

HONOR COUPLE NOMINATION

NOMINATING CLUB Miami Valley Folk Dancers (MVFD)

NAME OF COUPLE Louis and Nancy Hyll

ADDRESS 2151 Meriline Avenue

Dayton, Ohio 45420

PHONE 937-252-3514

NUMBER OF YEARS DANCING 49

CLUB POSITIONS HELD _____

Program Committee

Workshop Chair

Equipment Committee Chair

Publicity Chair

COUNCIL POSITIONS HELD—ELECTED AND APPOINTED _____

MVFD Representative to Pavilion Support Committee

MVFD Representative to MVDC

STATE CORP. POSITIONS HELD Ohio Mini-Legacy 1980, 1981, 1983

STATE CONVENTIONS ATTENDED Ohio: 1962, 1975, 1976, 1978, 1982, 1984, 1985, 1987, 1988, 1995;

Indiana: 1996; also numerous folk and contra workshops/festivals/camps, see Background, item A

NATIONAL CONVENTIONS ATTENDED 1982, 1985, 1989, 1992;

also numerous folk and contra workshops/festivals/camps, see Background, item A

NUMBER OF CLUBS (MEMBER) currently 3, but many others over the years, see Background, item B

BACKGROUND _____

PLEASE SEE PAGES 2 & 3 FOR BACKGROUND ITEMS

A - CONVENTIONS, WORKSHOPS, FESTIVALS, CAMPS, HOLIDAYS

B - CLUB MEMBERSHIP

C - PROMOTION OF DANCE THROUGH DEMONSTRATIONS

D - PROMOTION OF DANCE THROUGH LEADERSHIP

PLEASE SEE PAGE 4 FOR COMPOSITE NARRATIVE

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AND WRITE-UP –ATTACH SHEETS AS NEEDED.

MIAMI VALLEY FOLK DANCERS, LOUIS AND NANCY HYLL

BACKGROUND

ITEM A - CONVENTIONS, WORKSHOPS, FESTIVALS, CAMPS, HOLIDAYS: In addition to State and National Square Dance Conventions the Hylls have attended many folk, contra, and dance leadership workshops, festivals, camps, and holidays including:

Lloyd Shaw Foundation Workshops 1962, 75-78, 84 Bannerman Family Folk Dance Camp 1974-75

Kentucky Dance Institute 1975, 77, 79-80, 87, 90 Bluegrass Dance Holiday 1992-94

Various MVFD Ethnic Folk Dance Workshops 1972-96 (too numerous to list individual workshops)

Oglebay Folk Dance Camps Berea Christmas Country Dance School

Yorktown Contra Dance Holiday Flying Cloud Academy of Vintage Dance

ITEM B - CLUB MEMBERSHIP: Currently the Hylls are members of:

Miami Valley Folk Dancers 1971-97

Country Dance and Song Society of America 1984-97 (Historical American dance & Contra dance)

American Callers Association 1996-97

Over the years they have been members of many Square, Contra, Historical and Folk dance clubs, including:

YMCA Community Dances 1948-58 Miami Valley Square Dance Club 1958-59

Lohrey Square Dance Club 1958-62 Dayton Square Dance Club 1958, 1962-63, 1971-72

Boots & Ruffles Square Dance Club 1958-62 Lewisburg Promenaders 1971

Squares A Go Go 1971 Dayton 2 x 4's 1971

Enon Shooting Stars 1971-76 Dayton Whirlaways 1971-72

Date'n 8's 1971 Delco Square Dance Club 1973-76

Silver Squares 1973, 1976-77 Rose E. Miller Squares 1977-80

Queen City Contra Club 1974-75, 1980 Kettering Historical Dancers 1975-82

Open Squares 1978-79 Dayton Contra Dance Club 1973-78

Springfield Country Dancers 1983-86 Lloyd Shaw Foundation 1984-91 (American dance forms)

Zivio Yugoslav Dancers 1983-90 Bagatelle French Dancers 1990-92

Corinth Friendly Squares 1987-94 Urbana Senior Squares 1987-94

Miami Valley Callers Association pre-1958, 1971-72, 1981-90

ContraLab 1986-92 CallerLab 1988-95

ITEM C - PROMOTION OF DANCE THROUGH DEMONSTRATIONS: The Hylls have promoted recreational dance through their participation in many, many demonstrations, including: MVFD demonstrations of international folk dancing (Sauerkraut Festival and others), Council sponsored demos (Day in the Park, Holiday at Home), historical and contra demos with the Kettering Historical Dancers (USA Bicentennial, historical fairs), etc.

