



Buckles & Bows Square Dance Club



Volume 46, Issue 7

Editors: Pat & Jerry Akers

President's Message

We would like to proclaim October
"RANDOM ACTS OF KINDNESS MONTH".

We would like each of you to take a moment this month to do an act of kindness for someone that you might not ordinarily think of. For example, a couple months ago we answered a knock at the door to find a neighbor delivering us a completely cooked meal. Their reason "just wanted to do something nice for a neighbor." Acts of kindness can take many forms and in these trying times we're sure you can think of something that would make someones life just a little bit better.

In the last issue of the Newsletter, we asked for folks that we haven't seen or spoken to for awhile to pick up a phone and give us a call. A few actually did and it was great to get caught up and see how others are coping with this pandemic.

Many of us are meeting on Tuesday evenings with Mike & Lisa for some virtual dancing and friendly banter. For many, being able to get together with friends even on Zoom is one of the highlights of their week. If you haven't been joining us, and unfortunately there are many of you, make one of those phone calls we've been talking about and learn a little more about what Mike & Lisa are doing for us. Even if you don't want to try the virtual dancing you might enjoy dropping in once in a while to see everyone.

See you on the screen.

Bill & Nancy



GOEBEL ADULT
COMMUNITY CENTER



October Birthdays

Theresa Bridges
 Dean Gullekson
 Bobbi Albert
 Dave Eggli
 Laura Jean Hole
 Kathy DeForge
 Lillemo Possecker
 Cindy McLaren
 Barabara Jacobowitz
 Cindy Gullekson
 Bill Armstrong
 Lynne Ellington
 Maxine Springer
 Nellie Cusworth
 Janet Forney
 Sandy Daugherty
 Kevin Hamilton
 Bill Hatton
 Karen Morelli
 Tony DeMarco
 Kathy Davis
 Mary Genstil
 George Clock

October Anniversaries

Hall & Soo Jin Place
 Bob & Mim Spitz
 Gary & Karen Woodgerd
 Jack & Cindy Merk
 Dean & Joanne Cunningham
 Russ & Sandi Babbitt

Spreading Sunshine

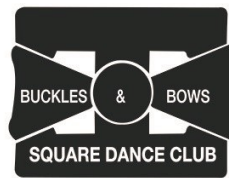
Kathy & Jon
 DeForge



Concerns:

Pedestrian Bill Armstrong is recovering from a confrontation with a car.

Everyone stay well!!

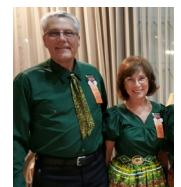


Membership Renewal

It's that time of the year when our membership fees are coming due. Please be on the lookout for an email with an attached form (Buckles & Bows Annual Dues) to fill out. Please review the Green handbook and its supplement for accuracy and let us know, if you want to make any changes.

Thank you in advance.

Bryan & Carol Taping



Monthly Club Dance

Please put the following date on your calendar October 24, 2020. This is the same date that the Buckles normally dance, so we would love to see all of you join us for a Halloween themed online gathering for the Buckles and Bow to celebrate the season. John Duhig's email will provide the ZOOM link. The time will be 7:30 to 9 o'clock and costumes are encouraged and prizes will be given. We're looking forward to seeing everyone whether you're dancing or just looking good! Mike & Lisa Seastrom



Halloween Decorations at the Clemens House

Gus DeFore, Cam-A-Lot's, and Square Dance Clubs

Gus and Lynn DeFore were enthusiastic square dancers in the 1980's, proudly sporting matching outfits lovingly sewn by Lynn. They soon discovered round dancing and began classes with Finn and Berthe Hoefler. In 1984 Gus and Lynn began to angel Finn and Berthe's classes. Gus and Lynn continued to grow in round dance and in the 1990's they joined RoundaLab, were

writing choreography, began teaching, working at dance festivals, and cueing before and between tips for square dances. Their relationship with Buckles & Bows spanned almost 20 years.

In 1990 serious conversation came up about starting a round dance club based in Camarillo. Gus thought of the name for the club. Soon, Gus and Lynn were serving as the first presidents of the Cam-A-Lot Round Dancers. Collina, Gus and Lynn's daughter, designed the logo, badge, and club outfit. In addition, Gus and Lynn began leading travel excursions to Mexico, The Caribbean, Alaska, Europe, Hawaii, Tahiti, Australia/New Zealand, Europe, and The United Kingdom.

