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Nov 8, 1987

To: Miami Valley Dance Council
Subject: Miami Valley Honor Couple

On behalf of the Xenia Hospitality Western Square Dance Club, we would like to submit a couple from our club that we feel deserve the consideration of this honor.

Martin and Zelma Ball have been an asset to our club since they first joined in 1975. They take pride in working for the club and its members and do so even when their schedules are busy. Always willing to assist in any way that they can, many times doing things of their own initiative to the better improvement of the club. Their faithfulness to the club is outstanding.

They began their dancing in 1975, with Jaye Fitch as their instructor, and have not missed a year that they have not worked for the club. They have been Pres 2 times, V. Pres 2 times, Secr 1 time, Treas 1 time, Banner Chairman 3 times, and worked Activities Chairman into their other jobs 4 times. In 1983, Martin found time to conduct a lesson class for the club.

Martin and Zelma attended Callers College in Hartland, Mich. in 1981, under the instruction of Al Brundage, Dick Bayer, and Earl Johnson, and are members of the Miami Valley Callers Assoc.

Martin and Zelma support our club and square dancing in more ways than we are able to say. A more dedicated couple would indeed be hard to find. As of this date, Martin has 224 raids to his credit and Zelma has 194. That is quite an outstanding contribution and certainly promotes our conception of how they feel about square dancing. Each year our club dances in Xenia for our Old Fashioned Days and for the past 5 yrs, Martin has done the calling for it and also, he does the calling for our float that we put in our parade at that time. He has been notified that we will be having a Christmas parade, and asked if he would like to put our group into it.

They also were instrumental in starting the Clinton County Country Squares years ago and keep as active as they can with that club too, as Charter Members. They have assisted with all the lesson classes we have had, coming out to be Angels for any that might need a partner, helping to get everything set up for the class and clearing up after the dance or class was over. Zelma has taught line dances at some of the classes, which everyone enjoys so much.

Needless to say, this couple have gone out of their way to promote square dancing and the fellowship of it to all. If all members were as dedicated, our clubs would all be in fine shape. They are an exceptional couple, giving of themselves willingly so that we have a good club and the dancers will all enjoy a night of good dancing. They are a family oriented, Church going couple and are a great asset to the lives of those that know them.

Their outside interests consist of camping, geneology, cycling, collecting pictures of covered bridges, and magnets of different sorts. Martin has a barber shop in Xenia, and Zelma is a bookkeeper at Value City Clothing in Dayton.

As long as we have had the pleasure of knowing Martin and Zelma, we have found them to be very good friends, very giving, and compassionate, and always ready to help in any way they can. Their morals and conduct are above reproach and we feel their dedication to square dancing should be recognized for all they given to so many. If ever a couple deserved to be the Miami Valley Honor Couple, Martin and Zelma certainly deserve this honor. They are a fine couple and we hope very much that they will be taken into consideration for an honor that they are so deserving of. Thank you very much.

1st Scribe
Sincerely,

Wil & Vi Millward, Club President
372-3452