

PUBLISHED BY UNITED SQUARE DANCERS OF AMERICA

**NEWS FLASH
69TH NATIONAL CONVENTION
IS CANCELLED!
SEE PAGE 3**

USDA NEWS

VOL. XXXII, ISSUE 2 | APRIL - JUNE 2020

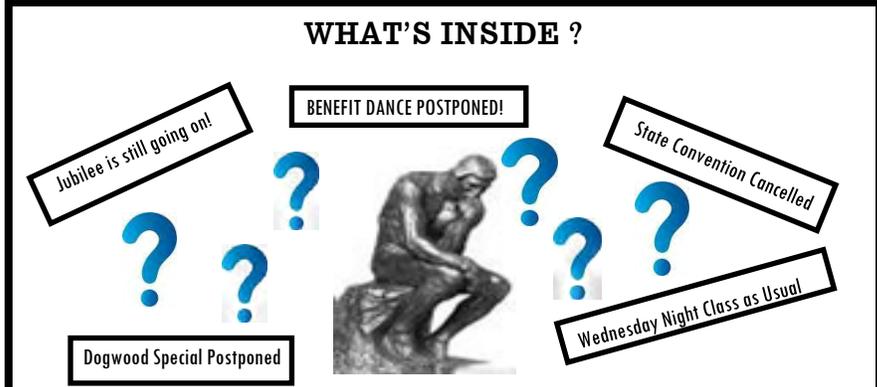
Square Dancing: Official Folk Dance of North America

NEWSLETTER OF THE WORLD'S LARGEST SQUARE DANCE ORGANIZATION

**JOIN US FOR THE 69TH NATIONAL SQUARE DANCE CONVENTION
SPOKANE, WASHINGTON JULY 17TH - 20TH**

TABLE of CONTENTS	
69TH NATIONAL CONVENTION CANCELLED	3
69th National Convention Registration	19
69th National Convention Housing	20
70th National Convention Registration	21
71th National Convention Registration	21
AD - Arkansas State Festival	23
AD - HASSDA Festival	22
AD—Idaho State Sq/Rd Dance Festival	16-17
AD—Las Vegas Swinging Stars	15
AD— TN State Sq/Rd Dance Convention	18
ARTS Travel	27
Condolences—Agnis McLean Family	24
Convention & Festival Schedules	29
Discount Prescription Card	25
Feature Article-Presidents Report on Covid-19	12-13
Insurance Coordinator Notes	10
National Convention—COVID-19 Update	7
New Hearing Benefits Card	26
Notes from the Editor	5
Special Article– Covid-19 & our Dance Family	14
Special Report-Comp copy OF USDA NEWS	24
You 2 Can Dance	28
USDA 501(c)(3)Tax Exempt Administrator	11
USDA Executive Committee	32
USDA News Advertising Information-Rates	30
USDA News Subscription Form	31
USDA Presidents Message	4
USDA YOUTH ADVISOR Comments	9
USDA VP-Central Region Report	7
USDA VP - Eastern Region Report	8
USDA VP—Plains Region Report	6

THANK YOU to the following for their contributions to this edition of USDA NEWS.
 Photographs—Judy (Jim) Taylor, Mark Krebsbach
 Special Articles— Tony & Diana Rock, Jim Maczko, and Patty Green
 Cover Design—Chris Dunkel



Not long ago I was thinking about all the things I have witnessed in my lifetime. It was amazed at all the things I have witnessed. But never, ever, have I seen anything like this Coronavirus and the disruption that it is causing. Our health officials are warning that our seniors are in the highest risk group, especially those with diabetes, heart or lung problems. They suggest we avoid gatherings in groups of 10 or more and try to stay 3 feet from others and that we are not to touch or shake hands. OMG!!! What are we going do???

While we do have younger people square dancing I would venture to say that the majority of our dancers are in the senior category. If you have one square, a caller and a cuer you have reached the group limit of ten. Can we dance and maintain a 3 foot separation from our partner and corner? It is possible to dance without holding hands, but a dance without yellow rocks. No way!

I recently talked with a club president that held their dance as usual on a Saturday night. He reported average attendance and a few dancers thanked him for having the dance and letting them decide whether or not to dance.

Is cancelling a dance the solution? What about the callers that depend on dances for their livelihood? Do you have a contract with a caller and do you have to pay if there is no dance? Do you have to pay rent if you don't dance? So many things to consider? Is there a right or wrong answer? This is a question our club presidents and dance leaders are struggling with at this very moment. No doubt that whatever they decide it will not please everyone. So please read the article on Page 14 by Patty Greene, a splendid caller from Monroe, NC, as she shares some great insights on how we should handle this situation and how square dancers are family and how we should react to the decisions that are made. A MUST READ! Thank you Patty for sharing, this.

USDA Presidents Tony and Diana Rock have shared some similar thoughts and suggestions on Page 12-13. This is an excellent Rock solid article that you don't want to miss.

FREE PHARMACY

CLIP AND USE THIS CARD AND SAVE

Cut out and fold		BIN: 600428 PCN: 05100000 GRP: 05690001 Member ID: EB22USDA1	Pharmacist's Help Desk: 1-866-921-7286	Member Customer Service: 1-800-309-8237	Cut out and fold
	This is NOT insurance Use this card for any prescription that is not covered by Medicare, Medicaid or insurance	Powered by	http://usda.ebccard.com		
Present this card to any participating pharmacy. At the time of service, you are responsible for payment of your prescription. Accepted at most pharmacies nationwide. This card may not be used in combination with Medicare, Medicaid or third party payer programs.					



69th National Square Dance Convention[®] **Cancelled**

It is with deep regret that we officially announce the cancellation of the 69th National Square Dance Convention[®] in Spokane, Washington, June 17-20, 2020.

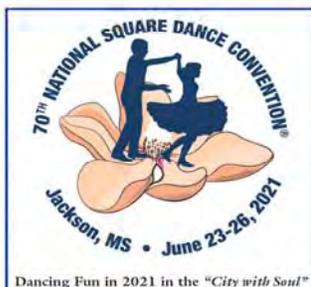
This decision is based on our concern for the health and safety of our attendees. After many hours of deliberations with the National Executive Committee (NEC), 69th NSDC staff and our convention partners in the City of Spokane, we have determined this is best for the welfare of all. We ask for your patience as we work through all the details involved in closing the 69th NSDC.

Our Registration Committee **will cancel and refund** all items including registration, hotel, RV, bus passes, tours, Wednesday Special Event and program books. The 69th NSDC has incurred expenses which have been paid from funds collected. If you would like to donate your Registration fees to help offset these expenses, *it would be greatly appreciated*. If you would like to donate your Registration Fees please send an email to reg2020@comcast.net. ***You DO NOT need to send an email to request a refund.***

Each year the future Conventions receive most of their registration signups at the National Convention. To support future Conventions, *please* consider registering for them now through the links below. Thank You for your continuing support and understanding during this unprecedented time.

Don & Cheryl Pruitt
General Chairman, 69th NSDC

Louis & Nancy Friedlander
President, NEC



PRESIDENTS**MESSAGE****Tony and Diana Rock**

Spring is now upon us. We hope that each of you are starting to make your plans for summer trips and dancing. Since our last message the USDA Executive Committee has been hard at work. At our annual Board meeting last June we announced that we still hadn't heard from the Internal Revenue Service on our application to be a 501(c)(3) Central Organization Administrator. Since that time we were approved by the IRS and so begins the excitement. We held our mid-winter meeting in sunny warm Wilmington, NC and the committee worked overtime so that we could begin offering the opportunity to our Affiliates to become a tax exempt organization. By the time you read this letter the first two or three affiliates should have received their award letters from USDA granting them tax exempt status as a subordinate group of the USDA and a letter giving a summary of the program will have been sent to each USDA Affiliate President. We sincerely hope that you will discuss this at your dance organization's meetings. Should you need more information it is simply a phone call or email away.

This is just the beginning. We want to remind you that our next annual USDA Board of Directors Meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 17, 2020 during the 69th NSDC Convention. We hope that you will encourage anyone in your dance organization who is going to Spokane this summer to attend our meeting as your delegate as we have much to talk about and vote on regarding exciting enhancements to the new USDA tax exempt program.

Speaking of the USDA Executive Committee's mid-winter meeting in Wilmington, a huge "Thank you" goes out to Ed & Lynda Willis, USDA Vice President Central Region for arranging all of the details of our long weekend meeting. They always go above and beyond what is asked of them and this was no exception.

We are also excited to introduce to you the recently appointed USDA Vice President Eastern Region, Gilbert and Sharon Leon. They are another amazing, hardworking couple that love promoting square dancing. They are returning veterans to USDA and have many years of leadership experience within the square dance community. Their resume will be included in the USDA Affiliate Delegate's package as they will be running for election at the June meeting.

