

SQUAREUP!



Issue 22 Summer 2000

Dancing Our Way —
Thanks to the GCA!

Editor's Note

MIKE STAPLES

It has now been three weeks since *Crack the Crab 2000*, and I'm still riding a high. Nearly every E-mail posted to the Internet list about *Crack the Crab* has been praiseworthy. It's not often that a convention receives universal accolades, but the folks in Baltimore got this one right. The location near the harbor was perfect, the convention center offered more than enough room for every need, the special events (Honky Tonk Queen contest, Moonlight Cotillion, Sunday Banquet, Fun Badge Tour, and Bay Lady Cruise) were exceptional, and the calling staff sensational. What more could you ask for? Hey, even the weather cooperated—now how did they (Kirk, Russell, Ett, Michael, Steve, and Cameron) arrange that?

When things go as well as they did in Baltimore, the "convention-high" that we experience helps unite our community. Old friendships are rekindled and new ones formed. Sometimes, we merely enjoy dancing with seven other people who we may never dance with again. Whatever the experience, great conventions imprint memories that last.

Every convention adds something new to the rich tapestry of gay and lesbian square dancing. Future conventions will surely rise to the challenge and offer new experiences to add to our collection of square dance memories. For now, I'm content with savoring the memories from *Crack the Crab*. Congratulations Kirk and crew on a job well done! Vancouver, we're looking forward to your party in April!



Enjoy the rest of your summer!

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Calling It Our Way

11 years of Tips with the Gay Callers Association

MIKE STAPLES



A GOOD CALLER WILL TELL YOU, “IT’S ALL IN the preparation.” Of course, an ability to entertain, a decent singing voice, and a sense of rhythm can’t hurt either. In the gay and lesbian square dance community, none of these skills and talents are left to chance. Though the first gay callers tended to their careers largely on their own, today’s aspiring callers have the luxury of joining an association that provides mentoring, coaching, and counseling as they develop and refine their calling abilities. We know that organization as the Gay Callers Association, more commonly referred to as the GCA.

The GCA was formed in 1989, though discussion of the need for such an organization went back to the earliest days of the IAGSDC. At the first IAGSDC convention—*All Join Hands*, Seattle, 1984—Chris Phillips and Harlan Kerr talked largely in jest about forming an organization of gay callers. The presence of two of the best callers from the straight community, Elmer Sheffield and Paul Marcum, raised the caller standard at convention to a level that seemed unattainable. “This was a momentous first to have callers of national prominence command a floor composed of gay dance clubs from around the country, many of whom had danced only to records,” Chris recalls. “Seattle set the mark for all conventions to come.”

At *All Join Hands*, nearly a dozen people attended an “Introduction to Sight Calling” workshop taught by Paul and Elmer. Afterward, there was discussion about the need to attract and promote gay callers to help build our community. From this discussion grew the idea of a callers organization that would promote gay callers and help coach and mentor those who were serious about calling. Such an organization would hopefully add to the limited roster of gay callers, which included established callers Chris Phillips, Dave New Year, and Harlan Kerr, and newcomers Karl Jaeckel, Andrea Barton, and Tadd Wagoner.

Other events at Seattle added to the push for a callers association. The prevailing dance level was Mainstream, with some Plus and limited Advanced. The enthusiasm for dancing higher levels sparked a spontaneous demand for introductory level workshops. Chris and Harlan were both asked to conduct classes, and both were amazed at the huge turnouts and the endless energy of the attendees. “I believe we started at 9am and went all the way through to the evenings,” Chris relates. “It was probably out of exhaustion that we jokingly said we need a union or at least a gay callers organization. The truth was, we couldn’t get enough—it was the energy from the floor that kept us going.”

The next year in Denver, Chris and Harlan assumed the same role of conducting workshops, and quickly noticed that many dancers had moved to higher levels. The unanticipated demand for a C-1 workshop was satisfied when Chris put together a late morning and all afternoon session, attended by far more participants than anyone expected. That evening, Chris and Harlan again talked about the possibility of organizing an association to help meet the growing need for gay callers. The discussion would continue for several years, but not



Gay Callers' School 1992

until 1988 would action be taken. At Phoenix's *Cross Trails In the Desert*, Harlan Kerr and Anna Damiani initiated an informal meeting, also attended by Bill Eyler and Chris Phillips. Though casual, the meeting served as a catalyst for efforts that would ultimately lead to the establishment of the first gay callers school at the 1989 convention (*Peel the Apple*, New York).

Prior to *Peel the Apple*, both Harlan and Anna published newsletters for the growing community of gay callers. Harlan's was called "Lambda Calling," and Anna's "The Call Sheet." Both actively promoted the first Gay Callers School, to

be held prior to the New York convention. One newsletter would suffice though, and in June, Harlan addressed a letter to all gay callers suggesting that Anna's newsletter be continued as the monthly publication. Harlan also took the opportunity to acknowledge the New York convention for including gay callers on their staff.

The success of the first Gay Callers School helped solidify the formation of the GCA. "The Call Sheet" soon became the consistent method of communication among gay callers. 44 issues later, it continues to serve one of the GCA's main purposes: to provide a forum for communication among its members. "The Call

Sheet' is not only the newsletter of our organization," a GCA outreach letter states, "but a valuable resource for technical information, insight about our craft, and discussions about the art of calling."

The GCA's other main purpose is to promote the development of new callers, a challenge met by hosting the annual pre-convention Gay Callers School. Here, those who want to try their hand at calling attend a 3-4 day workshop held prior to convention. Convention staff callers conduct workshops geared toward beginners as well as experienced callers seeking to hone their craft.

The First Gay Callers School

ETT McATEE

I went to the very first GCA Callers School in 1989 in New York, and had no idea what to expect. I had gotten the literature in the mail about it and decided to give it a try. Warren Jaquith from DC Lambda Squares and I signed up and off we went.

One of the things I remember vividly was that one of the homework assignments was to bring some written sequences of material. I had no idea how to write a sequence, so Warren and I, on the train up, set about writing our sequences, but from the "allemande left" backwards! We really didn't know how to start out, but we sure knew

where we ended up!

We got to the school, and found ourselves in a class with such notorious students as Howard Richman and Andy Shore among others. I was just a rank beginner then, and didn't know anyone at all. The coaches were Anne and Joe Uebelacker and Harlan Kerr ... and they provided great instruction to those of us in the class who had no clue.

My first time on the microphone was an experience to be remembered! I finished calling whatever, but was shaking so badly that Anne had to come rescue me from the microphone, as I couldn't get that needle off the record at

all! The coaches were great, very nurturing and supportive, and gave us a lot to think about as we learned the basics of calling.

I came home from that school raring to go, and got mike time at Chesapeake Squares, my home club in Baltimore. From there, I branched out into calling in the straight community, and eventually ended up with my own C-1 challenge club called Ettseteras. I call today locally and around the country (mostly in California and Pennsylvania) and occasionally abroad in Germany and Sweden. I look forward to the day that I can be in a square with all of you, or call for you!

Those new to calling usually have little or no experience with a microphone or turntable. One's experience isn't at issue though, as each aspiring caller will study the basic techniques of equipment operation, stage presence, choreography, and square resolution. By the end of the 3-4 day class period, a beginner will have had at least a taste of calling and some appreciation of the time demands that the trade requires. As the culminating activity of each GCA Caller School, beginning students are encouraged to use their new knowledge to call a tip at their graduation dance.

