CHIRPER

August 2006 | Katydids Square Dance Club Newsletter | Volume 43, No 8

CLUB CALENDAR

Fri., Aug. 4: **Congregational Church of Campbell**
400 W. Campbell Ave., Campbell
7:00 – 8:30 PM, Class
8:00 – 9:30 PM, Club dancing
Chirper distributed

Sat., Aug 5: **KATYDIDS SOCIAL & DANCE-OF-THE-MONTH**
Lucky Steppers' Slab Dance, Ben Lomond
7:00 PM Rounds with Sue Harris
7:30 PM Caller: Jim Osborne
Dinner before dancing begins at the Tyrolean Inn Restaurant.
Contact Sue Willey (374-3878) or Sandy Franger (243-8516) for more information.

Fri., Aug. 11: **Congregational Church of Campbell**
400 W. Campbell Ave., Campbell
7:00 – 8:30 PM, Class
8:00 – 9:30 PM, Club dancing

www.katydids.info

Fri., Aug. 18: **Congregational Church of Campbell**
400 W. Campbell Ave., Campbell
7:00 – 10:00 PM,
HOT AUGUST NIGHT PARTY & SQUARE DANCE APPAREL SALE
Wear Green!
Bring snack food to share

Fri., Aug. 25: **Congregational Church of Campbell**
400 W. Campbell Ave., Campbell
7:00 – 8:30 PM, Class
8:00 – 9:30 PM, Club dancing
9:30 PM Executive Board meeting

Fri., Sep. 1: **Congregational Church of Campbell**
400 W. Campbell Ave., Campbell
7:00 – 8:30 PM, Class
8:00 – 9:30 PM, Club dancing
Chirper distributed

SQUARE HEAD ASSIGNMENTS & Duties

Acting Super Square Head - Lloyd Darknell
(408) 286-7262

Aug. 4	Stagnitto
Aug. 11	Wies
Aug. 18	Fifield, Hinze, Powell, Pitts
Aug. 25	Helrich, M; Brookwell
Sep. 1	Franger/Moore
Sep. 8	Willey
Sep. 15	Benevento
Sep. 22	Anderson
Sep. 29	Hea, Pyle
Oct. 6	Hebson
Oct. 13	DARK
Oct. 20	Bennett
Oct. 27	Lunsford

On dance night *PRIOR* to your duty night:

- Help pack up supplies and jugs and put into Club Closet. Notify Acting Super Square Head , Lloyd Darknell, at 408-286-7262 of any needed supplies or change of duty assignments dates.

Before the dance:

- Contact Square Head for following week to be sure they will be there .
- On scheduled nights, the designated Square Heads should arrive **before** 7:00 P.M.
- Set up tables and chairs as needed.
- Bring 6-8 lbs ice for cooler and make ice water.
- Start hot water for tea and coffee.

During club dance:

- Welcome everyone at the door.
- Offer raffle tickets. 5 tickets for $1
- Have guests sign guest book and collect $4.00 donation per guest.
- Give guest names to president or membership chair for introduction during announcements.
- Divide the raffle proceeds--50% to the Club, 50% to the "cups".
- Check that water and cups do not run out.
- **If Treasurer is not present, pass monies collected on to any Executive Board Member.**

After the dance: *Clean up*!! Take the trash bags out to the dumpster located inside the fence enclosure in the side parking lot.

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY !!

Caroline & Dave Fifield. . . . Aug. 7

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UPCOMING SQUARE DANCE EVENTS

Slab Dances; Lucky Steppers
Ben Lomond Slab, Mill Street, Ben Lomond
7:00 PM Rounds begin; 7:30 PM Squares begin
Aug. 5: Caller: **Jim Osborne**
Cuer: Sue Harris
Aug. 12: Caller: Roger Smith
Cuer: Wendy-Jean Iannico
Aug. 19: Caller: Bill Silvers
Cuer: Sue Harris
Aug. 26: Caller: Ed Kremers
Cuer: Sue arris

