

NEWS 'n NOTES[©]

...for Western-Style Square Dance Callers

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COMMENTARY by Ben Rubright

Mainstream Getouts. Using a variety of getouts is a way to provide spice to a dance. Some callers use reminder lists to which they refer when calling, so that they need not commit it all to memory. There is nothing wrong with using notes, as long as they can be integrated into your calling without causing hic-ups in the flow of the dance. This comes with practice.

The following getouts will provide spice to your calling. However, recognize that most Mainstream (and Plus) dancers prefer to get a Left Allemande the majority of the time, instead of by-passing it directly to a Right & Left Grand. So use these getouts sparingly.

Note: Most of these getouts will work to a Left Allemande by simply inserting Turn Thru - Left Allemande instead of calling Right & Left Grand. Same thing can be accomplished by calling Box the Gnat - pull by - Left Allemande.

Zero line getouts

#1
TOUCH 1/4 - GIRLS RUN
RIGHT & LEFT GRAND

#2
TOUCH 1/4 - BOYS RUN
L.A.

#3
BOX THE GNAT
PASS THE OCEAN
RIGHT & LEFT GRAND

#4
SPIN THE TOP
BOYS CROSS FOLD
RIGHT & LEFT GRAND

#5
SQUARE THRU 3/4
ENDS FOLD
RIGHT & LEFT GRAND

#6
TURN THRU - FACE
PARTNER
RIGHT & LEFT GRAND

Zero Box getouts

#1
TOUCH 1/4 - GIRLS RUN
SQUARE THRU
RIGHT & LEFT GRAND

#2
SLIDE THRU
BOX THE GNAT
PASS THE OCEAN
GIRLS CIRCULATE
RIGHT & LEFT GRAND

#3
TOUCH 1/4 & HINGE
GIRLS CIRCULATE
RIGHT & LEFT GRAND

#4
SQUARE THRU
BOYS RUN - GIRLS RUN
RIGHT & LEFT GRAND

#5
SLIDE THRU - TOUCH 1/4
GIRLS RUN - PASS THRU
RIGHT & LEFT GRAND

#6
SLIDE THRU - TURN THRU
FACE PARTNER - PASS THRU
RIGHT & LEFT GRAND

LIGHTLY ALTERED BOY AND GIRL ARRANGEMENTS

One way to provide variety in a dance is to lightly alter what the boys and girls do. If you have not experimented with changing the boy/girl arrangement in your calling, there are ways to practice it without venturing too far from safe ground. One way is to arrange the dancers in a very familiar setting and keep them there while you experiment. This way your getout is never very far away.

This method of calling has been referred to as Isolated Sight Calling, and is extremely valuable in being able to remove the burden of square resolution from your mind while you are attempting to call smooth and flowing material. It enables you to direct your attention to 4 dancers instead of 8, which gives you a smaller focus of attention. Overall, it helps to develop the following skills:

1. Ability to visualize body flow of dancers.
2. Increase your 4 person call vocabulary.
3. Concentrate on smoothness without resolution pressure.
4. Ability to know resulting formation before dancers get there.
5. Ability to call movements and mentally visualize them.

The following sequences begin in a zero box and keep the dancers isolated. They also lightly alter the boy/girl arrangements. All material is Mainstream.

#1

Zero Box:

SLIDE THRU - BOX THE GNAT
SQUARE THRU 3/4 (sashayed)
PARTNER TRADE (sashayed)
PASS THE OCEAN (sashayed)
BOYS TRADE
RECYCLE - SQUARE THRU 3/4
U TURN BACK (zero box)
L.A.

#2

Zero Box:

CURLIQUE - SINGLE HINGE
FAN THE TOP (boys in center)
TURN THRU
PARTNER TRADE
RIGHT & LEFT THRU
DIXIE STYLE TO O.W.
L.A.

