

The **Council's honor-raider badge** may be earned by dancers who attend 100 banner raids or retrievals with their club's raiding parties. A "jewel" for the badge is presented for each 100 additional raids, up through 400. After 500 raids a silver badge is awarded. For each 100 raids from 600 through 1,000 dancers receive scrolls. The Council offers the opportunity for dancers to earn this badge in order to encourage friendship and visiting between Council clubs. There are specific rules, listed elsewhere in this issue, that must be followed. These rules will be repeated in alternate upcoming issues. Some clubs also give raider badges and/or dangles, and those clubs must be consulted concerning their procedures. Dancers who have earned an honor raider badge or "jewel" during the year are guests at a special dinner-dance on the fourth Sunday in September. All holders of honor badges are invited to the afternoon dance.

The **Council friendship badge** can be earned by dancers who visit twenty different MVDC clubs. For every additional time "around the Council" a dangle for the badge is awarded. Specific rules and procedures are contained in a separate article in this issue. Dancers who have earned a Council friendship badge are invited to a free dance on the fourth Sunday afternoon in September.

The **MVDC demo dangle** can be earned by attending Council demos. To obtain this dangle dancers must attend and dance at five (5) different Council-sponsored demos in one calendar year. There is no carryover from year to year. During the event, dancers must obtain the caller's signature or the signature of the person in charge of the demo and record the event, location and date on the special demo-dangle form. Completed forms must be returned to the Council's club operations chairman who will order the dangles.

Council Honor Dancers

Each year the various councils/federations in the state select a couple (or two individual dancers) as honor dancers from their areas. The dancers from all the areas are introduced at the annual Buckeye Dance Convention. These dancers are chosen for their dedication and contributions to their organizations and to the square dance activity in general. In the Miami Valley Dance Council each club is encouraged to select a club honor couple/dancers and submit them as nominees for the Council recognition. The yearly **Council honor dancers**, chosen from the club nominees, receive a plaque, special badges and free admission to the state convention and State Corp. luncheon. They, *along with all the club honor dancers*, are guests at a special dinner-dance on the fourth Sunday in September. Each club also "does something special" for its honor dancers.

HONOREES' DANCE

Since there is no state convention this year, the Lima Area Council of Round and Square Dancers is sponsoring an all-day dance on *May 2* to recognize the council/federation honor dancers from around the state. Dancing will be from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and 8 to 11 p.m. in four buildings at the *Miami County Fairgrounds in Troy*. The *recognition program* will be at 7 p.m. Dancing will include squares, rounds, and contras. There will be two square dance shops and a micro mini-LEGACY. The cost is \$10 per couple in advance and \$12 at the door.



EMERGENCY CALL FOR MEDICAL AID

ECMA, **E**mergency **C**all for **M**edical **A**id, is a signal to be used by dancers to notify the caller of a medical problem in their square. The procedure is as follows.

- Step 1: When a dancer goes down, a second dancer attends him/her.
- Step 2: Remaining persons join hands and take a step backward. This allows the injured person and attendant air and room.
- Step 3: They raise joined hands as high as possible in the form of an *arched circle*.
- Step 4: On seeing this signal, the caller or club officer will immediately place an emergency call for medical aid.

Using and recognizing this arched-circle signal could avoid confusion and save precious minutes during an emergency.