



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

## **MOUNTAINEERS MARCH 2009 TRAILBLAZER**

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# 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



President's Corner/March 2009

We had a couple of great dances in February. Thanks to everyone that supported the club dances, and to everyone who participated in the club banner stealing and retrieving activities.

Upcoming dances of note: March 7<sup>th</sup> with Dave Guille and John Herr, and a “Beginners Hoedown” on March 21<sup>st</sup> with Don Furnish and Bill Carter on rounds. Looking ahead to April, Jerry Junck and Bill Holm on April 4<sup>th</sup>, and the Anniversary Dance on April 18<sup>th</sup> with Don Furnish and Leroy Shade.

The Mountaineers beginner class is going well. We encourage everyone to angel for the class. Upcoming events for the class are: Monday, March 16<sup>th</sup> is a “get acquainted” potluck dinner for the club and class members starting at 6:30 pm. Sandy, with Swing Thru Twice, will bring square dance attire for sale for both members and students. Anyone who has used square dance clothing/shoes that you can no longer use and wish to clean out can bring those items on that night as well. Please indicate on the items either the price and your name, or “free” is you wish to donate the item(s). The class is scheduled to graduate on Monday, March 30<sup>th</sup>. Please come and help us celebrate, and encourage the new graduates to join the club, and invite them to dance with you at our dances as well as other club visitations. We appreciate all the angels that have been so dedicated in helping with the classes, and of course, Don, for his talented, fun instruction

Mountaineers board meeting will be Monday, March 9<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm at the Valley View Church of God. Many of the board members serve as angels for the beginner class, so we would like to request that more club members come to angel on that night.



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 Murdoch's. 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.

Respectfully submitted by Lynette Ivy and Jeff Cox



## KALLER'S KORNER

SORRY

NO KALLERS KORNER THIS MONTH

### **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



# REPORTS



## MOUNTAINEERS BOARD MEETING – February 9, 2009

**Attendance:** Lynette Ivy, Jeff Cox, Mike & Merry Lou Stafford, Del and Mary Stansbery, Lyle & Kathy Gillett, Larry & Ann Amsler, Dwayne & Lois Sterling, Dan McPeek & Judy Winter, Jim & Judy Taylor, Walt Perry & Pat Bailey, Dick & Kathy Niebels, Dale & Sue Stephens, Laurie Bendell, Carol Neises, Mike & Lynne Robbins

The meeting was called to order at 6:58 p.m. by Co-President Jeff Cox.

### OFFICER REPORTS:

**Recording Secretary:** *Minutes of Jan. 5<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting were approved as printed and passed with a motion by Judy Winter, seconded by Lynette Ivy.*

**Corresponding Secretary:** Dale Stephens has given out the February Trailblazer and mailed the last remaining ten. March 2, '09 is the deadline for the March Trailblazer. Dale requests news to put in the Trailblazer. Question: Who is responsible for the Council Bulletin Article? Corresponding Secretaries Dale & Sue do that. Suggestion was made they could possibly put in some history or facts about the club when they write the article, or focus in on a particular club member.

**Treasurer:** Larry Amsler went through the printed Treasurer's report noting the Mountaineers Pot should read -0- instead of \$10.00; the overall Account Total shows a balance of \$6,178.48. That amount does not reflect the Jan. 31<sup>st</sup> dance where about \$500.00 was taken in. With about \$500.00 in outstanding checks, it pretty much evens out to that amount. The profit loss of each dance was reviewed, the Register Report showed a balance of \$5,428.96 and the Monthly Cash Flow was reviewed. *A motion was made by Dwayne Sterling, seconded by Mike Stafford to accept this Treasurer's report. Motion passed.*

**A Budget for 2009** has been prepared by Larry in consultation with Jeff Cox, Lynette Ivy and Mike and Mary Lou Stafford. Fundraiser refers primarily to the Hospice Dance. Murdoch's BBQ money from Western Welcome Week could also be considered a fundraiser, but wasn't included in the budget at this time because it is weather dependent, and weather forced cancellation last year resulting in -0- income from Murdochs. For that reason, it will not be included as expected budgeted income for this year. In 2007 we received \$180.00 from Murdoch's sales.....*Dale Stephens moved to approve the 2009 budget, Mike Stafford seconded, and the motion passed.*

Question: Who is responsible for paying the caller at a demonstration dance? Judy Winter said the group asking for a demo dance should be paying the caller, not the club.