#3

Zero Box:

BOX THE GNAT
FAN THE TOP (boys in center)
SWING THRU - RECYCLE
REVERSE FLUTTER - ROLL 1/2 SASHAY
STAR THRU - CALIF. TWIRL
SLIDE THRU TWICE (zero box)
L.A.

#4

Zero Box:

TOUCH 1/4 - GIRLS RUN
SQUARE THRU 3/4 (sashayed)
GIRLS RUN
SCOOT BACK (girls going in)
GIRLS RUN
STAR THRU - CALIF. TWIRL (zero box)
L.A.

#5

Zero Box:

RIGHT & LEFT THRU & NEW OUTSIDE
COUPLES ROLL 1/2 SASHAY
SWING THRU (mixed sexes)
CAST OFF 3/4 - BOYS RUN
LEADERS TRADE
PASS THE OCEAN - RECYCLE (zero box)
L.A.

#6

Zero Box:

RIGHT & LEFT THRU & NEW CENTER
COUPLES ROLL 1/2 SASHAY
SPIN THE TOP (mixed sexes)
SWING THRU (mixed sexes)
CAST OFF 3/4 - BOYS RUN
LEADERS TRADE (zero box)
L.A.

MAINSTREAM MATERIAL FEATURING RECYCLE, REVERSE FLUTTER & DIXIE STYLE TO O.W.

#1
 Zero Box:
 TOUCH 1/4 - SCOOT BACK
 BOYS FOLD - GIRLS TURN THRU
 STAR THRU - BOYS TRADE
 CAST OFF 3/4 (girls are pivots)
REVERSE FLUTTER
DIXIE STYLE TO O.W.
 BOYS TRADE - L.A.

#2
 Zero Box:
 SLIDE THRU - RIGHT & LEFT THRU
DIXIE STYLE TO O.W.
 BOYS CROSS RUN - GIRLS TRADE
RECYCLE - SWEEP 1/4
REVERSE FLUTTER & ROLL 1/2 SASHAY
 STAR THRU - CALIF. TWIRL
 SLIDE THRU TWICE (zero box)
 L.A.

#3
 Zero Box:
 SLIDE THRU - SQUARE THRU 3/4
 ENDS FOLD
 STAR THRU - CALIF. TWIRL
 PASS THRU - CAST OFF 3/4
 SLIDE THRU (zero box)
 L.A.

#4
 Zero Box:
 FAN THE TOP - RECYCLE
 PASS THRU-ENDS CROSS FOLD
 TOUCH 1/4 - CENTERS TRADE
 BOYS RUN
REVERSE FLUTTER
 2 LADIES CHAIN & ROLL 1/2 SASHAY
 STAR THRU - TRADE BY (zero box)
 L.A.

#5
 Zero Box:
 SWING THRU - SPIN THE TOP
RECYCLE
REVERSE FLUTTER & ROLL 1/2 SASHAY
BOYS LEAD: DIXIE STYLE TO O.W.
GIRLS CROSS RUN - BOYS TRADE
RECYCLE
 PASS THRU - RIGHT & LEFT GRAND

#6
 Zero Box:
 SPIN THE TOP
 TURN THRU
 COURTESY TURN YOUR GIRL & ROLL 1/2 SASHAY
 PASS THRU - GIRLS RUN
 BOYS FOLD - GIRLS PASS THRU
 TOUCH 1/4 - GIRLS CIRCULATE
 RIGHT & LEFT GRAND

#7
 Zero Box:
 CURLIQUE & CAST OFF 3/4
 FAN THE TOP
RECYCLE - REVERSE FLUTTER
DIXIE STYLE TO O.W.
 BOYS TRADE
RECYCLE (zero box)
 L.A.

