



Grand Square

OFFICIAL **NEWSLETTER**

NORTHERN NEW JERSEY SQUARE DANCERS ASSOCIATION

JANUARY 1, 1961

WINTER ISSUE

VOL. VI



7TH ATLANTIC SQUARE DANCE CONVENTION CONVENTION FLASHES



The staff for the NNJSDA sponsored Seventh Atlantic Convention is starting to take shape and while several spots have yet to be confirmed we will definitely have with us the outstanding callers pictured at left -- namely, Joe Lewis, George Campbell, Earl Johnston, and Curley Custer. Dick and Evelyn Doyle from Massachusetts will also fill a spot on the staff.



Contacts have been made with several top round dancing couples and staff spots for the rounds should be filled before the end of January.

The initial publicity drive is planned for the February-March period and flyers will be distributed throughout the country. You will also be seeing announcements in the national magazines. All clubs are encouraged to start planning whatever displays or banners they will want to display at the convention for these signs and banners will add to the atmosphere of the convention as those who went to last year's will recall.



Happy
New Year



Chalfonte-Haddon Hall
ATLANTIC CITY · N. J.
SEPTEMBER 29-30 · 1961

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Thoughts for the New Year ----

An often discussed subject is the turnover of square dancers and efforts are being made all over the country to try to reduce the attrition rate. Many from the "old school" still claim that the "hot rod" level at which we graduate new dancers is responsible for discouraging and squeezing out long time dancers who haven't been exposed to the continuous stream of new calls. Quite frankly, my feeling is that on the broad front square dancing naturally seeks a level of the enthusiastic majority. And it is this enthusiastic majority that supports the movement. Of course, there are groups who enjoy a lower level and regularly join together for their own enjoyment. Maybe there are a few who drop out because they don't care to come out enough to keep up to date; but was this the cause of the square dancer famine in our area during 1956-57? I doubt it. Whatever the cause, we should be thankful for the many NNJSDA workers (too few!!) whose efforts once more filled the clubs with dancers.

Speaking of workers, I have the greatest respect for the many dancers who are only interested in their own entertainment; for it is to them that the officers of NNJSDA and the many clubs and other workers are dedicated. But as long as you are willing to let others do the organizational and promotional work, you should at least give them your support----a very small amount of which is expected. For instance, NNJSDA depends on its few Association dances for its financial subsistence. This is the painless way to help financially and support the many dancers who have been working all through the year. You get a dance for your money! And it really is discouraging to hear reports of the many who did not come because they wouldn't have a good time----the level's too high; the level's too low; we're not ready yet; etc.; etc.. Make a few sacrifices next year and come out. You'll be surprised at the results!

NNJSDA elections of officers is coming up in a few months and there is a need for dedicated workers. How often are the few that are always willing to work tagged as "machines"? The truth is that you too can be a machine! If you know someone who would like to take office in the Association, let us know about him. This is a democratic organization. You may even wish to start a campaign. Well, so much for that.

I do want to wish you all the best of happiness for the new year and the best of dancing. Terry and I will be looking forward to seeing you all at the next Association gatherings at the Emie Gross dance (April 29th) and the George Campbell dance (May 21st).

--- Bob Keck ---

HISTORY OF THE ATLANTIC CONVENTION

The Atlantic Square Dance Convention was started in Boston in 1955. The second was also in Boston and then to Washington D. C., Washington again, the fifth in Toronto, this year's in Atlantic City, and our seventh will also be in Atlantic City. The average attendance at the convention has been approximately 3000.

GRAND SQUARE STAFF

Chief Editors Bob & Terry Keck
Feature Article Editors . Ed & Elsie Rice
Club News Editors . . . Pete & Shirlee Hugger
Advertising Editors. . . Les & Dot Moyer

Koos Bros.

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SQUARE DANCE

Thursday, Friday or Saturday evening

February 2nd, 3rd or 4th

at 7:30 P. M.

