

Square Dancers Have Fun, Plan Celebration For Rodeo

By MRS. GEORGE RIGGS
Buckeroo Square Dance Club

Once again square dancing is slated to take the spotlight in Roseburg.

Friday night, as a "kickoff" for Douglas County Rodeo activities, the Umpqua Lions Club and Umpqua Area Council of Square Dancers are sponsoring an outdoor square dance at Adair's parking lot in downtown Roseburg.

The dance is free, and all square dancers are invited to attend. The committee promises to put lots of bran on the parking lot surface to insure smooth dancing with a minimum wear and tear on shoes. Bleacher seats of baled hay will be provided for spectators.

Music will be recorded, but about a dozen "live" callers will be on hand to keep things moving. These are Curley Reynolds of the Buckeroos, Norval Cockeram of the Poots and Calicos, Harry Coxey from Hayloft, Cecilia Simmons from Belles and Beaus and Swingin' 88, Elsie Downs of the Glide Shufflers, Howard Carnes from Elkton Hillbillies, Susie Ramey of the Whirl-Aways, Hal Haskins from Tri 'n Squares, and Winni Travis, Ed Theiss, Harry Erickson and Del Cornutt from the Buckeroos.

Plans are being carried out to accommodate a large crowd, as square dancing is still growing and gaining momentum in this area. Interest runs high for every big event such as the one coming up Friday night. Last year at the Douglas County Fair more than a thousand dancers from all over the state participated in the Oregon State Square Dance Festival. They had to build a special plywood floor slightly smaller than a football field to accommodate the dancers. Last year the Oregonian pointed out that "one of the liveliest do-si-do areas in Oregon is Douglas County, and Roseburg appears to be the core of all this jumpin' fun."

Not Like On TV

It should be pointed out, however, that the square dance as done by the "purists" or general public is in no way to be compared to the jumping and jiggling antics seen on television. An erroneous impression is too often given by the TV productions with their intricate steps and killing pace, often discouraging a prospective beginner before he starts.

The normal square dance is a definite dance form, and the infinite variety of its patterns is achieved simply by varying combinations of a relatively small

number of basic figures, such as Allemande Left, Grand Right and Left, Do-Sa-Do, Do-Si-Do, Swing Your Partner, etc. It is alive and vibrant, a thing of motion and constantly changing pattern. The pace is smooth with the feet sliding, not jumping, over the floor. Learn the fundamental steps and you can take pleasure in square dancing anywhere with any caller.

The Umpqua Area Council itself is a comparatively newly organized group made up of the nine square dance clubs in the Roseburg area. It was formed in November 1956 and is a member of the Oregon State Federation of Square Dancing. The purpose of the federation is to help promote more, bigger and better square dances; to act as a clearing house for the individual dancers, and to promote a closer feeling among the clubs in the divided areas. There are over 60 dance groups in the Oregon Federation. Many more square dancing groups are being sponsored by companies, civic clubs, churches and park bureau, however.

Movement Recent

It's interesting to check the history of a few of the clubs in the area, for it shows that the square dance movement is fairly recent, or one should say the revival of square dancing that really began more than 300 years ago. In the Winston area is the Boots and Calicos Club, which had its beginning in 1951. At that time a group gathered in the Winston Community Building and square danced to records with calls and help of Mr. and Mrs. Carl Borgaas. Mr. and Mrs. Art Johnson and Mr. and Mrs. Warren Engdahl also helped in instructing the dancers. Then in 1951, Norval and Marion Cockeram took over instructing, and the Boots and Calicos name was chosen for the group. This very active club still meets on the second and fourth Saturdays of each month in the Winston Community Building. Howard Teague is their president and Norval Cockeram their caller.