#8
 Zero Box:
 SLIDE THRU - RIGHT & LEFT THRU
DIXIE STYLE TO O.W.
 FAN THE TOP
RECYCLE & ROLL 1/2 SASHAY
 FAN THE TOP
 BOYS RUN - BEND THE LINE
 SLIDE THRU - PASS TO THE CENTER
SQUARE THRU - BUT ON 3rd HAND SLIDE THRU
 HOME! (squared set)

MAINSTREAM SINGING CALL FIGURES

#1
 HEADS SQUARE THRU - 4 HANDS
 SWING THRU - CAST OFF 3/4
SPLIT CIRCULATE
 SINGLE HINGE - LADIES TRADE
 RECYCLE
 PASS TO THE CENTER
 SQUARE THRU 3/4
 SWING CORNER - PROMENADE

#2
 HEADS SQUARE THRU - 4 HANDS
 DO SA DO
 TOUCH 1/4 - SCOOT BACK
 SINGLE HINGE - LADIES TRADE
 RECYCLE
 PASS TO THE CENTER
 SQUARE THRU 3/4
 SWING CORNER - PROMENADE

MAINSTREAM MATERIAL

#1

HEADS SQUARE THRU - 2 HANDS
TOUCH 1/4 - SCOOT BACK
BOYS FOLD - ALL DPT
GIRLS TRADE
TOUCH 1/4 - GIRLS TRADE
RECYCLE - SWEEP 1/4
SLIDE THRU (zero box)
L.A.

#2

HEADS STAR THRU
ALL DPT - PEEL OFF
PASS THRU - ENDS CROSS FOLD
TOUCH 1/4 - CENTERS TRADE
RECYCLE
TOUCH 1/4 - BOYS TRADE
RECYCLE - PASS THRU
RIGHT & LEFT GRAND

#3

4 LADIES CHAIN
HEAD LADIES GO BACK: DIXIE
STYLE TO O.W.
THE WAVE: STEP AHEAD
SWING THRU
GIRLS FOLD - PEEL OFF
1/2 TAG - SCOOT BACK
CAST OFF 3/4 - BOYS TRADE
ALL 8 CIRCULATE
TURN THRU - L.A.

#4

HEADS PASS THE OCEAN & RECYCLE
ALL DPT
BOYS RUN - ALL 8 CIRCULATE
PARTNER TAG
GIRLS CROSS FOLD
SWING THRU - RECYCLE
TOUCH 1/4 - GIRLS TRADE
BOYS CROSS FOLD
L.A.

#5

HEADS LEAD RIGHT - CIRCLE TO A LINE
RIGHT & LEFT THRU
DIXIE STYLE TO O.W.
CENTERS CROSS RUN
FAN THE TOP - RECYCLE
REVERSE FLUTTER &
ROLL 1/2 SASHAY
BOYS LEAD: DIXIE STYLE TO O.W.
GIRLS CROSS RUN
GIRLS CROSS FOLD
BOX THE GNAT - PULL BY
L.A.

#6

HEADS LEAD RIGHT - SWING THRU
RECYCLE
STAR THRU - CALIF. TWIRL
RIGHT & LEFT THRU
DIXIE STYLE TO O.W.
BOYS CROSS RUN - GIRLS TRADE
RECYCLE - VEER LEFT - BEND THE LINE
(zero lines out of seq.)
STAR THRU - PASS THRU
L.A.

#7

HEADS PASS THRU - SEPARATE - AROUND 1
LINE OF 4
SQUARE THRU 3/4
ENDS FOLD - SWING THRU
GIRLS RUN
STAR THRU - CALIF. TWIRL
SPIN CHAIN THRU
GIRLS CROSS FOLD
RIGHT & LEFT GRAND

#8

HEADS TOUCH 1/4 & THAT BOY RUN
SPIN THE TOP
RECYCLE - REVERSE FLUTTER
BOYS LEAD: DIXIE STYLE TO O.W.
GIRLS TRADE - BOYS CROSS FOLD
STAR THRU
ENDS FOLD - PASS THRU
RIGHT & LEFT GRAND

