

HAPPY 2012 VALLEY TRAILERS TIDBITS

January 2012

Sandi & Bruce Iveson - EDITORS

PREZ SAYS CAROLE & BOB DAVIS



bobncarole@juno.com

What does a person do when he or she sees another year winding down? Most take stock and look at their health, their family and their assets. 2011 has had a few tests of health for many of our members and sadly there were too many to mention here. We would like to say that the VALLEY TRAILERS and myself wish you and your family a better year in 2012.

Our Club really had some strange tests also. We were blindsided by abrupt rising costs, but thankfully that is now history.

The VALLEY TRAILERS have really been blessed with members willing to step up to the plate, if you will, and keep this outfit rolling along and with that, January brings us the BLACKLIGHT DANCE on the 21st followed by the STUDENT STOMP on the 29th. Both of these dances will be, I'm sure, as great as years past have shown. For more information, please look inside for the Vice Presidents' input on page 2.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS AND A GREAT 2012 TO YOU ONE AND ALL.

Bob 'n Carole

Don't Forget

January 29th

AQD Student Stomp
Wilkinson 2 - 4:30 PM

Visitations Renee & Don Krall



donrenee1941@aol.com

There were 32 Valley Trailers at our December Visitation to Happy Squares, and everyone had a great time dancing to Johnny Preston. Thank you to those of you who called to say they were attending.

January Official Visitation

Date: Fri 1/27/2012 @ 7:30 PM
Club: Western Weavers
Format: Plus with A1 Star Tip
Caller: Mike Seastrom
Cuer: Jim Spence
Location: Joslyn Adult Center
Address: 1301 W Olive Ave.
City: Burbank

Recommended Dance

Date: Sat. 1/14/12 @ 7:00 PM
Club: Trail Dusters
Format: Plus/A1 Star Tip
Caller: Ken Bower
Cuer: Milo Molitoris & Cinda Firstenburg
Location: Wilkinson Center
Address: 8956 Vanalden
City: Northridge

Some of our members have been dancing up a storm and have earned Visitation Awards.

visitation awards

White Trailer 10 Visitations
Sheila Woodard Steve Green
Blue Trailer 20 Visitations
Paul Kayne Lera Brooks

(Continued on Next Column)

(Visitations Continued)

Silver Trailer 25 Visitations
Donald Pipes Katie Nixon
Susan Cohen
Red Car 35 Visitations
Marsha Fine
Blue Boat 70 Visitations
Norm Hirsch
Silver Boat 75 Visitations
Larry Stanberry
Gold Trailer 125 Visitations
Dori Madden
Silver Bar 150 Visitations
Ray Cianci
Gold Bar 300 Visitations
Roy Woodard
Gold Bar 400 Visitations
Jean Woodard

Congratulations to you All! See Don or Renee at any dance to receive your dangles.

See you at a Dance.

Don & Renee

UPCOMING EVENTS

January

Jan. 21st - Black Light Dance
Don Schadt
Jan. 29th - A Q D Student Stomp
Wilkinson Sr. Center

February

Feb. 18th - Club Dance
Pat Carnathan
Feb. 19th - Sweetheart Ball
Hawthorne Memorial Center
1:30 - 4:30 PM

March

Mar. 17th - DARK (Bakersfield)
Mar 16th-18th - Bakersfield Fiesta
Mar. 31st - Plus/A1 5th Sat. Dance
David Mee

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818/360-8750

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Vice Squad



Sherril & Dave Ptashne

sptashne@gmail.com

Thank you so much, to the Valley Trailers, for choosing us as the Sweetheart Couple this year. We were quite surprised and very honored. The Lads and Lassies have ordered bus transportation to Hawthorne Memorial for the Sweetheart Ball on February 19th. The Valley Trailers can ride this bus also. The bus will pick up at Nordhoff and Reseda Blvd. Lets have a "ball" on the bus before we have a "ball" at the ball. There are also plans to go to dinner after the dance at a restaurant in the valley. See you on the bus!

We hope you all are enjoying the busy holiday season of giving. Your donations of food and toys will make the holidays a little brighter for those less fortunate. Thanks so much for your generosity.

January will soon be upon us. It will be time for the annual Black Light Dance on January 21st with our own Don Schadt calling and Cindy Mower cuing. Get your "jazz hands" ready. Then comes the Student Stomp on January 29th. Come and encourage the new dancers. Remember how it was when you were a new dancer, so please come to the dance and help them out.