Then from the Sutherlin-Oakland area is the Belles and Beaus Club. It is the only active club there at the present, but many smaller groups preceded it. Back in 1947, the Five and Seven Club was formed, the name referring to the amount of couples allowed to be long at one time. Frank Nicolazzi called and instructed, but when he moved to California in 1955, the club was discontinued. Then in 1951 the Hayseed Square Dance Club was formed and met in the Scout



SQUARE DANCE FUN is the reward of hundreds of persons who have joined a number of clubs in Douglas County. Rodeo weekend will start Friday night with a square dance on Adair's parking lot in Roseburg. (Paul Jenkins)

Hall. First Nora Robinson called, then Aggie Simmons and Elsie Downs. This was a family affair and everyone brought their children along to enjoy the fun. However, the club disbanded in 1956. Another club with a brief life was the Wagon Wheel Club in Sutherlin. Ricky Powell called, also Hans Stelzenmuller and Chris Klein. There was other groups such as the Pattern Dancing one led by Les and the late Vi Spencer. Sutherlin Folk Dance Club, and Oakland Pattern Dancing, also with the Spencers instructing. But it is now the Belles and Beaus from Oakland who are left. They are a lively group and meet the second and fourth Saturdays of each month. Fay Stearns is their president and Aggie Simmons their caller.

Haylofters Active
An active group in Roseburg are the Hayloft Squares. They were originally the Dixonville Travelers. This club dances the first and third Saturdays of each month at Pres-

chern's Barn in Melrose. They are a growing club, sponsoring beginners' lessons throughout the year. Harry Coxey is president and also a caller, but Duke Sibley of Cottage Grove is regular caller.

Another well-known Roseburg club is the Buckeroo Square Dance Club. Formed in 1953, with the Swingers joining them, they have continued to increase their membership up to their present 169 couples. They have their own barn at Winchester, and it is the envy of square dance clubs all over the state. Their newly elected president is Harold Curry, and their caller is Curley Reynolds. They meet every Saturday night at the Buckeroo Barn.

One of the oldest square dance clubs in the area is the Tri 'n Squares of Myrtle Creek. They have dances the first and third Saturdays of every month in the Eagles Hall at Myrtle Creek. They feature teaching beginners in the spring of each year. Mabel Willis

is their president and Hal Haskins their caller.

There is a lively group up Elkton way called the Umpqua Hillbillies. They dance every Friday night at the Kellough Grange Hall at Kellogg. This square dance club was started by Howard and Elen Carnes while they were learning to square dance at the Buckeroo Barn. They recorded instructions given by Curley Reynolds, then went back to Elkton to repeat what they had learned. This president is Jim Mitchell, and Howard Carnes is their caller. They hold beginners lessons in square dancing and pattern dancing once a year.

Tiller Boasts Club

Even a small community like Tiller has their square dancing group, the Mountain Twirlers. They are not dancing as a group at the present, but dance whenever they can. Their president is Jim Myers, Al and Elsie Downs did their calling. Among the newer groups are the Whirl-Aways of Drain. Their presi-

dent is Merle Main, and Susie Ramey their caller.

Formed about a year ago are the Swingin' 88 of Canyonville. President is John Hakanson and Cecilia (Aggie) Simmons, caller.

The newest group in the area is from Glide. They call themselves the Glide Shufflers. A large group all took lessons together and when they "graduated" in February of this year they formed their club. They hold regular dances the first and third Saturday of each month in the high school multi-purpose room. A second class of beginners finished their lessons June 7 with 102 more dancers receiving their diplomas — this included adults, teenagers and children. A newly moved Community Building will soon be ready for their use. Their newly elected president is Ralph Hickman who will take over from Calvin Christensen July 1. Caller and instructors for this group are Al and Elsie Downs.

Medal Planned For Man Who Gave Life To Save 3

WASHINGTON (AP)—A Cashmere, Wash., serviceman, electrocuted after pulling three men from a blazing car at Afton, Okla., is in line to receive the Soldier's Medal.

The youth, SP 3 C. William H. Britt, died when he accidentally touched a fallen high-voltage line after the recent Memorial Day rescue.