The Gay Callers School's success is reinforced through the attendance of intermediate and advanced callers alike. "I think it is important in two ways," explains Andy Shore, "because it provides continuing education and training for our existing GCA members, and because it encourages their attendance and networking with the newer (often first-time) attendees."

The success of the Gay Callers School and the communication link established by "The Call Sheet" have both solidified the GCA's role. From an informal discussion in 1988 to an organization that now boasts a membership of over 160, the GCA has made great strides. Callers School graduates have ensured the survival of many IAGSDC clubs—thanks to the GCA, the majority of club classes are now taught with live instruction. Look beyond our own community and you will find that many GCA members serve as our best ambassadors to the straight square dance clubs. Through their efforts, the GCA has been recognized as a positive force within the larger square dance arena.

These accomplishments are noteworthy, but challenges still confront the GCA. In the mid-80's, Dave New Year pushed for conventions to hire only gay callers. Fifteen years later, our conventions are still short on hiring talented gay callers. While many GCA callers call within the confines of the IAGSDC, others seek opportunities to establish their talents within the larger square dance world—for them, the original desire to be known as an accomplished gay caller has now progressed to the desire to be known as an excellent caller in all square dance communities. That will be difficult unless we first fully support and recognize their talents in our own community.

In spite of the remaining work to be done, the GCA is well established as a vital support organization within the IAGSDC. It is hard to imagine where we would be without it, though one thing is certain—gay and lesbian square dancing wouldn't be nearly as much fun without the style and enthusiasm brought to the dance by our gay callers. ■

The GCA hosts a web page at www.iagsdc.org/gca/. GCA Membership and newsletter subscription inquiries can be sent to Carlos Mosca, 4096 17th Street, #103, San Francisco, California 94114-1948.

The editor wishes to thank Ett McAtee, Bill Eyler, Chris Phillips, Seth Levine, and Harlan Kerr for their contributions to this article.

Bill Eyler on the GCA

Although we're not incorporated and don't have a mission statement per se, the reason the GCA was formed was for two purposes: 1) to gain greater exposure and legitimacy in the square dance world as equals to "straight" callers, and 2) to create an environment in which new callers which are gay-identified can have a training ground and to create a school which will help people along on that path.

Twelve years later, the initial catch phrase of having an all-gay caller convention really hasn't come to pass, but after all these years, it appears that it *doesn't* have to be "all-gay." We've made great inroads into legitimacy over all these years. At the last CallerLab convention in April, the 15 of us who attended and were GCA-identified were definitely recognized as being a force in the square dance community. We were even officially recognized at the convention as attendees.

We've created and maintained an annual callers school,

which I can easily say, rivals any other top-notch callers school on the continent. We have a newsletter that is a great informational and teaching tool that reaches hundreds of people four times a year. We've

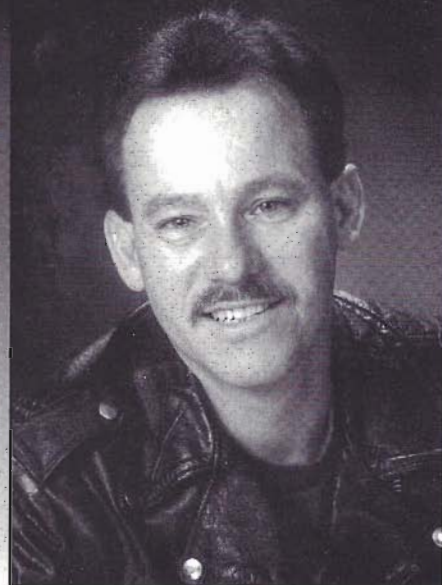
"...the GCA is a professional organization for callers who are affiliated with gay square dancing, not simply a holding tank for new, shaky callers still wet behind the ears."

used the newsletter as exposure enhancement by mailing it to hundreds of callers around the country.

There is an odd angle that has occurred with all this, mainly because of the success of our callers schools. We've had so many non-experienced newcomers go through the schools over the years, that we have a *great* many novice callers out there in the world looking for places to strut their stuff, or at the very least to find a group of eight dancers willing to work with them. Somehow this has segued into the concept that if you are announced as a GCA caller on a program, you are new in the activity and "let the dancer beware." We all know this isn't the case; folks like Kris Jensen, Andy Shore, Seth Levine, Paul Waters, and me are a few of the *many* experienced callers who are in the GCA, and are hoping that we can get the concept out that the GCA is a professional organization for callers who are affiliated with gay square dancing ... not simply a holding tank for new, shaky callers still wet behind the ears.

I'm on a drive for fly-ins to limit announcing "GCA Callers" as "add ons" for the program with second class citizen status. I'm a professional caller who belongs to two professional organizations, both the GCA and CallerLab. I wish we could change the term to non-staff callers or some such, but it's going to take a while to turn around the mental concepts dance folk have created over the years. ■

Chris Phillips — IAGSDC Pioneer



HE'S ONE OF OUR COMMUNITY'S ORIGINAL members, though you might not guess by looking at him. Chris Phillips youthful appearance may lead you to believe that he is not an "old-timer." In fact, Chris began dancing in 1977 as a member of "Uncle Charlie's Square," the second square formed in response to an ad designed to attract patrons to a Miami gay bar. Taken by the activity, he soon became his square's instructor, and the rest is history. Within a five-year period, Chris became the caller for the first gay square dance club, participated in organizing the first gathering to be called a "fly-in," and helped set the stage for the formation of the IAGSDC.

Chris' progression from dancer, to caller, to organizer followed a path that was accomplished without today's support structures that we take for granted. His journey began soon after joining Uncle Charlie's Square, when Chris decided to take lessons from a straight club to see how the "other side" worked. At his first lesson, Chris realized how much more enjoyable square dancing was with a caller. He enrolled in the class and convinced Dean Hofmann of the Club Bath Square to join him. Together, they were able to take what they

learned and convince their respective squares to practice together rather than compete, and to learn calls instead of memorizing sequences.

A year later, a few dancers were tired of dancing to records and asked Chris to call. Chris admits, "It was something I wanted to do, but I needed to hear it from them to give me the push." Without the benefit of instruction manuals or caller schools, Chris initially saw square dancing as "choreography set to cues." He would teach the calls and then walk dancers through formations. But one day while calling, things clicked. Chris recalls, "Like finally lining up all the colors on a Rubik's Cube, it all made sense. Instead of just teaching calls so we could dance to records, I realized I could improvise by using various calls and directives to resolve a square. I would learn later this was a form of extemporaneous sight calling, but at the time it was just the most orderly way to teach."

For the first few years, Chris was calling hash and patters. Encouraged by Jack Lasry, a nationally renowned straight caller, Chris continued calling and began to add singing calls to his repertoire. Soon, Jack asked Chris to fill in for him at his local club while he traveled. "It was exciting, my first real gig," Chris recalls. "It gave me the confidence, and in my mind, established me as a qualified caller." Later as Jack was easing out of calling due to poor health, he asked Chris to assume more of his duties. "I believe my at-ease approach to calling and the fact that I was (at the time) the age of most of the dancers' children, helped with my popularity at the straight clubs," Chris relates.

