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USDA *News*

PUBLISHED BY UNITED SQUARE DANCERS OF AMERICA



Newsletter of the World's Largest Square Dance Organization

Evansville
INDIANA

*National
Convention*

June
22 - 25

SQUARE DANCING
OFFICIAL FOLK DANCE OF NORTH AMERICA

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Special Thanks to the following for their contributions to this issue of **USDA NEWS**:
Bonnie Abramson, LPaul & Sally Schmidt,
Harvey, Annie, and Suellen for their help
in providing information about Herb.

Cover Design: Chris Dunkel
My apology to anyone I failed to recognize.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

What do you do to celebrate your birthday? Not just any birthday, but a birthday of 100 years of life here on planet Earth. Well, if you have a friend like Annie Callahan you don't do anything as she's already got the party set.

You can read the full story on page 8, but here is just a little taste of what happened on this special day. You invite a hundred people to witness Louis Friedlander presenting Herb with the USDA Centennial Award.



And then you dance.



The local fire code would not allow Annie to light the candles. Imagine that!



And of course you gotta have a cake.

What did Herb think of his birthday party? "It was overwhelming!"

Have you been joining on our webinar Beyond the Dance Floor? Check page 22-23 for the upcoming schedule of speakers and guests Bonnie has lined up for us. I think you will like it.

Our past Presidents, Tony and Diana Rock, are now in charge of our Ways and Means program and doing a splendid job. In our last issue they were taking orders for the new fleece jacket and the truckers cap. Page 12 has new information on viewing all the USDA Products on your phone.

FREE PHARMACY CARD

CLIP AND USE THIS CARD AND SAVE. SHARE IT WITH FAMILY AND FRIENDS.

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A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENTS



MARK & BINA KREBSBACH

*Welcome to Summer, a time to cheer
with dancers out and about.
My favorite time of the year is here,
just thought I'd point that out!!*

As I watch the waves gently roll across the Great Lake Sibley, it causes me to re-discover the immensity and power of the creator of this world we call home. While meditating in the classroom of silence, I experience the peace of God with overwhelming gratitude. It is truly amazing how it gracefully affects my entire day.

About twenty-four hundred years ago, the famous Greek Philosopher, Aristotle, defined happiness: Happiness does not consist in pastimes and amusements, but in virtuous activities. Square dancing is a pastime, and it is also an amusement, but it is also a virtuous activity. Square Dancing exercises and strengthens the mind, the body and the soul. We have never had a bad feeling after a square dance, it is truly a virtuous activity. Bring a friend to your next dance and let them see why this is such a great activity.

We are hoping that you receive your USDA News before the National Square Dance Convention in Evansville, Indiana, June 21 – 25, 2022. We encourage all to attend; hopefully we will see you across the square in Evansville.

Bina & I are registered and plan to attend the USA West Square Dance Convention August 17 – 20, 2022 in San Diego, California. LPaul & Sally Schmidt are the General Chairmen and they do such a good job, fun, fun, fun!!

September brings forth the start of another year of dancing for many clubs across the United States. Travel safely as you attend dances and remember to sign up for the USA Travelers Program.

Until next time: Show great respect for your fellow beings.

God's Blessing,

As Ever Square Dancers

Mark & Bina

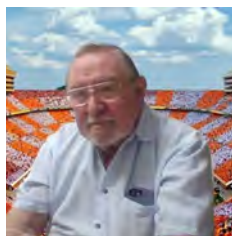


September is National Square Dance Month

November 29 is National Square Dance Day

USDA NEWS would love to know what your club did for Square Dance Month and what they plan to do on November 29th.

A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR



Larry W. Dunkel

It's been a quite quarter in Knoxville, my hometown. Well almost. Late last summer I was standing in my front yard and felt something brush my leg. I looked down and saw a skunk had just walked by. He didn't seem nearly as concerned about this situation as I did. When I was a junior in high school I was sprayed by a skunk — an experience I hope to never encounter again.

Around this same time I was having a chipmunk problem. They are really cute, but can be quite destructive, so I bought a small trap from Amazon since I am a member of the "smile program" that sends a portion of my purchase price to USDA. The idea was that as I caught them I would take them out in the country and release them back to their natural environment. The trap arrived and I set it up late that afternoon, but did not catch anything. When I went out the next morning I found a skunk in my trap. OMG, what do I do with a skunk in a trap sitting under my bedroom window? I called my local animal control agency and they told me, in a very nice way, that it was my skunk, my property and my problem and suggested I call a commercial company. I took her advice and called around to find someone that would remove this animal. The first place I called said they could come get it this afternoon. Oh, that would be wonderful I said, and asked what the charge would be. Since I had already caught the skunk and had it in a cage it would only be \$320.00. At that precise moment I desperately wished I had one of the old phones that you slam down. I did find a company that had a much better price, in fact, when he arrived I mentioned that I had failed to ask if you offer a senior discount. He replied that they did. Well, how much is your senior rate? He said he didn't know and asked me what I would be willing to pay. Now that is the way a business should be run.

I didn't think much about catching the skunk. He was gone, I paid a fair price for the removal and all is well. It was not until several weeks later that I discovered that all was not well. I had a couple of skunks living under my house. Not knowing a lot about skunks required some research on my part, so I called on my friend Google for help. Google said that skunks were easy going, mild-mannered animals and they would only spray when threatened. They mentioned that mating season was in January and that around late May or early June you would begin to see little skunks running around the neighborhood. Last Sunday night my neighbor called me and told me to go out on my front porch and look down toward the bird feeder. I counted seven little ones and two big ones. And yes, they are living under my house I think.

You may be asking what this has to do with square dancing and it doesn't have a thing to do with it, but I know that some of the smartest people in the world are square dancers and surely one of them can give me some practical advice on how to get rid of skunks without getting sprayed again.

OK, back to square dance news. This year we have already given two Centennial Awards and both were WWII veterans with honors. It is our desire to have a USDA representative present the award, but that is not always possible. When that happens we call on our friends to represent us. Such was the case with both of these awards. Paul Swenson of Beaverton, Oregon, received his award from former USDA Executive Committee Member Marilyn Schmit. The second award was to Herbert Elfring of Jackson, Michigan, and we were honored to have this award presented by Louis Friedlander, former President of the Michigan Council of Square Dance Clubs. To both Marilyn and to Louis we say Thank You.

The Centennial Award is given to square dancers that have reached the age of 100. These people are such wonderful folks and they love to talk about square dancing. You can see the people that have received this award on our website and we will also have a photo book on display at the National Convention in Evansville. Stop by our tables at the Showcase of Ideas and take a look. You may be surprised at how young age 100 looks.