#9

HEADS PROMENADE 3/4
SIDES SQUARE THRU 3/4
SLIDE THRU
RIGHT & LEFT THRU & ROLL 1/2 SASHAY
CURLIQUE - SINGLE HINGE &
FAN THE TOP
RECYCLE - SWEEP 1/4
REVERSE FLUTTER
DIXIE STYLE TO O.W.
BOYS TRADE - GIRLS CROSS FOLD
BOX THE GNAT - RIGHT & LEFT GRAND

#10

HEADS LEAD RIGHT - CIRCLE TO A LINE
TOUCH 1/4 - ALL 8 CIRCULATE
SINGLE HINGE & FAN THE TOP
RECYCLE - SLIDE THRU
TOUCH 1/4 - GIRLS RUN
SQUARE THRU 3/4
U TURN BACK
L.A.

PLUS MATERIAL USING VARIOUS DIAMOND GET-INS

#1
 HEADS PASS THE OCEAN
EXTEND & RELAY THE DEUCEY
 GIRLS RUN
3/4 TAG THE LINE
 GIRLS SWING THRU - BOYS QTR. RIGHT
ALL DIAMOND CIRCULATE
BOYS EXPLODE THE WAVE
BOYS RUN & ROLL - GIRLS HINGE
 EXTEND & CENTERS TRADE
 SPLIT CIRCULATE
 BOX THE GNAT - RIGHT & LEFT GRAND

#2
 HEADS STAR THRU
 ALL DPT
 LEADERS TRADE
 SLIDE THRU & TOUCH 1/4
 ALL 8 CIRCULATE 1 1/2
 GIRLS TRADE & SPREAD
BOYS DIAMOND CIRCULATE
BOYS FLIP THE DIAMOND
ALL DIAMOND CIRCULATE
GIRLS LINEAR CYCLE
 BOYS FACE IN
 GIRLS SQUARE THRU 2 HANDS
 TOUCH 1/4 - BOYS TRADE
 ALL 8 CIRCULATE
 *RIGHT & LEFT GRAND

*OR: TURN THRU - L.A.

#3
 HEADS PASS THE OCEAN
 EXTEND & CAST OFF 3/4
EXTEND THE TAG
 GIRLS SWING THRU - BOYS QTR. RIGHT
ALL FLIP THE DIAMOND - BOYS TRADE
EXPLODE AND: LOAD THE BOAT
 TOUCH 1/4 - CENTERS TRADE
 GIRLS TRADE - SPLIT CIRCULATE
 *RIGHT & LEFT GRAND

*OR: TURN THRU - L.A.

#4
 HEADS SQUARE THRU - 2 HANDS
 TOUCH 1/4 - CENTERS TRADE
 RECYCLE & ROLL
 BOYS SINGLE HINGE (gives facing dia.)
DIAMOND CIRCULATE - BOYS ROLL
GIRLS TRADE THE WAVE
EXTEND & FOLLOW YOUR NBR. & SPREAD
 GIRLS TRADE
 RECYCLE (zero box)
 L.A.

#5
 HEADS SQUARE THRU - 4 HANDS
 TOUCH 1/4
FOLLOW YOUR NEIGHBOR & SPREAD
 FAN THE TOP
 RECYCLE - REVERSE FLUTTER
 DIXIE STYLE TO O.W.
 BOYS HINGE - GIRLS TURN BACK
ALL DIAMOND CIRCULATE
 VERY CENTER GIRLS RUN
 GIRLS 1/2 TAG
CROSSFIRE
 GIRLS RUN - RIGHT & LEFT GRAND

#6
 HEADS LEAD RIGHT & SLIDE THRU
 TOUCH 1/4 - ALL 8 CIRCULATE
BOYS PEEL OFF - GIRLS EXTEND & HINGE
GIRLS TRADE THE WAVE
ALL DIAMOND CIRCULATE
 CENTER BOYS TRADE
 BOYS CAST LEFT 3/4
 COUPLES CIRCULATE - WHEEL & DEAL
 TOUCH 1/4 - SPLIT CIRCULATE 1 1/2
ALL FLIP THE DIAMOND
 *RIGHT & LEFT GRAND

*OR: TURN THRU - L.A.

