



American Caller's Association

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Newsletter January-March 2024

American Callers Assoc

I hope that 2024 has started off to be a great year for you. As I look back on 2023 and prepare for the New Year, I cannot help but think of the people that have left our activity for a better place, the folks that are no longer able to dance for many reasons, and the callers we have lost. And while they will be missed, I am proud to have met so many new dancers, callers and cuers that are coming along to take their place. As the old George Jones song goes "Who's gonna fill their shoes." With some of the new talent I have heard, I think we will be fine. We are blessed to have this activity and with a lot of hard work we can keep it going well into the future. It is sad when I read of a club closing, but I am elated when I hear of one opening. I think we still have the best social activity that anyone can find. A little exercise, some thinking and lots of opportunities to smile and enjoy fellowship with people.

Have you set goals for 2024? In my days as a sales trainer, I used the old concept that a failure to plan is a plan for failure. Do you have a plan in mind to find a way to become a better caller? Have you looked at all of the resources available on the net? Have you thought about going to a caller school or clinic? Do you have a local caller that can help you? Be it resolved that I want to be a better caller next year than I am now. Remember the three types of people: Those who make it happen, Those who watch it happen, and Those who wonder "What Happened?" Be the first.

Have you ever looked back and asked yourself why you got into this wonderful world of square dancing? Was it to learn all the calls you can or did you join for a social activity for you and spouse and possibly family? Did you care how many calls there were, or did you just want to have a good time? Most of us probably joined for the fun. Why did we become callers? Was it ego, the opportunity to perform, or to teach a bunch of calls? Hopefully in this New Year we can balance our desire for entertaining choreography with providing fun to the dancers who come to our dancers. Look for the smiles on those dancing to you. My goal for this year is to keep all the new dancers dancing into the future. How about you?

Thank you for the opportunity to serve the ACA and all callers. Let me know if you have thoughts on anything in my articles. I want to learn from you.

Keep 'em square and in case you forgot, wash your hands.

Bill Chesnut

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COMMENTARY

Christina Wiggins-Harker Heights, TX

As a brand-new caller, I have been acquiring as many informational helps as I can. That's not to say I have used all of them, but you never know when they will come in handy.

While attending the National Square Dance Convention in June, I purchased the set of Caller Teaching Program Books for Basic, Mainstream and Plus from CTP. Little did I know how important they would become just a month later.

The summer program at our club consists of an hour of DBD Mainstream Workshop and an hour and a half of Plus Lessons. Every week, towards the end of our Mainstream Workshop, I would call a Patter and a Singer, so I felt somewhat comfortable with Basic and Mainstream calls.

Our club caller, Dan Clairmont, is the instructor for those classes. One night in July, about an hour and half before lessons were to start, Dan called to tell me that he was feeling poorly and wouldn't be able to teach that evening. I had three choices: One, I would quickly get a phone tree going and cancel lessons, Two, I could take care of the first hour and handle the Mainstream Workshop like a dance and get experience doing several Tips of Patter and Singers or Three, I could jump in the deep end and take care of the whole two-and-a-half-hour program.

I decided to option THREE. Although, I began to panic a bit. I had zero experience with calling any kind of Plus. The thing that gave me even the least little bit of confidence was that beautiful purchase I had made at the Convention.

Dan had taught 20 moves from the Plus teaching list and all I needed to do was review what they had done up to that point. So, I marked all the pages that would apply to their level and reviewed Plus for an hour and a half!! I used the first one or two written figures on each page and got through. I surprised myself and my club with what I was able to do. They didn't hesitate to tell me they had been extremely skeptical when I told them I would be filling in for Dan.

With the definitions on each page, I was also able to walk through a call or two that they had forgotten how to do. It was a very positive experience and I owe it all to the pages you put so much effort into writing.

I have now started my first class, and I refer to your notes on a daily basis as I plan each lesson. Thank you for sharing your years of knowledge with those of us who are just starting out.

BASIC MATERIAL

FEATURING - FLUTTER WHEEL

Heads or Sides

**FLUTTER WHEEL
FLUTTER WHEEL AGAIN
ALLEMANDE LEFT
RIGHT & LEFT GRAND
PROMENADE *home.***

Heads or Sides

**FLUTTER WHEEL
STAR THRU
ZOOM
DOUBLE PASS THRU
1ST COUPLE LEFT
2ND COUPLE LEFT
PROMENADE *home.***

Heads or Sides

**FLUTTER WHEEL
TWO LADIES CHAIN
SLIDE THRU
PASS THRU
ALLEMANDE LEFT
PROMENADE *home.***

Heads or Sides

**FLUTTER WHEEL
SWEEP 1/4
PASS THRU
ALLEMANDE LEFT
*You're home.***

Heads **FLUTTER WHEEL**
Sides **FLUTTER WHEEL**
**FOUR LADIES CHAIN
PROMENADE *home.***

Heads or Sides

**SEPARATE AROUND ONE
TO A LINE
FORWARD & BACK
FLUTTER WHEEL
PASS THRU
WHEEL & DEAL
Centers **PASS THRU
ALLEMANDE LEFT
PROMENADE *home.*****

