



**Mountaineers Square Dance Club**  
Dale & Sue Stephens  
Corresponding Secretaries  
7879 W. Fairview Ave  
Littleton, CO 80128

MOUNTAINEERS DECEMBER 2009 TRAILBLAZER



# Trailblazer

## Mountaineers Square Dance Club

Edited by Dale and Sue Stephens

Please send articles & information to; [dalestephens@q.com](mailto:dalestephens@q.com) or 303-973-8734

Our club web page is <http://www.mountaineerssdc.org>

### **FYI - There are two ways to receive your TRAILBLAZER:**

- (1) *E-Mail Note – this way you get it in full color and save the club the cost of printing and mailing (about \$1.50 per month). You can also print it out in either color or black and white – depending on your preference.*
- (2) *The OLD FASHION way – receive a printed copy – Black & White only! You can still save the club the cost of postage if you pickup your copy at the 1<sup>st</sup> Club Dance each month*



## Presidents Letter



Presidents Corner

By Jeff Cox and Lynette McElveen

In November, we had the opportunity to dance to Dave Guille and Sonny Risley on the 7<sup>th</sup> and with Don Furnish and Leroy Shade on the 21<sup>st</sup>. We held a canned food drive on the 21<sup>st</sup> with the items collected donated to the food bank at the Valley View Church of God.

We would like to say thank you to the current board members for their hard work. They included Mike & Merry Lou Stafford - Vice President, Mike and Lynne Robbins - Recording Secretary, Dale & Sue Stephens - Corresponding Secretary, Larry & Ann Amsler - Sr. Treasurers, Lois and Dwayne Sterling and Dale & Sue Stephens - Jr. Treasurers, Ron and Karen Newton - Past Presidents. Committee heads include Dan McPeek & Judy Winter - Banner Stealing, Dick and Kathy Niebels - Sr. Hospitality, Carol Neises - Jr. Hospitality, Dale & Sue Stephens - Bulletin Newsletter, Lyle & Kathy Gillett - Sr. Council Reps, Del & Mary Stansbery - Jr. Council Reps, Pat Bailey & Walt Perry – Decorating, Laurie Bendell – Historian, Judy Taylor – Photographer, Richard and Lila Keilwitz – Webmasters, Norma Hatcher - Calling Committee Chair, Dale & Sue Stephens and Mike & Merry Lou Stafford - May Madness, Sandy Sugarman - 2010 State Festival Rep.

According to Mountaineers bylaws, Mike and Merry Lou Stafford are scheduled to become presidents. In addition Dale and Sue Stephens are scheduled to become Senior Treasurers and Lynette and Jeff will serve as Past Presidents. As of the writing of this article the results of the election for the 2010 board is not known and we will not announce the rest of the 2010 board. We wish them well and good luck.

Our New Year's Eve Dance is to be held at the Valley View Church of God on Thursday, December 31st. The dance starts at 9:00 pm with national caller Doug Davis, and local cuer Bob Lyon. Breakfast will be served at the conclusion of the dance at midnight. Tickets are still available at \$10.00 per person. There are a limited number of tickets available, so make sure to purchase them early so you don't get left out!

Don't forget to pay your 2010 dues...they were due by November 1, 2009.

Hope to see you on the dance floor.



# KALLER'S KORNER

## STEPPING OUT IN STYLE !!

Good styling is smooth dancing .... Smooth dancing is Good Styling!

*Compiled by Steve Sandeman (second of a three part series)*

Courtesy Turn. Ladies, are you careful to offer the gentlemen your left hands palm down for courtesy turns? Gents, are you aware that the courtesy turn has its pivot point between the two of you, and as she walks forward, you will actually back up? Remember, in the "Right & Left Thru," after the right-hand pull by all that is left is the Courtesy Turn, so, ladies, be sure your left hand is held out with the palm down. If you aren't working together, this move will frequently become a "pushing & yanking contest!"

In the Ocean Wave, we are all aware that arms should have elbows bent, fingers up toward the sky and palm together. We remind you not to take hold of the other's thumb; rather, your thumb goes lightly around the back of the other's hand. Now!!...since we have the position right, on the "Swing Thru" or "Fan the Top," use a little pressure in the handhold to aid with the turn. This will help you and your fellow dancer. A limp hand or arm, i.e., "dead fish" handhold, during any maneuver like this is a real handicap-and certainly no joy-for the other dancers.

