

Volume XXXVII
Issue 1
January - March 2025

USDA News



SQUARE DANCING
OFFICIAL FOLK DANCE OF NORTH AMERICA

NEWSLETTER OF THE WORLD'S LARGEST SQUARE DANCE ORGANIZATION
PUBLISHED BY UNITED SQUARE DANCERS OF AMERICA



CHARLIE BROWN SQUARES



Invite You!



Jet Roberts



Peter & Chama Gomez

MAY 23-25, 2025

BOATNIK SQUARE DANCE FESTIVAL

Saturday 24

Friday 23

6-7PM A-1 \$5.00
7-7:30PM Pre-Rounds
7:30-10:00PM
SSD/Mainstream
Every 3rd tip Plus
Evening Dance \$15.00

9:30-11:30AM High level RD teach
\$6.00 not included w/ribbon price

1:30-2:30PM Mainstream
& More FunShop \$5.00
2:30-3:30PM Plus \$5.00
3:30-4:30PM Advanced \$5.00

7-7:30PM Pre-Rounds
7:30-10:00PM Mainstream
Every 3rd tip Plus
Evening Dance \$15.00

Sunday 25

9:30-11:30AM RD wkshp
Phase 2-3 \$5.00
12:00-1:00PM Adv
1:00-3:00PM
Alternating
Mainstream/Plus
with Rounds
Afternoon Dance \$10.00

**Pre-Register For Only \$40.00 By May 10th
Or Pay \$45.00 for Ribbon at the Door**

Square Dance Attire Admired, Not Required
Square Dance Center Jo Co Fairgrounds, Grants Pass, Oregon
Call/Text Rikki 541-295-5270 or Jeanne 541-554-9261

*www.CharlieBrownSquares.com CBSquaresBoatnik@gmail.com
Facebook.com/2025CBSBoatnikSquareDanceFestival*

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Inside this Issue

Messages from our Presidents and Vice Presidents

Notes from our Youth Advisor and Insurance Coordinator

Say Good bye to caller Sam Dunn with the Road Runner Square Dance Campers Club.

Check out the fliers and plan your travels and new adventures.

Look forward to the 74th National Convention in Shreveport, Louisiana, June 25-28, 2025. Register now! Use the registration form on pages 22 and 23.

You can also register for the 75th NSDC in WACO Texas with the form on page 12.

Or you can register on-line for all three upcoming National Square Dance Conventions. Thank you for supporting these teams working hard to provide you a great experience.

WINTER'S BEAUTY an inspirational poem

Attend conventions or festivals around the country! Many of these are listed on page 30.

Cover design by Catherine Paquet



A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENTS

ELLERY AND KAREN GULBRAND

“Kindness is like snow. It beautifies everything it covers.” --
Kahlil Gibran

Winter Greetings from the wonderful “land of four Definite Seasons”!

We have stored the lawn equipment, winterized the yard, shut down the AC, packed our shorts, pulled out the shovels, dug out our “woolies” and turned on the heat.

It was a very enjoyable and busy summer season. Summer in the Midwest is squeezed full of events whether family, church or square dancing as, we take every advantage of the warmer temperatures. As a fact of life, there were those happy times and sad times as we welcomed life, enjoyed friendships and said some final good-byes. Looking over our shoulders, we enjoyed the successful National Square Dance Convention in Milwaukee, Wisconsin leaving us with lasting great memories. We now look forward to the 2025 National Convention in Shreveport, Louisiana, where we hope to see you! We are looking forward to the USDA Executive Committee Winter Meeting in Tucson, Arizona in January 2025. Warmer temps, work meeting, dancing, and fellowship.

Our hands, feet, and minds are busy here in Wisconsin as we forge ahead planning our 65th Wisconsin Square and Round Dance Convention in Oshkosh, Wisconsin, August 8-10, 2025.

USDA offers many educational programs which we encourage dancers to take part in. The USDA Founders Memorial Youth Scholarship application deadline is quickly approaching. The program is open to square dancing youth who are currently in their senior year of high school, or a first-year student in college. Please encourage the youth near you to obtain the needed information from usda.org.

Our hope for the New Year of 2025 is to see square dance classes and dance floors continue to grow with square dancers. Speaking from our hearts and love for square dancing, we offer a “thank you” to the USDA Executive Committee along with all the square dancers keeping square dancing alive and growing.

God’s blessings in 2025 and beyond!

Sincerely,

Ellery & Karen Gulbrand

USDA President

“We are all like snowflakes: Unique and one of a kind.”



**A MESSAGE FROM
THE EDITORS**



**ART AND LILLY
HARDIN**

Thank you for reading the newsletter. We hope you find the articles interesting and informative.

We hope everyone enjoyed the holidays and is looking forward to the new year. The new year is always special. The sparkling snow, the bright sun, the open slopes, at least on the weekdays, and the start of new square dance lessons. It is also the ideal time to plan for summer travels and new adventures.

Have a great year.
See you in a square!
Art and Lilly Hardin

USDA INSURANCE COORDINATORS NOTES
Elizabeth Sanders

Greeting Everyone,

Can you believe this. It is already another year and our 'normal' is so very different from one year ago.

In case you have not heard the rates have been released and they are higher for 2025. The rates for 2025 will be \$6.00 per member. The insurance coordinators have received information about this. Many of you have already entered your information in the portal and submitted your payments. THANK YOU!! And a big THANK YOU to those coordinators who have used the NEW Summary Sheet. It has made it so much quicker for me.

Let's talk about Club Sponsored Classes. All Mainstream classes qualify for free insurance BUT you must complete the Class Roster form and submit it. Please make sure your clubs do not add the class members to the roster in the portal. If they do that then the students are not free. Any name entered on the roster page in the portal requires a payment unless they are paid by another club and you have placed an asterisk after their name.

I haven't requested to have the insurance tri-fold pamphlet reprinted for 2025 yet. Have you checked the website lately? You need to as I am updating forms often. Did you know that USDA has tuition scholarships for high school and college students. Homeschoolers are also eligible. Check the website for more information.

As always, you can call or email me with questions you may have.

Sincerely,
Elizabeth Sanders
USDA National Insurance Coordinator
P O Box 417, Stephens, GA 30667
insurance@usda.org
706-759-3642

EVENTS IN THE CENTRAL REGION

Scott and Sandy Ebright, Central Region VP

CENTRAL REGION REPORT

Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Mississippi, North Carolina, Ohio, South Carolina, Tennessee, and West Virginia

The last half of 2024 has been a busy, but productive, time in the USDA Central Region.

