

USDA NEWS



Volume XXXII

Issue 4

October—December 2020

DEDICATED TO THE MEMORY OF JAMES MILTON WEBER

*Newsletter of the World's Largest
Square Dance Organization*

PUBLISHED BY UNITED SQUARE DANCERS OF AMERICA

Square Dancing: Official Folk Dance of North America

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WHAT'S INSIDE

JAMES (JIM) MILTON WEBER

Friday, September 11, 2020 we received word that Mr. Weber had passed away as the result of a heart attack. Mr. Weber was well known in the square dance world and was a part of USDA for more than 26 years. USDA charter member Jim Maczko and Patty Wilcox have known Jim and Edythe Weber better than most of the current staff of USDA and they have written a memorial to Mr. Weber stating on page 12.

Edie Hoge, from Tulsa, OK is our newest member of the 100 year old dancers to receive our USDA Centennial Awards. And amazing lady and you can read about her on page 9.

BEYOND THE DANCE FLOOR, a series of educational webinars for the square dance community. Social Media chairs Bonnie Abramson and Milene McCall will explain this new and wonderful program to you beginning on page 22.

Sally Schmidt, Information officer, has released the **USDA Group Exemption Benefits** as outlined by Co-Administrators Jim Maczko and Pat Inglis. Details on page 8.

Again I want to thank Peter Wright, Editor of Let's Square Dance and Susan Ellis, President of the British Assoc. of American Square Dance Clubs for allowing us to copy items from their magazine.

And this is just the beginning. There is much, much more inside and we hope you will enjoy this special issue dedicated to Jim Weber.

HAPPY THANKSGIVING EVERYONE!

Special Thanks to the following for their contributions to USDA NEWS.

Articles: Jim Matczko, Bonnie Abramson, Sally Schmidt, Nina Blumer

Photos: Elaine Cox., Edythe Weber

Cover: Larry Dunkel

My apology to anyone I failed to recognize.



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

You might think that not much has happened in our square dance community due to the pandemic since our last message in June, however we are excited to highlight some of the USDA accomplishments. This past June we were very pleased (and quite nervous) to host the first Annual USDA Board of Directors Meeting utilizing the ZOOM platform. Delegate interaction during the meeting was fantastic as well as attendance. The meeting ran quite smoothly thanks to many of the Delegates for the time spent familiarizing themselves with ZOOM and to the Executive Committee for the countless hours spent planning the details of the meeting (for example how voting and attendance would be handled in an accurate and efficient manner). We feel that this format enabled USDA to hold a successful Annual Board of Directors meeting and conduct important business as usual in spite of the unfortunate cancellation of the 69th National Square Dance Convention. Hats off to everyone involved!

Speaking of business being conducted at the Annual Board of Directors Meeting, one of the key items voted on by the Delegates was to create a new class of USDA Membership, the Associate Member. Not only was this initiative passed by the Board of Directors, we are pleased to announce our first Associate Member, Heartland Squares of Kansas City MO. Thank you Heartland Squares for being the trailblazer on this new USDA endeavor.

USDA Social Media has been planning an informational on line web series. Look for more details to show up in your in box from the Regional Vice Presidents and in the USDA News.

As we close out this President's Message, many areas are still not back to dancing. In our own area of Western Pennsylvania, only two clubs are attempting to resume in person dancing while one large dance in the Eastern Region, WASCA, has already canceled their annual spring festival. The conclusion, square dancing is a mixed bag right now. Our advice is the same as it has been. When considering the resumption of in person dancing the first step should be to follow your state and local guidelines. Beyond that, feel free to reference the suggestions we gave in our June 2020 President's Message found in the last issue of USDA News. In the meantime, there continues to be a large number of virtual dance opportunities available on line. Take advantage of these to keep your skills sharp.

It is with a heavy heart that we must share the news that our dear friend and fellow USDA Executive Committee Member, Jim Weber, has recently passed away. As long as we remember, Jim was always knee deep in square dance leadership and ready to lend a helping hand to anyone who asked. He will be greatly missed by many and especially by his wife, Edythe. Our love and prayers are with you. Please see the tribute to Jim Weber, written by Jim Maczko, in this issue of USDA News.

Until we meet again either in person or on Social Media, stay safe and reach out to a friend today and let them know you are thinking about them.

Live Lively Square Dance!

Tony & Diana Rock



A NOTE FROM THE**EDITOR****Larry W. Dunkel****“It’s Fall Ya’all!”**

We are now in October and still no signs of the end to our coronavirus pandemic. The US is about to officially record 200,000 deaths due to the coronavirus pandemic. A new report by the CDC confirms theories that wearing masks and social distancing may not only help prevent the spread of COVID, but also help the spread of seasonal influenza. Data from the early flu season in the southern hemisphere shows low infection rates of influenza, where masks and distancing have been in place.

We are beginning to get reports of several dances being conducted throughout the country with both round dance and square dancing. Based on the information I have, including the above, the corona virus is still in full bloom and growing. I think we all are very anxious to return to the dance floor, but is it not still a little premature at this point? Our last issue of USDA NEWS contained several articles on returning to the dance floor. For those that are willing to take the risk I suggest reading the last issue on practicing some of the guidelines mentioned. Hopefully, we will soon have a cure and vaccine that will make the corona virus follow in the footsteps of polio.

Edie Hoge, Tulsa, OK is our most recent 100 year old dancer to receive the USDA Centennial Award. While we like to present these awards at a large dance (or gathering) this has not been possible this year due to the virus and the crowd restrictions. Edie did have several family members present as well as some members and officers from the Northeast OK Association. USDA appreciates these 100 year old dancers that have contributed so much to our dance program. We normally have a representative from USDA make the presentation, however we were once again stopped by the virus and did not have one of our USDA people on hand. Nina Blumer from the Northeast OK Association represented USDA and made the award presentations on our behalf. Nina was also the person that submitted Edie’s name for recognition and we thank her for all she did. Edie Hoge is our Featured Article subject and you can read about her on page 9.

Our square dance world was shocked and stunned by the news that Jim Weber had suddenly been taken from us. Jim, and his wife Edythe, have been a big part of USDA for the past 26 plus years. Jim Maczko and Patty Wilcox have written about Jim and his accomplishments and it was amazing at the many different programs they were involved in. And it was not just in dancing, but included other areas as well. Please read their report of Jim’s life as told on page 12.

I also added a short piece on Jim being my mentor. When Jim retired as editor of USDA NEWS I was named as his replacement. Although I had been the editor of our local regional dance newsletter, I found editing USDA NEWS with a worldwide reader base was a little different. Jim Weber became my mentor and he graciously guided me through those early learning years. I know I tested his patience at times, but he never showed it and he was always available for my phone call asking for help. Jim, RIP and thank you for all your help.