A very Happy New Year to all!

Dave and Sherril

We hope Everyone Has a Safe and Happy Holiday Season

Tact is the ability to describe Others as they see themselves.

MERRY CHRISTMAS,
 HAPPY HOLIDAYS
 and
 HAPPY NEW YEAR
 to everyone

Your Tidbits Staff...

January Board Meeting

When: Wednesday, January 4th at 7:30 PM.

Where: Sherril & Dave Ptashne are brave souls and will host our January Board Meeting. They reside at 7644 Rudnick Ave. in Canoga Park.

Directions: From Saticoy (East of Topanga), go North on Farralone and take 1st left on Keswick. Take 2nd left onto Rudnick. The house is on your left about 266 feet down.

All members are welcome to attend the board meetings, but please contact the host(ess) in advance so that adequate seating and refreshments can be provided.

(818) 340-5659

Sudoku

Place a number in each empty box so that each row, column, and nine-box square contains the numbers 1 to 9.

9		5	1	2				
		1			3	5	9	
8				5				2
	6				2	3	8	
4			3		9			6
	8	2	5				7	
6				3				9
	2	3	6			8		
				4	1	7		3



MAINSTREAM

Viva Johnson

Happy New Year to all of the Mainstream Class members and also Happy 2012 to all Helper Angels who have given such wonderful support. So noticeable, that the Mainstream Class members have been learning very well and dancing smoother and more timely every Tuesday. Indeed, the ultimate key to successful square dancing is to be a very attentive LISTENER.

On a more enjoyable note. Let the music come to you and through you. You will find yourself dancing more comfortably, hearing the Caller's calls better and most of all, you could end up having the square dance calls become second nature in recollection. Keep up the great progress and have more fun! There is one SAFETY issue that needs to be addressed and that is the "DON'T SWING ME." Please be aware that some dancers get dizzy when being swung and especially from TWIRLING. Please rest assured that it is okay to decline being swung in spite of the Caller's call. For those who do not want to swing, you can simply put up the gesture with both hands showing "PROMENADE." Ladies, if you don't want to swing, just simply do a "U-Turn Back" and show your "PROMENADE ME HOME" gesture. Some people wear the little badge saying "Don't Swing Me", but the problem is that it is difficult to read or be noticed while the dancers are in motion. Gentlemen, please honor the ladies' wish not to swing. There are plenty of other ladies who love to swing anyway.

Gentlemen, when promenading the ladies home, please keep your LEFT ARM close to the center of the square as possible. Please everyone, keep your steps and strides a little smaller but not draggy. Making Monster Steps

(Continued Next Column)

(Class Act Continued)

could increase the risk of tripping and/or stepping on someone's toes.

Last November, our Super Hero Don Schadt kept one of the Safety Monsters out of the square because he has taught "Star Through", "California Twirl" and "Box the Gnat" as soon as possible. This Safety Monster known as "Finger Twisters" that usually strike during the three square dance calls mentioned. There is another Safety Monster known as "Hand Cruncher" or "Vise Gripper" when someone squeezing other people's hands too hard during the "Pull By" used in various square dance calls. Some dancers may have arthritis or other conditions. Please use T-O-U-C-H with hand contacts. Please try not to grab or yank anyone in the square. The so called "Thumb Hookers" Safety Monster that love to strike when the "Swing Through" is being used in the Ocean Wave and Alamo Ring. Anyone can fall and the hooked thumbs can cause the chain reaction cracking of the thumb joints.

If you see or experienced any safety issues at any time, please inform VIVA or STEVE as SOON AS POSSIBLE. After all, we're all here to have a lot of fun square dancing with our "2nd family." Please feel free to be stylistic in your dancing, but safe.

Oh yes, more wry humor coming your way from your square and especially, from your Caller Don Schadt. Being a good LISTENER would serve you extremely well. Looking forward to having more memorable and gratifying Tuesday sessions with you in 2012!

Viva



PLUS

Steve Green

Happy 2012 for the Plus Class members and also to the very supportive Helper Angels!

I'm so happy to see that the Plus Class has been getting home in the

(Continued on Next Column)

(Class Act Continued)

square much better to the beat of the music and the Caller's calls. One of the key words of success in square dancing is T-O-U-C-H. The hard squeezing of hands in any square dance calls may not always hurt anyone but it sure can really slow down the calls to be performed. Also, try to keep your steps and strides a little smaller but not too draggy or so small that you could end up tripping yourself.

