

Miami Valley Dance Council 2014 Honor Couple



Ken and Myrna Allen

Ken & Myrna Allen have been square dancing 18 & 17 years respectively. Ken took lessons with their daughter, Kristen, in 1996 at Super B's as a result of a father-daughter Girl Scout activity. They enjoyed it so much that Myrna took lessons the following year. They joined Kitty Hawks in 2000, and have held one position or another every year since 2001. They have served as vice president, raid chairmen, secretary (twice), directors, council rep, and president. Ken was MVDC vice-president for 2 years, and Myrna was MVDC secretary for 2 years.

Ken has booked callers for the Kitty Hawks since 2002 and for the Dayton Whirlaways since 2008. He makes, prints, and distributes to clubs via council meetings approximately 13 different dance flyers per year. He also printed the Kitty Hawk class promotional materials which he & Myrna also designed.

In addition to dancing at their Kitty Hawk dances, Myrna and Ken dance at the Advanced Level. They administered the Monday night "A-Sharps" advanced workshops with Jack Pladdys for 12 years. They angel at Kitty Hawks on Tuesday nights as well as at the Advanced Level in Cincinnati a couple of Wednesdays a month. They began dancing Challenge Level in 2010. Myrna is the current president of Dayton Whirlaways, where she and Ken may be found dancing on the 2nd & 4th Fridays. Myrna & Ken have earned the Miami Valley Dance Council Honor Badge & have 413 and 459 raids respectively. They have each earned the Miami Valley Dance Council Friendship Badge & the Ohio Corporation of Dance Clubs Friendship Badge.

The Allen's attend at least 10 out-of-town weekend dances per year, including Ohio & Michigan's state conventions, and weekends in Noblesville, Coldwater, Plymouth, Cleveland, Detroit, and Kings Island. They started the "Smokin in Rail City" weekend in Lima, Ohio and have administered it every year since it began in 2006. They book the Allen County Convention Center, handle registrations, and hire the callers and cuers. They work with the attached Wingate Hotel to provide rooms for 200-250 dancers and arrange a catered dinner on Saturday evening. 7 states were represented at "Smokin' in Rail City" in 2013.

Ken and Myrna have attended 5 National Conventions and served on the Detroit National Convention Education Committee. They are currently serving as Program Chairmen for the 2017 National Square Dance Convention in Cincinnati and will be involved with selecting the callers and cuers as well as assigning dance halls at the Duke Energy Center. They are very glad to have begun their square dance journey 18 years ago. All of the reasons that they love square dancing are far too numerous to mention, but here are eleven with which to start!

Socialization

Quality Time Together

Unified Effort

Alert Minds Required

Rhythm of the Music

Escape from Worries and Pressures

Discipline

Adding Years to Our Lives, We Hope!

Never-Ending Friendships

Creative Choreography

Exercise, Entertainment and **E**nergy

Ken and Myrna thank everyone for their friendship and wish you many more years of happy & healthy dancing. Yellow Rocks!