MIAMI VALLEY FOLK DANCERS, LOUIS AND NANCY HYLL

BACKGROUND

ITEM D - PROMOTION OF DANCE THROUGH LEADERSHIP: Perhaps the Hyll’s greatest contribution to recreational dance has been the introduction of thousands of non-dancers to recreational dance. They have presented hundreds of one-time programs and classes in square, folk, contra, historical, and line dancing to community groups, schools, scout groups, universities, church groups, professional and business organizations, handicapped and disabled groups, private parties, block parties, wedding receptions, hospitals and nursing homes, mentally retarded, drug rehabilitation centers, historical societies, re-enactment groups, and folk groups. Additionally, many fledgling dance leaders have been helped by the Hylls with encouragement, advice, support, and materials.

Lou Hyll began square dance calling in 1949 as a substitute for the YMCA community dances (before western-style square dancing evolved). As square dancing evolved, Lou continued his calling and taught western-style square dance classes for the City of Dayton in 1957, 58. One of these classes became the Miami Valley Square Dance Club. He was the club caller for the Lohrey Square Dance Club 1960-61, Rose E. Miller Squares 1977-80, Corinth Friendly Squares 1987-94, and Urbana Senior Squares 1987-94. The Hylls also led the Kettering Historical Dancers 1975-82 and the Springfield Country Dancers 1983-86.

Multiple horizontal lines provided for additional text or comments.

LOUIS AND NANCY HYLL

Louis and Nancy Hyll are truly pioneers of recreational dance in Dayton, Ohio. They began dancing traditional squares in the late 40's/early 50's. As square dancing evolved into early western-style and on to club western-style the Hylls grew with it. Through the years the Hylls also explored related dance forms - folk, round, contra, historical, clogging, and line dancing.

Lou Hyll began square dancing in 1948 as a very young adult. He was active in many YMCA Y-Singles activities, including community square dances. Here he began his avocation as a square dance caller, learning to call as a substitute for the regular caller. In 1954 he met his future bride, Nancy, in the YMCA Chorus, and they began dancing together at YMCA community dances. In 1957, Lou and Nancy married. Lou continued to call, teaching square dance classes for the City of Dayton in 1957-58. Lou has been the club caller for several clubs over the years. In the late 60's the Hylls began specializing in programs for non-dancers. In the 70's, the Hylls expanded their dancing and leadership into the related forms of folk, contra, line, and historical dance.

Lou and Nancy have been active in many clubs over the years. So many that it is hard to count them. They include early square dance clubs (Miami Valley Square Dance Club, Lohrey Square Dance Club, Boots & Ruffles Square Dance Club), clubs that still exist or have merged (Dayton Square Dance Club, Shooting Stars, Whirlaways, Date'n 8's, 2 x 4's), contra clubs (Dayton Contra Dance Club, Queen City Contra Club), historical clubs (Kettering Historical Dancers, Springfield Country Dancers) and folk clubs (Miami Valley Folk Dancers, Zivio Yugoslav Dancers, Bagatelle French Dancers).

Perhaps the Hyll's greatest contribution to recreational dance has been the introduction of thousands of non-dancers to recreational dance. They have presented hundreds of one-time programs and classes in square, folk, contra, historical, and line dancing to community groups, schools, scout groups, universities, church groups, professional and business organizations, handicapped and disabled groups, private parties, block parties, wedding receptions, hospitals and nursing homes, mentally retarded, drug rehabilitation centers, historical societies, re-enactment groups, and folk groups. Additionally, many fledging dance leaders have been helped by the Hylls with encouragement, advice, support, and materials.

Lou first became involved with the Miami Valley Folk Dancers (MVFD) in 1953 and participated in related events for about a year. Then in 1971, the entire Hyll family (Lou, Nancy, and two daughters) began dancing with MVFD on a regular basis. It wasn't long before the Hylls became active, valued members of the club. Through the years the Hylls have been Program Committee members, Equipment Committee Chair, Workshop Chair, Publicity Chair, Representative to the Miami Valley Dance Council, and Representative to the Pavilion Support Committee. They have provided refreshments, planned and led Ethnic Sunday programs, and planned and led Thursday evening programs. Nancy has typed many syllabi for weekend workshops and written articles for the MVDC Dance News. They have introduced and reviewed many dances for the club (especially squares, rounds, and contras). They have helped MVFD promote folk dance through their participation in numerous demonstrations and festivals including the Ohio Sauerkraut Festival, MVDC Day in the Park, and Tri-City Folk Dance Festival.

For 25 years as active members of the Miami Valley Folk Dancers, and for 49 years as pioneers of recreational dance in Dayton, the Miami Valley Folk Dancers are proud to name Louis and Nancy Hyll as its 1997 Honor Roll Dancers and nominee for the Miami Valley Dance Council Honor Roll Couple.



Miami Valley Folk Dancers

Dayton, Ohio

1997

HONOR ROLL DANCERS

In recognition of their many contributions
to MVFD and dance in the Dayton area
the *Miami Valley Folk Dancers*
are pleased to name

LOUIS and NANCY HYLL

MVFD Honor Roll Dancers
January, 1997

MVFD Chairperson

MVFD Vice-Chairperson