Heads or Sides

**LEAD TO THE RIGHT
REVERSE FLUTTER WHEEL
SQUARE THRU 3
ALLEMANDE LEFT
RIGHT & LEFT GRAND
PROMENADE *home.***

Heads or Sides

**LEAD TO THE LEFT
FLUTTER WHEEL
SQUARE THRU &
ON THE 3RD HAND
BOX THE GNAT
RIGHT & LEFT GRAND
PROMENADE *home.***

Heads

PASS THE OCEAN
RECYCLE
FLUTTER WHEEL
SLIDE THRU

Sides

PASS THE OCEAN
RECYCLE
FLUTTER WHEEL
SLIDE THRU
ALLEMANDE LEFT
RIGHT & LEFT GRAND
PROMENADE *home.*

Heads or Sides

1/2 SASHAY
PASS THRU
SEPARATE AROUND
 ONE TO A LINE
FORWARD & BACK
FLUTTER WHEEL
PASS THE OCEAN
SWING THRU
All 8 CIRCULATE 1 1/2
RIGHT & LEFT GRAND
PROMENADE *home.*

Heads or Sides

FLUTTER WHEEL
SWEEP 1/4
Centers PASS THRU
FLUTTER WHEEL
SWEEP 1/4
SLIDE THRU
ALLEMANDE LEFT
WEAVE THE RING
PROMENADE *home.*

Heads or Sides

LEAD TO THE RIGHT
VEER TO THE LEFT
COUPLES CIRCULATE
WHEEL & DEAL
REVERSE FLUTTER WHEEL
PASS THRU
ALLEMANDE LEFT
RIGHT & LEFT GRAND
PROMENADE *home.*

Heads or Sides

PASS THRU
SEPARATE AROUND
 ONE TO A LINE
FORWARD & BACK
FLUTTER WHEEL
PASS THE OCEAN
Boys RUN
PASS THRU
WHEEL & DEAL
Centers STAR THRU
Back Up You're Home.

Heads or Sides

LEAD TO THE RIGHT
VEER TO THE LEFT
FERRIS WHEEL
Centers FLUTTER WHEEL
Centers PASS THRU
SQUARE THRU 3
TRADE BY
ALLEMANDE LEFT
RIGHT & LEFT GRAND
PROMENADE *home.*

MAINSTREAM MATERIAL

FEATURING - 1/4 TAG THE LINE

Heads or Sides

SEPARATE AROUND
ONE TO A LINE
FORWARD & BACK
1/4 TAG THE LINE
Centers SLIDE THRU
Others 1/2 SASHAY
FOUR LADIES CHAIN
PROMENADE *home.*

Heads or Sides

LEAD TO THE RIGHT
VEER TO THE LEFT
COUPLES CIRCULATE
1/4 TAG THE LINE
EXTEND
SPLIT CIRCULATE
SWING & PROMENADE *home.*

Heads or Sides

SEPARATE AROUND
TWO TO A LINE
FORWARD & BACK
1/4 TAG THE LINE
EXTEND
SWING THRU
RECYCLE
ALLEMANDE LEFT
RIGHT & LEFT GRAND
PROMENADE *home.*

Heads or Sides

1/2 SASHAY
And STAR THRU
CENTERS IN
CAST OFF 3/4
Centers PASS THRU
1/4 TAG THE LINE
Centers PASS THRU
ALLEMANDE LEFT
PROMENADE *home.*

Heads or Sides

SQUARE THRU 4
CENTERS IN
CAST OFF 3/4
1/4 TAG THE LINE
Centers TURN THRU
ALLEMANDE LEFT
WEAVE THE RING
PROMENADE *home.*

Heads or Sides

PASS THRU
And CLOVERLEAF
DOUBLE PASS THRU
CENTERS IN
1/4 TAG THE LINE
In the wave SLIDE THRU
SLIDE THRU AGAIN
Centers PASS THRU
PASS THRU
TRADE BY
ALLEMANDE LEFT
PROMENADE *home.*



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BMI/ASCAP LICENSE

THROUGH

AMERICANCALLERS ASSOCIATION INC

The National Association of Dance Instructors and Leaders

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GO TO THE WEB PAGE FOR COUNTRY - WESTERN & LINE DANCE for license & Insurance Application

AMERICAN CALLERS has two schedules: Fifty Dances or Less and Fifty-one Dances or More. (No restriction over Fifty or More.)
The fees apply **ONLY** to Callers, Round Dance Teachers, Contra Prompters, and Clogging Instructors.

Membership Application for BMI/ASCAP License & Liability Insurance

April 1, 2024 through March 31, 2025

Caller Rounds Teacher/ Cuer Contra Prompter Clogging

Please check one: New Member Renewal

Name: _____ Spouse's Name _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: (H) _____ (B) _____ Email Address: _____

Years Instructing: _____ Signature: _____ Date: _____

These licensing rates include the BMI/ASCAP fee, annual dues, and all members are insured under the group LIABILITY insurance coverage. Fees listed herein are established by the respective BMI/ASCAP Boards. Fees are non- refundable.

For all or any part of the year. The fees listed below are for **Caller, Rounds Teacher/ Cuer, Contra Prompter and Clogging**

50- DANCE EVENTS - per year (OR LESS) \$ 187.00

51-DANCE EVENTS - per year (OR MORE) \$ 249.00

The fees above are much less than most other Association charge for Insurance, License and membership. ACA will always try to Get the best price we can for our members. We are working for you.

Note: All information on insurance must be directed to the ACA office.

Member or spouse badges are: \$20.00 each for pin back and \$23.00 each for magnet back. Price includes postage.

Badges will be shipped direct from our badge maker to you.

Please allow 30 days for receipt of license. Please feel free to copy and distribute this application to other dance instructors.

Make Checks Payable to AMERICAN CALLERS Inc and mail P.O. Box 2406 Muscle Shoals, AL. 35662-2406

Web Page <http://www.americancallers.net>