From the onset, both Chris and Dean recognized the potential of gay square dancing. Perhaps one of Chris' fondest memories of those early years is of sitting with Dean and other members of their squares at Dean's kitchen table,

shortly after a dance practice. The group was discussing the future of gay square dancing. Dean and Chris were in agreement that “some day you will be able to go to almost any city and gay square dance— why there will probably be gay conventions.” The others rolled their eyes. And yet, Chris and Dean had already launched the world’s first gay square dance club, so why not set their sights higher?

In late 1982, Chris took steps that would ultimately help turn his and Dean’s convention dream into a reality. Chris opened a bar called The Crossfire—named after the square dance call of course—as an attempt to bring country & western dancing to South Florida and as a home for the South Florida Mustangs. In February of 1983, the Mustangs invited all the known clubs at the time to join them in an event that they coined a “fly-in.” Talk of organizing gay and lesbian square dancing was well underway and during the fly-in, the first formal meeting was held at The Crossfire. A year later, the first convention became a reality. “It was an awesome experience to attend the first gay convention in Seattle,” Chris recalls. “In fact, all the conventions hold something special to us who remember when they were just wishful thinking.”

With the arrival of gay conventions, Chris and other gay callers were exposed to national callers whose polish and command of the floor would prove humbling if not intimidat-



The first “fly-in,” 1983.

ing. The exposure would lead to discussion of the need for a supportive organization of gay callers, and ultimately, to the formation of the Gay Callers Association. Today, Chris shares the sentiments of many who would like to see more gay callers on convention staffs: “It’s an unfair playing ground when our gay club callers are compared to the nation’s best. The lineup of callers at any gay convention reads like a Who’s Who of the straight Nationals. If most gay callers were com-

On the way to the first convention

CHRIS PHILLIPS

On the plane trip from Florida to Seattle, I happened to be on the same flight as Paul (Marcum) and Elmer (Sheffield). I recognized them, and made introductions. Their wives were ecstatic as they relayed to me how nervous Paul and Elmer were. “What should we expect? What if we say the wrong thing. In gay dancing, how do you tell the men from the women? Should we wear our petticoats?” (question from the wives of course). During the long flight, the questions were answered, and nerves were soothed. To

their credit, this took a lot of courage to do what no other “straight” callers had done at the time.

The first convention workshops

MIKE STAPLES, WITH CHRIS PHILLIPS’ INPUT

At Promenade Along the Rockies (Denver, 1985), Chris and Harlan assumed the same role conducting workshops as they had in Seattle, but quickly noticed that many dancers had moved to higher levels. After an early morning Plus review, Chris was asked to do an Intro to C-1 and was allocated the late morning and all afternoon to complete the workshop. Most

of the dancers were A-2, wanting to get their feet wet with C-1. No restrictions were in place on how many calls to introduce, so Chris proceeded down the list. During the lunch break, a member from the convention staff asked how things were going. Chris told him that he tried to get a bigger room, but that none were available. “For C-1?” the staff member asked incredulously. Later that afternoon, he checked in and was dumbfounded to discover a packed room full of dancers. The more Chris taught, the more they wanted, and by 5pm, they had covered the entire C-1 list. Since 1985, all convention level introductions have been limited to five to seven calls to dissuade dancers from attempting to dance full-level after an introductory workshop.

pared to their local competition instead, they would outshine them hands down.”

Chris continues to call, and can be counted among those for whom square dancing is both pleasure and business. He owns and operates the Round Up, a dance hall and community center in Miami that opened in 1990. The Crossfire had closed in the mid-80's, but Chris decided to reopen the bar as The Round Up when a local dance hall closed in 1989. The corral style dance floor and the horseshoe shaped bar were removed to make way for a wide-open dance hall that can accommodate 14 squares. It serves as the home for the South Florida Mustangs, accommodates private gatherings, and enjoys a large straight business during the winter season.

Chris is aided by his partner, Tom, in managing the Round Up. They originally met at the Crossfire in 1986, when both were in committed relationships. When the Crossfire closed, the Mustangs took up residence at another bar called Partners, where Chris got to know Tom and his lover. Chris recalls, “Tom accelerated in dancing and was one of the first Mustangs to attend my straight clubs in Fort Lauderdale. After I opened the Round Up, I saw more of him, and we became good friends. About five years later, we both

found ourselves single again. While I always had a thing for him, finding out it was mutual led to an endearing relationship.”

Tom and Chris make their home in Hollywood, Florida, where Tom spends his time managing his properties and helping Chris at the Round Up. Recently, they celebrated their fifth anniversary. To free up more time to travel with Tom, and to devote more time to computer consulting and managing the rental properties that he and Tom own, Chris has cut back his schedule at the Round Up.

With nearly 24 years of involvement in gay and lesbian square dancing, Chris remains one of the central figures in our community. His commitment to making things work in the days without caller schools and instruction books is remarkable. Ultimately, his devotion would help our community's first club stay the course and would help lead to the creation of the IAGSDC. Chris is a pioneer of our activity, and one who continues to serve as a model for all who follow in his footsteps. ■

Chris' web site can be viewed at <http://hometown.aol.com/chrisdphillips/>

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By JOHN MCKINSTRY, CAROL VAN CAMP (ROBERTS) AND BRIAN L. SMITH – *Co-Chairs of Make Magic.*

IN THE LATE 1980's, MURRAY LUSH DECIDED THAT SQUARES Across the Border should host an IAGSDC® convention. Unfortunately, Murray did not live to see his dream come to fruition. North Star Promenade was left in the capable hands of Keith Snowdon, Carol Roberts & Brian Smith and was held at the Hotel Vancouver in April of 1990.

Now, fast forward to 1994, and discussions started once again about hosting another convention in the new millennium. It was at *Track 2 Chicago* in 1995 that we officially submitted our bid to the IAGSDC® board to host the convention in 2001. Upon their return from Chicago, Carol Roberts and Brian Smith, along with John McKinstry, created the non profit society called "Square Up Eh!", in memory of Keith Snowdon. Square Up Eh! is a registered non profit society with the Government of British Columbia and is the corporate name for the convention.

In the two years that followed, the challenge would be to come up with a convention name and a logo along with a suitable location. The location turned out to be the easiest part of the process. The Westin Bayshore Hotel was chosen for it's

unique location as the only downtown resort hotel, situated on the Vancouver waterfront and only steps away from Stanley Park. The name and logo on the other hand proved to be a bit more of a challenge. After many hours of discussion and multiple presentations from members of Squares Across the Border, it was decided that the convention name would be "*Make Magic*". The logo and name were officially unveiled at Lights, Camera, Linear Action in Los Angeles in 1999, where we invited the members of the IAGSDC® to come to Vancouver in April of 2001.

The Make Magic Convention Committee and Squares Across the Border have made plans for another wildly successful celebration of gay and lesbian square dancing in a city that truly is Spectacular by Nature. For those who have visited Vancouver before, you already know that Vancouver is one of the most beautiful cities in the world. This year, the United Nations recognized Vancouver as the most liveable city in the world. While you're here you may want to get to know us a little better. Whether you're into shopping, fine dining, hiking, skiing, golfing, communing with nature, or just relaxing,

you'll find it all right at your doorstep. In April, Vancouver's many parks and gardens will be in full bloom. For the skiers, Vancouver is just two hours away from Whistler, North America's number one ski destination. If you'd like to taste a bit of Olde England, Victoria is just a short, but spectacular, ferry ride away.

