



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

## **MOUNTAINEERS FEBRUARY 2009 TRAILBLAZER**



# Trailblazer

## Mountaineers Square Dance Club

Edited by Dale and Sue Stephens

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

Our club web page is <http://www.squaredancing.com/mountaineers/>

### **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



Once again, Lynette and I would like to thank the 2008 board and especially Presidents Ron and Karen Newton for their hard work last year.

2008 ended with a great New Year's Eve Dance with 97 tickets sold (just over 12 squares). In addition to dancers from Denver, we had visitors from the Northeast and Southeast Council areas and one couple from South Dakota.

The Spring Class is under way and it began with an excellent turn out for the chili dinner on January 12<sup>th</sup>. We would like to say thank you to all of the mountaineers who helped with the dinner and/or are angeling. We could use a few more angels.

We have several changes to the 2009 board to mention. At the January board meeting, it was decided to move the date of the meeting from the first Monday to the second Monday. We would also like to announce that Mary and Del Stansbery have stepped forward and agreed to take the Junior Council representative position. We would like to thank Jim and Judy Taylor for temporarily filling this position and their continued support and work on the Mountaineers Board as well as their work at the council and state levels. Thank you Del & Mary Stansbery and Carol Neises for stepping up to fill in for Jim and Judy at the classes when needed this winter. There are 14 regular new students and one repeating.

Our Valentine's Day Dance will be on February 7<sup>th</sup> with **Lanny Weaklend calling and Justin Judd del Sol Cuing**. We will also be hosting a Safari Express dance on March 7<sup>th</sup> to help promote the 2009 State Square Dance Convention in Greeley on June 12 and 13. Dave Guille will be calling and John Herr will be on rounds.

Written by Jeff Cox with input from Lynette Ivy



# KALLER'S KORNER

**Happy Groundhog Day, Valentine's Day and President's Day. I hope this new month finds everyone enjoying the New Year.**

**I ran across this prayer for new graduates the other day and thought it would be fun to share it with everyone. It is fun to think back when we were graduating from our square dance classes and the anticipation of dancing with the experienced square dancers in a square dance club! Renew your youthful spirit of square dancing. So to as the prayer ends I hope each of you "With a smile and a song, promenade along, `CAUSE YOU SQUARE DANCE, MY FRIEND, FOR FUN"**

**I look forward to seeing all of you at a dance in February.**

## **A PRAYER FOR NEW GRADUATES**

May you dance as long as you want to  
and want to as long as you can.  
May your toes never stop tapping  
to the beat of a square dance band  
We wish you a smile on your career  
and a partner that really can swing.  
And each a handclasp of friendship  
as you right and left grand the ring  
May you never forget the struggle  
when you lessons finally were through.  
May you always reach back with a helping hand  
that someone extended to you.  
May you never become a dancer that knows all  
and there's no more left to learn  
In the midst of the muddle,  
come out of your huddle,  
Could be you made the wrong turn!  
As long, as you're dancing, enjoy it  
and the friends that you'll make `fore you're done  
With a smile and a song, promenade along,  
'CAUSE YOU SQUARE DANCE, MY FRIEND,  
FOR FUN'

Don Furnish:  
(303) 840-7335

## Mountaineers Banner Stealing Policy

The object of banner stealing is to promote friendly visits and socialization between all clubs belonging to the Denver Area Square Dance Council. The purpose is not to over-patronize a select few but to spread the visits around to all clubs. If you are going to be a thief – be a good one and abide by the guidelines and make a practice of retrieving your own banner before stealing from other clubs.

- 1) In order to steal or retrieve a banner, the visiting club must attend the club dance with at least one full square of dancers signing in for that club. Anniversary and Special club dances will not be considered differently from other club dances.
- 2) A banner stealing and retrieving sign-in sheet must be available at all dances for those participating. This sheet would be picked up by the end of the first tip.
- 3) To qualify, **one full square from each visiting club must be present for both the first and last tips of the evening.** In cases where two or more clubs come to steal the banner, the host will select, by the visiting participating clubs drawing lots, the club to which the banner will be awarded.
- 4) Banners are not to be reserved for any visiting clubs.
- 5) Clubs may not call ahead to find out if the banner is available.
- 6) A couple who belongs to two or more clubs cannot represent one club and steal or retrieve from another club to which they belong.
- 7) A club shall not steal from another club which dances on the same night. A club shall not steal a banner unless it may be retrieved within a month.
- 8) If a plus club steals a banner from a mainstream club, then that club should provide a mainstream dance for the returning club. In all fairness however, plus clubs should steal from plus clubs, and mainstream clubs from mainstream clubs.
- 9) All clubs should have a banner for Denver Area Square and Round Dance Council members to steal.
- 10) In all cases where a club outside the Denver Area Square and Round Dance Council comes to steal a banner, a traveling banner may be given.
- 11) A Club can steal a banner or retrieve a banner on a visit to a club, but not both at the same time. It takes a visit to steal and a visit to retrieve.
- 12) When you are representing the Council as an Orbiting Square, you can sign in as an Orbiting Square and at the same dance, sign in as a member of your own club to steal or retrieve.
- 13) The Council banner per se cannot be stolen, but a “replica” of the Council banner may be obtained by the presence of three (3) squares at any one monthly Council meeting and/or dance or one square at three (3) Council meetings and/or dances.
- 14) The club stealing the Council banner must check in prior to the start of the evening’s activities and remain throughout the entire agenda.

