



# Blue Spirit Region Newsletter

## 3rd Quarter 2008

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## Club Membership & The Square Dancers Pledge

### Club Member Duties and Responsibilities:

**Dues:** Most every club has to have money to operate. By paying dues, it should give a member a better sense of belonging. It should make members feel more like they are helping support their club and promoting Square Dancing.

**Attend club dances and functions regularly:** Let the officers know that you are supporting them by your presence. If you are not there, it may cause three couples to have to sit on the sideline (these three couples may be visitors).

**Be Friendly:** Greet all your guests and make them feel welcome. Try to see that everyone is having a good time and enjoying themselves. Every member should be a host.

**Club Visitations:** Make your club a traveling club; it will pay great dividends.

**Conduct:** Be sure that your conduct is conforming to the great square dance standards that we all know and love.

**Pride in Square Dancing:** Tell others about your club. Be willing to work with your local club and re-

gional officers with special dances, festivals, weekends, exhibitions, business meetings, classes, etc.

### The Square Dancers Pledge:

"With all my ability, I will do my best to help keep Square Dancing the enjoyable, wholesome, friendly and inspiring activity I know it to be. This I pledge in the sincere desire that it may grow naturally and unexploited in the coming years and be available to all those who seek the opportunity for friendship, fun and harmony ... through square dancing."

## Code of Ethics for Square Dancers

- I'll wear proper square and round dance attire when requested.
- I'll always try to keep alive the spirit of square & round dancing by always practicing good fellowship.
- I'll try not to talk about other dancers unless I have something good to say.
- I'll try to never walk out of a square unless I am ill or have an important reason and then I will explain to my Caller and try to get someone to take my place.
- I will not sit out a dance if a couple is needed to fill a square.
- I will do my share of club duties, whenever asked.
- I will practice proper manners in asking someone to dance and with others in my square by setting a good example.
- I will have respect for my Caller and other dancers.
- I'll leave the instruction to the Caller and not try to explain the dance to my own square.
- I'll remember that personal grooming is important to my acceptance in a square dance group.
- I'll keep my dancing standard unless I am sure the rest of the square approves of extra twirls, etc.
- I'll remember that once upon a time I was a beginner and be willing to dance with those who have had less experience than I have.
- I will not cut in on a square unless I know the dancers in the square and know that they would approve.
- I'll try to remember that the primary basis of square and round dancing is to have FUN and "A square dancer I don't know, is a friend I haven't met."

## Message from the KFSD President



Hello fellow square dancers,

Welcome to the lazy, hazy crazy days of summer dances now that plus classes are over. Remember, the fun you will have at all the dances and weekend get-aways is your reward for all the hard work you have done.

The Blue Spirit Jubilee in March was all we could have hoped for. We all worked together to have a great dance. Our thanks go out to all the dancers and

clubs who helped in so many ways. The Gold Region will be having their dance on Nov. 8th at the Carpenters Union Hall in Louisville from 1:00 to 4:00 pm. Let's all go and enjoy the Gold Rush Roundup.

We have all been enjoying quite a few demonstrations in our area. They are fun and a good way to promote and advertise square dancing. Remember, if your club is going to do demos to look at a variety of places where there is a crowd of people. It is a good idea to pass out a list of clubs in the area and the names of people to contact to join in the fun.

Before we know it lessons will be starting. How can we attract more students? Advertising in newspapers, bulletins of

local businesses, apartments, office complexes, grocery stores, etc., is a good start. Local TV and radio stations and community bulletin boards are good also. You can announce your dances in the local community section of your newspaper. We are going to try large banners and yard signs this year in order to get the word out.

We hope all clubs are supporting all the other clubs in their area by going to each others dances. Carpooling is an easy way to save on gas and enjoy the company of other dancers along the way.