Make Magic has lined up a stellar list of callers who will have the dancers on their feet throughout the day and long into the night. The *Make Magic* callers will be: Bronc Wise, Ray Brendzy, Todd Felleg, Tim Crawford, Vic Ceder, Ben Rubright, Steve Edlund, Ron Booiman, Tom Miller, and Anne Uebelacker, along with callers from the Gay Callers Association.

Make Magic will have everything people have come to expect from an IAGSDC® convention: banquets, dancing, the Grand March, dancing, the ever-popular Honky Tonk Queen contest, dancing, and the Fun Badge Tour. By the way, did we mention dancing? And no doubt, a few surprises will be conjured up as well. So polish those boots, dust off that cowboy hat, and make plans to be part of the *Magic*.

Make Magic will be the 18th Annual IAGSDC® convention and is being hosted by the members of Squares Across the Border at the Westin Bayshore

Hotel & Resort in Vancouver, Canada from April 12 to 15, 2001.

For further information please visit our web page at: www3.telus.net/makemagic or write us at: Make Magic, #211-788 Beatty Street, Vancouver, BC, Canada, V6B 2M1.

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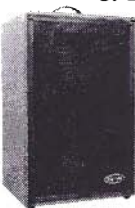


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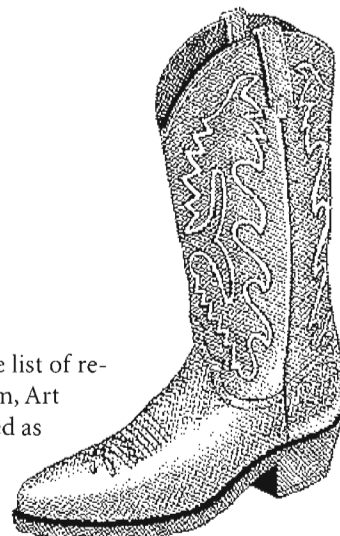
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HILTON

Golden Boot Award 2000

AS PRESENTED TO DARRELL ERTZBERGER BY PAUL WATERS, JULY 2, 2000



I would first like to thank Mike Staples and Ric Gonzalez for the honor they bestowed upon me last year. Not only for honoring me with the Golden Boot Award, but for allowing me to receive it in my hometown of Los Angeles. It will be a memory that I long cherish. I thank you both.

The Golden Boot Award has a history that stretches back to the beginnings of our activity, and indeed, the first recipient received his award at the time of the very first convention. It is a tradition that is very much a part of our yearly family reunion—an event better known as the IAGSDC annual convention. And it seems entirely fitting that an occasion such as this should provide a forum to honor the finest of our activity, before an audience of over a thousand of their peers.

But then comes the question of who to honor this year with this auspicious award.

To select this year's recipient, I considered the criteria that have been used to determine past recipients, as well as the list of the recipients themselves, and determined that the Golden Boot recipient must be:

A person who has given freely of their time and energy as a consequence of their love for the activity, well beyond what could conceivably be expected of even the most dedicated of individuals.

A person whose long-term commitment to the activity has been demonstrated by many, many years of selfless service to the gay square dance community.

A person recognized nationally and internationally for their contributions to gay square dancing, who has had an ongoing positive impact that reaches far beyond their home club.

A person who has worked to insure the world of gay square dancing continues to expand and grow, so that no matter where any of us goes, be it Baltimore, Maryland or Tokyo, Japan, there is a welcoming family ready to receive us.

A person who has served in the role of liaison between the gay square dance community and the straight square dance community—building the bridges that not only expand the dancing opportunities for gay and lesbian square dancers, but contributes to the ever-increasing inclusion of GLBT people as full partners in the fabric of the society within which we live.

And finally, a person who has demonstrated an appreciation of the history of the activity—and just how far we've come—and the vision to see, and work for, an even better future that is rapidly unfolding before us.

And then there's the list of recipients. Stretching from, Art Smith, who was honored as the very first Golden Boot recipient in 1983, up until the present—twenty individuals and

groups have been honored in this way. They are a varied lot—both dedicated volunteers and consummate professionals, men and women, gay and straight, Americans and Canadians, singles and couples—some with relationships that date back 50 years (happy anniversary Bill & Stan). There is, however, one trait that unifies them all—their love for this activity, and their dogged determination to insure its prosperity and growth. And to this honor roll will be added another name tonight, and it is only fitting that the 21st Golden Boot recipient will receive their award at the dawn of the 21st century.

Many past recipients have stood before this assembly and talked about the difficulties of selecting a recipient for whom to pass this tradition. And as with past recipients, the list of worth candidates that faced me was lengthy, and speaks to the strength of our activity that so many individuals share this great love for the activity, and put their love into selfless actions and deeds for the betterment of us all. But for me, the decision was simple, for I knew who this year's recipient would be within seconds of hearing my name last year in Los Angeles.

Although the decision was carefully reconsidered once the whirlwinds of Lights, Camera, Linear Action! died down, and an opportunity to reflect presented itself, I determined that my initial decision was the right decision, and so I would like you to join me in recognizing this year's Golden Boot Award recipient ...

Darrell Ertzberger.

To say that Darrell has put in time and energy on our behalf is the understatement of the decade. To begin with, he has served on the IAGSDC Board since 1991 in the capacity of Vice Chair, Treasurer and Chairperson. Anyone who has worked with Darrell knows the hours he puts in to insure the reports are complete, the mailings are done, and the deadlines are met. This doesn't happen by accident, and more often than not, Darrell is the one who is putting in the

long hours to insure the job is done and done right.

I have had the pleasure of knowing Darrell and have worked with him for many of years, so I have first-hand knowledge of the initiatives he has undertaken to insure the growth of the activity. From supporting the efforts of fledgling clubs, to making phone calls in an attempt to find a local caller for a new club that wants to form—and not giving up when yet another square dance caller slams down the phone when they find out who it is on the other end of the line. This takes determination and resolve, and Darrell has always been there, picking up the phone to make that call to the next one on the list in the hope that, just maybe, this call will be the one. A lesser man would give up after the fifth try, Darrell doesn't give up after the twenty-fifth.

But in terms of something that has long-term benefits that transcend our activity into the larger arena of the ongoing march of ever-increasing inclusion of GLBT Americans as

full-fledged partners in our society, I can point to the fledgling attempt at the formation of the National Council of Square Dance Organizations. When the call went out to form this organization, the IAGSDC was one of the organizations invited to participate. And when all was said and done, there we were—with a seat at the table—and a first class seat in a first class location—an integral, and welcome, part of the proceedings.

Although the Boy Scouts haven't figured it out (*Ed. Note:* In June 2000, the US Supreme Court ruled that the Boy Scouts can discriminate on the basis of sexual orientation), the national leadership of the square dance organizations have. And no small factor in this state of affairs is Darrell, and the leadership he has exerted on our behalf.

And so now, I have the pleasure of introducing to you, the year 2000 recipient of the Golden Boot Award, Darrell Ertzberger. ■

Thank You, Crack the Crab 2000

by KRISTY JACOBS

Recently, I had the opportunity to visit my father, Mike Jacobs, at the Crack the Crab Convention in Baltimore. He was on the calling staff, and I planned to come on Saturday, visit for the evening and then leave early Sunday morning. Well, I came to see my dad, but somehow I ended up staying at the convention for a completely different reason. I didn't think I'd dance very much that first evening because I tend to be very shy around people that I don't know. But from the moment I arrived at the dance, everyone was so friendly that I ended up dancing quite a bit that night and even more the next night.

