



AUSTRALIAN ROUND DANCE

ASSOCIATION

~ Newsletter ~

Volume 2 - 2015 October Edition



~ **DISCLAIMER** ~

ARDA accepts no responsibility for any inaccuracies, and reserves the right to alter, cancel or otherwise modify in any way, matter contained in this publication.. The opinions expressed are merely those of the individuals and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of ARDA.

30 NOV

A GLIMPSE INTO THE 'VIEWING CIRCLE'

The Australian Round Dance Association Mission Statement

**'ARDA STANDS COMMITTED TO THE ONGOING EDUCATION
AND SUPPORT TO ITS MEMBERS,
ALL ROUND DANCERS
AND THE FUTURE OF ROUND DANCING'**

The Mission Statement will appear on all official ARDA documentation.

*ARDA wishes to include all round dancers in the 'Viewing Circle'.
ARDA recruitment of new members starts with YOU.*

*An application form is enclosed and ARDA asks YOU to please pass this onto
fellow dancers with an encouraging invitation to become part of this
National Association.*

**NOW step outside the viewing circle
and turn the pages.**



Introducing YOUR ARDA Committee For 2015/2016

President

Bev McLachlan, Qld

ARDA.President@gmail.com

Vice President

Christopher Heyworth, Qld

ARDA.Vice@gmail.com

Secretary

Carol Simondson, Vic

ARDA.Secretary@gmail.com

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ARDA.Education@gmail.com

Historian

Christopher Heyworth, Qld

ARDA.Historian@gmail.com

Records Officer

Carol Simondson, Vic

ARDA.Records@gmail.com

The above people have committed their time and efforts for the betterment of Round Dancing in Australia.

A sincere THANK YOU to the ARDA Committee Members for 2015/2016

The volunteering of your precious time is sincerely appreciated.

2015 STANDARDISED CUE SHEETS



Members of the Standardised Cue Sheet Committee ask for your patience Just a little bit longer please? The aim is to have them to you in the very near future.

COMING SOON

to

Buderim, Qld.

randy and marie preskitt



This delightful, and very talented dancing couple are coming to Australia to our

2016 CALLER CUER CONFERENCE

WILL YOU BE PART OF THIS - special event?

Co Hosts Australian Callers Federation [ACF] and the Australian Round Dance Association [ARDA] are working towards bringing to you - the 2016 CALLER/CUER CONFERENCE.

The basic 'footprint', excuse the pun, will be for attendees to group together for the combined morning program and after lunch those wishing to be part of the ROUNDS content will head to the Sunshine Coast Square Dance Centre, Buderim for the dance clinics. ROUND DANCES will be held on the evenings of 26 and 27 June. Paula and Warwick Armstrong, ARDA EDUCATION OFFICERS will be working closely with Randy and Marie and, what more can I say to entice you to attend?

This is an opportunity too good to miss regardless of whether you are a Cuer, Caller, Club Leader, Dancer or 'hope to be'. The 57th ANSDC Committee have special packages available. See page 7.

Just a little about Randy and Marie

Randy started square dancing in the fall of 1968 and whilst with that club, Jeans-N-Queens teen age square dance club also learned to round dance. Randy has competed at the Pacific Northwest Teen Square Dance Festival in calling, round dancing, square dancing and formation/exhibition dancing.

Marie took square dance lessons in the fall of 1966 with the Buckskin Kids. Marie was also a member of the Teen Twirlers, Samena Teens and Mavericks teen square dance clubs until 1978. Marie also competed at the Pacific Northwest Teen Square Dance Festival in square dancing and won many first places in the Senior division.

Randy and Marie met in 1978 at the Penticton Jamboree in British Columbia, Canada. They were married on November 10th, 1979. As young adults they wanted to find a fun place to dance so they took A1-A2 square dance lessons with Jack Hardin and they still enjoy Advanced dancing.

More about Randy and Marie over the page



randy and marie preskitt

COMING SOON
to
Buderim, Qld

Randy and Marie have choreographed numerous dances including: Au Revoir Paris, Teacher's Pet, In Love with You Rumba, Beautiful Isle of Somewhere, How Lucky Can One Guy Be, The Way We Ought to Be, You've Got a Friend in Me, On Days Like These, Tu Me, Beat of Your Heart, Recuerdos De L'Alhambra, My First My Last My Everything, Dream a Little Dream of Me (Slow Two Step), I Got a Girl, The Best is Yet to Come, The More I See You, Almost Like Being in Love, and Laurann. More recently Beat of Your Heart (Slow Two Step), Cuando Me Cha (Ch), My First, My Last, My Everything (FT), Kiss on My List (CH) and the list goes on.