If you get this issue of USDA NEWS prior to the convention and you are planning of attending, then check out the pages here about the USDA-sponsored events. And to all the Evansville volunteers we thank you for putting on a good show. Your four years of hard work produced a wonderful convention.

Now for the next year you will be seeing a lot of this: Dance Convention®. Former USDA VP's for the Chair for this convention. If you know the Wilkins love to have fun. Two great ingredients for produc-



Welcome to Mobile, AL and the 72nd National Square Central Region, Tom and Tina Wilkins are your General you are well aware that they are hardworking people and ing a wonderful convention.

Until next time.....Larry D



United Square Dancers of America at the 71st NSDC

Are you traveling to Evansville, IN for the 71st National Square Dance Convention®? If so, why not join us for some of the following USDA-sponsored activities?

USDA ANNUAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Wednesday, June 22 – 1:00 PM
Doubletree Hotel, Ballroom AB

ALL DANCERS WELCOME! *Learn about how USDA supports dancers and promotes dancing across the country.*



USDA-SPONSORED AFTER PARTY

Friday, June 24 – 10:00 PM
Mainstream / Live Band Hall

SQUARE DANCE AFTER PARTY
with the Ghost Riders Live Band

USDA-SPONSORED/SUPPORTED EDUCATION SESSIONS

Thursday, June 23

1:30 PM, Locust C

Organizational Roundtable

Saturday, June 25

1:00 pm, Locust C

Understanding Club and Dancer Insurance



Live Lively—



Square Dance!

Please stop by the USDA booth at the Showcase of Ideas to see our display and pick up some of our free Educational Publications



UNITED SQUARE DANCERS OF AMERICA



USDA ANNUAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS BUSINESS MEETING

The United Square Dancers of America holds its Annual Board of Directors Meeting each June in conjunction with the National Square Dance Convention®. The 71st National Square Dance Convention® will be held from June 22-25, 2022, in Evansville, IN. The USDA Annual Meeting will be held at 1:00 PM on Wednesday, June 22, immediately prior to the convention.

The USDA Annual Meeting provides an opportunity for the Board of Directors, comprised of delegates from each affiliate organization, to participate in the decision-making process; to better understand how USDA operates; and to learn about programs, educational materials, and other services that support USDA affiliates and the square dance community. Delegates hear reports from each elected officer and appointed committee chair, review and approve the annual operating budget, elect new officers for the coming year, and conduct other business as applicable.

ALL dancers are welcome to attend the USDA Annual Meeting. It provides an excellent opportunity to learn about the United Square Dancers of America and how the organization supports dancers and dancing across the country.

Details about the USDA Annual Meeting, including the specific location, will be posted to the USDA website at <http://www.usda.org/Meetings/AnnualMeeting.php>. Inquiries may be directed to Mark and Bina Krebsbach, USDA President, at president@usda.org or to Sally Bennett-Schmidt, Information Officer, at info@usda.org.

OTHER USDA EVENTS IN EVANSVILLE - JOIN US!!

Are you traveling to Evansville, Indiana for the 71st National Square Dance Convention®? If so, check-out these USDA-sponsored activities! **ALL** dancers are welcome.

Square Dance After Party with the Ghost Riders Square Dance Band: Friday, June 24 at 10:00 PM in the Mainstream / Live Band Hall. We have a fantastic line-up of callers backed-up by the LIVE square dance band!

Educational Sessions:

Organizational Roundtable: *Thursday, June 23 at 1:30 PM in Locust C.*

Learn how various national dance organizations, including USDA, support and promote our favorite activity!

Understanding Club and Dancer Insurance: *Saturday, June 25 at 1:00 PM in Locust C.*

Hear from our USDA Insurance Coordinator, Elizabeth Sanders, about the low-cost liability and supplemental medical insurance program available to clubs throughout the country.

For further information on the 71st National Square Dance Convention, or to register online, go to www.71nsdc.org.

Learn more about **all** USDA programs and services at www.usda.org.

EVENTS IN THE CENTRAL REGION

Ed & Lynda Willis, USDA Central Region VP

We have been busy this first half of 2022. We visited the Florida State Convention, the South Carolina State Convention, the Ohio State Convention and then the Virginia State Convention. We had never attended the Virginia convention before and even though it is not in the Central Region thought we would make the short trip and attend. We had a great time at all of the conventions and they were all a success.

This is our last time writing for USDA NEWS as we are retiring at the June Delegates meeting in Evansville, having reached our three-year term maximum. **We are still looking for someone who lives in the Central Region to volunteer to run for this office.** Lynda and I have served in this position for six of the last seven years and have made some wonderful friends. We have managed to attend a convention in all the central region states at least once. At this time we do not know if we will be appointed to another role on the executive committee or if we will be retiring for good. We still plan on traveling either way, and hope to see many of you on the dance floor. We want to thank everyone for their support these past seven years and wish everyone good luck in the future.

Thank You from the bottom of our hearts.

Ed & Lynda Willis



*Our friend Steve selling raffle tickets
at the Virginia State Convention*

EVENTS IN THE PLAINS REGION

Ellery & Karen Gulbrand, USDA Plains Region VP

Looks like summer is finally arriving in the Midwest. The long cold winter is now in the rearview mirror.

As we write this, we are looking forward to attending the Minnesota State Square Dance Convention in Breezy Point, Minnesota. A few weeks after that we will be attending the National Square Dance Convention® in Evansville, Indiana. At that Convention, we hope to meet delegates from the Affiliates in the Plains Region at the USDA Board of Directors Meeting.

We ask all the Affiliates in the Plains Region to send us information on Festivals and Conventions in your state or region. We will try to schedule to attend as many events as we can.

We would also encourage everyone to participate in the monthly webinars that USDA present in the **“Beyond the Dance Floor”** series. Check out the USDA website for upcoming topics. If you have suggestions for future topics, please feel free to make those suggestions.

May God send his blessings, keep everyone safe, and may our dance floors come alive with returning dancers along with new dancers.

Ellery & Karen Gulbrand



FEATURE ARTICLE

HERB ELFRING - JACKSON, MICHIGAN

In 1940 Herbert (Herb) Elfring joined the Army National Guard as part of the California 251st Coast Artillery. This was the first US National Guard unit to be activated full time before the US entered WW II. The next five years found Herb's unit in the South Pacific. What he remembers best was December 7, 1941, when Pearl Harbor was attacked by the Japanese. Herb was stationed at a nearby camp in Hawaii and recalls being missed a couple of times that by stray bullets. He is grateful to be with us today.

Herb joined the military service in 1940 as a private and served with distinction, receiving many military awards during his five years of service. He left the military in 1945, just after the war, as a Captain. I think that shows the type of man Herbert Elfring is.

