

At our annual meeting on 10 Jan '82 a motion was made to change our method of operation from one where the program of the evening is controlled by one member for 1 1/2 hours to one in which that member still has nominal control but must include several request dances, from the general membership, interspersed after several of that member's planned dances.

Subsequent discussion further refined the meaning to one of 3 programmed dances followed by a minimum of 1 request dance up to a maximum of 3 request dances. This would be up to the individual having the program. This means that requests would comprise 25% to 50% of the program at the discretion of the program chairman of that evening. Or alternately, that person having the program would be responsible for 50% to 75% of the content of the program. Of course if no one requests a dance, then 100% of the dances would be chosen by the person having the program. (no change from the present).

The proposed change is modest. It is my understanding that this is not new. Three programmed dances to one request was the Modus Operandi in the early years of MVFD. For the past couple of months some of our Thursday Program chairmen have done this on a trial basis. From all indications, it has been working satisfactorily.

There are several advantages to such a format. Here are some. You can probably think of others.

1. This would be an aid to newer members who have the program, who may not know our repertoire. They would be helped by the general membership.
2. Vacationing members would obviously benefit both ways - to request a dance that they want to review, or, if they have the program, to have the membership request a dance that was taught while they were vacationing.
3. There are thousands and thousands of folk dances. No one can know them all. Because our membership is approaching 100, our repertoire is also increasing. It is conceivable that a member may pick obscure dances that not many members may know. It would be nice to be able to satisfy the majority of our members by allowing them to request a dance that they would like to do in the early part of the evening.
4. This would allow the general membership some control over program content.
5. Class members would be able to reinforce their learning by requesting dances taught during the class.

6. Learning the names of the dances would be facilitated.
7. If our members get their choice of dances, we should have fewer sitting and watching, and more dancing.
8. The end result will be to have more dancing, a more social atmosphere, and less of a feeling like class learning.

The only foreseeable disadvantage is that the person having the program would have less of an input to the program content than he now has.

Because this is such an important change that will affect all members, it was decided to poll all members and have them vote on the motion.

The outcome of this voting will be announced when either "yes" or "no" has a majority of the membership or one month from 25 March 82, whichever comes earlier.

You may sign or not sign this ballot.



JOHN PAPPAS
Chairman MVFD

If you are in favor of the motion as explained in the second paragraph, vote yes, if not, then vote no.

yes

no