### OFFICER REPORTS

**President:** Jeff Cox reviewed the calendar throughout the meeting. March 7<sup>th</sup> is the Safari Swing State Festival promotion dance at Mountaineers. Judy W. asked if we want to expand on the theme of Safari Swing and promote the dance with a related animal theme like "Monkeying Around" or something similar, as other clubs are doing. Decision was NO, but we will decorate in an animal theme.

Jeff welcomed our new Junior Council Representatives, Del and Mary Stansbery

Current class lessons: Judy Taylor said class graduation will be March 30<sup>th</sup>; Del and Mary Stansbery and Carol Neises have been acting as Class Coordinators and are doing a great job.

Anniversary/Past President's Dance: Dale and Sue Stephens will do the Invitations (Laurie Bendell noted it is Ken and Marie Mills, not Merle Mills on the listing of past presidents.)

Jeff asked if Mountaineers want a full-page ad in the summer council bulletin to cover all special dances. Merry Lou informed us Mountaineers do not have a signed contract for August 1<sup>st</sup>.

Lynette referred back to chairmanship for Western Welcome Week – there are no volunteers at this time, but Jeff will announce at the club dance to see if anyone is interested. There are new guidelines written by Mike Robbins.

Ice Cream Social & Red, White, and Blue dance will stay on July 4<sup>th</sup>.

Pie night was previously moved to Sept. and will be September 5<sup>th</sup> with Charlie Robertson.

June 6<sup>th</sup> dance with Freddie McKee will be Chuckwagon Night.

**Club Caller Don Furnish joined us to answer questions.** Class lessons are at the half-way point with an expected graduation date of March 30<sup>th</sup>. We will have a "Get to know you night." It has traditionally been a pot-luck. This would possibly be the 16<sup>th</sup> of March. Judy Taylor will call Sande Ward of Swing-Thru Twice to bring her selection of square dance clothes for March 12<sup>th</sup> or 19<sup>th</sup>.

Seven couples + have signed up for Plus Lessons. Don would like to keep it on a Monday night to follow our lessons with a starting date of Monday, April 6. Judy Taylor will send a 1/2 page ad in to the Council bulletin immediately to see if Lloyd Bowles has space to put an advertisement. At the very least, it will be included in the printed calendar in the March Council Bulletin. ***Merry Lou Stafford motioned to pay for the expense, seconded by Dale S. Motion passed.*** A full-page ad for the special summer dances needs to be in by April. ***Dale S. moved, Kathy Niebels seconded and motion passed to pay for this expense also.*** Don and Jim Taylor were given the list of plus lesson prospects.

Kathy Gillett expressed concern that we would advertise the Aug. 1<sup>st</sup> dance when we don't have a signed contract from Debra and Jon Jones. Lynette has tried repeatedly through Bear Miller to accomplish this. Mike Stafford volunteered to again contact Bear Miller, and if there is no response from the Jones' by the March Board Meeting, Mike will replace them.

Bulletin calendar items for 2010 are due in October. We still need to decide on 2010 special dances. The calendar will be reviewed again next month

**Vice President's Report:** Mike and Merry Lou Stafford report that Lanny Weakland is already booking into 2012. She will try to book Lanny into 2011 or 2012 to call at Mountaineers.

Merry Lou observed that at the last two Mountaineer dances, no one has been at the front door to greet before the dance or say "good-bye" after the dance. Hospitality Guidelines presently show the Host and Hostesses are to be the greeters. It was decided that the Host and Hostesses will continue to be greeters, but saying "good-bye" at the end of the dance will be alternated between the Club Presidents and Vice Presidents for consistency. If neither of those two couples is available, then a Board Member will substitute.

Question: Who has the responsibility of notifying the Calling Committee? The Vice President does. It was revealed that some callers are calling as late as 10:00 p.m. at night to complete their calls. This will be brought to the attention of the Calling Committee asking that no one be called after 9:00 p.m.