Harry & Virginia Marshall

Phone: 502-803-5719

Email: [deerdancer55@yahoo.com](mailto:deerdancer55@yahoo.com)

## Message from the KFSD Blue Spirit Region President



We are excited to be part of the Blue Spirit Region and look forward to working with all the area clubs and dancers to promote square dancing. We need to

get a good group of new students when lessons start in September. I think each club needs to set a goal for the number of new students they want to have. Depending on the size of their facility they should strive to *fill* it with new students. It is wonderful that existing club members come back year after year and pay to take lessons. However, that does not help our clubs grow. We need new, younger students with fresh ideas and

enthusiasm. Don't be afraid to ask everyone you meet if they square dance. If the answer is "no" then tell them all about it. We made up a flyer that explains what square dancing is, its health benefits, etc. Any club is welcome to use and edit it to fit their needs. Feel free to contact us and we can email it to you.

George & Margaret Scott

Phone : 859-236-4050

Email: [gandmscott@bellsouth.net](mailto:gandmscott@bellsouth.net)

## Tips for Square Dance Exhibition Dances

- I. Many groups are called upon from time to time to do exhibitions. This is a wonderful way to publicize our wonderful hobby. We are always anxious to interest the public in square dance lessons. Participants in dancing for the public should at all times be conscious of their "image".
- II. A few reminders, suggestions and hints will help to promote square dancing and present a favorable image. Stand tall -- Smile -- Relax -- Be gentle. If you are nervous and tense don't let it show on your partner's arms or hands.
  - A. Take small steps -- it not only looks better but gives you more time to think where you are going and where you're suppose to be. Keep the square small; close it in. Let's all promenade with hands in front. Keep feet on the floor, no kicking, no patting of hands and no fooling around. Dance well and make it look beautiful.
  - B. Ladies, let's use our skirts; arms and hands should never dangle or flop around. Keep elbows to our side, arms bent at elbow. (This goes for the men, too.) Your skirt is there to hold if your hand is free.
  - C. Please wear full square dance costume, including a club or name badge. At the end of the dance, do not clap. Do a California Twirl, bow to the audience, California Twirl and face back in

## Club Dance Schedule and Information - 3rd Quarter 2008

<b>Bachelor &amp; Bachelorettes (B&amp;Bs)</b> St. Michael's Episcopal Church 2025 Bellefonte Drive, Lexington, KY		1st Saturday 8:00-10:30 pm	President: Henry Sowers (859) 863-4344
<u>Date</u>	<u>Caller</u>	<u>Cuer / LD Leader</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
July 19, 2008 Aug. 2, 2008 Sept. 6, 2008	Don Harper Tom Davis Bob Braden	Glenn Kelly Jan Dawson	27th Anniversary Dance
<b>Constitution Squares</b> Mercer County Elementary School 741 Tapp Road, Harrodsburg, KY		3rd Saturday 8:00-10:30 pm Food served 7:30	President: David & Jean Cornwell (859) 734-0177 dave67corn@yahoo.com
<u>Date</u>	<u>Caller</u>	<u>Cuer / LD Leader</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
July 19, 2008 Aug. 16, 2008 Sept. 20, 2008	Keller Campbell Larry Davenport Tony Kincade	Stan Holman Stan Holman Stan Holman	Red, White & Blue Watermelon Crawl Make Your Own Sundae
<b>Do Si Dos</b> Beaumont Presbyterian Church 1070 Lane Allen Road, Lexington, KY		2nd & 4th Friday 8:00-10:30 pm	President: Paul & Linda Rowland (859) 219-1339 eprowland@insightbb.com
<u>Date</u>	<u>Caller</u>	<u>Cuer / LD Leader</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
July 11, 2008 July 25, 2008 Aug. 8, 2008 Aug. 22, 2008 Sept. 12, 2008 Sept. 26, 2008	Kevin Robinson Kenny Jarvis Mark Patterson Larry Davenport Tony Kincade Kevin Robinson	Jan Dawson Jan Dawson Jan Dawson Jan Dawson Jan Dawson Jan Dawson	
<b>Down Under Squares</b> Down Under Rexel Electrical Supply Co 120 Wilson Court, Nicholasville, KY		2nd & 4th Saturday 8:00-10:30 pm	President: Harry & Virginia Marshall (502) 803-5719 deerdancer55@yahoo.com
<u>Date</u>	<u>Caller</u>	<u>Cuer / LD Leader</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
July 12, 2008 July 26, 2008 Aug. 9, 2008 Aug. 23, 2008 Sept. 13, 2008	Mark Patterson & Wes Dyer Ricky Frasure Mark Patterson & Wes Dyer Mark Patterson Mark Patterson & Wes Dyer	Glenn Kelly	High Bridge Park, Wilmore, KY 2:00-4:30 pm  Luau Dance All Plus Dance Fish Fry - High Bridge Park, Wilmore, KY 2:00-4:30 pm
<b>Dudes &amp; Dolls</b> The Old Depot Depot Street, Corbin, KY		3rd Saturday 8:00-10:30 pm	President: Howard & June Daniels (606) 528-6543 htdan@newwavecomm.net
<u>Date</u>	<u>Caller</u>	<u>Cuer / LD Leader</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
July 19, 2008 Aug. 30, 2008 Sept. 20, 2008 Every Thursday	Jason Raleigh Terry McGill Mel Liter Tim McFadden		Special Friday Dance  Weekly Regular Club Dances 7:00-9:00 pm