Many clubs have applied for USDA Associate Membership and Group Tax Exemption in the region. This is so exciting because we have made an effort to promote and educate our square dance community about the benefits of this group tax exemption program under USDA, and several clubs are taking advantage of it. We have held seminars at a few of the State Conventions in the Central Region and covered this topic, as well as general club leadership tools that USDA offers. More state conventions are adding education sessions to their programs now. If you see these offered, we encourage you to try and attend. There is a wealth of knowledge you can gain personally and for your clubs! There is also much more offered at the National Conventions each year, so avail yourself of those opportunities, too!

During the past quarter we attended the state conventions in Georgia on November 1st and 2nd, and Indiana November 8th through the 10th. Both were well-attended and fun. It was very encouraging to see a large number of youth at these conventions and get a chance to talk with them. We also used this opportunity to promote USDA's Youth Scholarship Program and have had a few applications started for next year's award.

A shout-out to a new club that was formed in Hickory, North Carolina this past summer, the Catawba Valley Cloverleaves. We wish you much growth and success in your new venture!

2025 brings some new adventures we are looking forward to: In January we will travel to Tucson, Arizona for the USDA Winter Meeting with a few extra days thrown in to explore the area. Thanks to our Western Region VP, Nina Grigsby, for organizing this meeting in such a lovely winter location.

Then in April we will be attending the 50th Anniversary CALLERLAB Convention in Greenville, South Carolina. This will be our first time attending and we are excited to represent USDA and continue adding to our learning curve. A big topic at this convention will be a vote on "The Proposal", CALLERLAB's suggested changes to the names and organization of our current square dance levels. If you are not familiar with "The Proposal", please visit CALLERLAB's website to educate yourself about it.

We hope each of you has a very blessed and Merry Christmas, and a Happy New Year!

IHS, Scott and Sandy Ebright
USDA Central Region Vice Presidents
CentralVP@usda.org



EVENTS IN THE WESTERN REGION

Nina Grigsby Western Region VP

WESTERN REGION REPORT

Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming

Happy New Year to our USDA officers, committee members, and all our affiliates, associations, and clubs! I hope everyone had a wonderful holiday season connecting with family and friends and perhaps were also able to swing a moment or two on the dance floor. USDA also presented several new webinars as part of their “Beyond the Dance Floor” series to increase awareness and enjoyment of square dancing that I am sure inspired you and your fellow dancers.

I was so excited to make new friends during my travels to a few Western regional dance festivals. If I missed you, I hope to catch you as you pass through Tucson, AZ or perhaps at a regional festival. There are more special dances/activities and festivals for the year ahead planned by several of our Western region affiliates and clubs that I hope everyone will take an opportunity to attend during your many travels.

Here are a few upcoming special dances and festivals that I am sure you will enjoy:

Jan 17 – 19, 2025 – Tucson Square Dance Festival, Casino Del Sol, Tucson, AZ

Jan 24 – 26, 2025 – Dancing Around the World, Linn County Fairgrounds, Albany, OR

Feb 2, 2025 – 76th Lebanon Square Circlers Birthday Dance, Lebanon IOOF Hall, Lebanon, OR

Mar 8, 2025 – 11th Anniversary Pahrump Desert Squares, Great Basin College, Pahrump, NV

Mar 21 – 23, 2025 – 75th Fiesta de la Cuadrilla, Balboa Park, San Diego, CA

Mar 22, 2025 – Spring Dance, First Presbyterian Church, Billings, MT

Details of more amazing events are posted on these affiliate websites:

[Alaska Square and Round Dance Federation](#)
[Square & Round Dance Association of Southern Arizona](#)
[Arizona Federated Square Dancers](#)
[California Council of Square Dancers](#)
[Colorado State Square Dance Association](#)
[Hawaii Square Dance Federation](#)
[Idaho State Federation of Square & Round Dance Clubs, Inc](#)
[Yellowstone Square Dance Council](#)
[Las Vegas Square and Round Dancers](#)
[New Mexico Square and Round Dance Association](#)
[Oregon Federation of Square and Round Dance Clubs](#)



Hope to see you soon and dance with you sooner!

Nina Grigsby

EVENTS IN THE PLAINS REGION
Mark and Bina Krebsbach, Plains Region VP

PLAINS REGION REPORT

Arkansas, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Louisiana, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota,
Oklahoma, South Dakota, Texas, and Wisconsin

‘FOR THE LOVE OF THE DANCE’

There has been much disquisition over the years concerning recruiting and retaining Square Dancers. I believe there is a great need for a more virtuous and moral conduct of Square Dancers that displays the practical and personal expression of one’s Love and Hope for the Dance. At times, our own negative preconceptions act as obstacles in the way of other Dancers. Living out the Lords Law of Love by loving people with an invincible sense of well being that nothing can hamper, allows a sense of contentment to permeate everything one encounters throughout the day. (this I believe Pattie Wilcox understood) This notion although somewhat contrasting to human nature, must be deeply installed by habit into Square Dance thinking both on and off the dance floor.

The starting position as we relate to potential and new dancers should be one of reverence not only for people, but for the Square Dance as well. Is it true that we wish others to indulge in it, while we refuse it ourselves, or could it be the fleeting nature of our own earthly lives?

This is just what obligates me to think about human love. There is no other matter embedded more strongly in the surface of human life, and there is no other matter more unknown and more mysterious. Love is one of the greatest dramas of human existence. Many think they have taken in the whole secret of love, but in fact they have not even touched it.

The Great Beauty of this generous past time is that it invites us into Square Dance based thinking and the contemplation of the Big Picture of life on earth, which may not be clearly seen until the last piece of the puzzle is put into place. By putting virtuous character with love at the heart of our daily practice we would be practicing self-restraint and letting go of what others desire and being better able to gracefully support the Square Dance.

To successfully fulfill the journey of life, one must make love the object of life. Love is the greatest of all. Thus, consequently adding more love and peace to the Dance and to the world we live in as well.

