



# ASARDA NEWS

VOLUME XLIV, ISSUE 2- JUNE 2019

Live Live!



Square Dance!

## From the President:

In a few weeks we will be bidding to host the 72<sup>nd</sup> National Square Dance Convention® in Mobile. We hope everyone attending the 68<sup>th</sup> National Square Dance Convention® in Atlanta will join us at both the Bid Session and Parade of States – detailed information was included in the last (March) issue of the newsletter as well as in this newsletter.

Even if you are not attending the 68<sup>th</sup> NSDC in Atlanta, we hope you will join us at the **Saturn V Trail Thru Dance** at the **US Space and Rocket Center** in Huntsville Tuesday night, June 25<sup>th</sup>. Last Year, District 1 Coordinator Terry Cassis revived the North Alabama Square Dance Association (NASDA) and they are sponsoring this dance. This will be the most unique dancing experience I have ever attended! She has lined up three of the MOST POPULAR YOUNG CALLERS IN THE NATION to call at this dance – Travis Cook from Goshen, KY, Justin Russell from Memphis, TN, and Hunter Keller from Billings, MT. I can honestly say; **this will probably be the best 4 ½ hours of dancing you will ever do - in the neatest place you will ever dance!** And more importantly - it's in ALABAMA!

Things are underway for the Alabama Convention coming up in just 3 months (August 22, 23 and 24)! ASARDA raffle tickets were sent out with District Coordinators last month. If your club has not received raffle tickets or would like more, please contact your District Coordinator. The raffle tickets are a great fund raiser for your club.

Unfortunately, due to changes in some hotel policies, we were unable to secure room rates at the Holiday Inn, Hampton Inn, and the Comfort Inn and Suites in Oxford this year. You are however welcome to book at these hotels. We have secured a rate of \$98.00 at the Fairfield by Marriott, and a rate of \$102.00 for the Courtyard by Marriott. **These rates are only good through Tuesday, July 23rd, 2019**

NEW THIS YEAR—we plan to offer a special **Luau Luncheon** to our dancers. We have always had a complimentary luncheon for our staff Callers & Cuers as a gesture of our appreciation for freely providing their talents for our convention. This year, we have decided to open the luncheon to our dancers as well. This will also our ASARDA fundraising event. We will offer a full buffet meal with drinks and desserts. We have hired a professional Hawaiian/Tahitian dancer to come entertain; as well as “teach” us some traditional Polynesian dances (I have already seen Margret Snyder practicing on Face-Book). This will be a great time to sit back, relax, and fellowship without having to leave the convention center to run out and eat lunch. Tickets for the Luau will be sold at the convention (based on availability) or you may purchase them in advance from any ASARDA board member for \$10 per person; **beginning at the end of June.**



*ASARDA President – Tom Wilkins*

# *Square Dance is people.*

Plain and simple it's the reason we start, a friend or a friend of a friend who suggested you start. When you first started, if you can remember that far back, we had these folks called Angels. What were Angels? They were the kind folks who over and over and over again decided to invest in our enjoyment. It could not have been fun to do a Spin Chain Thru for the 1000<sup>th</sup> time that year as we newbies wandered around – not holding our position to finish the move. The callers were there to teach, sure, but more than the callers, the Angels were there to support, to help, to be the friendly encouraging face that helped us stick with the program when we hit the wall. Your Angel was there when you held on a bit too tightly to their hands because you didn't quite know if you were doing what was right during your first learning tips.

Angels were club presidents, treasurers, membership chairs, district coordinators and delegates, and yes, even ASARDA presidents or board members. They pitched in to help wherever necessary and listened to our complaints about this or that, what did or didn't suit you. And it was all for free, their time and dollars, because they loved Square Dance and wanted to see it continue. They wanted to see everyone have the same passion for square dance and square dance people that they held in their hearts. Once we grew in confidence, we were actually able to hold our own when it came to the tips. Then the Angels became our corners to help us enjoy Square Dance even more.

They are the people with whom you go to dinner with on a Friday night, or white-water rafting, or occasionally bowling even though you all stink up the place. They make everything fun and exciting and always bring an encouraging smile to all you do together.

Sometimes, life throws us a curve ball and our Angels are suddenly gone from our lives. They gave it everything they had for as long as they could. God had a different plan. You see he needed an Angel in heaven to make another square. I am sure his Angels are always there with a smile to welcome the new dancers we are giving him. May those Angels rest in peace.



**IN LOVING MEMORY OF MY FIRST ANGEL AND GOD'S LATEST ANGEL**

**PENNY FAULKNER**

**(1960-2019)**

by Terry Cassis

## DISTRICT 1 NEWS

It's almost mid-way through the year already! Isn't it amazing how fast time flies?

We have been having a really fun time up in North Alabama – starting with supporting our neighbors to the South at the Alabama Jubilee. What a great weekend. If you have never been, it is certainly a really fun event that is definitely worth attending.

To the north, we also supported our neighbors in Fayetteville at the Dogwood Special on April 6<sup>th</sup>, a full 51 dancers strong! This dance is particularly special to Dennis and myself as it was the first dance we ever attended after we learned to square dance.

In Fort Payne, The Duos and Solos held their Sadie Hawkins dance on April 18<sup>th</sup> and will follow that up with a 1950s dance on June 20<sup>th</sup> next month.



We had a good turn-out in Huntsville for their Spring Fling April 27<sup>th</sup>. This is always a great dance, with great callers and tons of opportunity for a great evening out.

We couldn't be prouder though of our dancers and callers this year. On April 28<sup>th</sup>, our North Alabama callers called a benefit dance at Darryl McMillan's Central Activity Center in Decatur for St Jude's Children's Research Hospital and raised 2100 dollars! It always amazes me how generous and willing our community is to reach out to those less fortunate.

Of course, this past week, the Lake Twirlers held their annual Hobo Dance on May 18<sup>th</sup> in a brand-new location! I think the most fun aspect of this dance is the creative costumes and of course the great chili we dine on that evening!

Upcoming in Ft Payne, Tom Miller and Pauline Angress will be calling and cueing a Tribute to Alabama on July 6<sup>th</sup>. Come wear your best patriotic clothes and dance the evening away. It's great to have Tom here in North Alabama now as he is making the transition moving down from Pennsylvania. If you have not yet danced to Tom, you need to find the first opportunity you can (like July 6<sup>th</sup>!) and make a point to go dance to him. He is great with timing, choreography, and dance flow – besides knowing how to call a great dance. We are very lucky to have him join the enormously talented stable of North Alabama callers.

Speaking of which –

Darryl McMillian will be calling a special dance celebrating his 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary as a square dance caller. Darryl is a great (IMHO a world class) caller, and it isn't hard for me to believe that he has been calling so long – simply because he does it with such professionalism and style. If you want a dance that is thoroughly enjoyable, mark your calendar now to join us in Decatur on July 12<sup>th</sup>.

Our new club in Madison has been dancing 1-2 squares on Thursday nights at 6:30 at Madison Ballroom. They have picked a name – the Madison Mad Hatters and welcome any who care to join them.



We had a blast a couple weeks going by the US Space and Rocket Center to plan out the details of the Saturn V dance on June 25<sup>th</sup>, and start to work on sound checks. We have a couple new items to share with regards to the dance. First, we will be broadcasting the callers on FM for the dance, so if you have difficulty hearing, you can bring a set of in-ear speakers (ear buds meant for sports use) with an FM tuner, or if you have hearing aids that supports straight FM broadcasts, you should be able to tune into the callers and hear them perfectly well. In addition, if you are coming through with an RV rig, the USSRC has offered that dancers who would like to dry camp may do so in the parking lot at the Davidson Center on the night of the 25<sup>th</sup> for free.

