



Volume XLVIV Issue 2

# For The Record

## **From The Desk of the President:**

Hello Fellow Callers and Cuers:

A big THANK YOU to everyone who participated at the State Festival in Tyler. You helped make the event a big success!

It has been a concerning year for our activity with the clubs getting smaller and classes getting smaller as well. It would be to our benefit that we as leaders take control of recruiting new dancers. We can no longer recruit the way we did in the 50's thru the 80's. Due to ever expanding social media we must learn to use this resource to our advantage. Callerlab has developed a "Media Manual" of guidelines to help us regain what we have lost. After reading thru this manual it has come to me that we must compete all year long even after classes have graduated. We need to continue pushing the benefits of what the activity has to offer. With this in mind, callers and cuers need to network their successes to help TSCA rebuild Texas.

Thanks,

John Carlton

TSCA

Summer Meeting, June 02, 2018

Call to order: 12:40

Members Present: John Carlton/ Sharon, Michele Viera, Dan Clairmont/ Gail, Wayne Weston, John Kephart/ Sherry, Chet Miles/ Drew, Mike Bramlet/ Dee, Dave Viera, Bill Varley/ Laura, Bobby Willis/ Dalaina, Scott Bennett, Dale Smith/ Pamela, John Geen, Skip Gates/ Lou, Carol Teal, Wynn Alston/ Marelda Johnson, Charles Quisenberry/ Toni, KO Jeans/ Linda, Tim Tyl,

Steven Blankenship/,

Approval of Minutes: We did not have minutes of the last meeting

Motion to approve:

Second by:

Treasurer's report: by Dan Clairmont

Report attached.

Motion to approve: Brad Caldwell

Second by: Chet miles

Motion carried

Filed for audit

Old business:

Approval for expenditures for Fall Seminar

Motion to approve: Chet Miles

Second: John Kephart

Motion Carried

New business:

October seminar flier

Ramada Inn, 778 Sun Valley Blvd, Hewett, Texas, 254-723-9823

Motion to approve: Mike Bramlet

Second by: Dave Viera

Motion carried

This is the last year for the dues waiver

Motion to continue for one year until 2020: Charles Quisenberry

Second by: John Geen

Motion did not carry. Will review under old business next year.

Comments on emails to all members: Please do not hit "Reply all"; Please hit "reply". "Reply all" goes to all addresses on the email, not everyone needs or wants to see all replies. Thank you, Mike.

Next year state festival Trail End Dance Hall costs:

Rent 850.00

19.50 per hour security

Total 947.50

Brian College station

Motion by KO to approve the expenditure as we need to do the dance and we should still make money from the dance.

Second by: Brad Caldwell

Motion carried

New officers for 2018/2019

President: John Carlton

Vice President: Michele Viera

Treasurer: Dan Clairmont

Secretary: Wayne Weston

Trustees: John Kephart and Dale Smith

Motion to take money from the teen scholarship jar and donate to the fund

Dave Viera

Second by: Mike Bramlet

Motion carried

There was long discussion about the approval of the disbursement of the money for the trainer for the fall seminar 2017. The money was given to Brad Caldwell and Mike Bramlet since Elmer Sheffield could not be there for the training. The auditor did not see an approval for the expenditure and wanted it to be in the minutes of the fall meeting. After much discussion, it was determined that the expenditure was appropriate as the funds for the training was covered by a standing order. Brad Caldwell said that he thought he had the contract with Elmer and it was determined that the contract would verify the expenditure was approved through the standing order and all should be in order.

