

People Worth Knowing

REVA and GLENN WARD

by Marge and Bob Underwood

When folk dancing is mentioned in the Diablo Council area, one's thoughts go to the "Mr. and Mrs. Teaching Team" — Reva and Glenn Ward. The enthusiasm and ability of this couple, as shown through the years, certainly marks them as "People Worth Knowing!"

Their introduction to folk dancing came in 1945 when they started the Beginners' Class with Dave Boyce, in Albany, and within a short time they were taking several classes each week. After a concentrated two years of instruction, this couple started teaching both folk and square dancing in several classes and clubs in the Berkeley area and in the Contra Costa School Districts.

Glenn and Reva were instrumental in organizing the Whirlaways, in Albany, in 1947, and three years later, in 1950, the Dancin' Dudes, a square dance club in the Walnut Creek area. At the same time they helped form Suburban Swingers, also of Walnut Creek, and they still are the Directors of its exhibition group. They both do the square calling for their clubs and classes and they have served as instructors of the Do-Ce-Do Club continuously since 1947, and it now is the oldest club in the Diablo Council.

Singly, or together, they have been President of many of the clubs in both the Berkeley and Walnut Creek areas. Glenn was one of the earlier Presidents of the Diablo Council, and Reva was Secretary just last year. One or the other, or both, has been a delegate from some club almost continuously since 1950. Glenn served as Chairman of our September Festival one year and has been on one or several committees every year. Reva has participated in Federation work when she was first a member, and then Chairman of the Teachers' Institute Committee in 1952, and she has served on the Research Committee since 1953. In 1952 she was Chairman of the Committee to compile the Volume A of Beginners' Dances.

In spite of his very busy folk dancing schedule, Glenn has managed to squeeze in a position as a Cost Accountant with Foremost Dairies, Inc., in the San Francisco Office, and he has recently been honored with a 25 year award. Reva is equally active with her sewing, and occasional dressmaking, and bridge, as time permits. Her hours in research, combined with her dressmaking talents, have evidenced themselves in some of the most beautiful and authentic folk dance costumes in our area.

Reva and Glenn met at Fresno State College where they were each studying for their teaching credentials. It was a happy meeting, for they will be celebrating their 25th Wedding Anniversary this year. Last June their son, Jeff, received his degree from Contra Costa College, and now plans to go on further with his education.

We could go on mentioning many more contributions that Reva and Glenn have made to folk dancing, but by far the most important is the lasting spirit of good fellowship which they have imparted to many of us through their continued interest and devotion.



(Photo by George Posner)

Reva and Glenn Ward in
Italian Costumes