After the war Herb enrolled at the University of Michigan-Ann Arbor. He graduated in 1950 with a Bachelor Degree in Electrical Engineering, leading to his 35 year career.

Herb started square dancing in 2006 and he displays the same type of spirit dancing as he did with his military service. He is a member of the Single Squares in Jackson, MI. Since becoming involved with square dancing Herb has attended most local and state conventions, and several National Conventions.

The Single Squares of Jackson sponsored a super 100th birthday party for Herb on April 2nd, 2022, and what a party it was! More than 100 people attended this celebration at Jackson First United Methodist Church. Marshall Motors provided the transportation for Herb to get to the church. Yep, you got it — he arrived in a “Herbie the Love Bug” Volkswagen. Then there was a drive-by parade started by the Vietnam Veterans of American with the Police, Fire, and Military vehicles driving by the church waving and honking horns. Then came the classic cars and motorcycles. And after the parade they danced.

USDA did not have a representative available for this event so Lois Friedlander, a familiar name to square dancing and former president of the Michigan Council of Square and Round Dance Clubs, graciously represented USDA by presenting Herb his Centennial Award Certificate of Recognition and Appreciation, as well as his Lapel Pin.

In order to receive the USDA Centennial Award there are a couple of requirements: The most difficult is to reach the age of 100. Herb is thankful for square dancing and his ability to remain active. He went on to say that he played golf occasionally, tennis a couple of times a week, and square danced maybe two, three, or four times a week. Herb said he thought square dancing was as good of a longevity activity as any that anybody could possibly be involved in.

USDA has another popular program where you receive credit for dancing with other clubs in other states - the Traveler Program. You get a badge for dancing in 13 states, a bar to add to the badge when you dance in 24 states, and it goes on. After you have danced in all the states you can start again to receive a “second time around” badge. The Centennial Award program does not have a “second time around”yet, but we are keeping our eye on you, Herb.



Article written by USDA NEWS editor with the help of a lot of people. Thanks to Harvey Slager for telling us about Herb. To Annie Callahan, event coordinator, Suellen Walker, Editor, The Michigander newsletter, John Hummer, and Nancy Friedlander.

EVENTS IN THE WESTERN REGION

LPaul and Sally Schmidt, USDA Western Region VP

WESTERN REGION REPORT

(Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana,
Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington, Wyoming)

Summer is on the horizon in the Western Region and most of our affiliates are back dancing at the club, regional, and state level. We have enjoyed our springtime travels to several Western Region state and regional festivals, and are looking forward to more travel over the summer.

As this is published, we will be on the road for our annual summer square dance RV road trip. We begin over Memorial Day weekend at the Golden State Round-up in Lodi, California, then travel on to the Colorado State Festival in Greeley on June 10-12. From there we will meander our way east to Evansville, Indiana, for the 71st National Square Dance Convention®. Following our return home after the National Convention, we head up to the Oregon Summer Festival on July 17-19 in Salem. It is truly great to be back on the square dance floor, visiting our old friends and making new ones!

We hope that all of the Western Region Affiliates were represented at the USDA Annual Meeting in Evansville. At the meeting we anticipate being elected for a third term as Western Region Vice President. We will be following up with each of our Affiliates after the Annual Meeting to find out how we can continue to support you and your dancers.

At the completion of our third term as Western Region Vice President in June 2023, we will be “termed out” and are looking for someone new to represent the Western Region. Please contact us at WesternVP@usda.org if you might be interested or know of someone else who would like to join this wonderful organization and support dancers and dancing in the 13 Western states.

Finally, we encourage all dancers to attend the “event of the summer” in the Western Region – the 19th USAWest Square Dance Convention, being held August 17-20, 2022 at the Handlery Hotel in San Diego. We will have six dance halls featuring all levels of square and round dancing, a variety hall, Wednesday evening special events, exhibitions, an education and sewing program, vendors, a silent auction, a raffle of two beautiful handmade quilts, and much more. On Friday and Saturday evenings, dancers will be treated to square dancing backed by the Ghost Riders live square dance band! Check out the website and register online at www.california.usawest.net. Join us to “Dance on the Wild Side” in beautiful San Diego.

Live Lively, Square Dance!

LPaul & Sally Schmidt

ATTENTION USDA AFFILIATE PRESIDENTS

Your *USDA News* Editor wants to remind all USDA Affiliate Presidents that we need the updates on your elections as soon as possible following your election. There are certain people that receive a complimentary copy of *USDA NEWS*, but they may not be getting it because your new roster of Affiliate officers has not yet been submitted to USDA. Please send a listing of your current Affiliate Officers, including mailing and email addresses, to Jim Taylor, USDA Treasurer at Treasurer@USDA.org as soon as possible. Don't miss out on your next issue of *USDA News*. This also assures that the proper individuals are getting reminders of the USDA Annual Business Meeting held at the National Square Dance Convention®.

USDA INSURANCE COORDINATORS NOTES

Greeting Everyone,

In the Apr-Jun, 2022 issue there was a major error in my article. Don't know how it happened since what was printed was not what I submitted. I am including the correct information that should have been the first two (2) paragraphs.

I hope everyone has registered for the 71st NSDC to be held in Evansville, IN, June 22 – 25, 2022. There will be a session on insurance Saturday, June 25 at 1pm in Locust Room C. Plan to attend but you need to check the listings at the convention to make sure there has not been a change in time or location.

There are several important issues that needs to be addressed. The first is the insurance portal. There is one time during the year when you can delete a facility and/or a name from the roster and that is the ONLY time that you can delete names and facilities. That time is when you are registering your club for the upcoming year and you are on the portal for the upcoming year which will be 2023. This is when you will verify all the names on the roster as members who will be dancing in 2023. For the 2023 roster you can delete any name that you know will not be a member or anyone that is not sure if they will be dancing in 2023. After you have paid for your club, you cannot delete any names or facilities. That includes any members that passed during the year, left your club for another club or who just stopped dancing. So, no deleting from the 2022 rosters.

The rest of the article was correct. Please refer back to that article for important information.

Please remember that the insurance company has changed its policy. No longer are accidents in the parking lot allowable. After the latest USDA magazine was published, I still received accident reports for falls in the parking lot. Also, remember the accident report must be reported to an officer of the club within 48 hours. Waiting 2 weeks is not acceptable.

Replacement Rosters: If you need to review your roster, then go into the portal to review but do not click on "Confirm". If you need another copy of that roster, please email me and ask for one. When you click on "Confirm" you will receive a new roster but I will receive all the documents again. This is confusing for me since I don't know if you made a facility change or were just "looking" at the information in the portal. I prefer that you email me and ask for a copy of your roster. The same would be for a replacement certificate.

