

Carin (Williams) and Frank Gufert
Woodcliff Lake, NJ

Club: Circle Eights



How did you start square dancing?

Carin: I had an exchange student living with me from Ecuador and I wanted to provide him with an “American” experience during his stay here. So I found square dancing through the adult education bulletin, I thought that was definitely an American folk dance and I took him, three other teenagers and myself to the classes.

Frank: I originally started dancing as an effort to have something in common to do with my first wife.

What year did you meet? 2009

And marry? 2011

Since our mutual background is German and our mutual interest is square dancing we had both types of music at our wedding. Paul Ingis was our caller, and he was great. The square dancers did several demos for the rest of the wedding guests. Paul did barn dancing with the rest of the wedding guests and all our experienced dancers were “angeling” in the squares. Our guests laughed and smiled so much that other guests in the hotel wanted to join us.

Circumstances of your meeting and dating?

Carin: I first met Frank two months into our square dance classes. He started coming to help out because they needed more experienced male angels. I noticed pretty early on that he was a good dancer and I really enjoyed when we teamed up on the floor together during our class tips. After a few months seeing each other weekly we both learned that we shared a German heritage. That brought us even closer. Our first date was February 14th, three months after we first met. It’s hard to say when I knew he was the right one, but I did sense early on that he was very special. We continued to grow closer during the year. Frank surprised me by proposing on December 12, 2010. I was shocked and elated at the same time.

Frank: My impressions would be: of meeting someone nice to dance and teach dancing with. The dating was something very special since we had many things in common, especially dancing which gave us joy and contact frequently.

Favorite square dance memories?

Carin: Our honeymoon is my favorite square dancing memory! We went on a square dancing, sightseeing trip to Germany with Crisp Tours. We met 90 other square dancers from all over the US. We danced Mainstream, Plus and A. We also danced with three different German square dancing clubs. We met so many wonderful people. I highly recommend the tour to any square dancer reading this. It is very unique and so much fun. They have another tour scheduled in 2013. I really enjoy meeting square dancers. They are a great community of people.

Frank: My favorite square dance memory would be dancing to American national callers in Germany, as well as meeting and dancing with German dancers.