



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

MOUNTAINEERS APRIL 2009 TRAILBLAZER



Trailblazer

Mountaineers Square Dance Club

Edited by Dale and Sue Stephens

Please send articles & information to; dalestephens@att.net 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 1st Club Dance each month*



Presidents Letter



President's Corner/April 2009

We had a couple of great dances in March and a great turn out for the “Get to know you” potluck with the class members on March 16th. Speaking of the class members, they graduated March 30th. Thanks to everyone that supported the club dances, lessons, and banner stealing and retrieving activities.

As the new graduates transition into the club, we would like to encourage the established club members to mentor a graduate. All that we are asking from a mentor is that you help a graduate with the transition from classes to dancing with the club and other callers. This can be done by asking the class member if they would like to join you (and us) on banner stealing/retrieving attempts. Ask them to join you and other club members for dinner before a dance or for a snack afterwards. Let them know that it is ok to ask for help when they are unsure of a call and offer your assistance by either walking the call through with them or approaching a caller for help.

Mountaineers board meeting will be Monday, April 13, 2009 at 7:00pm at the Valley View Church of God.

We will also be starting Plus Lessens with Bob Riggs on Thursday April 2. Classes will meet on Thursdays at 7:30 pm though June 11th.

We are recruiting for a chairperson for Western Welcome Week to be held on Saturday, August 15, 2009. We need someone to coordinate the decorating of the float, arranging for dancers to perform on the float in the parade, and recruiting volunteers for the barbeque following the parade at Murdochs. Please contact Lynette or Jeff if you would be willing to help with the position, or if you would like to volunteer to dance on the float or help with the barbeque. This is a good promotion for our club and we welcome your enthusiasm and participation. This is a great opportunity for new members to get involved in the club activities.

Due to the number of calls to First Responders requesting help for a fallen and/or injured dancer, we have decided to publish the recommended procedures to request help from the dance floor. This procedure is called ECMA (Emergency Call for Medical Assistance). This procedure is published on page 5.

Lynette and I have accepted the resignation of Lois and Dwayne Sterling as Junior Treasurers. Thank you Lois and Dwayne for all of your hard work – we really appreciate it.

We are currently looking for a couple to assume the position. If you are interested in volunteering, contact Jeff Cox, Lynette Ivy, Mike or Merry Lou Stafford, or Larry or Ann Amsler. A brief job description and requirements can be found on page 5.

Respectful submitted by Lynette Ivy and Jeff Cox



KALLER'S KORNER

NO KALLER'S KORNER THIS MONTH

Results of our recent Pop Quiz Question

Dwayne and Lois Sterling informed us of the following:

- ❖ Our daughter Denina has sixteen kids which makes 16 grandkids.
- ❖ Our daughter Terri has three kids who have six kids which makes three grandkids and six great-grandkids.
- ❖ Our daughter Cindy has four kids which makes four grandkids.

The total is twenty-three grandkids and six great-grandkids.

We understand Dave and Margie Siskowic have 23 grandchildren also.

Pat Bailey has 10 grandchildren and 8 great grandchildren ages 5 & under. Walt Perry has 2 grandchildren & 3 great grandchildren - the oldest great one is 13 for a total of 23.

It looks like 23 is the magic number for a three way tie.

Congratulations to Dwayne and Lois, Dave and Margie and Pat and Walt!!



NOTICES



Mountaineers are sponsoring Plus Lessons starting Thursday, April 2nd at 7:30 pm at the Valley View Church of God. They will continue on Thursdays for 10 weeks. Bob Riggs and Mike Darrah are instructing and they invite anyone interested in taking lessons to let one of them or Dale Stephens know. This is a good opportunity to come angel and brush up on your Plus calls.