In Promenades, you are not walking but, rather, taking smooth, effortless gliding steps in which the ball of the foot touches and the slices across the surface of the floor before the heel is gently dropped to the floor. The length of stride should be fairly short with the movement coming mostly from the knees down. Each dance step must be coordinated with the beat of the music. If you find yourself getting behind, close up the square when promenading so that you get home on time. It's surprising just how BIG some squares get on a promenade!!

With the "Half Sashay," and not "Rollaway with a Half Sashay," the one in the lady's position or the right-hand person slides left while the left-hand person steps back, then to the right, and forward to complete the call. The "Rollaway with a Half Sashay" is most widely used today, where the lady rolls across to the left as the gent side-steps to take her former position. Men, a slight firm assist with the right hand helps start the move; then quickly let go and take her right handed with your left hand. Never, ever, is there any pulling or "slinging" the lady across!!

Hands, in all cases, should never be used to jerk or yank!! They serve as guides, and support. Hands are important in square dancing , and the smooth dancer is one who has discovered how his or her hands may be helpful in making the motions of the dance more comfortable for the others with whom he or she dances.

Arm Turns. With any arm turn using a forearm hold, don't make it a grip; the pressure of the palm on the inside of your partner's forearm is all that is required. Men, you have the advantage in strength...don't man-handle the ladies!!

At the completion of any movement, immediately extend your hands and take the hand(s) if those standing next to you. This will help you to see the formation you are in (line, wave, etc.) For correct square orientation. If you become completely lost, do not turn around; this will make it difficult for someone behind you to help you recover. Do not wander around. Stay in place until someone helps you-and be ready to respond quickly.

Pointing to a place someone should be in is far better than talking (or shoving!!), as you and others in the square may miss the next call. If you have executed a call correctly, do not let someone who is unsure of their position make you change yours! Remember!.. 'Tis better to have goofed and recovered than never to have danced at all!!

*(To be continued)*



### **Mountaineers Banner Stealing Policy**

According to Mountaineer policy we are permitted to borrow one couple (2 people) to complete a square when stealing or retrieving.

In order to give credit, after the dance, please make a list and notify me who attended and your success at getting the banner.

*Judy Winter*

[jwinter80465@yahoo.com](mailto:jwinter80465@yahoo.com) 303-933-2037



Attached is a **Membership Renewal form for the 2010 membership dues. Please take the time to fill out the form and submit to the Treasurer by November 1, 2009. Be sure to mark your date preference for serving as Host/Hostess. Also, if you are interested in serving in an office or on a committee, please mark your choice on the form. Your club needs you.**

Also attached is a form that the DAS&RDC has asked us to have each dancer complete. The information will be entered into a data base and used to help identify trends in the square dance community such as: what part of the area do the majority of dancers live in, how long have dancers been dancing, what is the average number of dances per month attended, where best to concentrate efforts to recruit new dancers, etc. The email address can be used to notify the whole dancing community of emergency and other special announcements.

**The form is voluntary. You don't have to fill it out, or you can fill out only the information you want shared with the DAS&RDC. You may complete all, some, or none of the information. After filling out the form, give it to any club officer.**

The following persons were nominated for club officers at the Oct. 17<sup>th</sup> dance.

President	Mike and Merry Lou Stafford	Vice President	Jack Baker
Recording Secretary	John and Jan Hormuth	Corresponding Secretary	Bill and Jean Mayne
Sr. Treasurer	Dale and Sue Stephens	Jr. Treasurer	Gene and Val Taber

**DON'T FORGET TO BRING 2 GIFTS EACH TO THE CHRISTMAS DANCE.**



December 2009		January 2010	
3	Jack Baker	2	Phyllis Kamstra
5	Wilton Helm	3	Dottie Wickom
6	Erica Nelson	6	John and Janet Hormuth
8	Chuck Blemler	6	Ann Amsler
13	Wayne Lance	7	Mike Robbins
14	Frank Asdell	7	Elwanda Gille
18	Marilyn Hauswirth	8	Marcia LeVasseur
20	Karma Dornfeld	9	Richard Keilwitz
24	Penny Juoni	10	Kathy Niebels
25	Dick Bobbin	12	Dwayne Sterling
25	Steve Braunstein	14	Carol Neises
27	Bill Altman	16	Diane Graham
27	Bev Lorimore	17	Vicky Wagner
		22	Minnie Robbins
		27	Bernie Karpinski
		30	John Williams
		30	Richard Laine

If we missed anyone's birthday please let us know so we can include you the next time.



