

EDDIE AND SALLY RAMSEY
MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE

Eddie began dancing in the early 1950s with his parents. When he and Sally married, they danced until their family began to grow. In 1970, they took up dancing again and graduated from Lonnie Seshers' Pistols & Petticoats class. Soon after, Lonnie began a class for callers which Eddie took until he started teaching a class in Germantown, TN, where 28 years later, he still calls for the Spurs & Saddles. He and Sally formed this club with Gordon and Mary Brower's help.

Eddie has called in many different places. He has called on tour in England and Switzerland, at the 1984 World's Fair in New Orleans, at Disneyland in Anaheim, California, and at Lovett Hall in Henry Ford's Greenfield Village outside Detroit. He has also been a staff caller at Copecrest. His local claim-to-fame was as caller for the Tattoo, which opened the Memphis in May Festival in 1988. Eddie is also a regular caller and prompter at the National and Tennessee state conventions.

Locally Eddie has served as president of the Pistols & Petticoats, president of the Greater Memphis Square and Round Dance Association, has held various offices of the Memphis Callers Workshop, and served in many capacities for the Mid South Square and Round Dance Festival.

Eddie was Business Chairman of the 29th National Square Dance Convention in Memphis in 1980 and directed the Parade of States for the 29th National in 1990, also in Memphis. He and Sally regularly attend National Square Dance conventions where he is programmed as a caller and a contra prompter. At most Nationals, you will also find him serving on education events as a panelist, seminar leader, or clinician. At Anaheim in June 2001, he led a lively discussion on costuming for our activity.

Eddie was significantly involved with the formation of the Tennessee State Association of Square and Round Dance Clubs, Inc. In fact, Eddie, Gordon Brower, and Roger Reynolds drafted the original by-laws of the Association on Eddie's dining room table. Eddie and Sally have attended all of the State Conventions except for one when he was on a calling tour of England. For the state conventions, he has served in numerous capacities, including but not limited to caller programmer, education panelist, clinician, teaching dance styling, director of the grand march and chairman and prompter of the contra program.

One of Eddie's favorite accomplishments was creating and directing a precision square dance performing team, the Precisionaires. They performed at several National Square Dance Conventions, various state and local conventions and the World's Fair in New Orleans. He enjoys a special talent for calling what he terms "one night stands", or dances for miscellaneous groups who are not square dancers. Eddie has served as a

Legacy trustee and been a member of the Lloyd Shaw Foundation. He is currently a member of American Callers Association, Memphis Callers Workshop and is on the Board of Governors of CONTRALAB.

Eddie's secret daytime identity is M. Edwin Ramsey, Certified Public Accountant. To be able to afford all of their square dance pleasures, both Eddie and Sally worked full time in the accounting practice until December 1995, when they finally retired. They have four children and several grandchildren.

Additional material from the program book of the 47th National Square Dance Convention, 1998

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