As you can see, much is happening at USDA! Don't miss out on the action! Plan to attend the USDA annual Board of Directors meeting in Spokane! We hope to see you there!



See the Rock's article on page 12-13 about the coronavirus.



**A NOTE FROM THE
EDITOR**



Larry W. Dunkel

As you turn this page you will find the report from the Plains region VP Mark Krebsbach stating how spring is his favorite time of year. Mine too, Mark! Although Tennessee has had three years in a row with mild temperatures and limited snowfall, it is still wonderful to see spring arriving with a new attitude and bringing dead things back to life. If you have been hibernating since last October you can now shake off the dust on your favorite square dance outfit and resume dancing untilwell, next October?

While we are on the subject of winter I will tell you that we had our USDA Winter Meeting in beautiful Wilmington, NC. , superbly organized by our VP's for the Central Region, Ed & Lynda Willis. We worked hard and played hard for two lovely days. The last time our winter meeting was held in the south it was in the other Carolina, just south of where we were this year, and it snowed. Fourth weekend in January and it snowed in Myrtle Beach.

There are a lot of exciting things happening at USDA. I became your editor of USDA NEWS in June 2012 and at the Board of Directors meeting Jim Maczko brought up the subject of whether affiliates of USDA could share in the benefits of a non-profit status through USDA. It was decided that if there was enough interest USDA would pursue this idea. Since that meeting in 2012 this has been the number one project at USDA. Each year a report was given to the Board on our progress. In December 2019 we were finally recognized by the IRS as a 501 (c) (3) Non-Profit Group Exemption Administrator. This can be a big plus for our affiliates wanting the benefits of a 501 (c)(3) status and just might be the deal you have been waiting for. Read about it on page 11.

We have some bad news and some good news to report. The bad news is that Scott and Brenda Deal will be leaving USDA at the end of their term in June. Brenda served as our secretary for four years while her husband Scott headed up the "social media." USDA always conducts several educational classes at the National Conventions and if you have ever passed a room with people standing in hall trying to peep in on one of the classes, you can pretty well bet that this was Scott's class on "social medial." His classes were always "standing room only." We hate to see them go, but they do have other obligations that are requiring more of their time. We will miss them.

Have you heard that Mike and Pat Matsko are leaving us also? Mike and Pat have been with USDA for several years now and have served in many capacities. I would guess that the highlight of their USDA career would be having served as our President for four years. Prior to that they were the regional Vice President for the Eastern Region. Mike and Pat have been wonderful advocates of square dancing and have represented USDA well. They too will be greatly missed. They are another couple that was on the Executive committee when I became editor. The departure of these people are quickly making me one of USDA's senior members and that is not a goal I was pursuing. Recently I have had two doctors use the phrase, "due to your age." There is nothing wrong with my age!

Now for the good news. I am excited to tell you that we have some former USDA folks that are coming home. Bonnie Abramson is returning after a couple of years leave. Bonnie was with USDA as the Youth Advisor when I started and she immediately became my friend. (I think I reminder her of the youth she worked with.) We have shared many emails and phone calls across country with her helping me solve a problem. In many cases I didn't know I had a problem until she told me she would help me fix it. Bonnie is very knowledgeable in "social media" and she and Milene McCall will step into the position vacated by the Deals.

Also returning are Gilbert and Sharon Leon, another couple that was already with USDA when I came aboard. They are already working as the appointed VP to the Eastern Region and you can read their report on page 7. I will let you read their article to see what they have been doing for the past few years, but I will tell you that they have not been sitting on their hands watching the world pass by. They are a very dedicated, hard working couple and we are delighted to have them back with us to have them back.

WELCOME BACK BONNIE, GILBERT AND SHARON!

Until next time.....*Larry D*

EVENTS IN THE PLAINS REGION

Mark & Bina Krebsbach, USDA Plains Region VP

Spring is my favorite time of the year here in North Dakota. Plant, animals and even some people arise out of dormancy, the prairie has a sweet smell of new flowers. The beauty of new life is truly one of the Lords miraculous wonders that brings peace and fullness to my soul.

I find gratitude and thankfulness in how life continues on. In a similar way I find that same gratitude and thankfulness when I think about square dancing.

This past winter, Bina & I took a square dancing drive about through the South East states. We represented the U.S.D.A. in North and South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Louisiana and Texas. Then back to Arizona where we spend the winter. We had a very special square dance event right here in our Carefree Arizona. Our village association president asked us to have square dance lessons right here in our club house. So on Friday, February 28th, Dick Reuter came and did the lessons with 3 very very excited people taking the lessons. They had such a marvelous time and did very well and would like to continue!! We had 3 couples from North Dakota that were here in Arizona come help as angels. Diane & Gary Chepulis from Bismarck, Gayla & Duane Haberlock from Minot, and Katie & Ron Qualley from Ray, we thank them for coming to help us.

It is time to think about he journey to the national convention in Spokane, Washington in June. If you plan to have delegates to the U.S.D.A. annual meeting there, please let us know who they are if you haven't done so.

Have a safe and joy filled spring and summer.

Hope to see you in Spokane.

God's blessings, as ever square dancers.

Mark & Bina



Pictured from left to right Dick and Mary Rueter the caller from Minnesota who lives in AZ for the Winter, Diane and Gary Chepulis from Bismarck, ND, Katie and Ron Quallie from Ray, ND, Mark & Bina Krebsbach from Bismarck, ND and Gayla and Duane Haberlock from Minot, ND

EVENTS IN THE CENTRAL REGION

Ed & Lynda Willis, USDA Central Region VP

Since the last issue we have been working on arranging the USDA Winter meeting which we hosted here in Wilmington, NC in late January. We were very fortunate the weather held out and was in the upper 60's and low 70's. We did have a little rain on Friday night but was really fantastic for the most part. We were able to attend the local Wilmington Square Dance Club the 76'ERS (named for the year they were formed, not the basketball team) on Thursday night. They moved their dance to a larger hall to accommodate us and we had a great time. Friday was spent in very productive meetings. Friday night we went to a local restaurant which specialized in local soul food and had been featured on UNC Public TV. After dinner they cleared out some tables and we were asked to dance a tip, which we did. Saturday was again spent in meetings which we wrapped up at lunch time. We then headed to the Battleship North Carolina and had a two hour guided tour of the ship. We then were able to dance a tip on the teak deck of the battleship. Both videos of dancing at the restaurant and on the battleship are posted in various places on the internet. Saturday night dinner was downtown on the water front where they accommodated all 30 plus members of our group at one very long table. Sunday morning everyone headed home.

Our next USDA adventure was attending the Florida Square and Round Dance Convention in Daytona Beach, Florida. It was held the week after the Daytona 500. This was a well-attended and run dance and we had a great time meeting some old friends and making new ones. They really have a great round dance program. The weather could have been better as it rained most of the time and constant gale force winds. The temperature never made it out of the mid 50's. We don't even want to know what the wind chill was. One of the highlights was they featured a lot of youth. Friday night's kickoff meeting had several young people entertain us, and then at the after party they had two young callers call. One was 9 years old, the other we am not sure of her age. We did post videos of the two on the USDA web page.

Our next trip will be the South Carolina Convention in April in West Columbia, SC. We have to miss the Mississippi convention due to other commitments. Other state conventions in the Central Region are:

Mississippi March 13-14 th

Ohio May 1-2 nd

Tennessee Aug 6-8

Michigan Aug 20-22 nd

Kentucky Sept 10-12 th

Indiana Nov 6-8 th

South Carolina April 17-18 th

West Virginia July 24-26 th

North Carolina Aug 14-15 th

Alabama Aug 28-29 th

Georgia Sept 18-19 th



EVENTS IN THE EASTERN REGION

Gilbert & Sharon Leon, USDA Plains Region VP

Greetings from the Eastern Region of the United Square Dancers of America!

The new year brought a big surprise to us when we received a telephone call in late January from Tony and Diana Rock, the Presidents of USDA. They had just been to the USDA Winter Meeting, and discussions arose about us. Imagine our surprise when they asked if we would consider an appointed position as Vice President for the Eastern Region.

Although Gilbert and I are very familiar with USDA, having served in various positions in the organization for many years, we were now looking at it from a different perspective. In August 2019 we had relocated from California to Virginia to be near family. Our last position in USDA in 2014 had been Vice President to the Western Region. After thoughtful discussion, we decided that this would be a great opportunity to get to know our area, the square and round dance associations, clubs and dancers. We accepted their offer and will now hold the unique position of being the first USDA representatives to hold the Vice President position on two coasts! Since we are appointed, our names will be on the June 2020 USDA ballot to be formally elected to the position. Hopefully we will be successful.