Motion to adjourn John Kephart

Second by everyone

Adjourned at: 1:30

Texas State Callers' Association  
Treasurer Report  
October 1, 2017 – May 31, 2018

Expenses:

Badge orders	\$62.21
TSCA October 2017 meeting Caller Training (Mike Bramlett & Brad Caldwell - \$705 each)	\$1410.00
Callerlab annual dues for TSCA	\$65.00
John Carlton Reimburse for Callerlab Conv	\$250.00
Lessons Grant (Cotton Pickin' Squares)	\$250.00
Lessons Grant (Red River Valley SDA)	\$250.00
Office Supplies and Postage	\$16.71
<b>Total Expenses:</b>	<b>\$2303.92</b>

Income:

<b>Total Income:</b>	<b>\$ 0.00</b>
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<b>2006 NSDC donation for caller training</b>	<b>\$1590.00</b>
<b>Balance</b>	<b>\$7571.62</b>
<b>Previous Balance on September 30, 2017 report</b>	<b>\$11,465.54</b>
<b>Minus this year's expenses</b>	<b><u>\$2303.92</u></b>
<b>Checking register balance as of May 31, 2018 Total</b>	<b>\$ 9161.62</b>
<b>Bank account balance as of May 31, 2018 Total</b>	<b>\$ 9161.62</b>

To: Texas Callers Association  
From: Bob Knowles, Caller

Subj: Audit of account

During the week of May 31, 2018, I audited the Texas Callers Association financial account. Without a date of the previous audit or minutes, I reviewed the transactions of this account beginning July 1, 2017 and ending May 31, 2018.

The account appears to be balanced with the following noted:

There is no apparent approval for checks 3062 and 3063 (\$705.00 each). I was told that an approval had been made to pay Elmer Sheffield for a caller's class, however, he cancelled at the last minute and the money was split between Brad Caldwell and Mike Bramlett, as they taught the caller's class.

The only minutes I had were the ones online dated June 10, 2017, so I couldn't review if there was an earlier motion and approval to pay Elmer. I was also unable to find or review the minutes to determine if there was a motion and approval to pay Brad, and / or Mike.

The following checks had not cleared the bank, and there were no apparent emails to approve the expenditures: 3069 (\$250.00); 370 (\$250.00) and 3071 (\$11.38)\*

\*Dan indicated that he had overpaid himself, on the January 16, 2018 receipt (\$7.99) and would reimburse the association.

Because of when I joined this association I was unable to find emails approving expenditures throughout this past year. I was provided some approvals.

Reviewing the June 10, 2017 minutes, John Carlton made a motion for the association to pay for caller's badges effective 2019, seconded by Matt Barnes, and passed by the membership. Is this a typo, or will this begin in 2019? If it's a typo, the membership has been accepting badge payments from new callers, and may need to be modified, check with the caller to determine if they would like to donate their badge fee to the association, or reimburse the caller.

Recommendations:

The minutes should reflect who attended the caller's meeting to determine if a quorum was present. With the current membership, less the associate members, minimum needed to conduct business is 7.

Although the account is balanced, the treasurer should make deposit entries in the check book and cross reference the check book with the minutes, emails, and bank statements to ensure accuracy.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bob Knowles

## Choreography corner:

Some thoughts on using **Grand Square** and not let it become boring for the dancers.

Make sure the dancers know to walk forward if they cannot touch the person they are facing when it is time to walk and to backup if they can touch.

Everyone can do Sides/Heads face Grand Square from a static square.

**Girls/boys face Grand Square** gives a little challenge. They feel like they are all alone.

**Heads/sides star thru** (or heads/sides Promenade half and Star Thru), “**Sides/heads face Grand Square.**” On this one they are only 4 steps apart on the square they are walking around and the centers will not want to go back into the center before they reverse. At the end they can Square Thru 3 for an Allemande Left or Pass Thru if they Promenade first. Another version of this I got from Al Stevens is for the heads to Touch ¼ and the girls Run, sides face Grand Square. They can do a Right and Left Grand when they finish.

“**Four ladies chain, half sashay, sides/heads face grand square.**” Not hard and good success. Also works with “**Like a grand square 8 steps**” for a stir the bucket.

One that is a little harder. “**Head men take your corner girl up to the middle and back, others face Grand Square.**” This one seems difficult because it is on the diagonal.

Another one I have used and after they got it, they loved it:

**Progressive Grand Square** everyone does a full grand square but they do not start at the same time.

Sides Face. It starts with couple #1 moving forward 4 steps. When they turn then –

Girl #4 and Boy #2 back away 4 steps when they turn –

Boy #4 and Girl #2 back away 4 steps when they turn –

Couple #3 move forward 4 steps –

All dancers keep moving until they finish the Grand Square. It takes a total of 44 beats of music for all to finish the call.