#7
 HEADS STAR THRU - ALL DPT
 PEEL OFF & TAG THE LINE
 BOYS RUN - ALL 8 CIRCULATE
BOYS TRADE & SPREAD
 GIRLS HINGE & CENTER GIRLS TRADE
(SEE DIAMONDS)
ALL DIAMOND CIRCULATE
FLIP THE DIAMOND - GIRLS TRADE
EXPLODE THE WAVE
 WHEEL & DEAL
DIXIE GRAND
 L.A.

#8
 HEADS LEAD RIGHT & SLIDE THRU
 TOUCH 1/4 - BOYS ROLL
GIRLS PEEL OFF - BOYS EXTEND
GIRLS CIRCULATE 1 1/2
BOYS TRADE THE WAVE
CENTER DIAMOND: FLIP IT
 OTHERS CAST OFF 3/4
 GIRLS RUN
 CENTERS BEND THE LINE & STAR THRU
 ALL DPT
 LEADERS TRADE
 PASS THRU - L.A.

UNSYMETRICAL PLUS CHOREOGRAPHY

Figures #1-3 are not difficult. Figure #4 is difficult. Be sure to read paragraph below before calling Figure #4.

Comments about Figure #4:- the Spin Chain Thru:

1. After the initial swing 1/2 & cast 3/4, the centers of the wave Trade portion has both people facing the same direction. So they must do a Partner Trade action.
2. After the above centers Trade, the ending Cast 3/4 has both dancers facing the same direction. So the inside dancer must push off on the outside dancer.
3. For the ends Circulate twice: Tell the ends not to stop for anything. If they pause after one Circulate, two dancers will be at the same place.

#1

HEADS FLUTTER WHEEL
HEADS STAR THRU - ALL DPT
GIRLS: FACE THE CALLER
BOYS FACE BACK OF THE HALL
ALL WHEEL & DEAL
PASS THRU - TRADE BY
SWING THRU
SPIN CHAIN THE GEARS
EXPLODE AND: STAR THRU
LEAD COUPLE TRADE
THOSE WHO CAN: PASS TO THE CENTER
OTHERS ZOOM
CENTERS PASS THRU
SLIDE THRU & ROLL
RIGHT & LEFT GRAND

#2

COUPLES #2 & #3 FLUTTER WHEEL
AT POSITIONS #1 & #2: LADIES CHAIN
AT THE SIDES: STAR THRU
ALL DPT
THOSE FACING ME: CALIF. TWIRL
ALL FACE YOUR PARTNER
PASS THRU - ENDS CROSS FOLD
SWING THRU - CENTERS RUN
NEW CENTERS HINGE
ALL DIAMOND CIRCULATE
BOYS FLIP THE DIAMOND &
EXPLODE THE WAVE
GIRLS FLIP THE DIAMOND &
FAN THE TOP & RECYCLE
BOYS CROSS FOLD - GIRLS PASS THRU
TOUCH 1/4 - BOYS TRADE
EXTEND - RIGHT & LEFT GRAND

#3

HEADS STAR THRU - ALL DPT
TRACK 2
EXPLODE THE WAVE
TAG THE LINE & FACE ME
THOSE IN THE LINE CLOSEST TO ME:
PARTNER TRADE
PASS THE OCEAN - ALL 8 CIRCULATE
BOYS SPIN THE TOP
GIRLS EXPLODE THE WAVE
BOYS RECYCLE - GIRLS PARTNER TRADE
LOAD THE BOAT
CENTERS TRADE & PASS THRU
STAR THRU - ENDS FOLD
LEFT SQUARE THRU 3/4
*U TURN BACK - L.A.

