



# ASARDA NEWS

VOLUME XLIV, ISSUE 5- DECEMBER 2019

Live Lively -



Square Dance!

## From the President:

It was with great sadness that we lost ASARDA Board member **Vicky Radford** on October 7<sup>th</sup>. Vicky was a member of Happy Circle Squares in Eufaula and served as District 3 Delegate for 2 years. Shortly after becoming District 3 Coordinator, she had to resign when she was diagnosed with cancer. Vicky and her husband Rodney were a tremendous help with the convention each year since moving it to Oxford, she will be greatly missed.

Welcome to our New ASARDA Board members: Celeste Penny, District 1 Coordinator, Renay Brown and Jordan Backstrom, District 1 Delegates, and Liz and Rick Sorrell our National Coordinators.

I am seeing flyers added on Facebook almost every day, and there sure are a lot of good holiday dances coming up this month. Facebook is a wonderful way to promote your dances, but please be sure to email your flyers to our webmaster Jim Wolfe as soon as possible. I know each area's association has their own way of tracking and promoting local dances, but the ASARDA calendar encompasses the entire state. To avoid splitting our dancers or having them choose which dance to attend; it is important not to schedule a special dance on the same night, so please make sure there is not another dance already scheduled, we do not want to compete amongst ourselves for dancers. Even if you don't have a flyer for the dance you can still email Jim and have the dance and date marked on the ASARDA Calendar. Jim's email is [jimwolfe46@gmail.com](mailto:jimwolfe46@gmail.com).

As I look ahead to the start of my fourth year as your ASARDA President; I can't begin to tell you how proud I am to represent our state of dancers here in Alabama when out visiting in other states promoting our convention. Dancers always comment on the warm and friendly reception they receive when visiting our great state, and how fun and exciting our convention has become. Over the past three years we have made significant improvements to our state convention, and it would not have been possible without the support of you, our dancers. The ASARDA Board is planning and preparing for yet another great convention next year. If you would like to help with the convention, please contact Carol Varner, our 2020 Convention Chairman. Also, make sure you join ASARDA for 2020 to get free admission Friday night at the convention. Our dancers' membership now runs from September 1<sup>st</sup> to August 31<sup>st</sup>.

Club and Association memberships still run from January 1<sup>st</sup> to December 31<sup>st</sup> for Insurance purposes.

We are looking for a contact person in each ASARDA club. There are no meetings to attend or any obligations other than distributing information from your District Representatives to your club. I want to make sure all our clubs are keep informed throughout the year about the great things going on with ASARDA and the convention. If you are interested in being a contact for your club, please contact your District Representative.

On behalf of the entire ASARDA Board I want to wish you and your family a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. I look forward to yet another great year serving as your ASARDA President.



*ASARDA President – Tom Wilkins*

## DISTRICT 1 NEWS

Hello everyone, I'm the new District 1 Coordinator and boy do I have some big shoes to fill. Our immediate past District 1 Coordinator, Terry Cassis, did a wonderful job representing District 1. Like I said, I have some big shoes to fill. But with the much-needed help from all the Clubs in District 1, I'll do my best.

For the new dancers and some old, if you are not sure which District your Club is in, the following Clubs are in District 1: 8ers from Decatur, Boaz Squares, Duos and Solos, Friendship Squares, Lake Twirlers, Madison Mad Hatters, Quad City Squares, River City A's, River City Rounds, Rocket City Rounds, Singing River Squares, Singles and Doubles, and The Fun Bunch. Now you know.

Duos and Solos graduated 13 Mainstream students on October 3, 2019. 11 students and 2 experienced dancers became members of the Club. Plus lessons are now on going.

On October 18, 2019 the Caller community lost a great Caller, Bob Sloman. For those of you that had the privilege to dance to Bob, know that he will be greatly missed. Up to his death, Bob was the long-time caller for Duos and Solos Square Dance Club in Ft. Payne, AL. Starting in 2020 the Callers for Duos and Solos will be Paul Henze, Tom Miller, Jet Roberts and Don Rush. The Club is looking forward to starting the new year with these amazing callers.



Thursday, November 7, 2019 was Duos and Solos' "Recognize Veterans" Dance. The Club recognized the 10 veterans in attendance and thanked them for their service to our great country.

Tom Miller will conduct a Plus Dance Booth Camp workshop. The Workshop will be conducted on Sunday, January 5, 2020 from 1:30-4:30. The location is the Guntersville Rec Center, Guntersville, AL.

The Fun Bunch Square Dance Club dances on Tuesday nights at the Central Hall Activity Center in Decatur, AL. From 6:00-7:30 there is a beginner's class. From 7:30-

7:45 all students and experienced dancers, dance together. From 7:45-9:30 full Plus dance with some workshop.

Sunday, December 8, 2019 The Fun Bunch Square Dance Club will host a "Dancer Appreciation Dance". This dance will be free to all dancers. The dance will be from 2-5pm at the Central Hall Activity Center in Decatur, AL. The dance program will offer, Mainstream, Plus, Advanced, Rounds II-IV, and Lines (Beginner and Intermediate). For additional information, call 256-227-0908.

Darryl McMillian has started an Advanced class. The first lessons started November 10 and the second lesson will be November 24, 2019. The lessons are being taught at the Central Hall Activity Center, Decatur, AL. The cost is \$7.00/person, time is 2:30-5:00. Lessons started in November and will continue for 2 lessons a month till May 2020. Please contact Darryl for more information.

The Lake Twirlers had a fun Halloween Dance with 31 dancers, 3 Callers (Tom Miller, Wayne Mahathey, Rusty Willoughby) and 2 Cuers (Pauline Angress and Diane Martin-Hamilton). A great time was had by all attending.

On October 30, 2019 the Huntsville Singles and Doubles Square Dance Club had their Halloween dance. The Caller was Sylvia Roberts and Cuer was Diane Martin-Hamilton. Their special guest were Darryl McMillian and the international travelers, Pauline Angress and Tom Miller. With over 5 squares dancing, this made for a fun dance.



The Singing River Squares of Florence, AL meet each Friday night from 6:30-8:30 at The Club (Florence Senior Club) to square dance to Chuck Bermele's calling. On the first Friday night of each month, the Club celebrates all birthdays and anniversaries for that month by bringing cake and snacks.

On Tuesday, December 31, 2019, a New Year's Eve Dance Party will be hosted by The Parks and Recreation Department, Florence, AL. There will be a \$5.00 donation at the door. Live music for social dancing and line dancing and Chuck Bermele will be calling squares. For more information contact Fran Davis at 256-760-6642.