# NEWS around the Square



Sue and I would like to hear from anyone who has news about themselves or their friends in the club. We would like to keep our membership informed regarding the activities of our peers. Do you know who made a trip, who had a new grandchild, who moved, who received some honor or award, etc.

## Fall Happenings

The following is the description of Isabella (Ian) Horsky's recent trip to Honduras:

El Hogar de Amor y Esperanza (the home of love and hope) is a home for orphaned, abused and abandoned children in Tegucigalpa, Honduras. You can learn more about El Hogar from their web-site, elhogar.org.

Volunteers live in the volunteer house in the compound with the children (about 125 of them plus staff). We eat, work and play when the children do, and eat what the children eat (mostly beans, rice, corn tortillas, and sometimes "huevos rancheros" and plantains). Previous visits have involved very heavy manual labor for us volunteers, but this past trip I was put to work tutoring a group of 6-7-year-olds the 3 R's. As much as anything, it was a linguistic challenge for all concerned, since they know no English.

To give you an idea of how this place works: During a break in last year's visit, our group with the Director took about 12 boys to the mall to buy shoes. These children, about 12 years old, had never been to a mall, had never ordered their own food or selected their own clothes -- much less NEW clothes. They chose Quiznos for lunch. After we finished our meal, one of the boys got a "take-home" box, and began gathering up the left-overs (mostly from our American plates) and then asked the Director if we could take it to the children who were begging for food outside the mall. Our boys had "been there-done that." But at El Hogar they had become healthy, playful, responsible, caring young teens who learned to put necessary street smarts to work for constructive work and play. It is hard not to be won over in such an environment of "love and hope".

Dale and Sue Stephens visited their Son and his family in Duncan, OK over Thanksgiving. There were 13 of us around the table for an enjoyable meal.



## Cards sent this past month



Mike Stafford	Get Well – back surgery
Valerie Taber	Get Well - neck surgery
Marilyn Cassidy	Get well – recovery from knee replacement
Peggy Brasch	Sympathy card – loss of her mother
Dwayne Sterling	Get well – shingles
Judy Winter	Sympathy card – loss of her brother



# Dance Schedules

## Callers & Cuers      Host & Hostesses



### December 5, 2009

**Caller: Bear Miller**

**Cuer: Roy Knight**

#### Host & Hostesses:

Ron and Karen Newton 303-771-0641

Dick and Madeline Bobbin 303-683-2337

Gene and Val Taber 303-933-1376

### December 19, 2009

#### Christmas Dance

**Caller: Don Furnish**

**Cuer: Justin Judd del Sol**

#### Host & Hostesses:

Chuck and Ann Wheeler 303-979-5065

Dave and Mona Borden 303-902-0769

### December 31, 2009

#### New Year's Dance

**Caller: Doug Davis**

**Cuer: Bob Lyon**

#### Host & Hostesses:

2009 Board

### January 16, 2010

**Caller: Don Furnish**

**Cuer: Justin Judd del Sol**

#### Host & Hostesses:

Dick and Gwen Laine 303-933-1335

Chick Chiclacos 303-988-5617

Ian Horsky 303-458-3909

### January 30, 2010

#### Hospice Dance

**Caller: Don Furnish & Volunteers**

**Cuer: Volunteers**

#### Host & Hostesses:

Dan McPeek and Judy Winter 303-933-2037

Richard and Lila Keilwitz 303-794-9465

Thanks again to all the helpers who just show up early and help and to those who stay a few minutes after the dance to help clean up. **Carol Neises 303-798-4472**

## 2009 Officers and Committee Heads:

### 2009 Officers

<i>President</i>	<b>Jeff Cox and Lynette Ivy</b>
<i>Vice President</i>	<b>Mike and Merry Lou Stafford</b>
<i>Recording Secretary</i>	<b>Mike and Lynne Robbins</b>
<i>Corresponding Secretary</i>	<b>Dale &amp; Sue Stephens</b>
<i>Sr. Treasurers</i>	<b>Larry and Ann Amsler</b>
<i>Jr. Treasurers</i>	<b>Dale and Sue Stephens</b>