Together we have been dancing a combined 92 years (Gilbert 58 and Sharon 34). Gilbert has attended 34 National Square Dance Conventions and Sharon has attended 8. We have been active in local clubs, festivals, and state square dance conventions. As part of California Square Dance Council, we accepted the position of Chairman for the 57th California State Square Dance Convention held in Victorville, CA in 2017. We were very happy with the outcome of the convention. We love square dancing and have made it a very major part of our lives. We are looking forward to meeting you and learning all about you and your organizations. We have been attending local dances and are looking forward to the WASCA 61 st Spring Square and Round Dance Festival in Alexandria, VA on March 19, 20 & 21. We are also planning to be at the Federation Spring Fling in Plymouth Meeting, PA on April 19, 2020 and the 32nd Virginia State Convention in Virginia Beach, VA on May 14, 15 and 16.

We hope to see you in a square!

Gilbert and Sharon Leon

69th National Square Dance Convention - **COVID-19 Update**

March 16, 2020

At the present time, we are planning to proceed with the 69th National Square Dance Convention® in Spokane, Washington, June 17 – 20, 2020. Please know that we are closely monitoring the situation with COVID-19 (coronavirus). As you know, many large conventions and meetings have been postponed or canceled. We believe it is premature for us to begin making any decisions for modifying the June 17 – 20, 2020 Convention plans at this time. Please be assured that our utmost concern is the health and safety of our Dancers, Dance Leaders, Vendors, Guests and the 69th NSDC and Spokane Convention Center staff.

CONVENTION IS NOW CANCELLED
 SEE PAGE 3

The 69th NSDC is committed to providing information concerning the Convention Plans as soon as they are available. We thank everyone for their patience and understanding as we adapt to the unpredictable nature of the virus and its potential impact on the 69th NSDC. We ask that everyone remain calm and allow adequate time to see how this all develops.

All our best,
 Don & Cheryl Pruitt

Louis & Nancy Friedlander, Presidents

COMMENTS FROM OUR YOUTH ADVISOR

Dan Reedy

Are you looking for information and ideas on how to recruit and engage youth/youthful dancers. The USDA will present a seminar at the 69th NSDC, “Engaging Youth”, presented by Justin Russell (National caller from Western Tennessee), Raymond Brendzy (Renowned International caller from British Columbia and a major influence in the PNTSDF) and Dan Reedy(USDA Youth Advisor). The seminar last year presented ideas that has fostered some excellent results in Wisconsin, Georgia, Illinois and Missouri. Missouri has had the greatest success to date by engaging and recruiting youth via the 4H program throughout the state. The seminar will address ideas and ways that clubs can approach and develop, in their desires to gain youthful dancers.

Additionally at the 69th NSDC, the USDA will announce the winner(s); of the 2020 Founders Scholaship(s). These scholarships are made available each year by the contributions and donations from our affiliates . Without the generous support of our Square Dance affiliates these scholarships would not be available. These scholarships are another way of supporting and encouraging involvement of youthful dancers in our Square Dance heritage.

This past winter the USDA Scholarship application was updated, to make the process easier to work with. As we move forward we are looking into the feasibility and possibilities of replacing the instructional DVD that we have with a more current and updated version. The success stories of individual affiliates will be shared, with presentations of their approaches on recruitment and retention of youthful dancers. Hoping to see you in a Square

Dan Reedy

The Card That Can Save You Some Money

The United Square Dancers of America is proud to offer a Prescription Drug Card Program. It is not Insurance but if you check it out sometimes it can save you money on certain Prescriptions You simply present the card at your pharmacy and they will do the rest. It is accepted at most major pharmacies and can save you up to 65% on your medications. It cannot be used in conjunction with Insurance, Medicare, or Medicaid. The card is free and may be used by Family or Friends.

Cut out and fold		BIN: 600428 PCN: 05100000 GRP: 05690001 Member ID: EB22USDA1	Pharmacist's Help Desk: 1-866-921-7286	Member Customer Service: 1-800-309-8237	Cut out and fold
	USDA	Powered by 	http://usda.ebccard.com		
<p style="text-align: center;">This is NOT insurance</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Use this card for any prescription that is not covered by Medicare, Medicaid or insurance</p>					
<p>Present this card to any participating pharmacy.</p> <p>At the time of service, you are responsible for payment of your prescription. Accepted at most pharmacies nationwide.</p> <p>This card may not be used in combination with Medicare, Medicaid or third party payer programs.</p>					

USDA INSURANCE COORDINATORS NOTES

Greeting Everyone,

Hopefully, by the time you receive this issue we are having spring weather that stays around and doesn't bounce back to winter temps. This has been a crazy winter but spring is here (or at least that is what the calendar says) and lots of clubs have started Mainstream classes. Please remember to submit the students' names to me as quickly as possible to qualify them for the free insurance coverage for nine (9) months. The form for the Club Sponsored Class is NOT on the insurance portal. You will find it at usda.org. That form can be emailed to me.

I will be doing a seminar at the 69th NSDC® this June. The title is "Do You Really Understand the Club & Dancer Insurance?" and I will present it twice. The tentative days and time are Thursday, 12:15pm, room 201C and Friday, 3:15pm, Room 202A. Please check the signs that will be posted outside these two rooms to make sure the day and time has not changed. Last minute changes won't appear in the printed program book. If you will be at the 69th NSDC® please plan to attend at least one of these sessions.

Several of the Insurance Chairman have asked about how to get a copy of their clubs' rosters emailed to them. The method of obtaining rosters did not change. Prior to using the insurance portal for submitting enrollments all clubs compiled a roster and a list of facilities they would be using that year. Then the forms and money were sent via postal mail to their Insurance Chairman. That's how the Insurance Chairman received the club's rosters. Guess what, that has not have changed. If the clubs are inputting the information in the insurance portal, they will automatically receive a roster. The club should proofread it and then submit it with money to their Insurance Chairman. The insurance portal will automatically send (in an email) me a copy of the documents that were generated by the club. The other option would be if the Insurance Chairman asked all the clubs to send them paper copies of the roster and facility request form and the Insurance Chairman enters all the information in the portal. The Insurance Chairman would then receive the rosters from the portal instead of the clubs.

Word of caution to clubs and insurance chairman – you can go into the insurance portal, review what is there and then close out. Not a problem. What is a problem is when you go in to the portal to review and you click all the way through to the "Confirm" button instead of closing or exiting from the program. Every time you click "Confirm" a NEW set of documents will be generated and emailed to me. Doesn't matter if there were no changes made, a NEW set will be generated. So, remember you don't need to click on "Confirm" unless you added members or a new facility. And Do Not delete any names from the roster. That is only done when you are submitting a renewal for the new year.

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

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Sanders

USDA National Insurance Coordinator

P O Box 417,
Stephens, GA 30667

sqdanins@gmail.com or usda.insurance@usda.org





UNITED SQUARE DANCERS OF AMERICA OFFERS NEW BENEFIT FOR ITS AFFILIATES USDA is Now an IRS 501(c)(3) Group Exemption Administrator

On December 23, 2019, the Internal Revenue Service recognized the United Square Dancers of America, Inc. as a 501(c)(3) Non-Profit Group Exemption Administrator. This entitles Affiliates of the USDA to be granted 501(c)(3) Non-Profit status by submitting their application to the USDA Group Exemption Administrator rather than submitting their application to the IRS, thereby saving time and money.

Those USDA Affiliates who choose to apply for 501(c)(3) Non-Profit status will be afforded all the benefits of the IRS designation of Non-Profit status:

- ❖ Exempt from Federal Income tax.
- ❖ Relieved from paying state corporate income, franchise, and excise taxes.
- ❖ Eligible to receive private foundation grants.
- ❖ Potential to be eligible to rent dance facilities below-market rates.
- ❖ Qualified to receive tax deductible bequests, devices, transfers or gifts.
- ❖ Can offer individual and corporate donors a tax deduction for their charitable donations. The possibility of a tax deduction is often an incentive for taxpayers who itemize their income tax deductions.
- ❖ Eligible for lower postal rates on third class bulk mailings through the US Postal Service.
- ❖ Officers and Committee Chairs of the USDA Affiliates are entitled to deduct their out-of-pocket expenses when serving the non-profit entity. This applies to monetary or in-kind donations to the organization while serving to benefit the USDA Affiliate.
- ❖ Entitled to Public Service Announcements (PSAs) on Radio and Television.

This designation remains in effect as long as the Affiliate renews it annually with USDA and maintains USDA membership.

