



### Waltzing with Matilda

*Matilda Kumquat  
% Dan Schweitzer*

Here's a selection of questions from our current Mainstream class.

*Dear Matilda,  
What's with the naming? Why is trading WITH my partner, called "Partner Trade"? When I hear "Partner Trade," I want to trade partners.*

*--Shakespeare's wrong about names*

Dear S.W.A.N.,  
I hear you dearie. Lots of things make me want to trade partners. In fact, I'll trade, sight unseen – yours for my old Rich. And, speaking of names that don't fit...

--Matilda

*Dear Matilda,  
Please explain "Circulate." Do I go forward, left, or right? Nothing I do is ever right, ... er correct.*

*--Circulate hell in Leadville*

Dear C.H.I.L.,  
Yup, been there. Partner trade, then circulate, and you're just going in circles. Frustrating!

But, this is a column about square dancing, not relationships. Could we please get back on topic?

--Matilda

*Dear Matilda,  
What do I do when my guy runs?  
--Getting run-around, Breck*

Dear G.R.A.B.,  
Don't worry, he won't go far. Just give him a little room. You'll find him on your other side and a bit turned around. Now, if he turns up next to that other gal off to your side, that's a *Cross Run*, he's left you. But don't be cross, slide over and make room for the *new* guy!

--Matilda

*Dear Matilda,  
Swing?!!  
Sometimes I spin with my partner.  
Sometimes I'm supposed to do this weird half spin with a line of people.*

*I'm way lost.*

*--Going under fast, Frisco*

Dear G.U.F.F.,  
Just realize that you aren't through when you hear "Swing" (which calls for a full turn in your partner's arms). The call may really be Swing Thru (a half turn by one hand, after which you may be through, or you may do another half turn by the other hand before you are through). Callerlab (aka the International Square Dance Caller Association) threw Swing Thru in there to mess with your mind. So, remember, for "Swing," don't swing, until you know that the caller is through. If he adds "Thru," switch to the one-handed half-turns until you are through.

And, we're through here.

--Matilda