Once again, please be a good LISTENER especially when the couple in front of you calling "HOME!" or "SHORT!" after the promenade or the "Square Your Set" as called from the caller. During your Plus class there is ample room to dance but at any Club Dances, there are at least 25 squares at Wilkinson and you will not have the sweet loving room like you do in the class.

For safety sake, please keep your arms within the front of, or back of, your body to avoid whacking someone by swinging or swaying arms while dancing. Foot Pivoting is very helpful, in performing various calls when you can. Please keep in mind that NOT everyone can pivot on the ball of the foot because of medical reasons so respect them the way they are.

Anyone can miss a square dance call or simply get lost or goof on occasion, even the experienced dancers. Please use a facial expression, hand gesture and look right in their eyes to help them back in position. Yelling "this way!", "over here!", "no, no!" does not help at all and can cause everyone else to miss the next square dance call. Besides, which way is 'this way?', 'Right or Left?' and the "over here" and "over there" are too vague and lack specifics. I most always say "Good Recovery!" when the square gets back into position as smoothly as possible. Please promenade home close to the center of the square as any couple could end up in a neighboring square.

Lotta thanks to the Helper Angels for their great support of the Plus class and appreciated finer art of "Recovery" during the tips when needed.

Steve

.....

Editor's Corner



Sandi & Bruce Iveson

petawawa@beyondbb.com

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!! 2012 is here already. It is hard to believe that another year has come and gone. They say 'Time flies when you are having fun.' We must be having a ball!!!

We are just back from our cruise with Mike Sikorsky and Nasser Shukayr. The dancing was fantastic and fun, the callers were, of course, terrific, and we met some really wonderful new friends. Sandi celebrated her birthday on the Cayman Islands. The shore excursion was a catamaran ride out to the coral reef where she got to swim and play with stingrays. They come right up to you and climb on your back and your front and swim around your legs. They feel like velvet. Sandi held some of them, got a back rub from one and fed and even kissed a couple of them. It was certainly an unforgettable experience.

When we went on a similar cruise two years ago, we had a total of 5 squares on board. This year we had 31 squares. The ship gave us the Conference Center to dance in and it was big enough, but the floor was carpeted so there was a bit of a challenge. There were also several pillars throughout the room, so we were taking some detours on some of our promenades. All in all, it was a fabulous time.

We look forward to seeing some of you in Laughlin, NV for the Holi-

(Continued Next Column)

(Editor's Corner Continued)

day Hop. And we hope you all had a very pleasant holiday, no matter how you celebrate.

As always, the new year brings many new adventures and opportunities to get together and dance. We wish you all good health, good fortune, and a year full of happiness.

Bruce got hacked in his Facebook page and several VT's along with other 'friends' received little goodies saying they were from me. Not! Nasser Shukayr helped me get it straightened out. Seems the 'perp' picks a random name and sets up an acct. with that name (your name), but with no personal info and imports all your 'friends'. They then send out this 'stuff'. If you receive a bogus Facebook message that you don't think is real, just do a 'search' at the top for the person and usually, you will now see 2 acct's. One will have info and the other 'blank'. Report the blank one to Facebook. Per Nasser, this is a very common occurrence and the sad part is that as soon as they get blocked, they pick another name and start over. I thought you might be interested in how it's deployed and what to do.

Guido is again enjoying the holiday season with his family in Sicily. I'm sure he joins us with the above good wishes to everyone. We'd both like to thank those who receive their **Tidbits** electronically or remember to pick up their newsletters at the Club Dance or the following Tuesday at class.



Sandi & Bruce

Caller Coordinator



Roy Woodard

rwvtcc7@socal.rr.com

We have our great Class Instructor, Don Schadt, calling this January.



Don Schadt

Don started singing and dancing at the age of 4 in Gardena, California. He started playing the piano at the age of 5 and performing exhibition square dancing when he was 7. He began playing the trumpet when he was 9 and played through college

He became a professional square dance caller at age 14 and has toured the 48 contiguous states as a dancer and a caller.

During the rebirth of Country Western and Line Dancing in the 1980's, he taught dance mainly in the Los Angeles area.