Aug. 9-12: USA West Square Dance Convention
Honolulu, Hawaii

Sep. 1-3: Mid-Cal Classic
Merced County Fairgrounds, Los Banos
Callers: Bob Baier, Jet Roberts

Sep. 2: Paul Bunyan Days; Redwood Coasters
Fort Bragg
Caller: Scot Byars – Cuer: Erin Byars

Sep. 30: SCVSDA & SCVCA Whing Ding

Oct. 13-15: SCVSDA 50th Annual Jubilee

Oct. 20-22: Fall Frolic; Solvang
Caller: Mike Siskorsy
Cuer: Chuck & Sandi Weiss

Oct. 27-29: Harvest Hoedown; Yuba City
Callers: Charlie Robertson, Romney Tannehill, Jay Henderson, **Jim Osborne**
Cuers: Al & Carole Lillefield

NEWER DANCER HOEDOWN

Be an angel – support our newest dancers!!

May 2006 Class Level

Fri., Aug. 25: Aloha Dance; Sunnyvale Singles
Murphy Park Community Center, Sunnyvale
7:30 – 10:00 PM; Caller: Eric Henerlau

MINUTES
Katydids Executive Board Meeting
July 14, 2006

President, Lloyd Darknell called the meeting to order at 9:32 p.m.

Roll Call: President, Lloyd Darknell; V.P., Bob Bennett; Secretary, Maxine Darknell; Treasurer, Don Powell; Publicity, Don Gaubatz; Membership, Pat Angotti; Chaplain, June Helfrich.

Visitors present: Jim Osborne and Annie Bennett.

The minutes from the previous meeting on May 30 were approved with the corrected party date reading "June" 16th instead of "July" 16th.

The treasurer's report was approved as presented. Don Powell commented on how different and challenging the software program is compared to what he is used to. Bob Hebson, the past treasurer, spent two hours with Don going over the program. Thanks Bob!

Reports:

Officers:

1. President: None

2. Vice-President: None

3. Membership: Pat indicated no changes. We still have 45 active and 17 on leave.

4. Chaplain: June said she has been sending the appropriate cards.

5. Publicity: Don Gaubatz reported the San José Mercury News still hasn't removed the information regarding a beginning square dance class from their free Monday Calendar section.

Committees:

1. Chirper: In Stephanie's absence Lloyd reported the deadline for the August Chirper is Friday, July 28.

2. Class Angels: Morris was not present but there was discussion regarding the class. There were 9 class members in attendance tonight, several were on vacation.

Old Business:

1. Hot August Night Dance, August 18.

The dance will be held in our regular hall at the Congregational Church of Campbell. Jim Osborne will be the caller. Don Powell and Char Pitts will collect the money at the door. Maxine Darknell and Pat Angotti will take care of the clothes sale which will take place in the Fireside Room. Lloyd will ask permission from the church to use this room.

It was suggested that the square heads be in charge of the food, etc. Mark Helfrich and Nicki Brookwell are scheduled but will not be in town. It was suggested that they ask Caroline Fifield and Gary Hinze, who are scheduled for Aug. 25, to switch with them.

There was also some discussion on having "change" available each week for the square heads to use for guests who don't have the correct change. It was decided that Don Powell would provide $15.00 from our funds for this purpose.

2. Jim Osborne's Contract.

Jim attended the meeting briefly to indicate he had forgotten to bring copies of the contract but that he was in agreement with the changes made by the board at the last meeting on May 30. This contract is effective as of July 1, 2006. Lloyd will send a final copy of the contract to each board member.

3. Katydid Business Cards.

Don Gaubatz presented samples he had made of cards designed for our members and guests to give out to interested people. The board was impressed with the quality and design of the cards. There was discussion regarding the content. It was de

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cided that the cards should specify "Plus Level" since the class is so far along and list only the web site information instead of the President's name and phone number. The web site is updated regularly to indicate the location since there are occasions (5th Fridays, etc.) where we would possibly be meeting elsewhere. There would be enough space on the bottom of the card for members and guests to write in their own name and phone number for contact and more information if desired.

