

5<sup>TH</sup> EDITION

# The Gone with the Windmill

# SPIN

MAY  
2011

## TOURS — Last Chance! —



Seats are filling up but there is still room on our fabulous tours. You can visit Callaway Gardens & the Little White House, Biltmore Estate in Asheville, North Carolina, see local sights on the Atlanta City tour, discover Stone Mountain Park, or venture into the deep South and visit historic Savannah, Georgia.

This month is your last chance to sign up. Completed tour registration forms must be received by May 31st. For a detailed description, please see our January and February newsletters, available on our website:

<http://www.iagsdc.org/atlanta2011/newsletters.html>

## THINGS TO SEE AND DO AROUND TOWN

### Atlanta City Pass – \$74

#### GET 51% OFF & SKIP TICKET LINES AT ATLANTA'S BEST ATTRACTIONS

The City Pass booklet contains six tickets: 1) Georgia Aquarium expedited entry; 2) World of Coca-Cola timed-entry; 3) Zoo Atlanta; 4) Inside CNN Studio Tour; 5) an Option Ticket, with choice of either Fernbank Museum of Natural History or Atlanta Botanical Garden; and 6) an Option Ticket, with High Museum of Art including special exhibits or Atlanta History Center admission. Save 52% off the regular cost of ticket combination of \$155. Several of these venues are within walking distance of our host hotel. Tickets can be purchased online at [www.citypass.com/atlanta](http://www.citypass.com/atlanta).

#### GEORGIA AQUARIUM

The Georgia Aquarium is the world's largest, with more than 8.5 million gallons of salt and fresh water housing more than 120,000 animals of 500 different species. The aquarium's notable specimens include whale sharks, beluga whales, manta rays and penguins. [www.georgiaaquarium.org](http://www.georgiaaquarium.org)



#### WORLD OF COCA-COLA

Originally intended as a patent medicine, Coke was invented in Atlanta in the late 19th century and Atlanta remains Coke's home office. The World of Coca-Cola is a permanent attraction featuring the history of the Coca-Cola Company and its well-known advertising as well as a host of entertainment areas and attractions. [www.worldofcoca-cola.com](http://www.worldofcoca-cola.com)

*Be sure to go to our website for forms, updates and the latest information.*

[www.atlanta2011.com](http://www.atlanta2011.com)

## ZOO ATLANTA

Founded in 1889, Zoo Atlanta is one of the oldest continuously operating zoological institutions in the United States and houses over 1,300 animals representing more than 220 species. Home of the nation's largest collection of gorillas and orangutans, the zoo is also one of only four zoos in the U.S. currently exhibiting giant pandas.

[www.zooatlanta.org](http://www.zooatlanta.org)



## CNN STUDIO TOUR

The world's first all-news, around-the-clock television network got its start in Atlanta by entrepreneur Ted Turner. From the control room theatre to the bustling CNN newsroom, this is your chance to go inside the fast-paced, high-tech world of live television news. Get a unique behind-the-scenes glimpse of news gathering and broadcasting from the working studios of The World Leader in News. [www.cnn.com/tour](http://www.cnn.com/tour)

## FERNBANK MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

Marvel at the largest dinosaurs ever discovered at the Fernbank Museum of Natural History. The museum presents exhibitions and programming about natural history that are meant to entertain as well as educate the public. Admission includes entrance to the IMAX Theatre where films are presented on a screen measuring five stories high and 72 feet wide. [www.fernbank.org](http://www.fernbank.org)



## ATLANTA BOTANICAL GARDEN

Located adjacent to Piedmont Park, the Atlanta Botanical Garden's mission is to "develop and maintain plant collections for the purpose of display, education, conservation, research and enjoyment." Many of the Garden's most important and enjoyed gardens are located indoors, including the Tropical Rotunda, Desert House, Orangery and Orchid Hall. The Canopy Walk allows visitors to tour the city's urban forest from 40 feet in the air. [www.atlantabotanicalgarden.org](http://www.atlantabotanicalgarden.org)

## HIGH MUSEUM OF ART

Enjoy the museum's 19th and 20th century American and European paintings, decorative art, modern and contemporary art, photography, African art and a distinctive collection of folk art. This summer, the High will be hosting "Modern by Design," a multi-exhibition collaboration between the High and the Museum of Modern Art, NY, and featuring nearly 150 works created by over 120 artists and designers. [www.high.org](http://www.high.org)



*Swan House*

## ATLANTA HISTORY CENTER

A cultural record of Atlanta and the South, the Atlanta History Museum is set among 33 acres of beautiful woodlands and gardens. Visit award winning exhibitions, museums, and the historic Swan and Tullie Smith Farm houses. The center hosts the largest, most comprehensive collection of Civil War artifacts in the world.