- 15) The Council banner may be stolen only once during the Council calendar year. (Between September of the current year and May of the following year.) The Council banner cannot be stolen in June. Orbiting Squares cannot officially make a retrieval during the summer months. They can make courtesy calls throughout the year.
- 16) A banner stealing certificate will be awarded to the stealing club when the Orbiting Squares retrieve the “replica” banner.
- 17) Mountaineer members receive one point for services.
- 18) One point will be given for dancing at community service events, demo dances, dancing in parades, decorating, and other Mountaineer approved events.
- 19) In order for Mountaineer members to receive points for stealing and retrieving, the event must be a planned Mountaineers event. The banner chairperson must be notified by telephone or e-mail **in advance** of attendance at these events so other club members may attend, otherwise no points will be given.
- 20) Mountaineers must not borrow more than **one couple** to make a full square in order to steal or retrieve the banner.
- 21) After 10 steals or retrievals members will receive a free pass. A member will receive a cake, free pass and 100 bar after 100 attempts. Thereafter they will receive a bar indicating the number of attempts in 100 increments, i.e. 200, 300, 400, etc.

***Judy Winter***

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



## REPORTS



### **Minutes from the January 5, 2009 Mountaineers' Board Meeting**

The meeting was called to order by Jeff Cox at 6:59 pm. Attendees were Lynette Ivy, Jeff Cox, Ann and Larry Amsler, Lila and Richard Keilwitz, Lois and Dwayne Sterling, Merry Lou and Mike Stafford, Kathy and Lyle Gillett, Sue and Dale Stephens, Carol Neises, Judy Winter, Dan McPeck, Judy and Jim Taylor, Pat Bailey, Walt Perry, and Don Furnish.

Recording Secretary's Report: Jeff asked for any revisions to the Dec. board meeting minutes. Ann and Larry Amsler said they were not listed as attendees. Jeff Cox asked to have a revision made to show he didn't mean to put tables in the dead spots at the gym. We will put additional tables at the East end of the gym; however, additional sound baffles are still needed to correct the dead spots. **Dale S. moved to approve the minutes with these minor changes.** Dale reported that Lynne Robbins sent get well cards to Elwanda Gille and Bernie Karpinski.

Corresponding Secretary's Report: Dale reported the Jan. Trailblazer was e-mailed to members and those that weren't picked up at the dance were sent out too. The deadline for input for the February Trailblazer is 1/26/09.

Treasurer's Report: Larry Amsler distributed copies of his report. He explained the net decrease of \$1,700 was for expenses for lessons that were paid in December. Also shown on the report are the New Year's dance expenses – the ticket monies weren't turned in until 12/31. Caller fees exceeded the budget because there was no budgeted fee for lessons or special dances and that caused a \$2,000 difference between the budgeted amount and the amount paid to callers. Profit/loss – we made money on one dance in Dec. and lost money on the other. The New Year's dance with 12 squares in attendance showed a profit of \$168. One badge and the officers' bars have been ordered. As of now we have 114 members for 2009.

The fall class income was \$1,476 with \$1,391 in expenses with a net amount of \$95.00. Discussion followed regarding the list of the club's assets shown at the top of the Treasurer's printed report. One change was suggested to show a net loss resulting from the sale of the swamp cooler. Richard K. moved to approve the report and Dale seconded. **The December 2008 Treasurers' Report was approved.**

President's Report: Jeff distributed the 2009 Activity Calendar.

The question was asked if we were able to get the reservation at the park for our annual picnic. Dwayne and Lois reported "yes." The reservation is for July 12 from 11:00 am – 3:00 pm. The question was asked if the church has a copy of our schedule – Lynette said she will give them one.

2009 Budget – Presidents - Lynette and Jeff, VPs - Merry Lou and Mike and Sr. Treasurers – Ann and Larry will schedule a time to work on the 2009 budget.