*(left) NASDA board members Jon Steffens and John Bloodworth discuss sounding and dance floor configuration with Skip Cleland, MC of the Saturn V dance*



*(right) Jan Bloodworth waves from under the massive Saturn V first stage. You too can dance under the most historic rocket ever built!*

I cannot re-iterate enough how awesome we expect this dance to be. Great, young, world class callers you rarely get to dance to, in a venue we will never dance in again, at a time that has real historic significance. How many times will you dance in a place that has a multi-BILLION dollar decorating budget paid for by the US Government? It will be another 25 years before we reach another milestone year to celebrate the first man landing on the moon. PLEASE - buy your tickets NOW for the Saturn V dance on TUESDAY JUNE 25<sup>th</sup>, 2019. The museum is in the process right now of re-furbishing the rocket outside the museum in preparation of the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary which is just 3 weeks after our dance! We have some of the best young callers in the country coming to call, Hunter Keller, Justin Russell, and Travis Cook, as well as our amazing local talent in Skip Cleland as MC, and Pauline Angress cueing rounds.

You definitely do NOT want to wait to get your tickets. Remember that your ticket entitles you to not only dance under the rocket, but we have the Davidson Hall until 11:30 the night of the dance to look at all the exhibits on display. In addition, on the day before, day of, and day after the dance, if you bring your ribbon to the ticket center at the Museum, they will give you a 50% discount on the regular admission price so you can check out the rest of the Museum including Lockheed Martin's brand new, just opened Deep Space exhibit. Check out the flyer in this issue of the ASARDA news, or visit the website where you can buy tickets, find a newsletter, locate local hotels and RV parks, and find more information at: [NorthAlabamaSquareDance.com](http://NorthAlabamaSquareDance.com)

You can also check out the Saturn V Square Dance event on our Facebook page by typing the following address into your web browser: <https://www.facebook.com/northalabamasquaredance/>

See You Across the Square!

Terry Cassis

Hey district one dancers,

Gardens are planted, lawns are being mowed and camping trips are being planned but don't miss any of the fun dances this summer.

Duos and Solos will be hosting the "Celebrating the 1950's" dance at the Dekalb Council on Aging, 600 Tyler Ave SE, Ft. Payne. Thursday, June 20<sup>th</sup>, rounds at 5:30 and squares at 6:30. Paul Henze will call the squares and Pauline Angress the rounds and lines.

There will be an 'Alabama boys' tribute dance in Ft. Payne. Tom Miller will be calling squares to your favorite Alabama tunes. Pauline Angress will be cueing rounds and lines. This will be held on July 6<sup>th</sup> at the Dekalb Council on Aging, 600 Tyler Ave SE, Ft. Payne. Don't miss dancing to an internationally known caller and of course our own Pauline Angress.

And Speaking of Tom Miller, he has called at Boaz Squares and Guntersville Lake Twirlers a few times this spring which was a special treat for us 'stay at the home club' dancers.

Darryl McMillan is inviting everyone to his Anniversary Dance "**50 YEARS** Since I First Called to Live Dancers" Date: Saturday, Jul 13, 2019 at Central Hall Activity Center, 1931 Central Pkwy, STE A, Decatur, Alabama

Jim Melton won the attendance award at this year's Smoky Mountain Ball (pictured below). This makes five years in a row that Jim has won the award. Jim calls for Decatur 8ers, Cullman Friendship Squares, and Florence Quad City Squares.



Despite tornado warnings, tornado watches, and flooded roads, approximately 40 brave dancers made it to the 8ers' Spring Special. Jim Melton, Darryl McMillan, Rusty Willoughby, and Jerry Handley braved the weather and did a night of beautiful singing calls. Charles Chen, Earnest Lee, and Joan Southern lead the group in line dances and Tim Eum provided round dance cueng. Outside was storming but inside they had lots of food, lots of dancing, and loads of fun.

The Boaz Squares and the Lake Twirlers continue to have ongoing classes with three adventurous ladies learning the man's part at both clubs.

See you at some of these dances down the road and maybe the 68<sup>th</sup> National Square Dance Convention® in Atlanta June 26-29.

Well, back to the yardwork.

Don Wolford District 1 Delegate



## DISTRICT 2 NEWS

With great sadness, we mourn the recent passing (March 16<sup>th</sup>) of Jim Choate – but also celebrate the JOY he shared with so many of us. Eunice Spitzley, Priscilla Newton and Paul Choate - thank you for sharing your beloved brother and wonderful square dancer with us. Personally, I'm very grateful – because I am square dancing 'because' of Jim Choate. After 9 months in a foot cast and a 2-year restriction from other forms of dance, Jim persuaded me to take lessons. Now like others, I am addicted to it. May he enjoy "many square dances" in Heaven, while we carry on the tradition in our little corner of the world.

Our first stop on the dance tour this period was visiting the **Shelby Shufflers** at Heardmont Senior Center, Friday, March 1<sup>st</sup>. We love you Paul Marrs and appreciate all you do for the Shelby Shufflers - - but we sure are looking forward to the return of Annie Marrs. Yes Annie, we miss you. We know you are beginning to cue a little, so maybe you will be back full time real soon.

Then we were right back at Heardmont Senior Center on Sunday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>, to dance with Caller Jerry Handley at **Plus-R-Us**. Thanks for helping with Rounds 'Honorary Cuer' Paul Marrs. We appreciate you and what you do for us but will be very pleased to see Annie back at her normal 'full steam ahead' pace.

Monday (March 4<sup>th</sup>) we stopped in at the BSDA Friendship Hall in Fultondale AL to help the **Eastern Wranglers** with their class of Square dance students.

On Tuesday (March 5<sup>th</sup>), we enjoyed some mini-workshops with Caller Jerry Handley at **T-Squares** in Trussville AL. If you are 55 years old or older, we hope you will visit with them. A sweet group of dancers gather there and enjoy more than just dancing - they take a little time to enjoy each other. And they always take time to pause and Pray for our sick and those having surgery.



When we finished at the T-Squares, we headed north to visit Caller Darryl McMillan and the **Fun Bunch** in Decatur for a little bit of Fat Tuesday Mari Gras celebration and dancing.

The next day, Wednesday (March 6<sup>th</sup>) we visited with the **Pelham Promenaders** at the Senior Center in Pelham. Thank you, Caller Kevin Cozad for challenging our minds and attention span with some of your unique square dance arrangements. Challenges like that help us grow in our square dance abilities!

Thursday night (March 7<sup>th</sup>) we danced with the **Swingin' Squares** in

Jasper AL. Club President Jason Turner warmly welcomed us and Caller Roy Dutton keep us busy with Lines between Square Dance Tips.



On Friday, March 8<sup>th</sup> we kept with tradition and donned our 'Green' and enjoyed some St Patrick's Day Dancing with the **Wheel Arounds** at the BSDA Hall in Fultondale AL. Caller Larry Belcher and Cuer Diane Martin Hamilton provided lots of Square and Line Dancing for us. It was great to have ALL our ASARDA District Two Delegates & Coordinator supporting this club and their dance.





Monday March 11<sup>th</sup> found us back over at the BSDA Hall in Fultondale to help “angel” some of the students at the **Eastern Wranglers** square dance class. They really have a good group of students. We look forward to dancing a lot more with these students after they graduate. Hope you ‘experienced’ dancers will seek them out at dances and help them get some quality dance time in a square of seasoned dancers. Remember, we ALL started somewhere. And this is how we “grow” our square dance community and our clubs.

What a ‘Great’ crowd!! On Thursday night, March 21<sup>st</sup>, more than two full squares of **Kurly Qs** visited the **Duos & Solos** in Ft. Payne AL. While the “first” square of 8 dancers were “Retrieving” the Kurly Qs Banner, another square swooped in and “Stole” the Duos & Solos Banner. We all had a good time and enjoyed watching Caller Paul Henze teach a square dance class full of “young” students – our ‘Square Dance Future’ in the making. And Jefferson’s Restaurant in Ft Payne will probably never be the same after dealing with all those **Kurly Qs** at one time. Also, it was wonderful to see 8 ASARDA Board Members there.



The next night, Friday March 22<sup>nd</sup> we visited the **Wheel Arounds** and had lots of fun. Cuer David Holladay provided some beautiful Rounds and helped us spent some of our energy on a couple of lively Lines. Caller Larry Belcher threw us a couple of interesting calls with lefthanded challenge.

The weather finally cooperated and let us visit with the **Kurly Qs** on Saturday night, March 23<sup>rd</sup>. It was great to see so many visitors. The **Krazy 8s** came and “retrieved” their Club Banner.

