



American Caller's Association

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July, August and September Newsletter 2019

In this Newsletter I thought that I would bring everyone up to date on what's going on at ACA.

As you were told in the previous Newsletter, the web site ameriancallers.com was hacked. In many cases what these hackers do is take the web site and try to sell it back to the owners at an inflated price; we felt it was to everyone's best interest not to do this so we now have www.americancallers.net, this web site is now updated with all the correct applications. What we as members need to do is on a regular basis, go to your search engine, such as Google, type in americancallers.net and do the search. The more we do this, the more it will override the old web site which will eventually become obsolete.

We as members of American Callers also need to spread the word about the organization. Feel free to print the ACA application and pass it out, the more we spread the word, the more members we acquire. American Callers is another alternative to an ASCAP/BMI license and liability insurance. We as callers should have a choice as to where we get our license and not be forced to belong to any one organization; this is another reason to spread the word about American Callers Association.

Regardless of which list we teach new dancers by, we need to go back to being **Square Dancers**. Today we all have many choices as to what activity we participate in, it seems harder and harder to recruit new square dancers, in my opinion we need to spread the word about the fun we have as **Square Dancers**, this will make people want to join our activity.

As a favor to Mac, I will be sending out our quarterly newsletter. If anyone has any comments, or articles they would like posted, please send them to me, tomroper@live.com

Best of luck to everyone; let's spread the word that ACA is an alternative to an ASCAP/BMI license and also to liability insurance. Remind the dancers that we are not only Plus dancers, Advance dancers, etc, etc, but we are all **Square Dancers** and that we do this for fun, if we let them see this, they will come.

What's New.....FACEBOOK!!!!

We have begun a Facebook for ACA!!! Find us @americancallers

Note from our friend, Steve Noseck...

*Good Evening,
I am Steve Noseck, and I am the Asst. Vice Chairman of Squares for the 69th National Square Dance Festival.*

I am sending you the official letter inviting all of the Callers of ACA to call.

This will be for the 69th National Square Dance Festival on June 17-20,2020 in Spokane, WA.

*Some of your members receive my Note Service :
NEWS' n NOTES REVISITED and will see this in its next edition to be out in the next 2-4 days.*

I wanted you to see it first so if your members have a question you can validate this letter and ask them to fill out the needed Caller profile or update theirs if there have been changes.

*Thank you for distributing this letter out to your membership.
Tom, I will see you on June 9th at the Happy Hoppers dance in Washington State.*

*My regards,
Steve Noseck*

Square Dance Caller

3609 168th St. NE. #3680
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Keep the Vision Alive in 2020!



Greetings from the 69th National Square Dance Convention!

We would like to invite you to come participate with us at the 69th National Square Dance Convention in Spokane, WA, June 17-20, 2020. We have an exciting program on hand for this event and are looking for wonderful people like you to fill it full of dancing fun.

Please click here to go to the Caller/Cuer page of the 69th Nationals or here to directly download the registration form. You MUST be registered AND your online caller profile filled out to be programmed to call at this convention. Click here to sign up for access to that website, you will use this through the end of convention. Deadline for this is February 1, 2020. Please take a few moments to fill this out so we can get you the best spot possible!

If you call Advanced, Challenge or Youth, be assured that your time spent in those halls will not affect your opportunity to call Mainstream or Plus. Also, if you and another caller mutually agree to share a tip, please indicate so on your caller profile.

Don't forget to remind your local dancers to register too!

Looking forward to working with you,

Dan and Dora Preedy, Vice Chairman Square Dance 69th NSDC
sqdncdan@yahoo.com, 509-270-9264 (c)

Steve and Leslie Noseck, Assistant Vice Chairman Square Dance 69th NSDC

RETAINING THE CLASS DANCER:

From the first night of class there are forces beyond our control; that will work against each class member's goal of completing the class and becoming a SQUARE DANCER. These forces, such as job change, illness, family problems, etc will force some folks to drop out of class. The "Drop Out" due to forces we have no control over, we must accept as part of any class program. The ones that leave our class because we have "PUSHED" them out due to poor teaching, trying to teach too much for them to learn in a short period of time, a short teaching fuse, lack of dancing for fun and success to build up their confidence and many other aspects of class, WE DO HAVE CONTROL OVER.