Koos Bros. Auditorium

Route 27, Rahway

Beulah Samec will Call

NEWS FROM THE CLASSES OF '61



East Brunswick Beginners Class – The East Brunswick group now consists of five very enthusiastic squares. Many of them have expressed a desire to continue in an advanced group. Tentative arrangements in this direction are being made at the present time.

This is a very enthusiastic group and they are making good progress. Thanks goes to the Northern New Jersey clubs that have assisted in filling out squares and giving general encouragement to these people.

Ernie Lens called the first five dances and Lane Calendar the last five. They have done a commendable job with the group, and it appears that we will soon have some new and exuberant people joining our clubs. Fourteen couples have pre-registered for the advanced class.

(Val Kentel)

Plainfield Beginners Class – The Plainfield Beginner Class of 1960 got under way on October 3, at the Plainfield High School, with a total enrollment of 19 couples. Participating caller-instructors were Lane Calendar, Beulah Samec, and John Carroll. Although this is a small class, the amount of interest and the good attendance indicate that almost all the couples will be continuing into the advanced class and from there into the clubs. Incidentally, they are dancing very well, thanks to our excellent instructors.

(Al Aderente)

Paramus Beginners Class – Forty two couples have registered for the beginners course being conducted at the Paramus Volunteer Firehouse on East Ridgewood Ave., a short distance from Exit 165 on the Garden State Parkway and just off Route 17.

The course is approaching the half-way mark. Marty Winter of Cresskill is the caller for the first five weeks and Jim Flammer of Saddle Brook will call the second five.

Four counties and over twenty towns are represented by the new dancers. Enthusiasm is very high and usually they want to continue dancing beyond the regular hours.

Jimmy Dean, Television and Recording Star, and his wife are among those registered for this course, the second in the North Jersey Area.

Anyone in the area who would like to assist in this course please contact Bud Sibbald at CO 2-3793.

It is noteworthy to mention that this is the first Beginners Course which is being run without any assistance from a Recreation Board or Adult School Committee. This is a completely NNJSDA activity and is self sustaining even with a rather high hall rental fee.

(Bud Sibbald)

Wayne Beginners Class – Four squares of beginners are regularly meeting at the Pines Lake School in Wayne, N. J. This group was not organized by NNJSDA but was initiated by Walt and Helen Bullock. Walt is doing the instructing and is organizing the class along the lines as our Associated directed courses. A beginners and advanced class of 10 lessons each are being offered and the Association list of basics will be taught. This group has named themselves the "Dandy-Dancers" and have elected a secretary and a first and second couple to handle the few organizational details.

Lots of luck to Walt, Helen, and the new dancers and we look forward to all the new dancers joining Association Clubs when they complete their instruction.

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BEHIND THE MIKE



With the New Year upon us let's take a few moments and look at the future of square dancing. Square dancing is going like a house-a-fire in our neighborhood, someone will say. Someone else will say the exact reverse about his vicinity. What's the real scoop? Well, hold your hat! Although we are teaching lots of nice folks how to square dance, national statistics show that the mortality rate is 80% in two years. This is pretty serious. What are we doing about it? For instance, how long did it take you to reach the level you are now dancing? Were you accepted immediately into a Club after completion of a Square Dance Course or did you learn how via trial and error? The problems are numerous and we've got to face them squarely because they'll be with us for a long time before all the answers have been found.

Have you ever counted the number of basics, various callers are using today? You'd be amazed. They're almost endless. For example, here's one common problem this caller runs across quite often. The Joneses, for personal reasons, have not been able to attend dances as regularly as they'd like. When they resume their attendance, they're faced with figures and gimmicks so unfamiliar it's as though they had been away for years. What happens? Before long the Jones' have dropped their pet hobby and today they're bowling.

Square Dancing is for fun. This is extremely important. More than anyone can realize this is the pure simple formula that will keep this movement alive for years to come. Dancers will not drop out if they're having fun.