April 2<sup>nd</sup>, we made another visit to the T-Squares in Trussville where they were enjoying a large crowd. Caller Jerry Handley helped us work on a few ‘calls’ we hesitated on during the Jubilee. These mini workshops are getting us ready for the Nationals in Atlanta this June.



Friday April 5<sup>th</sup>, we visited with the **Shelby Shufflers** at Heardmont Senior Center and Caller Jerry Handley. We hit the BSDA Friendship Hall in Fultondale to enjoy some PLUS dancing at **Plus-R-Us** and Caller Jerry Handley. Currently Jerry is hosting two “plus” dance opportunities each month – the first Sunday afternoon they dance at Heardmont Park; the second plus dance is either the third or fourth Sunday at the BSDA Hall in Fultondale, depending on the availability of the hall. It is a lot of fun and hope you will plan on visiting. On April 14<sup>th</sup>, Cuer Jim Brown visited and called Rounds for us.

On April 19<sup>th</sup>, we attended the **Eastern Wranglers** graduation at the BSDA Friendship Hall in Fultondale AL. Becky Reggel presented each graduate with ASARDA’s Handbook for New Dancers. Many of these new dancers are already venturing out to enjoy their newly gained skills by visiting other clubs and special events.

As a matter of fact, a couple of these new dancers participated in the Berry AL Founders Day Celebration on Friday April 26<sup>th</sup> where we enjoyed “dancing in the street”. And it is a good thing that Berry AL doesn’t have a “Club Banner” – because the nine Kurly Qs that came and supported this event would have “stolen” the banner. Prior to dancing, Caller Jerry Handley hosted a delicious ‘shrimp boil’ feast at his home in Berry.







After attending the ASARDA Spring Dance on Saturday, April 27<sup>th</sup>, at the Purser-Ray Hall in Odenville, we stayed and danced to a full house at the Kurly Qs Club dance. Three clubs retrieved their Banners during the night. And we got to enjoy the food and decorations provided by ASARDA District 2.

On Friday night, May 3<sup>rd</sup>, we danced to Caller Jerry Handley at the **Shelby Shufflers** – and watched as the Kurly Qs swooped in to “Steal” another Banner. Looks like all these clubs are going to have to make ‘extra’ banners if they intend to even have one for themselves.

Thank you, Martha Weber, President of BSDA and Arthur Droit for setting up for the Plus-R-Us Club Dance on Sunday afternoon, May 26<sup>th</sup>. The next Plus-R-Us dance will be Sunday, June 2<sup>nd</sup> at Heardmont Senior Center, then on Sunday afternoon, June 23<sup>rd</sup>. At the Plus-R-Us dance at Heardmont Senior Center on Sunday afternoon, July 7<sup>th</sup>, come enjoy some All-American Hotdogs and Watermelon before the dancing begins.

On Thursday, May 23, it was great to see THREE squares participate in the entertainment for the Veterans at the Robert Howard, especially so close to Memorial Day. We even noticed some of our newly graduated dancers participating. Thank you, Ted and Diane Moss, for coordinating this event for our Veterans.

We were glad to see the Wheel Arounds visit the Kurly Qs Saturday night, May 25<sup>th</sup>, to “Retrieve” their Banner. Maybe some of these clubs will conduct a Repeat Performance and go back to the Kurly Qs and STEAL the Kurly Qs Banner.

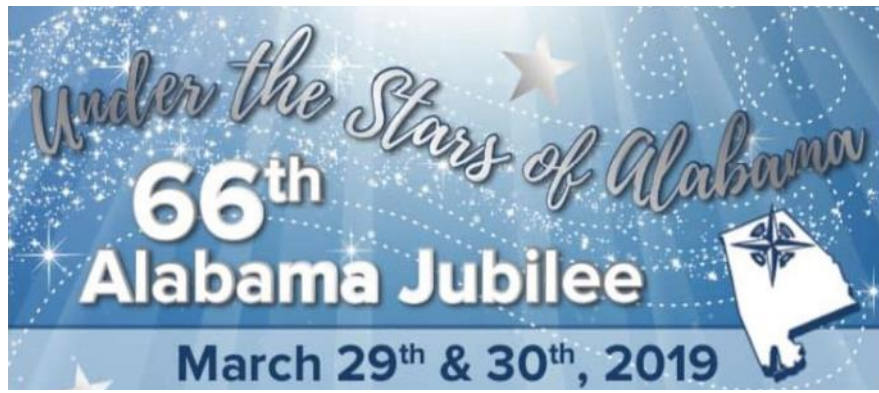
A lot is happening in **June**.. We are so excited to announce the **Kurly Qs** are starting a **Round Dance Class** June 3<sup>rd</sup> with Instructor Cuer David Holladay. These classes will be on Monday nights, beginning at 6:30pm and only cost \$5.00. The **T-Squares** are celebrating their 12th Anniversary on Tuesday afternoon at the Trussville Senior Center. For those of you that enjoy eating – well

– they will have a great meal, including ham. The BSDA is sponsoring their **Annual President’s Day Dance** on Sunday afternoon (2pm) featuring Caller Terry McGill. **Many many** other dances and Special Events are coming up - so 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. As you can see from following the District 2 Delegates/Coordinator around, there are PLENTY of Events and dancing opportunities out there for you. Join us as we dance our way through this last quarter of the ASARDA year to the culminating events of our State Convention in Oxford. We are expecting a larger than ever crowd and there will be plenty of dancing for everyone at every level of your dance experience.**



*Carol Varner—District 2 Coordinator*





If you missed this year's **Alabama Jubilee**, you really missed a treat. Caller Matt Worley is as energetic as they come. It was great to see so many Round Dancers strolling in TWO rings around the floor to the lovely selections of Cuer David Holladay. Congratulations Jubilee Chairman Margaret and Vick Snyder on a successful Jubilee. What an "interesting insight" into our dance "future" as projected by Kay Trimm and the Clog Wild Cloggers. The decorations were beautiful, and everyone had a great time. We look forward to another fantastic Jubilee in 2020 under the ideas of Jason Turner President of the Swingin' Squares in Jasper AL. And the dancing and fun continued on Sunday for the Trail Out Dance with Caller Tom Miller, Caller Larry Belcher and Cuer Pauline Angress. We were surprised, but pleased, to see so many dancers stay after the Jubilee to enjoy some Sunday afternoon fun.

Submitted by Carol Varner





## DISTRICT 3 NEWS

Lots has been happening in District III due to the fact that MASDA has been trying to sell their square dance building. As of this date, it is not officially sold but all parties anticipate a closing on the property imminently. At present a church is wanting to buy the property for worship. I can't think of anything any better than for the property which was loved by so many for so long, to be sold as a house of worship.

The following is a quote from the May MASDA newsletter: *The Montgomery Area Square Dance Association (MASDA) has a long and wonderful history dating back to May 1, 1960 when an organizational meeting was held in Prattville at the home of Bill and Ester Mansfield. The charter members (Clubs) that voted to become the Association were: Beaux and Belles – Caller: Jack Austin, Dixie Twirlers – Caller: David Shoemaker, Wetumpka Squares – Caller: Jack Walker, Star Promenaders – Caller: Gene Reeder, Ala-Manders - ?*

This is both a happy and sad time for those dancers who have contributed so much to the well being of the building. However, the future is exciting as they explore options for where and when they will dance in the future. Monthly dances for MASDA are still planned with callers already contacted.

May 11 Caller: Willis Simmons Cuer: John Williford

June 8 Caller: Kevin Cozad Cuer: John Romano

July 13 Caller: Jamie Stewart Cuer: David Holladay

August 10 Caller: Bob Poyner Cuer: Diane Martin-Hamilton

We have one new club in our District (pictured below). Magnolia Springs Squares is off to a great start with several squares at their open house. Be sure to visit them if you are heading in the direction of the beach this summer. They dance in the Magnolia Springs Community Hall on Mondays from 7:00 – 9:00 pm. Patty Ping is the caller and Beth Zilinskas is the contact person at 205-908-3769.



