

Crossing Trails Square
Dance Heritage Society
631 W. Richton Road
Steger, Il. 60475
March 1, 1993

Dear Editor,

Forty years of collecting and digging for historical information on Square Dancing has brought a lot of joy for me. For those who have shared with me, they have expressed the same sentiments also.

Now the collection has been made available for everyone to use. I have devoted a good portion of my life to the gathering and sharing, and will continue to seek out what ever I can to leave a legacy of valued research material for future archivists.

We now have Square Dance collections in the following states...California, New Mexico, Washington, as well as several outstanding collections on the East Coast and now a very extensive collection in the Midwest.

Enclosed are articles I hope you can publish. If everyone will do their part, by getting the word out about the different projects being created to help in the gathering of those wonderful nuggets of information that are still out there not recorded, the collection will have even greater significance. I will in turn do everything in my power to expose the public in general, to the traditionally, important, vital necessity for the continuance of the Square Dances in their many forms.

I have a second request from you. Over the years single copies of magazines, newsletters, etc. have been gathered at conventions and through donors form all over the world. These pieces are already in biographies about most of the past and present publications that deal with our activity. Of course any of your publications that you feel were outstanding should be in the collection. Sending publications to the Newberry Library will help in making our Square Dance collection even more auspicious.

For now thank you for any help and assistance you can give. Believe me by cooperating you are promoting Square Dancing in a very significate way.

Regards,

Donna L. Rodgers

President of C.T.S.D.H.S.

March 1993

A SEARCH IS ON

by Donna Rodgers - President of The Crossing Trails Square Dance
Heritage Society

On Thursday and Friday mornings, at the 1993 National Square Dance
Convention in St. Louis, there will be two different, two hour panels
on the history of Square Dancing. In order to make the sessions
interesting we are trying some new and diverse ideas.

There will be people in costume from different periods in our history,
telling us about what it was like to be a Square Dancer in their day
"Show and Tell" where folks show items of historical value or
interest, prominent people who have played major roles in promoting
our activity are giving interviews, other collectors and historians
will share some of what they know.

For those who feel they have something to contribute, contact us. If
you cannot make it to the convention - put your presentation on a
video or cassette tape and sent it along.

Contact: Donna Rodgers - 631 West Richton Road - Steger, Il. 60475

FIFTY YEAR OLD SQUARE DANCE COLLECTION FINDS PERMANENT HOME

March, 1993

by Donna Rodgers

Pres. of Crossing Trails Square Dance Heritage Society

An extensive collection of Square Dance memorabilia has now become part of the renowned Newberry Library in Chicago. The Library is a free library open to all. It was formally created in 1887. It is one of the leading American libraries in the history and theory of music. The books, the programs, and the facilities all declare the Newberry Library to be a world-class institution. The Newberry offers many courses, conferences and concerts throughout the year. The Library arranges museum exhibits along with correct interpretations, finds ways to publish information about collections and encourages informal seminars.

Another of their great assets--the well educated, well trained, and dedicated professional members of the library staff, and not to be forgotten, the hundreds of volunteers who help in many areas. From scholars, to people desiring to make careful researches, to non-academic reference needs, the Newberry Library stands ready to serve you.

For further information about the Crossing Trails Square Dance Heritage Society Collection, contact: Diana Haskell - Curator of Midwest Manuscripts Collections - The Newberry Library - 60 West Walton Street - Chicago, Illinois 60610