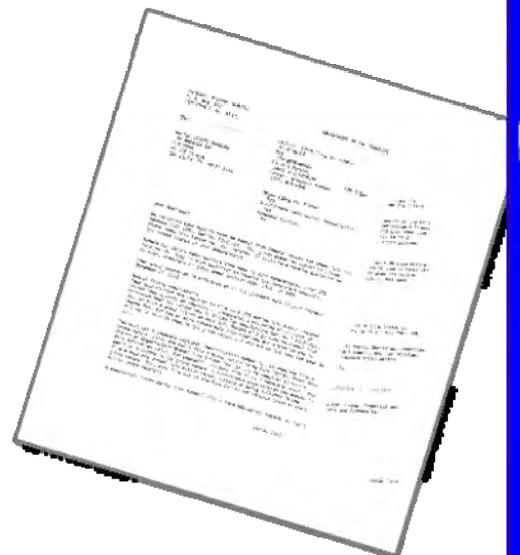
It has been stated that recognition as a 501(c)(3) organization adds to the organization's legitimacy and makes it more credible in the eyes of the public and other entities.

USDA Affiliates may now apply to the United Square Dancers of America for 501(c)(3) Non-Profit status by confirming their membership agreement to comply with the USDA Code of Ethics and USDA Code of Conduct; submitting their Application with \$100 Application Fee; a Letter Requesting to be Included in the USDA Group Exemption, copies of their Governing Documents (Articles of Incorporation, Bylaws, Standing Rules); establishing their fiscal year to coincide with USDA (January 1st to December 31st); provide their Federal Employee Identification number (EIN); and a copy of their current IRS declaration letter. Subsequent to being approved by USDA as a Non-Profit organization, each Affiliate will simply continue to file their required form 990 with the IRS and submit to USDA the listing of their current Officers along with a \$50 yearly processing fee and their annual financial reports.

More information and forms may be obtained by contacting:

Jim Maczko – Co-Administrator - Applications
Renewals
USDA Group Exemption Program
Program
Post Office Box 712918

Pat Inglis – Co-Administrator -
USDA Group Exemption
1340 Oakengate Drive





UNITED SQUARE DANCERS OF AMERICA

SQUARE DANCE – AMERICAN FOLK DANCE



Subject: Coronavirus (COVID-19)

Hello dancers and dance leaders,

We have all been bombarded with information regarding the Coronavirus even to the point of grocery store shortages on everyday items such as toilet tissue. So there is no need for us in the square dance community to reiterate the media reports. However we would like to examine the situation from the perspective of the Square & Round Dance Organizations. Below are a few points for both dancers and dance leaders to consider.

- The United States covers a large area and the prevalence of COVID-19 varies in different geographic locations. Therefore, club leaders should first follow the guidelines within their state and local communities.
- Even if it's not mandated by your local government to restrict groups from meeting you need to further evaluate the average age of your club and seriously consider the recommendations of the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The CDC website ([cdc.gov](https://www.cdc.gov)) states the following:
 "Identify actions to take if you need to temporarily postpone or cancel events, programs, and services, especially for groups at greater risk such as older adults or people with chronic health conditions."
- Consider the economic aspect whether to cancel dances or not. Since many clubs are already struggling, would it be prudent to go dark to save the expense of having a dance or continue to hold the dance realizing they may have fewer dancers in attendance? This is a determination that only club/dance leaders must make.
- If you do decide to hold your dance you may want to follow the suggestions listed below. Feel free to copy and post them in a prominent location at your dance hall.
 - **Steps to Protect our Dancers**
 - 1. Wash hands after every tip.
 - 2. Use hand sanitizer often, although soap and water washing is best.
 - 3. Avoid hugs and handshakes. Greeters, take note: No yellow rocking: just a smile and a welcoming greeting.
 - 4. Don't touch your face or anyone else's face.
 - 5. Absolutely cover your coughs and sneezes with your elbow. But if using your hands to cover, afterward wash thoroughly with soap and water.
 - 6. Avoid sharing mics for announcements.
 - 7. You might temporarily dance without touching hands.

Continued following page



UNITED SQUARE DANCERS OF AMERICA

SQUARE DANCE – AMERICAN FOLK DANCE



- **At the Snack Table**
 - 1. Those preparing snacks should wear gloves.
 - 2. Stay away from the snack table if you are coughing or sneezing. Have someone else pick up your snack.
 - 3. No double-dipping.
 - 4. Use tongs, serving spoons, or a napkin to pick up your treat. No unprotected fingers.
 - 5. "What you touch is what you take," so no picking through the choices with your hands before making your final selection.
 - 6. Don't leave open cups on or near the snack table.
 - 7. Bring your own lidded water bottle or containers.

As dancers can easily see by reading this information, dance leaders struggle over decisions whether or not to cancel/postpone dances. We would encourage each dancer to respect the decisions and those making them. Likewise, an individual dancer's decision whether or not to attend a dance should be respected by both the dance leaders and fellow dancers. If you're not dancing please keep in touch with fellow club members by making regular phone calls, emailing, using Facebook, possibly arranging a meal with one or two friends, or getting together in a small group activity such as a game night. This connection is what keeps our friendships vibrant.

We should remember though this is very frustrating for all of us, it is temporary. Just like the weather, be it a bad winter storm or a sweltering heat wave, it will pass then both dancing and toilet tissue will once again be plentiful.

Virtual Yellow Rocks,
 Tony & Diana Rock
 President, United Square Dancers of America

USDA ANNUAL BOARD MEETING

Several folks have asked what we will do about our Annual Board Meeting if the 69th NSDC is cancelled. USDA agrees with the NEC (page 7) with the convention being almost three months away it would be premature to begin making any decisions for modifying things at this time. A lot of things can happen in that time span.

Right now we are in a "wait and see" period. As time draws closer the National Executive Committee will again study the situation termination to dance or not time we will make and announce this year's Board Meeting.

CONVENTION IS NOW CANCELLED

SEE PAGE 3

WATCH usda.org FOR MORE INFORMATION AS IT DEVELOPS

and will make a de-
 to dance. At that
 nounce the plans for

SPECIAL ARTICLE**by Patty Kennedy Greene**

What strange times we are going through. Dances and major events are being cancelled and postponed hourly it seems. Clubs are choosing to go dark for a bit in order to protect their members. Some are being forced to go dark because their facilities are being temporarily shuttered or restricted. Some are going to keep on dancing as long as they can. I have been asked by more than one person what I think.

So here you go:

We are one big massive Family. We are “Friendship set to Music.” We are uniquely poised to be a HOPE-filled community. We already support each other during our every day walks of life. We need to stay that course and be beacons of hope in our square dance community, our families, and in our larger circles.

Contrary to some of the swirling conversations going on out there, I don’t believe that this is the death toll of our activity. We are entering into a little sabbatical until we are on the other side. We are NOT alone. Groups all over the world are making these same difficult decisions. Many of you are tired. This is a chance to rest, regroup, re-energize and jump back in when the time is right.

We should be supporting our leaders as they make these difficult decisions, supporting our fellow dancers and callers/cuers/prompters as they make decisions as best as they know how. Not everyone is going to be happy no matter what decision is made. The Family SHOULD be gracious, kind, and understanding of the difficult decisions that are coming down the pike. There’s no need to second-judge, disrespect, or bad mouth the decision-makers or the events. Trust me, those making the decisions are already agonizing over what to do. How about practicing some kindness? Too much judgement and inciteful language out there. Don't add to it. Err on the side of being kind.

The Family should be respectful of our dancer’s decisions. If they choose to stay home for a bit, that’s their right. Everyone is choosing their response according to their own circumstances and believe system, from “the sky is falling” to “just gonna live my life”. Be kind and gracious and let them know that you understand with no judgement. Assure your dancers that they will be welcome with open arms when we get back in the swing of things.

Reach out to your members. Get emails from everyone and just check in. Get together in small groups for a meal or just to fellowship. Maintain connections with new dancers and experience dancers alike. Be giving and forgiving.

And when things start to return back to normal, PLEASE support your clubs, your special events, your weekends. Welcome people back to the gatherings of our Family. Look forward with hope. Don’t sabotage by lamenting. Reach out to your students who will have been gone for a bit. If you have to start at Circle Left again – DO IT! Reshape and reframe your calendar. Be patient with those who are hesitant. Welcome people with a smile and an handshake or a hug. Support your leaders as they restart activities.