Village Squares continues to recruit and teach students. Prattville Promenaders has added three new dancers to our rolls this quarter. I've been told that Woodland Squares has some new dancers. Dixie Square Thru's has done some serious recruiting in an attempt to grow. A member of Happy Circle Squares told me they are exploring the possibility of using Facebook as a recruitment tool. Beaux and Belles and Dixie Plus are exploring places to dance.

Every club in the district, in its own way, is trying to explore options for growing. When you have a good idea that has worked for you club, share it with others! That way we can grow together.

Submitted by Mary Wolfe, District III Coordinator





## Square Dancing club do si dos into Magnolia Springs

Posted Thursday, April 25, 2019

By Allison Marlow

Cowboy boots, tennis shoes and sandals swish and scoot over the wooden floor. As directions are called out over lively music those feet stop abruptly, switch and then stop again, pausing as their dancers shuffle quickly to find the right step.

The dancers giggle when they head the wrong way. They high five and grin when they land in just the right spot. Monday night in Magnolia Springs now is square dancing night and the organizers want everyone to come and try it out.



“This is one of the best exercises in the world for your health, your mind, circulation and anxiety,” said organizer Beth Zilinskas, of Foley. Zilinskas has been dancing off and on since she took square dancing as her PE credit at Jefferson Community College in the early 1970s. Now, she dances every chance she gets.

While there are small recreational groups sprinkled across Alabama and Florida’s Gulf Coast, Zilinskas was excited to build a club in Baldwin County that mirrored the larger clubs in North Alabama where she used to dance. There hundreds of dancers take to the floor. She says every event is family friendly and appeals to a wide range of age groups.

“It’s a family atmosphere. There is no alcohol, no smoking, none of that,” Zilinskas said. “These are the most wonderful people you’ve ever met. We call it friendship set to music.”

On Monday Zilinskas helped host the first event for the Magnolia Spring Squares. Nearly 15 people who have never square danced before came ready to learn. Patty Ping, a celebrity in the square-dancing world, who has been calling since 1981 at venues all over the globe, led a group lesson as she called the dances.

Three squares of four dancers each circled left, promenaded, rolled away and sashayed.

Jenny Brown, of Mobile, still donned her scrubs after a long work day. She headed to Magnolia Springs as soon as the workday ended to have her first square dance lesson. “This is just a great night out and a break from work,” she said.

The newcomers were joined by dancers who came from Baldwin County and beyond to help lead them through the steps.

Ron Brown, of Silverhill (no relation to Jenny Brown), moved here from Houston and has been square dancing with his wife since 2006. On Monday they helped new dancers quickly master the steps. “We’ve met a lot of people and been all over the U.S. square dancing,” he said. “It’s good exercise and good for the memory.”

## CAMPERS AND DANCERS #152 NEWS

At each campout we begin our dances with saying a prayer, reciting the Pledge of Allegiance, and welcoming our guests. Our **first** campout, for the 2019 camping season, was held **March 22 - 23**, at Roaring Pines Campground in Somerville AL. The weather was cold enough for a roaring fire. Rusty Emmons, our resident fire bug and others, kept the fire going from Sunday to Saturday with one match. The fire was hot enough that it could almost melt the souls off your shoes. On **Friday**, we had our potluck. We sampled different kinds of meats, breads, salads, and deserts. There was a lot of food which made the selection difficult. Everyone was pleasantly stuffed. **Saturday** morning, we woke to a pancake breakfast provided by the Wagon Masters. After breakfast, we played Bingo. Nancy Ursery won the coverall. Later that evening, the Wagon Masters provided the chili, and everyone brought sides to share. Once again everything was great and very filling. Our **dances** were held on Friday and Saturday evening. We had Wayne Mahathey as our caller for the weekend. He called high energy dances and treated us, on the last tip Friday evening, with hot hash. It was exhausting, fun, and helped to work off our dinner. Pauline Angress was gracious to treat us to lines and rounds for the weekend. We had a great time. Joe Hester was our Split the Pot winner; congratulations. Wayne and Pauline did a great job; thank you for a fun weekend. Thanks to our Wagon Masters: Rusty & Elizabeth Emmons and Ralph & Viv Taylor for relaxing but fun weekend.

Our **second** campout was held **April 12 - 13** at Wall Doxey State Park in Holly Springs, MS. We had tons of visitors that danced with us which represented 3 states. On **Friday**, the gang started early with a trip to Graceland in Memphis, TN, the home of Elvis Presley. It was interesting to see the King of Rock 'n Roll's home, how he lived, and his final resting place.



When we arrived back at the campground, we had our potluck. We sampled all different kinds of food; difficult but delicious. On **Saturday**, we woke to coffee and donuts provided by our wagon masters. After breakfast, there were ten exciting games of Bingo. John Bloodworth won the grand prize. We had a little bad weather but did not let that stop us. Instead, we had lunch at Annie's Home Cooking. The food was plentiful. We left full.





For our **dances**, Friday and Saturday night, we had two callers: Rob Baird and Kevin Cozad. It was wonderful having them call for the weekend; what a treat. Kevin and Rob alternated between mainstream and plus tips. They also had loads of fun on their duets. Susan Wolford was our cuer for the weekend on lines and rounds. Rob, Kevin, and Susan did a great job; many yellow rocks. You worked us hard and we had loads of fun. The half pot winner was Neal Snider. Many thanks extended to our wagon masters: Kevin & Tina Cozad and Neal & Doris Snider for a great weekend. It was fun.

Our third campout was held **May 17 – 18**, at River Country Campground, in Gadsden AL. We picked up 4 new members and had tons of visitors from various clubs. We love visitors because they just might become members. On **Friday**, we had our potluck; lots of great, wonderful dishes. My compliments to the chefs.. On **Saturday**, our wagon masters woke us with a coffee and donut breakfast. We played 10 games of Bingo. Judy Hester was our big winner. That afternoon, we had a Reunion Social. We visited with one another and played games: Mexican Train (challenging in trying to outthink your neighbor) and Hate Your Neighbor (a cutthroat board game). Later, we caravanned to our favorite Gadsden restaurant: Top of the River. We had tons of filling, delicious food. After the dance was



over, the wagon masters treated us to ice cream. I have been told that a person was never too full for ice cream; it just slides down and fills in the holes. At our **dances**, for Friday and Saturday, we had two callers for the weekend. This was our thirty-third anniversary. On Friday evening, Rusty Willoughby called. He did a great job. Pauline Angress was our cuer for Friday (only) on rounds and lines. Rusty and Pauline did a fantastic job. On Saturday evening, Jerry Handley called. He did a great job as well. Jerry was the clubs first caller at Oak Mountain State Park.



Since Pauline could not return, Jerry provided lines between tips. He also called a tip: "Man the Lifeboats." I think that all the boats sunk. We recognized birthdays and anniversaries for the month of May. Kay Trimm and Erich Reggel entertained us with a clogging exhibition; fantastic. Rusty, Jerry, and Pauline were great. Thank you for the enjoyment you provided and your hard work. We had tons of fun. Split the Pot was played both nights. The Friday night winner was Pamela Hammond; the Saturday night winner was Charles Muddiman.

Thanks to our Wagon Masters: Ralph & Viv Taylor and Rusty & Elizabeth Emmons for fun weekend.

Our **June campout** has been cancelled because the Campers & Dancers #152 are hosting the 62nd NSDCA camporee which will be June 18 – 20, at Pride RV Resort in Waynesville, NC.

Our Fifth campout will be **JULY 12 – 13, 2019**. It will be busy and fun. For reservations: Nashville Shores Lakeside Resort, 4001 Bell Road, Hermitage, TN 37076. **Reservations: (615) 889-7050** Wagon Master: Hank & Martha Sweetman (615) 481-5941. Friday Night - Caller: Gene Aldridge & Cuer: Susan Wolford. Saturday Night - Caller: Rob Baird & Cuer: Robbie Carrington.

If you have a camper and would like to join us, please contact us at (205) 492-2397 or (205) 492-9663.

Submitted by Elizabeth Emmons

## **ASARDA INSURANCE**

Reminder to the club insurance reps to send in your class roster once you get it established. Your class can be insured at no additional cost to the club or the class member. A class can receive the free insurance for up to nine months. When anyone joins the club, they will need to pay the \$4.75 each for insurance for the club to be in compliance. There is no pro-rated premium. The premium for each new member is \$4.75 whether they join in January or November.

