

# Bow and Swing

Volume 1, No.2

West Palm Beach, Florida

March, 1951

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

## DO-SI-DO CLUB TAKES ACTIVE PART IN SUN DANCE PAGEANT

Members and friends of the Do-Si-Do club had a very active part in the production of this year's Sun Dance pageant, "The Barefoot Mailman". While many others took part, the square dance group was spearheaded and organized by members of the Do-Si-Do Club.

Not only did this square dance group do the square dance and dance-down scene, but the opening, closing, and wine-keg scenes as well. Some members also took part in other scenes of the pageant.

Special thanks are due to Mrs. Malone, who organized and helped train the two squares of children from the Northboron school fifth grade, and to caller Bill Embury for his aid in recruiting a group from the Southern Trailer Camp in Riviera Beach.

H.E.Thamm did an excellent job as the drunk in the opening scene and as the bishop in the wine-keg scene.

We had six sets and some extras for every night of the show, and seven sets the last night, though one was inadvertently left as a three-cornered set.

Director Harry

Miller was loud and sincere in his praise of our group and its part in making the whole pageant a success.

Your editor, who was a sort of unofficial chairman of the group, wishes to thank every person who took part.

\*\*\*\*\*

### "BOW AND SWING" TAKES A BOW IN FAR-OFF KOREA

Believe it or not, our first issue had over-seas circulation.

Corporal Larry Embury, son of Mr. and Mrs. Bill Embury, wrote home:

"Say, how about sending me one of those BOW AND SWING booklets every month. I really appreciated reading it."

Larry's address is: Corporal Larry Embury, #14333754. 3rd Rec.Co., 3rd Inf.Div., APO 468, c/o Postmaster, San Francisco.

Here you are, Larry. Hope you like it.

\*\*\*\*\*

Don't forget our Tuesday night sessions for learning new dances and practicing oldies.

\*\*\*\*\*

\* Maybe it's a bad \*  
\* habit, to be changi \*  
\* our form every issue\*  
\* But trial and error \*  
\* is the best way to \*  
\* find out the most \*  
\* satisfactory form. \*  
\* How do you like \*  
\* this arrangement? \*  
\*\*\*\*\*

### SEVERE EPIDEMIC HITS WEST COAST SQUARE DANCE FIELD

An epidemic of what Virginia Anderson, in American Squares, calls "new-danitis" has hit the western square dance field.

She points out that a multitude of new square dances are being created, which become more and more complex and with confused "cues for the dancers.

Likewise, a great number of new round or couple dances are being "created" to fit popular tunes. Some few of these may catch on and persist, as have the Badger gavotte, Rye waltz, etc., from an earlier day. But too many are being put together by enthusiasts who do not know the fundamentals of good ballroom dancing or even the proper terms for describing their steps.

Too much of this can only hurt the field of square and round dancing. As she says, "Let's keep happy danci



B O W A N D S W I N G

BOW AND SWING

Published monthly--or close to it-- in the interest of better square and folk dance in South Florida.

\*\*\*

Editor---Harold Emery

Address all communications to the editor at R.R.1, Box 390, West Palm Beach, Fla.

No subscription price or per-copy price has been set. Your donation will help meet the costs of production.

\*\*\*\*\*  
#####  
# WITH THE EDITOR #  
#####

WE DANCE FOR FUN!

We dance for the pleasure there is in it, whether it be round or square dancing.

When some callers, as many are tending to do, invent new and complex dances, they tend to limit dancing for pleasure to a small group of "specialists" rather than the larger group we should try to reach.

That, as is mentioned elsewhere, is what is happening on the West Coast. California folk and square dances began the process a good while ago, remaking some of the European folk dances.

We aren't in any immediate danger here, but as interest in square dancing and associated couple dances grows, as we want it to, we may have to watch out for this danger.

On the other hand, and this is to be hoped, the tendency may wear itself out.

At any rate, let's just keep on dancing for fun and good fellowship, drawing more and more into our circle.

\*\*\*\*\*  
\* Q AND A \*  
\*\*\*\*\*

How old a dance is the Rye Waltz?

Notes on Byron Wolfe's recording of this dance say:

"This dance was introduced in 1890, at Milwaukee, Wisconsin. It has been danced more or less ever since!"

The dance is danced with either eight or 16 measures of 4/4 time, followed by 16 measures in waltz time.

Typical Scotch airs are used for both parts of the music.

\*\*

Who is Lloyd Shaw?

I have heard some square dancers mention him.

Lloyd Shaw, or "Pappy" Shaw, of the Cheyenne Mountain School in Colorado, has probably done more to revive Western square dancing and trained more first rate callers than any other man.

His books, "Cowboy Square Dances" and "The Round Dance Book", are the very best in the field, for my money.

\*\*

When did the "Black Hawk Waltz" originate?

According to Mr. and Mrs. Joe Lang, of Denver, it developed there

about 1938-39, based on music written by Mary E. Walsh many years earlier.

"Pappy" Shaw refers to the Denver development as a "revival" of an earlier dance, however. Since the music is so conducive to a special step, he is probably right.

At any rate, it's a lovely and interesting dance, whether old or fairly recent.

\*\*

Should a club try to develop exhibition sets?

An exhibition set is a special group of dancers who know and show, or demonstrate, new and difficult dances.

For that purpose they are useful.

They may also be useful in developing and showing "showy" dances to non-square dance groups. This is good public relations for square dancing.