### **HELP WANTED**

District 1 is looking for several ASARDA District Delegates. Some of the duties of the Delegate will be:

1. In conjunction with and under the leadership and direction of their Coordinator responsible for the interchange of information between ASARDA and the Area Associations, Clubs and the dancers within the assigned ASARDA District.
2. Attends ASARDA Board Meetings as a voting representative for the District.
3. Visit each club assigned to you in your District, at least once a quarter, during special club dances and club class graduation.
4. Make announcements promotion ASARDA including such things as membership, the Convention, upcoming ASARDA free dances or events and any new programs or information from the ASARDA Board.

If you are interested in becoming an ASARDA District Delegate, please contact me either at 256-244-5320 or [celeste.penny43@gmail.com](mailto:celeste.penny43@gmail.com)

*District 1 Coordinator – Celeste Penny*

## DISTRICT 2 NEWS

Hope everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving this year. And we know you are looking forward to the Christmas Holidays. Want a few great ideas for holiday gifts?? Well, here are some ideas. How about introducing your friends and family to SQUARE DANCING. You can “TAKE” them to a dance so they can see firsthand what a “wonderful time” they will have. And you know the “exercise” will ‘be right in line’ to accommodate their “New Year’s Resolutions (smile). More gift ideas?? Log onto the ASARDA Website at [www.alabamasquaredance.com](http://www.alabamasquaredance.com) and find a club that is providing ‘lessons’ and ‘gift’ your friends and family with a couple of months of “prepaid square and/or round dance lessons”. One of the greatest events of the Holiday Season is “being with friends and family” – enjoying music, entertainment, food and snacks – yep – sounds like a Square Dancing to me!!! And it is the ‘gift’ that keeps on giving all year long!!

And speaking of Square Dances and Square Dance Lessons – come take a trip with us to some of the dances and lessons – and you will see how much fun and fellowship are enjoyed by all.

First, we laid down “tracks” to Gainesville GA for the Georgia State Convention Sept 20-21.

Remember – if you want folks to visit you and your dances - - you also need to visit theirs. Not only did we have several Alabama Dancers present, it was great to see Alabama Caller Larry Belcher and Cuer Susan Wolford supporting the Georgia Convention.

Our next stop took us to District 1 to dance with Caller Darryl McMillan and the Fun Bunch in Decatur. Want to add a little interest to your dance style and spice it up?? Then visit the Fun Bunch to get a little taste of DBD (Dance by Definition) and Advance slipped into the mix for some ‘mind’ and body exercise. It adds just enough ‘extra flavor’ to intrigue the mind and helps you actually ‘listen’ for the next call instead of anticipating too much.

From “one” end of the state to the other – our ventures took us down to District 3 to “Angel” a little bit with Caller Wayne Nicholson and the Prattville Promenaders. Wayne has a very unique style of teaching square dance lessons using a ‘Circle’ format, especially for basic and mainstream calls. Hey – would this qualify us as ‘Round’ dancers (ha ha). During the evening, he gives everyone’s mind a ‘fun’ break by including a “fun” dance – similar to the old fashion barn dance that alternates partners as you proceed around the ring.

By September 27th, we made our way back to our own District 2 for some ‘good Round Dancing’ with Cuer Jerry Pierce at the Yellow Rockers. We also enjoyed lots of Square Dancing with Caller Roy Kirkland.

While there, we witnessed a “Banner Retrieval” by the Shelby Shufflers. Good job Shelby Shufflers. The Yellow Rockers are ‘kind of’ getting like the Kurly Qs when it comes to “Stealing Banners”. They had “four” ‘Stolen Club Banners’ lined around the upper bannister rails of the gym. Yellow Rockers - this is a lot of banners to have at one time?? This is very impressive – but you will still have to work a little harder to beat the Kurly Qs. The Kurly Qs have had as many as 9 or 10 ‘Stolen Banners’ at one time on their ‘bragging wall’. But it is not just about the ‘fun’ of stealing a banner. It is so much more. It is teaching your mind to remain sharp by listening to and hearing the voices and sounds of ‘other’ Callers and Cuers. It is an opportunity to “take” some of your new dancers out to meet some of the Dancers, Callers and Cuers they will encounter as they grow in their Square Dance skills.



Wouldn't you know. The 'very next night', we got to "witness" another Banner "Retrieval" when the Eastern Wranglers visited the Kurly Qs in Odenville. Take a good look at the Banner the Eastern Wranglers retrieved. No – you are not seeing things. Those are Caller Ronnie Purser's "pants". Their regular banner had been taken and so had their 'traveling' banner. The Kurly Qs demanded "something" for their trouble of visiting with 8 or more dancers - so they just took his "pants" See folks – told you we have lots of fun square dancing. You just never know when another club is going to show up and challenge you for your club banner or 'reclaim' the banner you stole from them. And it really becomes interesting when two or more clubs show up at one of the more 'popular' dance themes in hopes of "stealing a banner". But the 'first club to get there with 'eight' dancers gets to take the Club Banner.



We started October off right when we went back to District 1. But this time we went to enjoy some Line and Square Dancing with Caller Jim Melton at the Friendship Squares in Cullman. Ok folks – remember – visiting Clubs "outside" your District is one of the "requirements" for achieving your "Alabama Travelers Badge". Besides, these are some of the nicest dancers you will ever encounter when visiting other clubs.



Now back down to District 3 we go – but 'not' to Square Dance this time. As we have mentioned several times now, Alabama "won" the bid to Host the National Convention in 2023 at Mobile Bay. So we were there for our 90 Day Meeting and to stake our territory for one heck of a "Place To Be in 23". If you haven't already registered for this phenomenal adventure - - well – what are you waiting for???? And I bet the Kurly Qs are just lovin' the "purple shirts" that were selected to advertise the theme "Come Dance and Play on Mobile Bay". See what a "statement" we made all dressed alike. Hey – why didn't we "Square Dance" while we were there?? We had Caller Larry Belcher with us.

On October 10th, we visited the Gadsden Twirlers in Gadsden AL. And wouldn't you know it – we got to watch the 'Boaz Squares' from District ONE sneak into "our" District to 'Retrieve' their Banner. Here you see Geof Drew being a very good sport kneeling on bended knee to apologize for leaving the Banner 'behind'. The Boaz Squares brought 14 dancers from their club - - almost enough extra dancers to have a 'second' square - - and almost enough to steal the Gadsden Twirlers Banner. We think it is great to see so much 'visiting' – not only between Clubs, but also between our Districts.





