 additional forms & Information

www.squaredance.org/2013

2013 California State Convention.

2013GeneralChair@squaredan ce.org

2013Registration@squaredanc e.org

# VICE-PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS

Happy September! September is one of those months that as a kid growing up not many of us liked very much, with school starting and all. For me, it just means that my work schedule is gearing up for another stressful three months. Square Dance wise, it means that we are in the middle of learning mainstream in class. I'd like

to thank all of you who come out early every week to help out the class. If it wasn't for the class, we wouldn't be the club we are now. It has come to my attention that some folks are not happy with some of the things that are going on in the club. I won't name any names or issues because frankly this isn't the proper place to do it. However, what I will say is that the board is aware of the issues and is developing strategies on how to deal with it.

Also, not sure if Dana is going to say anything about it in his article, but next month's Round-Up is one that I am looking forward to immensely. The square dance band The Ghost Riders will be performing. If you have never been to a dance with a live band, you really should go. Unlike most Third Saturday Round-Up's October's is a pre-sale only. Tickets are \$15/person and can be purchased by contacting Del & Abbie Birmingham at (858) 271-7075 or drop them an email at del92126@att.net. Local caller Buddy Weaver & So Cal caller Charlie Robertson will be the callers ... What I quess I'm trying to say is this, THIS IS THE DANCE OF THE YEAR!!!!! For those that like to dance in circles, Rey Garza will be cueing the rounds.

As a member of the current class of the John Marus Institute for the Advancement of Calling (JMIAC) we are going to have our "Final" at the Sept. 25<sup>th</sup> dance, which is also the monthly birthday night. Our final is the class students will

be the callers for the night (Club time). So please come on out and support myself and fellow Spinner Frank who is also in the class.

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Questions, comments, concerns, things you wouldn't dare tell your psychiatrist but would gladly share with us?

Chris

# **CALLER'S CORNER**

Greetings to you all. Now that fall is coming upon us, it is the season where dancing ramps up again in many parts of the world, although, in San Diego, it really never stops for the most part. However, Anniversary dances resume with Ruffles and Beaus in August, Flying A's in September, and Calico Twirlers in early October. For the Calico's, this will be their last Anniversarv dance. It is the next in a growing list of clubs that have folded in this area during my almost 30 years as a dancer in this area.

Clubs folding is not a new subject. It has happened ever since the first Modern Western Square Dance clubs were formed 60-plus years ago. There were many clubs in this area that were long gone when I started dancing in 1982. Anyone ever hear of the Balboa Park Group, Bonita Squares, Boots & Bustles, Bunion Busters, Circle & Star, Diamond Squares, Dip 'N Divers, Double Bow Knot, Double Circle, Dudes 'N Dolls, Forward Eight, Four Leaf Clo ver, Frontier Squares, Golden Slippers, Huff & Puffers, Jeans & Calicos, Sea Squares, Silver Spurs, Star Twirlers, Town Squares, or Travelin'

# **Homespun News**

Squares? These were some of the clubs in the San Diego Square Dance Association as listed in the 5<sup>th</sup> National Square Dance Convention program book that no longer existed by the time I started dancing. That convention was in 1956, in San Diego. That doesn't even include the Heartland Federation (Back Country) or Palomar Square Dance Associations. There have been many more since that have come and gone. It happens - and, while it is not a great thing, but it is not, by itself, a bad thing either. I will explain this later.

Why do clubs fold? There are likely many reasons, probably as many as the number of clubs that have folded: Members dropping out of dancing or moving away. A rift forms between groups within the same club, causing it to split. Expenses cause the club the inability to continue from a financial standpoint. Not changing the club culture to parallel changing times in the outside world. Or, tired leadership. It is the combination of these last two points that I think apply here. The club my mother and I learned with, and joined as members, the Swinging Stars, went through this process. Our club folded within two years after we graduated from their class. Our club dances became more lightly attended,

but not lighter than many mid-week clubs are today. I don't remember what the state of our finances was, but I do not think they were that dire. It was our leadership. It was tired. The club consisted primarily of dancers that have been dancing for years. There is a fatigue that develops over time and that is the danger. Most successful clubs have an ongoing influx of energy. It takes a lot of energy to go out and promote our activity and invite new people into the club. Those that can, survive; those that can't, fold.

Are clubs folding a bad thing? By itself - yes. However, going back in history, as clubs folded, NEW clubs formed. They may have been formed by an energetic group of dancers, or by a caller who was hungry for some dancers to call to. Either way, these clubs had something NEW to offer, whether it be from their energetic leadership or their energetic caller. These clubs read into the changing culture of the time and changed their program, or overall atmosphere, to adapt. This is where I think our activity is suffering. There have been few, if any, new clubs forming in the past several years. Why not? Either there are no enthusiastic dancers wanting to put forth the work to make it happen, or there are no callers, new or experienced, with the energy to start new groups. One reason for this is there have been a low number of new callers who have the drive to start new groups. Most of the suc cessful newer callers that have come into the fore over the

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past decade have been hired by existing clubs.

For our club, an existing club, the question is this, considering the paragraphs above: What kind of a club are we? Are we energetic? Or, are we becoming fatigued? Well, I will leave you to reflect on that for yourself as I am running out of space. But remember, we ALL have a stake in this, whether we are on the board or not. This is not a criticism of our board, but they are not alone. It is up to ALL of us to get involved. Think about it.

