



Minutes 2019 Annual General Membership Meeting

July 3, 2019, Philadelphia, PA

Call To Order and Welcome

President Ett McAtee welcomed attendees, introduced the Board of Directors, the Call Sheet Editor, Convention Scheduling Coordinator and asked those attending to briefly introduce themselves.

I. State of the Organization:

A. President's Overview (Ett McAtee)

Ett provided an overview of the various accomplishments of the organization this year and affirmed the health of the organization.

B. Treasurer's Report (Richard "Rusty" Johnson)

Annual GCA Meeting Treasurer's Report September 1, 2018 to June 28, 2019

- Bank Balance 9/1/18 \$13,814.78
- Bank Balance 6/29/19 \$16,188.85 (reconciled through 6/8/18 statement)
- Included in our bank balance are liabilities and receivables for:
- Prepaid future membership dues thru '22 \$ 920.00
- Prepaid 2019 GCA School Registrations \$ 825.00

As many of the expenses for the year happen in the period between the convention and the end of our fiscal year (8/31/19), a final report will be available in a future issue of The Call Sheet.

Thanks, as always, to the All Join Hands Foundation (both U.S. and Canada) for helping us keep GCA school tuition low without depleting our cash reserves. All Join Hands Foundation currently covers the caller coach stipends and hotel rooms for the coaches and teaching assistants.

Membership is from September 1 through August 31 annually. The easiest way to pay dues is ONLINE THROUGH www.gaycallers.org or at convention--cash or checks (made out to GCA) for \$15. Dues can be prepaid up to 3 years or lifetime, as per our bylaws.

Rusty Johnson, GCA Treasurer

Cash In

- Current and Future Year Memberships 885.00
- Lifetime Memberships 1650.00
- Caller School Registrations 750.00 \$ 3,285.00

Cash Out

- CALLERLAB dues/insurance \$ 122.00
- IAGSDC dues 25.00
- Website expenses 416.00
- Promotional expenses 76.00
- 2019 Caller School to date 145.11
- PayPal Service Charges 126.82 910.93
- GCA Bank Balance 9/1/18 \$13,814.78
- Cash In 3,195.00
- Cash Out 909.32

GCA Bank Balance 6/28/19 \$16,188.85

Note 1: The incident described under Note 1 of the of the 2018 GCA Treasurers Report was resolved before the start of the 2019-2020 fiscal year. All GCA funds were recovered.

Note 2: The \$750 reflects the Caller School tuition received 9/1/18.- 6/28/19.

C. **Caller's School Report** (Darren Gallina)

This year's Caller's School was very successful with Barry Clasper and Betsy Gotta as coaches, Lisa Lincoln serving as vocal coach Harlan Kerr as teaching assistant. There were 14 registrations. 2 no-shows, and one drop-out on the 2nd day who wants to come back to next year's school. Exceptional progress was made by all participants.

- The Graduation Dance went very well and lasted 1 hour 15 minutes, with 3 to 4 squares consistently.
Special recognitions goes to Deb Kassel and Jen Engimann for organizing the sound equipment for caller school, got it there, handled logistics of the box. Thank you Zip for holding the caller school box for a year. Michael Wills produced the graduation certificates
- Michael has also updated the website to reflect the 2020 school.
- Next year Deborah Carroll Jones will be the Caller Coach with Vic Ceder added as a second coach if we have 12 students or more. The Teaching Assistant will be Arlene Kaspik.

D. **GCA Welcome Dance Report** (Ken Sale)

- Ken thanked the convention committee, callers, featured callers, Michael Wills, Deb and Jen and Zip, Ett and the board who gave lots of input and support and Abe and Ronnie for the donation boxes We raised \$260. DFI compensated the callers at a prorated amount of \$100 per hour.
- Denver will return to the 10 minute top of the hour tips and Ken has spoken with the Denver scheduling person.

E. **Call Sheet Editor's Report** (Allan Hurst)

The Call Sheet will be coming out shortly and everyone was encouraged to submit articles. Allan reported that several people outside of GCA are inquiring about the Call Sheet due to the amount of respect it is getting across the calling community.

II. Other Reports:

A. CALLERLAB (Harlan Kerr)

Harlan presented a detailed report on CALLERLAB. The full CALLERLAB report has been submitted to the Call Sheet—the highlights are included in an addendum at the end of these minutes.