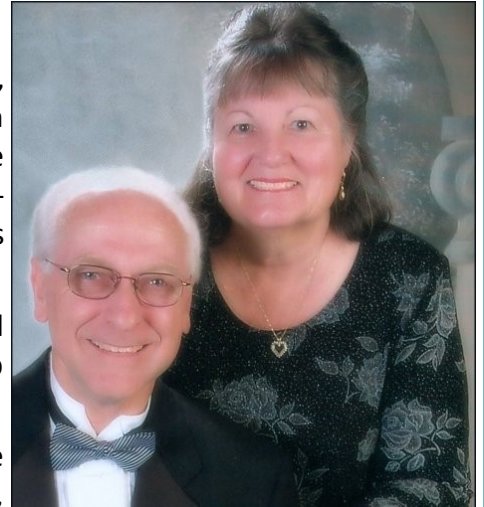
Lynn passed away suddenly in October 2019 while she and Gus were in Hawaii for their annual anniversary visit. Gus bravely carried on with round dance teaching and cueing at square dances

for the Buckles & Bows and Happy Squares dance clubs. However the COVID-19 pandemic shut down all dance activity in March 2020. As the months of shut down continued, Gus evaluated the situation of his life and in September 2020 decided to retire from round dance activity.

Gus's quality instruction, cueing, and gregarious personality garnered respect and many special friendships throughout the dance community. He maintains a presence on Facebook and his active website 'gusdefore.com' for those who desire to connect personally as well as find support for round dance.

By **Karen and David Oliver**

On behalf of Buckles and Bows and the entire Square and Round Dance Communities, we thank Gus for his many years of cueing the Round Dance portion of our monthly dances and also for being a great instructor who made it possible for so many of our members to enjoy round dancing. We will miss his infectious smile at our dances but certainly hope to entice him back for an encore performance when this virus has passed. **Bill and Nancy Armstrong**



2019 Pismo Beach Campers



Joanne Cunningham suggested the newsletter could be a path for us to learn about our fellow club member's backgrounds. She has provided the first article in the new 'Our Story' series. The idea is club members contribute a short biography to be shared. The hope is even with limited social contact we can learn about each other. Please send your one page or less stories to Pat and Jerry Akers email: akers.jerry.e@gmail.com. The second in the series follows.

— Our Story — by John and Sybil Duhig

John was born and raised in Cambridge, then Needham, Massachusetts, and Sybil in The Bronx, NY and then in Teaneck, New Jersey. Sybil was valedictorian at Teaneck High School, and John was your typical lazy, B-C student at Needham High School. They met at Brandeis University in Waltham, Mass, where Sybil got into this highly prestigious scholastic school due to her academic acumen, with all A's throughout her high school years. John was accepted because his Dad was the registrar at Brandeis.



They met there and fell in love. John graduated in June 1961 and headed off to the United States Naval Aviation Officers' Candidate program in Pensacola, Florida. They were engaged before he left, as Sybil had one year to complete. She graduated in June 1962, Magna Cum Laude with honors in chemistry. John had graduated Magna Cum Luck in mathematics. John got a 2 week leave after finishing basic flight training, headed to Teaneck, and they were married on June 17th, one week after Sybil graduated. Their 'honeymoon' was driving from Teaneck to Corpus Christi, Texas, for advanced aviation training. Sybil pinned John's pilot wings on his uniform in December 1962.

Then followed training stints in Norfolk, Virginia; Anniston, Alabama; and Jacksonville, Florida, ending with his 3 year assignment to VP 24 at NAS Norfolk.

The three years at Norfolk included 6 months deployments in Keflavik, Iceland and Sigonella, Sicily, with shorter stints in Crete; Rota, Spain; Guantanamo Bay, Cuba; and Roosevelt Rhodes, Puerto Rico.

By then it was the mid 60s and the airlines were into their huge push to hire pilots. John applied to 8 airlines, being accepted by all (Yes, he had learned how to study and get very good grades, thanks to Brandeis University,) and settled on his first choice, Trans World Airlines. He began that amazing 31year career on June 6, 1966.

In the meantime, Sybil was having our three children, two sons and a daughter. They have given us 6 granddaughters, ranging from 26 years old, down to 13. The oldest just got engaged to a terrific lad. The second oldest, Danielle, is known by you all.

We departed Norfolk for Kansas City, MO in June of 1966, living there 7 years. We made the wonderful move to Westlake Village, CA in June 1973, where we lived for 15 years, finally moving to Wood Ranch in Simi Valley in 1988, where we remain today.

As the kids grew, Sybil applied for and got a job as an office assistant in accounting at Sunset Hill Country Club for a couple of years. She moved up to Membership Director for 12 years, retiring in 1995. John retired in 1997.

Since those retirement days we have kept busy with travel; driving to National Parks and cruising being our favorite ways to travel. John spent 7 years each as a docent at the Reagan Library and Getty Museum on the hill in LA.

Sybil started square dancing in 2003, one full year before she could convince John to give it a try. We are both now hooked and so eager for regular dancing to resume. Our favorites are the classes and new students with Mike Seastrom, and the advanced classes each week with Buddy Weaver. During our 16 year tenure in Buckles & Bows, we were Class Coordinators for 10 years, and Caller Coordinators for another, partially overlapping, 10 years. We are currently the Communications Chairs.