Merry Lou thanked Walt Perry and Pat Bailey for the good job decorating for the Valentine's Dance.

It was noted that there are several items that need to be updated on the Mountaineers Website. Jeff will contact the Webmaster to get this information updated as soon as possible.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Council Representatives** – Lyle and Kathy Gillett; Del and Mary Stansbery

The complete report will be in the March DAS & RDC Bulletin. Highlights included an Effective Recruiting Session before yesterday's Denver Area Council Meeting. Lyle said it was well-attended and well presented.

Judy Winter is re-writing the Council Banner Stealing Guidelines.

Hall of Fame Dance is April 19. Dan Pantano will be inducted. Clubs are to bring their own door prizes and sell tickets to this dance. Council has approximately \$18,000+ in their treasury.

Orbiting Squares will be at Mountaineers on May 30<sup>th</sup>

A recent Medical Emergency Training Session for callers and anyone else interested designated 4 steps to follow in an emergency on the dance floor:

1. Designate someone to call 911 and give address  
(address and phone # should be readily available at front)
2. Designate someone to cover front door to direct EMT's
3. Ask if anyone on the dance floor has EMT or CPR training
4. Have someone talk with the spouse or partner to get information for the EMT's

The State bulletin and graduation packets have Emergency Call for Medical Assistance information on what to do in an emergency on the dance floor, but everyone agreed it needs to be reviewed. Dale S. could put in the Trailblazer. Larry Amsler was asked to purchase a flashlight to keep at the front table for emergency.

**Banner Stealing Report:** Judy Winter reports that the last three weeks have been good, with as many as three squares out in one week. No activities or demo dances are scheduled at this time.

**Hospitality:** Carol Neises says the serving list is updated in the Trailblazer. She was given permission to purchase a dust mop and sponge mop for clean-up of the kitchen floor. Kathy Niebels will donate a sponge mop. It was reiterated the paper towel, toilet paper and soap we use is included in the rent. Carol will continue checking on black lights for a white glove dance.

**Decorating:** Pat Bailey said she and Walt will not decorate for a dance unless the Presidents direct them to. They were asked to decorate on March 7<sup>th</sup> for the Safari Swing and April 4<sup>th</sup> for Easter.

**2010 State Festival:** Jim Taylor related there are still many things to be worked out for the 2010 State Festival, and some volunteers are still needed. Details need to be completed before the 2009 State Festival.

**May Madness** report by Dale Stephens – A meeting was held on January 29, 2009. Lyle Gillett has volunteered to be in charge of ticket sales. Tickets and flyers are being distributed to various clubs. Flyers will be distributed to the Northeast and West Councils plus some to Cheyenne and to Jeff Palmer and Gregg Anderson in Colorado Springs. Small and large advertising buttons have been made to promote the dance. A volunteer has been approached as photographer and the committee is beginning to secure other volunteers. Expenses to date are \$396 (\$105 and \$225 for fairgrounds and \$66 for advertising.)

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Mike R. commented the sound was not good at the last dance with Lanny Weakland and Justin Judd del Sol. He believes it was because the speakers were pointed up toward the ceiling resulting in too much sound bouncing back down on the dance floor. He requested we think about putting four more sound absorbing panels up – one horizontally over each exit to help with this problem. We must also advise the callers to set their speakers aimed more “downward.” to help with the sound. Jim Taylor commented about the gym where the Scootbacks dance and their sound mitigation. Dale S. said he talked to them, and it was very very expensive, more than we would want to consider. The present sound panels we have were made by Lyle Gillett for about \$50 each. ***Motion was made by Kathy Niebels that Mountaineers contact the church for permission to put up four more sound panels. Dwayne seconded and motion passed.*** Jim Taylor suggested we ask the church to pay for the panels as they will become a permanent part of their building; perhaps they would discount the rent to half of the \$25.00 an hour we pay to help with the cost. We will continue this discussion at the March meeting.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Jeff commented about the stairs to the stage at our dances being dangerous. Bear Miller and others have fallen on them. This will be corrected by simply reversing their position.

Too much time is being wasted between tips and rounds. The President has the power to direct round dance cuers to leave no more than 1-1/2 minutes between the end of the square dance tip and the rounds. This gives enough time for each set of dancers to clear the floor for the next dancers.