Randy and Marie have taught dances and clinics at festivals and weekends in British Columbia, Saskatchewan, and Ontario, Canada, Washington, Oregon, Alaska, California, Missouri, Utah, Texas, Florida, Louisiana, Colorado, North Carolina, Arizona, Florida, Washington, DC in the states, and in Germany, Sweden and Japan and will soon add AUSTRALIA to this most impressive list.



Randy and Marie teaching at the 64th National Square Dance Convention, 2015.

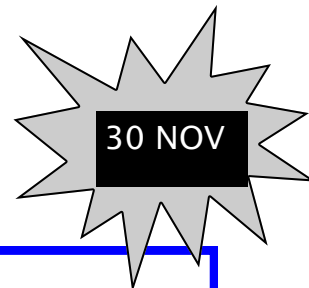
Photo courtesy of Carol S

2016 CALLER CUER CONFERENCE **26 - 28 June 2016**

The 2016 Caller Cuer Conference will be held at the Mantra Resort Mooloolaba Beach, Qld. on the above dates.

If you are planning on attending this Caller Cuer Conference and wish to stay at the Mantra, to save travel, you will need to make your room bookings as soon as possible as the Mantra will be offered as an accommodation venue when the 2016 Convention Committee promote that National.

You will need to book using the OFFICIAL BOOKING FORM. If you have mislaid the one distributed at the ARDA meetings in Canberra Check out page 24. There is a BOOKING FORM for you Don't delay DO IT today!



The Co Convenors of the 57th National,
Nev and Bev McLachlan
Supported by the 57th National Committee

are offering SUPER DOOPER *BONZA* OFFER for all ROUND DANCERS

On offer are 4 'SPECIAL' packages for ALL

2016 ARDA ROUND DANCE CONFERENCE

57TH NATIONAL SQUARE DANCE CONVENTION

2 X DANCER PACKAGES

And the option of attending a
BANQUET

The 2016 ROUND DANCE CONFERENCE form that must be completed to
take advantage of the
SUPER DOOPER *BONZA* OFFER
See pages 8 & 9 for details

To the Secretary - Australian Round Dance Association
P O Box 259, Drysdale Vic 3222

PLEASE SEND

2016 Round Dance Conference Form - next page

2016 57th ANSDC form *** an attachment

Payment advice ie. EFT receipt or CHEQUE

In the event you wish to apply to be programmed at the 57th ANSDC
PLEASE NOTE

The closing date for Registration to Cue is

30 NOVEMBER 2015

We don't want you to miss out So keep that closing date in mind.

*** this form once processed by ARDA will be forwarded to the 57th ANSDC
Registration Officer



2016 CONFERENCE CUER REGISTRATION FORM

**For the Caller Cuer Conference being held at
the Mantra Resort Mooloolaba**

Dance Clinics at the Sunshine Coast Square Dance Centre, Buderim

JUNE 26TH – 28TH 2016

Co Hosts Australian Callers Federation and the
Australian Round Dance Association.

Leader and Dancer Packages available.

See inside for complete details.

Featuring Randy & Marie Preskitt
From Washington USA



2016 ROUND DANCE CONFERENCE

hosted by the AUSTRALIAN ROUND DANCE ASSOCIATION
at the MANTRA RESORT, 7 VENNING STREET, MOOLOOLABA, 26TH - 28TH JUNE 2016

CONTACT DETAILS			
Surname: _____			
Postal Address: _____			
Town/City	State/Country	Postcode	
Phone No. Land	Mob:	Email:	

ATTENDEES DETAILS		FOR CATERING PURPOSES PLEASE INDICATE ANY FOOD ALLERGIES OR RESTRICTIONS.
FAMILY NAME	FIRST / PREFERRED NAME	

PLEASE ADVISE WHERE YOU WILL BE STAYING DURING THE CONFERENCE, OR A CONTACT NUMBER, SHOULD WE NEED TO GET IN TOUCH WITH YOU.

TICKETING (PRICES IN AUSTRALIAN DOLLARS)

For details of Options and Banquet please refer to information sheet.

OPTION 1	ARDA/ACF MEMBERS & INTERNATIONAL VISITORS	No. Attending	@	\$ 255.00 =
	NON ARDA/ACF MEMBERS	No. Attending	@	\$ 270.00 =
OPTION 2	ARDA/ACF MEMBERS & INTERNATIONAL VISITORS	No. Attending	@	\$ 165.00 =
	NON ARDA/ACF MEMBERS	No. Attending	@	\$ 180.00 =
OPTION 3	DANCER PACKAGE	No. Attending	@	\$ 120.00 =
OPTION 4	DANCER PACKAGE	No. Attending	@	\$ 80.00 =
BANQUET	ARDA/ACF MEMBERS & INTERNATIONAL VISITORS	No. Attending	@	\$ 60.00 =
	NON ARDA/ACF MEMBERS	No. Attending	@	\$ 72.00 =
TOTAL ENCLOSED				

PAYMENT OPTIONS

Cheque / Money Order made payable to the Australian Round Dance Association.

