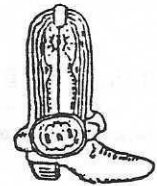


# THE ROUNDUP



## Newsletter for Boots "N" Buckles

April 1989

### President's Message

I went to the North Bay Invitational the weekend of March 17-19. I'm sure all that were there will agree that the dancing was wonderful. It was a pleasure to see so many of our Boots 'N Buckles members involved in some way with the competition of country dancing.

Individuals from our club were visible as competitors in all divisions, judges, and instructors. These people give of their time to promote country dancing all over the state. Club members were present, like myself, as ardent admirers of the beauty and grace of country dancing.

I wish to extend my congratulations to all, not just the ones that earned trophies (although Boots 'N Buckles had their share), but to all who qualified and did their part in making country dancing what it is today.

Ann Thompson

### Spring Fling

Spring must be here... longer days, warmer weather, pastel colors with white boots and a sprung Spring Fling! We haven't had a party like this since, oh, ...Christmas. It was great to see so many members and guests celebrate, dance, play and have fun. Thanks to holiday event initiator and coordinator, Ann Thompson for her ideas and management skills. Bill Jackson was responsible for those critter tables and all of the skyward colors. Special thanks to everyone who came early or stayed late to help speed through the hard work, to those who hand-crafted prizes and to everyone who shared

(Continued on Page 2)

### Membership Update

Thanks to everyone who has renewed their membership. You will receive your membership card attached to this newsletter.

If you have not renewed your membership, you will have a renewal page attached to this newsletter.

To renew follow these directions:

1. Tear off the mailing page which has your mailing label on it.
2. Verify that the name and address on your mailing label is correct: if not, please print the corrections in the spaces provided.
3. Attach a check for \$12.00 for each member to the mailing page.
4. Bring your application page with your check to any Friday dance, or mail it to Boots 'N Buckles.

The Quarterly Membership Meeting will be held on

APRIL 14 at 7:30 pm.

Please plan to attend, we need your support!

## Why West Coast Swing?

By Neil Hale

The West Coast Swing is our official State Dance. It is done in a slot, where usually after each move or turn, the dancers will change places with each other instead of the continual circular motion we are used to seeing with the swing. The step pattern can change between six and eight counts.

I have learned that this variation of the swing began on the East Coast during World War II. It seems the dance halls were very crowded and it became necessary to make dancing enjoyable for as many people as possible. Therefore each couple was assigned to a piece of the floor, called a slot. The West Coast Swing survived and is presently very much in vogue.

Is the West Coast Swing Country Western? Its' name might suggest that, but it depends on how you view Country Western Dance in general. Are your views conservative or progressive? Do you like evolution in dance, or do you think C/W Dance should be limited to steps that stopped evolving after a certain point in time?

West Coast Swing is currently getting a strong following in the Bay Area. People like the new variation and we have several excellent instructors in the area.

Be advised that the West Coast Swing may seem difficult at first, but with a little persistence you may soon find it to be an enjoyable and entertaining addition to your dance repertoire.

This dance is causing controversy. The NTA (National (C/W) Teachers Association) and the California Dance Teachers Association hold the position that it is not Country Western. On the other hand, the promoters of the major Country Western dance competitions include this "slotted" variation of the swing to be danced as an added attraction.

Ultimately, it is the dancers themselves and time that will decide.

(Spring Fling Cont.from page 1)

their favorite tidbits and nibbles. The long, dry winter had taken its toll; we were ready for any sign of spring, so green plants were awarded as door prizes. Mystery Eggs hatched chocolate rabbits, marshmallow chicks, complimentary dance lessons from Neil and Charlotte, lottery tickets and Country/Western gifts. The Ball Dance provided an opportunity to work off those rabbits and chicks in a wild race for some prizes. It was high-energy entertainment.

The decorated heads in the Easter Bonnet Parade ran the gamut of creative possibilities. Votes were tallied for a favorite headpiece and three prizes were awarded.

Plans for upcoming parties are in the works. Feel free to wear black on April 14th. We'll be honoring Moms on Mothers Day and Summer will be here before we know it. If creating these events interest you, please let us know!

Kim Specer

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## Dance Lessons

Mike and Norene Gural are offering dance lessons in several locations this spring.

In Los Altos, lessons will be held at the Hillview Community Center on Wednesday evenings. Beginning lessons will be from 7 to 8:15 pm and Intermediate from 8:15 to 9:30 pm. Lessons begin on April 5 and will cost \$32 per person for 10 weeks.

In San Carlos, lessons will be held at the United Community Church on Thursday evenings. Beginning classes will be from 7 to 8:15 pm and Intermediate from 8:30 to 9:45 pm. Classes begin on April 6 and will cost \$25 per person for 10 weeks. Call (415) 592-0950 for further information.

(Continued on page 4)