4. Possible Social.

Sue Willey and Sandy Franger are planning a social if enough people are interested. It would include dinner at the Tyrolean Inn Restaurant in Ben Lomond and then the slab dance on August 5th. Jim Osborne will be the caller that night. People who are interested should contact Sue or Sandy.

Dance of the Month: August 5th, slab dance at Ben Lomond.

Party Night: August 18, our "Hot August Night, January Class Hoedown and Square Dance Clothing Sale". WEAR GREEN!

Next Board Meeting: August 25th, after club dancing.

Meeting ended at 10:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Maxine Darknell

HAPPY BIRTHDAY !!

Gesine Schaffer	August 04
Carmen Hea	August 09
Carol Griffith	August 10
Robb Moore	August 22
Caroline Fifield	August 25

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CHAPLAIN'S REPORT

Birthday greetings were sent to **Don Gaubatz**, **Rodney Helfrich**, **Maxine Darknell**, **Joyce Weis**, **Sue Willey** and **Sandy Franger**. Anniversary wishes were sent to **Bob** and **Opal Hebson**. It is good to see **Jim** back and feeling better. If you know of any member needing a 'Thinking of You' card, etc. please let me know.

~~*June Helfrich*, Chaplain

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GREETINGS FROM SANDY ~ ~

ed. note: Sandy and Bill are vacationing in Idaho and Maine this month. Her column will return in September.

CHINA, TIBET AND THE YANGTZE RIVER

Submitted by Ray & Virginia Mensing

Ray and I had a wonderful 3 week trip to China in June. Besides the Great Wall and Tiannamen Square in Beijing, we visited the Peking Opera School, where we watched young singers and acrobats training. Amazing to see these 9 or 10 year olds perform! We also had lunch with a family in their home in a hutong, an old neighborhood of Beijing. They say the national bird of China is the construction crane! There is an unbelievable amount of building going on, some, of course, for the summer Olympics. Beijing has terrible air pollution. They claim it will be fixed for the Olympics in '08. I hope so!

We moved on to Xian by overnight train. We had 2 lowers in a private room and it was very comfortable. Xian is the home of the terra cotta warriors, over 7,00 of them! Pictures make it seem like they are outside. Well, they are in the ground, but have large airplane-hangar size buildings over them. You walk around the edges, but have quite good views of the different faces, poses, and uniforms. There are also horses, and were chariots, but they were of wood, so didn't last.

In Xian, our hotel was next to a park with an evening water show. The fountains and lights play to music. We sat on a bench to watch, and a very little boy (under 2) approached Ray and wound up sitting next to him and talking to him. His only understandable word was "Mama", but he was quite happy there. When his parents wanted to leave, he crawled under Ray's knees! He fussed when they took him away, but was soon distracted. By the way, in China, starting at a few months old, little ones wear pants with a split crotch, instead of diapers. Their parents train them by whistling. They learn to pee when their parents whistle!

In the hotel was a dinner theater with a wonderful Tang Dynasty show with 30 dancers in gorgeous costumes. We also visited a family who live in a cave house, built against a hill for temperature control—early air conditioning! They had no heater, but a stove underneath the bed to warm it in winter! We also visited an medicinal herb market, and model apartments which were for sale. No closets in the bedrooms! They buy wardrobe furniture.

One afternoon our bus stopped for a washroom stop. There was a nice market, so we looked and decided to buy Popsicles. They were green and we presumed they were lime flavor. Guess what! They were pea-flavored! Quite different, but not bad. So we got an extra vegetable serving that day!

We stayed overnight at a farmer's house in a modern small village, surrounded by the fields. It was quite modern, but outside, neighbors were threshing wheat, right in the middle of the street! There was a concrete basketball court in the neighborhood, but at 8 pm, the kids left and the adults took over the space for ballroom and line dancing! We found this to be quite common all over China. I think they would be ready for square dancing! The husband offered each of the men a shot of homemade whiskey at breakfast! We walked through the old village and saw noodle makers hanging the noodles on clotheslines to dry, and cement tiles being made by women.