“Upon the conduct of each depends the fate of all.”
Alexander the Great 357-324 BC

Mark Krebsbach



YOUTHY ADVISOR NOTES

Dan Reedy

Hello Everyone

Hope you all have had a wonderful holiday and looking forward to a great new year. I apologize to everyone that I did not have a Youth message for a bit. I was dealing with a personal tragedy and loss. Please forgive the silence and accept my apologies.

There have been some really exciting events concerning Youth activities. In early December a group of kids in Southeast Missouri were involved in a stage production , Square Dancing which wound up being televised in the region.

In Iowa a group of home schooled children were involved in a demonstration for the State Department of Education as an example of both social and physical activities.

Also the group in Oregon continues to be very active and involved with Youth.

During the National Convention there was a great deal of interest and discussion among delegates about reaching out to the Home School students. The interest was extremely well received and expressed.

I look forward to the coming year with much enthusiasm and hope for the growth and success of Youth Programs across our Great Country, God Bless to all, and looking forward to seeing you in a Square.

Dan Reedy

USDA Youth Advisor



EVENTS IN THE EASTERN REGION

EASTERN REGION

Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont, Virginia

Are you interested in volunteering to help out in the Eastern Region? Look at all the fun festivals they have scheduled. If you would like to represent USDA at any festivals or conventions in the eastern region contact the USDA Presidents, Ellery and Karen Gulbrand, President@usda.org.

Virginia: 35th Virginia State Convention, Virginia Beach, VA, February 20-22, 2025. More information: www.vasquaredance.org/state-convention.html

Washington DC: 64th WASCA Festival, Herndon, VA, March 20-22, 2025. More information: www.wascaclubs.org/festival/index.php

New England: 67th New England Square and Round Dance Convention, April 25th and 26th, 2025. More information: www.nesrdc.org

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USDA Free Enhanced Benefits Card is a prescription discount card that also offers savings on Hearing & Vision.



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PCN: 05100000
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This card may not be used in combination with Medicare, Medicaid, or third party payer programs.

You 2 Can Dance

***A BRAND NEW MARKETING WEB SITE
PROMOTING
SQUARE, ROUND, AND CONTRA DANCING***

*High Definition Video Clip of Each Dance Form
with professional voice-overs*

- * Detailed Descriptions of Each Dance Form
- * Find a Caller, Find a Cuer, and Find a Club sections
- * High Definition Pictures

This site was created by ARTS-Dance to be a tool for promoting Square Dancing, Round Dancing, and Contra Dancing. Rather than trying to describe each activity on a flyer posted on a bulletin board, you can direct the potential dancer to this site to **show them**. They can watch video, read detailed descriptions and then find a leader or club in their area using either the resources page of the web site, or the contact info you have provided on your advertising

check it out **check it out at**

*http://***www.you2candance.com**

To learn more about using this web site as part of a nation-wide marketing plan go to the Facebook page ([You 2 Can Dance.com](http://www.you2candance.com)) or the ARTS-Dance web site (arts-dance.org).



Pre – Registration
 75th National Square Dance Convention®
 Waco, Texas
 June 24-27, 2026

Registration # _____
Ribbons _____

REGISTER ONLINE at www.75nsdcinc.com
 This form expires on March 22, 2025

Zelle® your registration fee to 75nsdc@gmail.com

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

Primary Last Name: _____ First Name: _____

Email Address: _____

Partner's Last Name (if different): _____ First Name: _____

Email Address (if different): _____

Youth Names & DOB: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Country: _____

Phone: (_____) _____ Alt Number: (_____) _____

Check if you want to opt out of email sharing. Email addresses shared only with the NEC for upcoming convention information

Pre-Registration Prices (US currency only) \$60.00 each x _____ until 3/22/2025 = \$ _____

Youth born after June 27, 2009 \$30.00 each x _____ until 3/22/2025 = \$ _____

Sub Total: \$ _____

Credit Card Processing Fee \$3.00 \$ _____

Total Due: \$ _____

Cash Received \$ _____ Check # _____ (Payable to 75NSDC) Zelle

Credit Card Type: _____ Credit Card #: _____

Expiration Date: ____/____/____ Security Code: _____ Name of Cardholder: _____

Statement Mailing Address (if different): _____

Authorized Card Signature: _____

If Registering by Mail: 75NSDC 9597 Jones Rd Ste #122 Houston, TX 77065
Or Email to: register.75nsdc@gmail.com

PLEASE HELP US PLAN! Please CIRCLE all that apply

Dancers: SSD Only, Mainstream, Plus, Advanced, Challenge, Contra, Lines, Rounds, Clogging, Handicapable, SOLO
 Leaders: Squares, Contra, Lines, Rounds, Clogging. Education Presenter Topic: _____

Arrive Early or Stay Late # Days _____? Stay at Convention Hotels, RV Camping or
 Other Accommodations? _____

Group Name: _____ Do you need Block Rooms _____, Meeting Rooms _____ or Storage Space: _____

Room Blocks Expire September 15, 2025

\$10.00 cancellation fee per registration. No refunds after April 30, 2026. **This form and registration rate is void after March 22, 2025.** Registration Long Forms will be mailed in January, 2025 for selection of hotel or RV park and additional items. Early registration gives you free admittance to the Pre-Convention Kick Off Dance on March 22, 2025.

"Convention Badges Required for Entrance to all Convention Activities; Dressy Casual Attire allowed until 6:00 pm. Proper Dance Attire is Requested After 6:00 pm for all Dancers."

(Internal Use Only) Accepted by: _____ Date: _____

Registration Location: _____ Receipt Sent: _____ Date Sent: _____

WE'RE GOING TO TEXAS Y'ALL!

Desert Squares of Pahrump



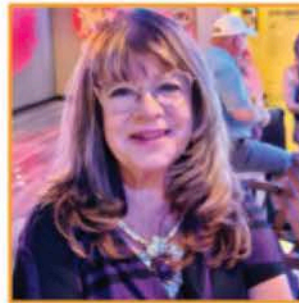
11th Anniversary Dance
March 8, 2025

CALLER



Andy Allemao

CUER



Teri Rogers

6:30 - 7:00 pm - Line Dancing
7:00 - 9:30 pm - Square Dancing alternating between
Mainstream and Plus with one Line Dances between tips

Great Basin College (Classroom)
551 E. Calvada Blvd, Pahrump, NV

Donation: \$10 for Square Dancing
Donation: \$5 for Line Dancing Only

Desserts
50/50
Raffle Prizes

For more details, contact:

- Jerald Orosco (559) 776-9061
- Pat Jackson (305) 849-4293





CABO SAN LUCAS ADVENTURE!

