



ASARDA



ALABAMA SQUARE AND ROUND DANCE ASSOCIATION, INC.

ALABAMA ACHIEVEMENTS

- 1974 – Oct 6th – 1st planning meeting on forming ASARDA held in Montgomery.
- 1976 – Feb 8th – ASARDA officially Incorporated – 1st President Dewey L. Glass of Montgomery.
ASARDA consisted of 6 districts: North Alabama, North West Alabama, East Central Alabama, West Central Alabama, South West Alabama, South East Alabama.
- 1976 – Jun 1st – 1st ASARDA Newsletter published, Dewey L. Glass of Montgomery, Editor
- 1977 - Jan 1st – 456 dancers, 30 clubs, 5 associations are charter members of ASARDA, Inc.
- 1977 – May 28th - ASARDA’s 1st State Convention, Dewey L & Ruth Glass of Montgomery were General Chairmen. The one-night dance was free to ASARDA Members - Since then one day at each convention has been designated as “FREE” admission for the ASARDA membership. There were 40 squares of dancers, 20 callers, and 4 cuers and Cloggers participating.
- 1977 – Jun – The National Executive Committee (NEC) of the National Square Dance Association® (NSDA) recognized ASARDA as the State Square and Round Dance Association of Alabama.
- 1978 – May 28th – 1st club with 100% ASARDA Membership – The Swinging Stars Square Dance Club in Anniston
- 1978 – Sept 5th – 1st proclamation from Alabama Governor George C. Wallace proclaiming September 18-24 “Alabama Square Dance Week”
- 1979 – Jun 8th-9th – 1st “two-day” ASARDA Convention. Friday night was a benefit dance for the Alabama Sheriff’s Boys & Girls Ranch, Saturday night was free for ASARDA members
- 1979 – Sept – Adopted “Red & White” as official colors of ASARDA
- 1980 – Square Dance information sheets developed and placed in all Alabama Welcome Centers
- 1980 – Jun 26th - 1st Alabama Display Table at a National Square Dance Convention
- 1980- Jun 26th-28th – Broke previous Alabama Attendance records at a National Square Dance Convention® (NSDC) with 926 dancers at the 29th NSDC in Memphis (except than when the NSDC was held in Alabama in 1985 & 1995)
- 1981 – Feb – ASARDA leadership training and educational materials were developed, published, and used in educational seminars (later adopted by USDA)
- 1981 - Feb 17th – Alabama Governor Fob James signs HJR 50 Proclaiming the “Square Dance” as the official American Folk Dance of the State of Alabama
- 1981 – Jun 26th – ASARDA becomes Charter Member in formation of United Square Dancers of America (USDA). Jim & Peggy Seagraves of Huntsville elected 1st Vice Presidents of Central Region (1981-1984); Dewey L. Glass of Montgomery served as 1st Alabama Delegate
- 1981 – Jun 27th – Alabama dancers attending the 30th National Square Dance Convention in Seattle participated in the World’s Largest Square Dance with 2,315 squares, 18,520 dancers, and over 10,000 spectators - Recognized by Guinness Book of Records
- 1981 – Aug 29th – Largest ASARDA Convention held in Mobile with 107 squares
- 1981 – Aug 29th – 1st Ruth Glass Memorial Plaque for Convention Chairman given to Elaine & Dallas Hastings of Mobile
- 1982 – Jun 25th – Jim & Peggy Seagraves of Huntsville honored by United Square Dancers of America (USDA) for contributions in the 1st year of operation
- 1982 – Jun 25th – Alabama conducts 1st “After Party” at the 31st National Square Dance Convention in Detroit, MI