**Past Presidents: Ron and Karen Newton**

### Committee Heads

<i>Banner Stealing</i>	<b>Dan McPeck &amp; Judy Winter</b>
<i>Sr. Hospitality</i>	<b>Dick and Kathy Niebels</b>
<i>Jr. Hospitality</i>	<b>Carol Neises</b>
<i>Bulletin Newsletter</i>	<b>Dale &amp; Sue Stephens</b>
<i>Sr. Council Reps</i>	<b>Lyle and Kathy Gillett</b>
<i>Jr. Council Reps</i>	<b>Del and Mary Stansbery</b>
<i>Sr. Decorating Chairman</i>	<b>Walt Perry &amp; Pat Bailey</b>
<i>Historian:</i>	<b>Laurie Bendell</b>
<i>Photography</i>	<b>Judy Taylor</b>
<i>Webmasters</i>	<b>Richard &amp; Lila Keilwitz</b>
<i>Calling Committee Chair</i>	<b>Norma Hatcher</b>
<i>May Madness</i>	<b>Dale and Sue Stephens</b>

➤ Visit the Mountaineers Web Site. See "What's New" on the web site.

<http://www.mountaineerssdc.org>

# 2010 - Mountaineers Annual Membership Dues

- Annual dues are \$20.00 per couple or \$10.00 per single. **They were due by November 1, 2009**
- Make checks out to Mountaineers Square Dance Club and mail or give to the Treasurers at a dance.

**\*\*\* Dale & Sue Stephens, 7879 W Fairview Ave, Littleton, CO 80128, 303-973-8734 \*\*\***

**NOTE:**

*Please be sure to include this completed form with your check to ensure accurate and complete information, plus the greatest participation level from all of our members.*

Name(s):		Phone:	
Address:		City:	
e-mail address:		State:	Zip Code:
Birthdays: (month/day)	HIS:	Hers:	

**Club membership requires members to serve as Host/Hostess of a dance - one dance a year**

Please mark your first and second serving preferences by marking a 1 and 2 by your choice:  
Also, indicate with a **NO** what months you absolutely cannot serve.  
Every effort will be made to give you your marked preferences.

January:	February:	March:	April:
May:	June:	July:	August:
September:	October:	November:	December:

*If you would consider serving more than once a year please check this box  It would help a lot*

*Please indicate your willingness to serve in an office or committee in the coming year or the future:*

President     Vice President:     Recording Secretary:     Corresponding Secretary:     Treasurer:   
 Banner Stealing:     Hospitality:     Council Reps:     Decorating Committee:   
 Historian:     Webmaster:     Calling Committee:

Do you need a badge?  First name \_\_\_\_\_ (in large letters), last name in small letters

**Must pre-pay; include with your membership dues (Badge: \$11 magnet type, \$9 pin type).**

**Attention Treasurers:**

*Send a PDF copy to each of the respective committee heads and in addition to the following: Presidents, Vice Presidents, and Corresponding Secretaries. E-mail if they have an e-mail address, otherwise mail or personally give copies to those who do not have e-mail.*

## **DAS&RDC Dancer Information Sheet**

Please fill out the following form completely and give to your club president or Council Reps to give to the DAS&RDC Officers. **Fill out one per dancer.**

**First Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Last Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City:** \_\_\_\_\_ **State:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip:** \_\_\_\_\_

**E-mail:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Primary Sq Dance Club:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Additional Clubs:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Are you currently a club officer:** \_\_\_ **Office:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Year you started dancing:** \_\_\_\_\_

**How often do you dance** (average per week) \_\_\_\_\_ (average per month) \_\_\_\_\_

**#State festivals attended:** \_\_\_ **Last year you attended:** \_\_\_\_\_

If you belong to more than one club, only one form needs to be filled out per dancer. If you have questions please email [councilpresidents@hotmail.com](mailto:councilpresidents@hotmail.com). This information will not be sold. This information will only be used by Denver Area Square and Round Dance Council for dancing related purposes.