## Club Dance Schedule and Information - 3rd Quarter 2008 (Continued)

<b>Gateway Twirlers</b> Mapleton Elementary School 809 Indian Mound Drive, Mt. Sterling, KY		3rd Saturday 8:00-10:30 pm	President: Rick & Cindy Wilcox (859) 585-0627
<u>Date</u>	<u>Caller</u>	<u>Cuer / LD Leader</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
July 19, 2008 Aug 16, 2008 Sept. 2, 2008 Sept. 20, 2008	Mark Patterson Cancelled Kevin Robinson Ricky Frasure	Glenn Kelley	Picnic Dance W/S 4:30-6:00 Dance 7:00-10:00pm  Start of Beginner Lessons
<b>Hill Country Dancers</b> Hambley Athletic Center 120 Championship Drive, Pikeville, KY		1st Saturday 8:00-11:00 pm	President: James & JoAnn Holbrook (606) 432-2722 jameseholbrook@hotmail.com
<u>Date</u>	<u>Caller</u>	<u>Cuer / LD Leader</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
Aug. 2, 2008	Wes Dyer		
<b>Lake Cumberland Squares</b> Rocky Hollow Park 142 South Central Avenue, Somerset, KY		1st Saturday 8:00-10:30 pm	President: Jerry Sweet (606) 676-9005 sjb0405@newwavecomm.net
<u>Date</u>	<u>Caller</u>	<u>Cuer / LD Leader</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
July 5, 2008 Aug. 2, 2008 Sept. 6, 2008	Ricky Frasure Coy Ingram Eddie Stamper		Partiotic (wear red, white & blue) 50's Dance Western Roundup
<b>Rhythm Rounds</b> Tates Creek Recreation Center 1400 Gainesway Drive Lexington, Kentucky		Every Wednesday 8:00-10:00 pm	President: Glenn & Rosalee Kelley (859) 233-9947 gkelleylex@aol.com
<u>Date</u>	<u>Cuers</u>		<u>Remarks</u>
July 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Aug. 6, 13, 20, 27 Sept. 3, 10, 17, 24	Glenn & Rosalee Kelly Glenn & Rosalee Kelly Glenn & Rosalee Kelly		Lessons 7:00-8:00 pm, Dance 8:00-10:00 pm Lessons 7:00-8:00 pm, Dance 8:00-10:00 pm Lessons 7:00-8:00 pm, Dance 8:00-10:00 pm
<b>Somer-Sets</b> Rocky Hollow Park 142 South Central Avenue, Somerset, KY		2nd Saturday 8:00-10:30 pm	President: Kim & Tia Murphy (606) 274-5032 kimandtia@earthlink.net
<u>Date</u>	<u>Caller</u>	<u>Cuer / LD Leader</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
July 12, 2008 Aug. 9, 2008 Sept. 13, 2008	Jack Pladdys Joe Lowe Mel Liter		Christmas in July Beach Party Fall Fiesta
<b>Vagabonds</b> Laurel County Court House Community Room 101 South Main Street, London, KY		4th Saturday 7:00-9:30 pm	President: Don & Edeline Harper (606) 864-6309
<u>Date</u>	<u>Caller</u>	<u>Cuer / LD Leader</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
July 26, 2008 Aug. 23, 2008 Sept. 27, 2008	Don Harper Don Harper Don Harper		

