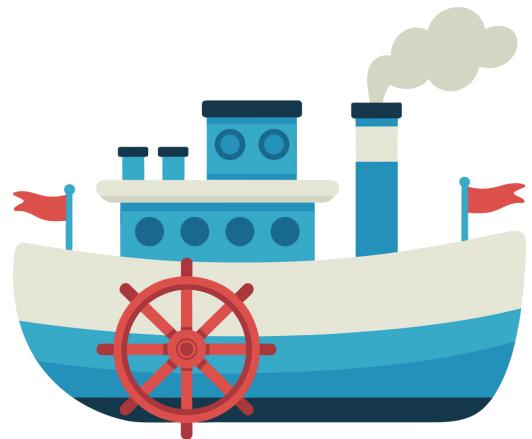


# Illinois Square and Round Dance Convention Newsletter

January 2026



## Load the Boat to Rock Island!

**Happy New Year from your convention committee!  
We look forward to seeing you in Rock Island in July!**

### FEATURED CALLER - JACK PLADDYS

Jack began his calling career in 1982 while stationed with the U.S. Air Force at Kadena AB, Okinawa, Japan. After retiring from the Air Force in 1992, he moved to Ohio where he met and married his wife Sherry in 1995. They now manage a home program serving two Plus clubs, an Advanced group, and a C1 group

An active member of CALLERLAB, Jack serves on the Executive Committee and is the 2026-27 Chairman of the Board of Governors. He is an Accredited Caller Coach and former Chairman of the Marketing Committee. Jack also leads the Central U.S. division for Grand Square International, Inc., and is Vice President of the Miami Valley Callers Association in Dayton, Ohio.

Jack is deeply involved in caller education, running the Midwest Caller College and serving as a staff coach at the NSDC/GSI Caller School and Pride Resort Caller School. He has contributed to education panels at numerous CALLERLAB and National Conventions.

In 2025, Jack was honored as the first inductee into the Grand Square International Hall of Fame and received the Crystal Mike Award for lifetime achievement in caller education from the Northeast Caller School.

Jack's calling takes him across the U.S., Canada, Japan, the Middle East, and Europe. He is a featured caller at state conventions and festivals, and has been on staff at the Pride Square Dance Resort in North Carolina for several years. Along with Sherry, he organizes and calls for various weekends, festivals, and cruises annually. He also records square dance music for Royal Records, and has previously worked with Chicago Country Records, Desert Recordings, ESP Records, and Gold Rush Records.

Jack and Sherry live in Fairfield Township, Ohio.