Thank you Gadsden Twirlers for extending such a warm “Welcome” to us. We enjoyed our visit and certainly enjoyed the delicious treats. And for those of you that like to Line Dance between Tips – this is the place to visit. Lots of energetic Line Dancing.

You guessed it!!!

On Friday night, October 11th, the Kurly Qs “invaded the Mickie Mouse Dance” at the Yellow Rockers and “Retrieved” the Kurly Q Banner. We truly feel sorry for any of you that are not out there enjoying these “Banner Raids”, fun dance themes, great dances and good fellowship.



On Saturday night, we followed the Kurly Qs back to their stomping ground in Odenville where there is always a lot of fun. It is great they have added “Early Rounds” to their venue.



Even when “Sad Situations” are encountered, Square Dancers prove their worth by coming together as “Family” to support each other and demonstrate a love of caring to “lift” the spirit. This was the case when Callers, Cuers and Dancers rallied around the Dutton Family to pay Tribute to Caller Connie Dutton during a Benefit Dance on October 13th. Thank you Callers and Cuers for the gracious donation of your time and talents to ascertain this event. This certainly gave rich meaning to our Spiritual adage to ‘Make a Joyful Noise’. Some of the Callers and Cuers who support this were: Tom Miller, Roy Kirkland, Kevin Cozad, Pauline Angress, Roy Dutton, Jim Brown and Jerry Handley. (Please forgive us if we failed to list your support). Thanks to all who donated money to help the family.

Remember us talking about “points” to earn your Alabama Travelers Badge??? Yes – out of state dances help you pile on some points. A “lot” of Alabama Dancers “traveled” to Fontana Dam NC for Octoberfest. Congratulations Becky Reggel who was crowned this year’s Fontana Dam Queen. If you haven’t taken the time to participate in this FUN event, please do yourself a favor and put this one on your dance schedule for next year. LOTS of dancing – square, round and lines. Quality workshops, lots of FOOD, games, laughter and skits too. One of the days, you go to Fontana Dam to picnic and dance. Another day you venture out to the quaint little settlement of Stecoah for a real ‘shindig’ style square dance at a country festival. Hey, what’s NOT to LIKE!!!



Back in Alabama, we visited the T-Squares in Trussville AL. They are so lucky. They get to dance on Tuesday afternoons “every week”. At this particular dance, we got to be the FIRST dancers to enjoy a fun “NEW” release by Caller Tom Miller - - the Alligator Stroll. We even mimicked the “Alligators” with our arms ‘biting the air’ like alligator jaws. Told you you were missing a LOT of fun and fellowship. Thanks Tom for letting us be the “First” to dance the Alligator Stroll.

On Wednesday, we enjoyed some additional ‘afternoon’ dancing when we visited the Pelham Promenaders with Caller Kevin Cozad. This is such a sweet group of dancers.

Speaking of dancing ‘every week’ - the Swingin’ Squares Club of Jasper is another square dance club that we envy for dancing “every week”. We visited them on Thursday night and danced to Caller Roy Dutton. They always make us feel welcome when we visit. Are you seeing a pattern here for “dancing addiction” – somewhere to dance EVERY night (or day) of the week. How cool is that!!

Now we ‘really’ enter the FUN(NY) Zone - - we visited the Kurly Qs for their Halloween Dance. Tell me – where else can you go to Square and Round Dance with a Sumo wrestler. Can you find him in the photo?? Everyone had a great time. Dancers delighted in dressing as unique characters and flitting around the dance floor. Then we had additional ‘fun and



laughter’ when we visited the Eastern Wranglers at the BSDA Hall in Fultondale. They were in full swing ‘competing’ for the “tackiest” outfit to celebrate their “Tacky Turkey” dance. Laughter is truly a “good medicine” that relieves stress.



Another ‘stress reliever’ is enjoying a FREE Dance. That’s right. When you are a member of ASARDA, you get three FREE dances a year with your \$10.00 membership. For our ‘third’ free dance of 2019, we concluded our Board Meeting with a ‘Fall Dance’ at the BSDA Hall in Fultondale. ASARDA President Tom Wilkins and his wife Tina brought BBQ and Glazed Chicken. “THANK YOU” Callers and Cuers for supporting our ‘



Our next adventure took us to the Turkey Strut in Pigeon Forge TN. What a wonderful surprise to have Alabama Caller Darryl McMillan there this year. As always, Alabama had a great showing of dancers from our state – to include “most” of our ASARDA Board members. While we were there, ASARDA



President Tom and Tina Wilkins were invited to “share” information about the 2023 National Square Dance Convention to be held at Mobile Bay in Alabama.

When we got back to Alabama, we went to the Kurly Qs to help “Angel their Square Dance students. In between lessons, we enjoyed a couple of Birthday celebrations for Eunice Galloway, Stephen Caudle and Mavis Whiteside. See – even going to ‘lessons’ is enjoyable.

For Thanksgiving, we had to ‘eat’ somewhere!!! So we went to Decatur and enjoyed a fantastic covered dish meal with Caller Darryl McMillan and the Fun Bunch gang. Thank you Darryl for the delicious ham to go with so many choices of vegetables, casseroles and desserts. Sure made our Thanksgiving complete: good food, good dancing and good fellowship.



Now comes the Holiday Season. On Sunday afternoon, Dec 1st, “twenty-seven” Square Dancers joined forces to celebrate and support the Historical John Looney House in Ashville AL. And we celebrated in “Grand Fashion” - not only in Christmas Square Dancing attire – but most of us donned capes, bonnets, fedoras and top hats to commemorate a “County that is older than the State of Alabama. And by the way –



Alabama is celebrating 200 years!! We all took ‘turns’ square dancing since we only had enough space for ONE square at a time.



But don’t worry. There’s LOTS of room for ‘squares’ to dance “during the Holiday Season” when they visit the numerous clubs and events throughout District 2. To kick off the Holiday Season, you can join the Eastern Wranglers for their famous “Toys for Tots” Dance Friday night, Dec 6th at the BSDA Hall in Fultondale. Please consider helping children have a little ‘brighter’ Christmas this year by bringing an ‘unwrapped’ toy to the dance.