Now that the rush is over, I will be keeping limited hours between now and October 1. Sunday's I am off; emails will be checked Monday thru Saturday and phone calls will be answered between 9am and 5pm Eastern Time Zone. I may not always be at home during those hours but you should leave a message and I will call you back as soon as I can.

I will be attending the 71st NSDC in Evansville, IN. I will present one seminar on Saturday, June 25 in Locust Room C at 1pm. Please check the schedule to make sure there are no last minute changes to the location and time.

I will not be available by phone from June 19 thru June 30, and I will have limited access to my emails.

This August I will have been your Insurance Coordinator for 3 years. It has been an amazing 3 years with so many changes to square dancing. We survived the Pandemic and everyone has welcomed the addition of the insurance portal. Not only are you saving paper but mailing costs. Having all your reports sent to me via the portal or by email means less paper to be mailed. I have also updated several of the forms on the website. PLEASE make sure you are using the latest version of any forms you are submitting. The forms you use should have this date on it – 04/22.

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

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Sanders

USDA National Insurance Coordinator

P O Box 417, Stephens, GA 30667

sqdanins@gmail.com or insurance@usda.org

706-759-3642

YOUTH REPORT

Dan Reedy, Youth Advisor

First, sadly for the 2022 season we had no applications submitted for the Founders Memorial Youth Fund Scholarship. This may have been due to a variety of reasons, from clubs not yet dancing due to the pandemic, or to Youth dancers skeptical about attending college. We need to get the word out that the scholarship is available and applications are accepted until February 1st.

Secondly, I would like to extend a word of praise to an incredible individual for his tireless work with youth. I know him personally, and can not speak well enough about his work with youth, including the recruitment efforts and the educational programs that he has developed and put into practice. I would encourage any Affiliate interested in developing or creating a viable youth program to contact the Missouri Vice President Merle Hall. Merle is a newly retired High School educator who has been instrumental in creating a great program for youth in Missouri. A warm Thank You for my friend, Merle Hall.

Last, I have almost recovered from the COVID bug. For those who may not have known, I contacted Double Bilateral Covid pneumonia. I spent 59 days in ICU, and have been on oxygen since my release. To date I am simply dealing with the scarring left from Covid, and hoping by this Fall to be off oxygen completely. Thank you for the prayers and words of encouragement from those who were aware, as it had at one point been very scary.

God bless you all until next time; let's get back to dancing.

Dan Reedy
USDA Youth Advisor

Scenes from Golden State Round-up held Memorial Weekend in Lodi, CA.



Top: Featured staff members Jay Henderson, Mike Sikorsky, Ray Brendzy and Charlie Robertson lead the dancing.

Left: USDA Western Region Vice President LPaul Schmidt sings the National Anthem at the Saturday Evening Ceremonies

Below: Dancers enjoyed a great weekend of festivities.



USDA Ways and Means

QR Codes Now Available! Check Them Out!

As we try to keep current with what is happening in the world of technology, we are excited to introduce QR codes for our **Ways and Means** item descriptions and the **Ways and Means** order form. Both of these codes will be prominently displayed at this year's National Convention at the USDA Showcase of Ideas display in Evansville, IN. Both codes, along with some basic instructions, are given below.

Speaking of item descriptions, we want to mention that USDA has two new items in addition to our red, white, and blue polos. Take a minute and check out the new USDA fleece (perfect for the often chilly dance halls in the convention centers) and red, white, and blue hat using the QR codes below.

Directions for reading QR codes using your phone:

1. Turn the camera on your phone on.
2. Aim the camera at the QR code.
3. A button or icon should appear.
4. Tap on it.
5. A web address should appear.
6. Tap on it.
7. The page should open.



Fleece Jacket



USDA Hat



USDA Product Descriptions

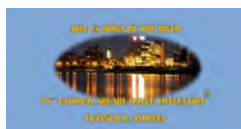


Order Form



Tony & Diana Rock
151 Connie Drive
Pittsburg, PA 15214-1251
(T) 412 310-2508 (D) 412 334-2523
email: WaysMeans@usda.org





Convention Committee

John and Carolyn Cook
General Chairman

Dave & Patti Woods
Asst. General Chairman

Cindy Schoen
Secretary

Ray Owens
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Housing Chairman

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Services Chairman

Charlotte Yencer
Social and Special
Events Chairman

NEWS

For Immediate Release

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Get tickets for Felix and Fingers as registration continues to grow

Just 141 seats are left for the June 22 Felix and Fingers Dueling Piano show at the Bally's Evansville Riverfront Event Center. The audience may suggest the music played. Submit a music request by email at fmbosemiller@gmail.com. The cost is \$50 per person for dinner and the show, or \$25 for each. Register at 71nsdc.org and get your seats before they are gone!

Registrations keep growing with over 1,400 people, and more are signing up every day. There's still time for you to join us Down By the River and see what all the fuss is about.

As of now, the 71st National Square Dance Convention® is not requiring proof of vaccination against COVID-19 or wearing of masks. The situation is dependent upon the status of Covid in June.

If you want to learn more about the Convention from General Chairman John Cook and Marty Northrup listen to Marty's Podcast at buzzsprout.com/474541 and select "Evansville or Bust." The first six minutes are hard to understand, but Cook fixes his audio equipment and the rest goes smoothly. Information about the convention can also be found on our website 71nsdc.org.

Check out Trail Thru and Trail End Dances to the 71st NSDC at our website 71nsdc.org and in the *National Squares Online* which lists Trail Thru dance flyers for free.



USDA Specialty Programs



USDA offers many programs to support dancers, clubs, and associations across the country. Some are well-known such as the Dancer Insurance Program, Leadership and Education Materials, Beyond the Dance Floor Webinar Series, and Youth Scholarship Program. But do you know about these other special programs that support and recognize dancers and dancing?

Handicapable Program: USDA is proud to support Handicapable dancers at the National Convention and at their US Handicapable Convention. Your donations help us continue to assist these fun, energetic dancers who are always willing to square up the minute the music starts!

USA Traveler Program: Earn recognition for traveling and dancing across the 50 United States! You will get a special badge with bars awarded at 12, 24, 36, 48, and 50 states. Earn free registration for an upcoming National Square Dance Convention at completion of 48 and 50 states!

Centennial Award Program: We have dancers around the country who reach the age of 100 and are still active in the square or round dance activity. USDA offers a special certificate and pin to recognize these wonderful seniors, presented in person by a USDA Executive Committee member.