IMPORTANT ASPECT FOR THE RETENTION OF CLASS DANCERS:

1. Be aware of the feelings, fears and mixed **personalities** of those who are attending the class especially during the first month or so.
2. A good teacher will have lots of patience.
3. A strong regard for the feelings of others.
4. Add humor "to the program."
5. Get to know the class members by name as soon as possible.
6. Avoid a tone of voice that shows you are annoyed with them.
7. Create an atmosphere for learning that is relaxed and positive.
8. Have ways to gain their attention without being offensive.
9. Avoid singling out an individual who is having a problem.
10. Visit with the dancers between tips. Avoid visiting with the same few dancers. Move around the floor to various locations.
11. Show your enthusiasm thru out the length of the program. It shows you really enjoy calling and teaching.

IMPORTANT OF TEACHING SQUARE DANCING:

1. Be prepared for the night's lesson. This includes what need to be reviewed from previous lessons either in dance or form a walk thru.
2. Short and to the point explanations..A good clear "teach."
3. Teach form the Heads and Sides.
4. Make your presentation without having to learn another call in order to get stared learning the "feature" calls.
5. Have several simple dance routines ready forpractice with a quick return to a Left Allemande.
6. Provide LOTS of practice dancing using the new call and as the call becomes well understood mix it into routines with other WELL known calls.
7. Do not rush thru the teaching program at a pace only the best in the group can keep up with.
8. Prepare a lesson plan that provides for:
 - A. The introduction of new calls.
 - B. A review of the past two weeks calls.
 - C. Time for dancing for fun and practice that simulates "dance" not a class.
 - D. Teach the basic styling as you teach the mechanics of the call.
 - E. From experience, note the trouble spots in each call.
 - F. Note mistakes made by some dancers so they can be smothed out either by a bit of talking while calling or a walk thru between tips.
 - G. Your plan must be flexible to allow for "Good" and "Bad" nights.

- ❖ **DEVELOP SEVERAL WAYS TO TEACH AND EXPLAIN HOW TO DO A CALL.**
- ❖ **USE DEMONSTRATIONS SO ALL CAN SEE THEIR PART OF THE CALL.**
- ❖ **A PICTURE IS WORTH A 1000 WORDS.**
- ❖ **USE THE TWO-COUPLE MOUNTAIN STYLE TO MAXIMIZE THE PRACTICE TIME ACTION.**
- ❖ **USE HELPING WORDS THAT DANCERS CAN HANG ON TO. TEACH FORMATION AWARENESS. HAVE THE DANCERS LEARN THAT IT IS IMPORTANT TO KNOW IF THEY ARE ENDS OR CENTERS OF LINES OR IF THEY ARE FACING IN OR OUT IN WAVES, IN AND OUT FACING COUPLES IN TOW FACED LINES ETC.**
- ❖ **PAT THE DANCERS ON THE BACK AT EVERY OPPORTUNITY AND BE POSITIVE WHEN THINGS GO BADLY.**
- ❖ **ALLOW THE CLASS TIME TO ASK QUESTIONS.**
- ❖ **TAKE TIME TO TALK A BIT ABOUT OUR ACTIVITY, THE HISTORY AND HOW THE AREA FUNCTIONS WITH CLUBS ETC.**

DEALING WITH ANGELS:

There are several viewpoints on the use of angels. If you use angels you are sure to spend time with them on how to “be an angel.”

CAUTION ANGELS ABOUT:

- **Showing off with fancy twirls, kicks, etc.**
- **Over helping, allow the class dancer to make a mistake.**
- **Being the teacher, that is your job.**
- **Dancing with the same couples all the time.**
- **If used for demonstrating a call show them what you are planning so they know what to expect.**

AS COUPLES

AS COUPLES is a concept which has two dancers working as one person in doing a call. Be sure when you are calling AS COUPLES, that the dancers understand that as a couple, the dancer on the left side will have left hand part of the call and the dancer on the right side will have the right hand part, the two inside hands are inactive. It will help if you tell them to put the inside arm around each other when they first start. The dancers enjoy this because you don't have to do a walk-thru and it's fun. Do not overdo it. Do not rush the dancers give time to get the feel of the couple action.

The best way to present this is set them up in a tidal tow-faced line. "Then say take your time." Working as a couple swing thru couples turn $\frac{1}{2}$ by the right and centers $\frac{1}{2}$ by the left." Now say like people Girls Trade, Bend the Line, Pass thru, Left allemande. I will tell the dancers, "when I say like people" that lets you know you are no longer acting as a couple.