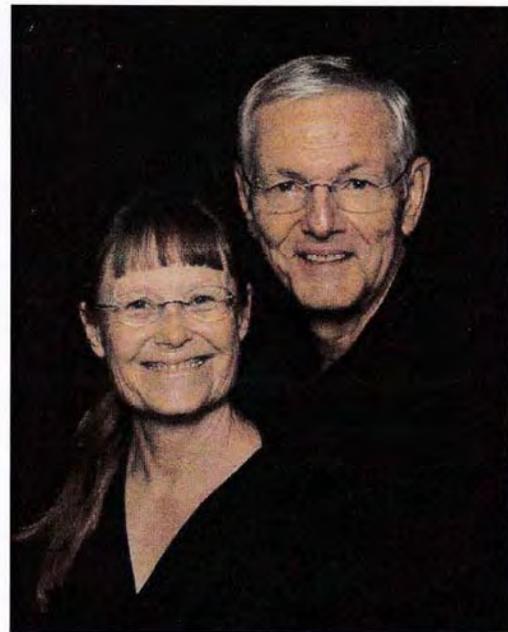
I love my square dance family. I love them to infinity and beyond. I will love them during and after this current global crisis. I will be ready to jump back in with open arms and a rested spirit when we are able to fellowship again.

Las Vegas, NV.

Swinging Stars Anniversary Dance May 2, 2020



Buddy Weaver
Caller



Mary Townsend-Manning
Cuer

Advanced 6:00 - 7:00 • Pre-Rounds 7 -7:30 • Squares & Rounds 7:30 - 9:30

Snacks ... 50 / 50 ... Raffle Prizes ... Fun For All ... **Donation \$12.00**

Mountain View Lutheran Church

9550 W. Cheyenne Av. Las Vegas, NV. 89134

(3 miles W of US 95 / 1.4 miles E of I 215)

Rosie (cell) 310-739-7673 or Mary (cell) 262-994-9136

Perrine Petticoat Parade



Join us before **Swing Thru 2020**
on
June 11, 2020
at
The Twin Falls Visitor Center



Parade across the bridge
6:30 pm

Mainstream Dance w/ announced plus
2 rounds between tips
7:00-9:00 pm



Swing Thru Idaho in Jerome, ID



Idaho State Square & Round Dance Festival June 12-13, 2020

Featured Caller:



Kathy Racine-Beans

Featured Cuer:



Peter & Chama Gomez

Special Registration Discount: Before April 15, 2020
\$25 per person IF 8 or more persons registering as a
group, mailed in one envelope



Registration: After April 15, 2020
Weekend Package - \$30 per person
For Registration form, lodging and other information please see our web site:
magicvalleysquaredance.com

Dancing Aplenty in "20-20"

TENNESSEE 46th

Square & Round Dance Convention August 6-7-8, 2020

**LIVE
BAND**

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

**WOOD
FLOORS**

SQUARES

**MAINSTREAM
PLUS
ADVANCED
CHALLENGE
DBD
HEX
HOT HASH
SINGING CALLS
PROGRESSIVE**

ROUNDS

**PHASE II-VI
Waltz
Jive
Two-Step
W. Coast Swing
Cha Cha
Foxtrot
Mambo
Rumba
Bolero**

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

THURSDAY 8-11pm

Trail-In Dance
2 Square Dance Halls
1 Round Dance Hall

FRIDAY & SATURDAY

10 am-11 pm
6 Halls of Dancing

**LIVE BAND:
EVENING HOURS**

www.TNSquareDance.org

**Facebook: TN Square &
Round Dance Convention**

Background Photo:
SUNRISE IN THE
GREAT SMOKEY MTNS.

**Singles Program
Fashion Show
Sewing Clinic
Contra
After Party
Vendors**

Instructions for Registration (left side)

1. **Print** legibly all names, address, city, state, zip code, country, and B/D of youth (age 5-17 by 6/20/2020 –1/2 price) to ensure correct registration.
2. Correctly enter all amounts in the Subtotals including registration fee for each dancer plus quantity and amounts for all other materials and rous.
3. **Important!** Daily schedules are only available with the purchase of a Program Book. Daily schedules will not be available separately at the Convention. Most dancers will want to purchase the Program Book.
4. Correctly calculate the total and include credit card information (with signature), check, or money order payable in U.S. funds to the 69th National Square Dance Convention® and return it with the Registration Form.
5. **Do Not Send Cash. No Single Day Registrations Sell.**
6. **RV Camping.** Indicate RV Camping on your Registration Form, and enclose the required fees (four-night minimum) to cover the nights that you intend to stay. Please check appropriate boxes. RV camp sites will be assigned on a first come, first served basis. There are 30 amp & 50 amp electrical service with water, Sewage dump station on-site at no additional charge. If you plan to camp together, you must arrive together. For more information contact RV Chairman, Donald Kleeple; camping69th@gmail.com; 509-251-8215.
7. **Tour Passes and Payments** are to be mailed directly to: 69th National Square Dance Convention®, 4511 Bittersweet Lane, Lansing, MI 48917. For Tour information and form go to www.69nstdc.org and click tours. Include completed Tour Form with this Registration Form.
8. A \$10.00 fee per registrant will be assessed for cancellation. **No refunds after April 30, 2020.**

Instructions for Housing (right side)

1. The 69th NSDC Housing Committee is partnering with Visit Spokane Housing Bureau to provide website access for housing reservations after March, 1 2019. Dancers can make reservations online by going to www.69nstdc.org. Dancers who choose, may make housing reservations using the printed registration form, the same way dancers have made housing reservations for past Conventions.
2. Complete the housing portion of this form only if you choose not to make your hotel reservations online at www.69nstdc.org. This form must be received by May, 15, 2020 to receive the 69th NSDC contracted room rates. If you request housing at hotel codes 1-4, you must stay a minimum of four (4) nights, including Wednesday through Saturday, June 17-20, 2020.
3. Only one person per room should complete a hotel reservation request. Please list all room occupants. (The Housing Committee does not find or assign roommates.)
4. **Some Hotel Requests** can be made through the online site or registrations forms must be in the same envelope and mailed to arrive together.
5. Submit all Block Housing requests with the name and telephone number of the leader. All rooms not reserved by **January 2, 2020** will be returned to the general reservation pool.
6. Indicate Three (3) choices of housing preference, by specifying hotel code number. Be sure to indicate 1 or 2 beds as well as preferences. Hotels will be assigned on a first-come, first-serve basis according to availability.
7. **Hotel Reservations must be guaranteed with a credit card.** Your credit card will not be charged in advanced an alternative form of payment may be presented at check in.
8. **Hotel Reservations:** Spokane Housing Services will send a reservation acknowledgment within 24 hours via email if booked online or by telephone. See contact information on bottom right. If you do not receive your acknowledgment in this time frame, please contact Spokane Housing Services as information included is very important. **Hotel confirmation numbers will NOT be included in your acknowledgment email.**
9. **Change/Cancellations BEFORE May 15, 2020** — Please use the link at the bottom of your acknowledgment email, as each property has their own cancellation policy. **DO NOT CONTACT THE HOTELS UNTIL AFTER MAY 15, 2020** or contact Spokane Housing Services. Make sure to read the Reservation Agreement on your acknowledgement, as **Change/Cancellations BEFORE May 15, 2020** — Please use the link at the bottom of your acknowledgment email, as each property has their own cancellation policy. **DO NOT CONTACT THE HOTELS UNTIL AFTER MAY 15, 2020**
10. **Confirmation Emails:** A second email from Spokane Housing Services will be sent following the housing cut-off date of Friday, May 15, 2020. Once you receive your confirmation email, please contact the hotel directly if you need to make a change or cancel your reservation. If you do NOT receive your Confirmation email by Wednesday, May 20, 2020 please contact the Spokane Housing Services, as this may mean the email did not go through.

Mail-in Registration must be sent by June 5, 2020. Email by June 12, 2020.