Bonnie Abramson is back with USDA and she has returned at full speed. In her first three months she and Milene McCall, co-chairs of our social media, have developed a new program to introduce you to USDA and what we do and how we can help you. This is a monthly web-based Zoom program where you will meet members of USDA and learn more about us. It is designed for 90 minutes to allow time for questions and answers and the best part is that it is FREE! Pages 22-24 explains the program with a tentative schedule of what’s ahead.

This is our final issue of year 2020 and we close out with greetings for s HAPPY HOLIDAY SEASON!

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

EVENTS IN THE PLAINS REGION

Mark & Bina Krebsbach, USDA Plains Region VP

Fall is my favorite time of the year. The way it looks around North Dakota it sure is Fall alright. Early this morning Jack Frost do-si-doed around several areas in North Dakota I love it, and am looking forward to some cooler wood cutting and splitting weather, while staying in our secluded cabin at our ranch 110 miles North East of our lake cabin. It is fairly secluded as that cabin is 4 miles in from the county road along the Sheyenne River.

As far as we know there are no dances scheduled in North Dakota as of now. We sure hope that will change before too long. We miss seeing all our square dance friends at home and around the square dance world. We are staying hunkered down at the lake. Prayerfully the virus will soon be over.

Do what you know to be right, and look after the well being of mind and body.

As ever square dancers

Mark & Bina



EVENTS IN THE CENTRAL REGION

Ed & Lynda Willis, USDA Central Region VP

Lynda and I have very little to report this month but found the following interesting and thought others would enjoy.

A couple of weeks ago, a member of the NC Federation sent out an email to the dancers of his four clubs to report on the activities of the NC Federation virtual meeting that happened on the day originally scheduled for the State Convention. He included a little survey to get a feeling about how everyone is feeling about the near and long term prospects for the resumption of our beloved square dance activity.

His report is below.

“Happily, the email was forwarded to other clubs and callers in the area and state, so I was able to hear from many other dancers about how they are doing and about how they see the future of square dance in our area.

The survey was not intended to be scientifically rigorous. Respondents are self-selected and are mostly from Triangle area clubs. I encouraged comments, which while not easily quantifiable, provide valuable individual insight. I received 37 responses, most representing couples.

A small number (16%) want to dance now, while the majority (54%) wait for a safe and effective vaccine, or otherwise indications that all is OK. The government has limits on gatherings, leading to repercussions on venue availability and liability, so the rest (30%) are waiting for permission. In the meantime, many worry about advancing age and declining health. And people have differing comfort levels with protective behaviors/requirements like masks, hand washing, no-touch, etc.

It's safe to say that our square dance community will not emerge unscathed from the pandemic. Wow, just a half year ago things were normal, and we were still dancing!”

Ed & Lynda Willis

EVENTS IN THE WESTERN REGION

LPaul and Sally Schmidt, USDA Western Region VP

It was an honor to be elected in June to serve once again as USDA Western Region Vice President. We look forward promoting square dancing throughout the Western United States as soon as we are able to resume our favorite activity.

We are in the process of contacting our Affiliates to see what we can do to support them during this time when most of our clubs are still on pandemic-related hiatus. We will share some considerations on safely re-starting square dancing when it is allowed by state and local regulations, and see how we can help them communicate among their dancers and clubs. We will also promote some of the new USDA programs such as the 501(c)(3) group exemption as well as the new Associate Member option for their area associations and clubs to consider.

Of course, we plan to begin traveling to dances and events in the new year!

Live Lively, Square Dance! See you soon in a square.

LPaul & Sally Schmidt

Old ranch owner John farmed a small ranch in Montana. The Montana Wage and Hour Department claimed he was not paying proper wages to his workers and sent an agent out to interview him.

'I need a list of your employees and how much you pay them,' demanded the agent.

'Well,' replied old John, 'There's my ranch hand who's been with me for 3 years. I pay him \$600 a week plus free room and board. The cook has been here for 18 months, and I pay her \$500 a week plus free room and board. Then there's the half-wit who works about 18 hours every day and does about 90% of all the work around here. He makes about \$10 per week, pays his own room and board and I buy him a bottle of bourbon every Saturday night.'

'That's the guy I want to talk to, the half-wit,' says the agent.

'That would be me,' replied old rancher John.



(Copied from Let's Square Dance—Sep 2020)

Young man walked into the Welfare office and said he wanted to pickup his unemployment check. Said he sure hated to have to do this as he would much rather work and pay his own way.

The tax agent looked up a the young man and said, "this may be your lucky day. I just had a man call looking for a chaperone for his daughter. She wants to go to Europe for the summer and he does not want her to go alone. She is about your age, very attractive young lady, somewhat on the wild side and often makes bad decisions. The father wants someone to drive her around and keep her out of trouble. This is an all expense paid trip for you plus your salary is more than adequate. Think you might be interested?"

The young man just stood there smiling from ear to ear and looking at the tax agent. Finally he said, "You gotta be kidding me aren't you?"

The tax agent replied, "of course I am, but you started it."



USDA INSURANCE COORDINATORS NOTES

USDA INSURANCE COORDINATORS NOTES

Greeting Everyone,

As I compose this article today, I am reminded of Hurricane Laura and her destructive path through Louisiana. Having a son that lives just east of the path reminds me of how close these disasters can be even if it is 700 miles away. I continue to pray for my family and friends in Louisiana.

I have updated several forms that are on the USDA website (www.usda.org). Please review these forms periodically as I will be making more changes.

Unfortunately, Bollinger has not given us our insurance rate for 2021. As soon as I receive that information, I will be sending emails to all the insurance coordinators. If your organization has changed insurance coordinators, please make sure that I have your updated information. A few affiliates have given me their updated information, just want to make sure that I have everyone's correct information.

I am including below information that I had in the Jul-Aug edition. It's all good information that needs to be repeated.

Questions referring to the pandemic:

Mainstream Classes: The insurance company will allow for a break in the nine (9) month coverage for students. You must keep a record of the start date, temporary stop date, date you start again and date you graduate the students. If you choose to begin the class from the beginning when we do go back to dancing, then you will treat it as a new class. You will need to submit the names again.

The COVID-19 is a virus and is not covered by our Accidental Benefit portion of the insurance policy. Our policy covers accidents, not the flu or any other viruses. There is also liability coverage for the club.