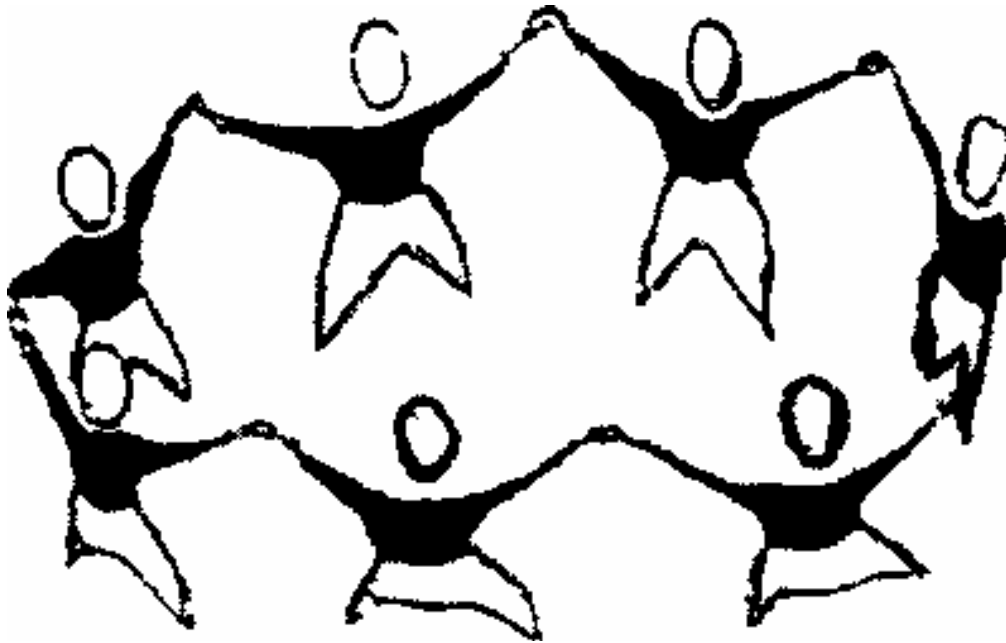
Junior Treasurer Needed for Latter Part of 2009

Qualifications:

- Good personal finance keeping skills (checkbook, bank statement reconciliation etc.)
- Basic experience with computer, Microsoft Word and Excel
- Hardware and software needs: PC, printer, internet with email account, MS-Word and MS-Excel, access to a scanner.
- Quicken program for book keeping will be supplied by the club
- On-job training in 2009
- Commitment needed for Senior Treasurer Office in 2010

Contact Jeff Cox, Lynette Ivy, Mike or Merry Lou Stafford, or Larry or Ann Amsler for information.

Do you know what this diagram represents?



**It is the
Emergency Call for Medical Aid
E C M A**

1. When a dancer goes down, a second dancer attends to him/her.
2. Remaining couples join hands and take a step backward. This will allow the injured person and the attendant air and room.
3. Raise joined hands as high as possible in the form of an arched circle (as seen above).
4. On seeing this signal, the caller or hall monitor will immediately place an Emergency Call for Medical Aid.



BANNER STEALING



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 303-933-2037



REPORTS



MOUNTAINEERS BOARD MEETING – Mountaineers Board Meeting of March 9, 2009

Attendance: Mike & Merry Lou Stafford, Lyle & Kathy Gillett, Dick & Kathy Niebels, Dwayne & Lois Sterling, Ann & Larry Amsler, Dan McPeck & Judy Winter, Walt Perry & Pat Bailey, Dale & Sue Stephens, Lynette Ivy, Mike & Lynne Robbins, Richard & Lila Keilwitz, Laurie Bendell, Jim Taylor, Del & Mary Stansbery

7:07 p.m. meeting called to order by Co-president Lynette Ivy

Recording and Corresponding Secretaries:

Secretary minutes from February meeting approved by motion of Dale Stephens, 2nd by Pat Bailey with no changes or additions. A “Thinking of You” card was sent on behalf of Mountaineers to Maryann Guille re-starting chemo-therapy today for her lung cancer. Dale Stephens has sent out the March Trailblazer and has 11 yet to mail. He appreciates member information received for “news” to include in the Trailblazer. April 1st is the deadline for the next issue.

Treasurer’s and 2009 Budget reports by Larry Amsler & Dwayne Sterling:

Dwayne thanked Larry for his help in preparing the monthly report. Overall “Total of Accounts” as of the end of February was \$6,582.66 plus additional from today’s deposit of the March 7th dance receipts. Dwayne has ordered new badges (shown under Inflows on report.) **Mike Robbins motioned to accept the February Treasurer’s Report as printed; motion 2nd was by Lois Sterling. Motion passed.** Larry explained the revised 2009 budget with a few more expense items (\$300.00) added, which include \$100.00 each for May Madness, Treasurers’ supplies and the club picnic in July. Other changes were regarding dance hall rent, Corresponding

Secretary expenses and some miscellaneous items that were taken out. All except \$100.00 was offset. Expected income from Murdoch's WWW hamburger sales should offset that. It was noted nothing was in the budget for sound abatement still to be voted on. Lila also noted on-going yearly scrapbook expenses to keep the Historian books updated. ***Richard Keilwitz motioned (2nd by Dwayne Sterling) to add \$80.00 to the 2009 budget to cover scrapbook expenses this year. Motion passed.***

President's Report:

Lynette reviewed the Activities Calendar mentioning the April Anniversary Dance. Dale & Sue are sending out invitations and receiving the RSVP's.

