

PEOPLE WORTH KNOWING

by Bee Whittier

Approximately ten years ago a Folk and Square Dance party was held in the High School gymnasium in Roseville. Two people in that group were outstanding, and, as a beginner-spectator, I wanted to know more about this friendly and congenial couple whom everyone liked: Bob and Carmen Schweers!

In 1945 Bob and Carmen came to California from Emporia, Kansas, where they had owned and operated a grocery store. They decided to remain here and so bought a place in the district known as Citrus Heights, four miles from Roseville. Soon they became interested in a Folk Dance Recreation class in Adult Education, taught in the Roseville High School. In May of 1947 a club named Centennial Swingers was organized and Bob and Carmen were charter members of this club, which they have been teaching since 1948 and served as club President for three years. In eleven years they have missed but one party, which is held on the third Saturday of each month. In 1951 they joined Wagon Reelers, one of the oldest Folk Dance Clubs in Sacramento, and helped with the teaching.

Folk Dancing has been more than a hobby with Bob and Carmen, for they have devoted most of their spare time to furthering the activities associated with this movement.

Carmen is now serving her fourth year as Calendar Chairman for the Folk Dance Federation of California, North. She wrote Sacramento Council news notes for four years for "Let's Dance" magazine, and served as Director of Publicity for 1957-58. Bob also has served the Federation as a member of the Teachers' Institute Committee.

To our Sacramento Council activities Bob and Carmen have given much of their time and energy. Bob has been Vice-President and Treasurer of the Sacramento Council two years and was President the year of 1956-57. He also was President of the Capitol Callers Clinic here. Carmen served as corresponding secretary and publications officer of the Council in 1952-53, publishing every month our Council paper "Latest Steps." Carmen initiated and printed the first Council Directory, which includes all Clubs and Associate members.

As teachers Bob and Carmen have become very popular in the Sacramento area. Besides teaching their own club, Centennial Swingers, they are currently teaching Circle Square and Holly Ho's dance Clubs. Every year during the fall and winter months they teach some of the Folk Dance classes jointly sponsored by the City Recreation Department and Sacramento Folk Dance Council, and, in the summer assist with classes at the Village Green. In the past they have taught clubs known as Loomis Levis and Laces, Bar-None and Merry Eights.

Bob and Carmen have a large workshop on their three acres in Citrus Heights, where they have entertained many of their Folk Dancing

friends. We have fond memories of pot-luck dinners held there followed by happy hours of dancing. At Christmas time everyone looks forward to the Christmas cookies Carmen bakes. The Schweers are delightful hosts and everyone feels so very welcome. You just can't be a stranger around the Schweers!



Carmen and Bob Schweers