B. IAGSDC Delegates Meeting Report (Allan Hurst)

Allan presented a detailed review of the IAGSDC Delegates' Meeting.

Note: the full report of the Delegates meeting was covered at the brunch and will be available through IAGSDC and your club delegate. A summary of Allan's report can be found in an addendum II at the end of these minutes.

III. Old Business

A. Bylaws Revision: update and proposed resolution (Harlan Kerr)

The Bylaws Ad Hoc committee prepared a full set of changes that were sent to all members to review before this meeting. Harlan moved for the adoption of the resolution proposing interim adoption of the By-Laws and Andy Shore seconded the motion. The interim period would be from today through the next meeting. The new bylaws bring us into line with how the organization is being run today. If rejected, we'll drop back to the current version of the Bylaws.

Alan Hirsch: asked about the format for this process.

Harlan will email out 3 articles monthly beginning in August, and ask members to submit proposed changes, questions and comments. These will be summarized and shared with members.

Following the comments period an electronic vote will be conducted on proposed changes to each article by the membership. This will be conducted entirely by email. Andy Chong: There are hiccups on HO Logs. Harlan: those issues have to do with the CALLERLAB server and will not occur here.

The motion passed unanimously.

B. Mentorship Project (Harlan Kerr)

Lots of interest, but only 2 people approached me about working on this.

Will approach all new caller school students, and any GCA members and support over the next year.

C. Long Term Wish List:

One of the biggest items on the list is possible alternative caller schools, regional caller schools, similar to the MINILAB model, but connected with fly-ins such as The Great Chicago Crossfire or ACDC or

AACE. What would people like in terms of 2-day MINILAB workshop? This came up in the suggestion box last year. Please let a board member know if you have any ideas.

IV. New Business

A. 2020 Callers School

Deborah Carroll-Jones will be the instructor with Vic Ceder as second instructor if numbers permit. Arlene Kaspik as Teaching Assistant.

B. Honorary Memberships:

Harlan pointed out that these have not been used although they have always been in the By-Laws. Harlan moved that we approve Pam Clasper, Debbie Ceder, and Roy Gotta as Honorary Members for their outstanding contributions. Ken Sale seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously

C. Ett announced that she has GCA ribbons for paid-up members.

V. Elections (Darren Gallina)

- A. The positions up for election are: President and Secretary
- B. There were no nominations from the floor for either position.
- C. The slate is Ett McAtee as President and Harlan Kerr as Secretary.
- D. It was moved and seconded to accept the slate by acclamation The motion to accept the slate by acclamation passed unanimously.

VI . Other Announcements:

- A. Bill Eyler: Since 2004, I've been sponsored by the GCA to produce Intro to Calling. This Saturday at 4 PM in Salon A.
- B. It was clarified that Lifetime membership is available on the website for \$150.
- C. Harlan Kerr encouraged members to include the GCA (and/or AJH/AJHC) in their Living Trusts and Wills, to further the goals and mission of both organizations.

VII. Adjournment:

- A. It was moved and seconded to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously
- B. The meeting was Adjourned 6:13 PM.

ADDENDUM I—SUMMARY OF CALLERLAB REPORT

CALLERLAB provides leadership and support to both callers and dancers, a wealth of resources, insurance, music licensing a forum for callers to discuss and improve their art and most of all guidance in ensuring the survival of our activity. All GCA members are strongly encouraged to maintain CALLERLAB Membership,

This was a great year for CALLERLAB and GCA's association with it. The following is a summary of major events the past occurred in the past year.

CALLERLAB Convention and GCA:

37 GCA members attended this year's CALLERLAB Convention, including 6 new members who joined at, or immediately following the convention. In addition GCA members served as moderators, presenters, Chairpersons and/or Vice Chairs of 38 sessions, committee meetings or presentations. This year the GCA held a "Birds of a Feather" session where all attendees were invited to come and learn about the GCA and the benefits it offers to callers. The session was very well attended and the conversation lively. Several of the new memberships received can be attributed to folks attending this session.

GCA continues to be well represented in the leadership of CALLERLAB with 6 GCA members serving on the Board of Governors (Barry Clasper, Bear Miller, Clark Baker, Eric Henerlau, Justin Russell and Harlan Kerr) , and two GCA members serving this year and next year on the Executive Committee (Ken Ritucci, Chairman and Harlan Kerr).