1p-2p LINES:

SWING THRU—BOYS RUN AS COUPLES—SWING THRU--*GIRLS TRADE—
BEND THE LINE PASS THRU—LEFT ALLEMANDE

1p-2p LINES:

SWING THRU—BOYS RUN—AS COUPLES: SWING THRU—AS COUPLES: SPIN
THE TOP (couples turn $\frac{1}{2}$ by the right, centers couples turn $\frac{3}{4}$, others move
up & 2 girls take hands) *GIRLS TRADE—BEND THE LINE—STAR THRU—
SLIDE THRU—PASS THRU—LEFT ALLEMANDE

BOX 1-4:

SWING THRU—BOYS RUN—AS COUPLES: CIRCULATE—AS COUPLES: SCOOT
BACK—AS COUPLES: CIRCULATE-- *WHEEL & DEAL—PASS TO THE
CENTER—SQUARE THRU $\frac{3}{4}$ LEFT ALLEMANDE

BOX 1-4:

SWING THRU—BOYS RUN—AS COUPLES:SCOOT BACK—AS COUPLES: WALK & DODGE-- *ALL U TURN BACK—STAR THRU—TRADE BY—SWING THRU—BOYS RUN—GIRLS TRADE—WHEEL&DEAL—RIGHT & LEFT THRU—SWING THRU—BOYS RUN—AS COUPLES HINGE *BEND EACH LINE—LEFT ALLEMANDE

1p-2p LINES:

SLIDE THRU—RIGHT & LEFT THRU—VEER LEFT—AS COUPLES: HINGE—AS COUPLES: SWING THRU—AS COUPLES:HINGE—AS COUPLES:SCOOT BACK *EACH LINE: WHEEL & DEAL—PASS TO THE CENTER—PASS THUR—STAR THRU—SLIDE THRU—PASS THRU—LEFT ALLEMANDE

BOX 1-4:

SWING THRU—BOYS RUN—AS COUPLES HINGE—CENTER COUPLES TRADE—AS COUPLES HINGE—AS COUPLES CIRCULATE-- *WHEEL & DEAL—LEFT ALLEMANDE

The figures in this next section are much harder. You should use as much direction as you can to help the dancers.

BOX 1-4:

CIRCLE FOUR 1/2 – VEER LEFT—AS COUPLES: HINGE—THE CENTER—AS COUPLES: CAST OFF 3/4 END COUPLES CIRCULATE—(Move up to join the same couple again) * GIRLS TRADE—EACH LINE: WHEEL & DEAL STAR THRU—PASS TO THE CENTER—SQUARE THRU 3/4 –LEFT ALLEMANDE

1p-2p LINES:

PASS THRU—WHEEL & DEAL—CENTERS PASS THRU—AS COUPLES: TOUCH 1/4 –AS COUPLES: RECYCLE-- *PASS THRU WHEEL & DEAL—CENTERS PASS

THUR—AS COUPLES: TOUCH 1/4 —AS COUPLES: RECYCLE-- *RIGHT & LEFT GRAND

1p-2p LINES:

PASS THE OCEAN—SWING THRU—BOYS RUN—AS COUPLES: SCOOT BACK—AS COUPLES: WALK & DODGE—AS COUPLES: CHASE RIGHT—AS COUPLES: FOLLOW YOUR NEIGHBOY=R & SPREAD-- *GIRLS TRADE—WHEEL & DEAL—STAR THRU—PASS TO THE CENTER—PASS THRU—PASS THRU AGAIN—LEFT ALLEMANDE

1p-2p LINES:

SWING THRU—BOYS RUN—AS COUPLES: TRADE THE BAVE—AS COUPLES: LEFT SWING THRU—AS COUPLES: TRADE THE WAVE—AS COUPLES: EXPLODE THE WAVE--*CALIFORNIA TWIRL—RIGHT & LEFT THRU—RIGHT & LEFT GRAND

1p-2p LINES:

PASS THRU—WHEEL & DEAL—CINETERS U TURN BACK—SWING THRU—SPIN THE TOP—BOYS RUN RIGHT—(look at your line of 4)
EACH LINE: WHEEL & DEAL (positional)—AS COUPLES: FOLLOW YOUR NEIGHBOR—AS COUPLES: CENTER CROSS RUN *GIRLS TRADE—BENT THE LINE—STAR THRU—RIGHT & LEFT THRU—TOUCH 1/4 —CIRCULATE 1 & 1/2 —CENTER SIX TRADE AND ROLL—LEFT ALLEMANDE

BOX 1-4:

TOUCH 1/4 —SCOOT BACK—CENTERS RUN—NEW CENTERS TRADE—AS COUPLES: SCOOT BACK—AS COUPLES: HINGE—AS COUPLES: SWING THRU—AS COUPLES: DIAMOND CIRCULATE-- *BOYS WHEEL & DEAL—GIRLS BEND TO FACE IN—BOYS PASS THRU—TOUCH 1/4 ALL 8 CIRCULATE—GIRLS TRADE—RECYCLE—PASS THRU—TRADE BY—LEFT ALLEMANDE