Rates and Deadlines for 2021: As of June 1, no determination, from the insurance company, has been made for the 2021 Insurance fee. Please begin collecting the information from your clubs. The ideal deadline (for the insurance coordinators) is to have all your clubs' rosters and facility information in the insurance portal by November 15, 2020. You should have your fees for insurance submitted to me by November 30.

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

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Sanders

706-759-3642



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UNITED SQUARE DANCERS OF AMERICA OFFERS NONPROFIT STATUS TO QUALIFYING MEMBER GROUPS



As a result of the Internal Revenue Services' December 2019 recognition of the United Square Dancers of America (USDA) as a Central Organization with the ability to extend 501(c)(3) nonprofit status to its qualifying members, the USDA Board of Directors have amended the USDA Governing documents (Bylaws and Standing Rules) to extend the opportunity for its members to become nonprofit groups.

Those USDA Affiliates and Associate members who choose to apply for 501(c)(3) nonprofit status will be afforded all the benefits of the IRS designation of nonprofit status:

- ❖ This procedure relieves each of the subordinates covered by a group exemption letter from filing its own application for recognition of exemption.
- ❖ 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, devises, transfers, or gifts.
- ❖ Can offer individual donors 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 nonprofit 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 is perpetual and needs to simply be renewed annually with the USDA as long as the Affiliate maintains their membership in USDA.
- ❖ 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 and Associate members may now apply to the United Square Dancers of America for 501(c)(3) nonprofit 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;
- ❖ Submitting a letter requesting to be included in the USDA Group Exemption Program;
- ❖ Submitting 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);
- ❖ Providing a copy of their current IRS declaration letter.

Subsequent to being approved by USDA as a nonprofit organization, each Affiliate / Associate 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
USDA Group Exemption Program
Post Office Box 712918
San Diego, California 92171-2918
619-295-2635
501c3apply@usda.org (jmaczko@san.rr.com)

Pat Inglis – Co-Administrator - Renewals
USDA Group Exemption Program
1340 Oakengate Drive
Stone Mountain, GA 30083
404-294-0268

501c3renew@usda.org (inglis@bellsouth.net)



FEATURE ARTICLE

Edie Hoge was born on July 18, 1920, in Lowell, Montana. Following her high school graduation, she joined the Civil Service near the beginning of World War II, serving 18 months in Anchorage, Alaska, and 18 months in Brazil. During her time in Brazil, she met a handsome Air Force member named Bill Hoge. She wrote a letter to her sister back home in Montana, telling her “I just met the man I am going to marry.” Edie and Bill were married in Tulsa, Oklahoma on September 13, 1946, and made Tulsa their home together until Bill’s death in June, 2009. Edie and Bill were parents to two sons, one of whom passed away shortly after Bill’s death. Edie still lives in Tulsa, and enjoys her 8 grandchildren and several great-grands.



Bill and Edie first took square dance lessons with Swing All 8 square dance club in Tulsa, during the Fall of 1947. They completed their lessons in time to participate in the first NorthEast Oklahoma Square Dance Association Festival in April, 1948, and Edie continues to enjoy the Festival every year. Edie and Bill were charter members of Tulsa Crossfires club, and she continues to dance with Speck-Taculars, where she is a Lifetime member, and with Rushing Stars. Edie still dances in the many colorful dresses and petticoats she has accumulated during her many years as a dancer.

Bill’s employment with American Airlines allowed the Hoge’s to travel extensively, and they took the opportunity to square dance wherever they could. On an around-the-world trip, they were part of a group who danced on the Great Wall in China. Edie also recounts dancing at 10,000 feet in a “great big double decker airplane”, after first getting permission from the pilot to do so.

To visit with Edie is to have a ride along on her world travels. She has swum in both the Arctic and Antarctic Oceans, visited the Galapagos Islands, made several trips to Italy, and flew over the Sarengeti in a hot air balloon. A special memory was a trip she and Bill made to Australia and New Zealand during the early 1950s, when she captured a picture of Queen Elizabeth in a car driving in front of the house where they were renting a room.

Edie says she doesn’t like being the center of attention, but to the many dancers throughout NorthEast Oklahoma, she is a very special person who deserves all the attention we can give her!



L-R Doyle and Lois Hancock, NorthEast Presidents; Don Cox, NorthEast Ticket Chairman; Chloe Van Winkle (Edie’s granddaughter); Monty DeVries, NorthEast 2nd Vice-President; Barbara King; Larry Hoge, Edie’s son; Nuel Holman; Nina Blumer, NorthEast Insurance Chairman; Judy Todd; Sue McCoy, NorthEast 1st Vice-President and, of course, in front, Edie Hoge.



Dancing Fun in 2021 in the "City with Soul"

Convention Committee

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General Chairman

Marvin Fishman
Asst. General Chairman

Gin Weaver
Secretary

Eric and Linda Dutton
Computer Coordinator

Gail Baird
Legal Advisor

Rob Baird
Ceremonies Coordinator

Scott Ebright
Business Chairman

Barbara Read
Education Chairman

Linda McCracken
Program Chairman

Loy and Connie Ernst
Publicity Chairman

Mary Ann Walker
Registration and Housing
Chairman

Mike and Becky Phillips
Services Chairman

Roy and Anita Dearing
Social and Special Event
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504.390.2137

Contact Information:
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publicitychair@70NSDC.com

STAY CURRENT ON 70thNSDC NEWS

Three Ways to Plan Your June 2021 Trip to Jackson

September 1, 2020—The 70th National Square Dance Convention® Committee wants dancers to have all the information they need to plan their trip to Jackson, MS, for the convention from June 23 to 26 in 2021. In addition to reading about upcoming 70th NSDC plans in club publications, dancers can get timely information in three easy ways: National Squares E-Magazine, the convention website, and the convention Facebook page.

The National Squares E-Magazine is distributed monthly via email and is the source of all things associated with the 70th NSDC—and it is FREE to subscribe! Go to <http://nsdcnec.com/> and on the lower left side of the Home page click on "Subscribe to NEC Mailings." It is that simple.

The 70th NSDC has its own website, <https://70nsdc.com>, where dancers can register to attend, find out where registered dancers are coming from, purchase convention clothing and much, much more. Check it out and visit it often.

Finally, please follow the 70th NSDC on Facebook! It is a great place to view square dancing videos, find out where our general chairmen are traveling to promote the convention, learn what the convention board and its committees have in store for you and more. Go to <https://www.facebook.com/70nsdc>.

Have questions about the convention? Go to the Contact Us page on the 70th NSDC website and send Convention members an email.