2008 Financial Review – need to appoint two club members to help with the review. Richard said the 2008 Treasurers should be at the meeting to answer any questions that come up.

Discussion followed re: changing the date of our board meetings to give the club treasurers enough time to finalize their report after the last dance of the month. Dale moved to change our meeting day to the second Monday of each month. This motion was approved.

January 17 is the next callers' meeting. Jeff encouraged all officers to attend the 1<sup>st</sup> responder seminar that day. It will be at 10:00 am at the Maple Grove Grange at 32<sup>nd</sup> and Youngfield. Jeff is CPR certified. It was suggested we need to find out if other club members have CPR/First Aid training.

Vice-President's Report: Nothing at this time

Council Rep's Report: Lyle reported he and Kathy attended the Denver Area Square and Round Dance Council meeting on Sunday, 1/4/09. The full minutes of the meeting will be published in the next Council Bulletin.

- Hall of Fame – looking for nominees
- Income from can drive is down due to the decrease in the price of aluminum
- Encouraged dancers to register for the State Festival. Early registration results in a free pass to Trail Ends dance – Roger Schappell will be calling on Thursday evening.
- Taking nominations for council officers
- Jim Langdon presented Timberline Toppers' success story – recruiting new dancers.
- Encouraged registration for Nationals – 3,018 at present; 107 from Colorado

- New Council by-laws are available

Council Jr. Rep Report – Judy T. reported CRDA has a Fun Dance scheduled this Saturday, Jan. 10 from 7:00 – 9:30 at The Outpost with George Smith and Justin Judd del Sol cueing.

Safari Swing (promotion group for the 09 State Festival) is scheduled to visit our club dance on March 7. A discussion followed on how our club should promote this dance. Suggestions were: change the title in the Bulletin to show “Safari Express”, decorate the gym, make special flyers, and take out a half-page ad in the Feb/March Council Bulletin. Mike S. moved to place a ½ page ad in the Feb. bulletin (if we haven’t missed the deadline) and another ½ page ad in the March bulletin. Dale seconds. Motion approved. Mike and Merry Lou will place the ads. Orbiting Squares are scheduled to be our guests on May 30 – they informed Jim T. that they may not be able to bring the usual three squares that night.

Caller’s Report: Don commented on the Timberline Topper’s success in recruiting people to take lessons. He said that is due the following -

1) their whole club recruits and 2) the club actively angels at the lessons.

Don thanked Mountaineers for angeling new students. Kathy G. suggests we attend Jim Langdon’s upcoming class on successful recruiting. Don told us transition into a club requires everyone’s help. He hopes for better participation this time around. He asks why our club isn’t mentoring the new graduates. Merry Lou mentioned the first year she and Mike danced after taking lessons they were always invited to go along with more experienced dancers and that was a real source of encouragement.

Others suggested we encourage single dancers bring partners with them. Jeff suggested having new dancers meet other club members for dinner before they go out to visit (banner steal) area clubs.

Don would like to have the Mountaineers’ sponsor a Plus Class which would be open to other clubs. Dale will create a survey form and e-mail it to the board for review. This form will ask who is interested in taking Plus lessons during late April through the end of May timeframe and also ask which day works best for those who express interest - possibly Monday nights or Sunday afternoons.

Class Coordinators’ Report: Jim Taylor handed out small copies of flyers along with cards for us to use in signing people up for the winter class which will start this next week – Monday 1/12. He reported he and Judy placed three weeks worth of ads in five SE Colorado community newspapers at \$35.25 per wk. They also put a calendar item in the Littleton Independent and Your Hub. They sent letters to twelve clubs inviting them to bring students. They mailed letters to 32 local churches and Judy called the people on their contact list. The contact list is down to only 22 names. Four couples have indicated they will come on Monday. He encouraged us to continue to look for prospects and bring them Monday night for the free chili supper and Intro to Square Dance.

Banner Stealing Coordinators’ Report: Judy Winter reported 17 banners were stolen from us in 2008; we stole 26 times which provided a \$1,000 income for our club. Scootbacks and Rollin Wheels have our banners at present. Judy said she called Swing Thrus and confirmed they do not have one of our banners. Our club is one of four clubs in the state that qualified to receive the Dance Promoters’ Badge in 2008.

Hospitality Coordinator’s Report: Carol N. reported she has members scheduled for kitchen duty through May. The list through April was printed in the Jan. Trailblazer and will be posted in the kitchen.

Decorating Coordinators’ Report: Pat B. said she has one complaint regarding the new Christmas tree we purchased recently – it’s too heavy.

Joe could use some help getting it unloaded and stored in the shed.