August 11 - 18, 2025



Teresa
Berger



Adam
Christman



Wade
Driver



DeeDee
Dougherty-
Lottie



Jerry
Gilbreath



KO
Jeanes



Mike
Seastrom



Matt
McGovern

RIU Palace Cabo San Lucas, Baja, Mexico

8 Days ~ 7 nights ~ 24-hour ALL inclusive Resort

*On The Beach + Air Conditioned Ballroom + Over 24 hours of dancing available
Daily & Nightly Entertainment + Over 7 Main Dining and Themed Restaurants
Two Swimming Pools + Water Park*

**\$1599.00 per person based on double occupancy (all included but airfare)
Includes airport transfer to and from the Las Cabos International Airport (SJD)
Dance space in our air-conditioned ballroom is *limited to 120*.**

Register now!

www.rhythmadventures.com



Lynn Strobel
(MT)
Squares

Lolo Stomp

PLUS WEEKEND



Jerry Junck
(NE)
Squares



Larry & Susan Sperry (MT)
Rounds

August 7-9, 2025

Yellowrock Campground

9955 US-12, Lolo, MT

Info call Butch (208) 503-0551

or Tim (406) 218-8677

Weekend Package Prices

Unless Stated

\$35 pp - Weekend Package
\$8 pp - Per Workshop
\$12 pp - Night Dances

*June 20-21 Weekend Prices

\$25 pp - Weekend Package
\$8 pp - Per Workshop
\$12 pp - Night Dances

*July 17-19 Weekend Prices

Weekend - \$45 pp
Workshops - \$8 pp per wrkshp
Evening Dances - \$12 pp Per Dance

**Lolo Stomp Weekend Prices

\$50 pp - Weekend Package
\$8 pp - Per Workshop
\$12 pp - Per Evening Dance

Come Camp

~

Gather

~

Play at Yellowrock
campground!



(406) 273-0141

Camping Reservations Only

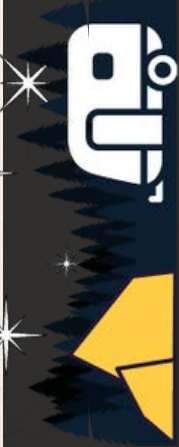
Check Yellowrock Gather
for additional square and
round dances info

www.yellowrockcampground.com/gather



Yellow Rock Campground
9955 US-12, Lolo, MT 59847

Yellowrock



Campground
Lolo, MT

2025 Summer Dance
Schedule at Lolo, MT



Dancing Sponsored by the
Solo Stars Square Dance Club

Dance Info Call:

Butch - (208) 503-0551

Tim - (406) 218-8677

Mountain Mixer: June 6 - 7

Caller: David Mee Cuer: Dawn Mee

Friday, June 6

- 7 - 7:30 pm: Pre-Rounds
- 7:30 - 9:30 pm: Mainstream Dance
- Saturday, June 7
- 10 - 11:30 am: Round Dance Workshop
- 2 - 3:30: Mainstream Square Dance Wrkshp
- 7 - 7:30 pm: Pre-Rounds
- 7:30 - 9:30 pm: Mainstream Dance

June 20-21

Caller: Butch Suttley, MT / Cuer: Jen Devine, WA

Friday, June 20

- 7:00 - 7:30 pm ~ Pre-Rounds
- 7:30 - 9 ~ Mainstream Dance
- Saturday, June 21
- 1 - 2:30 pm ~ Square Dance Wrkshp
- 6:30 - 7:30 pm ~ Plus Squares
- 7:30 - 8 pm ~ Pre-Rounds
- 8 - 9:30 pm ~ Mainstream Dance

**See Prices*

June 25-28

**Round Dance Clinic with
Larry & Susan Sperry, MT**

July 11-12

Caller/Cuer: Craig Abercrombie, OR

Friday, July 12

- 1 - 2:30 pm ~ Plus Wrkshp
- 6:30 - 7:30 pm ~ Plus Squares
- 7:30 - 8 pm ~ Pre-Rounds
- 8 - 9:30 pm ~ Mainstream Dance

Saturday, July 13

- 1 - 2:30 pm ~ Square Dance Wrkshp
- 6:30 - 7:30 pm ~ Plus Squares
- 7:30 - 8 pm ~ Pre-Rounds
- 8 - 9:30 pm ~ Mainstream Dance

July 23 - 26

USA West Convention in Spokane, WA

July 17-19

Caller: Lynn Strobel, MT / Cuer: Theresa Ray, WA

Thursday, July 17 - Sat, July 19

- 1 - 2:30 pm ~ Square Dance Wrkshp
- 7 - 7:30 pm ~ Pre-Rounds
- 7:30 - 9:30 pm ~ Mainstream Dance

**See Prices*

Aug 1 - 2

**Caller: Mike Sikorsky, AZ
Cuer: Larry & Susan Sperry, MT**

Friday, Aug 1

- 1 - 2:30 pm ~ Round Dance Wrkshp
- 6:30 - 7:00 pm ~ Pre-Rounds
- 7:00 - 8:00 pm ~ Plus Dance
- 8 - 9:30 pm ~ Mainstream Dance

Saturday, Aug 2

- 1 - 2:30 pm ~ Square Dance Wrkshp
- 6:30 - 7 pm ~ Pre-Rounds
- 7 - 8 pm ~ Plus Dance
- 8 - 9:30 pm ~ Mainstream Dance

Lolo Stomp: Aug 7 - 9

**Callers: Jerry Junck, NE
Lynn Strobel, MT
Cuer: Larry Sperry, MT**

Thursday, Aug 9

- 7:00 pm ~ Pre-Rounds
- 7:30 - 9:30 pm ~ Plus Dance

Friday & Saturday, Aug 9 - 10

- 10 - 11:30 am ~ Round Dance Wrkshp
- 2 - 3:30 pm ~ Plus Wrkshp
- 7 - 7:30 pm ~ Pre-Rounds
- 7:30 - 9:30 pm ~ Plus Dance

