

January 2006

## Roadrunners

Our beginning in 1971 was fired by the zeal of Nadiene Burford and her talent for calling as well as her sparkling personality and love of her craft. Our first hall was the Blue Hills Elementary school in East Independence but as we grew, it became too small. The 4-H Youth Center became our home for about 20 years. Our current dance location, Cler-Mont Elementary School, has proved to be an excellent site.

Some special fun-time activities have included a number of camp outs, several float trips, a six shooter "run", an organized bus trip to the National Square Dance Convention, our annual summer picnic, and numerous other endeavors. Some travel-lover dancers boarded Am-Track to visit distant clubs in St. Louis and Jefferson City. What a surprise when both clubs returned our visits.

Not all of our activities are social. We actively support Caring Communities, an organization providing for the needs of some local families, especially with children. We contribute non-perishable food items, toys and games, and grocery certificates.

The Burford's retirement to Pomme de Terre in 1989 brought about a change for the ROADRUNNERS. Although she continued to call the dances each third Friday, Nadiene could not be on hand for the fall classes. This is where Ron Stowell, a former very popular area caller and a member of the ROADRUNNERS became involved. Ron was much loved for his easy-going manner and efficient teaching style.

When Nadiene retired from calling in May 2004, another major change occurred. Karen Craig, a ROADRUNNER member and recognized Heart of America Federation caller, took over the responsibility of the club. Karen is a truly dedicated person who gives 110 percent of herself to every endeavor.

Our club's philosophy early on was to demonstrate such friendliness and welcome to our visitors that they would want to come again and again. We hope that this, along with good calling, will continue to bring you back!

1971 to Present

Club No Longer Dancing

2/22/08