[www.atlantahistorycenter.com](http://www.atlantahistorycenter.com)

# ATTENTION!!

## Tour Cancellations

Due to our contract with the transportation company, no refunds for tours can be made after May 30, 2011.

## Hotel Reservations

The group rate at the Marriott Marquis is not guaranteed beyond June 15th. Please make your reservations soon.

## Mail-In Registrations

We are accepting mail-in registrations postmarked by June 15th. After that date you will need to pay at the registration desk in Atlanta.

## REGISTRATION

We currently have 650 dancers registered.

The top 10 Clubs are:

Hotlanta Squares – 54

Times Squares – 49

DC Lambda Squares – 42

Chi-town Squares – 31

Triangle Squares – 28

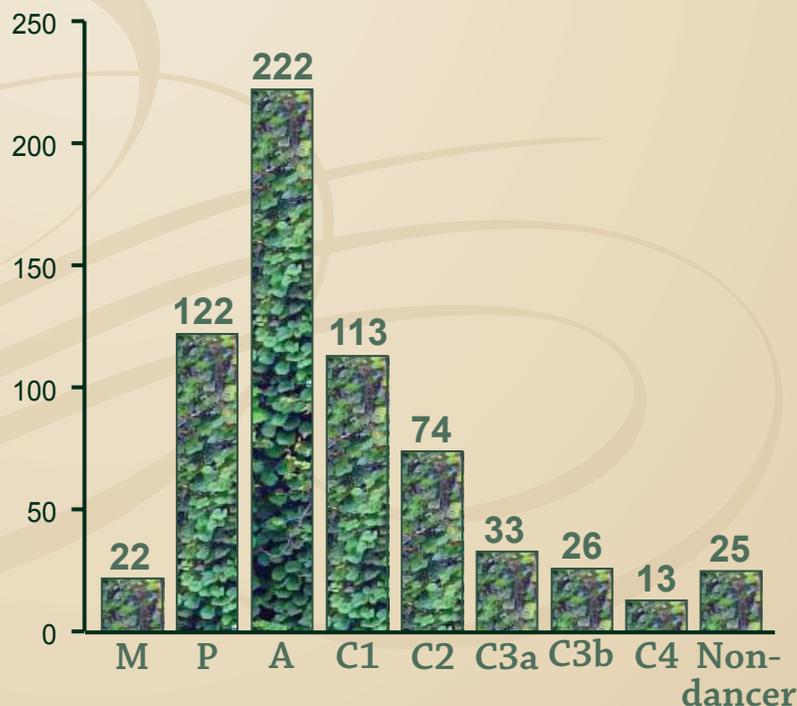
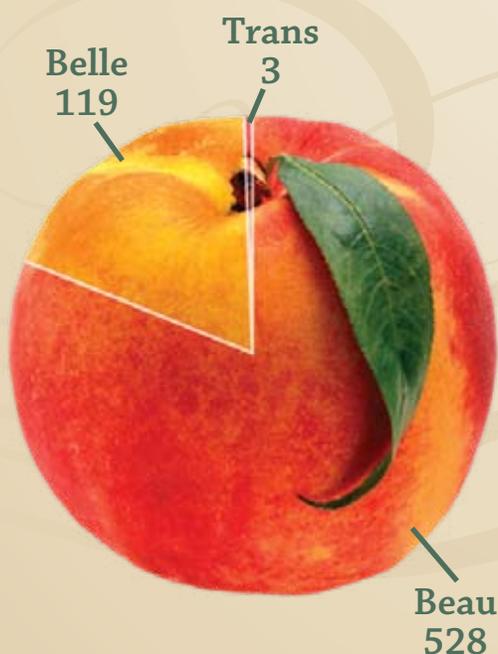
El Camino Reelers – 25

Independence Squares – 23

Rocky Mountain Rainbeaus – 22

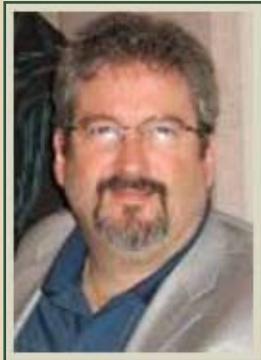
Finest City Squares – 21

Midnight Squares – 21



# CALLERS

Each issue of the *The Spin* will feature members of our calling staff. This month we meet Dayle and J.R.



