

# Miami Valley Folk Dancers



July 27, 1978

To Miami Valley Folk Dancers:

One of our Club's primary objectives is to provide dancing enjoyment for all members and to retain in our repertoire many of the fine dances of all countries which have been enjoyed for many years. It is our hope to have weekly programs which will include all types of dances so as to provide the utmost in pleasure for all of our members. It is a natural inclination for those having the weekly programs to do those dances they especially like, which may not always make for a well rounded and varied program. When it is your turn to have the program we ask that you select dances of all types; couple, line, circle, quadrille, contra, 2,3 and 4 couple sets, etc. representing many countries so as to provide a truly international flavor each week and have something of interest for all of our dancers. Be sure to include dances from recent workshops or other new dances which we have been taught.

It should be remembered that, while we do encourage those from the orientation group to remain and join in the dances they know, the time from 8:00 to 10:30 is for club members and the dancing should be geared toward their level of accomplishment. Please dance behind the line if you do not know the dance so as not to diminish the pleasure of those who have already learned it. It is extremely difficult to coach someone through a dance if they have not previously received sufficient instruction. Children should not join the dancers unless they also have gone through the orientation sessions.

For those who have difficulty in choosing a dance program which will provide variety, one of the members of the Program Committee is always available to guide and assist in the program selection. You have only to ask one of them to help.

Attached is a listing of guidelines which will help you in selecting and presenting your program.

#### Program Committee:

Anne Beattie, Chairman  
Charlie Castellano  
Jeanne Gulden  
Adele Nellis  
Beryl Caldwell  
Ann Ballinger

## GUIDELINES FOR GIVING A MVFD PROGRAM

- I. Selection of the dances
  - A. Vary the types and degree of difficulty of dances so all can participate.
  - B. In addition to older ones, try to include dances that have been taught at Ethnic Sundays, Workshops, or Orientation Classes.
  - C. Feel free to request advice or help from more experienced members.
- II. Giving the program
  - A. The following schedule should be adhered to:
    - 7:00 - 8:00 Orientation classes
    - 8:00 - 9:00 Program
    - 9:00 - 9:05 Announcements
    - 9:30 -10:00 Program
    - 10:00 -10:50 Request Dancing
    - 10:50 -11:00 Clean-up
  - B. Try not to exceed time allotted without agreement of individual who is to use that time frame.
  - C. No dance is to be taught 8:00 - 9:00 or 9:30 - 10:00, though a quick walk-through is occasionally acceptable.
  - D. Try to announce the name of the dance. If that is too difficult, play a short part of the record before putting it on for the dance.
  - E. It is often simpler to line up in the record rack several records in advance.
  - F. If necessary, remind those who do not know line or circle dances to stand behind the dancers.
  - G. Be sure a request list is available by 8:00.
  - H. When the program is completed, put the list of dances played into the book.
- III. Request dancing.
  - A. If necessary, remind people not to put more than two requests on the list.
  - B. Go straight down the request list unless a record is unavailable.
  - C. A record should be played even if requestor is no longer present. Only if no one dances should it be stopped.
  - D. Indicate on the request sheet the dances that have been played.

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## GUIDELINES FOR MEMBERS

1. If you do not know a line or circle dance, stand behind the line. It is easier to learn watching someone from behind.
2. Similarly, do not enter dances you do not know if it would interfere with the pleasure of others. An exception would be if the dance is announced as being very simple.
3. If practical, enter a line dance at the end, not the middle, once it has started.
4. If there is a dance you would like to have taught, make that request to a member of the Program Committee.
5. If during request dancing you request a dance that is not generally known by the members and you leave before it has been played, it is courteous to cross it off the list.
6. Put no more than two requests on the request list unless the entire list has been exhausted.