



*Dan Schweitzer*

You've heard it: "Next up, a Round dance."

This announcement splits the room about in half. While some look dreamy eyed and mushy, the rest look for the snack table.

I'm in the snack table half.

No offense to you dreamy-eyed types, but I just don't get the Round attraction.

Still, the dancer that sleeps on the next pillow keeps calling my attention to Round Dancing. I watch, and am reminded of a merry-go-round, one without the mirrors and brass poles. (Please note, I am not suggesting that either of these items be added.)

A ride like bumper cars is far more likely to get my interest at the amusement park. (Which, I suppose, explains much of my square dance style.)

But, my wife persists. I watch again. Maybe merry-go-round isn't quite accurate as a comparison. How about a French movie? The interminable minutes gazing wistfully off into space, pondering relationships, and then, ending abruptly without resolution.

By comparison, Square Dancing has all the elements of REAL

movies: Chases, crashes, humor, suspense (Will I see my corner at "Allemande Left"?), and mystery (How did we get here?).

But, my wife persists. I watch more. Ah, they're marionettes – string puppets. Note the odd, stilted, floating motions, and the unusual footwork made possible by a string suspension.

I think to myself, "Wow, Howdy Doody with music!"

I am underwhelmed.

Then, I have the wonderful thought, "There might still be chocolate chip cookies at the snack table."

By now, many of you are anxious to point out Round Dancing's many romantic and subtle nuances – all of which I am obviously too obtuse to notice. Please feel free to enlighten me with an e-mail. Send all comments to:

*someotherguy@timbuktu.net*

On a different topic, if you'll be up in the mountains as 2007 ends, you may want to enjoy a dinner-dance with the Timberline Toppers on New Year's Eve. Unfortunately (for half of you) the evening does not include Round Dancing. It does include calling by Bob Gaunt, fireworks, and the option of a wonderful dinner.

For information and reservations, e-mail:

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