Don became interested in acting in 1999. He has performed for his church ever since. He also performs for the Simi Valley ARTS in various productions. After 57 years as a square dance caller, he continues to perform/entertain throughout CA.

FUTURE CALLERS

February 18th

Pat Carnathan

March 17th

DARK (Bakersfield)

March 31st

David Mee

April 21st

Andy Allemao

May 19th

TBA

June 16th

Michael Kellogg

VALLEY TRAILERS MEMBER'S Bits & Pieces

MEMBERSHIP Doris & Lee Baum



leebaum99@yahoo.com

Do you want to see our membership grow? Then tell people how much fun you have square dancing. It's a great way to exercise and to make new friends, all at the same time. We'd like to see some new faces in our club. So please help us by passing on the word about square dancing and encouraging them to try our class.

See you in a square.

Doris & Lee

Secretary's Report MARTY LEVINE



mlevinet@socal.rr.com

Business: The Board met on December 7, 2011 with 22 Board and General Members in attendance. Sherril and David Ptashne were selected to be the Valley Trailers Sweetheart Couple. The Sweetheart Ball will be February 19, 2012 and the Lads and Lassies have obtained a bus to take square dancers to this event. Those wishing to go on the bus contact either Don Krall or the Lads and Lassies.

The Official Visitation for January will be with the Western Weavers on Jan 27, 2012 with Mike Seastrom calling.

Class Coordinator Viva Johnson said that more male Angels are needed for both Mainstream and Plus classes which meet on Tuesday evenings at the Wilkinson Center.

The Valley Trailers are scheduled for kitchen duty between 2:15 and 3:15 PM at the Student Stomp on Jan. 29, 2012.

The Board approved a contract with Lloyd Lewis to call on June 30, 2012 at our Plus/A-1 dance. Wagonmaster Don Krall changed the date of our Spring Camp-Out to April 27, 28 and 29th 2012.

Marty

Editors' Note: This column is to let club members and class members know what is going on in the lives of others. All club members and class members are encouraged to **let us know about:** fun things, vacations, trips, marriage, injury, illness, death, or other special things happening to you or your family.

Deadline for each issue is the Saturday following each Board Meeting.

Just email your info, notes, photo's, etc. to:

petawawa@beyondbb.com

VT's Enjoy Caribbean Cruise

Three Valley Trailers couples joined over 200 other square dancers from all over the country to enjoy some beautiful, warm Caribbean weather and the great calling of Mike Sikorsky and Nasser Shukayr. Did they have fun? Just ask any of them. Tans???



Back Row: Left to Right
Roy Woodard, Mike Sikorsky,
Shelly Fried, Nasser Shukayr.

Front Row: Left to Right
Jean Woodard, Maureen Fried,
Sandi & Bruce Iveson



Arnold Sutton

arnoldsutton@earthlink.net

The big **A&D** event for January is the **STUDENT STOMP**. It is a 'once a year' opportunity for class members to experience a Real Dance. This year, it is again being held at a location familiar and convenient to you, namely our own Wilkinson Center.

Half-Way Class Level
Student Stomp
Everyone Invited! Class Members - Angels - Couples - Singles

Square Dance
Clothing Sale
Refreshments
Split the Pot

SUNDAY
JANUARY 29, 2012
2:00 - 4:30 PM
Donation: \$6.00

Callers
Rod Strassler, MG
Dick Howland
Dale Hoppers
Bill Verost
Allen Miller
Don Schacht

Information:
Ricky - 818-631-5247
Betty @ Don - 818-864-1442

Wilkinson Center
8956 Vanalden Ave
Northridge, CA

Presented by A Square D Valley/Ventura/Santa Barbara District Clubs
Boots & Slippers - Duckles & Bows - Farmers & Charmers - Happy Squares
Lads 'n Lassies - Meres Hillbillies - Trail Dusters - Valley Trailers

Sunshine

Get well cards were sent to Betty Slack and her daughter Diane Kredell who had surgery on December 8th. A get well card was sent to Lourdes Koch for her surgery.



