

Howard Richman at The Gathering 2010... a discussion...

Numerology: Numeral Two

"Cooperation, adaptability, partnering and mediating & consideration of others"

History and Horizons... Traditions and Techno in a newfangled world!

10 years ago most callers were still using 45's...almost every dancer wore traditional square dance attire... It's 10 years later...You seldom see Vinyl 45's...men are wearing short leaved shirts even though traditionally they are not allowed and I "THINK" all clubs are quite welcoming of singles. BUT clubs are folding...for different reasons.

However....some clubs are doing very well right now! These clubs are doing something different and we need to find out what it is!

What does "judgmental" behavior look like and how can it be avoided?

First...Who is it we're judging? Discuss!

Attracting- and coping with - same-sex couples: Name 3 ways a club can be same-sex-friendly.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Same-sex dancing: How do you make them feel welcome?

Is this still an issue? [It must be or why would they want us to talk about it!]

Behaviors that are discourteous and what to do when you see/hear negative things; positive responses to negative behavior.

At the Barn Dance and the Club Night Dance...

"Don't talk to her...she's unpleasant. I'm Betty, Talk to me!"

Howard Richman

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Presenting a wide variety of music for all ages & groups

So...who do I cater to?

It's not news that the square dance population is getting older. We solicit our peers of course and then we blame dwindling numbers at dances on the internet and bowling...every other activity does... The Times Squares, quite well known in the Tri-State area is actually catching up...knee and hip replacements, a fellow with Parkinson's, folk's who just can't remember the calls...

With the addition of technology I am able to use much more varied music than was previously available on 45's because I can set the speed to 128 and mix it and make it danceable. This is so valuable with the younger generations and kids in making the activity "cool" in their eyes.

How many of you love Elvis? [Who when first seen on TV's Ed Sullivan Show was not allowed to be filmed from the waist down, don't quote me, because the sensors deemed his hip movements obscene?] Kids these days don't like or even know THAT music.... You love it! But I bet your parent's didn't!

One night a guy at Times Squares walked out of his square, marched up to the stage and told me off in front of the entire room and stormed out. He didn't like the song I had just started to play...it was not a proper square dance song. What was the song? The song, recorded for square dancing on a vinyl 45, was "*Splish, Splash, I was taking a bath*".

So...we want to make everyone happy...and some people are never happy...

So...who do I cater to?

Discuss....

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