Dale will check with Joe. Pat said we need to buy some reels to put the lights on and asked if Dale could check the lights in the big box to see if they work. He suggested giving them to Goodwill if we no longer need them.

2010 State Festival: Jeff reported Sandy Sugeran has agreed to join him as a Mountaineers' representative to the festival. The next CSSDA meeting will be held in Cripple Creek and Jim and Marcia Langdon, Don Dupsky and Dan Pantano will be making a presentation to include a revised budget and the answers given by the Resort to some questions the Association had submitted recently. The room rates in Keystone were discussed. Jeff said there is still a need for board members.

May Madness Report: Dale reported the committee will meet again later in January. Half page ads were run in the December and January bulletins. Full page ads will run February through May. Flyers are available and tickets should be printed soon. We will be contacting club members to enlist their help on various committees.

Old Business: Carol checked on the black lights needed to hold a "White Glove Dance." One of the owners of the store that carries them said he would come over to check out the church gym and see if the lights would work there. She hasn't heard back from him.

Don F. brought up the Plus tips currently being called at our dances during the third and sixth tips. He proposed eliminating the 6<sup>th</sup> plus tip and adding a Star Tip at 10:00 pm. **Richard K. moved to approve this change. Mike S. seconded. Motion approved.**

New Business:

Discussion followed regarding when to serve food at our dances. Dale moved and Mike S. seconded a motion to put refreshments out after the first tip at each dance. **Motion approved.**

Jeff encouraged 2009 club officers to review the contents of the handbooks they received and ensure that the books contain up-to-date information. Richard confirmed the Mountaineers' by-laws are on the website. Meeting adjourned at 9:07 p.m.

Respectively submitted:

Dale and Sue Stephens – filling in for  
Mike and Lynne Robbins, Recording Secretaries





## Cards sent this past month



Mae Wade	Thinking of you – Mae suffered a stroke and is in Cherrelyn HealthCare Center.
Peggy Brasch	Thinking of you



## 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.

### February 7, 2009:

Caller: **Lanny Weaklend**

Cuer: **Justin Judd del Sol**

### Host & Hostesses:

**\*\* Dave and Margie Siskowic (720-488-1800)      Darrel and Pat Buss (303-979-0091)  
Laurie Bendell (303-794-6436)      Richard and Carol Bushu (303-267-0687)**

### February 21, 2009:

Caller: **Don Furnish**

Cuer: **Leroy Shade**

### Host & Hostesses:

**\*\*Gerald and Nadine Owens (303-979-5708)      Walt Perry and Pat Bailey (303-789-3903)**

### March 7, 2009

Caller: **Dave Guille**

Cuer: **John Herr**

### Host & Hostesses:

**\*\* Lyle and Kathy Gillett (303-973-2946)      Dick and Kathy Niebels (303-770-3484)**

March 21, 2009

Caller: **Don Furnish**

Cuer: **Bill Carter**

Host & Hostesses:

**\*\* Dan McPeek and Judy Winter (303-933-2037)  
Neill and Denise McDaniel (303-808-3080)**

April 4, 2009

Caller: **Jerry Junck**

Cuer: **Bill Holm**

Host & Hostesses:

**\*\* Dick and Cathe Markell (303-794-5765) Bev Krebs (303-797-3453)  
Mike and Merry Lou Stafford (303-255-4784)**

April 18, 2009

Caller: **Don Furnish**

Cuer: **Leroy Shade**

Host & Hostesses:

**\*\* Bob Hunt (303-791-7200) Shirley McBroom (303-783-1739)  
Mel Gifford (720-536-8221) Nancy Bowman (303-794-2376)**

May 2, 2009

Caller: **Mike Hogan**

Cuer: **Justin Judd del Sol**

Host & Hostesses:

**\*\* Ron and Karen Newton (303-771-0641) 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:

**\*\*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)**

June 6, 2009

Caller: **Freddie McKee**

Cuer: **Bob Lyons**

Host & Hostesses:

**\*\*Jim and Judy Taylor (303-795-3278) Marcia LaVasseur (619-405-8997)  
Ann Walsh (303-282-6624)**

June 12-13, 2009

State Festival at Greeley

June 20, 2009

Caller: **Don Furnish**

Cuer: **Jeff Cox**

Host & Hostesses:

**\*\*Dwayne and Lois Sterling (303-798-1599) Rita Beasley (303-933-9167)  
Harriet Lorence (303-794-7054)**

June 24-27, 2009

National Convention in Long Beach CA

## 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>Dwayne and Lois Sterling</b>

### Past Presidents:

**Ron and Karen Newton**

### Committee Heads

<i>Banner Stealing</i>	<b>Dan McPeek &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.mountaineers.ralkjc.com>