EFT TRANSFER OF FUNDS TO

BSB No: 063209 Account Number: 00900599 Account Name: Australian Round Dance Association

If Payment made by EFT/Online Transfer please print and attach a copy of your EFT receipt to this form. Please use your SURNAME as reference

EFT RECEIPT NUMBER

Bank/Branch: CBA Huntingdale

Attached to this Newsletter is a complete registration form with full details.

POSTAL ADDRESS FOR MAILING OF REGISTRATIONS & ENQUIRIES			
The Secretary, Carol Simondson, Australian Round Dance Association Post Office Box 259, DRYSDALE, VIC., 3222 Phone 0400 354 445			
Date Registration Received	Date Registration Acknowledged	Date Registered Advised	
OFFICE USE ONLY			

Accommodation Booking **Request** Form
Australian National Square Dance Convention 25/06/2016 - 04/07/2016

****PLEASE NOTE ALL BOOKINGS MUST BE RECEIVED AT LEAST 14 DAYS PRIOR TO THE EVENT TO RECEIVE THIS SPECIAL DISCOUNTED ACCOMMODATION RATE****

BOOKING DETAILS:

Title _____ Surname _____ First Name _____
Address _____
P/code _____
Phone _____ Mobile _____
Email _____ Fax _____

Please ensure all information is legible.

TO SECURE YOUR BOOKING WE REQUIRE:

A \$200.00 non refundable deposit. Then 14 days prior to check-in full payment of your accommodation will be processed on the credit card supplied, unless otherwise requested.

☐ **Credit card:** (Please provide details below) *Note that there is a 2% surcharge for any credit card payments.*

☐ **Cheque deposit:** (Cheques will be accepted for deposits only)

PLEASE CIRCLE: VISA / MASTERCARD / DINERS / AMERICAN EXPRESS

Credit Card No. Expiry Date /

Card Holder's Name _____ Card Holder's Signature _____

Arrival Date _____ Departure Date _____

No of Adults in Room _____ No of Children _____

PLEASE NOTE THE CREDIT CARD HOLDER MUST BE PRESENT UPON CHECK-IN

ROOM RATES - 1-4 nights - Room Only Rate.

☐ 1 Bedroom (1 -2 guests) \$178 per night - **Number of Rooms Required** _____

☐ 1 Bedroom OCEAN (1 -2 guests) \$208 per night- **Number of Rooms Required** _____

☐ 2 Bedroom OCEAN (1 - 4 guests) \$302 per night - **Number of Rooms Required** _____

☐ Extra Person Charge X @ \$ 40.00 per night - **Number of extra people (maximum 1 per room)** _____

ROOM RATES - 5+ nights - Room Only Rate.

☐ 1 Bedroom (1 -2 guests) \$166 per night - **Number of Rooms Required** _____

☐ 1 Bedroom OCEAN (1 -2 guests) \$194 per night- **Number of Rooms Required** _____

☐ 2 Bedroom OCEAN (1 - 4 guests) \$264 per night - **Number of Rooms Required** _____

☐ Extra Person Charge X @ \$ 40.00 per night - **Number of extra people (maximum 1 per room)** _____

ALL ROOMS ARE SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY AND WILL BE ALLOCATED ON A FIRST IN FIRST SERVED BASIS.

ACCOMMODATION CANCELLATION POLICY

Cancellations for accommodation received more than fourteen (14) days prior to arrival will forfeit the \$200 deposit. Cancellations within (14) days of the designated arrival date, or non-arrival of guests, will forfeit all monies paid.

Please fax or email this completed form to Mantra Mooloolaba Beach via Fax on 07 5452 2888 or email conferencesc@mantragroup.com.au

This is a booking request form only, your booking is not confirmed until confirmation has been received from Mantra Mooloolaba Reservations.
For booking enquiries please call 07 5452 2871.

OFFICE USE ONLY

Confirmation # _____

Date: _____

Confirmed by: _____

from VICTORIA



**ROUND DANCE ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA
10th SPRING FESTIVAL
12th and 13th September 2015
Glen Huntly, Victoria**

The Round Dance Association of Victoria ran its 10th biennial Spring Festival of dancing in September 2015. As it was our 10th festival the hall decorations were based on a party atmosphere which included lots of balloons, a large birthday cake and candles. On display were history boards showing photos and other memorabilia. They reflected the 9 previous festivals. The 10th history board was a 'work in progress' and was added to during the weekend. There was also a display of the previous and current guest cuer/teachers with their history and dancing achievements. This year we were privileged to have Paula and Warwick Armstrong (ARDA Education Officers) from Queensland as our presenters. They did an outstanding job and we thank them for their fine effort. Once again Alex and Jennifer from New Zealand attended and featured on our program. We were also fortunate to have Alex and Jennifer here for the week leading up to the festival. Many thanks to them for conducting a teach at Pietro Rd plus a workshop for our cuers.