***See Prices*

LOLO Montana

Solo Stars Mountain Mixer

At The Yellow Rock Campground

June 6th & 7th, 2025

*Having a
Good Time
Dancin'
With*

*In a
Great
Dance Hall*



David & Dawn Mee, California
Caller/Cuer

Dance Schedule

Friday June 6th - 7:00 - 7:30 pm - Pre-Rounds

7:30 - 9:30 pm - Mainstream

Saturday July 7th - 10:00 - 11:30 am - Round Dance Workshop

2:00 - 3:30 pm - Mainstream Workshop

7:00 - 7:30 pm - Pre-Rounds

7:30 - 9:30 pm - Mainstream

Event Pricing

Workshops - \$8.00 Per Person

Evening Dances \$12.00 Per Person

Complete Weekend Package \$35.00 Per Person



Campground Information & Reservations

9955 Highway 12 West Lolo, MT 59847

(406) 273-0141

Email: yellowrockcampground@gmail.com

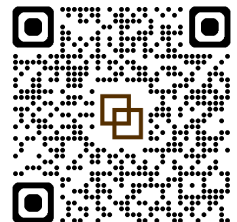
Web Site: yellowrockcampground.com

For Additional Dance Information Contact

Butch Suttey: (208) 503 - 0551

OR

Tim Casey: (406) 218 - 8677



Scan QR Code
with your phone
to go to website

LOLO Montana

August 1st & 2nd - 2025

A Post USA West Event

You'll Have A Time Of
Your Life
With This Team

**YELLOW ROCK
SQUARE DANCE
CAMPGROUND IN
LOLO MONTANA**



Mike Sikorsky, AZ
Featured Caller



Larry & Susan Sperry, MT
Featured Cuers

Campground Information & Reservations

9955 Highway 12 West Lolo, MT 59847
(406) 273-0141

Email: yellowrockcampground@gmail.com
Web Site: yellowrockcampground.com

For Additional Dance Information Contact

Butch Suttley: (208) 503 - 0551 OR Tim Casey: (406) 218 - 8677



QR Code

Dance Schedule

- Friday August 1st:** 1:00pm - 2:30pm Round Dance Workshop
6:30pm - 7:00pm Pre-Rounds
7:00pm - 8:00pm Plus Level Dance
8:00pm - 9:30pm Mainstream Level Dance
- Saturday July 2nd:** 1:00pm - 2:30pm Square Dance Workshop
6:30pm - 7:00pm Pre-Rounds
7:00pm - 8:00pm Plus Level Dance
8:00pm - 9:30pm Mainstream Level Dance

Pricing

- Complete Dance Package \$35.00 Per Person
Individual Session Pricing
Workshops \$8:00 Per Person
Evening Dances \$12:00 Per Person





**Don't Let Everyone Run
Ba-You on the Way to the
74th National
Square
Dance
Convention!**

**Register Online Today at
www.74NSDC.com**

**See 'Ya at the Shreveport
Convention Center
June 25-28, 2025**

**Scan the QR Code to join
the 74th NSDC's Facebook
Group for the latest news**





The United Square Dancers of America's *Zoom* Series

Beyond the Dance Floor

Dancing! — While we are so excited to be back dancing after the Covid epidemic, we lost many of our dancers, clubs, callers, and cuers during that time. The great news that came from the pandemic is how well the square dance community all over the World has adapted to and benefitted from the challenges we've were facing and continue to face. How have we benefitted? Remote networking platforms such as Microsoft Teams and Zoom have introduced us to new friends and dance experiences we might never have enjoyed before — from Zoom dance sessions with international participation to opportunities to participate in State, National and International dance events, conventions and workshops.

In October of 2020 the **United Square Dancers of America — USDA** — your National dancers' organization, introduced a monthly series of web-based programs via *Zoom* to support clubs on the business and marketing end of our activity. The programs were used to introduce more dancers across the country to who/what USDA is, the programs and services we provide, and a way to keep square and round dancing in the forefront of people's thoughts even if they weren't able to get together on the dance floor. Since the introduction of the initial workshops, topics have evolved to include Marketing & Promotions, the SSD dance program, square dance resources, promotional information about our National Square Dance Conventions, Social Connections and the recruitment and retention of callers. We've been lucky enough to partner with CALLERLAB, ROUNDALAB and ARTS on several of these programs and look forward to partnering with other national organizations for future program offerings. We've had participation from dancers, callers cuers from all over the world, sharing ideas, program guidelines and coping strategies.



Beyond The Dance Floor – It takes a lot of effort and organizational skills to keep our favorite activity alive and USDA is here to help. From bylaws to event planning, club officer duties, promotion, communications, newsletters, youth and handicapable programs – this series is designed to help groups across the country and across the World build and grow your clubs.

Want Direct Notification of the Next Session? Watch your email, our website and Facebook for links to the actual, **FREE** workshops. If you would like to be added to our email notification list send us your name and email address to Education@usda.org.



For more information or to check on scheduling updates, please contact us at:

USDA Online Education: Bonnie Abramson — Education@usda.org

Or visit our Facebook page and join our Facebook group

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/314405916617> (United Square Dancers of America—USDA)





74th National Square Dance Convention®
 Shreveport Convention Center - June 25-28, 2025
 400 Caddo Street, Shreveport, Louisiana
Come Dance on the Wild Side
 Register online at 74nsdc.com

RETURN COMPLETED FORM TO:
Rhonda Bailey
 74th NSDC
 111 Wood Duck Lane
 Texarkana, TX 75501
 Email: RhondaW252@outlook.com

For Convention Use Only
 Registration # _____
 Date Received _____
 Payment Processed _____
 Check# or Ref # _____
 Rev Form 12/10/23a

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Country: _____
 Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____
 Email*: _____
 *E-mail address will only be shared with the NEC Check if you do not want your email shared.