*OR: RIGHT & LEFT GRAND

#4 (difficult - see comments above)

COUPLES #2 & #3 ROLL 1/2 SASHAY
HEADS FAN THE TOP
EXTEND THE TAG
FOLLOW YOUR NEIGHBOR - JUST THE
BOYS SPREAD
GIRLS START LEFT HAND:
BOYS START RIGHT HAND:
ALL SPIN CHAIN THRU - ENDS
CIRCULATE TWICE
ENDS WHO ARE FACING: STAR THRU
OTHER ENDS FACE IN
CENTERS PASS THE OCEAN
EXTEND THE TAG
GIRLS TRADE - ALL SPLIT CIRCULATE
SWING THRU - EXPLODE THE WAVE
*U TURN BACK (zero lines)
L.A.

*OR: GIRLS RUN - CAST OFF 3/4
RIGHT & LEFT GRAND

PLUS PROGRAM: STIR THE BUCKET MATERIAL

#1
 HEADS LEAD RIGHT - CIRCLE TO A LINE
 TOUCH 1/4 - COORDINATE
 1/2 TAG
FOLLOW YOUR NEIGHBOR & SPREAD
 GIRLS TRADE
 SWING THRU - BOYS RUN
 FERRIS WHEEL
 CENTERS STAR THRU & BACK AWAY

#2
 HEADS PASS THE OCEAN
EXTEND THE TAG
RELAY THE DEUCEY
 SINGLE HINGE - SPLIT CIRCULATE
 BOYS RUN
 PASS THRU - WHEEL & DEAL
 CENTERS SQUARE THRU - ON 3rd HAND
 SLIDE THRU & BACK AWAY

#3
 HEADS FAN THE TOP
EXTEND THE TAG
 GIRLS RUN - 3/4 TAG THE LINE
 GIRLS SWING THRU - BOYS QUARTER RIGHT
DIAMOND CIRCULATE - FLIP THE DIAMOND
 GIRLS TRADE - RECYCLE
 PASS THRU
 OUTSIDES CLOVERLEAF - OTHERS BACK AWAY

#4
 HEADS STAR THRU & CALIF. TWIRL
 SLIDE THRU & LOAD THE BOAT
 SWING THRU - BOYS RUN
CROSSFIRE
 PEEL OFF & BEND THE LINE
 PASS THRU - WHEEL & DEAL
 CENTERS STAR THRU & BACK AWAY

PICK OF THE DISKS by Ed Foote

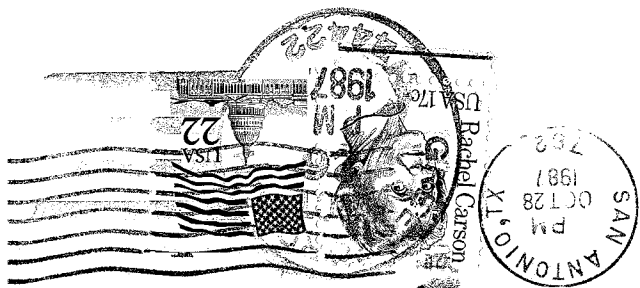
- Blue Star #2344 - Rainy Day People. Pleasant music with good melody on this well-known song. Nice record.
- Petticoat #128 - Cowboy's Sweetheart. Pleasant upbeat tune, men can change title to "Cowgirl's Sweetheart".
- Lore #1234 - Have a Little Faith. Relaxed comfortable record.
- Bee Sharp #127 - Does Fort Worth Ever Cross Your Mind. Relaxed record with a country-western twang.
- Bogan #1370 - Red Roses for a Blue Lady. Relaxed comfortable music, good melody, nice record.
- Blue Ribbon #242 - Old Shep. A song about a dog. Nice music.
- Hi Hat #5097 - Morning Ride. A singing call to a popular country hit.
- Hi Hat #5098 - Senorita. Slow crying-type love song. Callers with a good voice can probably affect a floor with this record.
- Hi Hat #653 - Lucy (hoedown). Heavy beat, background melody appears to be one of the tracks from a singing call.
Tootsie (hoedown). Same comments as above.

THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH

A little experience can wreck a lot of theory.

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NEWS 'n NOTES

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