There was a 'trail-in dance' on the Friday before the festival for those who had registered for the weekend. This was a great social night with lots of chatter and renewing of friendships.

The festival weekend was divided into 3 sessions. The Saturday afternoon was higher level dances which included a teaching session of 'Solitude City' FT Ph IV+2. Saturday night was a party night for all levels and Paula and Warwick and Alex and Jennifer entertained us with a beautiful demonstration dance each. Sunday afternoon was mixed levels and included a teach, 'I Still Believe' WZ Ph III by Paula and Warwick and 'The Big One' JV Ph III by Alex and Jennifer.

We had a wonderful variety of Waltz, Two Step, Rumba, Cha, Foxtrot, Tango and Jive over the 2 days with 8 cuers from interstate and Victoria.

There were a number of interstate and overseas visitors from South Australia, Queensland, NSW, ACT and of course New Zealand. We all shared a meal together at the venue on Saturday night and this proved to be a great success. Our Devonshire Tea and delicious suppers were very popular and much thanks must go to our catering manager Graeme Nash. Attendance was approximately the same as 2013 but we would have loved to see more enjoying the special occasion.

During the closing ceremony, gifts were given to all the cuers and organising committee who made the Festival such a success.

Check out our web site: www.rounddanceassociationvictoria.org.a for more photos.



Information provided by Coral Wegmann, State Representative, for and on behalf of the RDV Inc.



from THE EDITOR

Try as hard as I might and there are times when it is difficult to include information provided the way it has been formatted. When sending pre set material in pdf. format, it would really be helpful to me if you could also send a copy in either Microsoft Publisher or Microsoft Word. If the article you submitted does not quite look the way you planned that is the explanation. Thank you to those who already do this and thank you to those who contributed to this Newsletter.

The deadline was 'stretched' to allow for late submissions and for this I do apologize to those members who were waiting patiently for the October Newsletter to arrive earlier than this. It is advantageous for ARDA members to know what is happening around AUS, so please don't hesitate to send articles, stories, etc you would wish to share. If you have something to share you can send it any time up until **30 April 2016**.

The photos taken in the US and printed in this Newsletter were done so with prior permission from either the individuals or the organization.

I do continually try to do the best job I can for you, the members however ME, MYSELF and I are 'full of flaws - stitched together with good intentions'.

Since the introduction of the mini ARDA Newsletters - TELEMAR Ph 1+1 and TELEMAR Ph 1+2, it has been possible to provide members with information more frequently. Hence this Newsletter may contain less pages than usual. If you have any comments, favourable or unfavourable, I would be most interested to hear from you. I have no doubt you have an understanding of the Ph 1+1 represents? Happy to explain if not.

The next ARDA Newsletter is to be produced in May 2016. So, if you already have your 2016 diary could you mark the closing date for copy as **APRIL 30, 2016** - Look forward to hearing what is happening in your 'viewing circle'. Oh, I must add here just how great the viewing circles were at the three Conventions I attended in the US. If the opportunity arises for you, grab it with both hands.

As is usual, members who do not have email access will receive their copy of the ARDA Newsletter via surface mail. For me, I do so enjoy receiving a card or letter via surface mail and alternatively sending cards and letters this way, however I feel the days of daily delivery of surface mail are coming to an end - but I will continue to use this service as long as is possible.

I cannot emphasize enough, how fortunate we are to have Randy & Marie Preskitt coming to Australia and to have the Caller Crier Conference in 2016. Do try and support this ARDA & ACF initiative.

I know this also my sound quite ridiculously early however I did read recently were there were only so many Fridays until Christmas. I hate to mention the number so I won't. What I will say to you all is that however you spend the Festive Season, however you choose your 'time out' from club activities—may the time be spent with loved ones, cherished friends and may it be a time of Peace and Happiness and may the incoming year be full of great health and energy.

Carol S
ARDA Editor 2015/2016

DIARY NOTE:

30 April 2016

Deadline for copy for ARDA MAY NEWSLETTER

West Coast Swing

By Harold & Meredith Sears

Continued from the ARDA May 2015 Newsletter ...

FIGURE PATTERNS

West Coast Swing Dancing is an intricate dance, requiring a great deal of coordination, good timing, and intelligent application. It is an American dance, which is danced to American music. It originated in California and is danced in competition nationally and internationally.

One way to categorize the wide variety of figure patterns that we find in West Coast Swing is to think about what the man may do. He has three choices. He can lead the woman forward but stay in her slot and so not allow her to pass. This lead produces the Sugar figures (eg. Sugar Push, Sugar Tuck & Spin). Second, he can lead her forward but step out of the slot and allow her to dance past. If he dances to his left, he creates Right Passing figures like the Underarm Turn and Whip Turn. If he dances to his right, he leads Left Passing figures like the Left Side Pass and Man's Underarm Turn.