I had a wonderful time dancing at the convention, but what really meant a lot to me were the things that happened off of the dance floor. I attended both the banquet on Sunday night and the brunch Monday afternoon. I was very inspired and touched by the speeches and presentations made at these events, and on several occasions I was moved to tears. I cried when Anne Uebelacker spoke about Bill and Stan, the couple who have been together for fifty years. I was so impressed by their strength and how they are still together after fifty years of obstacles. Even though I have never had the pleasure of meeting them, I admire and respect them both greatly. I was especially moved by the wonderful gifts presented to caller Mike DeSisto at the banquet. I think that everyone there made his last convention very special and really showed him how much they appreciate him. I really believe that is the best gift any group could give to a caller.

Most of all, I cried at the closing ceremonies when Ett McAtee played a song dedicated to all the gay dancers who have died. As I looked around the hall while the song played, I knew that most of the people there understood the pain of losing someone close to them. Many of them probably knew at least one of those people whose badges now hang on the memorial wall. And though I was very saddened by their loss, that was not what made me cry. I was so touched by the love and support that was present in that hall. Every person who was in pain had a shoulder to lean on and someone nearby to comfort them. No one in there had to deal with their pain alone. That's what made all the people who were there so special to me. Even though many of them have their own struggles to overcome, they never stop reaching out to others. There was such an amazing sense of family and togetherness at the convention and it was a wonderful thing to be able to witness.

Overall, I was so impressed with unity and sense of family at this convention. Everyone there was so accepting of everyone else and just wanted to have a good time. To me, that is what square dancing is supposed to be all about—just having fun. I did have a lot of fun dancing at the convention and I learned a lot too. Being there really made me remember what is important in life. I was so touched by the kindness, strength and optimism of every single person there. To everyone who attended the Crack the Crab festival in Baltimore: Thank you for a wonderful experience and a lot of fun!



Medallion Dancers

PRESENTED AT CRACK THE CRAB 2000

DANA BACKIEL
Puddletown Dancers

JACK BARNETT
Times Squares

ALLAN BERENSTEIN
Foggy City Dancers

LARRY BLOCH
Times Squares

BILL BRIGANTI
DC Lambda Squares

VAL CAROLA
The Wilde Bunch

ANDY CHONG
Triangle Squares

MICHAEL COAN
Times Squares

MICHAEL DEETS
Chesapeake Squares

JONATHAN DOMASH
El Camino Reelers

ED EGENIAS
Midnight Squares

FELIX FORNINO
Western Star Dancers

GREG FRIEL
Midnight Squares

HAROLD GABEL
Times Squares

JOY GOSSWILLER
Rocky Mountain Rainbeaus

MIKE GROGAN
Squares Across The Border

WILL HAMP
Independence Squares

TOM HARRIS
DC Lambda Squares

ANN HOWARD
Rocky Mountain Rainbeaus

STEVE HUNNICUTT
Chesapeake Squares

GEOFF KULIK
Midnight Squares

GUY LEIGHTON
Garden St8's

JOHN LYON
Times Squares

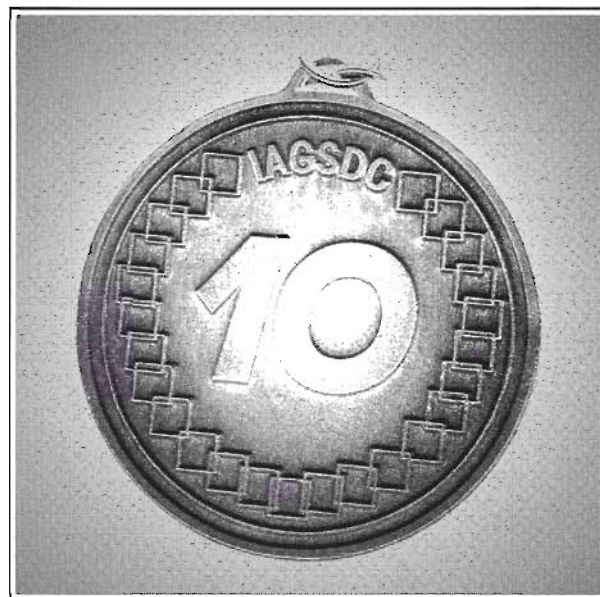
MARILYN MARTINYAK
El Camino Reelers

BILL MUSSMAN
See-Me Squares

TERRY NEAL
Big D Longhorns

HOWARD NECKEL
Midnight Squares

JOHN POPE
Chi-Town Squares



DREW POST
Triangle Squares

ANGELO PROSERPI
Western Star Dancers

PATRICK ROSS
Times Squares

LU ROSSIGNOL
DC Lambda Squares

CAL SMITH
Rocky Mountain Rainbeaus

ALAN TEICHER
Times Squares

RICK TRUSHEL
El Camino Reelers

TURTLE-BEAR
The Wilde Bunch

JUN UNTALAN
Times Squares

GREELEY WALKER
Times Squares

PAUL WATERS
See-Me Squares

PAUL WEISS
The Wilde Bunch

JOHN WILSON
Chi-Town Squares

BILL WOLFF
Times Squares

BONI YAP
DC Lambda Squares

ED ZEIGLER
Golden State Squares

Our Next Issue ...

SquareUp will add to the growing list of superlatives used to describe *Crack the Crab 2000*, when we present our convention coverage in Issue 23. We were too rushed to put together the convention coverage in time for this issue's deadlines, so we look forward to including it in our Fall issue.

Many surveys were returned from the flyer included in our last issue. Prior to Issue 23, I'll combine the ratings and see what they say. Look for an article analyzing the results in the next SquareUp issue. Thank you to all who took the time to complete and submit the survey!

Reminders

Remember to send us your change of address whenever you move. Don't trust the Post Office to forward our mailing.

Ever wonder when your subscription expires? Not to worry—we always insert a renewal notice in your last issue.

★ CLUB BIOS ★



GLACD/SC

GAY AND LESBIAN ADVANCED AND CHALLENGE DANCERS of Southern California (GLACD/SC) was formed at the Long Beach Gay and Lesbian Pride celebration in the summer of 1995. A group of five like-minded advanced and challenge dancers wanted to provide more gay friendly dance opportunities for advanced and challenge dancers in Southern California. These like-minded dancers (Hal Anker, Peter Barbour, Laura Green, Brad Peterson and Kathy Yhip) purposefully did not create a square dance club but formed an unincorporated association. This association was chartered with providing square dance opportunities, information about gay friendly dances and workshops, and being an advocate of gay and lesbian issues with existing straight clubs.

The peculiar distinction of not forming a club was due to the organizers' shared belief that Southern California didn't need another square dance club to further divide dancers. The founding directors believed that the gay and lesbian advanced and challenge dancers needed a core group of individuals committed to making gay friendly events happen and identifying and promoting existing gay friendly dances and workshops to dancers throughout Southern California. This philosophy allows dancers to maintain existing ties and commitments to their home clubs while providing the opportunity to enjoy dancing at their current dance level more often. Sev-

eral of the founding directors already danced regularly in the straight community and kept tabs on dance schedules and last minute changes. This information has been redistributed to the gay and lesbian square dance community via monthly newsletters and e-mail messages. We always enjoy seeing good turnouts for family favorites like Anne Uebelacker or Sandra Bryant when they are in town for local straight dances.