Happy Dancing!

*Susan Wolford—Insurance Chairman*



### ***St. Jude's Children's Hospital Benefit Dance Sponsored by North Alabama Callers & Cuers***

***WOW!!!! WHAT A FANTASTIC GROUP OF DANCERS, CALLERS, AND CUERS WE HAD! I THOUGHT WE HAD AN OUTSTANDING DANCE. WE HAD A LITTLE OVER SIX SQUARES OF PEOPLE. THANKS TO ALL THAT ATTENDED AND SEVERAL PEOPLE COULD NOT ATTEND BUT THEY SENT MONEY FOR ST. JUDE HOSPITAL. OUR GRANDE TOTAL WAS \$2,100.***

***WE HAD A "THANK YOU" CERTIFICATE FROM MARLO THOMAS (DANNY THOMAS' DAUGHTER) RECOGNIZING OUR CONTRIBUTION LAST YEAR.***

***OUR CALLERS AND CUERS WERE***

- 1 PAULINE ANGRESS***
- 2 LARRY BELCHER***
- 3 TIM EUM***
- 4 JERRY HANDLEY***
- 5 DARRYL MCMILLAN***
- 6 JIM MELTON***
- 7 RUSTY WILLOUGHBY***



***THANKS TO ALL THE PEOPLE THAT BROUGHT REFRESHMENTS, ESPECIALLY WANDA HOUSE WHO TOOK CARE OF THE KITCHEN, AND MY WIFE ANN, WHO BAKED US A GREAT CAKE.***

***WE HAD DANCERS COME FROM THE BIRMINGHAM AREA, NEARLY ALL THE CLUBS IN NORTH ALABAMA, AND SOME SPECIAL FRIENDS FROM BUCHANAN, TN (THAT IS BETWEEN MEMPHIS AND NASHVILLE).***

***THANK YOU  
DARRYL MCMILLAN***



## **ASARDA MEMBERSHIP**

As of 15 May, 2019, there are currently 356 members and 39 clubs that have joined ASARDA. I really thank each and everyone of you for joining. It is still not too late to join. With your paid membership, you will get in free on Friday night of the State Convention in August. Also, keep in mind that membership has changed and now runs 1 September thru 31 August each year. We are trying to encourage everyone to receive the newsletter by e-mail, but if there is some reason that you can't or do not want to, beginning 1 September the membership will be an additional \$10.00 to have it mailed to you. Please print your information on the form as this is the only way that I can have accurate information. If any of your information changes during the year please let me know.

ASARDA TRAVELER DANGLE: If you are participating in the program this year please have your card completed and sent to me by the end of July. I will need time to have your dangle made.

*Membership Chairman - Anita Southern*

## **ASARDA EDUCATION**

### **SEATING CAN CHANGE THE SOCIAL ATMOSPHERE OF A DANCE**

*This account from Jerry Junck describes a seemingly trivial change in the way dancers are seated during breaks which he believes has improved the social atmosphere of the group and lead to an increase in the number of dancers attending his dance. Something to think about ...*

For years I had always set up my hall with two rows of chairs in the back, side by side. Never really gave that a thought, but did it because "that is what I've always done." That section is a 20-foot-wide area behind a row of four columns. Too small an area to dance, but great for seating away from the floor.

Two seasons ago, my activity director decided to leave tables set up in that area all the time. I wasn't all that sure about it, but that is what she wanted. They set two rectangular tables set end to end. Each table will each seat 4 people on a side, and there are ten sets of these tables. That seats 160 people. Using my old method of chairs side by side, I could not seat that many dancers.

What I have found is that dancers LOVE those tables. To the extent that I believe it has contributed to the growth of this dance in these last two seasons. Also, people are arriving earlier to "stake out" their tables for their friends. This has given dancers a place to put their drinks, their bags, and plates, if we have treats, and a place to put their elbows, if nothing else. It has increased the social aspect of the evening tremendously. Much easier to visit with people across the table rather than down the line beside them on chairs.

As an aside, I just called a dance here in Nebraska this afternoon for a club I started 51 years ago. They are not a big group anymore, but they also set up tables for people to sit around, rather than on the benches around the hall. It was amazing to watch how much they enjoyed being able to visit with each other.



By Jerry Junck 4/23/2018 from CallerLab Knowledgebase at <http://callerlabknowledge.org/?p=1814>

*Education Chairman – Wayne Nicholson*

# ASARDA Spring Dance

SATURDAY, APRIL 27, 2019  
2:00-4:30



On Saturday afternoon, April 27<sup>th</sup>, District TWO Delegates Connie Wood, Sabrina Horsely, Vera Simpson and Coordinator Carol Varner hosted one of YOUR FREE dances- the ASARDA Spring Dance: **April Showers bring May Flowers.**

We graciously appreciate Eunice Galloway coming out on a Saturday morning and opening the building so we could decorate and prepare food & snacks. Eunice even stayed and helped. After all the rain we have had, hope our decorations brought a smile of sunshine & flowers. We appreciate those that sacrificed their Saturday to help: Thank you Ann Leithauser (Historian) for not only helping, but brining the beautiful Spring wreath for the Callers wall. That you Delegate Vera Simpson for all the items you brought to enhance our Spring theme – the tricycle, live plants, wrought iron bench and tall wrought iron plant stand. Thanks Delegate Connie Wood. Two of our new dancers help too – Shelia Tyler (Kurly Q's) and Terry Billingsly (Eastern Wranglers and T-Squares). Thank you Peggy Kay and Dottie O'Dell for selling 50/50 raffle tickets for us. Thanks Anita Southern for bringing the roll of raffle tickets and verifying our current members for FREE entry.

Submitted by Carol Varner







## DANCING ON TUESDAY ?

By Steve Reggel

When I decided to highlight some clubs that are not in the news very often, it did not dawn on me that they all meet on Tuesdays. When you think about however, Tuesday is a really good day to go dancing. You are rested from the weekend, and it's the day before a lot of people go back to church.

When you are in the Trussville area on Tuesday afternoon, **T-SQUARES** is the club to visit. They usually begin dancing at 2PM and finish around 4. Just in time to go to a Tuesday night dance if you wish. They are located at the Trussville Senior Center off Oak Street. Warning: You must be at least 55 to be admitted into the Senior Center where they dance. On a busy day you may have to park in the trees on the approach, but don't worry it is ok.

T-SQUARES is not the normal club you are used to visiting. They have been in their present format since 2008, after two previous clubs were combined. The 55-year-old limit is imposed by the Senior Center, because Federal money was used to build the facility, and their normal schedule during the two-hour period is a bit varied. On the first Tuesday of each quarter, there is a potluck lunch, and it is just great. Everybody brings a dish and you really feast. At these meeting which begin at 1PM you have plenty of time to enjoy your meal and get ready to dance. Jerry Handley and Kevin Cozad rotate calling on a weekly basis. After two tips, everyone gathers around to share news of club members and relatives, tell a joke or two, maybe hear a new poem by Clyde Turner, and discuss upcoming events and dances of interest. Then back to dancing. You will see a lot of friends there as T-SQUARES membership is composed of a lot of dual membership dancers, and you will always be welcomed and leave with warm sense of friendship. So now, its 4PM and time to decide which direction to go next. North to Cullman to be with FRIENDSHIP SQUARES, or South to Montgomery to dance with BEAUX AND BELLES.

If you decided to head North, you may have to hurry a bit as they begin dancing at 6:30 PM and again, it is Tuesday. Even though I missed the East Point Community Center on my first visit, it is easy to locate, just pay attention as the building sits above the road on a knoll but has a turning lane to as gravel driveway and there is plenty of room to park. It is located on Highway 69 just west of the Highway 157, a few miles East of Cullman. There is a very bright, Jet Pep gas station across the road from the center. FRIENDSHIP SQUARES is another newer club hat was started 10 years ago.