Another way to organize all these figures is to look at how many beats of music each uses, and this is the more common approach. Of course, round dancers extend their figures in all sorts of ways, but at a basic level, we have two— four— six— and eight— count figures.



TWO COUNT FIGURES 2

In only two beats, we can't create a lot of variety. We can take one slow step or walk in two quicks. We can step forward, back, or side. We can kick, flick, or hop. But there are three different two-count figures that are especially important in West Coast Swing, in that they are often found within longer figures. These are the Anchor, the Coaster, and the French Cross. All three of these are syncopated figures with a count of 1&2 or quick/&, quick.

ANCHOR STEP

The Anchor is a common ending step of many West Coast figures. For both the man and the woman, it is a small step back and under the body with the trail foot, replace, replace, with a timing of quick/&, quick. There are really no steps. The feet don't move, but there is weight change and hip movement forward and back. Keep the upper body still. There is a rocking-back-and-forth feel to it—back/forward, back.

Like a nautical anchor, this step stops your movement. It gives you a moment to stabilize your partnership and adjust your position in preparation for the next figure. It serves as characteristic punctuation at the end of one figure and prior to the beginning of the next figure.

COASTER STEP

The Coaster Step is an alternate ending step that you can use. For the man, it is like a little sailor shuffle with the trail foot: cross right behind left/side L, side R. For the woman, it is like a little back hitch: back L/close R, forward L. West Coast Swing is unusually flexible in allowing individual expression, but these Coaster Steps are not really preferred. For one thing, the Coaster Step can shift the man a little to his left and so disturb his relationship to the woman, firmly placed in her slot. Second, as the woman steps back/close, she is likely to stick her backside out in an inelegant sort of way. Third, if she steps forward on the last step of her Coaster, she will find herself moving forward at the beginning of the next figure, and she really shouldn't begin to move forward until she is led to do so by her man.

Continue reading on Pg 13



South Australian Round Dance Association Inc.

15th Round Dance Festival

Easter Bunny Hop



26th & 27h March 2016

Enquiries to: Les Tulloch
(08) 83882502 or 0414 842302
Email: lest11@bigpond.com

West Coast Swing

By Harold & Meredith Sears

Continued from Pg. 11



COASTER STEP

Another way to look at this last point is to see that her Coaster causes one figure to flow smoothly into the next. Jive is a rhythm that properly flows in this way, but West Coast Swing is more grounded, more segmented, even a little deliberate—but in a good way, a sensual way.

We can at least be aware of these two different 'looks' - the looser, flowing look given by the Coaster Step, and the more punctuated look given by the Anchor Step - and we can try each one.

Now, there is one place where you definitely do want a Coaster Step, and that is within a figure where you want to smoothly change your direction of movement. Think of a Whip Turn. We do want the first part of the figure to flow into the second part. So, the Whip Turn begins for the woman with a forward R, forward L and turn 1/2 to the right, and then a modified Coaster Step: back/close, forward and turn 1/2 again to the right. She maybe began the figure moving toward reverse line-of-dance, and the Coaster smoothly got her moving toward line again. In the second measure, she steps back L, back R, and then punctuates with an Anchor Step.

For the woman, we can even distinguish between a Back Coaster (bk/cl, fwd,) and a Forward Coaster (fwd/cl, bk.). It is a Forward Coaster that changes the woman's progression in the middle of a Tummy Whip.

ENDING VARIATIONS

There are few two-count steps that stand alone as standard figures-maybe one Side Break or a Cheerleader-but we have been focusing on small components within or at the end of longer figures.

Chris & Terri Cantrell have written about different ways to vary or modify the ending of standard figures. Here are a few West Coast figure endings that they have suggested, along with the count that would be used for each.

- Anchor or coaster described above - 1/8, 2, (or 3/8, 4; in an 8-count figure)
- Overturn the anchor (turn away from partner on first step and back toward partner at end of second beat)- 1/8, 2&,
- Kick to the 4 & step (kick trail foot forward/place trail ankle to lead knee-the '4'-, step side on the trail foot)-1/8, 2,
- Point step point-1/8, 2,
- Step point step point step-&1/8, 2&,
- Cross step (cross in front like cross swivels)-1/8, 2,
- Out out in in (side L/side R, recover L/recover R)- &/1, &/2,

These sorts of variations may be used to dress up many of the standard West Coast figures.

FRENCH CROSS

The third, heavily used two-count figure is the French Cross. Like the woman's Coaster, it is used within six-count, eight-count, and longer figures to produce a smooth change of direction. The woman steps forward R turning 1/4 to the left, crosses left in front of right continuing to turn another 1/4, and steps back. You can sharpen the movement a little more by putting more of the turn into the first step-step forward R turning 1/2 to the left, cross left in front of right with no further turn, and step back.

