

Background

For Bruce Hamilton, president of CDSS from 2006 to 2012, celebrating his inauguration day, May 11, 2006. Though I was a CDSS board member at the time, I was sad to miss that annual meeting and sent this dance in my place as a surprise for Bruce during one of the dance and song breaks. Robin Hayden led it and Carol Compton played accordion as board members danced it for the first time. Michigan pianist Debbie Jackson wrote the delightful tune of the same name, and later joined the board herself.

Bruce was a significant mentor to Erna-Lynne, and she first introduced him to me as my “mentoring grandfather” before sending me off to work with him myself. Both the connection to Erna-Lynne’s “quieting the mind” and the gentle insistence in the dance remind me of Bruce’s mentoring and dance leading, which reward those who attend as urged. I’ve benefitted richly from those urgings and their rewards, and appreciate Bruce as a friend, mentor, and sharer of great visions.

Mr. Hamilton’s Inauguration

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The musical score is written in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a time signature of 9/8. It consists of four staves of music. The chords indicated above the notes are as follows:

- Staff 1: G, C, Em, D7
- Staff 2: G, C, Em, D7, G7
- Staff 3: Dm9, G/B, C, Am, D
- Staff 4: G, C/G, Am7, D7