A chairman is still needed to coordinate Western Welcome Week activities

Regarding Current Class Lessons: A "Getting to Know You" pot luck for current members to meet new members is next Monday at 6:30 p.m. An e-mail has been sent with breakdown as to who brings what type of dish. Thursday, March 19th, Sande Ward will display square dance clothing for sale at the class lesson. March 30th is the graduation of the new class.

Vice President's Report – Mike & Merry Lou Stafford

A dance is still on the calendar schedule for Jan. 2, 2010, even though it has been voted to cancel that dance.

Jeff Palmer & Leroy Shade will be moved to another open slot in 2010.

We now have a signed contract for the Aug. 1st dance with Debra & Jon Jones.

Jerry Haag is retired and not accepting bookings, but could fill in sometime on short notice.

Mike & Merry Lou will distribute flyers to promote the Jerry Junck dance on April 4th.

Council Report – Del & Mary Stansbery (Jr. Reps.) - Lyle & Kathy Gillett (Sr. Reps.)

The complete report will be included in the April Denver Area Council Bulletin. Highlights of the report include:

Banner Stealing Guideline proposed revisions were passed out for feedback to take back to Council.

A surprise discovery: Current council insurance coverage was actually not in force to protect dancers. This has resulted in an abrupt change of insurance agents and companies. Insurance charge was \$3.50 per person with \$.50 of the \$3.50 paid by Council. It will now be \$4.25 per person.

Council has \$18,500 + in treasury.

Hall of Fame dance is April 19th @ 6:00 p.m. – Arvada Methodist Church: The CRDA is having a dance the same date at Highlands Masonic Temple.

Council is still collecting aluminum cans.

New Volunteers are needed for Council's "Bulletin Out" committee.

Current square dance lesson classes of various clubs will graduate a total of 170 new dancers.

Current dancers registered for State Festival "Safari Swing" in June is 470.

The Annual Proclamation Dance is September 9th at the State Capitol.

Club Caller: (Don joined us during a lesson break)

Don Furnish has sent out invitations to callers and cuers to participate in the Mountaineers' Benefit Dance on May 30th for Hospice of St. John.

He cannot do a plus class this spring. If Mountaineers want a spring plus class, they will have to make other arrangements. Don is comfortable with whatever the Board decides.

Should newly graduated class members who join the club be given a reduced rate to re-take lessons vs. being an angel only? It's something to think about.

The recruiting and retention of new dancers needs more focus.

Don mentioned he could possibly do some Dancing by Definitions teaching.

Class Coordinators – Jim Taylor

Jim thanked Del & Mary Stansbery for their help as Class Coordinators. Mountaineers could end up with 16 new members from the current class. Ten have returned their forms as new members, and at least 4 more have indicated they will definitely join. Dale S. wants a copy of new members' forms to add them to the data base. Board has voted in the past that 18 was the minimum number of dancers for class lessons, or we don't have a class. Discussion – Do we need to pay the caller more? Do we need to change our approach to recruiting? Mike Hogan is having a workshop on recruiting with fresh new ideas.

Demonstration Dances – Judy Winter

No demo dances are scheduled at this time. Most of Judy's requests for demo dances come from the Council information phone. Comment was made we need to increase demos to attract people to square dancing. We have increased participation in the July 4th parade in Highland's Ranch by using the Council float for dancing in the parade instead of just marching.

Windcrest Retirement Center has 4 squares of active square dancers, but are not joining DAS & RDC due to inability to access their facility to retrieve a banner or join in any of their dances.

Banner Stealing – Judy Winter & Dan McPeck

Mountaineers is only one of two Denver area clubs to qualify and be awarded the State Dance Promoter Badge to put on our club banner.

Banner Stealing Guidelines were discussed. Mountaineers voted last fall to allow "borrowing" of one couple to steal or retrieve to complete a square. (This is discussed further under New Business.)

May Madness Report – Dale & Sue Stephens

Committee met February 26th. Everything is progressing on schedule. Lyle Gillett is handling ticket sales. Dick Laine will handle photography as our club photographer, Judy Taylor, will be out of town.

