

Hudson Valley Newsletter



Jan. - Oct 2016

Vol. XXXV #2

*Congratulations to the 2015
Dancers of the year!*



Pat Lutter & Maureen SantaMaria
RocklandRockytops

From the desk of the editor....

Steve Ocskasy

Keep dancing! That's my motto. I would like to see the new dancers follow my lead. It is very beneficial to come to class and angel. It reinforces what you learned as a student. It strengthens your brain muscles. For the new graduates, you are probably still in a fog as to what you have learned and are not completely sure of yourselves. Being an angel gives you a chance to reinforce the calls and just maybe it might turn on the bulb over your head and you think, oh yeah! Now I get it! Now I understand that call. I didn't understand spin chain thru until I was an angel for the first time. Also, going out to other dances will strengthen your knowledge of the calls. Don't hesitate to let others know you are a new graduate. If you make a mistake, they will understand and help guide you. We've all made mistakes....**and it's better to let them know you're new to the activity rather than Feeling the pressure of other dancers thinking otherwise.** As I always say, KEEP DANCING !!! See you on the dance floor!

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Council officers

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How to be a good angel by *Sandy Corey*

The following is a compilation of suggestions from several different sources.

Angels are not Teachers

The primary function of an angel is to teach by example and be in the right place at the right time. Establish hand holds after every movement. This is one of the best habits a dancer can develop as it helps them to know where they are in the square.

Angels are frequently tempted to explain things to a new dancer during a tip but this is something that must be resisted! If an angel is talking to a new dancer, that dancer cannot hear the caller/teacher's explanation of the call, much less understand it. During the break an angel can help explain a call, but not when the caller is at the microphone.

Dancers also must learn to execute the calls on their own. Pushing or pulling a dancer through a move is not teaching them anything. Nor are they learning how to do the call. Each new dancer has to learn on their own, they have to develop their own confidence, and this will not happen if angels are pushing/pulling/guiding them. An occasional turning of your finger to tell someone to turn around is ok. Pointing to where they should be is ok. Talking is not ok.

It is better to let a square break down. This lets the caller know that something is wrong, and that square needs help. It is embarrassing to tell the caller that "Mary" needs help instead of "we" need help.

Be positive, encourage students, let them know that we all make mistakes and things get better with repetition. It's also good to admit to making a mistake of your own. Students will feel better if an angel makes a mistake-and smiles about it too!

Random suggestions:

Square up with everyone, not only your friends. Smile, be enthusiastic.

If you're not dancing, try to remember to speak quietly.

Lend a hand if asked to help set up, clean up, etc.

Watch for potential accidents like spills on the floor, or something dropped.

Let the caller know if there's a problem with sound.

Keep complaints to yourself.

Don't criticize students or other angels. Be friendly and courteous.

Remember, angels are examples to the new dancers.

Most of all - have fun!!

Monthly dance list links.

August 2016

http://www.hudsonvalleycouncil.org/august_2016_preview.html

September 2016

http://www.hudsonvalleycouncil.org/September_2016_preview.html

October 2016

http://www.hudsonvalleycouncil.org/october_2016_preview.html

“Dancing with the feet is one thing, but dancing with the heart is another.”

Author unknown

Club information

Acey Deucey

Russian Orthodox Church (**Dances**)
617 Sand Creek Rd.
Colonie, NY 12205-2451
Programmer: Ken Ritucci

Ken Ritucci
(413) 734-0591
kenritucci@aol.com

Boots 'n' Bows

Slater Chemical Firehouse (**Dances**)
76 Old Glenham Rd.
Glenham (Fishkill), NY
Programmer: Pat O'Donnell
Myers Corners Elem. School (**Classes**)
156 Myers Corners Rd.
Wappingers Falls, NY 12590

Ron McMurdy
(845) 462-2945
ronmcm@optonline.net
patdance@aol.com
(845) 440-0351

Friendly Squares

Katonah Methodist Church hall (**Dances/Classes**)
44 Edgemont Rd
Katonah, NY 10536
Programmer: John Phillips

Tee Cotter
(914) 433-2919
teecotter@yahoo.com
jsp71@optimum.net

Grand Squares

Katonah Methodist Church Hall
44 Edgemont Rd.
Katonah, NY 10536

Marie Gower
(203) 270-9676
mgower@cuddletime.com

Pelham Promenaders

Christ Church **(Dances)**

1415 Pelhamdale Ave

Pelham, NY 10803

Programmer: Mary Flanagan

Pelham Memorial High School **(Classes)**

18 Franklin Pl.

Pelham, NY 10803

Cynthia Rogers

(718) 652-3714

crogers15@verizon.net

Rocking Roosters

Edmund Town Hall **(Dances)**

45 Main St.

Newtown, Ct. 06470

Programmer: Geoff Knees

Masonic Hall a **(Classes)**

3 Washington Ave.

Sandy Hook, Ct. 06482

Newtown United Methodist Church **(Alternate dance location)**

92 Church Hill Rd.

Sandy Hook, Ct. 06482

Martha Maciag

(203) 426-4817

mjmillett@aol.com

lboz525@hotmail.com

RocklandRockytops

West Nyack Firehouse **(Dances in the summer)**

42 Strawtown Rd.

W. Nyack, NY 10994

Programmer: David Gurowsky

davidgurowsky@gmail.com

Nanuet High School **(Classes)**

101 Church St.

Nanuet, NY 10954

Don Schlesinger

(845)623-2772

dschles@aol.com

(845) 354-6351

Mal Blotner

(845) 638-4393

mrblot@aol.com

- #1 Street Community Center Auditorium **(Dancing Sept to Dec. 2016)**
31 Zukor Rd.
New City, NY 10956
- #2 St. Paul's Lutheran Church **(Dancing Sept to Dec. 2016)**
323 South Main St.
New City, NY 10956
- #3 Congers Community Center **(All dances beginning Jan. 12017)**
6 Gilchrest Rd.
Congers, NY 10920

Single Funtimers

Katonah Methodist Church hall
44 Edgemont Rd.
Katonah, NY 10536
Programmer: Marie Gower

Robert Scoralick
(914) 320-0626
(No email)
(203) 270-9676

mgower@cuddletime.com

Picnic location
Putnam County Park, Carmel NY
Kent Cliffs Rd & Gypsy Trail Rd.