On Monday night, Dec 9th, please plan to attend the Graduation for the Wheel Arounds. Let’s support our NEW dancers and “Welcome” them into the fun new world of Square Dancing. Remember, someone was there for you – now let’s be there for them.

On Thursday night, Dec 12th, you can enjoy a ‘Christmas in Dixie’ Dance at the BSDA Hall featuring Kevin Cozad and Jet Roberts. Then on Friday night Dec 13th, you have a Christmas Dance at the Wheel Arounds and a Christmas Dance at the Yellow Rockers. The Kurly Qs Christmas Dance is scheduled for Saturday night Dec 14th. Swingin’ Squares host their Christmas Dance on Thursday night, Dec 19th, and so do the Gadsden Twirlers. On Friday night Dec 20th, two more Christmas Dances – Shelby Shufflers and the Eastern Wranglers. The Campers and Dancers are hosting a FREE Christmas Dance on Saturday afternoon, Dec 21st at 2pm at the BSDA Hall in Fultondale. So put on those Christmas hats and stockings and come enjoy some Christmas CHEER!!

Plan on “Rounding” out the old year and “Squaring Up” with the NEW at the BSDA’s New Year’s Eve celebration with a “Roaring Twenties” dance theme that is always fun to emulate.

Then “Start” your NEW year – and that of our NEW Square Dancers - by attending the Kurly Qs Graduation on Saturday night, January 11th, 2020!!!

As you can see – there are MANY MANY dances and Special Events coming up during the next two or three months. For details on these and many more dances - be **SURE** to go to the **Alabama Square and Round Dance Association website @ [www.alabamasquaredance.com](http://www.alabamasquaredance.com)** to FIND “ALL” the Dances, Clubs and Events.

*District II Coordinator – Carol Varner*

## DISTRICT 3 NEWS



Magnolia Squares graduated 9 new dancers on October 8<sup>th</sup> (pictured left)

Village Squares graduated 5 dancers from their Mainstream Class on October 9<sup>th</sup> (pictured below)



Dixie Plus Dancers held an open house for beginner class during October. We had about 20 phone calls in response to our signs and many tried dancing. We have 10 students in class (7 brand new, 3 coming for a refresher). Our location has changed from the Rock Church to St. Paul Lutheran Church when the Rock sold its facility. Kevin Cozad is doing a great job with the students.



On November 4<sup>th</sup>, several dancers from District 2 visited the Village Squares to get their Alabama Traveler cards signed by Larry Belcher, himself. They ate at their usual spot Cheeburger before the visit. (pictured left)

Prattville Promenaders currently has 10 people in class which includes a home school family and a past member who has returned to learn the man's part since her husband no longer dances.

We had a fun Halloween party on Halloween night (pictured right). The party/dance was opened to non-dancers so we did have a few visitors who don't have time for lessons but may return for another dance. We are also planning a Christmas covered dish which will be open to non-dancers. Our caller calls a variety of types of dance including round dancing, lines, traditional squares and contra. We hope to graduate our students from the basic program by January. Check out our web site,



[www.prattvillepromenaders.com](http://www.prattvillepromenaders.com) and our Facebook page.

*District III Coordinator – Tina Wilkins*

## CAMPERS AND DANCERS #152 NEWS

Our **seventh** campout was held **September 27 - 28**, at Spring Lake RV Resort, in Crossville TN. The weekend was busy, and we had lots of visitors. On **Thursday**, we ate at The Brass Lantern where the food was delicious. We then attended a play. It was a romantic comedy entitled "Don't Dress for Dinner." On **Friday**, we toured the Brushy Mountain State Penitentiary which was interesting. Before the tour, we went through the museum and watched the film. Our tour guide was a former inmate. After the tour, we ate lunch at The Warden's Table Restaurant which was within the walls of the prison. Later in the day, we came back for a scrumptious potluck. There was a variety of delicious foods and desserts. My compliments to all the hands that prepared the food. On **Saturday**, we had breakfast with biscuits and sausage or tomato gravy. There were also homemade jams, jellies, and fruit. There was a drawing for the nine homemade centerpieces that was used during potluck. More winning was to be had with 10 rousing games of Bingo. Congratulations to all the lucky winners. At noon, a group left for Crossville Memorial Airport for the Fly-in which was interesting as well. They had civilian and military planes; B-14, B-17, two Marine aircraft that flew in DaNang Vietnam and some really nice small prop planes. They were flying in and out the whole time we were there. Our **dances** were held on Friday and Saturday evening. Both nights were exceptionally fun. Terry (Beverly) McGill was the caller for the weekend and did a fabulous job. During the evening, there were 4 squares dancing for most of the time. Susan Wolford did a great job cueing for the weekend. Everyone had fun with her line and round dances. Thank you, Terry and Susan, for a great weekend entertaining us. Thanks to our wagon masters Susan & Don Wolford and Martha & Hank Sweetman for an outstanding campout.

Our **eighth** campout was held on **October 25 - 26**, at Navarre Beach Camping Resort, in Navarre, FL. We had a fun and exciting campout. The theme for the weekend was Pirates. We practiced all our pirate phrases like "ahoy mateys" and "shiver me timbers." We traveled to Fort Pickens and visited the museum to see how the fort protected Pensacola Bay and the Navy Yard. Some of us visited the NAS Air Museum, in Pensacola, and saw different airplanes. That was fascinating. Others went thrift store and flea market shopping to find that old but special treasure. We tried our hand at an Escape Room. One was about Mars and the other about Houdini. We had to solve clues and riddles to escape. It was fun. We ate out at two different restaurants (McGuire's and Dewey Destin). The Wagon Masters treated us to two breakfasts (pancake and a Good Ole Southern one) and a hot dog lunch. We played ten games of Bingo. In order to see our prize, we had to pop a pirate balloon. We square danced to Miriam Merriweather on Friday (from the Destin/Fort Walton Beach area) and Patty Ping on Saturday (from the Pensacola area). They each provided round and line dancing. Everyone enjoyed themselves. Many thanks to our Wagon Masters Larry & Paula Boone and Wilburn & Judy Hester for a terrific weekend. We had a blast.