**Dayle Hodge**  
**Columbia, MD**

Dayle was introduced to square dancing over spring break in 1981. His parents took him to a dance to watch. Having been raised to recognize patterns, he was immediately drawn to the dancing and the caller. His parents took him home, gave him a book to learn the calls and took him to a dance the next night. He screwed up every call and repeatedly apologized to his partner. He went home and studied, and the next night went to another dance and “got it.”

Back at college, Dayle joined the local square dance club and met Norm Shaffor, one of the Pittsburgh area callers. Norm took Dayle under his wing and the two were inseparable for the next 3 years. They haven’t been able to pry the microphone out of Dayle’s hands ever since.

In 1984, Dayle moved to the Washington DC area and became the caller for a singles club. There, a DC Lambda Squares member heard Dayle call and asked him to call an “audition dance” for DCLS. At the dance, Dayle took 20 seconds to change records between tips. When he turned around, everyone was squared up immediately for the next tip. He immediately thought “Ah ... my people!!” He’s been their club caller for the last 25 years.

Dayle has had the honor of calling for six IAGSDC conventions starting with NYC’s Peel the Apple, in 1989. He’s also called numerous fly-ins and weekends for Independence Squares, Lambda Squares, Chesapeake Squares, Times Squares, Iron City Squares, Chi-Town Squares, Cleveland City Country Dancers and Boston Uncommons, to name a few. Dayle is the club caller for DC Lambda Squares and Baltimore’s Chesapeake Squares. He calls through C3B. When not calling, Dayle loves hanging out with his 2 beautiful daughters Callie and Erin, his Girlfriend Kathy Z and his fun little puppy Kadon.

JR began square dancing back in 1978 in his home town of Haverhill, MA. His first club was the Dancin Singles. It was a young 16-year-old girl that got JR into the world of square dance. If she only knew. JR learned the entire MS through Plus program in about 3 months and was soon the envy of all the single ladies in the square dance world, even if 99% of them were over 60 years old.

JR also took to round dancing pretty quickly and before you knew it, under the mentorship of Carol McGee, wife of Bill McGee, JR’s first teacher and caller, he was soon cueing round dancing at the club and around the area.

It was during a trip to Cambridge MA with the club JR first visited the a TECH Squares at M.I.T. and discovered that young people also enjoyed the world of square dancing.

Over the time that JR lived in Boston, he considers himself very fortunate to have learned and danced to some of the great names of square dancing such as Jim Mayo, Don Beck and Jim Pulaski to only mention a few.

It was at a class night at MIT in 1999 that JR overheard some people talking about going to a dance in New York City and that the club there was GAY. “OMG, NO WAY” JR thought to himself. There were actually gay square dance clubs. With this revelation JR decide to attend the Peel the Pumpkin in 1999.

Shortly after the fly-in, JR moved to Key West, Florida for work. Then in 2000 when JR decided to attend the IAGSDC convention in Baltimore, his first gay convention, that he met Ken Hunt who was also from Atlanta. Well after JR told him he would moving there shortly they decided that Atlanta needed a gay square dance club. About 6 months later JR received a phone call from Ken saying they were putting together a group and meeting at his living room, so JR accepted the invite and the first 8 people were dancing to tapes in Ken’s living room.

It was during a class with one of the tapes that the class was confused. The tapes were just not great and the callers was really not explaining things well. JR jumped and said, “Well this is how I was taught this call many years ago,” and proceeded to show the group how it was done. JR was then pronounced caller, of course with no experience whatsoever.

With a challenge in hand JR took to teaching himself how to call, pretty much just making it up as he went along. Over time he began to improve and taught the first official class of the Hotlanta Squares.

Since then JR has gone on to call for clubs in the Georgia area. He has called the State Conventions. National Conventions and IAGSDC Conventions. He has several regular clubs in the metro Atlanta area he calls for and is excited to be on the 2011 caller staff for the IAGSDC convention in Atlanta GA.



**J.R. St. Jean**  
**Orlando, FL**