I first heard about the club when Beth Zilinskas told me about a new club while at the Eastern Wranglers July 4<sup>th</sup> Dance. She and Tommy and Hulda Shaefer, Mike and Doris Vinson, and Jim Nichols combined to start a new club in Cullman. Roy & Connie Dutton were to be the callers and they originally danced at the Cullman County Museum. Later on, they moved to the East Point Community Center where you will now find them every Tuesday from 6:30 PM until 8:30PM, except on Election Day. Jim Melton is now the caller. Roy, by the way is calling at the Jasper Cub every Thursday night. On Election Day and at Christmas the dancers meet for dinner and fellowship at a selected restaurant.

Casual attire is the normal, but ladies, do not be afraid to wear your favorite dress and petticoats. Again, you will be warmly welcomed by the members and by Jim. Elizabeth is taking college classes and Edna has had to stop dancing due to health concerns, but the rest of the gang will normally be there. Even if it is not Christmas, you probably find "Santa" dancing with his favorite elf. Calvin keeps his beard all year round so he will be prepared for the "Holidays". Dance, visit, enjoy a snack, you will have a great time, don't forget to return to **FRIENDSHIP SQUARES**, the name says it all.

If you decided to head South to dance with BEAUX AND BELLES, you may still have to hurry a bit to catch the workshop that begins at 6:30. Dancing then goes from 7PM until 9PM with Larry Belcher as the Club caller. The last time we visited however, Kevin was there in place of Larry. The Club meets every Tuesday evening in the North Hall of the MASDA Center, which is on the right side of the building as you enter the parking lot. The DIXIE PLUS Club, with Al Stevens calling, will also be dancing in the MASDA Center, in the South hall. There is no interference however from the adjoining hall, and the acoustics are good. As most of you know, MASDA is in the process of procuring a buyer for the building, and hopefully in the near future. Presently, BEAUX AND BELLES are still at the MASDA Hall, but are investigating different locations to dance when the sale is final. You might want to call ahead to be sure. MASDA Hall is located at the end of Poplar Street, and Poplar St. is the only way into the parking lot. You access Poplar St. From I-85 North at exit 3, left at the bottom of the ramp onto Ann Street, and then left again onto Poplar St.

Becky and I were welcomed by every member, dancing that Tuesday. That is a really warm memory from any club you may visit. Again, dress was varied, but don't be afraid to wear your finest. You will not be the only gal there in square dance attire. There will be lines between tips, with announced plus tips during the evening. While you are resting or having some refreshment, you can browse the flyer cabinet or the Clothes closet. There is plenty to choose from for women and men, and it is open all the time, with very reasonable prices. I am sure when Larry is there, you will be surprised with some new emphasis on his favorite basic calls. He loves to throw out a partner trade or 1/2 sashay when you least expect it. You will have a wonderful experience and see several clubs represented, and old friends attending.

Visiting is the key to promoting square dancing and having a great time no matter where you go. See some old friends and make some new ones, especially on a Tuesday night. Remember, dancers will likely visit your home club if you have been to see them at their home club.

Submitted by Steve Reggel, with grateful help from Anita Benton, Hulda Schaefer, and Mavis Whiteside.

We currently have an active group of volunteers serving on the ASARDA's board of directors. As with any organization, we are always looking for new ideas from dedicated and enthusiastic participants.

*We would like to extend an invitation to any dancer in the state wishing to serve on the ASARDA board.*

We have recently changed our by-laws so that every position on the board is open for election each year. In order to run for a position on the board, you must have one year of board experience. The stepping stone for joining the board begins with joining your District Council. There are 4 delegates in each district with one serving as coordinator. There are a couple of other vacant positions on the board as well.

For more details of available positions, please contact Vice President Steve Reggel at reggel@att.net. If anyone in your club has any interest in joining the ASARDA board, please submit the following information to ASARDA Vice-President Steve Reggel: Name, Address, Phone, Email address, and current club/association memberships – at reggel@att.net.

We have 4 ASARDA Board meetings each year, with the Annual Meeting held at the ASARDA Convention. We rotate the meetings throughout the districts as much as possible.

**No experience required** – It doesn't matter how long you have been dancing, or if you have served as an officer in your club or district association – if you are actively dancing in Alabama, you are qualified!





## ALABAMA TRAVELERS

Pictured right: Alabama dancers at the **Mississippi State Festival** in Pearl on March 8<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup>. Caller Paul Henze and cuer Terri Wilaby provided dancers with 2 good nights of dancing. Those attending were Don & Susan Wolford, Tom & Tina Wilkins, Pauling Angress, Joe Hester & Nancy Ursery. Not pictured were Ted & Nancy Kennedy..



Pictured left: On Thursday March 14<sup>th</sup>, Carol Varner & Renee Garrett took the BIG Trip to Alexandria, Virginia to the **WASCA Convention** to dance to the BIG Band Sound of Caller Tom Miller and eleven other National Callers and Cuers. WOW, what a fantastic dance and three days of “continuous” dancing. We loved it so well that we have already made our reservations to return to this Dance next year. We met a lot of new dancers, but also ran into many we already knew. (by Carol Varner)

Pictured below: Alabama dancers traveled north to Fayetteville, Tennessee to enjoy the **Dogwood Special** on April 6<sup>th</sup>. For some of us, it was our first visit to this annual dance. It was worth going JUST to eat. What an incredible spread of food was provided for the dancers by the **Demin Dusters**. If you have not attended this event before, you certainly should plan to go. Fifty one dancers from Alabama attended this year. (by Carol Varner)



Carol Varner, Renee Garrett, and Billy Coleman traveled to Macon, Georgia to follow “one of our own”. Caller Darryl McMillan was the featured Caller for the **Georgia Singles Annual Dance** on Friday and Saturday, May 17-18<sup>th</sup> at the Howard Community Center. This was a fun fun dance, especially for those of us who have been dancing only a few years, because Darryl taught us some of the OLD calls like ‘Weave the Basket’. We would love to see more of these OLD Calls introduced into some of our Square Dances – simply for the fun of it. This Annual Event is scheduled for May 15-16<sup>th</sup> next year featuring Caller Ted Kennedy. Hope you will reserve these dates for 2020 and plan to attend and support another “one of our own” Callers. You do not have to be “single” to attend this dance.





10 Alabama dancers just attended the **South Carolina Convention** May 31st—June 1st in Columbia, SC. Larry Belcher called at the Convention. Attending were Larry & Mary Ellen Belcher, John & Elizabeth Nolen, Tom & Tina Wilkins, Bobby & Ramona Parker, and not pictured Steve & Becky Reggell. The Wilkins & Nolens participated in the First Annual Last Square Standing competition with 2 SC couples and **WON!!** (pictured below)



### HUGE USED SQUARE DANCE CLOTHING SALE SUNDAY JUNE 9th AT THE BSDA HALL

We literally have **thousands of SQUARE DANCE** items to sell. Skirts, shirts, dresses, men's shirts & pants, petticoats & pettipants. Accessories such as ties, towels, belts, shoes!

**WE NEED SHOPPERS!** Please inform all your new dancers and even class members this is an excellent opportunity to pick up square dance clothes at rock bottom prices!

The BSDA has graciously allowed us the use of the back room to set up for our sale! The **BSDA Presidents Ball** is always an outstanding dance with a good crowd. The caller this year is the phenomenal **Terry McGill** from Lake City, TN. Cued will be our own outstanding **John Romano**. It's sure to be a great dance. The dance is from 2:30-4:30 with early rounds from 2:00-2:30.

**The sale will be open from 1:00-5:00** so you can shop before or after the dance – or drop in anytime during those hours.

**Please, Please, Please help us advertise this sale at your clubs!**

**THERE WILL NOT BE A CLOTHES CLOSET AT THE ALABAMA CONVENTION THIS YEAR!!**

USED SQUARE DANCE ATTIRE & ACCESSORIES

# SUMMER BLOWOUT



# SALE

Thousands of items

Great for new dancers

Come to the BSDA Presidents Ball and dance to Terry McGill & John Romano before or after you shop.