PRESIDENTIAL GUIDE TO VIRTUAL DANCING

The last time I engaged in Real Dancing was in March, a few days before Lock-down. Now, feeling decidedly un-match fit, out of condition and struggling to remember what day of the week it is, let alone square dance definitions; I decided to embark on a spot of Virtual Dancing henceforth to be known as V.D.

For your delectation I offer a light-hearted guide for newbie dancers to the V.D. world. Do not assume that V.D. just amounts to showing up, pressing the link, moving the sofa and squaring up. To maximise the benefits of V.D. remember 'Preparation is key'.

1. Allow plenty of time to prepare the dance space. Humping large pieces of furniture around (in my case alone) is no easy matter. It requires skill and energy both of which you will need in spades when the real V.D. starts.
2. Wear suitable footwear. After 20 minutes of shuffling around in fluffy slippers (no, not pink ones on this occasion, but thanks for asking) on carpet is not conducive to good body flow.
3. Allow yourself time for a pre-V.D. lie-down, your body will have forgotten just how tiring dancing is.
4. Make sure that snacks and beverages are readily accessible.
5. Dancing indoors is preferable to outdoors. On one occasion, on a particularly hot and humid night I danced on my patio having flung open, yes with gay abandon, my French doors. All was going so well, I had even chalked out the position of the dancers and the flagpole, when a succession of emergency vehicles were heard driving like 'The Dukes of Hazzard' along the nearby main road. As night fell the bats were out and about. But what finally drove me indoors was after a spectacular display of 'Donner and Blitzen' there followed a sudden heavy downpour. I quickly retreated inside. Couldn't go out again – it had washed away my chalk marks !!!

I would recommend all dancers to give it as go; you don't have to dance, it is just as interesting and useful to sit and listen to the moves. Also it is wonderful to meet up with dancers from other countries. I dance regularly to DiGreen and Terry McCann and they have dancers from Germany, Sweden, Denmark, Finland, USA, Russia, Wales, Belgium France and of course us Brits! When Terry ends his tips he always asks 'Are you home?' To which I reply (under my breath) yes Terry I'm AT HOME, but not always in my Home Position. Of course, the beauty of V.D. is that nobody knows if you go wrong, so please don't tell him that I sometimes do! Thanks and Stay Safe.

Let's make Square and Round Dancing great again !

Written by SUSAN ELLIS, President British Association of American Square Dance Clubs

(Reprinted from Let's Square Dance—Sep 2020)

ROUND DANCING - WE PROTEST!!! YES, WE PROTEST THAT:

- Round Dancing makes a conventional dance seem boring.
- Round Dancing Makes it impossible to keep your feet still when you hear one of your own numbers played on the radio. •

Round Dancing Makes you venture out on a night that you wouldn't even send a dog out on.

- Round Dancing Makes you attend an all-day Square & Round Dance session, and then drag your weary feet out on the very next night because you hate to miss the new dances at club.

- Round Dancing Gives you not a minute's rest on Square Dance Club night - after all, who wants to sit out a "round"?

YES, WE PROTEST THAT IF WE HADN'T GOTTEN INVOLVED IN ALL THIS, WE'D HAVE NEVER:

- Had so much fun • Made so many good friends • Gotten around so much • Kept ourselves active
- And added that 'spice of life' that everyone talks about.

(Copied from Let's Square Dance—"Around the Square" - Barry Wonson Aug. 2020)

Jim Weber

July 1, 1946 – September 11, 2020

Service to Family, Country, Community & to Square Dancing



Jim served his family, his country, his local city, surrounding communities and our entire square dance world. We knew Jim Weber best for his involvement in our Square Dance family.

Jim Weber and his wife Edythe have been dedicated members of the United Square Dancers of America's (USDA) Executive Committee since June 1994. During these 26 years Jim committed himself to the furtherance of not only USDA, but to Square Dancing as a whole.

Jim is probably the only man who can say he married an old witch – and not get his head knocked off! Edythe and Jim met while working in a haunted house in October 1985. Edythe was literally the old witch, and Jim fell under her spell. They were married (each for a second time) on February 14, 1986.

Jim and Edythe Weber took square dance lessons that fall and started dancing in February 1987 in Kansas City, Missouri. Leadership is a quality that Jim and Edythe have brought to the square dance world in many capacities. As well as holding many offices at the club level, Jim and Edythe have held the following:

Heart of America Federation of Square and Round Dance Clubs (Kansas City area) 1990-1991 Co-Editor of Fed Facts, 1991-1993 Editor of Fed Facts, 1993-1995 President. 1995-1997 Credentials Committee.

Missouri Federation

1997 – President of the NW District and delegate to the State Board, 2001-Secretary, 2002-3rd Vice President, and 2002-State Dance Chairman, 2003-2nd Vice President, and Editor of Show Me Doin's Square Dance Magazine, 2004-1st Vice President, and Editor of Show Me Doin's Square Dance Magazine.

After becoming involved with United Square Dancers of America in 1992 as a delegate for the Heart of America Federation, they joined the USDA Executive Committee in June 1994 working with then USDA News Editors Jim and Peggy Seagraves and then transitioned into becoming Editors of USDA NEWS in January 1995. This is a position that they held until 2003, at which time they took a break to step-up and serve as Presidents of the United Square Dancers of America 2003-2005, after which they then resumed their USDA News Editorship again in 2005 until 2012.

Their service to USDA has also included being elected Plains Region Vice Presidents from 2012-2015, +Secretary 2010-2012, Treasurers 2007-2010 and 2016-2017. They have served as Education/ Publications Chairman and Director of Information and have served on the Budget Committee and Audit Committee numerous times. In 2012-2015 Jim and Edythe were elected United Square Dancers of America Plains Region Vice Presidents.

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With the entry of USDA into the computer age, Jim was able to utilize his computer expertise to develop and manage the United Square Dancers of America's website from its inception in 1995 through 2020. Over his 25 years as USDA Webmaster, Jim implemented access to all of the USDA programs via www.usda.org.

Beyond USDA –

Having been in the room when it happened in St. Paul, Minnesota in June 2002, Jim and Edythe have been intimately involved with the birth, development and growth of the Alliance of Rounds, Traditional and Square-Dance (ARTS-Dance) that serves as the gathering place for the ten major dance organizations (All Join Hands Foundation, Ltd., CALLERLAB, CONTRALAB, IAGSDC (International Association of Gay Square Dance Clubs), NEC (National Executive Committee of the National Square Dance Convention[®]), NSDCA (National Square Dance Campers Association), ROUNDALAB SSDUSA (Single Square Dancers USA), ^{USA}WEST Square Dance Convention[®] Policy Board and the United Square Dancers of America to collaborate on issues critical to the promotion of the Square Dance activity. Jim served as the Chairman of the Governing Board of ARTS from 2009-2011 and Edythe has held the ARTS Treasurer's position from 2004-2020. Jim has been the USDA's representative to the ARTS meetings since 2011.