Map of Hotels



Hotel Code	Hotel Name	1 Person	2 People	3 People	4 People	Distance
1	Davenport Grand Marriott	\$159	\$159	\$179	\$189	Connected
2	Double Tree by Hilton Headquarters	\$157	\$157	\$157	\$157	Connected
3	Courtyard by Marriott	\$159	\$159			.4 Miles
4	Centennial Hotel Spokane - Callery/Cuer	\$139	\$139	\$139	\$139	.5 Miles
	Spokane County Fair Campgrounds					.5 miles

COLORADO MAY 15, 2020

Return completed form with payment to:

69th NSDC
4511 Bittersweet Lane
Lansing, MI 48917

Spokane Housing Services
Monday through Friday
8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. PST
509-744-33420
or via email at
reservations@visitspokane.com



Pre – Registration
70th National Square Dance Convention® • Jackson, Mississippi
June 23, 24, 25, & 26, 2021
 Dancing Fun in 2021 in the “City with Soul”

Register now for the 70th National Square Dance Convention®. Your early registration helps defray costs and gives you **FREE admittance** to the Saturday evening Pre-Convention Dance on March 28, 2020. Please complete the form below and send it along with your credit card info or check payable to:

70th National Square Dance Convention®
 5252 McIngvale
 Hernando, MS 38632
 Email: register70@yahoo.com • Phone 901-412-8140

Registration # _____
Ribbon _____ (Internal Use Only)

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

Primary Last Name: _____ First Name: _____
 Partner's (if different): _____ First Name: _____
 Youth: _____ D.O.B. _____ Youth: _____ D.O.B. _____
 Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____
 Country: _____ Email: _____ Phone: (____) _____ Mobile: (____) _____

Amount paid (U.S. currency only) \$50.00 each x _____ = \$ _____
 If born after June 23, 2003 \$25.00 each x _____ = \$ _____

Check # _____ Cash: _____ Credit Card: _____ Total: \$ _____

\$10 cancellation fee per registration – No refunds after April 30, 2021 • This form and registration rate is void after March 28, 2020

Credit card (circle one): MC VISA Discover # _____ Expiration Date: ____ / ____ Security Code _____
 Statement Mailing Address (if different) _____
 Name on card: _____ Signature: _____

If you are a dance leader, please circle all that apply: MS Plus Adv. Challenge Cuer 2 3/4 5/6 Contra Clogging C/WLines

Convention Badge required for entrance to all convention activities. Dressy casual attire allowed until 6:00 pm. Proper dance attire required after 6:00 pm for all dancers.



“Join Us Down By the River”

Pre-Registration 71st National Square Dance Convention®

Evansville, Indiana **June 22-25, 2022**

Please complete the form below and send it along with your check or credit card info to:

71st National Square Dance Convention®
 2820 Alexandria Pike, Anderson, Indiana 46012

Email: registration@71nsdc.org Website: 71nsdc.org

Registration Information: (765) 662-2553 Please Print Clearly

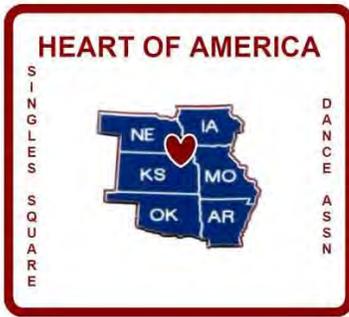
Primary Last Name: _____ First Name: _____
 Partner's (if different) _____ First Name: _____
 Youth: _____ DOB: _____ Youth: _____ DOB: _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____ State _____ Zip Code: _____ Country: _____
 Phone: _____ Mobile: _____
 Email: _____ (Partner's) Email: _____

Amount Paid (US Currency Only) \$50.00 each x _____ = \$ _____
 Youth born after June 22, 2004 \$25.00 each x _____ = \$ _____

\$10 cancellation fee per registration. No refund after April 30, 2022 This form and registration rate is void after March 13, 2021

Payment (check one) Check MasterCard Visa Discover
 Name on Card: _____ Signature: _____
 Credit Card No.: _____ Expiration Date: _____ Security Code: _____

Statement Mailing Address: _____
 Your early registration gives you free admittance to the Saturday evening dance at the Pre-Convention on March 13, 2021.
 71st NSDC Short Form 070919



HASSDA FESTIVAL

JULY 24-25, 2020

K-STATE UNION BALLROOM
17TH AND ANDERSON AVENUE
MANHATTAN, KANSAS

www.HASSDAFestival.WeSquareDance.com



K.O. JEANES



DAN SAHLSTROM



JEFF HOLLEY



KEVIN & DIANE DENNING, cuer

Manhattan Lone Wranglers TRAIL-END DANCE
THURSDAY July 23, 2020 7:30 – 10:00 p.m.
LYNN NELSON, caller / BETTY SKILLETT, cuer
(\$6 payable at the door)
Peace Memorial Auditorium, 1101 Poyntz Ave

Join K.O., Dan, Jeff and Kevin for a
TRAIL-OUT GOSPEL DANCE ~ SUNDAY MORNING
JULY 26, 2020 9:30 a.m. - NOON (\$7 payable at the door)
K-State Union Main Ballroom, Manhattan, KS

Holiday Inn at the Campus, 1641 Anderson Ave, Manhattan, KS 66502 ~ 785-539-7531 \$114

The Bluemont, 1212 Bluemont Ave, Manhattan, KS 66502 ~ 785-473-7091 \$109 - Suites \$129

Comfort Suites, 1020 Hostetler Drive, Manhattan, KS 66502 ~ 785-539-9449 \$80

BREAKFAST INCLUDED WITH ALL HOST HOTELS' RATES ~ RESERVATIONS ACCEPTED AFTER SEPTEMBER 1, 2019

Name _____ Phone _____
Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Email _____

Individual registration - please complete appropriate blanks:

_____ Friday & Saturday All Events Prior to June 15, 2020	\$35.00
_____ Friday & Saturday All Events payable at the door	\$45.00
_____ One Day/Night includes After Party	\$25.00
_____ Individual Square/Round Dance Sessions	\$15.00
Total individual registration fees enclosed	\$ _____

Dance registration provides a complimentary membership to HASSDA from August 1, 2020 to July 31, 2021.
(Please include a self-addressed, stamped #10 envelope.)
Make Checks Payable to: HASSDA Festival 2020
685 Newman Road
Havensville, KS 66432
Festival Contact: Maye Wegner ~785-806-8314 or HASSDA-FESTIVAL@wesquaredance.com

Square Dance Attire Admired, Not Required

Cancellation Policy:

- Full Refund will be given if cancellation notice is received prior to June 15, 2020
- One-half Refund will be given for cancellation between June 15 and July 15, 2020.
- No Refund will be given for cancellation after July 15, 2020.

All requests for a refund must be in writing or email to HASSDA Festival Contact.

New Member Renewal Single Married Former K-Laure Member

71st Fall Festival

Having a Fun Time in Texarkana, 2020

Hillbilly style

Arkansas State Square Dance Federation

Come join the FUN!

October 9 - 10, 2020

Hosted by Guys' N Dolls' Square Dance Club

Location: Four States Fairgrounds, 3700 E 50th St, Texarkana, AR

*Tea Cup Auction
Split The Pot
Basket Auction
Horse Races*



Friday Featured Caller
East Texas, Tim Tyl



Friday

Pre-Rounds 6:15 pm – 6:50 pm
Grand March 6:50 pm
Square, Round & Line Dances 7:00 pm - 10:00 pm
After Party 10:00 pm - 10:30 pm



Saturday

Arkansas State & Area Callers and Cuers

Pre-rounds 6:15 pm - 6:50 pm
Pledges/Introductions/Color Guard/Parade of Clubs 6:50 pm
Square, Round & Line Dances 7:00 pm - 9:30 pm
Good Night to All !



PRE-REGISTRATION ENDS SEPTEMBER 30, 2020

Pre-registration: \$20 per person/weekend At the Door: \$25 per person/weekend \$15 per person/single day

Mail checks to Sheila Gesing, 9760 Grant 7, Sheridan, AR 72150. Checks should be payable to "ASSDF".

Name: His _____ Her _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Friday Only

Saturday Only

Friday and Saturday

For Information, Contact: Rhonda Bailey (903) 276-3422
Linda Carlile (903) 277-8681

Did You Receive Your Complimentary USDA NEWS?

United Square Dancers of America is proud to provide complimentary copies of USDA NEWS, the official newsletter of the world's largest square dance organization. Each quarter we mail copies to leaders of state, national and international organizations as well as our affiliate Presidents, 1st Vice President, Insurance Coordinator and as well as other select officers. Each quarter we have several copies returned by the Postal Service as being undeliverable for various reasons. When this happens USDA ends up paying postage twice on that issue. Please help us in our efforts to hold down this unnecessary expense by sending an email to the editor and letting him know if you have moved or changed your address. Many of you have secondary homes and split your time living in each. Let us know both addresses and the time you will be there and we will make every effort to keep up with you and mail your copy of USDA NEWS to the address where you are currently residing.

Another problem area is with the election of officers in your association or federation and failing to send this information to USDA. This information is needed to keep our mailing list up to date and that we are sending the complimentary USDA NEWS to the officers that are currently serving. There is a form to complete with the information about your new officers and we request that you complete this and forward to our treasurer promptly following your election.

Attention all Editors of square dance publications. We offer an exchange program where we will send you a complimentary copy of our publication if you will send us a copy of yours. That is why we call it an EXCHANGE program. We send out several copies each quarter, but several of you are not sending your copy in return. We also ask that you renew this exchange agreement annually. Just send an email to usdanews@usda.org. Be sure to include your name and the name of the publication you will be sending and the printing frequency. **Important Note:** Please check your name label on the back cover of this issue. If "See page 24" appears beside your name we need your renewal update. This will be your final complimentary copy if you do not update.