We moved on to Chengdu where we saw 17 pandas at the famous Panda Sanctuary and Research Center, before catching our flight to Lhasa, Tibet. Lhasa is at 12,000 ft. elevation, and we landed between very rug

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(China…continued from page 5)

ged mountains. On our bus into the city, we saw multi-colored prayer flags mounted on nearly every building. Tibet is very colorful. Buildings and rooms are painted in many bright colors. We visited a family here also, and had yak-butter tea, and sampled unusual snacks. Ray also tried some homebrew barley beer. At the hotel, we had yak burgers one night. We had prepared for cold weather here, but never needed a jacket. They sold oxygen canisters at the hotel, but we didn't need them. Lhasa is beautiful, and we are so glad we were able to go there now. The new railroad is bound to change things a lot. The highlight is the Potala Palace, former home of the Dalai Lamas, which sits on a hill in town. There is a stone ramp going up most of the way to the building, and then many, many steps inside.

Later, we were walking in the temple square, and some monks came over to Ray and one of them reached out to feel his hairy arm—a novelty to them! After Lhasa, we had a 3 night cruise on the Yangzte River. The ship and our cabin were first rate. We had our own little balcony to watch from, when we weren't busy with something else. We saw many coal barges, as well as the beautiful scenery. We boarded a smaller boat to explore some of the gorges, and then got into small sampans to go farther. We went through a 5 stage lock, and then toured the Three Gorges Dam, which is a mile and a half wide and 600 feet high. By October, after the summer rain and snow melt,they expect the river to be 130 feet higher than it is now!

Our last stop was Hong Kong, a delightful surprise! It is modern and full of skyscrapers, but very clean and orderly—the British influence. People wait in single file for buses, and the subway cars stop behind glass doors at the exact spot marked on the platform. We went by subway across the bay to Kowloon to their Cultural Center and Space Museum. We saw the museum and an IMAX film on the Nile. We walked along their 'Avenue of the Stars", with cement squares honoring their film stars, and lined with bronze sculptures of various film industry scenes. At night, we went up to Victoria Peak for a beautiful view of Hong Kong at night. We also rode a local bus over the hills to the Stanley Market on the other side of the island. Great scenery and views!

Finally back to California, where it was 98 degrees the day we came home! But it didn't last, and it is good to be home again!

THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER - -

Hi Everyone,

I hope you all have been staying cool in all this hot weather that we have been having lately. The Hot August Night Dance is coming up on August 18 and I hope everyone will be able to attend and support the newer dancers with us that night.

I want to thank **Joyce Wies** for taking the Sheriff position and **Sue Willey** and **Sandy Franger** for taking the social chair position.

On August 5, the Social Chairs are planning a trip to Ben Lomond to dine at the Tyrolean Inn and then dancing at the slab afterwards. Jim will be calling that night.

Hope to see you all there.

~ ~ Lloyd Darknell

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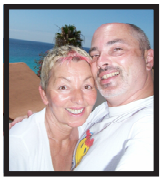
Katydoer Space ~~

I can tell that our caller and teacher, **Jim Osborne**, is marking time perhaps being aware that two of our precious Katydoers have been away and should be returning very shortly. **Nancy Bergmann** has gone to Brazil and **Charlene McAndrew** went to England (returning July 24). The tough call you learned in July was *Relay the Deucey*. For most of July **Jim** has been reinforcing your skills with other tough calls that you have learned. Please be patient when **Nancy** and **Charlene** returns as Jim will bring them up-to-speed. I hope all of you are setting your sights on graduation and planning to attend the Santa Clara County Jubilee in October. We attended the Newer Dancer Hoedown sponsored by Bows & Beaus on July 8 and was very pleased to find several Katydoers in attendance. I shall not name names as to who attended for if I leave someone out, I will feel very badly. So hang in there, you are all doing very well, and the light at the end of the tunnel is getting brighter and brighter.