Discount Prescription, Hearing, and Vision Program: The USDA Enhanced Benefits program offers discounts for prescriptions, hearing aid services, and vision care. The program is open to anyone—dancers and non-dancers!

USDA News: USDA's quarterly newsletter provides a wealth of articles, information, photos, and resources to support, promote, and recognize dancing across the country.

Amazon Smile: Amazon donates a portion of eligible purchases to support designated charitable organizations and USDA is on their list! Do your shopping and support USDA at the same time.

Learn more about **all** USDA programs and services at www.usda.org.

Support USDA by Using AmazonSmile for your online purchases!



FUND RAISING

How it Works: Simply go to <http://smile.amazon.com> and select **United Square Dancers of America** as the 501(c)3 charitable organization you wish to support. Don't have an account? It's simple to sign-up and select USDA. Then, proceed with your purchase as normal. Amazon will donate 1/2 of 1% of your total AmazonSmile purchase to USDA.

Remember, always start at smile.amazon.com

<http://smile.amazon.com>



Share AmazonSmile with your friends so they can also support USDA:



62nd California State Square Dance Convention



Ray Brendzy
Canada



Michael Kellogg
California

**Yuba-Sutter
Fairgrounds
Yuba City, CA**



Steve Edlund
Canada



Darryl Lipscomb
Oklahoma



**MaryAnn Callahan
& Craig Cowan**
California



**Sharon & Casey
Parker**
California

April 21—23, 2023

**Mainstream/SSD
Plus - Advanced
Challenge**

Rounds PH 2-5

Trail End Dance

After Party

Caller Clinic

Silent Auction

Opportunity Quilt

Drawing

RV Parking on Grass

Fun-Fun-Fun

Trail's End Dance

Thursday Evening

7:30 - 10:00 pm

**USDA
al Meet-**



Ray Brendzy

**Annu-
ing**

Friday Warm-Up Dance

3:00 - 5:00 pm

**Featuring Callers from the
Caller Clinic**



Square Dance Attire Admired but Not Required on Friday & Saturday Evenings

This event qualifies for the California Council of Square Dancers, Inc. Friendship

CONTACT General Chairmen: Katie Pearce: 916.606.9738 & Bonnie Abramson: 916.213.3640

Chairmen@CAState2023.org / Online Registration at www.CAState2023.org /

Online Deadline: April 18 / Mail-In Deadline: April 8

Sponsored by the California Council of Square Dancers, Inc.



IAGSDC Memorial Panels Pay Tribute to Dancers Lost

There is a unique aspect to the IAGSDC's – International Association of Gay Square Dance Clubs – Annual Convention ... a special room set aside to display the Memorial Banners which hold the badges of members of the organization who have passed away. The banners were the brainchild of Freeman Stamper, an early pioneer of the Gay Square Dancers' organization.

Freeman, who danced with Western Star Dancers of San Francisco beginning in 1983 and attended his 30th IAGSDC Convention in Minneapolis, came up with the idea for the panel a week before the 1994 IAGSDC Convention in Washington, D.C. He answered the growing dilemma of what to do with the badges of our deceased dancers with his keen logic: "Why don't we collect them all? We'll create a little square dance Heaven here on Earth."

Modeled in part after the NAMES Memorial Quilt panels, the IAGSDC banners measure 6' x 3' and began with one canvas panel designed from Freeman's vision and brought to reality by Gene Boemer, an artist living in Rehoboth Beach, Delaware, at that time. The focus of the panel is not on the basic supplies used in its creation or the sophisticated symbolism, but the badges it was designed to carry — the badges of square dancers, callers and cuers who have passed away due to AIDS or other illnesses.

Badges are simply pinned to the panel in a random location. There is no geographic or club structure designated, merely wherever they want to pin the badge. As of the 39th IAGSDC Convention held in Minneapolis, MN, over the Memorial weekend, the number of panels has grown to include a new blank banner unveiled at the convention. By the end of the convention there were several new additions.



The original panel created by Freeman Stamper and Gene Boemer, filled with many badges.

During each Convention, a special room is dedicated to display the banners and hold pinning ceremonies. Badges can be pinned by individuals, family members or during a group gathering in the room where club members and friends share memories of the deceased. A database is kept to identify every badge pinned, including the full name, club(s) and date of death, as well as the location of their badge on it's designated panel. A preference is to place the deceased's actual badge, but if that is not available the club often purchases a replica badge to be pinned.



The newest panel unveiled in Minneapolis. After a 3-year hiatus of In-person dancing, there were a lot of new badges pinned during the 2022 Convention. This is the fifth panel created for this purpose.

Information for this article was gathered from the IAGSDC History Project. For more information visit the IAGSDC website at www.IAGSDC.org.

Renew in 2022!!



47th Tennessee Square and Round Dance Convention



August 4, 5, and 6, 2022

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



Squares

Mainstream	Plus
Advanced	Challenge
Hot Hash	DBD
Hex	Progressive
Singing Calls	



Rounds

Phase II-VI

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

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

THURSDAY:

Trail-in Dance 8 - 11PM
2 Square Dance Halls
1 Dedicated Round Dance Hall

FRIDAY & SATURDAY:

10 am - 11 pm
6 Halls of Dancing
*Live Band: Evening Hours

Fashion Show

Singles Dance

Sewing Clinic

After Party

Contra

Vendors



www.TNSquareDance.org

Facebook: TN Square and Round Dance Convention

IAGSDC's Prestigious Golden Boot Award Presented to Vic, Debbie & Caitlyn Ceder During Minneapolis Convention

During the IAGSDC's (International Association of Gay Square Dance Clubs) International Convention held in Minneapolis, MN, over Memorial Day Weekend, Allan Hurst had the honor of presenting the Organization's prestigious Golden Boot Award to Vic, Debbie and Caitlyn Ceder.

As the 2019 recipient of the award, Allan Hurst had the honor of selecting the next recipient – a presentation that was delayed for three years by Covid and the cancellation of an in-person conventions in 2020 and 2021.

So why is the Golden Boot Award such a Big Deal? The Golden Boot was originally presented to Art Smith in 1983 by Puddletown Squares for his many contributions to LGBTQ square dancing in the Pacific Northwest. Art chose to pass the award on to someone outside of the area, and it's moved from hand to hand ever since.

According to Art Smith's original words: "The spirit of the Golden Boot Award belongs to everyone. For it is all of us contributing together, sharing our energy, our dedication and most of all our love that is truly the spirit that is honored. When any one of us gives 100% of the best of what and who we are, that is the finest example of the essence of what the Golden Boot Award exemplifies." Allan added that, "This award isn't just a big deal, it's a recognition that someone has done something - usually MANY somethings - for LGBTQ square dancing to expand it, enhance it, keep it alive, or rescue it in some way."