One last note. It was recently brought to my attention that we were mailing our newsletter to a gentleman that had passed away about three years ago. Well, duh! He must have forgot to tell me. Please do not let that happen to you. If you are getting ready to make that final one way trip out of here please let us know and don't wait until the last minute to do so..

AGNES McLEAN

On January 28, 2017, over 160 square dancer friends and relatives attended the celebration of the 100th birthday of Agnes McLean. A member of the Kountry Kuzins, of the Southwest District of the Missouri Federation. During the celebration, Bill Thomas and Sharon White Co-Presidents of the District honored Agnes by presenting her with the USDA Centennial Dancer Certificate of Recognition and Appreciation of her 100 years.



When she was only 6 years old, she began square dancing to the tune of her father's fiddle. He was the local fiddler and square dance caller for many years. She married Wallace McLean on May 4, 1940 and danced with her husband for 70 years until she was almost 90. She still went to watch others dance.

January 2020, Agnes went to be with the Lord. She missed her 103rd birthday by 14 days.

We extend our sympathy to the family of this beautiful lady.

OUR LOSS

HEAVENS GAIN

RIP



Save up to 65% on your medications!

1. Present this card at your local pharmacy to save.
2. Find participating pharmacies and pricing information on our website at <http://usda.EBCcard.com>.

USDA Prescription Savings Card Program Highlights

- It is completely FREE
- You, as well as your family and friends, can use the card
- The *USDA Prescription Savings Card* is active and ready to use
- Unlimited uses / Never expires
- No personal information needed
- Works for FDA approved prescription medications

This is NOT INSURANCE. This card is FREE. Prescriptions may be filled at any pharmacy, however, this prescription discount card provides a discount only at participating pharmacies. It does not replace COBRA or any other medical insurance program, nor is it a Medicare Part D prescription drug plan. Cardholders are responsible for paying the discounted cost at the time of service from participating providers. Discounts may not be taken in conjunction with any third party payor arrangement, including Medicare or Medicaid or government programs. This program is administered by Access One Consumer Health, your Discount Medical Plan Organization, 84 Villa Rd, Greenville, SC 29615. www.accessonedmpo.com. The program and its administrators have no liability for providing or guaranteeing service or the quality of service rendered. This program is not available to Montana residents, but may be used at participating Montana providers.

- Q:** *Is this insurance?*
A: No, this is not insurance. It is a discount plan that provides discounted prices on certain health care services.
- Q:** *Is there a monthly fee or a registration fee for this program?*
A: No, the card is free. Members pay only for services they receive.
- Q:** *How soon can I use my card to start saving money?*
A: There's no waiting period. Your card can be used immediately.
- Q:** *How do I receive a discount?*
A: Saving money on health care expenses is easy. Simply show your ID card at the time of service. Members are responsible for paying all fees directly to the provider.
- Q:** *Are all members of my household covered by this program?*
A: Yes, your card can be used by every person living at the same address. Additional cards can be printed from our website at <http://usda.EBCcard.com>.
- Q:** *Can I use my membership when I travel away from home?*
A: Yes, your discount plan can be used at any participating provider in the United States.
- Q:** *How do I replace a lost card?*
A: Visit <http://usda.EBCcard.com> and follow the instructions.
- Q:** *Who do I contact if I have questions about this program?*
A: You can visit our website at <http://usda.EBCcard.com> for more information.
- Q:** *How do I save the most?*
A: The most savings will come from pharmacies located in grocery stores or at independently owned pharmacies. While the card can also be used at the large, chain-store pharmacies like CVS, Walgreens and Walmart, these chain-stores often charge higher prices than grocery stores or independently owned pharmacies. Check the pricing tool on our website for the best savings.

Texas Residents, by using this card your savings may vary by drug and pharmacy. Savings are based on actual drug purchases. The program administrator may obtain fees or rebates from manufacturers and/or pharmacies based on your prescription drug purchase. These fees or rebates may be retained by the program administrator or shared with you and/or your pharmacy. This plan is regulated by the Texas Department of Insurance, P.O. Box 12157, Austin, TX 78711: 1-800-252-3439 or 1-512-463-6515. www.tdi.state.texas.com

Cut out and fold



Prescription Card

Use this card for any prescription that is not covered by Medicare, Medicaid or insurance

This is NOT insurance

Member ID: EB22USDA1

Powered by 

Pharmacist's Help Desk:
1-866-921-7286

Member Customer Service:
1-800-285-5783

<http://usda.ebcard.com>

Present this card to any participating pharmacy.

At the time of service, you are responsible for payment of your prescription. Accepted at most pharmacies nationwide.

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

Cut out and fold



Welcome to AMERICAN HEARING BENEFITS

A Starkey® Hearing Technologies Program

Dear Member,

As an Enhanced Benefits Card member, you are eligible for American Hearing Benefits (AHB). This free hearing benefits program gives you access to free hearing consultations and discounts on hearing aids through our nationwide network of hearing professionals.

As you may know, most insurance plans do not cover hearing healthcare. At AHB, we believe the quality of your hearing directly affects the quality of your life, and we are excited to be working with EBC on providing hearing health solutions.

One call activates your benefits. Then you and your family can begin enjoying all the advantages this **FREE** program provides, including:

- ▶ **Discounts on today's latest technology**, including hearing aids, tinnitus treatment and hearing protection products
- ▶ **FREE** annual hearing consultations
- ▶ Access to a nationwide **network of 3,000+ hearing locations**
- ▶ **FREE** one-year supply of batteries (*40 cells per hearing aid purchased*)
- ▶ One year of **FREE office visits** (*limit of 6*)
- ▶ **60-day trial period***
- ▶ **FREE Deluxe Warranty Plan**, including loss and damage*
- ▶ **Financing plans** available (*subject to credit approval*)

Call **1-888-890-2875** or visit **AmericanHearingBenefits.com** today to **SCHEDULE YOUR FREE CONSULTATION** with a provider near you.



A hearing aid designed so
NO ONE CAN SEE IT!

Get **discounts** on the latest technology, like the Invisible-in-the-Canal Hearing Aid.



*The Enhanced
Benefits Card*

EBCcard.com

CALL TODAY! — 1-888-890-2875

American Owned & Operated

ARTS Travel The Dancer's Online Travel Web Site



Turn your Vacations & Dance Travel into Donations

Book your personal and business and
dance travel on our new
travel website,
www.arts-dancetravel.com !



Every time you do, Alliance of Rounds
Traditional and Square Dance (ARTS)
will receive a portion of the travel com-
missions.



You get the same low rates offered by
other travel websites while helping to
raise funds for ARTS.

It's simple!



Book your travel to the
69th NSDC in Spokane, WA
and support dancing at the
same time.

Book Golf Tee Times, Get Event Tickets, Send
flowers, Site Seeing Activities

Logon to

www.arts-dancetravel.com

69th National Square Dance Convention®

June 17-20, 2019 - Spokane, WA



You 2 Can Dance

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

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

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

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

check it out at

 <http://www.you2candance.com>

To learn more about using this web site as part of a nation-wide marketing plan go to the Facebook page (You 2 Can Dance.com) or the ARTS-Dance web site (arts-dance.org). It doesn't cost you a thing and is there for you to use to help promote our dance forms.

CONVENTION SCHEDULE

**Send the USDA NEWS Editor your State Association/Federation
Convention dates and they will be listed here at no charge.**

2020

2020

June 04-05	<p>68th Kansas State Square Dance Convention Tony's Pizza Event Center 800 The Midway Salina, KS 67401 Info: Kathy Mears 785 841-7555 kathymm785@gmail.com www.kansastatesquaredanceconvention.com</p>	Sep 11-13	<p>New Mexico State Round Dance Festival Albuquerque Square Dance Center 4915 Hawkins, NE Albuquerque, NM 87109 williamnsdeem116@gmail.com</p>
Jun 12-13	<p>Idaho State Square & Round Dance Festival Jerome, ID Info: magicvalleysquaredance.com See AD Pages 16 & 17</p>	Sep 18-19	<p>Georgia State Square & Round Dance Convention Gainesville Civic Center 830 Green Street NE Gainesville, GA 30501 squaredancing7@gmail.com www.gsda.org</p>
Jul 24-25	<p>HASSDA Festival K-State Union Ballroom 17h and Anderson Avenue Manhattan, Kansas Maye Wegner 785 806-8314 HASSDA-FESTIVAL@wesquaredance.com See AD Page 22</p>	Oct 9-10	<p>71st Arkansas State Square Dance Festival Four States Fairgrounds 3700 E 50th St Texarkansas, AR Rhonda Bailey 903 276-3422 Linda Carlile 903 277-8681 See AD Page 23</p>
Aug 6-8	<p>46th TN State Square and Round Dance Convention M.L. Mills Conference Center 234 Historic Nature Trail Gatlinburg, TN meincke_us@yahoo.com See AD Page 18</p>	Oct 23-24	<p>MidSouth Square & Round Dance Festival St. Paul United Methodist Church 949 Davies Plantation Lakeland, TN 38002 patti.bundy@gmail.com</p>
Aug 28-29	<p>42nd Alabama Square & Round Dance Convention Oxford Civic Center 401 McCullars Ln. Oxford, AL 36203 www.alabamasquaredance.com Trail-In Dance August 27</p>	Nov 01-03	<p>69th Fiesta de la Cuadrilla Balboa Park, San Diego, CA Check website for flyer and info: http://sdsda.org/fiesta</p>



FUTURE NATIONAL CONVENTIONS
*****2020—June 17-20, Spokane, WA * CANCELLED*****
 2021—June 23-26 Jackson, MS
 2022—June 22-25 Evansville, IN
 2023—JUNE 21-24, Mobile, AL



USDA NEWS

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

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

For your own personal copy of the quarterly USDA NEWS, complete the form below and return it with a check made out to "USDA". MAIL IT TO THE USDA Editor listed below.