We now find ourselves keeping busy in these times of house arrest. Sybil has her investment and book clubs, plus an exercise class 3 days a week, all on ZOOM. John has his pilots' group, which meets once a month on ZOOM, and plays duplicate bridge 3 hours each day on-line. We ZOOM dance with Mike each Tuesday, and occasionally at other 2-couple ZOOM dances. Family also keeps us busy, although at a distance.

John and Sybil

CALLERLAB VIEWPOINTS

October 2020

By Mike Seastrom



Let's Restart with the Social Square Dance Curriculum

Members of CALLERLAB and the American Callers Association have struggled to find common ground on an easier to learn program for non-dancers to enter our activity for many years now.

The CALLERLAB Basic Program is remarkably close to the *Sets In Order Basic 50 Program* that we used in the early years of square dancing in the 50's and the early 60's. There was a big explosion starting in the early 1960's, of calls written by callers and dancers and chaos followed. CALLERLAB was formed in the early 1970's and tackled that chaos.

CALLERLAB organized and standardized our programs. Over the years Mainstream and Plus have become the primary programs that new dancers must learn, to join our activity, instead of the Basic Program as it was for so many years.

In 1985, many in CALLERLAB recognized this problem and a major motion was voted on to make an easier entry program for new dancers. The split on the vote was almost even, but the motion to use an easier program was defeated by only a few votes.

Many callers were disappointed and some of our leaders left CALLERLAB and formed the American Callers Association. The program they developed has less calls, but it is a combination of Basic, Mainstream, and Plus calls, and many have strongly felt there are still too many calls for new dancers to learn before they can join our clubs.

The Pandemic of 2020 has had the most serious impact on our activity since World War II. Nothing since that time has just stopped everything in its tracks. Many have made "lemonade out of lemons" by continuing our dancing and social connections through the wonder of the internet, but more than half of our dancers, callers, and leaders have not had a dancing connection since March of 2020.

Returning to dancing, as we knew it, will take time and some serious adjustment. To bring us back together and to be able to have new dancers join us again, we need to come together with an easier entry program and allow dancers to stay in that program for as long as they chose to. We will still have more involved programs for those who want them. We just need to open our doors to new dancers more than once a year with less calls, all the fun so many of us enjoy, and no pressure to keep learning more calls and programs.

This is the time we need to come together more than any time I can remember.

I sincerely respect every caller that has ever had the courage and motivation to call and teach new dancers over the years. Every one of those callers has brought so much joy and fun into the lives of those they have taught and called for.

Continued on the next page.

CALLERLAB VIEWPOINTS continued

Many of those callers have brought that joy and fun at their personal expense of family time, occupational involvement, and their own health. So many of our callers have passed on, retired, or just burnt out, that we need to teach the art and joy of calling to a whole new generation.

CALLERLAB has provided a curriculum and an amazing Square Dance Knowledgebase (<http://knowledge.callerlab.org>) for new caller education and there are many callers all over the world actively mentoring new callers.

CALLERLAB is again providing positive leadership and guidance to preserve and build both square dancing and our calling ranks. The CALLERLAB Board of Governors now endorses the use of Social Square Dancing (formally called Sustainable Square Dancing) as a way of getting current dancers back on the floor, having fun and enjoying the social connections that are so important in life.

Social Square Dancing is a simpler, yet fast paced approach, for bringing new and existing dancers into our square dance community. It provides the prospect of having a well thought out plan in place for multiple starts in a year.

Originally put together by Jerry Story and the Social Square Dance Committee, this system has the capability to bring the fun of our dance to more people in a shorter period.

There is an abundance of information for callers to teach this system and a large base of choreography that can be used by new and experienced callers alike. This information can be found on the CALLERLAB Square Dance Knowledgebase listed above.

When there are multiple starts every year, any dancer that falls behind or has to take a break, due to the many diversions life can toss our way, it's very easy to join again and get back to friends, fun, and music.

My hope is that all square dance leadership can join for the good of the activity and move us forward. Let's work as a team to re-energize square dancing again as we emerge from this global crisis. This is such a great opportunity! I can't wait to dance, teach, and call again!

This article appeared in the November issue of American Square Dance Magazine.

October 2020

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

				1	2 Name Your Car Day	3
4	5 Do Some- thing Nice	6 ZOOM Dance with Mike & Lisa	7 Bald and Free Day	8	9	10 Pismo Beach Campout
11	12	13 ZOOM Dance with Mike & Lisa	14	15	16	17
18 Meatloaf Apprecia- tion	19	20 ZOOM Dance with Mike & Lisa	21	22	23	24 ZOOM Dance COS- TUMES & PRIZES
25	26	27 ZOOM Dance with Mike & Lisa	28	29	30	31 Hal- loween

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Live Lively -



Square Dance!