Our **ninth** campout (and final of the 2019 season) was held on **November 7 - 9**. We camped at Roaring Pines Campground in Somerville AL. Our Wagon Masters planned a relaxing but fun campout. We played board games and sat in front of a huge fireplace with a roaring fire to visit with treasured friends. We worked crafts. On **Thursday**, we ate at The Old Cookstove Restaurant in Dadeville. On **Friday**, we chowed down at The Freight House Restaurant in Hartselle. On **Saturday**, for breakfast, the Wagon Masters provided a pancake and French toast breakfast. Later that evening, we had our potluck. As always, there was lots to choose from and very delicious. The meat was provided by the Wagon Masters. Our weekend caller was Wayne Mahathey and Susan Wolford cued. They both did a fabulous job. The two nights of dancing were great. Everyone had a wonderful time. We had at least two squares on the floor, for the weekend, and sometimes three. Many yellow rocks to our Wagon Masters George & Cil Herndon, Joyce & Barry Herndon, Janice Salsgiver, and John Ruthruff for a terrific weekend.

Campers and Dancers is hosting our second **Christmas Dance**. We hope that everyone can make it.

Submitted by Elizabeth Emmons

### Campers and Dancers will host a Christmas Dance

DATE: Saturday, December 21, 2019

PLACE; BSDA Friendship Hall  
1024 Old Walkers Chapel Road  
Fultondale, AL 35068

TIME: 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM

Kevin Cozad will be the MC for the dance. Campers and Dancers callers and cuers will call and cue.

**FREE DANCE EVERYONE IS INVITED**

## **ASARDA HISTORIAN**

I have been the Historian for ASARDA for the past 5-6 years and have resigned from this job but not the ASARDA Board. I would like to know if anyone has any ribbons, convention flyers or the convention program book for any of the last several years and are willing to send them to me.

We are looking for a new Historian and if you are interested in becoming involved in ASARDA and have an interest in learning more about square dancing please let us know. Every job is an important one.

*Ann Leithauser – FORMER Historian*

## **ASARDA MEMBERSHIP**

I would like to thank each and every one that attended the ASARDA Membership Dance. We had 7 clubs and 25 people that joined ASARDA. This now brings the total up to 298 members and 33 clubs. This is great news. Once again thank you. It is not too late to join ASARDA. Membership is still \$10.00 per person for the year if you elect to receive the newsletter by e-mail. If for some reason you can't receive the newsletter by e-mail then it will cost an additional \$10.00 to have it mailed to you due to the high increase in postage. Also, remember membership runs from 1 September through 31 August each year. When you fill out the membership form please print all of your information. Some handwriting is very difficult to make out and I have to call a lot of people to find out the correct information. Another item to remember is you can't get the ASARDA Insurance until your club joins ASARDA. All membership money and forms need to be mailed to me at PO Box 877, Pell City, AL 35125. Or if you are at a dance and I am there you may give it to me then. All insurance money and forms need to be mailed to Susan Wolford. When making out your check to join ASARDA please make the checks out to ASARDA and do not make these checks out to me personally. I receive a lot of checks made out to me. If you are ever in doubt if you have joined for 2020 please call me at 205-338-6126 or my e-mail is: [anitasouthern1@centurylink.net](mailto:anitasouthern1@centurylink.net). If you call and I do not answer please leave a message as I travel to a lot of clubs to promote ASARDA, but I will return your phone call as soon as I can. I hope everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving and will have the best Christmas and New Year's ever.

*Membership Chairman - Anita Southern*

## *ASARDA Celebrates Youth!!*

With horror I heard someone say the average age of a square dancer is now 72 years old. AARGH!!! Our club, at this point in time, is beating the odds. Prattville Promenaders currently has 7 youth in the club. They add some good jokes while we dance which keep me laughing. They tend to be quick learners.

When I learned at the November ASARDA meeting that a stipend was being given to 16-year-old Jordan Backstrom for her to attend caller trainer at the National Convention in Spokane, Washington I was thrilled. I happened to be sitting next to Jordan. I remembered dancing with her at Magnolia Springs when Jim and I visited that square. Jordan told me that she belongs to two clubs. Rusty Willoughby (Boaz Squares) and Wayne Mahathey (Lake Twirlers) have both allowed her to call. Tina Wilkins told me that Tom Miller is also mentoring her.

I told Jordan that when we attended the National Convention in Cincinnati, a highpoint for me was seeing Katherine Lawson from Roanoke, Virginia win a scholarship given by USDA. Her goal was to attend Liberty University where she had been given permission to teach square dance as part of their PE curriculum. Jordan could also apply for a scholarship through USDA! Thank you ASARDA board for being wise stewards of money. ASARDA makes excellent decisions regarding funding for activities that will promote and grow square dance.

Coincidentally, as I sat down to write this article, I got an email from someone saying a group of youth want to square dance. YES!!!! Our club is flexible if there is any way we could add a square of youth to our club we would jump at the chance.

**Look to the future....PROMOTE YOUTH!!**

Mary Wolfe, District III Delegate

# 72nd National Square Dance Convention® visits Japan

by Pauline Angress

I was thrilled to be able to accompany Tom Miller to Tokyo, Japan for Chiyoda Square Dance Club's 47th anniversary dance. The Chiyoda Club is (get this) 300 members strong. The head caller is Shozo Nisimura, who is one of three club callers.

Tom and I were able to carry 72nd National Convention flyers, Mardi Gras beads, Moon Pies and a few T-Shirts to Tokyo for promoting the convention.



The T-Shirts were thrown out to an excited crowd of 800 dancers eagerly trying to catch them. I think Mobile was well represented in Tokyo this trip.



## “CLIQUE’S”

RUMOR has it that our club is run by a Clique. Careful investigation shows that this is true. Furthermore, you will find that the Clique is composed of faithful members who are present at almost every dance, who do all the work, who give willingly of their time, energies, and efforts and who sincerely believe that the more one puts into his affiliation with the organization, the more he will get out of it.

There is no questions that the enthusiasm, responsibility and efforts of those members are of inestimable value to the membership and the organization. And it is suggested, therefore, that you join this clique. It is very easy. Begin by attending dances regularly; take a lively interest in its activities, accept responsibilities in its floor work and on its committees. Show a continual interest in all affairs pertaining to your club’s activities. Before you realize it you will become a member of a clique, and you would be surprised to know how anxious they are to have you.

***“Don’t criticize the Clique – Join it”***



Thanks to all the people that came to Fontana village for our Oktoberfest. We had sixteen squares in attendance. Most of the time we danced 14 squares. The entire weekend was a real hoot.

In addition to "potluck" dinners together Friday and Saturday, and the



great dancing, we had a shuffleboard tournament, a mini golf tournament, a demonstration dance

At the Stecoah fall festival (ask Connie Henson what she ate), a dance at the dam (you earned a "best dancer by a dam site" badge), a tour through the dam, a ceremony to install a new "Queen of Fontana" (Becky Reggel from Birmingham was crowned), and we made dozens of new friends and had a wonderful time with 140 square and round dancers.