For your own personal copy of the quarterly USDA NEWS, complete the form below and return it with a check made out to USDA to the USDA NEWS Editor. If you would like to send a subscription as a gift please complete the "gift from" form as well as the "subscription for" form. We will send a card to the person receiving the gift subscription to let them know they are receiving this as a gift from you.



USDA NEWS SUBSCRIPTION



Subscription Type —	New	Renewal	Gift
---------------------	-----	---------	------

<input type="checkbox"/> 1 year—\$6.00	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 Years—\$12.00	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Years—\$18.00
--	--	--

This is a subscription for:

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____ (Must Have + 4 Digits)

PHONE: _____ EMAIL: _____

If this is a gift a subscription and you would like for USDA to send a card announcing your gift, please complete this form.

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____ (Must Have + 4 Digits)

PHONE: _____ EMAIL: _____

I qualify for Free Subscription: (must be renewed annually)

Organization: _____ Office _____ USDA Affiliate

If publication editors, Name of Publication _____ Email _____

Please type or print clearly. Be sure the form is complete.

Attach check or money order for appropriate amount payable to USDA

MAIL COMPLETED FORM and PAYMENT TO : Larry Dunkel, 6012 Ridgeview Rd., Knoxville, TN 37918-8201



GOING AWAY FOR THE WINTER? SUMMER?



HAVE YOU MOVED?

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

When you plan a move please send your new address as soon as possible.

USDA NEWS PUBLICATION POLICY

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

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

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

USDA ADVERTISING POLICY

USDA NEWS accepts ads and flyers in camera-ready form only and of the proper size. Proper size is 7 ½ X 10 for a full size page or 7 ½x 5 for a half page. Ads should be submitted in digital form in .jpeg, png, or .pdf formats.

Make check payable to United Square Dancers of America and mail to the editor. Name and address can be found on the back cover of each issue. Checks must be received within 7 days of receiving the digital ad file. Unpaid ads will not be printed.

Deadline Dates are one month before the issue date with issues published quarterly.

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

ADVERTISING RATES

	<u>COLOR</u>	<u>BLACK & WHITE</u>	Publication	Deadline
½ Page	\$25.00	\$20.00	Jan-Mar	Dec 01
Full Page - 1 side	\$45.00	\$35.00	Apr-Jun	Mar 01
Full Page—2 sides	\$60.00	\$50.00	Jul—Sep	Jun 01
			Oct—Dec	Sep 01

USDA NEWS
C/O Larry Dunkel
6012 Ridgeview Rd.
Knoxville, TN 37918-8201
Return Service Requested

PRSR STD
 US Postage
 PAID



UNITED SQUARE DANCERS OF AMERICA

2019-2020

Elected Positions

PRESIDENT

Tony & Diana Rock
 151 Connie Dr
 Pittsburgh, PA 15214
 (412) 931-4793
 president@usda.org

VICE PRESIDENT EASTERN REGION

GILBERT & SHARON LEON
 424 SEAPORT TRAIL
 CARROLLTON, VA 23314
 (757) 745-7182
 usda.eastern.region.vp@usda.org

VICE PRESIDENT CENTRAL REGION

USDA APPAREL

Ed and Lynda Willis
 P. O. Box 7524
 Wilmington, NC 28406
 (910) 616-3639
 usda.central.region.vp@usda.org

VICE PRESIDENT PLAINS REGION

USDA WAYS & MEANS

Mark & Bina Krebsbach
 3301 Nebraska Dr. #1
 Bismarck, ND 58503
 Mark (701) 320-9079
 Bina (701) 320-5182
 usda.waysandmeans@usda.org

VICE PRESIDENT WESTERN REGION

Education & Publications/Hospitality

Dale & Kathy Worthington
 1642 NW Warrenton Dr
 Warrenton, OR 97146
 (503) 861-2726
 usda.western.region.vp@usda.org

SECRETARY

Ellery & Karen Gulbrand
 2591 Lavender Lane
 Green Bay, WI 5431
 (920) 434-0669 (920)819-0364 (Karen)
 email: usda.secretary@usda.org

TREASURER/PHOTOGRAPHY/ARCHIVES

Jim & Judy Taylor
 1411 W. Lake Ct.
 Littleton, CO 80120
 (303) 795-3278 (C) (303) 456-0413
 usda.treasurer@usda.org

PAST PRESIDENT/INFORMATION OFFICER

SOUND

LPaul & Sally Schmidt
 4822 Huron Ave
 San Diego, CA 92117
 (H) (619) 222-0445 (C-LP) (619) 804-5266
 (C-) Sally) (619 804-4197
 usda.past.president@usda.org
 usda.information.officer@usda.org

Appointed Positions

PARLIAMENTARIAN

Jim Maczko and Patty Wilcox
 P.O. Box 712918
 San Diego, CA 92171-2918
 (619) 295-2635 (C) (619) 840-7791
 usda.parliamentarian.usda@usda.org

USDA NEWS EDITOR

CENTENNIAL AWARD

Larry Dunkel
 6012 Ridgeview Rd
 Knoxville, TN 37918-8201
 (C) (865) 256-2538
 usdanews@usda.org

USDA/USA TRAVELER PROGRAM

Jerry and Donna Robey
 2702 Aldersgate Dr.
 Rockford, IL 61103
 (H) (815) 977-5763 (C) (352) 284-7912
 usda.travelers@usda.org

INSURANCE

Eddie & Elizabeth Sanders
 1422 Union Point Rd
 Stephens, GA 30667
 (H) (706) 759-3642
 usda.insurance@usda.org

FACILITIES/AFTER PARTY

Milene McCall
 P O Box 202
 Campbellsburg, KY 40011
 (502) 525-3356
 usda.facilities@usda.org

WEBMASTER / HISTORIAN

SHOWCASE OF IDEAS
 Jim and Edythe Weber
 1316 Middlebrook Drive
 Liberty, MO 64068-1941
 (816) 781-3598 (C) Jim (816) 830-0301
 (C) Edythe (816) 781-3598
 webmaster@usda.org
 usda.historian@usda.org

BADGES & PRESCRIPTION CARD

Joy Vaccari
 227 Hughes St. NE
 Ft. Walton, FL 32548
 (850) 243-9484 (C) (850) 217-2775
 usda.badges@usda.org
 usda.prescription.card@usda.org
 javajoy2@cox.net

HANDICAPABLE DANCERS

Alitia Becker
 503 Lincoln Rd
 Monroe, LA 71203
 (C) (318) 547-9578
 usda.handicapable.dancers@usda.org

YOUTH ADVISORS

Dan Reedy
 P O Box 736
 Van Buren, AR 72956
 (C) (731) 612-1155
 usda.youth.advisor@usda.org

SOCIAL MEDIA

Scott & Brenda Deal
 P.O. Box 275
 Iron Ridge, WI 53035
 Brenda (920) 248-2179
 Scott (920) 248-2371
 usda.socialmedia@usda.org

GROUP 501 (c) (3) EXEMPTION

Jim Maczko
 Pat Ingles

PRESIDENT'S ADVISORS

Jim Maczko & Patty Wilcox
 Alitia Becker
 Jim & Edythe Weber
 Jerry & Donna Robey
 LPaul & Sally Schmidt
 Joy Vaccari

NATIONAL FOLK DANCE

Regional Vice-Presidents

ARTS-DANCE COMMITTEE

Schmidt, Weber, Taylor

BUDGET COMMITTEE

Taylor, Weber, Rock, Sanders

AUDIT COMMITTEE

Taylor, Maczko, Schmidt, Rock