Jim and Edythe have attended 30 National Square Dance Conventions[®] (NSDC). Their involvement in the NSDC has included serving as Education Chairs for the 2008 NSDC in Wichita and the 2013 NSDC in Little Rock, then in 2018 they were the Housing and Registration Chairs for the NSDC in Kansas City. They have presented seminars and workshops at more than fifteen National Square Dance Conventions[®].

Jim retired after 31 years from the City of Liberty Fire Department where he was Division Chief and Director of Emergency Medical Services.

Service was always an important part of Jim's life having served in the Navy during the Vietnam War. As a Vietnam Vet, Jim was active in the VFW heading up their fish fries on a regular basis.

In between square dance activities, they filled their time with family (two daughters and three sons plus four granddaughters and seven grandsons ranging in age from 29 to 15), fishing, camping, hunting, and go to Kansas City Royals games (even when they aren't doing so well). Jim had a passion for woodworking projects and working on computers.

Jim was born July 1, 1946, in Laredo, Missouri, the elder of two children of Herman "Micky" and Marjorie "Rose" (Peterie) Weber. He graduated from Laredo High School in 1964 and soon joined the US Navy. Jim served from 1964 until receiving honorable discharge from active duty in 1968 and reserve duty in 1970. Jim later pursued his Associate's degree at Penn Valley Community College.

Jim was very active in his community. He served as a leader in Boy Scout Troop 374 in Liberty with his son Brad. He was an Eagle Scout and a Firebuilder in the Tribe of Mic-O-Say. Jim was active in Clay County 4-H in shooting sports and fishing projects with his stepsons.



(Continued next page)

(Continued from previous page)

Jim was a Past Commander of VFW Post 4043 in Liberty, serving on its funeral honors team. He sent weekly reminders for breakfast at Ma and Pa's

Along with his parents and first wife Mary Susan Stevens., Jim was preceded in death by a stepson, Grover McGuire, Jr. Survivors include his wife, Edythe; children, Shelly Graham (Bob) of Kansas City, Bradley Weber (Allyson) of Lexington, Tracy Geier (Dicky) and Tim McGuire both of Liberty; 13 grandchildren, 13 great grandchildren; sister, Freida Troester (Richard) of Trenton, two nieces and their families, as well as other family members and countless friends.

Jim was laid to rest on September 16, 2020, at the New Hope Cemetery in Liberty, Missouri with full military honors

We will ALL feel Jim's loss so personally and so deeply because we ALL depended on Jim and Edythe for so very much and knew that we could always count on both of them to be there for us anytime we needed them. Jim was always there for Edythe, and Edythe is still there for Jim and all of their family.

Written and submitted by Jim Maczko and Patty Wilcox

Jim Weber Was My Mentor.

September 11, 2020 found me sitting at my desk working on finalizing this issue of USDA NEWS. It was a typical August day here in East TN with temperatures a little warmer than we would like and humidity making it seem even warmer. I had just turned away from my computer to gaze out the window, pretending to be concentrating, but actually just enjoying the gorgeous day. My concentration was soon interrupted with the sound of the bell notifying me that I had just received another email. I glanced at it and felt this knot forming in my throat as I read the message from our USDA Presidents, Tony and Diana Rock. Their message read, *"It is with a very heavy heart that we share this news. This morning we were informed that our dear friend Jim Weber, passed away this morning from a heart attack."* I sat there in disbelief and read and reread that message several times. I, along with all of our USDA Executive Committee members, were stunned at the message we had just received.



In June 2012 I replaced Jim as the editor of USDA NEWS. This was a big step for me and there was a lot of new procedures to learn. Jim and I spent several hours together on the phone. Anytime I called Jim I would tell him I needed some help and would ask if he had a few minutes. His answer was always the same—"sure". and he never seemed to get irritated when I sometimes had to keep asking the same question repeatedly. I did know that Jim was involved in many areas of square dance, but did not realize the extent of his service until reading Jim and Patty's article on page 12. I now appreciate even more his patience and willingness to help me in my early days.

We were blessed to have him as a part of USDA for more than 26 years. He was a "go to" man that would accept anything asked of him. Jim Weber has left us with some mighty big shoes to fill. He will be missed, but he will not be forgotten. THANK YOU , JIM! RIP!

Written by the editor, Larry Dunkel



70th National Square Dance Convention

June 23, 24, 25, & 26, 2021, Jackson MS
 Online Registration - Website Zionsdale.com
 Like us on Facebook

"Come Dance & Meet Elvis in 2021"

I'd like to volunteer, please contact me.

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____ Country: _____
 Phone: _____ Cell: _____
 Email: _____

(Email addresses will only be shared with the NEC for upcoming convention information)

Check if you do not want your email shared

Registration fee per Registrant: Adult \$60.00
 Youth born after June 26, 2003 \$40.00
 Children 5 and under (born after June 26, 2016) FREE
 A \$10.00 fee per Registrant will be imposed for cancellations or changes.
 Prizes will increase May 1, 2021 to \$75 for adults, \$37.50 for Youth born after June 26, 2003.
 Registrations received after April 30, 2021 will receive e-mail confirmation only.
 Mail-in Registrations must be sent by June 5, 2021 or email by June 12, 2021.