On the other hand, development of a particular group of four couples as an exhibition set may have bad results. Bad feeling may develop between the group as a whole and the small group.

Ideally, any four couples of experienced square dancers should be able to fit together as an "exhibition set" for a particular purpose, but no one group should be singled out as an exhibition set.

Any good square dancer can follow any workable combination of familiar calls.



SQUARE DANCING TO RECORDS

While square dancing to recorded music is not nearly as much fun as having good live music and a good caller, it can be a lot of fun.

Much of the pioneer work in introducing the square set to this area was done with records. Bill Embury, Ty Persons, and myself have all used records effectively and the dancers had a lot of fun.

However, many of the square dance records are far too fast for beginners, or even for experienced dancers who are not used to the faster western dances. Speed cannot be easily adapted to the desire or ability of the group, without an expensive adjustable speed turntable.

With care in selecting records that have clear calls or that can be called to, and with sufficient instruction for new dances or for beginning groups, even a single set at home can have a lot of fun.

Our local record stores all carry some square dance albums and single records in stock. Better play them over before buying, though.

\*\*\*\*\*

Our novelty dance, "Patticake Polka", is similar to many of the old play party games in many respects. But they usually sang their

own music. Some of the "games" more closely resembled our square sets or circle dances using square dance figures.

\*\*\*\*\*

\*\*\*\*\*

PERSONALS

\*\*\*\*\*

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Schultz have returned to their home in Ripon, Wisconsin.

They enjoyed their stay here very much, especially the square dancing. We'll miss them and their colorful square dance costumes very much.

The Schultzes hope to bring some other Wisconsin square dancers with them next trip.

\*\*

Lee Embury has the makings of another square dance caller. We all enjoy it when Lee calls one now and then.

\*\*

We'll all be glad to have Mr. Bedford square dancing again.

#####

SOME ONE!  
COME ALL!  
BRING YOUR FRIENDS!

OLD TIME DANCE

of the  
Do-Si-Do Club

EACH TUESDAY  
8 till 11 P.M.

Learn new dances.  
Enjoy the old ones.

ARAGON DANCE HALL  
Lake Worth Road, West  
#####

Let's Square Dance



DID YOU EVER TRY A TRIANGLE DANCE?

Often three couples will be stuck on the sidelines for lack of a fourth.

It can be a lot of fun just to try turning the square dance into a triangle dance for your three couples. A great many of the square dances can be danced in this way, although it may be necessary to swing and make up figures here and there while waiting for the caller and the fourth couple to "catch up" with you.

Why not try it?

It may not work so well with beginners, but with experienced square dancers it can be fun.

\*\*\*\*\*

Somedances, particularly the "breakdowns" can be done with a fifth couple in the set, too. If the call is for four couples, you'll end with a different partner. O.K.



BOW AND SWING

COLLECTION, PLEASE!  
NO MORE TUESDAY  
NIGHT DANCES

The first three pages of this issue of BOW AND SWING were already prepared when we learned that the Tuesday night dances were no more-- at least for this year.

Whatever the reason, attendance was too small to justify their continuance.

Perhaps it was just too early in the week, or too many nights a week.

Let's keep the other dances going as strong as possible.

\*\*\*\*\*

CASINO SQUARE DANCE  
PLANS BIG AFFAIR  
FOR MARCH 30

Door Prizes  
To be Given

The Kiwanis Club, sponsors of the dance at the Lake Worth Casino each Friday night, plan to make a big event of the Square Dance for Friday, Mar. 30.

With the co-operation of local merchants, a good number of door prizes, totalling over \$200, will be awarded.

As we understand it, tickets for one or two earlier Friday nights will be included in the drawing.

\*\*\*\*\*

A good number of the winter tourists are returning to their homes. Those who have enjoyed square dancing with us express a hope to return next year and join us again.



WHERE TO GO FOR  
SQUARE DANCING

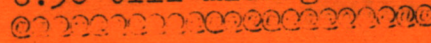
LAKE WORTH CASINO

Each Friday night,  
9:00 till 11:30. Free  
instruction period,  
8:15-9:00.

ARAGON DANCE HALL

(Lake Worth Road just  
west of Military Tr.)

Every Saturday evening,  
8:30 till midnight.



SOUTHERN TRAILER CAMP  
GROUP ENJOYS SQUARE  
DANCING A GREAT DEAL

The group of guests at the Southern Trailer Camp, Riviera Beach, have been having Thursday night dances for the past two or three months.

Many of them did square dancing for the first time, and they have been an enthusiastic group.

As they leave for their northern homes, many have hoped to find square dancing active here next season.

\*\*\*\*\*

\*\*\*\*\*

ODDS 'N' ENDS

\*\*\*\*\*

One caller has been experimenting with the use of traditional square set figures in a longways arrangement, similar to the Virginia Reel. It has interesting possibilities.

\*\*\*

I bought a record for the Cowboy Seven-step Polka. On playing it, I found the music identical with the Finnish "Old Maids Dance" or seven-step polka.

How about  
recorded music  
for birthday  
parties and  
private affairs

Square, Circle,  
Round Dances

Harold Emery  
Ph. 3-5842

AVAILABLE!

THE HULME ORCHESTRA  
Bill Embury, Caller

MODERN AND  
OLD TIME MUSIC

Telephone

Lake Worth  
6589

West Palm Beach  
3-2253