First Name & Last Name for CONVENTION BADGES		Subtotals
1. Adult	_____	\$ _____
2. Adult	_____	\$ _____
3. Adult/Youth	** DOB ___/___/___	\$ _____
4. Adult/Youth	** DOB ___/___/___	\$ _____
5. Adult/Youth	** DOB ___/___/___	\$ _____

No. of past NSDC's prior to 74th

- Magnet for Badge (pins provided free) # _____ @ \$2.00 \$ _____
- Program Book & Daily Schedules (\$25 after 4/30/2025) # _____ @ \$20.00 \$ _____
- Round Dance Syllabus - USB Drive or Printed copy (Must be purchased by 4/30/2025) # _____ @ \$15.00 \$ _____
- Printed copy & USB (Must be purchased by 4/30/25) # _____ @ \$20.00 \$ _____
- Sew & Save Book - USB Drive or Digital Download # _____ @ \$30.00 \$ _____
- Cookbook # _____ @ \$15.00 \$ _____
- Hearing Assistance Device # _____ @ \$15.00 \$ _____
- Wednesday Night Special Event – Dennis Swanberg # _____ @ \$15.00 \$ _____
- Dinner & Show \$60 per person # _____ @ \$60.00 \$ _____
- Show only \$30 per person # _____ @ \$30.00 \$ _____
- RV Camping from back side of form (4 night minimum) # _____ @ \$35.00 \$ _____
- Convenience Fee for Credit Card Processing # _____ @ \$3.00 \$ _____

Total Due \$ _____

PAYMENT (Complete if paying in person or by postal mail (US Funds))
 Check Enclosed Cash (In Person) – Receipt # _____ Credit Card
 Name on Card: _____
 Card Type (Visa, Mastercard, AmEx, Discover): _____
 Card Number: _____ Security Code: _____
 Expiration Date: _____

Dressy casual attire allowed until 6pm. Proper dance attire is requested after 6pm for all dancers.
 74th NSDC Convention badge required for entrance to all convention activities.
 Shoes must be worn at all times.

INFORMATION FOR COMPLETING FORM

- You can complete this form and pay online at www.74nsdc.com.
- Please PRINT legibly to ensure accuracy of information.
- If you have already PRE-REGISTERED using our short form, please enter names in the appropriate space for each badge and enter \$0 (zero) in subtotal by each name already registered to avoid duplicate charge.
- If not pre-registered, enter registration fee for each dancer and correctly calculate amounts in the subtotal lines, then calculate and enter the total due.
- Registration fees: Adult \$70; Youth ages 5-17 by 6/25/2025 - \$35.00 Under 5 Free.
- Prices will increase May 1, 2025 - Adult: \$85 - Youth ages 5-17: \$42.50. Persons 3-5 circle Adult or Youth. ****Only need birthday of Youth.**
- Registrations are non-transferable.
- No One-, Two-, or Three-Day Registrations.
- A \$10.00 fee per registrant will be imposed for cancellations or changes before April 30, 2025. No refunds after April 30, 2025.
- Registrations received after April 30, 2025, will receive e-mail confirmation.
- If sending by mail include credit card information, check, or money order payable in U.S. funds to 74th NSDC with this form. Do not send cash.
- If registering by email, omit payment information on form. You will receive an invoice by email. (Note \$3.00 CC payment convenience fee.)

TOURS can be purchased on separate brochure or online at 74nsdc.com/tours

- DANCERS - PLEASE HELP US PLAN! Check all that apply.
- SSD Only Mainstream Plus Advanced Challenge Contra
 Lines Clogging Rounds Handicapable Solo

PROGRAMMED CALLERS & DANCE LEADERS
 You must update your profile yearly & online by 12/31/24 at sdconvention.com.
 Name _____ Type: _____
 Name _____ Type: _____
 Name _____ Type: _____

HOTEL & CAMPING INFORMATION ON REVERSE
 Convention Hotels and Campgrounds must be reserved through 74th NSDC Registration & Housing for 74th NSDC rates.
 Check box if you will manage your own accommodations.

Name: _____

HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS

Code	Hotel	Rate
1	Hilton Shreveport Hotel - Headquarters	\$169
2	Sam's Town - <i>Weekday Rate (Sunday - Thursday)</i> Caller/Cuer Hotel - <i>Weekend Rate (Friday - Saturday)</i>	\$115 \$145
3	Holiday Inn - Shreveport (3-minute - 0.7 mile)	\$115
4	Holiday Inn Express - Shreveport (3-minute - 0.7 mile)	\$115
5	Hampton Inn - Bossier (6-minute drive)	\$139
6	Hilton Garden Inn - Bossier (6-minute drive)	\$139
7	Homewood Suites - Bossier (6-minute drive)	\$169

Indicate choice of hotel preference by specifying number: #1 ___ #2 ___ #3 ___
 Hotel assignments will be made in order of registration form received & according to availability. This form must be received, and rooms booked by March 1, 2025 for Sam's Town or May 1, 2025 for other hotels to guarantee 74th NSDC pricing.

Room nights needed: (4 Night Minimum)
 S 6/21 S 6/22 M 6/23 T 6/24 W 6/25 T 6/26 F 6/27 S 6/28 S 6/29

Additional arrive early? _____ or stay late nights? _____ Total nights requested _____
 Room request: Single Double Queen King Handicapable

SHARED ROOMS - only one person per room should complete a hotel reservation request. Please list all room occupants here: _____

Housing Committee does not find or assign roommates.

BLOCK HOUSING: All Block Housing requests are due by **July 15, 2024 and must be filled by Sept 15th**, include the name, email, and phone number of Block Housing Leader.

Block Name _____
 Block Leader Name _____ Phone _____
 Email _____

No airport shuttle services provided. See www.74nsdc.com for transportation information.

Register and submit your hotel room choice early (on the form or online) to have the best chance of having your selection available, and no later than **May 1, 2025**. A weblink and phone number to the hotel reservation system will be sent to attendees in the order that the forms are received.

Do you prefer email or text notification? Email ___ Text ___
Note that hotels will not take your reservation for our convention until July 1, 2024. The hotel will provide your confirmation number as you provide your credit card number to hold the room. **You must be registered for the convention with a registration number to receive the convention contracted rate.** No self or online registration is available for the contracted rate except through the weblink and phone number which will be provided by the convention Housing Vice-Chairman.

MAP OF HOTELS & CAMPGROUND SHREVEPORT-BOSSIER



RV & CAMPING ACCOMMODATIONS

Campground	Distance	Rate per Day
State Fair of Louisiana 3701 Hudson Street, Shreveport, LA 71109	4.5 miles / 9-minute drive	\$35.00

Each site is roughly the same size with full hookups including water and sewer with 30 or 50-amp electrical connections. 30 amp requested 50 amp requested.

Assignments will be made in the order of registration form received & according to availability to make sure we have plenty of 50-amp connections. This form must be received, and sites must be booked by May 1, 2025, to guarantee the 74th NSDC pricing. We have over 200 sites available, so no issue on availability.