Morris & Louise Hosoda, Head Angels

CURLY'S DIARY – –



With deepest sadness I've realized that Andy Blaise is now in another world. He was my only and best HAPP partner for several years, and a deep friendship developed between his lovely wife Jackie, Andy, my husband Willi and me. I will always remember his heartfelt style, his jokes, his loyalty, and wonderful personality. He has been my idol, never heard a hurting word from him, and he dedicated his time and efforts to so many important things. I cannot put my feelings into simple words, but my heart feels so deeply for him and with Jackie. I am sure that Andy wouldn't like too much that we are sad, but that he watches us all from above, looking back to a fulfilled life, and continues to help those in need.

As always,

-Curly

June 29
Willi and I often walked down from our home to downtown Stuttgart to watch the soccer world championship games on the Schlossplatz, together with around 40.000 other fans, on huge screens: 90 degrees F, lots of food, drinks (yes, it's legal to drink beer in public), and peaceful, happy, cheering people from 10 to 90 years young. What a blast!

Between the games, there is always a short game show, which is publicly transmitted on the screens. The famous talk master from South West Radio 3 asked the crowd: WHO WANTS TO WIN AN ORIGINAL SOCCER T-SHIRT? And I, you know me, of course immediately started towards the stage. They wanted 5 girls out of thousands, and guess what, besides 4 beautiful Brazilian girls one German Oak Tree was chosen – me!!! Willi, by good luck, had his camera with him, and took some pictures [ed. note: pictures in the June 2006 issue of the *Chirper*]. The talk master asked every one of us all kinds of questions, and we were not allowed to use the words YES, NO, BLACK, WHITE for at least one minute! Can you imagine, a professional talk master, with of course lots of experience. The first girl was out after 5 seconds, I managed to survive 35 seconds! Way too spontaneous, and l-o-o-o-ts of fun! The shirt went to the 3rd girl, who really did a great job!! Or she didn't understand German? I don't know… Willi was so proud, and this alone was worth the whole game.

Hugs and kisses from your German friends, who probably are newborn Soccer Fans by now, fascinated by the friendly international atmosphere, and wishing that the great feelings of the World Championship here in Germany may never end! OLEEEE, OLE OLE OLEEEEEEEEE

July 5
Welcome to Madeira! VACATION for two weeks. There are a thousand and one reasons for visiting Madreira! In addition to its stunning scenery and luxuriant mountains, this archipelago also includes a mild climate all year round, a warm welcome and, safety (no criminality!!!!!!!!) and security among its charms. Willi and I climbed to the top of a mountain and enjoyed fantastic, breathtaking views. For me was the Laurissivia Forest along than 1,400 km of Levadas ::::NO, NO: WE WALKED ONLY A FEW... I am amazed.

July 10: PORTO SANTO
The golden island is blessed with kilometers of fine, unpolluted sand, washed by a clear, calm sea…all you need for a perfect stay is to get to know a vast cultural heritage dating back to the time of the discoveries at museums, churches, palaces. Madeira is full of fun as we are a happy bunch! The people are so wonderful. Oh, here's a story: Willi and I went to a nice place, kind of a beergarden. Many natives from Portugal. A huge Television in front. So, Willi and I, are the only Germans! It was the soccer game DEUTSCHLAND - PORTUGAL. The first goal for Germany.....I whispered TOR! whisper ? ahem, you never know! The game was over - GERMANY WON…we declared that we had better to go, but, believe it or not…all people came and shook our hands, saying "Hey, congratulations" and gave us an invitation to a big table. So, we celebrate the game with all the nice people, a lot of GOOD FOOD and very good MADEIRA WINE. We will never forget.

Hugs and Kisses

Curly

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The ***Chirper*** Newsletter is written by, and for, members of the Katydids Square Dance Club.

Copy deadline for the September issue is August 25th. You can submit articles in writing to the ***Chirper*** Editor:

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