Jeff will put together a new information sheet to give to the callers/cuers.

Carol Neises suggested we sell butter braids as a fundraiser to pay the extra cost for some of the special callers coming this summer. That expense will be taken care of by charging an extra dollar admission.

It was reiterated that there are only two sets of keys to the church, and our contract expressly stipulates that there are to be no copies made by anyone.

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned by Jeff at 9:07 p.m.

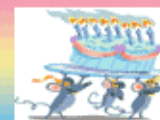
Respectfully submitted,

Mike and Lynne Robbins  
Recording Secretaries

Revised 2-9-09 minutes  
2-27-09



# HAPPY BIRTHDAY



## February 2009

4	Jeff Cox
15	Estelle Birza
19	Pat Buss
26	Kathy Gillett
27	Harriet Lorence

## 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

**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.

### **Here is a short item regarding Laurie Bendell's granddaughter.**

Courtney Harriman, Laurie Bendell's 13-yr.-old granddaughter, was named the John Lynch Star of the Month for January at Euclid Middle School. One of her teachers had nominated her, due to her outstanding achievements. On the honor roll at Euclid, with a 4.0 GPA, she is a member of the National Junior Honor Society at Euclid, a member of the 8th grade choir, is active in the Student Council and a WEB leader who welcomes 6th graders to Euclid and participates in activities through the year to help them have success in middle school, including being a Student Director for their 6th grade musical. In addition, Courtney is student assistant for two of her 8th grade teachers. She earned the National Level Award during the Presidential

Physical Fitness Testing in her PE class, as well as the Presidential Award for Educational Achievement in 5th grade.

Not only is Courtney excelling in academics, she is also a good all-around athlete, winning two MVP awards on her AYL Warriors softball team and was on the championship team for three consecutive years. While on the Colorado Psychlones softball team, she made the USSSA All-Star Team and went to the World Series in Park City, Utah while on the competitive team of Colorado Bullets. Pitcher is her main position on the teams. While softball is her sport of choice, she also plays on the Euclid volleyball team and played basketball through South Suburban recreation league.

In recognition of these various achievements, she was invited to Denver Bronco's headquarters for the recognition of those students who were chosen by their schools to receive an encased John Lynch autographed football, personally awarded to them by John and his wife, and will be recognized at a ceremony at Invesco Field in the spring.

Needless to say, Laurie and her family are most proud of their outstanding young member.

Thank you. Laurie

Jim and Norma Hatcher recently vacationed in Lake Havasu City, Arizona. While there, they danced to Jerry Junck at the London Bridge Squares. Another day, they visited the ghost town of Oatman on old Route 66 and fed carrots to the burros wandering up and down Main Street.

We are very glad to see Chuck and Ann Wheeler back dancing after Chuck's recent cataract surgery.

Elwanda Gille just had her second foot surgery last Monday (2/23/09 I think). Of course, it will still be a while until she can dance again, but this surgery seems to have been successful. She hopes to be able to start dancing again sometime this summer. We look forward to seeing Elwanda and John on the dance floor in a few months.

Bernie Karpinski had outpatient surgery on Feb. 19th to repair his esophagus.

The Sterlings are spending the month of April at their condo in Maui, return for a few weeks, then leave again in May for the Enid/Oklahoma City, OK area for a family reunion.

Dick and Carol Rathke and Marvin and Peggy Brasch visited the Mountaineers recently. Dick and Peggy are doing much better after radiation/chemo for their cancers.

Gerald and Nadine Owens are leaving Sunday (3/8/2009) for 10 days to S. Carolina and Georgia to visit Gerald's family.



Bernie Karpinski	Thinking of you – recent surgery
Shirley Grady	Knee surgery
Vi Karpinski	Thinking of you
Judy Winter	Sympathy – death of her niece



# 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.

### 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

#### Beginners' Hoedown

Caller: **Don Furnish**

Cuer: **Bill Carter**

#### Host & Hostesses:

**\*\* Dan McPeck 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) 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)**

**Mel Gifford (720-536-8221)**

**Nancy Bowman (303-794-2376)**

### 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:

**\*\*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>	<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>