Accredited Caller classification is now changed to Certified Caller see the webpage for information. The final touches are being put on a Certified Square Dance Teaching Credential and Caller Mentor Credential.

Significant CALLERLAB actions this year:

Basic and Mainstream Programs Divided:

The Basic and Mainstream Programs were divided back into two separate, stand-alone programs with Basic being reaffirmed as a full program that can stand alone. There are now two separate program lists and two separate definitions documents for these programs.

Triennial Review:

2018 was a Triennial Review year for CALLERLAB, so all program lists were reviewed by the membership and some changes were made.

Changes to the Basic Program:

The Thar Family and related calls were dropped. Also as part of the Definition Rewrite Project, the definition of Extend was expanded to include all applications of Extend.

Changes to the Mainstream Program:

The Thar Family and related calls were moved to Mainstream from Basic. Also, as part of the Definition Rewrite Project, variations of Tag the Line were added including 1/4 Tag and 3/4 Tag.

Changes to the Plus Program:

The only change to Plus was the removal of 3/4 Tag (moved to Mainstream).

Changes to the Advanced Program:

There were no changes to Advanced, but callers are reminded that:

The Left versions of calls are part of the Advanced list (see the preface to the Advanced Definitions).

Left: The modifier "Left" applies to calls and interchanges right with left and, if also applicable, belle with beau (and also clockwise and counterclockwise). Left should only be used to modify calls where a right-hand turn or shoulder pass is clearly part of the definition.

Also callers are reminded that there are 9 reverse calls that must be taught as part of Advanced instruction, and include the reverse versions of: Rollaway, Half Sashay. Wheel Around. Courtesy Turn, Flutterwheel, Dixie Style to an Ocean Wave, Circle to a Line, Single Circle to a Wave, Swap Around and Recycle (from Facing Couples).

Changes to the Challenge Programs:

There were no drops from the Challenge Programs. The following additions were approved:

- C1: Track N (1, 2, 3, 4)
Pass and Roll Your Cross Neighbor

- C2: Grand Drop (direction)
Pass and Roll Your Criss Cross Neighbor
Any Tagging Call Your Criss Cross Neighbor

- C3a: Single Shakedown/Single Turn and Deal
Interlocked Extend
Hinge the Top to the Lock the Hinge Family

Changes to Scholarship Policy for Callers Schools:

Callers School scholarships are available through CALLERLAB and this year the criteria was changed so that schools of less than 40 hours. Scholarships are now available on a tiered amount level based on the number of hours that the school entails. Thus, folks who take GCA school can apply for a scholarship of up to \$125, if we have an Accredited Caller Coach on staff.

CALLERLAB Resources:

Knowledge Database

CALLERLAB has new Knowledge Database which can be found in the Members Area section under Callers Resources or by clicking "[Knowledge Database](#)" or going to <http://callerlabknowledge.org>. This repository collects information useful to Modern Western Square Dance leaders and callers. If you're trying to recruit new dancers, train callers, or promote MWSD in general, you will find valuable information here. Articles are gleaned from a wide array of sources and do not represent any particular organization or point of view. If you have questions or suggestions for content please contact Barry Clasper (barry@clasper.ca). The knowledgebase is divided into five main categories:

The **Promoting Square Dancing** category contains articles pertaining to the promotion of the square dance activity in general, as opposed to promotion of a specific event or club.

The **Developing Dancers** category contains articles pertaining to the recruiting, training, and retention of dancers. This includes information such as how to start and operate clubs, how to hold specific square dance events, lesson plans, teaching methods, social activities, etc.

The **Developing Callers** category contains articles pertaining to the education and professional development of callers.

The **CALLERLAB Convention** category contains articles with information drawn from CALLERLAB conventions. Each convention presents 40 or more hours of education, much of which has been recorded and/or has handout documents associated with it. Since there are now hundreds of session recordings available, index articles have been placed in this category to make specific material easier to find.

The **Winning Ways Stories** category collects stories shared by callers and dancers who have tried something out and are willing to share their experience for the benefit of others. When a story contains an especially outstanding idea, we highlight it separately as an “idea” article, but reading the complete story gives you the context in which the idea was tried.

Marketing Manual

The CALLERLAB Marketing Committee has completed the new Marketing Manual. Please share with clubs and other organizations. <http://callerlabknowledge.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/CALLERLAB-Square-Dance-Marketing-Manual-V1-2b.pdf> .