Either way, this is a nice alternative any time the woman might otherwise do a run/run past her partner, and then step and turn 1/2 to the left on the third step.

Continue reading just a little bit more about French Cross on Pg. 15

ARDA AUSSIES flying HIGH into 2016 and beyond

ACCOLADES to the following ARDA AUSSIES for their participation on the
ROUNDALAB COMMITTEES

Paula and Warwick Armstrong, Qld - Chair Phase V S & P Committee
By-laws Sub Committee
Phase IV S & P Committee
Phase IV & V ROQ Committee

Bev McLachlan, Qld
Phase IV S & P Committee
Ph II Rounds of Quarter Committee
Ph III Rounds of Quarter Committee

Anne and Les Tulloch, SA - Chair Phase I & 2 S & P Committee
Phase IV S & P Committee

Shirley Bates, SA
Ph II Rounds of Quarter Committee

Carol Simondson, Vic
Phase 1 & II S & P Committee
Phase III S & P Committee
Ph II Rounds of Quarter Committee

CONGRATULATIONS

Paula and Warwick Armstrong
APPOINTED to the ROUNDALAB BOARD of MANAGEMENT in June 2015

Best wishes to Paula and Warwick.
Such an honour and reward for many,
many years of devotion to round dancing.

Paula and Warwick head straight into the
history books as being the first non USA residents
to be appointed onto the Roundalab Board.

CONGRATULATIONS
Paula and Warwick
Les and Ann
Bev, Shirley and Carol

West Coast Swing

By Harold & Meredith Sears

Continued from Pg. 13

FRENCH CROSS *continued*

The French Cross has an elegant feel to it, a little like a Viennese Turn. It helps you to maintain connection with your partner. Maybe the most important thing it does is to keep you absolutely straight in your slot. In the Left Side Pass or the Underarm Turn, during the first triple, if you step forward R/fwd L, and then fwd R and turn 1/2 left, you have just pivoted your body on that right leg and so shifted your body to the side by a full body width. If you were moving down line, that turn on beat 4 would have shifted you out of your slot and closer to the wall. Now, you will rightly say that we're talking about only a couple of floor boards, and it will be easy to adjust and get back in line. But look at what the French Cross does. You turn on beat 3. That turn has the same potential to shift your body sideways, but on the '&' count, you cross the left in front of the right, and that crossing step shifts your body back to the slot again. The back step on count '4' is squarely in the slot. It's magic.

As usual, we have wandered a bit. What we have been trying to say is that West Coast Swing is a controlled slot dance. The Anchor is a two-count figure that effectively brings closure to a sequence of steps (the larger figure of which it is a part), and there are a number of ways we can use turns, kicks, points, and crosses to embellish or dress up our endings. The Coaster and French Cross produce not so much an ending as a transition from one state to another. The Coaster changes our direction of movement and the French Cross changes our facing direction, and they do it smoothly, gracefully and 'in the slot'.

**Next ARDA Newsletter
will see the completion
of this very interesting
article on WEST COAST
SWING - Editor**

Try to keep the West Coast characteristics in mind:

- * slot, not circular
- * walking, not rocking
- * smooth and shaped to partner, not loose
- * controlled and elastic, not bouncy.

'YOU RAISE ME UP'

Choreographers Cheryl & Doug Byrd

I had the pleasure of spending time with this lovely couple, Cheryl and Doug Byrd.

The Showcase system here in Australia was explained to them and that the State of Victoria, had nominated and presented their Waltz in Adelaide at Australia's 56th National Square Dance Convention.

There were very excited and it is hoped, they may just make it to Buderim in 2016 to attend the 57th National.

Cheryl & Doug Byrd, Tennessee

Photo courtesy of Carol S



ROUNDALAB 39th CONVENTION Springfield, Massachusetts 2015



A 'FIRST TIMER' and VIATOR AWARD

When I 'bit the bullet' and decided to register to attend the 39th ROUNDALAB Convention, I really had little idea of just how exciting an adventure this was going to be. Those of you who have attended a Roundalab Convention will know exactly what I mean.

Having been a member of ROUNDALAB now for many years I eagerly await my Journal and other news that arrives from the US, especially Convention news. In 2015, I was going to be part of the Convention. Wow!

I was made to feel so very welcome and my appointed mentor, Barbara Connelly, ensured I was not left out of the proceedings. It was also comforting to know I had five other Aussies attending, and two for the first time as myself.

The entire Convention was conducted with such professionalism - from the meetings, through the teaches to the evening dances - and I was a part of all of this. Having been on the Ph II & Ph III Standards Committees for the past 12 months, I found the ratification process extremely interesting.

To be in the company of fellow round dancers, teachers, choreographers, I have until now, admired from a distance, was exciting and very humbling.

