

# Message from Boot Kicker Instructor, Allen Keefer

Hello Boot Kickers,

**Morgan County Headline:** School board adopts Health Department mask guidance; more than 80 students quarantined, sick or being tested

**Morgan County Headline:** Berkeley Springs nursing home has large COVID-19 outbreak

**Berkeley County Article:** (By Emily Keefer, my granddaughter): COVID-19 Delta variant cases rising in Eastern Panhandle

**Herald Mail:** New coronavirus cases explode in Eastern Panhandle of West Virginia

There are many more headlines like these, not just locally, but internationally. Who would have thought that over a year and a half later, we would still be dealing with Covid 19 and it's variants?

The Boot Kickers is an aging group of dancers and some have underlying medical conditions, making us very susceptible to this virus. If only one of us acquired COVID, if only one of us got sick, if only one of us passed away because of our desire to get back on the dance floor, I as the instructor, would find it difficult to handle because I love each and every one in our BK family.

I hear many are asking, "when will we be able to return to class"? "When will dances start again"? From the headlines above, it is obvious that nothing has changed since we stopped having classes and Saturday dances. The Board of Education still is not allowing outside-organizations access to their facilities. Also, the managers of the Tuscarora Church Hall, although reserving our night, are not ready to allow us access.

I recently decided to retire from DJ gigs, karaoke gigs, wedding gigs, and as a BK instructor. As for the latter, I have been looking, so far unsuccessfully, for a replacement. I am looking for others to become instructors using the Boot Kickers guidelines. There is an expense involved as each instructor will need to provide the following items:

- Music, Amplifier, and player
- Microphone if needed
- BMI/ASCAP License
- Insurance (<https://www.callerlab.org/bmi-ascap-licensing/>)

We would need at least two instructors but more would be welcome. Two will be able to cover for each other should one need to be out of town, have an illness, or other emergency.

Boot Kicker International® has extended Membership renewals until further notice. Anyone with an expiration date after March 2020 will automatically be extended until dances resume. New cards will be issued at that time.

I have heard from many of you over the past year, but not all of you. If you have a few minutes, send me a line to let me know what you've been into, where you're dancing (if anywhere), or how you have been occupying your time.

Stay safe and healthy,  
**Allen Keefer,**  
Instructor