

MIAMI VALLEY SINGLES CLUB

The Miami Valley Singles Club was formed by Jean K. Aills and started out as a chapter of the international Bachelors and Bachelorettes with the first dance being held on 8 September 1990. At that time it was decided we would become a club and dance from 8 to 10:30 on the second and fourth Saturday of the month at Demmitt Elementary School on Old Rt. 40 at Brown School Road in Vandalia, Ohio. One of our Miami Valley Callerlab callers, Randy West, is employed at this school and he offered to serve as the custodian on duty for our dances which was a big help to our new club.

Our first dance was held at the Lohrey Center with Jim Shaffer as our caller and 60 dancers attended that first dance. We had a meeting after this afternoon dance and about half of the dancers chose to join the club at that time. The Miami Valley Singles still have several of those original dancers as members.

The rental of the school building was too high for a small club just starting out so in January, 1991 we made the decision to change our club name, dance location and day of dance. We moved to the Polk Grove Church, 9190 Frederick Road at Rt. 40 and our new dance night became the first and third Thursday of the month. Randy West was our club caller for a short time and the instructor for our first lesson class after we moved to the Polk Grove Church.

The caller for one of these early dances was John Chevalier. Gay was just beginning to cue rounds and we invited her to cue that evening and as a result the club decided to invite Gay to practice cuing rounds at our dances as our club cuer and we asked John to become our club caller. Gay and John have been a big asset to our club. The two of them as club caller and cuer have been the "cement" that helped mold our club together and Gay has certainly been a great addition to the Miami Valley Dance Council's cuers.

When the club as the Bachelors and Bachelorettes joined the Miami Valley Dance Council they were using the constitution and by-laws of the B&B's organization but when the club chose to change their name, location and day of dance, they wrote and adopted a new constitution and by-laws and chose to become incorporated.

The club is still pretty small at nine years of age and with our members coming from many distant locations we have been unable to conduct lesson classes. The club adjusted dance time to 7:30 to 10 PM about three years ago and went to dancing once a month on the third Thursday.

The club has had two official banner club outfits in its short time as a club but are still using our original design for club banners. Several members have earned honor raider badges and this year, 1999, we nominated our first honor couple, Dorothy and Tim Bramlett, to the Council.

Several of the members have served as club officers over and over through the nine years to keep the club running and as with all small clubs, the members contribute time, money and materials as well. We do have excellent callers for our dancers both from the Miami Valley Callers Association and other areas. New members are always welcome and invited to become part of this club.

**Submitted by:
Jean K. Aills
1999**

Update: As of March 31, 2001, our club will be dancing at the Michael Solomon Pavilion on the third Friday of each month from 8 to 10:30 p.m.