Regarding Bob Lyon as cuer: Rocky Mountain Squares has approached Bob about a co-cuer. He is very open to that, but would like to coordinate his cuing with the co-cuer. Mitchell Thompson was suggested. Dale Stephens will pursue this option. Damage deposit this year needs to be in actual cash or check vs. just a credit card # as in the past. Emergency instructions will be posted at the dance. If the Fairgrounds does not have their own signs, Dale will furnish. An insurance "rider" has been purchased to cover use of the Fairgrounds. Dale will double check if coverage also includes the parking lot area.

Hospitality – Dick & Kathy Niebels

Kathy has her new mop. Why cornmeal on the dance floor instead of saw dust? Type of floor tile does not allow saw dust. A new 30-cup coffee pot is needed; handles are loose on current one, and it is unsafe. *Mike Robbins motioned, 2nd by Dale S. Motion passed to purchase a new 30cup coffee pot.* Kathy will take care of.

Decorating Committee – Walt Perry & Pat Bailey

Pat thanked everyone who brought stuffed animals, etc., for the Safari Swing promotion at our last dance.

Decorations will be put out for the Easter and Anniversary/Past Presidents' dances.

A new "Mountaineers" banner/sign is needed for Murdoch's float for Western Welcome Week. Jim Bahr's name was suggested, as he made the Mountaineers' outside sign for our dances. This will be further discussed in April.

2010 Colorado State Square Dance Festival Report – Jim Taylor

Refining of forms is still being worked on; they will be radically different. There will be a walk-through of the facility for anyone interested. Bob & Joan Gaunt are working on the program. The headline callers will be Mountain Magic with calling fee donated up to a level of over 600 dancers registered; then a fee of \$15.00 per registrant kicks in.

Webmaster Report – Richard Keilwitz

The website is completely up-to-date. At upper right there is an e-mail box to click to send information or questions directly to Richard. He appreciates feedback on the site as to possible improvements and updates. Merry Lou Stafford thanked Richard for his work on the site. It was explained that the previous website, squaredancing.com, cut back on allotted usable space. Therefore, the previous webmaster had to remove some pictures and information to accommodate the lessened space. Richard is now using his own personal website, and the new address is Mountaineerssdc.org. The former website will still transport you to the new website. Information on the website is drawn from banner stealing reports, photos by the Taylors, hospitality reports and the Trailblazer. The Membership Roster is no longer on the site, as many did not want this personal information posted for non-members to access.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Fourteen people have signed up as interested in plus lessons. Recruiting will continue. Bear Miller has his own plus class weekend in May. Bob Riggs and Mike Darrah are planning plus lessons this spring in a very small building not far from the old Orchard Road Grange, our former dance facility. ***Motion by Dale Stephens, 2nd by Mike Stafford – Mike Darrah & Bob Riggs be approached about combining classes and possibly moving lessons to Valley View Church of God. Motion passed.*** Dale Stephens will check interest in this arrangement.

NEW BUSINESS

Council insurance problem was further reviewed by Kathy Gillett, mentioning again the dismay of Council that they may have actually been without liability/medical coverage the past few years. Jim T. said apparently only Council meetings themselves were covered. The new company is USDA, United Square Dancers of America. We currently send our entire roster in to the Council for insurance coverage. Kathy Gillett related Council has indicated we only need to submit names of active dancers in our club. Dale S. will modify our list accordingly and provide an updated list to our council representatives.. It was also relayed USDA insurance will cover all lesson class members and those new club members for up to 9 months. Then, they must be paid for and individually named on the policy.

Jim Taylor explained a little more about how USDA has a state representative that clubs in other areas of the state deal with individually and directly for their insurance coverage. The DAS & RDC has always done their insurance collectively. That will probably change, and each club will have to deal directly with the USDA. Jim will pursue information on that possible procedural change.

9:12 p.m. – There being no further business or announcements before the Board, meeting was adjourned by motion of Dale Stephens and seconded unanimously and simultaneously by everyone present.