I am calling for the Ocean Wavers on September 8. Don't forget the Back Country Quarterly Dance on October 13. Take care everyone

Until next time... John

# DO YOU WANT TO LEARN HOW TO ROUND DANCE?

San Diego Round Dance Instructors – brand new website: rounddance.org

# **AROUND SPIDEY'S WEB**

If you have anything you want in this fine publication, just give it to Lynn Davis at a dance (deadline is the last dance of each month, and IF SPACE PERMITS, it will be included in the next issue) or you can e-mail it to: <u>lynndavis542@cox.net</u>

For those of you moving, please make sure we have your new address, so that the newsletter will follow you to

# **Homespun News**

your new home. The post ofice does not usually share change of address so, if they send it back to us, we have no way to get your newsletter to you.

# Party Central

Hi

September 11<sup>th</sup> starts our Fall season off with a California Admission Day Dance. Bring a pencil and test your knowledge about our wonderful state. Remember the gold rush with us. October 2<sup>nd</sup> we celebrate our

Callers birthday with cake and ice cream. It is our Teddy Bear Party. So, please bring a Teddy Bear with you and be sure to take him home when the party is over. But, of course, we have our own Halloween Party. Come in costume and win a prize on October 30<sup>th</sup>.

I hope to see you in a square at all of these dances. Just be sure to wear your Spinner Smile!!

So... mark them on your calanders and enjoy the dancing

See You in a square Jane Marus

Here is an e-mail I recently received from Edy, thought it should be shared: NEW DRIVING LAW =ALL STATES (Very Important!) While driving across Arizona a few weeks ago, I observed an Arizona Hiway patrolman parked on the side of the freeway with his lights flashing for no apparent reason. I soon reasoned that he was probably waiting for some unsuspecting soul to violate the new law. Beware my friend. Date: Sat, 19 May 2012

10:31:42 -070 I received this today. From the size of that fine it seems like it would be best to slow down to 20 MPH under the speed limit AND move over.

I was aware of the move over to outer lane and knew to slow down, but I didn't know about the 20 mph under speed limit. Thought maybe this might be good information to pass on. Someone added: This happened to my aunt on the four lane right outside of Dyersburg

, TN a few months ago. Her ticket was over \$300 and it cost her three points on her license, too. A state trooper and a county cop had someone else pulled over. She slowed down and moved over a little, but not all the way into the other lane. The trooper wasn't understanding at all. Mom was with her and she didn't know about the law either. NEW TRAFFIC LAW - 2010 If a patrol car is pulled over to the side of the road, you have to change to the next lane (away from the stopped vehicle) OR slow down to at least 20 mph under the posted speed limit. Every state except Hawaii and Maryland and the D.C. has this law. In California, the Moveover law became operative on January 1, 2010 ..

<u>http://www.moveoveramerica.</u> <u>com/</u> A friend's son got a ticket for this recently. A police car

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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
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			HoC) Crofi D K brei	8		Flying A's Anniv. Park Club
ŋ	10	11 Class & Club	12	13	14	15
	if oge anta ai iiiiix	Party Night				Round Up
16 Assoc. Meet.	17	18 Class & Club	19	20	21	22
				dyama BFC bsn	oM m2	Callers Fun Dance
23	24	25 Class & Club	26	27	28	29
		Bd. Night Callers Graduation				5 <sup>th</sup> Saturday PSDA
30	Happy Birthday	Happy Birthday to: Gary O. 9/7, Leah S. 9/8, Amelia S. 9/10, Curly A. 9/15, Mary B. 9/29.	. S. 9/8, Amelia S. 9,	/10, Curly A. 9/15, N	/lary B. 9/29.	
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(turned out it was two police cars) was on the side of the road giving a ticket to someone else. He slowed down to pass but did not move into the other lane. The second police car immediately pulled him over and gave him a ticket. He had never heard of the law. It is a fairly new law that states if any emergency vehicle is on the side of the road, if you are able, you are to move into the far lane. The cost of the ticket was \$754, with three points on his license and a mandatory court appearance. Please let everyone you know who drives about this new law. It is true (see details at the following web addresses). This same law applies to tow trucks and medical emergency vehicles like ambulances on the side of the road.

## The 5 Basic Sentences You'll Ever Read

1. You cannot legislate the poor into prosperity, by legislating the wealth out of prosperity.

2. What one person receives without working for, another person must work for without receiving.

3. The government cannot give to anybody anything that the government does not first take from someone else.

4. You cannot multiply wealth by dividing it.

5. When half of the people get the idea that they do not have

to work because the other half is going to take care of them; and when the other half gets the idea that it does no good to work, because somebody else is going to get what they work for, that is the beginning of the end of any nation.





John's Birthday

Tuesday - Oct. 2 Time: 8:00 ~ 10:00 pm

Square Dance Club



Bring your own Teddy Bear to share (please take me home after.)



Donation \$5.00 Caller ~ John Marus Cuer ~ Dana McCrary

El Cajon Blvd

Pols

Lincol

University

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Location: Our Savior's Lutheran Church ~ (North Park) 4011 Ohio St. San Diego, CA 92104

For info: (619) 465-9205 or (619) 470-7188 E-mail: mccdnlyn@cox.net or johnmarus@cox.net

Single Spinners Square Dance Club Co-sponsored by San Diego Square Dance Assoc. and the San Diego Parks and Recreation

ingle Spinners

PO Box 3862 San Diego, CA 92163-3862

[Forwarding Service Requested]

Square Dance Club

Oct. Party ~

gle Upinners

Tuesday - Oct 30

Time: 8:00 ~ 10:00 pm

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