## Club Dance Schedule and Information - 3rd Quarter 2008 (Continued)

<b>Western Swingers</b> Hazard Fire Training Center 45 Gorman Hollow Road, KY		2nd Saturday 8:00-10:30 pm	President: Don & Patty Cook (606) 785-3567
<u>Date</u>	<u>Caller</u>	<u>Cuer / LD Leader</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
July 12, 2008 Aug. 9, 2008 Sept. 13, 2008	Ricky Frasure Larry Davenport Terry McGill		
<b>Wheeler Dealers</b> Hunter Presbyterian Church 109 Rosemont Garden, Lexington, KY		1st, 3rd, 5th Friday 8:00-10:30 pm	President: Bob & Wanda Wagner (859) 272-4769 purpleribbon@blueone.net
<u>Date</u>	<u>Caller</u>	<u>Cuer / LD Leader</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
July 18, 2008 Aug. 1, 2008 Aug. 15, 2008 Sept. 5, 2008 Sept. 19, 2008	Mark Patterson Doug & Don Sprosty Mark Patterson Kevin Robinson Mark Patterson		Picnic Dance 6:30 pm Shilito Park Shelter #1   43rd Anniversary Dance

## Specials & Weekend Dance Opportunities - 3rd Quarter 2008

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Callers</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Information</u>
July 4-5, 2008	Firecracker Festival	Mark Patterson & Wes Dyer Kellys (Rounds) Diane Martin (Lines)	Kentucky Horse Park Campground Pavilion Lexington, KY	(859) 305-6081
July 12, 2008	Ice Cream Dance	Mark Patterson & Wes Dyer	High Bridge Park Wilmore, KY 2:00 - 4:30 pm	(502) 352-9887
July 19, 2008	Gateway Barbeque	Mark Patterson Kellys (Rounds)	Mapleton Elementary School Mt. Sterling, KY W/S 4:30-6:00 pm Dance 7:00-10:00 pm	(859) 585-0627
July 22, 2008	Metro Council Dance	Ken Bower Kellys (Rounds)	Tates Creek Recreation Ctr	
Aug 29-31, 2008	Fall Round-Up	Wes Dyer & Mark Patterson Kelleys (Rounds) Hissongs (Lines)	Kentucky Horse Park Campground Pavilion Lexington, KY	(859) 305-6081
Sep 26-27, 2008	Jenny Wiley Autumn Dance Getaway	Mark Patterson, Wes Dyer, Ricky Frasure Kelleys (Rounds) Marilou Spears (Lines)	Jenny Wiley State Park Prestonsburg, KY	(606) 791-0336



# KFSD State Square Dance Convention - September, 2009

## What we need:

Callers, Cuers, Line Dance Leaders, Vendors, Sponsors, Workers, Advertising, Programs, Donations, Ribbons

What can you do to help? Yes, we need you, **all of you**, in order to get a state convention organized and have it be a success. Everyone in your club knows someone or a business who could be a sponsor, vendor or make a donation for our first State Convention.

We plan on promoting square dancing as a healthy form of exercise that can lower blood pressure, help cardiovascular circulation and respiratory function. There is a world of resources we need to tap. You may have ideas we have not thought of. Please contact any officer with your ideas, suggestions, or offers to help.

## KFSD Officers

Harry & Virginia Marshall, Pres.  
Mary Lou Cottrell, VP  
Bob & Debbie Wright, Sec.  
Debbie Gadd, Treas.