Unfortunately, Vic and Debbie couldn't attend the convention due to COVID-19, but Caitlyn was in attendance and able to receive the honor on behalf of the family. Vic & Debbie received a surprise phone call during the presentation letting them know of their selection.

Among the many reasons Vic, Debbie and Caitlyn were honored include:

- Created the most extensive databases of callers, cuers, choreography, and singing calls on the internet – www.ceder.net
- Debbie created the best-ever article on how to write choreography for the GCA Call Sheet.
- Vic and Debbie created the Ceder Chest line of choreography reference books, some of the most highly regarded choreography reference books in square dancing
- Teaching several generations of LGBTQ dancers (and their friends) how to dance.
- Wrote what is considered to be one of the leading caller choreo and music management applications in the industry.
- Received a CALLERLAB Milestone Award.
- They all dance square, round, contra, and swing. (Quite expertly, in fact.)

Vic and Debbie are also one of only three sets of people who have now received both the Golden Boot and the CALLERLAB Milestone award. Barry & Pam Clasper, and Betsy Gotta, are the others.

Congratulations to Vic, Debbie and Caitlyn Ceder!



Caitlyn Ceder & Allan Hurst during the Golden Boot Award Presentation



Vic Ceder



Debbie Ceder



72nd National Square Dance Convention®
Party Gras 2023
June 21, 22, 23, 24, 2023 in Mobile, Alabama
Ya'll Come Dance & Play on Mobile Bay
Register online at www.72nsdc.com

**RETURN
 COMPLETED FORM
 TO:
 72nd NSDC
 P.O. Box 613
 Leeds, AL 35094**

For Convention Use Only
 Registration # _____
 Date Received _____
 Payment Processed _____
 Check# or Pan4 _____
 Version 12/1/2021

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Country: _____
 Phone: _____ Phone 2: _____
 Email*: _____
 *E-mail address will only be shared with the NEC ☐ Check if you do not want your email shared.

First Name & Last Name for **CONVENTION BADGES** Subtotals

# of past NSDCs prior to 72nd	1 Adult: _____	2 Adult: _____	3 Adult/Youth: _____	4 Adult/Youth: _____	5 Adult/Youth: _____	DOB _____	DOB _____	DOB _____	Solo # _____	1st NSDC # _____	Military/Veteran # _____
	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____						

Magnet for badge (pins provided free) # _____ @ \$2.00 \$ _____
Program Book & Daily Schedules (\$20 after 4/30/23) # _____ @ \$15.00 \$ _____
Round Dance Syllabus ☐ USB \$10 ☐ Printed \$10 ☐ Both \$15 # _____ @ \$ _____ \$ _____
Sew & Save Book ☐ USB \$10 ☐ Printed \$10 ☐ Both \$15 # _____ @ \$ _____ \$ _____
Hearing Assistance Device Rental (\$20 refund upon return) # _____ @ \$40.00 \$ _____
Wednesday Night Special Event "Three on A String" (Bluegrass Comedy)
☐ Dinner & Show \$50 per person # _____ @ \$50.00 \$ _____
☐ Show Only \$25 per person # _____ @ \$25.00 \$ _____
RV Camping From back side of form (4 night minimum) # _____ nights @ \$40.00 \$ _____
Total Due \$ _____

PAYMENT FOR TOTAL DUE (US Funds)
☐ Check Enclosed ☐ Cash - Receipt # _____ ☐ Credit Card:
 Name on Card: _____
 Card Type (Visa, Mastercard, AmEx) _____
 Card Number: _____
 Expiration Date: _____ Security Code: _____

HOTEL & CAMPING INFORMATION ON REVERSE SIDE OF THIS FORM
 Convention Hotels and Campgrounds must be reserved through 72nd NSDC Registration & Housing for 72nd NSDC rates. ☐ Check box if you will manage your own accommodations.

- INFORMATION FOR COMPLETING FORM**
- You can complete this form and pay online at www.72nsdc.com.
 - Please PRINT legibly to ensure accuracy of information.
 - If you have already PRE-REGISTERED using our short form, please enter names in the appropriate space for each badge and enter \$0 (zero) in subtotal by each name already registered to avoid duplicate charge.
 - If not Pre-Registered, enter registration fee for each dancer plus quantity and correctly calculated amounts in the subtotal lines, then calculate and enter the total due.
 - Registration fees: Adult \$65 - Youth ages 5-17 by 6/24/23 \$32.50. Under 5 Free.
 - Prices will increase May 1, 2023, to Adult \$80 - Youth ages 5-17 \$40.
 - Persons 3-5 circle Adult or Youth. Only need birthday if Youth.
 - Badges will include (if you choose) Solo, 1st NSDC and Military Service. To indicate which badge, put the corresponding number (1-5) in the blank: Example: Retired Military Veteran # 1, 2
 - Registrations are non-transferable.
 - No Single Day Registrations.
 - A \$10.00 fee per registrant will be imposed for cancellations or changes.
 - Registrations received after April 30, 2023, will receive e-mail confirmation only.
 - If sending by mail include credit card information, check, or money order payable in U.S. Funds to 72nd NSDC with this form. Do not send cash.
 - If paying by credit card, you can email this form to registration@72nsdc.com.

TOURS can be purchased on separate brochure or online at www.72nsdc.com/tours

PROGRAMMED CALLERS & DANCE LEADERS
 You must update your profile online by 12/31/22 at <https://sdconvention.com>

Name _____ Type: _____
 Name _____ Type: _____
 Name _____ Type: _____

Dressy casual attire allowed until 6pm. Proper dance attire is required after 6pm for all dancers. 72nd NSDC Convention badge required for entrance to all convention activities.

Name: _____

More information available at www.72nsdc.com/accommodations

HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS

Code	Hotel	Rate
1	Renaissance Riverview Plaza Hotel Headquarters	\$162
2	Battle House Renaissance Hotel & Spa Pet Friendly	\$162
3	Hampton Inn & Suites *One night Deposit charged in advance	\$129*
4	Holiday Inn Dance Leaders Only	\$130

Indicate choice of hotel preference by specifying code number: #1 ___ #2 ___ #3 ___
Assignments will be made in order of registration form received & according to availability.
Hotels assigned on first come basis. This form must be received, and rooms must be booked by April 1, 2023, to guarantee 72nd NSDC pricing.