We will do this next year. We expect more people and that will just be more fun. This will be October 15 - 18, 2020.

Thank you for participating in our dance programs!  
Darryl McMillan



## ALABAMA TRAVELERS



Alabama Dancers at the Turkey Strut — in Pigeon Forge, Tennessee. November 22-23.



Alabama dancers & ASARDA members at the Indiana Convention in French Lick, IN. Nov 8-9.

# ASARDA NEWSLETTER

Not seeing your club covered in the news? Submit your own article with or without pictures anytime. Traveling outside of your district or the state for dances? Send a description and/or a picture and we will print it in the Alabama Traveler section. This newsletter is for ASARDA members to see what is going on in ASARDA, so it takes everyone's input. **Submit your news anytime to [asardanews@gmail.com](mailto:asardanews@gmail.com).**

Last year, we began printing and mailing each club a copy of each ASARDA Newsletter. These hardcopies were intended to be brought and shared with any club members wishing to view a printed version. The upcoming dances section would also be a great addition to the fliers table. If your club is not receiving their printed copy, please change the contact person on the 2020 ASARDA Club Membership Form.

## 2019 Club Contact Person

|                          |                  |
|--------------------------|------------------|
| Bee-Bop Arouds           | Jerry Pierce     |
| Beaux & Belles           | Allen Sexton     |
| Boaz Squares             | Susan Duvall     |
| B-Sharp Plus             | Janice Purvis    |
| Campers & Dancers        | George Herndon   |
| Clog Wild Cloggers       | Kay Trimm        |
| Duos & Solos             | Lee Merkel       |
| Eastern Wranglers        | Rilla Mewbourn   |
| Friendship Squares       | Michael Vinson   |
| 8ers From Decatur        | Harold Noblitt   |
| Gadsden Twirlers         | Geoff Drew       |
| Jasper Swingin' Squares  | Vesta Beatty     |
| J & R Rounds             | John Romano      |
| Krazy 8's                | Frank McCrory    |
| Kurly Q's                | Marie Rogala     |
| Lake Twirlers            | Diane Hamilton   |
| Logan Martin Swingers    | Shirley Goode    |
| Magnolia Springs Squares | Beth Zilinskas   |
| Pairs & Spares           | John Williford   |
| Pelham Promenaders       | Kevin Cozad      |
| Plus R US                | Jerry Handley    |
| Prattville Promenaders   | Jim Wolfe        |
| Quad City Squares        | Paul Parker      |
| Rocket Rounds            | Tim Eum          |
| Shelby Shufflers         | Charlotte Hooton |
| Singing River Squares    | Roger Hare       |
| Singles & Doubles        | Judy Gaut        |
| Swinging Stars           | Les Swanson      |
| The Fun Bunch            | Darryl McMillan  |
| T-Squares                | Charles Atwater  |
| Village A's              | Larry Belcher    |
| Village Squares          | Mark Barnett     |
| Western Country Club     | Mary Myers       |
| Wheel Arouds             | Charlotte Garner |
| Yellow Rockers           | Kathy Arnone     |



**When you are finished with the newsletter instead of throwing it in the trash – how about taking it and leaving it in a waiting room or public area in the vicinity of your club. It just might get someone enthused about trying square dancing.**

*Tina Wilkins - Editor*

*May the good times  
and treasures of the present  
become the golden memories of tomorrow.  
Wishing you lots of  
love, joy and happiness.*

*Merry Christmas  
&  
Happy New Year*



## UPCOMING DANCES

### You're invited to **The Greater Memphis Square & Round Dance Association Christmas Dance**

Date: Friday, Dec 06, 2019      B&B's Hall, Colonial Park UMC, 5330 Park Ave, Memphis, TN  
Caller: Darryl McMillan      Cuer: Gloria McMullin

### **Eastern Wranglers host A Christmas Dance Benefitting Toys 4 Tots**

Date: Friday, December 6, 2019      BSDA Friendship Hall, 1024 Old Walkers Chapel Road, Fultondale, AL  
Caller: Ronnie Purser

### We Would Like to Invite all of our Dance Friends to our 43rd Annual **Dancer Appreciation Dance**

Date: Sunday, Dec 08, 2019      Central Hall Activity Center, 1931 Central Pkwy, STE 'A', Decatur, AL  
Caller: Darryl McMillan

### **Wheel Arouds Graduation Party**

Date: Monday, December 9, 2019      BSDA Friendship Hall, 1024 Old Walkers Chapel Road, Fultondale, AL  
Caller & Teacher: Kevin Cozad

### **Special Holiday Dance! Between Thanksgiving and Christmas (so be thankful and joyous)**

Date: Thursday, Dec 12, 2019      YMCA Day Care Center, 600 E Main Street, Prattville, AL  
Caller: Wayne Nicholson

### **Christmas in Dixie Dance**

Date: Thursday, December 12, 2019      BSDA Friendship Hall, 1024 Old Walkers Chapel Road, Fultondale, AL  
Callers; Kevin Cozad & Jet Roberts

### **The Kurly Q's Christmas Dance**

Date: Saturday, Dec 14, 2019      Purser Ray Hall, 100 1st Ave, Odenville, Alabama

### **Huntsville Singles & Doubles Christmas Dance**

Date: Wednesday, Dec 18, 2019      Berachah Gymnasium, 3011 Sparkman Dr., Huntsville, AL  
Caller: Skip Cleland      Cuer: Diane-Martin Hamilton

### **Join the Gadsden Twirlers for our Christmas Dance**

Date: Thursday, Dec 19, 2019      Downtown Civic Center, 623 Broad Street, Gadsden, AL  
Caller: Ronnie Purser

### **Merry Christmas! Campers and Dancers will host a Christmas Dance**

Date: Saturday, Dec 21, 2019      BSDA Friendship Hall, 1024 Old Walkers Chapel Road, Fultondale, AL  
Caller: Kevin Cozad, Campers & Dancers

### **You Really Don't Want to Miss This A Holiday Happening**

Date: Saturday, Dec 28, 2019      Central Hall Activity Center, 1931 Central Pkwy, STE 'A', Decatur, AL  
Callers: Jet Roberts & Darryl McMillan      Cuer: Pauline Angress

