



## Sue Dellere



My first exposure to square dancing was at the age of 10 when some friends took me to square dance lessons and I loved it. However, it didn't last long as they were a military family and left the state. I wasn't able to enjoy the activity again until I was in Junior High when it was offered as a 9-week "mini-course". After that reunion, I went through lessons with the Fort Riley Prairie Stars Square Dance Club and was an active member until the club folded. I then joined the Abilene Dixie Dudes and Half-Pairs (a singles club). I quit dancing around 1986 since I didn't have a dance partner.

In 2002, I decided that I had really missed square dancing and came back to the activity. I went through lessons with the Manhattan Lone Wranglers and started travelling to area clubs.

In 2003, I met my husband, Jim, at a Salina Twirlers dance in Salina, Kansas. We got married in 2005 and had a square dance reception. We belong to Salina Twirlers and Newton Circle 8 square dance clubs. We are active members of the Kansas Square Dance Association. We are always travelling to area dances and enjoy going to several square dance weekends.

My journey to becoming a Square Dance Caller started as just having fun with karaoke. Carol Weaklend said that I was going to be the next female caller in Kansas. I told her I didn't think so, but she had put the "thought" in my head. After months of thinking and discussions with my husband, I decided to give it a try and I began calling in June, 2007.

I taught my first set of lessons for the Salina Twirlers Square Dance Club in 2008 and graduated a class of two couples and one single person. It was a learning experience for everyone concerned. Lessons in 2009 became a little easier to teach and I graduated a class with one couple. I look forward to teaching more classes and hope to get some of the younger crowd interested in square dancing.

I travel within the state of Kansas and have called for several clubs in South Central Kansas. I also call for a club in McCook, Nebraska once a year. It's a lot of fun being a Square Dance Caller, but it's also a lot of hard work. I've attended the Kaw Valley Callers School, the Grand Square, Inc. Callers School, and several Callers Clinics. The learning hasn't stopped and I plan on attending other Caller Schools and clinics.

I am a member of CALLERLAB, the Kansas Square Dance Callers Association, Wichita Area Square Dance Callers Association, and the Nebraska Callers and Cuers Association.