Site nights needed: (4 Night Minimum)

S 6/21 S 6/22 M 6/23 T 6/24 W 6/25 T 6/26 F 6/27 S 6/28 S 6/29
 # Additional arrive early? _____ or stay late nights? _____ Total nights requested _____

Buses Not Available. Parking Available at Convention Center \$5 per day (in/out).

GROUP CAMPING requests must be received by January 2, 2025. Everyone that is part of the group must fill in Group Name and Group Leader Name. **To camp together, best to arrive together.**

Group Name _____
 Group Leader Name _____ Phone _____
 Email _____

Your confirmed campground may assess a one-night penalty fee for cancellations received less than 72 hours of arrival, including early departure. On-line registration available. All site reservations will be coordinated through RV & Camping Vice-Chairman with this form. For further information see web site: www.74nsdc.com.

Mainstream Square Dance Week

At

Yellowrock Campground,

9955 Lolo Creek Road (Hwy 12)

Lolo, Montana

Thursday Thru Saturday July 17 – 19, 2025

with

Lynn Strobel, Caller

Theresa Ray, Cuer

Dance Program

Each Day:

Mainstream Workshop: 1:00 to 2:30 p.m.

\$8.00 per person

Each Night:

Prerounds: 7:00 to 7:30 p.m.

Mainstream Dance: 7:30 to 9:30 p.m.

\$12.00 per person

Total Program Package: Only \$45.00 per person

Camping information: 406-273-0141; Dance information: 208-503-0551

"Remembering Sam Dunn"

Road Runners Square Dance Campers Club, Chapter 193 of the National Square Dance Campers Association (NSDCA) are remembering Sam Dunn with a collage of special club moments.

Sam was our caller for several years, a great caller and friend too. His special little service dog, 'Petey' was always by his side. He helped make our dances fun, challenging and a little crazy too. I can still hear him reminding us "tighten-up that square, you could drive a VW through there."

Sam loved camping, we never knew just what camper he would come in next, but he always got there. He especially enjoyed cooking breakfast with the guys. Sam began calling back in the seventies, he and Sue, (his wife of 56 years), were setting up camping/dancing weekends long before he found the NSDCA or maybe we found him.

Sam will be laid to rest on December 20, 2024, at the Sarasota National Cemetery, 9810 SR 10, Sarasota, FL, 12:30 PM

The service is open to all his friends & family.
(You may want to arrive early for parking ease.)

Submitted by John & Dolly Ide
Chapter **193** Presidents



Turn Your Vacations into Donations!

Alliance of Rounds Traditional and Square Dance Now Has It's Own Travel Website!

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Each time you use our new travel website, ARTS the Alliance of Rounds Traditional and Square Dance will receive a portion of the travel commissions from the companies you use.





GOING AWAY FOR THE WINTER? SUMMER? HAVE YOU MOVED?

We don't want you to miss a single copy of USDA NEWS, so please notify us of any change of address as soon as possible. If you go away for an extended period of time let us know the new address and the dates involved and we will see that you continue to get your copy wherever your current address might be.

When you plan a move please send your new address to News@usda.org as soon as possible.

USDA NEWS PUBLICATION POLICY

USDA NEWS is the official newsletter of the United Square Dancers of America, the largest square dance organization in the world. Our goal is to cover all aspects of the square dance activity. USDA NEWS is not copyrighted and we welcome the reprinting of any material by USDA Affiliates and other publications. A credit line is appreciated whenever any of our material is reprinted.

We also welcome articles of interest to the square dance world in general. When submitting articles for use in USDA NEWS please include your name, address, phone number and email address and also indicate the author of the article. The editor does reserve the right to reject, edit, omit, or rewrite all material submitted.

The opinions expressed within the publication do not necessarily reflect that of the USDA or the Editorial staff.

USDA ADVERTISING POLICY

USDA NEWS prefers ads and fliers in digital format. To avoid distortion use 8 1/2" x 11" format with margins for a full page and 8 1/2" x 5 1/2" for a half page.

Make check payable to United Square Dancers of America and mail to the editor. Name and address can be found on www.usda.org/Officers.php. Checks must be received by the publication deadline listed below. Unpaid ads will not be printed.

Deadline Dates are one month before the quarterly. issue date.

USDA NEWS has two editions; a printed edition and an on-line edition. The printed edition is a black and white copy except for the cover and the four center pages. The four center pages are available for purchase for your fliers. The color ads and are sold on a first-come basis. The on-line edition is a full color copy. When submitting copies for black and white advertising in the printed edition you can send a color copy for use. It will be printed in black and white, but the on-line copy will be in color.

ADVERTISING RATES

	<u>COLOR</u>	<u>BLACK & WHITE</u>
½ Page	\$25.00	\$20.00
Full Page - 1 side	\$45.00	\$35.00
Full Page—2 sides	\$60.00	\$50.00

Publication

Deadline

Jan-Mar	Dec 01
Apr-Jun	Mar 01
Jul—Sep	Jun 01
Oct—Dec	Sep 01

USDA NEWS

The USDA NEWS publication is a quarterly publication covering all aspects of the Square Dance activity. Each issue of USDA NEWS, which averages 32-36 pages, is provided FREE to all known dance publication editors; leaders of national, and international organizations; and USDA Affiliate, presidents, vice presidents and insurance coordinators.

USDA NEWS is available to all others at a yearly subscription rate of only \$6.00. The subscription rate does not pay for the newsletter but does assist in the postal costs. To keep abreast of square dance events, leadership and education articles, and to maintain your awareness and knowledge of the total activity, you should be reading the USDA NEWS.

If you would like to receive notice when a new issue is posted on our website, go to www.Subscribe.USDA.org and follow the instructions. As soon as a new on-line edition is posted you will receive an email with a link to the website.

For your own personal copy of the quarterly USDA NEWS, complete the form below and return it with a check made out to United Square Dancers of America and mail both to the USDA NEWS Editor.