4-6 of 4-6
 CONVENTION
 June 23-26, 2021

SOLO		For badges		First Name		Last Name		Subtotals	
Adult:	_____	Adult:	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	\$	_____
Adult:	_____	Adult/Child:	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	\$	_____
Adult/Child:	_____	Adult/Child:	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	\$	_____
Adult/Child:	_____	Adult/Child:	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	\$	_____
Adult/Child:	_____	Adult/Child:	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	\$	_____
Program Book w/Daily Schedules (\$20.00 after 4/30/2021)	#	_____	_____	@ \$15.00	_____	_____	_____	\$	_____
Round Dance Syllabus <input type="checkbox"/> USB Drive or <input type="checkbox"/> Printed	#	_____	_____	@ \$10.00	_____	_____	_____	\$	_____
Round Dance Syllabus <input type="checkbox"/> USB Drive and <input type="checkbox"/> Printed	#	_____	_____	@ \$16.00	_____	_____	_____	\$	_____
Save & Save Book "Spinna and Swirling Skirt" <input type="checkbox"/> USB Drive	#	_____	_____	@ \$10.00	_____	_____	_____	\$	_____
Chorebook "WORLD OF MEALS"	#	_____	_____	@ \$15.00	_____	_____	_____	\$	_____
Wednesday Special Event - DINNER & SHOW	#	_____	_____	@ \$50.00	_____	_____	_____	\$	_____
Wednesday Special Event - SHOW ONLY ELVIS TRIBUTE ARTIST	#	_____	_____	@ \$25.00	_____	_____	_____	\$	_____
Bus Pass (if needed) (\$60.00 after 4/30/2021)	#	_____	_____	@ \$50.00	_____	_____	_____	\$	_____
Magnet for Badge, pins are provided Free of charge	#	_____	_____	@ \$ 2.00	_____	_____	_____	\$	_____
RV Camping (4 night minimum). All campers MUST register. You will receive a profile form when your payment is received. To camp together, arrive together	#	_____	_____	@ \$45.00	_____	_____	_____	\$	_____
	#	_____	_____	@ \$25.00	_____	_____	_____	\$	_____
	#	_____	_____	(U.S. Funds) Total Due:	_____	_____	_____	\$	_____

No Refunds or Cancellations After April 30, 2021
 TTOURS - Please complete separate Tour Order Form and submit separate payment.

Check Enclosed # _____ Visa MasterCard Discover
 Name on Card: _____
 Credit Card No.: _____
 Expiration Date: _____ Security Code: _____
 (Ensure expiration date is after July 2021)

Return completed form with payment to:
 70NSDX, 5252 McIngvale Rd. Hernando, MS 38632

Please mark which dance program you will be attending the most:
 Squares: Basic M P DBB Hex A1 A2 C1 C2
 H Energy Low Energy
 Rounds: 2 3/4 5/6
 Other: Chugging Contra C/W Lines Handicappable
 Will you be participating in the Education Leadership Certification Program?

HOUSING
 Select your hotel online at: www.Zionsdale.com select "Housing" Tab for a direct secure link to the Hotel Booking Module after March 1, 2020
 I have selected my Hotel Online. YES NO
 I need Housing Reservations for the dates and selected Hotel below:

Please Circle Room Nights Needed:

Sa	Su	M	T	W	Th	F	Sa	S
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27

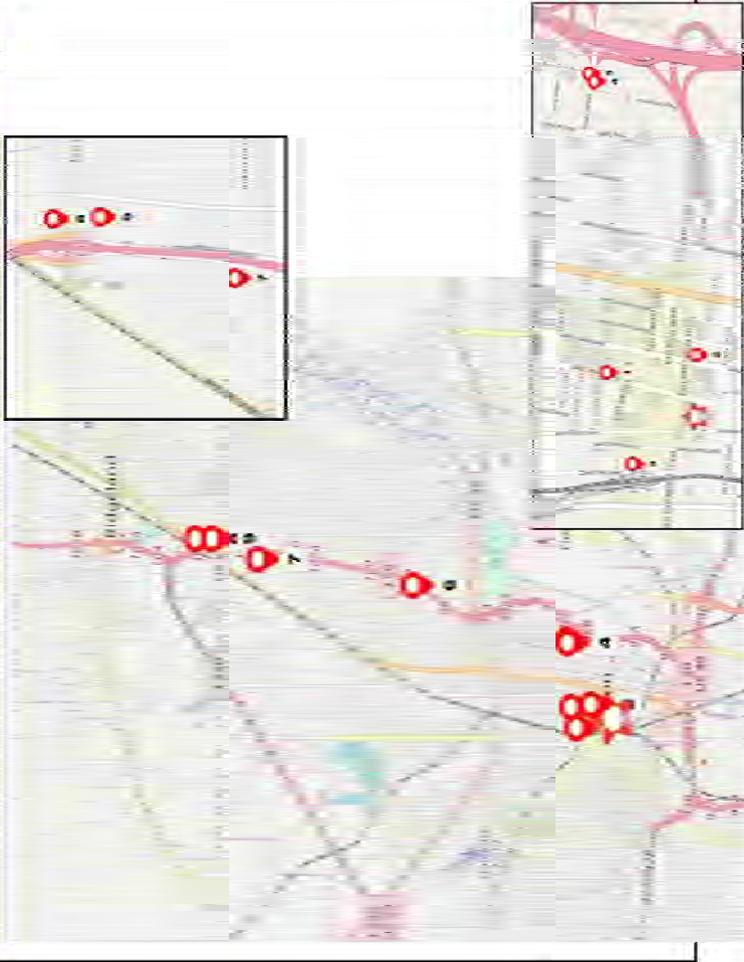
3 Hotel Preference required (hotel codes on back): 1st _____ 2nd _____ 3rd _____
 Please check the appropriate box: One Bed (1-2 people) 2 Beds (2-4 people)
 Wheelchair Accessible Room Special Needs Room:
 Shared Rooms in Same Hotel. Reservations must be made together in the same envelope.

Same Hotel as: _____ Phone: _____
 Block Housing Requests are due by Jan 2, 2021.
 Block Housing (10-25 rooms) E-Mail: _____
 Group Name: _____

To guarantee your room reservations, you must provide a credit card number and pay a \$2.50 processing fee. Deposit may be changed in advance, balance for your room will be charged by hotel at check in.
 Check Enclosed # _____ Visa MasterCard Discover
 Name on Card: _____
 Credit Card No.: _____
 Expiration Date: _____ Security Code: _____ (Ensure expiration date is after July 2021)

Dance Leader Name to be programmed *Go to www.Zionsdale.com to update your profile
 Name: _____ Caller Cue Contra Logging C/W Lines
 Name: _____ Caller Cue Contra Logging C/W Lines
 Convention badges required for entrance to all convention activities: Dressy Casual attire allowed until 6:00pm. PROPER DANCE ATTIRE is required after 6:00pm for all dancers.
 Registration: Mary Ann Walker E-mail: regchair@70nsdx.com

Map of Hotels



- INSTRUCTIONS FOR REGISTRATION (LEFT FRONT SIDE OF FORM)**
1. Print legibly all names, address, city, state, zip code, country, and B/D of youth (age 5-17 by June 26, 2021 discounted 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. Calculate the Total and include credit card information, check or money order payable in U.S. funds to the 70th National Square Dance Convention® and return it with the Registration Form. **Do Not Send Cash.** No Single Day Registrations.
 3. A \$10.00 fee per registrant will be assessed for cancellation. No refunds after April 30, 2021.
 4. **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.**
 5. **TOUR FORM AND PAYMENT INSTRUCTIONS:** Please complete the Tour Order Form and mail directly to: Dream Vacations (70th NSDC), 8538 Lotticks Corner Rd SE, Elizabeth IN 47117. For any questions call 812-969-2107 or email to c.schoen@dreamvacations.com. For Tour Information and Order Form go to www.70nsdc.com and click "TOURS"

INSTRUCTIONS FOR RV/CAMPING

Indicate RV Camping on your registration form and enclose the required fees (4-night minimum) to cover the nights that you intend to stay, 30 or 50 Amp and water available at all sites with sewer at most sites. Free dump station on site. If you plan to camp together, you must arrive together. For more information contact RV Vice-Chairman, John & Dolly Dale [rv70nsdc.com](http://www.rv70nsdc.com).