(Marty Winter)

BACHELORS 'N BACHELORETTEES



A New Jersey Chapter of the Bachelors 'n Bachelorettes has been formed in Plainfield through the cooperative efforts of Grace O'Brien and Dick Meyers. This new chapter is one of a national organization which provides regular square dancing activity for adult single people. The new club now has a membership of about 29 women and 21 men and is meeting on the first and third Fridays (8-11 P.M.) at the Y. M. C. A. on Front St. in Plainfield. Dick Meyers is doing the calling. This is a great opportunity for those single people who have been interested in square dancing to have a regular place to dance.



Congratulations and best of luck to Grace, Dick, and the Bachelors 'n Bachelorettes.

THE WISE OLD OWL'S PET PEEVE



Have YOU ever been a DEAD FISH HAND? Worse yet -- have you ever held one?

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GRAND SQUARE BOOSTERS

The following list of Boosters is fine and we thank you. However, there are many of you reading this now who won't find their name on this or the last list. Do something about it! Our Booster dollars are not coming in as well as they should and our costs, due to an improved issue, have gone up. Don't let your name be missing from the spring issue. Mail you dollar to:

Dot & Les Moyer, 148 East Chestnut Ave., Metuchen, N. J.

James & Florence Brown
Henry & Isabel Hamilton
Lynn Brown
Mary Hals
Joe & Rose Mari Casino
Andy & Jean Penska
John & Winnie Nash
Bill & Alice Hensler
Hans & Peg Nielson
Harlan & Veronica Kennedy
Bill & Jo Deck (visitors)
Milton & Doris Katz
Art & Dot Schettel
John & Eleanor Jonas
Lee & Ray Kirchmeyer
Fred & Dot Almy
Walt & Madge Dietler

Herb & Gloria Gold
Dan & Mildred Hulin
Eddie & Mildred Schweizer
Bud & Betty Sibbald
Doc & Peg Tirrell
*Walt & Helene Conboy
Bob & Adeline Shipp
Dick & Janet Davis
Karl & Allegra Rogers
John & Kay Adams
Lee & Esther Pollard
*Walt & Helen Dulloock
Emie & Vi Lens
Oscar & Mildred Samers
*Fred & Mae Schreiber
*Bob & Mitzie Fleetham

Geo. & Ann Phipps
Charlie & Helen Welling
*Al & Jean Aderente
Charlie & Evelyn Novak
Ed & Helen Schlesinger
Ross & Irene Nichols
Ted & Stella Krochak
John & Esther Schneider
*Jim & Ruth Grant
Bob & Edith Thompson
John & Irene Carroll
Hink & Marion Smith (Fla.)
Bill & Caroline Bahr
Wally & Ann Moran
Lee & Florence Geisler
Bob & Edna Gaede

* Second Contribution

CONVENIENCE COUPON

Enclosed is my dollar for boosting GRAND SQUARE

(His) and (Hers) (Last) (Club)

Send to: Dot & Les Moyer, 148 E. Chestnut Ave., Metuchen, N. J.

ROUND DANCING



The word "round" is the term used for the couple dancing done between squares. The round dance supplements the dancing program by providing w pleasing variation in type of music and a shared experience through the teamwork acheived when everyone is dancing the same step in unison around the hall.

The round dancing requires considerable ability and a sense of rhythm. There is little satisfaction to be gained, however, from any activity until one can perform with some skill and confidence. It is my feeling that all square dancers should have a few lessons in round dance basics. With this background it is possible to cope more quickly and easily with learning a routine and to have fun dancing them.

Edith and I have spent our vacations, whenever possible, at a summer dance institute where we have had the pleasure of round dancing to instructors especially known for their ability in this field. Our first in-contact with a professional round dance couple was at West Point with Carolyn and Frank Hamilton. Since then we have attended institutes with Esther and Joe Turner and Nita and Manning Smith. We feel this is one of the best means of enjoying round dancing.

As we cannot devote much time to rounds at our square dance clubs, a round dance club gives us the time to practice and a place to gain confidence. We hope in the next few years round dance clubs will grow in popularity and that more people will participate in this very enjoyable phase of dancing.