## Blue Spirit Region Officers

George & Margaret Scott, Pres.  
Howard & June Daniels, VP  
Cecil & Linda Cooper, Sec.  
Jill Blair, Treas.

## Gold Rush Region Officers

C.D. Gloek, Pres.  
Beth Nagel, VP  
Charlotte Allen, Sec.  
Phyllis Tomes, Treas.

# Tips On Planning & Conducting Beginner Lessons

## Methods Of Recruiting New Dancers

- A. To get new dancers, you have to find ways to let prospective dancers know about your beginners class.
- B. To do this you must advertise. Some ways of advertising are by demonstration dances, articles in newspapers in the area, announcements on local radio, flyers in shopping centers, laundromats, service stations, or any other place. Since drinking isn't allowed before or during a square dance, it isn't a good idea to put a flyer up in a liquor store.
- C. The best way to get a beginner is by word of mouth. After you have talked them into coming to class, go by the first night of class and pick them up.
- D. As you talk to prospective new dancers, stress that square dancing is fun, informal, relaxing, non-drinking, inexpensive entertainment.

## Publicity For Recruiting New Dancers

- A. Since pre-planning and methods of recruiting new dancers are so closely tied in with all forms of publicity, it is hard to draw the line on where one ends and the other one begins.
- B. Some ideas are: have a club pot-luck dinner and invite citizens of the community to attend; have members of your club put on skits and give a short talk on the history of square dancing along with where your club fits in the overall picture of square dancing. You can end the evening by square dancing. Invite the public to join a simple square and to sign up for your beginners class.
- C. You should start advertising your new beginners class as soon as you have all the plans made. Some clubs start advertising their next class as soon as the one in progress is closed for new beginners. Some wait until about three months before the new class starts.
- D. Check with your local recreation department. There is a possibility that they will support a beginners class by letting you have a hall and advertise for you. Some school systems may include it in adult education.
- E. Some clubs dance at P. T. A. meetings, rest homes, convalescent hospitals, opening of a new track of homes, at car lots when the new models come out, fraternal organizations, schools and churches. In addition, clubs sponsor dances for numerous charities.

## Summary

- A. The pre-planning, recruiting methods and publicity are all important parts of getting a class started, but it can all be for nothing if the club members aren't friendly and sincere in their promotion of a class and at class dances.
- B. Anyone can learn to square dance, including those with many different mental and physical disabilities, even those who are confined to wheelchairs. It is a fun, easy and relaxing recreation.
- C. Remember, we all enjoy the same activity, Square Dancing. If a prospective student can't attend your club's beginner lessons because they have other obligations on your club's lesson night, direct them to another club's beginner class. Even though they might not be with you through lessons, you will be able to enjoy many dances together with them for years to come.

## Why Do We Lose Square Dancers? What Can Be Done About It?

- I. The loss of many wonderful square dancers is a major concern to everyone in our country, state, federation and club. Why do our friends leave such a great activity with so much to offer? Surely they were interested or they would not have gotten into it. What can be done to hold our dancers and have them continue in this worthwhile program?
- II. There are various reasons for this exodus. Sometimes, there are situations beyond the control of the dancer which causes them to be forced to leave. They may be such things as:
- A. Changing family situation
  - B. Finances
  - C. Change in work schedule
  - D. Health
  - E. Moving
  - F. Age

Little can be done to prevent these except to hope that changes will take place to help this situation.