- INSTRUCTIONS FOR HOUSING (RIGHT FRONT SIDE OF FORM)**
1. The 70th NSDC Housing Committee is pleased to offer website online access for housing reservations available after March 1, 2021. If you book your room online, check the box provided on front side of this form; otherwise complete the entire housing portion on the right side of the front of this form. This form must be received by May 15, 2021 to guarantee the 70th NSDC pricing.
 2. Indicate three (3) choices of hotel preference by specifying hotel code number. Also, be sure to indicate 1 bed (Standard King) or 2 beds (Queen). Hotels will be assigned on a first-come, first-serve basis according to availability.
 3. Only one person per room should complete a hotel reservation request on the front of this form. Please list all room occupants. (The Housing Committee does not find or assign roommates.)
 4. Shared Room or Same Hotel Requests can be made through the online site OR forward registrations together in the same envelope.
 5. All Block Housing requests staying in the same hotel are due by January 2, 2021, include the name and telephone number of Block Leader to leighoulin@70nsdc.com
 6. Hotel Reservations: Your reservations must be guaranteed with a credit card and a \$3.50 non-refundable processing fee. The hotel may require an advance deposit for 1st night. The balance will be paid at the hotel. An alternative form of payment may be presented at check in. Ensure expiration date is after July 2021.
 7. Hotel Confirmations: You will receive a hotel confirmation from the 70th NSDC via email or mail. A Hotel confirmation will be sent after March 1, 2021. If you do not receive your confirmation by March 30, 2021, please contact the Housing Committee by email at leighoulin@70nsdc.com
 8. Hotel Changes: After receiving Hotel Confirmation, if you need to modify your hotel reservation you must contact the 70th NSDC Housing Committee, leighoulin@70nsdc.com
 9. Hotel Cancellations: Your confirmed hotel will assess a one-night room/tax charge for cancellations received less than 72 hours prior to arrival.
 10. Hotel Early Departure: An early departure fee may be charged unless the 70th NSDC Housing Committee leighoulin@70nsdc.com is notified at least 72 hours prior to a change in the planned stay.

Code	Hotel Name + parking fee	1 person	2 people	3 people	4 people	Distance
1	Jackson Downtown Convention Center Hotel	\$139	\$139	\$149	\$159	.3 miles
2	by Marriott - Headquarters Hotel	\$159	\$159	\$169	\$179	.3 miles
3	Westin Downtown **	\$139	\$139	\$149	\$159	.2 miles
4	Hilton Garden Inn (Caller/Cuer) **	\$102	\$102	\$102	\$102	1.4 mile
5	Holiday Inn Express **	\$129	\$129	\$129	\$129	1.4 mile
6	Residence Inn	\$150	\$150	\$150	\$150	3.7 miles
7	Oyo Townhouse **	\$80	\$80	\$80	\$80	7.7 miles
8	Hilton Jackson	\$119	\$124	\$129	\$134	9 miles
9	Courtyard Jackson/Ridgeland	\$129	\$129	\$129	\$139	7 miles

Jackson Convention Complex 105 E Pascagoula St, Jackson, MS 39201

Return completed form with payment to:
70th NSDC, 5252 McIngvale Rd., Hernando, MS 38637
Any questions, please call 901-628-4356

★ **Return completed form with payment to:**
70th NSDC, 5252 McIngvale Rd., Hernando, MS 38637
Any questions, please call 901-628-4356

Come Early or Stay Late! The Soul Team of the 70th NSDC is committed to making our Convention fun and memorable experience for you. Please email us if you have a concern or suggestion.
 Dan and Clinch Torvik, General Chairman, generalchair@70nsdc.com

BUS PASSES AVAILABLE IF NEEDED



"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



**Pre-Registration
 72nd National Square Dance Convention®
 Mobile, Alabama
 June 21, 22, 23, & 24, 2023**

IF REGISTERING BY MAIL:
 PO Box 613
 Leeds, AL 35094
 REGISTER ONLINE at
www.72nsdc.com

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

Check if you do not want your email shared. Email addresses to be shared only with the NEC for upcoming convention information

Phone: (____) _____ Alt Number (____) _____
 Registration Prices (U.S. currency only) \$50.00 each x _____ = \$ _____
Youth born after June 21, 2005 \$25.00 each x _____ = \$ _____
 Cash Received \$ _____ Check# _____ (Pay to 72nd NSDC) **Total Due: \$** _____
 Credit Card Type _____ Card# _____
 Expiration Date: ____/____/____ Security Code _____ Name of Cardholder: _____
 Statement Mailing Address (if different) _____
 Authorized Card Signature: _____

\$10 cancellation fee per registration. No refunds after April 30, 2023. This form and registration rate are void after April 30th, 2022. Registration Long Forms will be mailed April 2022 for selection of hotel and additional items. Early registration gives you free admittance to the Pre-Convention Kick Off Dance on April 30th, 2022. Convention badges required for entrance to all convention activities; Dressy casual attire allowed until 6:00pm. Proper dance attire is required After 6:00pm for all dancers.

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.



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

BIN: 600428
 PCN: 05100000
 GRP: 05690001
 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*

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CALL TODAY! — 1-888-890-2875

American Owned & Operated

ARTS Travel The Dancer's Online Travel Web Site



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

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
70th NSDC in Jackson, MS
and support dancing at
the same time.

Logon to

www.arts-dancetravel.com

70th National Square Dance Convention®

June 23-26, 2020 - Jackson, MS



The United Square Dancers of America's Social Media Committee

Proudly Introduces Our New *Zoom* Series

Beyond the Dance Floor



Dancing — We all miss dancing! The great news is, as a community we've been adapting to "the new normal". It's been wonderful to see callers and cuers set up virtual dance events. Online groups have been set up to discuss returning to dancing and what precautions need to be taken. IAGSDC even transitioned their International Convention into a "home edition" with virtual dancing and live online activities. Happily, in some areas of the country, clubs are cautiously and carefully beginning to dance again, but there is still more to do.