Rep. Walt Horan (R-Wash.) made public Wednesday a letter from Maj. Gen. Herbert M. Jones, Army adjutant general, advising that a posthumous award of the medal is being recommended on the basis of a field commander's report.

The Soldier's Medal is given only to those who saved a human life.

OPENHEIMER IN DENMARK

COPENHAGEN (AP)—American nuclear scientist Robert Oppenheimer flew into Copenhagen Monday night for a reunion with Denmark's grand old man of atomic physics, Dr. Niels Bohr. Oppenheimer, chief of America's wartime atomic bomb development, and Bohr, Nobel prizewinner and head of the Danish Institute of Theoretical Physics, have been personal friends for more than 30 years. Oppenheimer has just finished a series of lectures at the Sorbonne University in Paris.

Experiment With Patients On Ward 36 Proved Kind, Loving Treatment Paid Off

By PAUL W. HARVEY, Jr.

SALEM (AP)—Oregon state hospital employees have gained new confidence because a dedicated doctor has proved that even the most deteriorated mental patients can be helped.

Dr. Frank Wilcox, who joined the hospital staff 15 months ago after practicing in Newberg, began his experiment five months ago. The results have been dramatic.

His treatment is what the psychiatrists call TLC, meaning tender loving care.

He did his work on Ward 36. It is the male ward with the most hopeless patients. They are men with split personalities, withdrawn almost completely from the world. Most of them were either violent or had the personalities of vegetables.

There are 69 men in the ward. Dr. Wilcox concentrated his work on 29 of them. They had been in the hospital for 25 years.

Electric Shock

He started these patients on electric shock treatment and medication, such as tranquilizer pills. But the principal treatment was simple kindness and interest. Most of the medication now has been stopped.

The attendants on the ward, most of whom had been skeptical about Dr. Wilcox's treatment, are most enthusiastic now.

Dr. Dean K. Brooks, superintendent of the 3,500-patient hospital, calls the work of Dr. Wilcox a miracle.

Dr. Brooks himself was in charge of Ward 36 a decade ago. A few weeks ago he looked out the front window of his home and saw the 29 men from Ward 36 wandering about the hospital grounds. He telephoned the ward to see if they had escaped.

Dr. Brooks learned that the men had progressed to the point where they had been given ground parole. That meant they could roam the hospital grounds without supervision.

None Under Restraint

None of the men is under restraints now. A few might even progress to the point where they can be sent home.

They are allowed to use knives and forks.

Wilcox walks through the ward. They realize they have a good friend in him, and that alone is largely responsible for their progress.

"These men," Dr. Wilcox said, "have suffered for years from hospital stupor. What we have done is break through the crust of their deterioration."

"They were considered to be at the end of the line. All were considered hopeless. But now we have proved that they can be helped to the point that their lives can be made more nearly normal."

Dr. Brooks said, "These patients respond like you would expect anybody to respond to kind treatment and an interest in their lives."

It has been a heartening thing for the entire hospital staff.

Feel Good About It

James D. Chambers, an aide in the ward, said "We felt very good about it. We're glad to see the men get out of the ward into the open air. It makes us feel like we're accomplishing something for these people."

One of the patients has been in the hospital 20 years. He is 54 years old, once an executive in a mill. Violent, he had been shut up in a room eight years.

Now he's calm. He can't always talk intelligibly, but has a keen mind. He reads newspapers and watches television. He told us all about the latest developments in Washington.

The hospital doctors are grateful for shock treatment and new drugs. But they look upon these only as tools to make their job easier.

Their main job, they feel, is to give the patients the love, attention and interest that they need. And they believe the experience on Ward 36 is proof that they're right.

TURPENTINE CAUSES DEATH

SACRAMENTO, Calif. (AP)—A little girl who drank turpentine Saturday died Tuesday night. She was Marchene Creek, 1½.

Coroner's officers said she was playing with her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Bulatovich, when she ran into their garage and drank from a can of turpentine.

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