Respectfully submitted:

Mike & Lynne Robbins
Recording Secretaries



HAPPY BIRTHDAY



March 2009

1	Margie Siskowic
2	Rita Beasley
5	Nadine Owens
7	Judi Braunstein
10	Walt Perry
13	Lila Keilwitz
16	Jim Taylor
19	Dan McPeek
23	Ron Kamstra
26	Nancy Bowman
31	Charles Burgener

April 2009

4	Ken Salinas
4	Bruce Birza
7	Dale Stephens
13	Pat Bailey
14	Eddie Perdue
15	Ian Horsky
15	Laura Stafford
19	Jean Mayne
21	Thelma Blemler

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

Bob and Erica Nelson are back from Arizona, since Erica has just learned that she has polymyalgia, a painful muscle condition. She will be seeing her doctor here on Monday. She said that her prognosis for recovery is good, but right now it is very painful and naturally they do not plan to be dancing for a while.

Gail Bultena is scheduled for knee surgery on April 7, 2009, so they will also be out for some time.

Richard and Carol Bushu have had several illnesses in the last several months. Most recently, Carol just got out of the hospital after suffering from pneumonia. Happily, she is feeling much better and is back at work.

Carol and Eddie Perdue are leaving for Mesa, AZ on Monday, March 30 for two weeks R and R. They are going to see their friends and former Mountaineers, Dick & Betty Spencer, and do some square dancing while there.

Lynette Ivy and Mike McElveen are getting married on April 11th. Congratulations Lynette and Mike!!

Gary and Marilyn Hauswirth visited friends in Salida the week of March 9. They planned to square dance that weekend and took some May Madness tickets to sell at the dance. Thanks Gary and Marilyn.

Eddie and Carol Perdue are happy to announce the engagement of their son. Errol and Dana have an August wedding planned. Eddie and Carol are delighted to be gaining a daughter.

Margie and Dave Siskowic are driving to Cheyenne, WY, Monday afternoon (April 30) for the graduation of their son, his wife and their grandson from Dave Guille's square dance class lessons. Coincidentally it's the same night our class graduates.

Pat Buss and friends just returned from a trip to Florida. From Orlando they drove to Miami and took a cruise to the Bahamas, returning to Orlando via a trip through the Everglades. Pat is leaving again mid-April with friends for Sedona, Flagstaff and South Grand Canyon area of Arizona.

Dave and Mona Borden are leaving mid-April for Cozumel where they'll enjoy scuba diving in the warm waters and relaxing in the sun.

Jim and Judy Taylor will be on a cruise to Cabo from March 31 to April 5 with a Shrine group. They will get to visit with a friend who lives in Cabo.

Del and Mary Stansbery left on March 31 for a 3-day trip to Las Vegas, NV where they plan to gamble a little and take in a show at the Mirage.

Jeff Cox and Sandy Surgerman became engaged recently.

Mel Gifford and Nancy Bowman became engaged also. Congratulations to both couples.



Erica Nelson	Thinking of you – hope you feel better soon.
Marcia LeVasseur	Get well soon – having lung problems



Dance Schedules

Callers & Cuers Host & Hostesses



Thanks again for all the dependable and hard workers who help the Mountaineers have great dances.
Carol Neises

Please contact Carol at 303-798-4472 if you need to switch with someone due to unforeseen situations.

April 4, 2009

Caller: **Jerry Junck**

Cuer: **Bill Holm**

Host & Hostesses:

**** Dick and Cathe Markell (303-794-5765) Mike and Merry Lou Stafford (303-255-4784)**

April 18, 2009

Anniversary Dance/Past Presidents Dance

Caller: **Don Furnish**

Cuer: **Leroy Shade**

Host & Hostesses:

**** Bob Hunt (303-791-7200) Shirley McBroom (303-783-1739)
Carol Neises (303-798-4472) Nielli McDaniel (303-978-0390)**

May 2, 2009

Caller: **Mike Hogan**

Cuer: **Justin Judd del Sol**

Host & Hostesses:

**** Jim and Judy Taylor (303-795-3278) Ian Horsky (303-758-3909)
Del and Mary Stansbery (303-451-1186)**

May 16, 2009

May Madness Dance

Caller: **Mike Sikorsky/Tom Roper**

Cuer: **Bob Lyons**

Host & Hostesses:

**** Pat and Darrel Buss and other volunteers to be determined**

May 30, 2009

Hospice Dance

Caller: **Don Furnish and other volunteer callers and cuers**

Host & Hostesses:

**** Eddie and Carol Perdue (303-798-6242) Ron and Phyllis Kamstra (303-617-4751)
Bernie and Vi Karpinski (303-758-3081)**

2009 Officers and Committee Heads:

2009 Officers

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

Past Presidents: Ron and Karen Newton

Committee Heads

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

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

<http://www.mountaineerssdc.org>