Room nights needed: (4 Night Minimum)

☐ S 6/17 ☐ S 6/18 ☐ M 6/19 ☐ T 6/20 ☐ W 6/21 ☐ T 6/22 ☐ F 6/23 ☐ S 6/24 ☐ S 6/25
Additional arrive early? ___ or stay late nights? ___ Total nights requested ___

Room request: ☐ Double ☐ Queen ☐ King
☐ Standard ☐ Suite (*upcharge) ☐ Handicapable Accessible

SHARED ROOMS - only one person per room should complete a hotel reservation request.
Please list all room occupants here: _____

Housing Committee does not lend or assign roommates.

BLOCK HOUSING (10-25 rooms) requests must be received by January 2, 2023. Everyone that is part of a Block Housing Group must fill in Block Name and Block Leader Name.

Block Name _____

Block Leader Name _____

Email _____ Phone _____

No airport shuttle services provided by hotels; arranged shuttle information can be found online at www.72nsdc.com/accommodations.

Your hotel reservation must be guaranteed with credit card.

Hotel confirmations will be sent via email or mail. If you do not receive your confirmation by May 1, 2023, please email registration@72nsdc.com. The balance for your room will be charged at the hotel upon check in. An alternative form of payment may be presented at check in. Your confirmed hotel may assess a one-night tax penalty fee for cancellations received less than 72 hours of arrival, including early departure. No self or online registration available, all convention hotels must be booked, through Housing Chairman.

CREDIT CARD FOR HOTEL RESERVATIONS

☐ Use same credit card on front side or ☐ Use different credit card below.

Name on Card: _____

Card Type (Visa, Mastercard, AmEx) _____

Card Number: _____

Expiration Date: _____ (*after July 2023) Security Code: _____

MAP OF HOTELS



RV & CAMPING ACCOMMODATIONS

Campground	Distance	Rate
Meaher State Park Campground	8 miles / 12-minute drive	\$40

Each site is paved, roughly 85' in length, and has 20, 30 and 50-amp electrical connections as well as water and sewer hookups. Assignments will be made in order of registration form received & according to availability. Sites assigned on first come basis. This form must be received, and sites must be booked by April 1, 2023, to guarantee 72nd NSDC pricing.

Site nights needed: (4 Night Minimum)

☐ S 6/17 ☐ S 6/18 ☐ M 6/19 ☐ T 6/20 ☐ W 6/21 ☐ T 6/22 ☐ F 6/23 ☐ S 6/24 ☐ S 6/25
Additional arrive early? ___ or stay late nights? ___ Total nights requested ___

GROUP CAMPING requests must be received by January 2, 2023. Everyone that is part of the Group must fill in Group Name and Group Leader Name.

Group Name _____

Group Leader Name _____

Email _____ Phone _____

No Bus Passes Available. Parking Available at Convention Center \$5 per day (in/out).

Your camping reservation must be paid in advance with this form. (on Front Side)

Your confirmed campground may assess a one-night tax penalty fee for cancellations received less than 72 hours of arrival, including early departure. No self or online registration available, all site reservations must be booked through RV & Camping Chairman.





Pre-Registration
73rd National Square Dance Convention®
Milwaukee, Wisconsin
June 26, 27, 28, & 29, 2024

REGISTER ONLINE at www.73nsdc.com
This form expires on February 25, 2023

Registration Number _____

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

Primary Last Name: _____ First Name _____

Email Address: _____

Partner's Last Name (if different): _____ First Name _____

Email Address: (if different) _____

Youth Names & DOB: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Country: _____

☐

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 (_____) _____

Pre-Registration Prices (US currency only) \$50.00 each x _____ = \$ _____ **until 2/25/2023**

Youth born after June 26, 2007 \$25.00 each x _____ = \$ _____ **until 2/25/2023**

Cash Received \$ _____ Check # _____ (**Pay to 73NSDC**) **Total Due:** \$ _____

Credit Card Type: _____ Credit Card #: _____

Expiration Date: ____/____/____ Security Code: _____ Name of Cardholder: _____

Statement Mailing Address (if different): _____

Authorized Card Signature: _____

IF REGISTERING BY MAIL: Registration Vice Chairmen: Jim & Katie Green (414) 469-8644
 73rd National Square Dance Convention® 7209 W. Wisconsin Ave. Wauwatosa, WI 53213 registration@73nsdc.com

\$10.00 cancellation fee per registration. No refunds after April 30, 2024. **This form and registration rate is void after February 25, 2023.** Registration Long Forms will be mailed in November 2022 for selection of hotel and additional items. Early registration gives you free admittance to the Pre-Convention Kick Off Dance on February 25, 2023. Convention badges are required for entrance to all convention activities. Square Dance attire is requested for the evening dance.

PLEASE HELP US PLAN!

Please CIRCLE all that apply

Dancers: Mainstream, Plus, Advanced, Challenge, Contra, Lines, Rounds, Clogging, Handicapable, SOLO

Leaders: Squares, Contra, Lines, Rounds, Clogging, Education Presenter: Topic: _____

Arrive Early or Stay Late? # Days _____ Camping, Stay at Convention Hotel, or Other Accommodations?

Group Name: _____ Do you need Block Rooms, Meeting Room, or Storage Space: _____

(Internal Use Only) Accepted by: _____ Date: _____

Registration Location: _____

Receipt Sent: _____ Date Sent: _____

01/31/2022





The United Square Dancers of America's *Zoom* Series

Beyond the Dance Floor

We're Back to Dancing! — We've all missed dancing and it's so great to see many clubs back in action and many of our state, regional and national dance events once again happening in person! As we return to in-person dancing many clubs and events are facing lower-than-hoped-for attendance, challenges in reaching a break-even point for scheduled dances and events, struggles to find individuals to lead our clubs and events, and many other challenges. Our **Beyond The Dance Floor** series offers an opportunity to share ideas, see how other clubs and organizations across the country are dealing with these issues and learn more about the opportunities and resources are available within the Square, Round and Social dance community. We hope you will join us for one or more of our upcoming workshops.

A Little History — In October of 2020 the **United Square Dancers of America** — USDA — your National dancers' organization, introduced a monthly series of web-based programs via *Zoom* to support clubs on the business and marketing end of our activity. The programs were 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. Since the introduction of the initial workshops, topics have evolved to include Marketing, the SSD dance program, Social Connections and the recruitment and retention of callers. We've been lucky enough to partner with CALLERLAB and ROUNDALAB on several of these programs and look forward to partnering with other national organizations for future program offerings. We've had participation from dancers and callers from all over the world, sharing ideas, program guidelines and coping strategies



Beyond The Dance Floor – We are always looking for topics that will be of interest to you, our fellow dancers. Please feel free to share your ideas for future topics to be offered in our Beyond The Dance Floor series. Submit your ideas to us at Education@usda.org.