### **New Year's Eve Dance**

Date: Tuesday, Dec 31, 2019      Grand Square Hall, 1105 Bob Little Road, Panama City, FL  
Caller: Ted Kennedy      Cuer: Sandy Sturgis

### **The Roaring 20s – 2020 - BSDA New Year's Eve Dance**

Date: Tuesday, Dec 31, 2019      BSDA Friendship Hall, 1024 Old Walkers Chapel Road, Fultondale, AL  
Caller: Kristy Williams      Cuer: Pauline Angress

**Please Join Us for our 2020 Launch Our First Special of 2020**

Date: Saturday, Jan 04, 2020 Central Hall Activity Center, 1931 Central Pkwy, STE 'A', Decatur, AL  
Caller: Darryl McMillan

**Boot Camp Start the New Year with a Plus Dance Workshop**

Date: Sunday, Jan 05, 2020 Guntersville Senior Center, 1503 Sunset Drive, Guntersville, AL  
Caller: Tom Miller

**Kurly Qs Grad Night Dance**

Date: Saturday, Jan 11, 2020 Purser Ray Hall, 100 1st Ave, Odenville, Alabama  
Cuer: David Holliday

**Estill Springers Snowflake Special**

Date: Saturday, Jan 25, 2020 The Barn, Ada Wright Center, 328 North Woodland St., Manchester, TN  
Caller: Justin Russell  
Cuer: Robbie Carrington

**Dixie Round Dance Council**

Dates: Jan 31 - 01, 2020 BSDA Friendship Hall, 1024 Old Walkers Chapel Road, Fultondale, AL  
Cuers: Sandra & Gunter Hirschler, John & Pat Romano, Doug & Cheryl Byrd

**The Belles and Buoys invite you to the 42st Annual Mardi Gras Festival**

Dates: Feb 07 - 08, 2020 Woolmarket Community Ctr, 16320 Old Woolmarket Road, Biloxi, MS  
Caller: Mike Bramlett  
Cuer: Terri Wilaby

**Northwest Florida Callers & Cuers Association Sweetheart Swing**

Date: Saturday, Feb 15, 2020 Ragon Hall, 2600 Stratford Road, Pensacola, Florida

**66th Florida State Square and Round Dance Convention**

Dates: Feb 21 - 22, 2020 Daytona Ocean Center, 101 N Atlantic Ave., Daytona Beach, FL

**28th Annual Heart Of The Smokies Square Up**

Dates: Feb 28 - 29, 2020 Smoky Mountain Convention Center, Pigeon Forge, Tennessee

**Square Dancers Weekend Vacation, Winter 2020 30th Annual - All Western Smoky Mountain Ball**

Dates: Mar 05 - 07, 2020 Ramada Inn, 4010 Parkway, Pigeon Forge, Tennessee

**Put Some Spring In Your Step At The Alabama Jubilee**

Dates: Mar 20 - 21, 2020  
BSDA Friendship Hall  
Caller: Tim Tyl  
Cuer: John Romano  
Lines; Diane Martin-Hamilton

**70th National Square Dance Convention® Kick Off Dance**

Date: Saturday, Mar 28, 2020  
105 E Pascagoula St, Jackson, MS  
Callers; Justin Russell, Travis Cook & Rob Baird  
Cuer: Tim Eum

**For more information visit our website at:**

**<http://www.alabamasquaredance.com/calendar/calendar.php>**





Eastern Wranglers  
host  
A Christmas Dance  
Benefiting

TOYS 4 TOTS



**FRIDAY DECEMBER 6TH 7pm-9pm**

Bring an unwrapped toy valued at 10\$

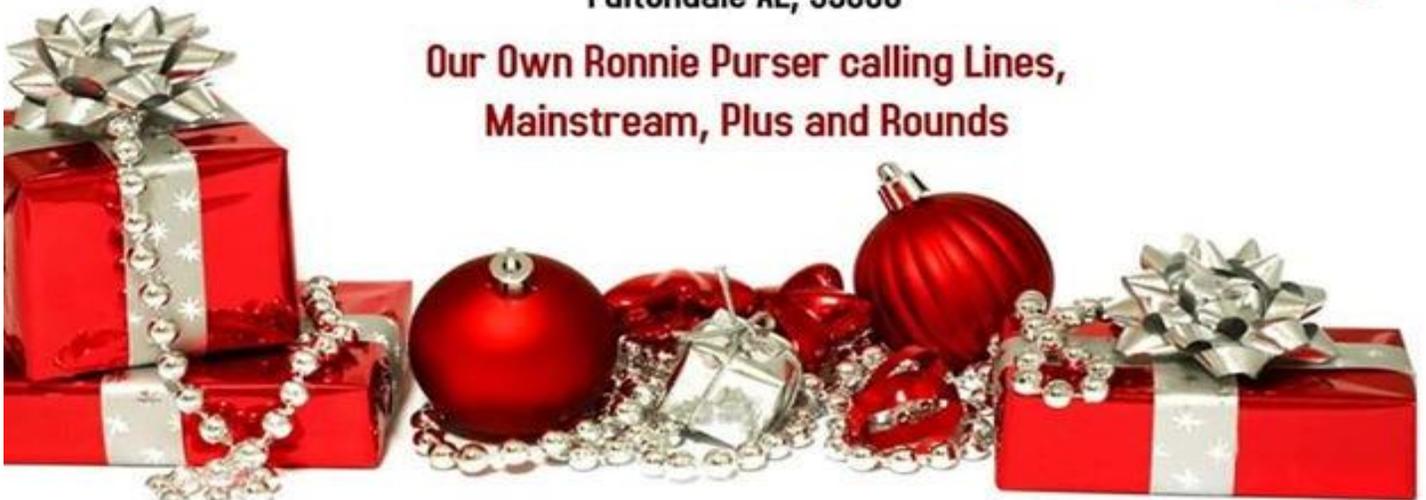
*Light Refreshments will be served*

*Start The Season Out Right*



BSDA Friendship Hall  
1024 Old Walker Chapel Road  
Fultondale AL, 35068

Our Own Ronnie Purser calling Lines,  
Mainstream, Plus and Rounds



*WE WOULD LIKE TO INVITE ALL OF OUR DANCE FRIENDS  
TO OUR 43<sup>rd</sup> ANNUAL*

***“DANCER APPRECIATION  
DANCE”***

***SUNDAY – DEC. 8, 2019***

***DARRYL MCMILLAN***

*HOST CALLER*

*ALL VISITING CALLERS AND CUERS ARE INVITED TO  
BE ON THE PROGRAM IF YOU WOULD LIKE.*

*2:00 – 5:00 P.M. --CONTINUOUS DANCING. SQUARE-  
MAINSTREAM, PLUS, ADVANCED, ROUND – PHASE II -  
IV, LINES – BEGINNER & INTERMEDIATE. LITE  
REFRESHMENTS.*