## Sunday June 9th

## 1pm-5pm BSDA Hall

All proceeds benefit the 72NSDC Bid Committee



# UPDATE on Alabama's Bid for the 72<sup>nd</sup> National Square Dance Convention® in 2023



We are ready to present our bid to the National Executive Committee (NEC) at the 68<sup>th</sup> National Square Dance Convention® in Atlanta this June! If you have never been to a National Convention, you should really plan to attend – but keep in mind – this isn't one of those weekend dances you can just show up at the door and pay to dance one night. There are no split tickets and, as most of you know, the closer it gets, the higher the price. Registration begins at \$50 per person (\$25 for Youth). After the Pre-Convention (18 months before the scheduled NSDC) the price increases to \$60 per person. After May 1<sup>st</sup> prior to the scheduled convention, the price increases to \$75 per person. So if you show up at the door in Atlanta, the price will be \$75 per person – whether you dance for one night or the full 4 nights! The convention begins on Wednesday night with the Trail End dance. It continues all day Thursday, Friday and Saturday and concludes with the last after party Saturday night from 10:00-11:00! There are non-stop dancing opportunities all day and night – there are also many education sessions, clinics (workshops), exhibition dancers, and a host of other activities going on which include sew and save projects. Dance leaders (callers, cuers, contra prompters & line dance leaders) from across the country and around the world come to National Square Dance Conventions®. Don't be surprised to have a couple of foreign callers on the stage! Square Dance calls are in the English Language around the world – sometimes the pronunciations and accents can really be difficult to understand – and also FUN and entertaining!

## **If you will be attending the 68<sup>th</sup> NSDC in Atlanta:**

For all of you graciously volunteering to help us with the 72<sup>nd</sup> NSDC who have never attended a National Convention – attending this National Convention would be a great opportunity to see all the “wheels in motion”.

**EDUCATION ROOM HOSTS** - Many of you registered for the 68<sup>th</sup> NSDC answered our call for volunteers to be Room Hosts for the Education Committee in Atlanta. Most of you will find this interesting – because as Room Hosts you will be attending the panels, clinics (workshops), and seminars that you might have otherwise overlooked. An email was recently sent out with Room assignments – if you are unable to fulfil your assignment please let me know so we can make other arrangements. If you did not volunteer to host a session, yet have some extra time on your hands - stop by the Education Office and volunteer to host a session!

**FRIDAY MORNING** - please join us at the **Bid Presentation** on Friday morning. The Bid session begins at 9am promptly – please plan to be there by 8:45 to be sure to get in before the doors close at 9! We hope you will all come see what we have in store for our *Party Gras* in Mobile! You can come as you are in whatever you plan to wear for the day (Square Dance attire not required). Indiana will present their bid to host the 71<sup>st</sup> NSDC in Evansville, Indiana first. They are allotted 20 minutes for the presentation – followed by a brief Q&A. We will follow the same process – probably beginning around 9:30. We (Tom & Tina Wilkins), Don & Susan Wolford, and our Mobile Team – Jerry Bousard with Visit Mobile, Melanie Pierce with the Mobile Convention Center, and Cameron Coppejans with Renaissance Hotels will present our plans for hosting the NSDC in Mobile! We have a PowerPoint presentation with slides and videos. There will be a reserved seating area for our bid committee – which is YOU: all of our Alabama dancers (and supporters from other states) on the front right side of the room. When we finish the presentation, we, along with all of YOU in the front of the audience will “carefully” toss Moon pies to the audience (behind you) to add some “excitement”, uniqueness and FUN! Later that afternoon around 3:00 we (Wilkins, Wolfords, and Mobile Team) will have a closed door meeting with the NEC to answer more specific questions.

**WEAR YOUR MARDI GRAS BEADS!** We will have a “Proposed” 72<sup>nd</sup> NSDC display in the **Showcase of Ideas** complete with Mardi Gras Beads and Moon pies – so stop by and pick up some beads to wear around all weekend! I think everyone in attendance will know Alabama is doing the Mardi Gras theme!! I would like to mention that dress attire for the daytime at National Conventions is whatever you want – we usually wear our Polos and Shorts during the day. Lots of people will be in full Square Dance attire all day – so the choice is yours to make. After 6pm you should be in “Proper Square Dance Attire” – this does not mean full petticoats – it means what you normally wear to dances; basically just not shorts and t-shirts.

**CONVENTION SKIRTS** – many of you have purchased the Monidiki Sante Fe Convention skirts. If you didn’t get the email regarding how and where to order the skirt, email me at [asardanews@gmail.com](mailto:asardanews@gmail.com) and I will send you the instructions. Skirts are \$99, \$139, \$149, and \$159 depending on length. There is a discount on the Prairie skirts, but not on the petticoat lengths. I know it’s a big investment – but we will wear these skirts out over the next 4 years! The beauty of these skirts is they are versatile – you can change your accent color so you aren’t in the exact same outfit at every dance and every picture on Facebook! **WE WILL WEAR THE CONVENTION SKIRTS SATURDAY NIGHT.** If you did not purchase the Convention Skirt – don’t let that stop you from marching in the Parade with us – lots of people won’t have it on! We will have plenty of Mardi Gras beads and Mardi Gras Masks available!!

**FRIDAY NIGHT** - We (Wilkins) will be wearing Mardi Gras square dance attire on Friday night as well. And I know some of you that purchased the Convention Skirt also have Mardi Gras skirts as well – so here is another opportunity to wear it – IF YOU WANT TO!

**PARADE OF STATES** - Line up for the Parade of States begins at 5:30. We hope everyone will come out for this, so plan to eat a late lunch! Line up will be outside the Square Dance Halls in the large long corridor. Again, we will not walk in first as “Alabama”, we will be next to last as a bidding state. Therefore, we will be near the back of the line – and should be easily identifiable as Erich Reggel has volunteered to be our Mascot – the Jester! Again, we will have bead necklaces, silly hats, Mardi Gras masks and other accessories available – so even if you don’t have the Convention Skirt or a Mardi Gras Skirt you will fit in just fine!!



Several Ladies will have their Mardi Gras umbrellas – so we are sure to be an exciting scene as we enter!! We plan to toss Moon Pies out as we walk in for the Parade. However, once you enter the room we won’t be walking far before we are seated – so try to hold off on everybody throwing them all to the same people – those right as you walk in the door. Since we are not parading through the crowd, as once imagined, we opted not to spend the money to bring the Azalea Trail Maids up from Mobile. We would have had to rent a van, pay for their hotel room and meals and although their presence would have

added a “Touch of Disney” as Jerry Bousard says, we just didn’t want to spend the money at this point. We will Parade in and be seated for the Closing Ceremonies. At the end of the “ceremony” the bids will be awarded. I have to mention - **BIDS ARE NOT GUARANTEED** – there is a chance we may not receive the bid – but with the awesome deals Mobile is giving us, we feel confident!





**CELEBRATION DANCE** - Once the bids are announced - everyone will move to the adjoining dance hall for the celebration dances. If awarded their bid, Indiana will have the first tip to *Rocking In Rosalee's Boat* (their proposed convention venue is on the Ohio River), then, if we are awarded our bid, we will have ours. For our tip Scott Bennett from Oklahoma will sing *Sweet Home Alabama* - we hope our Convention skirts and Mardi Gras beads will be seen all over the dance floor for this tip. At the same time we will be moving to the dance hall for the celebration tip – we will be setting up 2 registration tables. One will be near the Square Dance Halls and the other near the Round Dance Halls! Ann Leithauser is our Registration and Housing Chairman and she has her committee volunteers ready to accept registrations (she may ask for additional volunteers). Please stop by and show some love and excitement at our registration tables – we will only have 4 hours to gather registrations – so talk to everyone you see about signing up and don't forget to mention if they register they will be entered in the drawing for the Carnival Cruise tickets. As mentioned in the last newsletter, Visit Mobile is giving us one **Free Carnival Cruise for 2 people** to give-away. So everyone that registers for our 72<sup>nd</sup> NSDC Saturday night in Atlanta will be given a business card to fill out and drop in the bucket for the drawing. **We will draw the winner at the After Party** we co-sponsor with Indiana.