Happy Round Dancing!

(Bob Thompson)

<p>FOR HER</p> <p>Squaw Dresses Pantaloons Slippers Prom Pumps Concho Belts Records Stationery</p>	<p>WESTERN APPAREL ESPECIALLY FOR SQUARE DANCERS</p> <p>* * * * *</p> <p>SEASONS GREETINGS & A YEAR OF HAPPY DANCING and our thanks to all the dancers for their loyal support and encouragement in making this a most successful year.</p> <p>HICKORY HILLS SQUARE DANCE SUPPLIES</p> <p>8 Bradford Road Old Bridge, New Jersey (Just off Rt. 18 across from Old Bridge Shopping Center)</p> <p>Ollie & Val Kentel Tel. CLifford 7-5666 Phone eve's - Sat. or Sun.</p>	<p>FOR HIM</p> <p>Shirts 14½-18 Trousers Ties Belts-Buckles Shoes Collar Points Towels</p>
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CLUB NEWS

- BELLES & BEAUX** – Belles & Beaux will continue the regular schedule (4th Friday of month) through Spring with the Annual Club Dinner Dance in April. November Dance was BOOSTER Night and response was great (½ became GRAND SQUARE Boosters --- many thanks!)
- MERRI EIGHTS** – Election of officers for coming season was held in September and new officers elected. Lyle Van Dorn is president. Merri Eights have recently moved to new quarters – The Irwin School, Race-track Road, East Brunswick, N. J.
- METUCHEN PROMENADERS** – New officers were elected at the October 22 dance and Barney Hartenstein is the new President. A Harvest Dance in November was complete with Injuns, Squaws, Pilgrims, and "Ethie Klinker" who did a special round dance. At the annual Christmas Party, the Promenaders' guests were members of the Plainfield and East Brunswick Beginners classes. Coffee and cake, carol singing and the late Peter Marshall's Sermonette on "Let's Keep Christmas" added much to the festive occasion.
- MIDDLESEX SQUARE DANCE CLUB** – Good News – Jack Reeves has returned from his "Gold Prospecting" trip in California and is ready and rarin' to go. Starting in January, on the 2nd & 4th Saturdays he'll be "do-si-do'in" at his old stand. (Wonderful to see you both back, Jack and Dot.) A Memorial Day picnic is being planned.
- PLAINFIELD PROMENADERS** – "Old Man Weather" snafued the planned Christmas Party on December 16 but President Bob Kellogg promises to make the dance date up in the spring. Annual "Open House" for all clubs is scheduled for April 14th, and also a special invitation dance on March 24th for members of the advanced classes.
- RAHWAY SQUARE SETS** – Dancing regularly on the 1st and 4th Tuesdays at the Madison School in Rahway (8:00 to 10:00 P. M.) John Carroll has been featuring workshops as part of the dance program.
- TENAKILL TWIRLERS** – A graduation ball is planned for May for the Monday and Wednesday classes. Many workshops are active --- Round Dance with the Tirrells and Folk Dance and Square Dance with the Bombergs.
- WAYNE SQUARE DANCE CLUB** - Election of officers was held December 10 and Adie and Bob Shipp were elected First Couple.
- WESTFIELD SQUARES** – Westfield's Christmas Party was also a casualty of the winter's frosty finger – Jan. 4 was selected as the day for their "Post" instead of "Pre" Christmas Party. Bob Dawson from Sarasota, Florida will be Westfield's Guest Caller for a special dance on March 29.
- MERRI SQUARES** – Meet every second Friday and extend an open invitation to all.
- CIRCLE EIGHTS** – formerly the NNJSDA Tenafly Class of 1960 are now a full fledged active club dancing twice a month to Jim Flammer and Marty Winter. Mervin Orner is President.
- HILLTOP SQUARES** – One of our newly associated clubs meets at the Hilltop Barn and dance regularly the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays to Jim Flammer. The Hilltoppers sponsored a New Years Eve Party with John Carroll and Jim Flammer sharing callers spot. All reservations were filled early (9 squares).