GLACD/SC has held Saturday morning workshop sessions for A-2, C-1, C-2 and most recently C-3A for one or two squares of dancers on an irregular schedule. We often dance the second and fourth Saturday mornings of the month as this doesn't conflict with the local straight club's schedule of A&C dances often attended by gay and lesbian dancers. We dance at the Orange County Gay and Lesbian Service Center or in private homes in the area. Since our dancers come from as far away as South Orange County or even San Diego, to as far North as Canoga Park, everyone is driving Saturday morning. We often extend the day with lunch together and then a movie in the afternoon before folks are driving home or to other events.

GLACD/SC has also organized several 'Fifth Friday' dances which featured prominent callers calling take no prisoners A-2. The first of these was held in September of 1995 and featured Anne Uebelacker calling from a folder of choreography she had labeled 'WFHA2'. The dances were great fun and real brain busters. Due to travel logistics on a Friday night and low interest level, attendance was never quite enough to continue organizing the event and the 'Fifth Friday' dances were shelved in 1998. The directors of GLACD/SC hope that in-

creased interest will resurrect them in the future. Until then, we are glad to be a contact point for visiting dancers to the Southern California area to locate dance opportunities during their visit. In fact a local straight club, Trailblazers, lists our organization as a gay & lesbian contact in their listing found in the Travel Guide (edited by Paul Asente) to reinforce their gay friendly status.

GLACD/SC is currently focused on hosting the 11th annual West Coast Gay and Lesbian Advanced and Challenge Square Dance Weekend. We were invited to host the event during the 7th annual event held in Phoenix, AZ—*Go Half Crazy in Arizona*. Since then, we have continually increased our work at creating the finest A&C weekend we can provide. The event, *Walk Out 2 A Wave*, is scheduled the weekend of September 29 thru October 1, 2000 and features Anne Uebelacker, Todd Felleggy, Ben Rubright and Vic Ceder with morning sessions called by CJ Smith, Mike Kellogg, Kris Jensen and visiting GCA callers. This annual event has become a tradition among many A&C dancers and we hope that many newer A&C dancers will begin their own traditions and make this year's event their first.

These weekends give dancers hours of dancing A-2, C-1, C-2 or C-3A thru C-4 that may be difficult to come by at home. Even today there are areas of the US and Canada that don't welcome same sex dance partners. For many dancers, this annual event is a particularly special time to enjoy dancing with their extended square dance family and gain hours of floor time in a single weekend. Newer dancers can increase their dance skills tremendously in one single weekend. The next registration deadline is August 31, 2000. Contact GLACD/SC for more information.

GLACD/SC recently incorporated in California to further its mission to support gay and lesbian square dancing in Southern California. Its current directors are Peter Barbour, Laura Green, Brad Peterson, Larry Rapp, Diana Wedel and Kathy Yhip. The organization may be reached at PO Box 4176, San Clemente, CA 92674. Other contact points include <http://www.mixed-up.com/glacd>, glacd@ispec.net and (714) 963-5271. Please contact us when visiting Southern California so we are able to meet you at a local dance!

—PETER BARBOUR

Cleveland City Country Dancers

CLEVELAND CITY COUNTRY DANCERS HAVE BEEN ACTIVE in this North Coast City since 1987. A dancer from Denver returned home to Cleve-



"The Fleets In," 1999

land and wanted to continue dancing. He advertised and began giving lessons in a nightclub adjacent to our community center, at the time called Ohio City Oasis. The first years were slow—getting eight dancers to show up every week was a problem. Sometimes persons of questionable sobriety were grabbed off a barstool to fill the eighth position. Some of those people stayed and became talented dancers. The club progressed to a point where more than one level was being taught in the community center and we could host our first fly-in in 1991.

During 1992 there was a great influx of new dancers. We outgrew the community center and bar. We moved to the social hall of the Archwood UCC Church, 2800 Archwood Ave., Cleveland, where we continue to dance every Wednesday evening.

In 1993, we also hired a professional local caller, Bill

Reese. He and his wife quickly became endeared to the entire club and we soon had skilled dancers from Basic to C-2. We were joined at this time by some dancers from the local square dance community, which has been a boost to the morale, and confidence of the whole club. We currently have about 40 paid members from Cleveland and the surrounding counties. Some of our dancers drive from exotic places such as Canton, Painesville, Mentor, Youngstown and Lorain Ohio. For the past few years we have had two club callers, Brian Keating and Doug Sewell, who have done an excellent job instructing Basic through A-2. Both are members of the Gay Callers Association. We also have at least a square of self-taught C-2 dancers who use tapes to dance on Thursday nights in a member's home.

Our fly-in "Load the Boat" (which is held on Columbus Day weekend and Canadian Thanksgiving) is very popular. Over the years we link themes with the "Load the Boat" motif. Some in the past were "South Seas Cruise," "Disasters at Sea," "Pirates," and "Riverboat Gambling." "Titanic" (1998) and "The Fleets In" (1999) were our most popular. Our 1999 "The Fleets In" was a WWII theme with an Induction on Friday night and USO dance Saturday night. The "Ladies Auxiliary" was the welcome committee administering the potluck. Our identification tags were dog tags. Betty Grable, Lana Turner and the Andrew Sisters entertained. The walls were decorated with real WWII newspapers and memorabilia. Our Saturday brunch was at a WWII theme restaurant and our Sunday "Mess" at the hall, was complete with chipped beef on toast.

We are busy working on the celebration of our tenth fly-in, known as "Load the Boat X." This will be a review of the themes from all ten of our past events and will be held on October 6-9, 2000. Our brunch Saturday morning (as most years) is on a cruise ship on the Cuyahoga River and Lake Erie, called appropriately enough "The Nautica Queen." Due to increasing cost, this may be the last year we are able to include this event in the fly-in price. Of course, while we have fun with the themes, the dancing is the most important aspect. This year we are pleased to have Bill Eyler and Paul Waters, the same callers as our first two fly-ins.

Join us in October or any Wednesday evening that you should be in town. Come square up with us!

For more information, write us at P. O. Box 5592, Cleveland Ohio 44101 or Call Bob or Chris at (216)-221-6385; email downingq@aol.com.

—BOB DOWNING

Chi-Town Squares

THE CHI-TOWN SQUARES WAS FORMED IN 1986/87 BY founders Jerry Cohen and Ron Goodman. Jerry was a well known leader in Chicago's gay community and helped start many organizations. Ron had

learned to square dance in Seattle before he moved to Chicago and was a DJ in various dance bars around the city. He worked at Carol's on Wells Street at the time. David Boyer, who managed Carol's, heard of Jerry's wish to start a square dance club and told Ron. With this start, Carol's, the last grand disco palace in Chicago, became the meeting place for many members of this new club.

In response to ads in the local gay newspapers, about thirty students formed the first class in September 1987. Classes were held at the Wellington Avenue Church at Wellington and Broadway. A hired live caller taught Basic through Plus the first year. A delegation from the club went to the 1988 convention, *Cross Trails in the Desert*, where they were officially accepted into the IAGSDC.