Upon advice from Paula and Warwick, I took the option of a 'meal package' and am so pleased I did. This provided another opportunity to socialize off the dance floor with both members of the Board of Directors, Convention Committee and all who had travelled to be in Springfield in 2015.



ROUNDALAB is certainly in good hands with the amazing structure set in place over the past 39 years by so many talented and knowledgeable round dancers and the future is guaranteed with the enthusiasm of all members from around the world.

Following the Convention Banquet, and it was a wonderful banquet, came the Awards Ceremony.

How thrilling to witness Irv and Betty Easterday receive Honorary Membership for over 50 years; Awards to teaching units Jerry & Pat Preston, Tsuyoshi & Kazuko Sakai, and Viveiros Hiroko for 50 years; Awards to George N Smith, Jack & Darlene Chaffee, Pat Anthony and the amazing and delightful lady Peg Tirrell for 55 years. Sadly, this was Peg Tirrell's last Roundalab Convention—Peg has attended every Convention and also 64 out of 64 National Square Dance Conventions. I was very humbled to have Peg Tirrell, daughter Barbara Connelly and grandies Crystal and Paul come and listen to my cueing of Barbara's 'Baby Elephant Walk'.

When the Viator Award was to be presented - a trophy awarded to a first time attendee who has travelled the longest miles/kilometres to attend the Convention - I was absolutely blown away to hear my name being called. Oh my! Any wonder, when before the ceremony commenced and Paula and I were looking over the trophies, Paula had done the quickest 'check and weave' ever. At the time I didn't put a lot of thought into why we had suddenly 'changed direction' ... Now I know. My beautiful Trophy was in full view. Well done Paula.

Thank you ROUNDALAB and to everyone who made my first visit to the USA and a Roundalab Convention an amazing 'chapter' in my Life.

I do have to say a big 'HELLO' to you ALL from KAREN & JOHN HERR. So knowledgeable and absolutely devoted to round dancing; beautiful people and super hosts. A couple who were completely smitten with Australia and would love to come back one day. Similarly, one day I hope to return to attend another Roundalab Convention.

Carol Simondson.

IN SUMMARY - Don't just Dream It ... Do It.

30 NOVEMBER 2015 - deadline

SHOWCASE and EXPERIMENTAL NOMINATIONS

It would seem by now that the State /Territory associations
have commenced the process of choosing a
SHOWCASE and EXPERIMENTAL nomination for the 2016 National Convention.

Hope so!

This is just a friendly reminder that the information is to be sent to the
ARDA Secretary, P O Box 259, Drysdale 3222 or ARDA.Secretary@gmail.com
by the **State/Territory Representative** - on the appropriate forms by **30 November**.
A reminder will be sent direct to those nominated State/Territory Reps.



A WARM WELCOME IS EXTENDED TO THE **NEW**
MEMBERS of the Australian Round Dance Association.

Thank you for taking the time to join your National
Association - ARDA.

ARDA sincerely hopes you will join in, have your say, offer suggestions ... Or
even raise your hand when a position becomes vacant. Either way, it is a
pleasure to say 'WELCOME'.

A little bit of THIS and a little bit of THAT

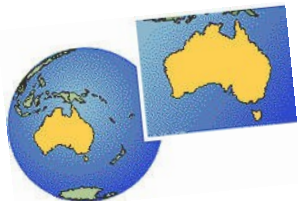
'It's none of my business what people think of me!

Ricky Martin 'Current Affair' May, 2014.

***'Do not regret growing older
It's a privilege denied to many'***

***A meal without wine is called
BREAKFAST!***

Oh dear- something is missing!
Read more of Norseman's travels in the next ARDA Newsletter



AROUND AUS ...

From QUEENSLAND ...

Questions and Answers from 16 yr old students in GED examination.

Q. What does 'varicose' mean?

A. Nearby!



Q. How are the main 20 parts of the body categorised?

A. The body is consisted into 3 parts - the brainium, the borax and the abdominal cavity. The brainium contains the brain; the borax contains the heart and lungs and the abdominal cavity contains the five bowels: A, E, I, O, U

Q. What is the fibula?

A. A small lie.

Q. Give the meaning of the term 'Caesarean section'.

A. A caesarean section is a district in Rome.

Q. What is a seizure?

WAIT FOR THIS ANSWER A. A Roman Emperor! Simple, but brilliant.....



The QRDA President, Committee and dancing community congratulate
Paula and Warwick Armstrong

On their appointment to the Roundalab Board of Directors. Well done!



*So many of the colours in a Rainbow
Are used to depict or highlight certain illnesses.*

*It is hard to financially support each and every cause.
There is one thing, however, that is within everyone's reach
that does not impact financially and that is to*

*BE AWARE, BE COMPASSIONATE AND BE THANKFUL for your LIFE
and the fact you are able to ROUND DANCE OUT YOUR LIFE.*

Editor's Note ~~

all articles and photos in this Newsletter have been printed as a matter of courtesy and interest for all. Refer to the 'Disclaimer' on the front page.