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FINANCING



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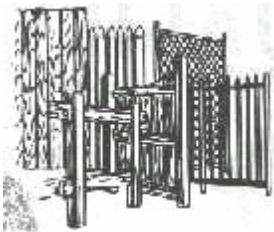
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To Everyone 'Delivered'
 This Month
 Happy Birthday



- 3rd Marc Moore
- 3rd Sam Reiner
- 5th Mike Winningham
- 13th Bob Cirillo
- 13th Margo Stone
- 14th Larry Matz
- 24th Marilyn Bencar
- 25th Steve Green
- 27th Michelle Walt
- 28th Cinda Firstenburg
- 31st Tom Beatty
- 31st Maureen Fried
- 31st Jerry Miller
- 31st Jaye Sedillo

Happy Anniversary

- 7th Teddi & Marty Levine '96
- 21st Nancy & Jerry Miller '84
- 23rd Flo & Bill Tapp '94

Sudoku Solution

9	7	5	1	2	4	6	3	8
2	4	1	8	6	3	5	9	7
8	3	6	9	5	7	4	1	2
1	6	9	4	7	2	3	8	5
4	5	7	3	8	9	1	2	6
3	8	2	5	1	6	9	7	4
6	1	4	7	3	8	2	5	9
7	2	3	6	9	5	8	4	1
5	9	8	2	4	1	7	6	3

HOST & HOSTESS KITCHEN PATROL

Please be there by 7:00 p.m.
 Please remember, *it is only fair* that everyone take their turn to help. **It is YOUR responsibility to find your OWN replacement** if you be unable to help out. Please **do not call Renee**, but call Carole or Bob Davis. **(805) 581-9317**

- December 17th
 Henrietta Strickstein
 Brett Miller
 Patty Seastrom
 Ed Palmer
- January 21st
 Candice & Rod Belcher
 Bobbie Fitchner
 Paul Libis
- February 18th
 Mary & Tom Beatty
 Vangie & Denny Freeman
- March 17th
DARK - BAKERSFIELD
- March 31st
 Dolores & Gene Moutes
 Susie Goldberg
 Dorothy Nolt

Please be there by 7:00 p.m.
 Please remember, *it is only fair* that everyone take their turn to help. **It is YOUR responsibility to find your OWN replacement** if you be unable to help out. Please **notify Renee Krall** of ANY changes.
(818) 360-8750

- December 17th
 Margo Stone
 Lawrence Atmore
 Nancy Banks
 Bob Cirillo
- January 21st
 Vicky Rodriguez
 Victor Leidner
 Janie Manning
 Mike Winningham
- February 18th
 Sheri Orloff
 Donald Pipes
 Michelle Walt
 Nancy Camargo
- March 17th
DARK - BAKERSFIELD
- March 31st
 Susan Burger
 Joyce Hatter
 Laura Freas
 Lera Brooks

VALLEY TRAILERS
Black Light Dance
 January 21, 2012
 Don't forget to wear something white!
 Wilkinson Senior Center
 8956 Vanalden Ave. Northridge
 (One block east of Tampa St. and one block south of Nordhoff St.)
 Don Schadt
 Calling
 Cindy Mower
 Cueing
 Pre-Rounds will start at 7:15 P.M. to 8:00 P.M.
 Squares will start at 8:00 P.M. to 10:30 P.M.
 Mainstream/Plus with an A1 Star Tip
 \$7.00 Donation
 Information: (805) 581-9317 • Visitation (818) 360-8750
 Website: www.valleytrailers.org
 HEARING ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE

**Don't Forget...
 Wear Something White**

Member Drawing

No Member Drawing at the November Club Dance. The "pot" was at \$20. When they attend the previous Visitation they also received a 'free' pass to a VT dance. The pot will go to \$30 for the December Club Dance.

**You Must Be Present
 at the dance to win.**

JANUARY 2012

HAPPY NEW YEAR

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2	3 VT Class	4 Board Meeting	5 Cindy's Round Dance Class	6	7
8	9	10 VT Class	11	12 Cindy's Round Dance Class	13	14
15	16	17 VT Class	18	19 Cindy's Round Dance Class	20	21 VT Dance Don Schadt BLACKLIGHT
22	23	24 VT Class	25	26 Cindy's Round Dance Class	27 Visitation Western Weavers Mike Seastrom	28
29 A □ D Student Stomp Wilkinson's 2 - 4:30 PM	30	31 VT Class				

Valley Trailers

57 YEARS YOUNG

P.O. Box 280246
Northridge, CA 91328



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 Phone: (805) 581-9317 or (818) 360-8750
 Email: VTsdClub@gmail.com

**HAPPY
NEW YEAR**