- 1982 – Jan 30th – 1st ASARDA Membership Dance sponsored by Birmingham Square Dance Association (BSDA) in Birmingham
- 1982 – May 12th – ASARDA Assigned new EIN # 63-0825359
- 1982 – Jul 14th – ASARDA assigned IRS 501(c)(7) Tax Exempt Status
- 1982 – Aug 28th – Alabama Clogging Council (ACC) formed – 1st President Kevin & Theresa Sellow of Mobile
- 1982 – Aug 28th – Alabama Square Dance Callers Association (ASDCA) formed – 1st President Dewey L. Glass of Montgomery
- 1982 – Aug 28th – Alabama Round Dance Teachers Association (ARDTA) formed 1st President Wilson & Ann McCreary of Huntsville
- 1982 – Aug 29th – Jim & Peggy Seagraves of Huntsville and Dewey L. Glass of Montgomery given Lifetime Membership to ASARDA
- 1983 – Jun 25th – Alabama Sponsors “After Party” at the 32nd National Square Dance Convention in Louisville, KY
- 1984 – Aug 25th – John & Dimple Williford of Montgomery given Lifetime Membership to ASARDA – they served in every officer position in ASARDA since it was formed
- 1984 – Aug 25th – Jim & Marye Jolly and Loren & Florence Long (National Executive Committee Advisors for 34th National Square Dance Convention given Honorary ASARDA Membership
- 1984 – Aug 25th – 1st Educational Seminars conducted at the 8th ASARDA Convention
- 1984 – Aug 25th – Jerry & Mae Pace of Mobile were designated the first ASARDA Insurance Chairman
- 1985 – Jun 27th-29th - Alabama hosts 34th National Square Dance Convention – “Alabamy Bound”– Jim & Juanita Harper of Birmingham were General Chairman
- 1985 – Jun 28th – John & Dimple Williford of Montgomery elected as Secretary (1985-1986) of United Square Dancers Association (USDA)
- 1985 – Jun 29th – Thurman & Mary Brockwell of Madison received the 1st “Circle of Service” Award presented in Alabama
- 1986 – May 10th – 1st Alabama Chapter of the National Square Dance Campers Association formed at Oak Mountain State Park (near Birmingham)
- 1986 – Jun 28 – Jim & Peggy Seagraves of Huntsville elected as Presidents (1987-1989) of United Square Dancers Association (USDA); and John & Dimple Williford of Montgomery elected as Vice Presidents of Central Region (1986-1988) of United Square Dancers Association (USDA)
- 1986 - Jun – Jim & Peggy Seagraves served as Education Chairman (1986-1989) of United Square Dancers of America (USDA)
- 1987 – ASARDA assisted in the formation of the National Handicapable Square Dance Association and donated \$500 to the new association
- 1988 – Aug – 1st ASARDA Presidents Award given to Gordon & Merle Payne of Enterprise
- 1988 – ASARDA assisted in the planning, promotion, and conduction of the 1st National Handicapable Square Dance Convention in Chickasaw, AL
- 1989 – Darryl McMillan of Decatur elected as Chairman of CallerLab (1988-1990).
- 1989 – Jun – Jim & Peggy Seagraves served as Director of Information (1989-1998) of United Square Dancers of America (USDA)
- 1989 - Jun – Jim & Peggy Seagraves served as News Editor (1989-1995) of United Square Dancers of America (USDA)
- 1993 – Aug - Faye Smith of Birmingham given Lifetime Membership to ASARDA
- 1993 - Sept 1st – Square & Round Dance License Plates approved by Alabama Legislature
- 1995 – Jun 21st-24th – Alabama hosts 44th National Square Dance Convention – “Sweet Home Alabama” – John & Dimple Williford of Montgomery were General Chairman
- 2002 – Jun - Charlie & Kitty Holley of Montgomery elected as Vice Presidents of Central Region (2002- 2005) of United Square Dancers Association (USDA)

- 2005 – Jun – Charlie & Kitty Holley of Montgomery elected as Presidents (2005-2006) of United Square Dancers Association (USDA)
- 2008 – Jun - Charlie & Kitty Holley of Montgomery elected as Vice Presidents of Central Region (2008- 2010) of United Square Dancers Association (USDA)
- 2012 – Aug 25th – 1st Last Square Standing competition at ASARDA Convention – Winners were “Wheel Arounds” from the Wheel Arounds Square Dance Club in Fultondale
- 2013 – Mar 2 - 1st ASARDA Membership held at MASDA (Free Dance for ASARDA Members)
- 2014 – May – George & Joann Dunn of Pell City elected South East Area Representatives of National Square Dance Campers Association (NSDCA)
- 2015 – Aug 28th – Alabama Traveler Program introduced
- 2016 – May - Don & Susan Wolford of Guntersville elected South East Area Representatives of National Square Dance Campers Association (NSDCA)
- 2017 – April 29th – Lifetime Membership given to Past President Elaine Wheeler of Odenville and all ASARDA Chartered Members, Committee Chairmen of both the 1985 and 1995 National Square Dance Conventions. Among these those still active are: Tip & JoAnn Blizzard of Birmingham, George & Mary Lavender of Valdosta (GA), Gloria Loser of Enterprise, Wayne & Ruby Nicholson of Montgomery, Joy & Kendall Patterson of Northport, Ralph & Viv Taylor of Helena, John & Dimple Williford of Montgomery, and Ben Glass of Chelsea.
- 2017 – Jun 25th –Tom & Tina Wilkins of Valley elected Vice- Presidents of Central Region of United Square Dance Association (USDA)
- 2017 – Jul 11th-13th Alabama Chapter #152 Hosts 60th National Square Dance Campers Association (NSDCA) Camp-O-Ree at Pride RV Resort in Waynesville, NC