



# HOT TIPS

March  
2017

## Hotlanta Squares attend Flip The Flamingo

A number of the members of Hotlanta Squares ventured south to St. Petersburg, FL for the SunCoast Squares' fantastic winter fly-in, "Flip The Flamingo" in February. The event was held over the Presidents' Day weekend and capped off with a cookout and dancing on the beach at DeSoto Park. Callers Gary Monday, Chris Phillips and Mike Cox provided the entertainment and SunCoast Squares members provided some delicious food. It was great to spend time with our Florida friends, many of whom are former Hotlanta Squares members. A good time was had by all.

















## **March Birthdays**

*George Lloyd - March 2nd*

*Michele Monti - March 10th*

*Victor Ing - March 18th*

*Jo Hamby - March 20th*

*ZT Daniels - March 23rd*

*Randy Rowan - March 23rd*

*Charlene Henderson - March 27th*

*Doreen Church - March 28th*

*Robin Hancock - March 31st*





# Mike Shagina's Caller Workshop

*By Mike Shagina*

**You've all heard me announce the upcoming "Introduction to Calling" workshop during class the past few weeks. I've had good response, and hopefully there are still some who are curious and thinking about it but aren't sure if they should sign up. Let me see if I can convince you.**

**We talk a lot about the health and growth of the club through recruitment of new dancers, keeping existing dancers involved and interested in the activity, and offering ongoing classes to develop our skills and advance to new levels. But all of this effort is for nothing without a qualified caller. Callers are hard to find. It's not for everybody and it takes a long time to develop the skills necessary to be a caller. Dancing to tapes is fine for learning, but dancing to the same recordings is not going to keep dancers interested for long and, in reality, only the upper levels dance to tapes because it's even harder to find a regular caller for those levels. If we, as a club, want to guarantee the future success and longevity of our club we need to be encouraging and developing callers from within our membership. This requires two things-- dancers who have an interest in calling, and the opportunity to learn how to call.**

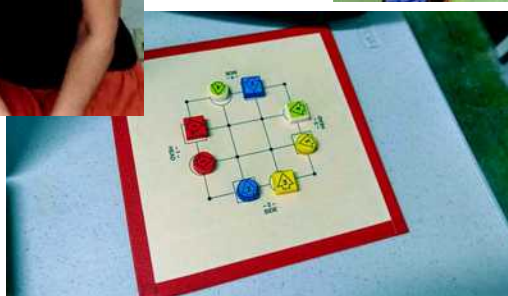
**There are callers in our area but finding one that is willing and available to call (and teach) on the nights that we need them each week is a tall order. Most already have clubs that they call for. We don't want to be in a position where we have to rely on a small pool of callers who already have other commitments.**

**Why would someone be interested in calling? I think if you asked a lot of callers they would each have a different story about how they got started in calling and what interested them. Some people might like to choreograph and work out sequences of calls and resolutions. Some might like to sing and want to perform. For some it might be a natural progression from dancing to calling. Whatever the reason, calling is a complex set of skills and one or all of them might be the thing that you would enjoy and want to learn. You don't have to learn to call with the idea of being a professional caller. If you just want to write sequences of calls and do that for your own enjoyment, that's fine, you could still potentially make a significant contribution to the club with that skill.**

**Which brings me to the reason for holding this workshop. Our club has always been in the position of relying on one caller, without any real back up plan if that person should leave for any reason, temporarily or permanently.**

**Why has this been the case? The opportunity to learn calling has never been offered. There are callers schools people can attend, and should, but once a year is not very often and without regular practice and support you will not make much progress unless you are extremely motivated. So I'm offering this workshop for people who have already begun learning to call, people who are just curious about what it's like to call and what it entails, and people who think they might want to learn to call but haven't had the opportunity and attending a callers school is too intimidating or too expensive for them. In this workshop I plan to cover what is involved in calling, how you go about it and what you need to learn, what equipment is used how to use it, and what will be required if this is something you want to pursue. For those who have been to a callers school, this will not be a callers school and I'm not going to run it the same way. I'm not qualified to turn you into a caller. What I can do is get you started and point you in the right direction, show you what you need to know, and how to go about learning the skills needed. I'm still learning (every week) how to be a caller myself, and what I've learned over the (nearly a) year that I've been the club caller is "how to learn to be a caller."**

**This initial introductory workshop was held on March 25<sup>th</sup> and 10 students participated. The second workshop has been scheduled for Saturday, April 22<sup>nd</sup> from 10:00am to 12:00pm at City of Light. It will be open to everyone as long as you are a club member (this will be a club sponsored activity), a plus level dancer or above (you must be very comfortable with full mainstream), and preferably able to dance both positions (not a strict requirement). There will be no fee or anything to buy. I hope to see you at the workshop.**



Photos from the initial workshop on March 25<sup>th</sup>



# Hotlanta Squares' Saint Patrick's Day Dance with Jimmy Roberson

On Saturday, March 11<sup>th</sup>, Hotlanta Squares held a St. Patrick's Dance (a few days early) and everyone enjoyed doing the Cloverleaf decked out in green. We had a nice crowd and a wonderful time.







*Presents*

# Wing, Slip and Slither Into Spring



**Saturday, April 22, 2017**  
7:00pm - 10:00pm

City of Light MCC  
3125 Presidential Parkway  
Atlanta, GA 30340

*With*  
**Lenny Newberry**  
*From Lexington, Alabama*

Members - \$8.00  
Non-Members - \$10.00  
Non-dancing Guests - Free  
*(and always welcome)*





# Tidal Wave Beach Party



With



Saturday, June 10<sup>th</sup>, 2017  
7:00pm - 10:00pm



**Justin Russell**  
From  
Memphis, TN

**City of Light MCC**  
3125 Presidential  
Parkway  
Atlanta, GA 30340



*Wear your favorite beach attire*



**Admission:**  
\$8.00 for HS Members  
\$10.00 for Non-members  
Non-dancing guests get in free  
(and are always welcome)

# Load the Boat and Pass the Ocean

Promenade  
Down Peachtree  
Atlanta • Georgia  
**January 12-14, 2018**  
**Carnival**

**Callers**

Johnny Preston

Tom Miller

Chris Phillips

**Join Hotlanta Squares for PDP 2018—"CARNIVAL," Jan 12<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup>, 2018.**  
Carnival typically involves a public celebration and/or parade combining some elements of a circus, masks, and a public street party. People wear masks and costumes during many such celebrations, allowing them to lose their everyday individuality and experience a heightened sense of social unity.  
Bring your favorite costume, masks, beads, etc. Our Saturday night "Costume Party" dance is one you won't want to miss. Make your plans to join us for PDP 2018!

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Male  Female   
 Mainstream    Plus    Advanced    C1    C2    Non-dancer

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Club Affiliation: \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Contact: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Registration Fee	
Through Feb 28, 2017.....	<b>\$90</b>
March 1 thru July 31, 2017.....	<b>\$105</b>
Aug 1 thru Dec 31, 2017.....	<b>\$115</b>
Jan 1, 2018 to at-the-door.....	<b>\$130</b>
Non-dancer.....	<b>\$40</b>

If paying by check, send your check payable to Hotlanta Squares to: Hotlanta Squares, P.O. Box 15533, Atlanta, GA 30033  
We also accept credit card payment through PayPal. You can register online and pay by going to our website:  
[www.iagsdc.com/hotlanta/](http://www.iagsdc.com/hotlanta/)

**Register on-line at [www.hotlantasquares.org](http://www.hotlantasquares.org)**