The **United Square Dancers of America** — USDA — your National dancers' organization, is excited to introduce a monthly series of web-based programs via *Zoom* to support clubs on the business and marketing end of our activity. The programs will be used to introduce more dancers across the country to who/what USDA is, the programs and services we provide, and a way to keep square and round dancing in the forefront of people's thoughts even if they aren't able to get together on the dance floor.

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

Workshops are scheduled to last 90-minutes to allow plenty of time for questions & answers, plus we will welcome input from participants. Our first workshop launches on Saturday, October 10th and our complete schedule is listed on the subsequent pages.

Watch your email, our website and Facebook for links to the actual, **FREE** workshops.



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

USDA website: <http://www.usda.org>

USDA Social Media Directors: Milene McCall—mm101@msn.com;

Bonnie Abramson—bjabramson@gmail.com

Or visit our Facebook page and join our Facebook group

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



The United Square Dancers of America's Social Media Committee



Proudly Presents

Beyond the Dance Floor

PROPOSED WORKSHOP SCHEDULE

All Programs will begin at 2:00 p.m. Eastern; 1:00 p.m. Central; 12:00 noon Mountain;
11:00 a.m. Pacific; 8:00 a.m. Hawaii; 90-minute duration

Program #1 — Saturday, October 10, 2020

Title: Who Is USDA and What Do We Have to Offer?

Faculty: Tony & Diana Rock, USDA Presidents; LPaul & Sally Schmidt, USDA Information Officers; Bonnie Abramson, Moderator

Program Description: This opening webinar in the series, **Beyond the Dance Floor**, being presented by the United Square Dancers of America (USDA) is a brief overview of who USDA is, what is offered by USDA, how to become a member, and benefits of membership. Because USDA offers extensive benefits and services, the purpose of this particular webinar is to provide a brief overview as well as provide a sneak peek of future webinar topics to be offered during the next several months. You are invited to join in and find out how much USDA has to offer Beyond the Dance Floor!

Program #2 — Saturday, November 14, 2020

Title: USDA's 501(c)3 Group Exemption Program

Faculty: Jim Maczko & Patty Wilcox, 501(c)3 Group Administrators; Pat Inglis, 501(c)3 Group Renewals; Bonnie Abramson, Moderator; Milene McCall, Moderator

Program Description: Discussion and overview of the new 501(c)3 Group Exemption program, including how to apply, what are the requirements, what are the benefits and why should groups apply. Once in the group, what are the requirements to maintain your status. Session will also cover USDA's new Associate Member category which allows individual clubs to join USDA and take advantage of the program.

Program #3 — Saturday, December 12, 2020

Title: USDA's Youth Dancer Programs & Founders' Memorial Youth Fund Scholarship

Faculty: Dan Reedy, USDA Youth Chairman; Bonnie Abramson, Former USDA Youth Director & Member of California Youth Advisory Committee; Milene McCall, Moderator

Program Description: This program will give an overview of the Youth dancer programs sponsored by USDA, including the Founders' Memorial Youth Fund Scholarship – the application process and how the scholarship is funded. We will also discuss programs offered for youth dancers at the National Square Dance Conventions and brochures offered regarding youth programs. We will welcome input from organizers of successful youth programs across the country—let's share!





Beyond the Dance Floor

PROPOSED WORKSHOP SCHEDULE — Continued

Program #4 — Saturday, January 16, 2021

Title: Do You Hear What I Hear? Using Newsletters and Other Forms of Social Media to Get The Word Out

Faculty: Larry Dunkel, Editor, USDA News; Milene McCall and Bonnie Abramson, USDA Social Media Directors; USDA Webmaster; Sally Schmidt, Moderator



Program #5 — Saturday, February 13, 2021

Title: Promoting Square Dancing During the Most Challenging of Times

Faculty: Mike Hogan, National Square Dance Caller and Marketing Executive for IHeart Media

Program #6 — Saturday, March 13, 2021

Title: USDA's Educational Materials

Faculty: Tony & Diana Rock, USDA President; Dale & Kathy Worthington, USDA Leadership Education Chairmen; Bonnie Abramson, Moderator; Milene McCall, Moderator

Program #7 — Saturday, April 10, 2021

Title: National Convention – Here We Come! Showcasing USDA's Involvement on the National Stage

Faculty: Tony & Diana Rock, USDA Presidents; Gilbert & Sharon Leon, Eastern Region VP; Ed & Linda Willis, Central Region VP; Mark & Bina Krebsbach, Plains Region VP; LPaul & Sally Schmidt, Western Region VP; Milene McCall, Moderator

Program #8 — Saturday, May 15, 2021

Title: USDA's Handicapable Program

Faculty: Alicia Becker, Handicapable Program Chair; Milene McCall, Moderator

Program #9 — Saturday, March 13, 2021

Title: USDA's Specialty Programs and Honors

Faculty: Joy Vaccari, Prescription Card/Hearing Aid; Larry Dunkel, Centennial Award; Jerry & Donna Robey, USDA Traveler's Program; Jim & Judy Taylor, Amazon Smile; Bonnie Abramson, Moderator; Milene McCall, Moderator



CONVENTION SCHEDULE

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

2020

2021

Oct 9-10 **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

April 16 –18 **61st California State Square
Dance Convention**
San Bernardino County Fairgrounds,
Victorville, CA
Marvin Fishman, General Chairman
CAState2021@gmail.com
<http://www.CAState2021.org>
818-269-1676

Oct 23-24 **MidSouth Square & Round
Dance Festival**
St. Paul United Methodist Church
949 Davies Plantation
Lakeland, TN 38002
patti.bundy@gmail.com

2022
Apr 8-10 **62nd California State Square
Dance Convention**
Yuba-Sutter Fairgrounds
Yuba City, CA
Katie Pearce & Bonnie Abramson, Co-General
Chairmen
bjabramson@gmail.com
<http://www.CAState2022.org>
916-213-3640

Nov 06-08 **70th Fiesta de la Cuadrilla**
Balboa Park
San Diego, CA
Check website for flyer and info:
<http://sdsda.org/fiesta>
Info: call Mo Ninteman at 619-890-4058

NOTICE: Many dances have been cancelled, postponed or changed time. We highly suggest checking with the dance program prior to going.



FUTURE NATIONAL CONVENTIONS
2021—June 23-26 Jackson, MS
2022—June 22-25 Evansville, IN
2023—JUNE 21-24, Mobile, AL
2024-June 28-29—Milwaukee, WI



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.

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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.

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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.

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