- III. Of greatest concern to all of us is the loss of dancers due to reasons which can be altered. It is well for us to keep in mind the fact that, first and foremost, dancers leave because they are not having a good time. Thoughtful efforts need to be applied to these problems which can be corrected. Reasons and possible solutions are given here with the hope that they will be beneficial.
- A. **Reason:** Dancers have a feeling of being abandoned or ignored. This usually takes place at the conclusion of lessons. Some couples require a little more extra care and attention than others. They may be made to feel that they do not really belong to the group. During a break, they may be left sitting alone and may consider themselves outcast. Club members may not mix and dance with them as they should.
- Possible solutions:**
1. New dancers need to be told by the Caller, instructor or President to expect a let-down in attention. In addition, old club members need to be warned at the same time concerning this problem. They should be encouraged to continue to mix and be attentive to these new dancers. They should make them feel they really want them.
  2. Expand your Hospitality committee from one to two couples with outgoing personalities. They may wear large hospitality badges. Their responsibility is to mingle, watch for trouble spots, greet everyone at the door and keep the crowd happy. There is a tremendous responsibility, but most rewarding..
- B. **Reason:** Relationship with other dancers is a major reason for dancers leaving. Some people wear their feelings close to the surface. As a rule, this type of dancer does not survive beginner lessons
- Possible solutions:** Try to recognize this trouble spot and help the individual. Treat him/her with kindness and respect and hope for the best. You may be able to change his/her attitude by patience and understanding.
- C. **Reason:** Lack of common courtesies taught to beginners and observed by older dancers. New dancers are not always taught the common courtesies of square dancing. Nothing will hurt a new dancer like unknowingly omitting a common courtesy only to find that he was not taught the proper thing to do.
- Possible solutions:**
1. Beginners should be taught the common courtesies of square dancing. They may be given material listing these courtesies. It is a most important and necessary part of beginner classes.
  2. Older dancers need to be reminded from time to time concerning these courtesies. It may be in the form of "Helpful Hints" printed and handed out to members of the club or a discussion at a club meeting.
- D. **Reason:** Danger by new dancers, who in their great enthusiasm and zeal for square dancing, leave a beginner's class determined to dance more often and faster than anyone else. He/She "burns out" after a very short time and we no longer see him/her on the square dance floor.
- Possible solution:** The important thing here is to caution them on the consequences of "hyper-dancing". Usually each person will set his own pace, if warned, they will then be with us a long time. Once they get their own pattern set, there will be little danger of "burning out". This timeless advice to them could give them food for thought - Be not too zealous - Moderation is best in all things, even dancing.

## Why Do We Lose Square Dancers? What Can Be Done About It?

### Continued

E. **Reason:** Too much emphasis on past differences between clubs. It is well to keep in mind past differences between clubs to a degree. By the completion of lessons, new dancers feel that square dancing is one big friendly world. Don't disillusion them.

**Possible solution:** Be cautious about these past differences. Don't spread it around. People as a rule do not like to become involved in unpleasant occurrences of the past. If an old dancer sees a new dancer getting involved in something which could cause trouble, caution him.

F. **Reason:** Frequency of dancing varies with each individual. There are two types of dancers - those who want to dance each week for the opportunity of fellowship and socializing with club members and those who prefer to dance twice a month in order to have an opportunity to visit other clubs.

**Possible solution:** This can be solved by allowing each club to make its own decisions. Let each dancer set their own pace. Don't crowd a person and each will seek that which they desire.

G. **Reason:** Lack of proper interest in the beginner dancer concerning:

- proper attire for square dancing
- square dance publications
- information about regional and state organizations
- out-of-town trips
- importance of attending Festivals

**Possible solutions:** It is most important to take time during the instructional period, or as soon as a person graduates, to give them information on these specific topics:

- Ladies of the club should assist beginners with dresses, petticoats, and petti-pants
- Give information on how to obtain appropriate square dance clothes. Help with ideas and patterns; also suitable material
- Encourage dancers to subscribe to a square dance magazine. Have sample copies for them to read and possibly to check out for a time
- At meetings, explain the function and importance of local and state organizations
- Encourage dancers to make out-of-town trips
- Encourage attendance at weekend Festivals

It is hoped that the recommendations given in this educational material will be used by each KFSD Club. Dancers and leaders need to create and preserve proper trends of attitudes as well as environment.

We ask that each KFSD Region distribute this to the area clubs who should use it in the most beneficial way possible. If it is used properly, it should lessen the exodus of square dancers, and more will remain on the active roll of clubs in the Kentucky Federation of Square Dancing.

## 59th National Square Dance Convention



June 23 - 27, 2010

[www.59thndsc.com](http://www.59thndsc.com)