**AFTER PARTY** – (if both the 71<sup>st</sup> & 72<sup>nd</sup> NSDCs are awarded their bids) we will co-sponsor the **Saturday night After Party**. Jack Pladdys & Tom Davis (both from Ohio) will be our MCs for the hour. I have seen the caller line up and this will be the **best line up of callers for the entire weekend!** Our own Alabama caller Larry Belcher and “soon to be Alabama caller” Tom Miller will share a tip in the middle of the Program. Larry has created a special version of his “Welcome to...” song for this tip!

For all of the above mentioned activities, we need the support of all of our dancers to be as LOUD and PROUD as we can!!

***Ya'll Come to Alabama  
to Dance & Play on  
Mobile Bay!***

## UPCOMING DANCES

### **Free Day of Round Dance Hosted by the Alabama Round Dance Teachers Assoc.**

Date: Saturday, Jun 01, 2019      Time: 10:00 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.  
BSDA Friendship Hall, 1024 Old Walkers Chapel Road, Fultondale, Alabama

### **The Gadsden Twirlers present A Thursday Night Twirlin' Event**

Date: Thursday, Jun 06, 2019      Time: 6:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.  
Downtown Civic Center, 623 Broad Street, Gadsden, Alabama  
Callers: Mike Sikorsky & Ronnie Purser

### **The Sand Spurs of Fort Walton Beach, Florida Present Their Annual Billy Bowlegs Pirate Dance**

Dates: Jun 07 - 08, 2019  
Pasarda Hall, Hall, 17 Industrial Street, Fort Walton Beach, Florida  
Caller: Darryl McMillan      Cuer: Miriam Merriwether

### **You Are Cordially Invited to Attend The BSDA President's Ball**

Date: Sunday, Jun 09, 2019      Time: 2:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.  
BSDA Friendship Hall, 1024 Old Walkers Chapel Road, Fultondale, Alabama  
Caller: Terry McGill      Cuer: John Romano

### **Junefest 2019 Square and Round Dance**

Dates: Jun 14 - 15, 2019  
Alfreda Harris Lodge, Roosevelt State Park, Morton, Mississippi  
Caller: Darryl McMillan      Cuer: Pauline Angress

### **Duos & Solos Dance Club is Celebrating the 1950's!**

Date: Thursday, Jun 20, 2019      Time: 5:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.  
600 Tyler Avenue, SE Fort Payne, Alabama  
Caller: Paul Henze      Cuer: Pauline Angress

### **Dance Under the Saturn V Rocket! On your way to the 68th National Convention in Atlanta GA**

Date: Tuesday, Jun 25, 2019      Time: 6:00 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.  
US Space and Rocket Center, One Tranquility Base, Huntsville, Alabama  
Callers: Travis Cook, Justin Russell, and Hunter Keller      Cuer: Pauline Angress

### **Trail's End Dance to the 68<sup>th</sup> National Convention**

Date: Wednesday, Jun 26, 2019      Time: 8:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.  
Cobb Galleria Centre, Exhibition Hall A, 2 Galleria Pkwy SE, Atlanta, GA

### **68th National Square Dance Convention**

Dates: Jun 26 - 29, 2019  
Cobb Galleria Convention Centre, 2 Galleria Pkwy SE Atlanta, Georgia

### **Tribute to Alabama**

Date: Saturday, Jul 06, 2019      Time: 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.  
DeKalb Council on Aging, 600 Tyler Ave SE, Fort Payne, Alabama  
Caller: Tom Miller      Cuer: Pauline Angress

### **The Wheel Arounds Have visions of sugar plums this Christmas In July**

Date: Friday, Jul 12, 2019      Time: 7:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.  
BSDA Friendship Hall, 1024 Old Walkers Chapel Road, Fultondale, Alabama  
Caller: Rob Baird      Cuer: Diane Martin Hamilton



**You Are Invited to My Anniversary Dance 50 YEARS Since I First Called to Live Dancers**

Date: Saturday, Jul 13, 2019 Time: 7:00 p.m. - 9:15 p.m.  
Central Hall Activity Center, 1931 Central Pkwy, STE A, Decatur, Alabama  
Caller: Darryl McMillan

**Kurly Q's Dance Club Presents 47th Anniversary Dance**

Date: Saturday, Jul 13, 2019 Time: 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.  
Purser-Ray Hall, 100 1st Ave, Odenville, Alabama  
Caller: Travis Cook Cuer: John Romano

**Seaside Squares July Jamboree**

Date: Sunday, Jul 20, 2019 Time: 12:30 a.m. - 9:30 p.m.  
Ragon Hall, 2600 Stratford Road, Pensacola, Florida  
Caller: Willis Simmons Cuer: Terri Wilaby

**"45" & Alive! Tennessee Square and Round Dance Convention**

Dates: Aug 01 - 03, 2019  
W.L. Mills Conference Center, 234 Historic Nature Trail, Gatlinburg, TN

**Duos and Solos Dance Club Hawaiian Luau**

Date: Thursday, Aug 08, 2019 Time: 5:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.  
Tom Bevill Center, 600 Tyler Street, Ft. Payne, Alabama  
Caller: Bob Sloman Cuer: Pauline Angress

**The North Carolina Folk Round & Square Dance Federation Presents Scoot Back to 30's Movies**

Dates: Aug 16 - 17, 2019  
North Raleigh Hilton, Raleigh, N.C.

**Seaside Squares 56th Anniversary**

Date: Sunday, Aug 17, 2019 Time: 12:00 a.m. - 9:30 p.m.  
Ragon Hall, 2600 Stratford Road, Pensacola, Florida  
Caller Darryl McMillan Cuer: Susan Snider & Mark Fetzer



**IT'S THE 41ST ALABAMA SQUARE & ROUND DANCE CONVENTION!**

**Oxford Civic Center, Oxford, Alabama**

**August 22, 23 & 24 2019**

**Live Lively, Have Fun, Square Dance!**

**For more information on upcoming dances visit our website at:**  
<http://www.alabamasquaredance.com/aweb/finddance/eventview.php>

# Saturn V Trail-Thru Dance

On your way to the 68<sup>th</sup> National Square Dance Convention in Atlanta GA

Squares & Rounds  
Adv. Purchase \$20 pp  
\$25 pp at the door  
\$80 pp Round Trip Bus &  
Ticket from Atlanta



## Square Dance Under this Saturn V Rocket!

**Tuesday, 25 June, 2019    Huntsville, AL**



**With Featured Callers: Hunter Keller, Justin Russell & Travis Cook**

Dance from 6:30-9:30 PM

MC: Skip Cleland

Early Rounds 6:00 PM

Cuer: Pauline Angress

US Space and Rocket Center, Davidson Hall

One Tranquility Base, Huntsville, Alabama, 35780

Get your tickets today at: **NorthAlabamaSquareDance.com**

Links to Buses, Hotel & RV Park information are available on our website!

Or get tickets by mail – complete, detach and mail this form with your check to:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

NASDA

114 Veranda Dr

Madison, AL 35758

\_\_\_\_\_ @ \$20 ea (before 4/1/19)= \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ @ \$25 ea (after 4/1/19)= \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ @ \$80 ea (bus & ticket)= \_\_\_\_\_



# "45" & ALIVE!!

## TENNESSEE SQUARE AND ROUND DANCE CONVENTION

August 1-2-3, 2019

W.L. Mills  
Conference Center  
234 Historic Nature Trail  
Gatlinburg, TN 37738

WOOD  
FLOORS

LIVE  
BAND!

### SQUARES

Mainstream - Plus  
Advanced - Challenge  
Hot Hash - DBD  
Hex - Progressive  
Singing Calls

### ROUNDS

Phase II-VI

Waltz - Rumba  
Jive - Two Step  
Foxtrot - Mambo  
W Coast Swing  
Cha - Bolero

Fashion Show  
Singles Program  
Contra  
Sewing Clinic  
After-Party  
Vendors

[www.TNSquareDance.org](http://www.TNSquareDance.org)  
Facebook: TN Square and  
Round Dance Convention

### TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

THURSDAY: Trail-in Dance 8-11pm  
2 Square Dance Halls  
1 Dedicated Round Dance Hall

FRIDAY & SATURDAY: 10am - 11pm  
6 Halls of Dancing  
\*Live Band: Evening Hours



**JUNE 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).