



Miami Valley Dance Council 2009 Honor Roll Dancers

Jim and Marge Gill

**GRAND SQUARES DANCE CLUB
Englewood, Ohio**

Jim and Marge Gill learned to square dance with the Grand Squares Dance Club, Jim in 1982 and Marge in 1984. During the past 26 years they became very involved in square dance activities. For health reasons, Marge has not been as active in the past few years, but continues to support the club whenever she can.

Whenever the club needs something done, Jim is one of the first to volunteer. In 1984 he started going to the hall early and setting up the dance area. He's still doing it. Each dance week he gets the coffee ready, makes the punch with mix and ice donated by McDonald's, and gives the President a heads-up about the hall condition (tables, chairs, air conditioning, etc.) In 26 years, Jim has attended more than 500 club dances.

Jim and Marge volunteered to be Banner Raid Chairmen for the Grand Squares in 1985. They're still doing it. They took the club from 10 to 12 raids yearly to 100 raids during 1998. That year they had 2283 attendees as raiders. At one time he had 32 banners from other clubs. Jim feels he has not done a good job when he has more than two or three banners out. Jim currently has more than 1500 raids, Marge has more than 1000. He is proudest of his banner from Kitty Hawks, fourteen straight years with the largest club attendance at the Canned Food Dance. His banner raid efforts are largely responsible for the larger than average dances at Grand Squares.

The Grand Squares have had an annual Garage Sale for seven years. Jim volunteered to be there with his truck to pick up and deliver sale items. At the end of the sale, he hauls the unsold items to the local Goodwill store.

Jim and Marge were among the first to volunteer for club demos, whether for recruiting or for entertaining in nursing homes. They participated in all the parades in Englewood and Vandalia (Air Show, 4th of July, etc.) They have participated in four of the Dayton Square Dance Convention Publicity Shows.

Jim has been the Grand Squares club representative to the MVDC for ten years and MVDC Awards chairman for seven years. He verifies and submits requests for Honor Raider badges. He presents the 100 banner raid badges and subsequent awards to those who have earned them.

Jim has attended all but two of the Ohio State Dance Conventions since 1982. Marge attended all but four since 1984. They attended the National Conventions in Cincinnati, Memphis, and twice in Indianapolis.