Chi-Town Squares has continued to grow in numbers, quality of dancing, and as hosts for dances ever since. In September 1989, the club hosted its first fly-in, The Great Chicago Crossfire. That fall the club started its first Advanced level class. Also that fall, after some persuading, the club convinced Lin Jarvis to teach the Basic level class. Lin has taught all the Basic classes and taught the Advanced classes for many years. He and his wife Barb have been big supporters of the club and have helped us gain acceptance in the straight square dance community. John Oldfield, our own club caller, took over teaching the Advanced classes three years ago. In the fall of 1995, the club offered its first Challenge Level class taught by Sandra Bryant. Sandra is a renowned international square dance caller and also a big supporter of the club. Five years ago, we found our present home at Ebenezer Lutheran Church, 1640 W. Foster Avenue in Chicago. Most dances and all classes are held there.

Every year since 1988, a delegation from the club has attended the annual IAGSDC convention. We typically send between forty and fifty members. In 1991 Ron Bast, a board member at the time, decided Chi-Town should host a convention and put a bid in for the 1995 convention. After much discussion the club agreed to go forward with the idea and the ground work was set. A board of five members formed Tip The Cow, Inc. to start planning for the convention, *Track 2 Chicago*. Two years of planning and a mountain of work done by many members all came together over Memorial Day weekend 1995. Nearly 1100 square dancers from the IAGSDC member clubs came to celebrate gay and lesbian square dancing for three days. To make the convention even more memorable, the hotel was shared by all of the men and women in town for the International Mr. Leather Contest. The 'Leather tip' was the largest ever! The twelfth annual IAGSDC Convention came off very well and the entire club had a great time hosting the National Lesbian Square Dance community.

The club has grown in other areas, too. Many members of the club now dance regularly with the Recyclers, a straight advanced level club. This club brings in quality callers from across North America to call every second and fourth Friday

of the month, except in the summer. Being accepted as a part of this group of dancers was one of the first big steps club members took into the other dancing community. In the fall of 1995, the MCASD (Metropolitan Chicago Association of Square Dancers)—the mainstream square dancers association of over fifty local clubs—accepted Chi-Town into their ranks. A hearty few have moved up and are taking lessons or dancing up to the C-4 level with members of other MCASD clubs.

In the spring of 1996, the second Campy Dancing Weekend was held at a Lutheran church camp, an hour west of Chicago. We dance in the annual Gay and Lesbian Pride parade held on the last Sunday of June. In August, we have a booth with live dancing (recruiting, you know!) at Halsted Market Days, the biggest neighborhood festival in Chicago. We also hold fundraising events to raise money for the club and various community concerns.

Chi-Town Squares currently has 120 members. Classes will begin in the Fall with Basic, Mainstream & Plus on Tuesday nights, and Advanced on Thursday nights. We hope to continue a weekly A & C dance on Monday nights as well as all-level dances on weekends. These dances will be posted on our website, www.iagsdc.org/chi-townsquares, as the dates become available.

Here is the schedule for Summer 2000:

- Lin Jarvis will call a Plus dance every second and fourth Thursday night at 7:30 pm. The specific dates are: June 8th & 22nd, July 13th & 27th, and August 10th & 24th.
- Sandra Bryant will call an Advanced and Challenge dance on the second and fourth Monday nights at 7:30 pm. The specific dates are June 12th & 26th, July 10th and 24th, and August 7th and 21st.

There have been ten "Great Chicago Crossfire" Fly-ins since 1989 with over 110 dancers in attendance the last several years. "The Great Chicago Crossfire XI—The Firefighter's Ball" will be held over Labor Day Weekend 2000, September 1-4. This year's callers are Sandra Bryant and Anne Uebelacker, with John Oldfield and Kris Jensen calling at the Monday picnic overlooking Lake Michigan.

Chi-Town offers an alternative social activity for those in Chicago's lesbian and gay community. The social interaction is a great way to meet people. Our dances are alcohol free—a nice change from the typical bar scene where many people in our community find themselves, for purposes of meeting others. For these reasons, Chi-Town Squares will be around for some time to come. ■

—ROBERT SIERZEGA

CHASE THE CHILE

**The Wilde Bunch's
2000 Balloon Fiesta Fly-in
featuring
Anne Uebelacker and Kris Jensen**

<http://www.members.aol.com/wildebunch/page>

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— 2000 —

AUG

- 11-13 **Spin the Needle**, Puddletown Squares, Seattle WA. Callers: V.Ceder, G.Sauve. Phone: Kelley Wilt (206) 935-6080. E-mail: KelleyWilt@aol.com. URL: www.iagsdc.org/puddletownsquares/flyin.html.
- 11-13 **Cross Trail Thru Eugene, the Great Camp-in**, Rainbow Wranglers, near Eugene OR. Caller: K.Jensen. Phone: Tim (541) 988-0399. E-mail: timspfd@worldnet.att.net. URL: www.users.uswest.net/~kitterman/index2.html.
- 11-13 **5th Annual Fly-in**, Cadillac Squares, Detroit MI. Callers: D.St Jean, A.Shore. Phone: John Thomason (313) 837-7966. E-mail: johnandj@aol.com.
- 25-27 **Peel Off in the Sierra V** (for men), Rancho Cicada Retreat, Plymouth CA. Callers: Grant Ito and others. Phone: Gary Dougan (510) 531-1459. E-mail: gld@pacbell.net.

SEP

- 01-04 **Great Chicago Crossfire XI**, Chi Town Squares, Chicago IL. Callers: S.Bryant, K.Jensen, J.Oldfield, A.Uebelacker. Phone: Rob Sierzega (773) 327-7496. E-mail: rob@sierzega.net. URL: <http://www.iagsdc.org/chi-townsquares/GCCF11.html>.
- 22-24 **Gabriola Get-Away II** (for women), Haven-by-the-Sea Resort, Gabriola Island BC Canada. Callers: K.Jensen, A.Uebelacker. Phone: Elf Stainsby (604) 255-2110. E-mail: stainsby@sfu.ca. URL: members.xoom.com/_XOOM/sqdancewomen/2000/2000.htm.
- 29-01 **Walk Out 2 a Wave**, 11th Gay A&C Weekend, GLACD/SC. Location: Costa Mesa CA. Callers: V.Ceder, T.Fellegly, B.Rubright, A.Uebelacker and others. Phone: Peter Barbour (714) 963-5271. E-mail: WalkOut2000@ispec.net. URL: www.mixed-up.com/glacd/.

OCT

- 06-08 **Chase the Chile**, The Wilde Bunch, Albuquerque NM. Callers: K.Jensen, A.Uebelacker. Phone: Rick Weber (505) 797-8767. E-mail: rickw8171@aol.com. URL: members.aol.com/wildebunch/registration.
- 06-09 **Load the Boat X**, CCCD, Cleveland OH. Callers: B.Eyler, P.Waters. Phone: Bob Downing (216) 221-6385. E-mail: DowningQ@aol.com.
- 13-15 **Zoom to the Beach**, Shoreline Squares, Long Beach CA. Callers: T.Miller, D.Rensberger, D.Williams. Phone: Roger Bengtson (562) 467-8504. E-mail: BengtsonRA@Maritz.com.
- 13-15 **Carolina Moondance**, Raleighwood Squares, Raleigh-Durham NC. Callers: J.Bibb, N.Martellacci. Phone: Mark Ambrose (919) 683-1489. E-mail: moondance@squarebear.com. URL: www.squarebear.com.
- 27-29 **Scares and Squares V**, Rosetown Ramblers, Portland OR. Callers: D. (Parnell) Carroll, G.Ito, P.Waters. Phone: Tristan (503) 234-9944. E-mail: pdxbob@hotmail.com. URL: www.rdrop.com/users/ramblers/scares/index.html.
- 27-29 **Peel the Pumpkin, a Hillbilly Halloween**, Times Squares, New York NY. Callers: J.Preston, A.Uebelacker. Phone: Vic Cornetto (973) 881-1481. E-mail: Vic@squaredancebear@aol.com. URL: users.erols.com/tssdc/ptp00fly.htm.