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Sunday - Noon to 6

SQUARE DANCE CALENDAR

1961



JANUARY

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2	K	D	C	4	H
8	E	(P)	D	(B)	F, J M, O	G, I W
15	16	17	D	C	L	H
22	E	K, (P)	D	26	(A), F J	G, I W
29	30	31				

FEBRUARY

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	C	3	H
5	6	K	D	(B)	F, J M, O	G, I W, L
12	E	(P)	D	C	N	H
19	20	21	22	23	(A), F J	G, I W, L
26	E	K, (P)				

MARCH

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			D	C	3	H
5	6	K	D	(B)	F, J M, O	G, I W, L
12	E	(P)	D	C	N	H
19	20	21	22	23	(A), F J	G, I W, L
26	E	K, (P)	Z	30	31	

APRIL

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						H
2	3	K	D	C	7	G, I W, L
9	E	(P)	D	(B)	F, J M, O	H
16	17	18	D	C	N	G, I W, L
23	E	K, (P)	D	27	(A), F J	X
30						

MAY

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			D	C	3	H
7	E	K	D	(B)	F, J M, O	G, I L
14	15	(P)	D	C	N	H
Y	E	23	D	25	(A), F J	G, I L
28	29	K, (P)	D			

JUNE

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1	2	H
4	5	6	7	(B)	F, J	G, L
11	E	13	14	15	N	17
18	19	20	21	22	(A), F	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

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PLAINFIELD

PATTER CALLS

So many categories of items I've grouped them like an "Injuner" would:

STORK CALL

June and Hartly Ferguson (Plainfield Promenaders)
Ruth and Frank Murphy (Plainfield Promenaders)
Edna and Lou Sullivan (Former Country Promenader)
Bob and Dot Hennessy (Tenakill Twirlers)

SICK CALL

Audrey Weigman (Country Promenaders)
John Weinmann (Country Promenaders)
Finn Holth (Plainfield Promenaders)
Jim Mitchell (Circle 8's)
Hannah Laster (Circle 8's)
Ed Falck (Belles & Beaux)

Some have returned after brief stays in hospital but you others hurry back; we miss you!

WEDDING BELLS

Peg and Jack Forbes (Wayne Square Dance Club)

MOVED

Anthony and Helen Pietruszkiewicz (Wayne Square Dance Club) to Lynnhaven, Va.
Dan and Mildred Hulin (Belles & Beaux) to new home in Demarest
(Main reason - to find a basement large enough to dance in.)
Terry and Bob Keck (Mr. President NNJSDA and his First Lady) to a new home in
Edison with Big Recreation Room (Dance Hall).
Peggy and Dave Davison (Tenakill Twirlers) to a new home in Bear Mountain area.

SQUARE DANCE CALENDAR KEY

- Ⓐ - Belles & Beaux (Tenafly)
(Private Club - by Invitation Only)
- Ⓑ - Bell Labs Pioneers
(Private Club - by Invitation Only)
- C - Hill City Squares (Summit)
- D - Westfield Squares
- E - Circle 8's (Tenafly)
- F - Merri Eights (East Brunswick)
- G - Metuchen Country Promenaders
- H - Metuchen Square Dance Club
- I - Middlesex Boro Square Dance Club
- J - Plainfield Promenaders
- K - Rahway Square Sets
- L - Richmond Dancers

- M - Tenafly Square Dance Club
- N - Tenakill Twirlers
- O - Merri Squares (Bloomfield)
- W - Wayne Square Dance Club
- Ⓕ - Hilltop Squares (Bloomfield)
(Private Club - by Invitation Only)
- X - NNJSDA Square
Spring Dance
(Emie Gross, Burr, Nebraska)
- Y - NNJSDA Special Dance
(George Campbell, Florida)
- Z - Westfield Square Special Dance
(Bob Dawson, Sarasota, Fla.)
- J* - Plainfield Promenaders Special
Open Dance for all clubs