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If publication editors, Name of Publication _____ **Email** _____

MAIL COMPLETED FORM TO LILLY HARDIN, PO BOX 4782, DILLON, CO 80435-4782

WINTER'S BEAUTY

The sight of clouds in Winter, a gloomy feeling it makes
Until they start releasing those dazzling white flakes
There is beauty within the sky when it starts to shed
That wondrous white snow over this land is spread
A blanket of sparkling diamonds over this land
God's beauty radiates so white and so grand
Silently descending, so softly landing
In a miraculous white glow
God gives us the snow

Greetings from good old North Dakota where Bina and I love living life. Winter is my favorite time of the year. That is why once again I shared "Winters Beauty", a poem I wrote a couple years ago which is my philosophy of winter.

Each morning when I wake up, I realize I have experienced a new day that was not promised to me. The older I get, the more precious each day becomes, which motivates a purpose filled life of gratitude. We have, among others, a great gratitude for the Square Dance.

The past few months we did not travel outside of North Dakota due to a little break needed for R & R. Although we were able to dance a bit within the state. Hopefully in time, the Lord willing, we will be on the road again. Occasionally, on our Square Dance travels we have witnessed the scattered debris of a Square Dance Club or two. That in part prompted the writing of "For the love of the Dance."

Our hope is that you will be Blessed and filled with the Grace of our Lord and Savior throughout 2025 and beyond!

God Bless

As ever Square Dancers

Mark & Bina

CONVENTION SCHEDULE

Send your State Association/Federation Convention dates to News@usda.org and will list it here at no charge.

<p>Jan 17-18 70th Florida State Square & Round Dance Convention: “Spin The Bigtop” 1640 Dr. Martin Luther King Blvd, Deltona, FL Register at: www.floridasquaredance.com</p>
<p>Jan 17 - 19 Tucson Square & Round Dance Festival Casino Del Sol Resort 5655 W. Valencia, Tucson, Arizona Register at: www.SACCA.dance</p>
<p>Jan 24-26, 2025 Oregon Mid-Winter Festival Linn County Fairgrounds, 3700 Knox Butte Road E Albany, OR 97322 Contact Julia Buchheit: jbuchheit19@gmail.com</p>
<p>Feb 20-22 35th Virginia State Convention “LET THE GOOD TIMES ROLL” Holiday Inn Virginia Beach-Norfolk 5655 Greenwich Rd., Virginia Beach, VA More info at: vasquaredance.org/state-convention</p>
<p>Feb 28-Mar 1 Copper State Festival Crescent Run Community 8500 E. Southern Ave, Mesa, AZ Ribbon sales on line only - MESACHECKMATES.COM</p>
<p>Mar 20-22 64th WASCA Festival “Duck and Dive in 25” Hilton Washington Dullas Airport, Herndon VA More info at: www.wascaclubs.org/festival</p>
<p>Mar 21-23 75th Fiesta de la Cuadrilla Square and Round Dance Festival Balboa Park, San Diego, CA http://sdsda.org/fiesta or email: fiesta@sdsda.org</p>
<p>Mar 28-29 72nd Heart of America Federation Festival Osage Trail Middle School, Independence, MO See flyer for QR code and additional information</p>
<p>Apr 25-26 North Dakota State Festival Holy Spirit Catholic Church 1420 7th St. N. Fargo, ND More Info at: squaredancenorthdakota.com</p>

<p>Apr 25-26 67th New England Square & Round Dance Covention: “Circulate the Bay State” Westford, MA For more information: https://nesrdc.org</p>
<p>May 23-25 72nd Golden State Round Up Lodi Grape Festival Fairgrounds 413 Lockeford St., Lodi, CA 95240 Register at: www.NCSDA.com</p>
<p>Jun 13-14 Colorado State Square Dance Festival GATSBY’S ALIVE IN 2025 Colorado Mesa University, Grand Junction, CO More info at: coloradosquaredance.com</p>
<p>Jul 18-19 39th Illinois State Square and Round Dance Convention Sheraton Suites, Chicogo O’Hare, Rosemont, IL Visit: www.ilsdc.dance</p>
<p>Jul 3-6 Alaska State Square & Round Dance Festival Farthest North Square and Round Dance Center 2300 Airport Way, Fairbanks, AK Kandie Christian, 907-699-2345, kjcinak@gmail.com</p>
<p>Jul 17-20 77th Annual Square & Round Dance Festival 1105 Old Hwy 160, Show Low, AZ Lane Brooksby, Info@whitemountainsquaredance.com</p>
<p>Jul 23-26 21st USA West Convention Spokane, Washington http://www.washington.usawest.net/</p>
<p>Aug 8-10 65th Wisconsin Square & Round Dance Convention: “Keep Square Dancing Alive in 2025” Oshkosh Convention Center, Oshkosh, WI 54901 Visit: wisquaredanceconvention.org</p>
<p>Aug 14-16 61st Michigan Square and Round Dance Convention:”Dancing’s ALIVE in ‘25” Doubletree Deaborn/Detroit, Southfield Fwy, Detroit For more info: www.squaredance-michigan.com</p>

**FEDERATION FLIGHT 2025 FROM
OWENS CROSS ROADS, ALABAMA
ARRIVING MARCH 28 & 29TH, 2025**



**HEART OF AMERICA FEDERATION IS EXCITED TO BRING
INTERNATIONALLY ACCLAIMED CALLER/RECORDING ARTIST**

JET ROBERTS

<https://www.jetroberts.com/>

72nd Heart of America Federation Festival

Osage Trail Middle School
2101 N Twyman Road
Independence, MO

**Mainstream & Plus Tips
by Jet Roberts Both Dates**

Mar 28th 7-10 PM

\$10 Donation @ Door

March 29th 1:30 - 10 PM

w/ meal break 5:30-6:30

\$20 Donation @ Door

All Sessions - \$25 Donation @ Door

Rounds & Lines Between Tips Friday Night

Rounds cued by Dan Pearson

Lines cued by Carolyn Goucher

THANK YOU LOCAL CALLERS/CUERS!

DANCING AND DINNER IS ON US!

Caller/Cuer Appreciation March

Saturday Evening

Individual recognitions between tips Saturday

Concessions/Meals in Adjacent Food Court by Band Booster Club

Concessions 7-10 Friday Night

Snacks 1:30 - 9 Saturday

Full Dinner w/dessert available \$12*

5:30 - 6:30 Saturday

***Advanced dinner tickets required by March 17th E-Mail - hoatreas2015@gmail.com**

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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**UNITED SQUARE DANCERS OF AMERICA
2023-2024 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

www.usda.org/Officers.php

ELECTED OFFICERS

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