

Bow and Swing

Volume 1, Number 4 West Palm Beach, Fla. June-JULY, 1951

Published in the interest of folk and square dancing for fun and health

WEST PALM BEACH SUMMER RECREATION INCLUDES DANCE CLASSES

"DO-SI-DO" HEARD IN PARKS DURING DAY AND IN NIGHT CLASSES

The summer recreation program conducted by the Board of Public Instruction includes classes in square and folk dancing, both on a daytime park schedule and in night classes, as it did last year, in the West Palm Beach area.

The West Palm Beach program is carried on in co-operation with the City Recreation Commission, making use of school and park facilities. The whole recreation program got under way July 2.

Harold Emery is instructor in square dancing and associated types for both the day and night schedules.

Gertrude Gleason, music instructor for the summer program, also gives instruction in folk dances and singing games as part of her music schedule.

While the summer program is primarily a

recreation program, it is also an educational program. The school board and administrators feel that learning to use leisure time wisely and healthfully is an important phase of education.

* WHERE TO LEARN TO *
* SQUARE DANCE *

Evening square dance classes in West Palm Beach are being held as follows:

Monday

Adult group at Palm Beach High School gymnasium, Iris St., at 7:30-10:30 P.M.

Tuesday

"Family Night"--for adults and the younger set, at Hillcrest-Vedado Clubhouse. 7:30 P.M.

Wednesday

Teen age group at Teen Town. All teenage boys and girls welcome. 7:30-10:30 P.M.

Thursday

Northboro "family night"--adults and the

younger set, at Northboro gymnasium, at 7:30 P.M.

HILLCREST CLASS
HAS FINE FIRST SESSION

In spite of very meager publicity, a nice group of young folks and parents turned out for the first class at Hillcrest, Tuesday, July 3. About thirty were there in all.

Due to a conflict, there will be no class on Tuesday, July 10, but they will be held regularly thereafter for at least four weeks.

SUBSTITUTE CALLERS
DO NICE JOB AT LOCAL
SQUARE DANCE SESSIONS

While Bill Embury was away on vacation, the substitute callers did a nice job. Ty Persons, who has done a good deal of instructing and calling, did most of it for two weeks, with Mr. Szimber and C.C. Blackburn doing enough to get some experience.

The third week Ty was also gone, but the two beginning callers did a swell job of it.

Your editor only helped out a wee bit.

BOW AND SWING is published about every two months by the editor, HAROLD EMERY, R.1, Box 390, West Palm Beach.

There is no subscription or per copy price. Your donation will help meet the production cost of close to five cents per copy.

The only purpose is to stimulate an interest in square dancing and bring square dancers closer together.

THE "ALLEMANE LEFT"

One of the most confusing things to beginners seems to be the allemande left and grand right and left.

The "allemande left" is simply a left hand hook around the corner usually used to introduce the grand right and left. The grand right and left itself is common to the circle dances and singing games of many countries, and most people have known it as children and then forgotten it.

Many callers consider the words "allemande left" as a call for the whole movement, including the grand right and left. And while they are two separate motions, they go together as a single call in most dances.

Of course a lot of the confusion comes from people who extend the wrong hand, thus reversing a movement.

But gradually each beginner, if he keeps trying, becomes an experienced square dancer and wonders why he was ever confused.

SQUARE DANCERS ARE NICE FOLKS

On the whole, square dancers are a mighty fine group of people. You generally find them ready to step in and help the beginner.

Of course they include all types of people, but they are usually good sports and ready to help one another. Square dancing itself is a co-operative endeavor, which may

account for a good deal of this.

To what extent does it carry over into other phases of our lives? A good deal, I hope.

 *** SQUARE DANCE TERMS ***

Do-Si-Do, Do-sa-do, Do-si

Two dancers start from a face-to-face position, walk by each other, right shoulder to right shoulder, step sideways back to back, and step backwards to position passing left shoulder to left shoulder.

Style conscious dancers usually fold their arms in front during the movement. Others let them dangle.

Docey-doe

Often called "western docey-doe", this movement is usually used to break a circle of four.

Very simply, it is "partner by the left hand around, corner by the right hand around, partner by the left, corner by the right." However, the gentleman remains almost stationary, with a slight side-to-side movement, and passes the lady round himself. The ladies are doing a figure eight around the men.

This is a common figure in the "great circle" or southeastern running set, and is also widely used in western square sets.

Balance

This may be a hop on the left foot, swing right across, hop on right, swing left across; and repeat if time allows.

Or it may be a "step balance"--- two steps toward partner or corner, two steps back. (Small steps, of course.)

In some dances there is only time for a bow or nod as a balance.

Honor

Gents bow, ladies curtsey

Corner

On the other side from your partner. Gent's corner is on left.

BOW AND SWING

WHERE TO DANCE

Two places are now available for year-round dancing in square sets, along with circle dances; old-time couple dances, and a few modern dances interspersed. They are:

Lake Worth Casino

Friday night, sponsored by the Kiwanis Club and Lake Worth Recreation Department. Instruction period at 8:15. Dancing 'til 11:00 P.M.

Hulme orchestra, with Bill Embury calling.

Admission during the summer on a donation basis.

Aragon Dance Hall

Saturday nights, 8:30-12:00, there is square dancing at the Aragon Dance Hall,

This is located on the Lake Worth Road, just west of Military Trail--perhaps a quarter of a mile.

Music is by the Hulme orchestra, with Bill Embury at the microphone.

Admission: Adults, 50¢; students, 25¢.

BILL AND FAMILY DUE HOME TODAY

Bill Embury and his family are due home from a three weeks vacation trip on the day this is issued, July 6. If they haven't made it, our sub callers will carry on. They

visited Detroit and other northern points, and Bill planned to catch up on his own square dancing to some extent.

Welcome back Bill, and all the family, too.

CLASS AT CENTRAL GYM UNDER WAY

The square dance class at Palm Beach High School gymnasium got under way Monday, July 2, for a six weeks series.

The class begins at 7:30, and had about 30 enthusiastic dancers--both beginners and experienced--for the opening session.

For the experienced dancers, several new dances were introduced, both couple and square sets.

Harold Emery is the instructor.

The square dance classes should reach a lot more people. Pass the word along.

While the summer classes are largely conducted with recorded music, that doesn't seem to cut down on the enjoyment people have. It eliminates the use of a few singing calls for which no records are available, but it will help to develop square dancing by getting small groups to do it in their homes, at small parties, etc.

GOOD DANCING, CLEAN FUN!

TEEN TOWN GROUP GETS HEAD START

The square dance class at Teen Town; on Wednesday nights, got a two weeks head start on the others in the summer recreation program.

This was done partly to eliminate a dance on the night of July 4, when picnics and trips were the order of the day for most. About 130 registered the first week, and over 150 the second week.

The first two sessions were done to records, but we are assured that the Hulme orchestra is going to be available for the July and August classes.

The Junior Chamber of Commerce, who are sponsors of Teen Town, are making this possible as their contribution to the summer program at Teen Town.

The classes are part of the summer program sponsored by the school board.

The Jessie Polka seemed to make a hit at Teen Town and at the Lake Worth Casino, where it was taught on June 29. The young folks especially enjoy it as a conga line.

The Teen Town young folks seemed to enjoy the Dinky One Step, a couple dance, very much also.