

## November 2019 View Points

The American Callers' Association in its attempt to be of service to all callers, dancers, and associations provided current, timely, and effective information on new dancer recruitment, winning ways to retain club dancers, and pitfalls to drive square dancers away from 2000 to the present. ACA appreciates the positive comments, encouragement to continue, and contributions from callers and dancers all over the country and from abroad to continue these initiatives. ACA will continue to provide information that will help the square dance community recruit, retain and retrieve square dancers as well as encourage the dancers to speak out on the cumbersome dance programs.

The October, September and August ACA Viewpoints were written to encourage square dancers to be aware of the new dancer dropout rates in square dance lessons, dropout rates of graduated new dancers immediately after graduation and dropout rates during the first year after graduation. ACA encourages each and every reader to go to the ACA Website and read the three Viewpoints. The subject of all three Viewpoints is a significant reason that new dancers and new members leave square dancing referencing upon the fragility of new dancers relationships to square dancing and problems how some club members treat and communicate with them. Both of which can lead to new people leaving square dancing.

Please take the time to visit the ACA Website and read the three viewpoints of August, September and October. Perhaps some minor changes may reduce the new dancer and new member leaving square dancing.

This month's ACA Viewpoints discusses the bright side of square dancing not addressing problems in square dancing but to examine and be thankful for the bright side of square dancing similar to the spirit of Thanksgiving over the centuries.

Let us remember that the heart and fabric of square dancing is healthy and strong. When we look at the declining numbers and cumbersome dance programs above the ACA One Floor or Callerlab Mainstream programs, it might cause anxiety and depression. However, in reality, although the numbers are decreasing, the fabric and heart of square dancing, round dancing, and line dancing is beating strong and healthy. Let every square dancer focus on the positive and encouraging side of square dancing with its fun, friendships, physical and mental health benefits, and many others.

Just connect the benefits of square dancing to the spirit of our national Thanksgiving for the entire month of November and at the same time be thinking of positive and receptive ideas that each of us may have to enhance the aforementioned bright side benefits of square dancing. Please send in any of your positive and thankful thoughts to ACA so we can publish them in your name on the ACA Viewpoints and on our ACA homepage.

Any individual, club, caller, or association who wishes to communicate his/her positive bright side views or activities on the bright side of square dancing, is encourage communicate their square dancing bright side views and activities are encouraged to contact the American Callers' Association at Loulet@aol.com or Dr. Patrick Demerath at pdemerath17@gmail.com

Until next time: Happy Dancing and Be Thankful in the Spirit of Thanksgiving.