NOV

- 01-05 **Promenade Through the Palms**, High Desert Squares, Palm Springs CA. Callers: B.Eyler. Phone: John Herriot (323) 650-4381. E-mail: wehojohn@aol.com. URL: www.CommunityVisions.Org/SQUAREDANCE/prom.htm.
- 10-12 **Harpers Ferry Hoedown VI**, DC Lambda Squares, Harpers Ferry WV. Callers: B.Gotta, W.Jaquith, A.Shore. Phone: Michael (703) 931-1849. E-mail: xrpg93b@prodigy.com.
- 24-26 **Weave the Rain, 17th Anniversary Fly-in**, Squares Across the Border, Vancouver BC Canada. Callers: T.Crawford, A.Uebelacker. Phone: Joel Laliberte (604) 251-4093. E-mail: jrl@intergate.bc.ca. URL: members.home.net/satb/flyin/.

DEC

- 01-03 **Chase Right 2000**, Neon Squares, Las Vegas NV. Callers: D.Benavides, A.Finch, A.Uebelacker. Phone: Larry Cormier (702) 457-6933. E-mail: larrycor@aol.com. URL: www.iagsdc.org/neonsquares/index.html.

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JAN

- 05-07 **Pass the Sea**, Finest City Squares, San Diego CA. Callers: M.Levy, R.Nelson, A.Shore, D.Wood. Phone: Scott Parker (619) 583-4595. E-mail: ferraripar@home.com.

FEB

- 09-11 **ACDC 2001**, an A&C Weekend, DC Lambda Squares, Washington D.C. Callers: V.Ceder, M.Jacobs, G.Jedlicka, L.Kendall. Phone: John Zemko (202) 364-9708. E-mail: DCLambdaSquares@yahoo.com.
- 16-18 **Star Thru Hollywood**, Tinseltown Squares, Los Angeles CA. Callers: S.Bryant, A.Uebelacker, P.Waters. Phone: David Lee Perkins (213) 413-8992. E-mail: FlyIn2001@aol.com.

MAR

- 16-18 **9th Philadelphia Freedom Fly-in**, Independence Squares, New Hope PA. Callers: D.Hodge, M.Kellogg, A.Uebelacker. Phone: Kevin Melvin (215) 482-6954. E-mail: rougeau@directweb.com.
- 16-18 **Ropin the River**, Grand River Squares, Grand Rapids MI. Callers: K.Jensen, J.Oldfield. Phone: TBA. E-mail: grsquares@hotmail.com.

APR

- 09-11 **28th Annual Callerlab Convention**. Location: Airport Marriott, St Louis MO. Phone: (800) 331-2577 or (507) 288-5121. E-mail: info@callerlab.org. URL: www.callerlab.org/convinfo.htm.
- 12-15 **Make Magic**, 18th annual IAGSDC Convention, Vancouver, BC. Location: Westin Baysore Hotel, phone (604) 682-3377. Callers: R.Booiman, R.Brendzy, V.Ceder, T.Crawford, S.Edlund, T.Felleggy, T.Miller, B.Rubright, A.Uebelacker, B.Wise. Phone: Brain Smith (604) 433-7789. E-mail: MakeMagic@telus.net. URL: www3.telus.net/makemagic/.

MAY

- 04-06 **Pass the Ocean, Hon!**, Chesapeake Squares, Rehoboth Beach DE. Callers: R.Brendzy, T.Crawford, P.Diven, N.Martellacci. Phone: Michael Deets (410) 328-1912. E-mail: michaeldeets@netscape.net. URL: www.iagsdc.org/chesapeakesquares/pto.html.
- 04-06 **Peel Off in Palm Springs V** (for men), Cathedral City Boys Club, Cathedral City CA. Callers: TBA. Phone: Gary Dougan (510) 531-1459. E-mail: gld@pacbell.net. URL: home.earthlink.net/~zebrow/NSDC_50th/.

- 18-20 **Stumptown Stomp**, Capital City Squares, Guerneville CA. Callers: K.Jensen, J.Roberts, V.Weese. Phone: George Fox (916) 929-8697. E-mail: CapitalCitySqs@aol.com. URL: www.iagsdc.org/captialcitysquares.

- 25-29 **Moon Over Maryland (for men)**. Location: Camp Ramblewood, Darlington MD. Callers: TBA. Phone: John (877) 429-6368. E-mail: wehojohn@aol.com. URL: www.CommunityVisions.Org/SQUAREDANCE/moon.htm.

JUN

- 14-17 **Dixie Style to Memphis III**, Cotton Pickin' Squares, Memphis TN. Callers: TBA. Phone: (901) 458-0504. E-mail: aggiebrown@juno.com.
- 27-30 **50th National Square Dance Convention**, Anaheim CA. Callers: multiple. Convention office phone: (562) 988-2275. E-mail: SBaysinger@juno.com. URL: home.earthlink.net/~zebrow/NSDC_50th/.*

JUL

- 04-07 **Slide Thru Silicon Valley**, El Camino Reelers, San Jose CA. Callers: TBA. Phone: Paul Asente (650) 747-0622. E-mail: dancing@asente.com.

AUG

- 17-19 **Explode the Rockies IV**, Rocky Mountain Rainbeaus, La Veta/Cuchara CO. Caller: V.Ceder. Phone: Don Kuzela (303) 388-5733. E-mail: RMRSquares@aol.com.
- 17-19 **Spin the Needle**, Puddletown Squares, Seattle WA. Callers: TBA. Phone: Kelley Wilt (206) 935-6080. E-mail: sgeisler@home.com.
- 31-03 **Great Chicago Crossfire XII**, Chi Town Squares, Chicago IL. Callers: TBA. Phone: Rob Sierzega (773) 327-7496. E-mail: rob@sierzega.net. URL: http://www.iagsdc.org/chi-townsquares/GCCF11.html.

SEP

- 7-9 **Pass Out in the Desert**, 12th Gay A&C Weekend, Desert Valley Squares. Location: Ramada Valley Ho Resort and Convention Center, Scottsdale AZ. Callers: V.Ceder, A.Uebelacker, D.Wilson and others TBA. Phone: Gordon Macaw (602) 331-8839. E-mail: gmacaw@uswest.net.

OCT

- 05-08 **Load the Boat XI**, CCCD, Cleveland OH. Callers: TBA. Phone: Bob Downing (216) 221-6385. E-mail: DowningQ@aol.com.
- 12-14 **Zoom to the Beach**, Shoreline Squares, Long Beach CA. Callers: M.Deer, M.Kellogg and TBA. Phone: Roger Bengtson (562) 467-8504. E-mail: BengtsRA@Maritz.com.

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