*THIS IS FREE FOR EVERYONE !!!!!*

*CENTRAL HALL ACTIVITY CENTER*

*1931 CENTRAL PARKWAY, S.W., STE “A”*

*DECATUR, AL. 35601*

*FOR INFO CALL 256-227-0908 OR EMAIL*

*[dmcmillan@aol.com](mailto:dmcmillan@aol.com)*

***ANN AND I WOULD LIKE WISH YOU ALL THE MOST  
WONDERFUL CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR !!!***

***DARRYL & ANN MCMILLAN***

***WE PRAY FOR OUR COUNTRY, FOR ALL OF OUR  
SERVICE PEOPLE, AND OUR COUNTRY’S LEADERS***

***“GOD BLESS AMERICA”***



## Special Holiday Dance!

December 12, 2019  
Between Thanksgiving and Christmas  
(so be thankful and joyous)  
7:00 - 9:00 p.m.

Bring holiday covered dish  
Visitors \$5 per person

### Prattville Promenaders

Prattville YMCA Day Care Building  
600 East Main Street  
Prattville, Alabama

[www.prattvillepromenaders.com](http://www.prattvillepromenaders.com)  
Call (334) 531-0804





# **The Wheel Arounds Christmas Dance**

**Friday December 13, 2019**

**Dance 7:00 P.M. to 9:30 P.M.**

**Callers choice workshop during the dance**

**Alternating Mainstream , Plus , Lines and Rounds**

## **Free Dance**

**Snacks will be served!**

**All are welcome to come and enjoy as we  
celebrate Christmas!**

**Caller : Larry Belcher**

**Cuer : Diane Martin Hamilton**

**BSDA Friendship Hall**

**1024 Old Walker Chapel Road**

**Fultondale, Alabama 35068**



The Kurly Q's

# Christmas DANCE



**SATURDAY DEC 14**

**Rounds 6:30pm Squares 7:00pm**

**100 First Ave Odenville Alabama 35120**



*Huntsville Singles & Doubles*

# CHRISTMAS

# DANCE



*Wednesday*

**DEC 18**

*6:30-8:30pm*

SKIP CLELAND, CALLER

DIANE MARTIN-HAMILTON, CUE

BERAGHAN GYM, 3011 SPARKMAN DR NW  
HUNTSVILLE, AL

\$5 PER PERSON  
FINGER FOOD



Join the ***GADSDEN TWIRLERS***  
***FOR OUR***  
***CHRISTMAS DANCE***



**Thursday, December 19, 2019**

**Featuring**

**Ronnie Purser – Caller**

**(Springville, AL)**

**MC/Lines, Rounds, Mixers**

**Early Lines: 6:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.**

**Dance: 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.**

**Mainstream with Announced Plus Tips**

**\$\$\$ Pot of Gold and Light Refreshments \$\$\$**

***Location: Downtown Civic Center,  
623 Broad Street, Gadsden, AL***



Campers and Dancers will host a Christmas Dance

DATE: Saturday, December 21, 2019

PLACE; BSDA Friendship Hall

1024 Old Walkers Chapel Road

Fultondale, AL 35068

TIME: 2:00 PM – 4:00 PM

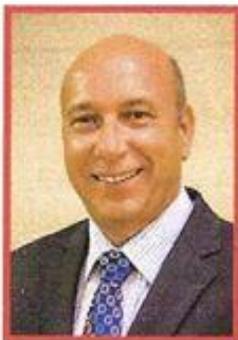
Kevin Cozad will be the MC for the dance. Campers and Dancers callers and cuers will call and cue.

**FREE DANCE EVERYONE IS INVITED**

**YOU REALLY DON'T WANT TO MISS THIS**

# **A HOLIDAY HAPPENING**

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 28, 2019  
A SPECIAL SQUARE & ROUND DANCE  
FEATURING**



**JET  
ROBERTS**



**PAULINE  
ANGRESS**



**DARRYL  
MCMILLAN**

**CENTRAL PARKWAY ACTIVITY CENTER  
1931 CENTRAL PARKWAY, S.W., STE "A"  
DECATUR AL. 35601**

2:00 - 3:30 PM ----- ROUND WORKSHOP  
3:30 - 5:00 PM ----- PLUS D.B.D. ( DANCE BY DEFINITION ) WKSP  
5:00 - 6:30 PM ----- DINNER ON YOUR OWN  
6:30 - 7:00 PM ----- REQUEST ROUNDS  
7:00 - 9:15 PM ----- PLUS DANCE ( ONE ROUND BEEN TIPS )  
9:15 ----- SPECIAL REFRESHMENTS & SOCIAL TIME TOGETHER  
\$ 5.00 / PERSON AFTERNOON, \$ 10 /PERSON NIGHT / \$ 12.00 PERSON BOTH  
FOR INFO - CALL 256227-0908 OR EMAIL [dmcmillan@aol.com](mailto:dmcmillan@aol.com)  
NOTE: IF WE HAVE 4 COUPLES, OR MORE THAT DANCE ADVANCED, WE WILL HAVE 2 TIPS



THE  
Roaring 20s

2020

**December 31, 2019**

Early Rounds 9:00p.m to 9:30p.m

**FREE** to ALL BSDA Members

\$5.00 for non members

**Caller : Kristy Rutledge Williams**

**Cuer : Pauline Angress**

**Please feel free to dress up in roaring 20's attire !**

BSDA Friendship Hall

1024 Old Walker Chapel Road

Fultondale, Al. 35068

For more information Contact : Joy LeCroy 205-540-1473

**DECEMBER 2019**  
**ALABAMA SQUARE AND ROUND**  
**DANCE ASSOCIATION, INC**  
4433 32nd Street SW  
Lanett, AL 36863-6607

**PUBLICATION POLICY**

The *ASARDA NEWS* is published quarterly in March, June and September and December with a special Convention issue in August. Input to the newsletter must be received by the 20<sup>th</sup> of the month prior to publication. Any information to be published should be sent to the Editor at [asardanews@gmail.com](mailto:asardanews@gmail.com).