It is a lot of fun and is really cool to do. I find it helps if the dancers do it while singing “**Row Row Your Boat**” in the round. Make sure to keep the singing starts the same as the dancing starts and keep them dancing as they are singing.

If they get it really good, try having the Heads Face. Make sure couple #1 starts first. It gives it a very different feel.

I have used all of these at one time or another and had good success and the dancers seem to enjoy being able to do them correctly.

I am attaching the definition for reference.

### 23. Grand Square

Starting formation: Squared Set (also see Comments)

Command examples:

Sides Face, Grand Square

Sides Face, Grand Square (16 beats later) Reverse

Heads Face, Grand Square

## Heads Rollaway; Sides Face, Grand Square

Dance action: The designated dancers turn to face their partner. All dancers then perform the following series of steps, each of which takes one beat of music. Dancers are to be reminded that these are square dancing steps and NOT just walking.

Step (count 1), Step (count 2), Step (count 3), Step-Turn In (count 4)

Step (count 5), Step (count 6), Step (count 7), Step-Turn In (count 8)

Step (count 9), Step (count 10), Step (count 11), Step-Turn In (count 12)

Step (count 13), Step (count 14), Step (count 15), Step-Pause to Reverse (count 16)

Step (count 17), Step (count 18), Step (count 19), Step-Turn In (count 20)

Step (count 21), Step (count 22), Step (count 23), Step-Turn In (count 24)

Step (count 25), Step (count 26), Step (count 27), Step-Turn In (count 28)

Step (count 29), Step (count 30), Step (count 31), Step-You're Home (count 32)

At all times during Grand Square, every dancer is facing another dancer either nose-to-nose or across the square.

On "Step(1), Step(2), Step(3), Step(4)" dancers who are facing nose-to-nose take 4 steps backwards away from each other. Dancers who are facing across the square take 4 steps forward until they are nose-to-nose.

On the 4th Step-Turn In dancers turn in place 90 degrees during the step to face another dancer nose-to-nose or across the square. Like the other Steps, this takes one beat.

This continues for each group of 4 steps.

On "Step-Pause to Reverse" dancers take the 4th Step and then prepare to reverse directions without turning. The next "Step" will be in the opposite direction, as dancers start to retrace their steps.

On "You're Home" those dancers designated to "face" at the start of the call face back in, making a squared set. The others take the last (fourth) Step and freeze in place.

Ending formation: Squared Set (more generally, same as starting formation before designated dancers face).

Timing: 32. This call should be danced without rushing so that each Step and Step-Turn In corresponds to one beat of music and everyone returns home simultaneously. Grand Square should be called so that dancers start on beat 1 of an 8-beat phrase (preferably on beat 1 of a 32-beat phrase). Also see "Additional Detail: Timing".

Styling: Men's arms in natural dance position; women may work skirts with natural swinging action. Adjacent dancers who walk forward or backward together should use a couples handhold. A wide variety of embellishments may be encountered. (See "Additional Detail: Styling: Embellishments".)

Comments: From a Squared Set, the caller must designate who faces for Grand Square. It is improper to call "Grand Square" and expect "Sides Face, Grand Square".

The caller may designate the number of steps to take (e.g., "Grand Square, 6 Steps").

The following variations on Grand Square may require workshopping.

Some callers, observing that each dancer dances the edges of a square (in their quadrant) and then reverses the path, relax the rule that "every dancer is facing another dancer either nose-to-nose or across the square". For example, "Girls turn and face your partner, Everyone Grand Square" has each dancer dancing the edges of the same square, following the same pattern of stepping and turning as if they were facing other dancers (nose-to-nose or across the square) at the appropriate times. 37

In "Heads Star Thru; Sides Face, Grand Square", dancers dance the edges of the same squares, making the usual turns, even though some of the dancers start and finish in the center of the set.