CALLERLAB Online Teaching Resource : CALLERLAB has an online teaching resource to assist callers in teaching dancers. Check it out at www.teaching.callerlab.org

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ADDENDUM II: SUMMARY OF IAGSDC DELEGATES MEETING REPORT

The IAGSDC Delegates Meeting was called to order at 12:04 PM

Following the welcome the minutes of the last meeting and treasurer’s report were given and approved.

Membership Report

- There should be approximately 1,936 total members once the 5 missing clubs report in.
- Top 3 clubs: Redwood Rainbows (119), Sun Coast (104), Boots in Squares (103).
- Top 3 clubs by gains: Lone Star Lambdas (23), DCLS (17), Sun Coast/Foggy City (16 each).
- Banners/displays: Wilde Bunch, Chesapeake Squares, Independence, Chi-Town, Puddletown, Times Squares.
- 1 possible new club in Melbourne, Australia.
- Club Development Grants program; Redwood Rainbows, Oaktown 8's, Stonewall 50, Desert Valley Squares. Current guidelines are on the IGSADC website. This year we'll have 1 session on Saturday at 2 PM in Salons 5 & 6. Plan on 1.5-2 hours.

Seattle 2018 Report Highlights

- 907 attendees, 7 countries (Taiwan, Japan, Sweden, Denmark, Australia Canada, USA).
- Built Guidebook content for mobile app
- Signs by Scott is our new badge maker
- \$14,881.10 given out to future conventions, AJH, AJH Canada, plus local charities.
- John Faulds donated back his commissions of \$34K.

IAGSDC Website/Hosting (Fred Loehr)

- We have moved to a different hosting solution (\$14/month) which won't keep shutting us down.

CALLERLAB Convention Report: see report above

GCA Report (Harlan Kerr/Allan Hurst) Summarized by information in these minutes.

History Project Report (Allan Hurst)

- Allan provided a detailed report on the history project and the work that has been done around the Karl Jaekel documentation.

All Join hands Canada

- AJHC has money in the bank.
- First timer program for callers.
- Ottawa club has enjoyed a resurgence and a fly-in.

All Join Hands

- Total donations for 2018: \$7345.93
- 295 caller school attendees have been subsidized
- 634 new dancers at convention subsidized
- AJH Board Changes: John Oldfield has stepped down and Chuck Novak has volunteered to step up.

Stonewall 50 March

- \$11,730 total was taken in, including t-shirt sales.

- 25 clubs represented by 80+ people

Memorial Panels Project (James)

- Last year we added 51 badges, now at 795 badges
- If you add a badge, LOG IT IN THE BOOK.
- We're now asking for DOB/DOD on the log sheet, or you can email it to James.\
- If you have any security concerns, let us know.

New Business

- No new business items were submitted 60 days before the meeting.
- There was some discussion about registering the IAGSDC trademark

Future Conventions:

Denver 2020 (Rick Schoenhals, Kelly Shortandqueer)

- Dates are Friday July 3 through Sunday July 5th
- Trail in July 2nd
- GCA Graduation dance on July 2nd
- Signature event: July 1st, Cherokee Ranch dinner and dancing. Only 80 sign-ups.
- Registration \$240 through July 15th.
- Hyatt Regency Denver - same as in 2007.
- Rooms have been updated. \$169 for 2, \$179 for 3 people, \$189 for 4 people.

2021 Houston

- Hyatt Regency Downtown
- July 2-4, trail in July 1
- Rate \$129 for single through quad
- Saturday at 7 AM we will do up to 100 early bird registrations at \$150, then it's \$175.
- Registration live on IAGSDC.ORG

2022 Minneapolis

- Hyatt Regency at Nicolet Mall
- Memorial Day Weekend
- May 27-29
- Room rate \$139/night single through quad

2023 Expressions of Interest.

- Raleigh-Durham NC expressed interest.
- Portland expressed possible interest.

2024 Expressions of Interest.-- Ottawa

No expressions of interest beyond 2024

Election of Officers for 2019-2021

- Vice Chair (2 year term): Dan Mutschler --- Elected by acclimation
- Club Liaison (2 year term): Brad Bruner--- Elected by acclimation
- Secretary (2 year term): Kent Tolleson--- Elected by acclimation.