In order to **reprint** articles from this Newsletter, and as a matter of courtesy, **permission** should be sought from the **Editor**.

If permission is obtained the appropriate recognition should be given to the author/source of that information.

May I have this dance?

A weekly dance lesson is one way of putting your best - and worst - foot forward.
PAT McDermott recalls taking the steps and mastering the moves.



THE PRIMARY school hall is chilly even on a spring evening. The MOTH (Man Of The House) and I are late. "I thought you two might not make it tonight," our dance instructor, Raymond, says brightly, when he sees us.

I have to hand it to Raymond. He's not only good at the complexities of the twilight waltz, he is good at hiding his dismay when we turn up.

I'm afraid we're beginning to make him look bad. While everyone else is managing difficult steps like 'left whisks' and 'outside spins', and even 'backward locks', the MOTH and I are still struggling to start on the right (no, left!) foot.

Not for us the 'double reverse spin' or even the 'basic weave'. When Raymond says we're going to execute a 'box step' followed by a 'hesitation change', he speaks the truth. We 'murder' every step we take.

"I've always believed that stepping all over a man's feet was a part of dancing."

The MOTH learned to dance at school. He reckons he still does a passable Pride of Erin. He explains to Raymond that his failure to master the twilight waltz is due to being left-handed and, therefore, possibly left-footed.

As for me, the only dance class I ever had was the Christmas I was seven. I stood on my dad's toes and clung fiercely to his waist while he foxtrotted around the dining room. As a result, I've always believed that stepping all over a man's feet was a part of dancing. Still, despite our age and four left feet, we're keen to learn to dance. It's just unfortunate for Raymond that we picked him to teach us.

'Take your places,' he orders, clapping his hands, briskly. 'No one moving, please. *No one moving!*'

The whole room stands very still and pays attention.

'Gentlemen—you will lead with the left foot. Watch as I demonstrate - step, step, slide together, step. *Not yet, Mr McDermott!* What did I just say?' 'I said, *no one moving!* That means you, Mr McDermott!'

Raymond smooths his hair and begins again.

'Now, gentlemen - step, step, slide together, step. Mr McDermott - *now* would be time to dance!

'Oh, stop, stop, *stop everyone!*

'Let's start again and perhaps this time Mr McDermott will join us. And Mrs McDermott will stop sniggering because it's the ladies' turn next!'

Twelve men, aged 25 to about 75, follow Raymond down the hall. Some do it with style, some with flair, some with military precision and some, like the MOTH, with an air of quiet desperation.

Then it's time for the ladies to demonstrate their skills. I position myself in the back row behind someone who knows what she's doing. By carefully watching her feet and not looking left or right, I make it to the end of the room with everyone else.

Raymond orders us to execute a quick 'outside spin' and come back the other way. Now I'm in the front row. Everyone is following me.

It's a debacle. I'm lost and muddle about while the other ladies dance gracefully and sympathetically around and past me. Raymond was right - I'm not laughing anymore.

We battle on through the basic waltz and the even more difficult twilight waltz. 'So beautiful when done well,' says Raymond, studiously avoiding looking at the MOTH and me.

The final half hour is all about the salsa. 'Feel the rhythm *please!*'

And the jive. '*Everyone* can do this one. Yes, even the McDermotts!'

At last, it's going home time.

'See you next week,' we say to Raymond. To his credit, he manages a weak smile.

'Look, mate,' explains the MOTH. 'This will soon be over and you'll never see us again!'

Raymond couldn't help himself. He looked positively radiant. Almost as lovely as our 'soon-to-be' daughter-in-law will look on her wedding day.

Patrick and Kath are getting married in a few weeks. The sun will shine, everyone will look fabulous and the Mother of the Groom has promised not to cry.

There will be dancing. And, whether we start on the left foot or the right, it will be beautiful. Thank you, Raymond.

Editor's Note: I found this article in a publication back in November 2012. Who can relate to this?



Several photos taken in the USA 2015
Left: Paula and Warwick Preparing for their teach at the ICBDA Conference.



Right: Finally time to relax and dance together.
Below: The beautiful main ballroom at the Sheraton, Greensboro, NC where the ICBDA Convention was held.
Paula and Warwick presenting.



How exciting to have Betty and Irv Easterday participate in their teach.



Photos courtesy of Carol S, Editor.



Bottom Left: Paula, Warwick after being presented with their award for 'A Thousand Years' Well done. Pictured with Judy and Brent Moore also Award recipients.



L to R: Paula, Dan, Carol, Allison and Warwick .



ARDA Education Officers Paula and Warwick.