Want Direct Notification of the Next Session? Watch your email, our website and Facebook for links to the actual, **FREE** workshops. If you would like to be added to our email notification list send us your name and email address to Education@usda.org.



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

USDA Online Education: Bonnie Abramson — Education@usda.org

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



Beyond the Dance Floor

TENTATIVE 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

Saturday, July 9, 2022

Title: Grand Square International—Who Are We and How Do We Benefit Square Dancing?

Faculty: Tony & Paige Oxendine, US Leaders of GSI.

Program Description: Grand Square International is a non-profit organization made up of international leaders from the US, Canada, Japan, Taiwan, Serbia, Sweden, the United Kingdom, Germany, the Netherlands, Czech and Slovakia. They've gathered together to share ideas and ways to benefit our favorite activity. What do they do? What Resources do they provide and how can you get involved? Tony & Paige will share information about the great work this organization provides.

Saturday, August 13, 2022 - Topic TBA

Saturday, September 10, 2022 - Topic TBA

Saturday, October 15, 2022

Title: Marketing Square Dancing

Faculty: Jack Pladdys, Chairman of CALLERLAB's Marketing Committee

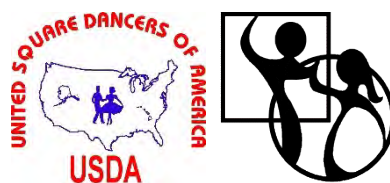
Program Description: As Chairman of CALLERLAB's Marketing Committee, Jack will share ideas on how to market our activity. Sharing input from across the country on what is currently working, what ideas may seem appropriate to revisit, and utilizing every opportunity available to us to get the word out about our activity. Join us to hear what ideas CALLERLAB has to share and be prepared to share you

Saturday, November 12, 2022

Title: USDA's Insurance Program

Faculty: Elizabeth & Eddie Sanders, USDA Insurance Directors

Program Description: Information about USDA's Insurance Program, including who qualifies, how it works and what is covered. During the program Elizabeth will review the new rates for 2023 as well as how local, regional and state insurance directors get dancers enrolled in the program. She will also inform you how to update your rosters as new members join your club and coverage for beginning dancers and when they need to be added to your club rosters.



UNITED SQUARE DANCERS OF AMERICA

NEWS RELEASE

USDA USA Traveler Program See the USA with USDA!

Do you like to square dance? Do you like to travel? Then USDA's USA Traveler Program is made for you! The program is intended to promote visitation throughout all 50 states by encouraging dancers to attend club dances, festivals, state conventions, or national conventions across state lines and around the United States. The goal – to dance at an event in each of the 50 United States! Dancers participating in the USA Traveler Program carry a form to be signed by an official at a club dance, festival, or convention.

As the forms are completed (in sets of 12 states), they are submitted to the USA Traveler Program chair. Upon completion of the first 12 states, the dancer receives a USA Traveler badge and a bar denoting 12 states visited. New forms can then be completed for subsequent sets of 12 states (no duplication permitted), with new bars awarded at 24, 36, 48, and 50 states. Each participant who reaches **48 and 50** states will also be **awarded paid admission** to the next National Square Dance Convention®. Then it's time to start again for a "second time around" award!

If you haven't yet started the USA Traveler Program, now is the time. Download a form from the USDA website at www.usda.org/traveler.htm, get it signed off at a local dance, then start traveling! For further information, check out the website or contact the USA Traveler Program chairman Jerry & Donna Robey at Traveler@usda.org.

Head out to see the USA with USDA!

September is National Square Dance Month

November 29 is National Square Dance Day

USDA NEWS would love to know what your club did for Square Dance Month and what they plan to do on November 29th.



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.

American™
HEARING BENEFITS

*The Enhanced
Benefits Card*

EBCcard.com

CALL TODAY! — 1-888-890-2875

American Owned & Operated



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

 <p>Prescription Card</p> <p>Use this card for any prescription that is not covered by Medicare, Medicaid or insurance</p> <p>This is NOT insurance</p>	<p>BIN: 600428</p> <p>PCN: 05100000</p> <p>GRP: 05690001</p> <p>Member ID: EB22USDA1</p>	<p>Pharmacist's Help Desk: 1-866-921-7286</p> <p>Member Customer Service: 1-800-285-5783</p>
	<p>Powered by </p>	<p>http://usda.ebccard.com</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>

Cut out and fold

FREE PHARMACY DISCOUNT CARD

CLIP AND USE THIS CARD AND SAVE. SHARE IT WITH FAMILY AND FRIENDS.

You 2 Can Dance

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

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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.

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June 21-24, 2023 Mobile, AL



CONVENTION SCHEDULE

Send the USDA NEWS Editor your State Association/Federation

Convention dates and they will be listed here at no charge.

2022



2022

Aug 4-6 **47th Tennessee State Square & Round Dance Convention**
W. L. Mills Conference Center
234 Historic Nature Trail
Gatlinburg, TN 37738
www.TNSquareDance.org
Facebook: TN Square & Round Dance Convention

See AD—Page 17

Sep 16-17 **51st Nebraska State Square & Round Dance Weekend**
Adams County Fairgrounds
Hastings, Nebraska
402 371-9276
email: marylc@conpoint.com

Aug 17-20 **19th USA West Square Dance Convention**
Handlery Hotel
San Diego, CA
www.california.usawest.net
LPaul and Sally Schmidt
generalchair@california.usawest.net
619 222-0445 / 619 804-4197

Nov 4-6 **Indiana Square & Round Dance Convention**
French Lick Springs Resort
French Lick, IN
Phone: 574 654-3395
Email: berger3395@gmail.com
Web: insquaredanceconvention.com
Facebook: Indiana Square and Round Dance Convention

Aug 18-20 **58th Michigan Square & Round Dance Convention**
Radisson Plaza Hotel & Suites
100 W. Michigan Avenue
Kalamazoo, MI 49007
www.squaredance-michigan.com

Oct 14-15 **52nd Louisiana State Dance Association Convention**
Rayne Civic Center
Rayne, Louisiana
I10 - Exit 87
Bob Landry 337 258-5781
Wes Brton 337 529-4399 [wesnfay@att.net](mailto:wesnray@att.net)

2023

Aug 26-27 **42nd Alabama Square & Round Dance Convention**
Oxford Civic Center
Oxford, AL
Register on-line:
www.alabamasquaredance.com

Apr 20-23 **62nd California State Square Dance Convention**
Yuba-Sutter Fairgrounds
Yuba City, CA
General Chairmen:
Katie Pearce & Bonnie Abramson
Chairmen@CAState2023.org
Register Online at www.CAState2023.org
Facebook: Calif State Square Dance Convention 2023



FUTURE NATIONAL CONVENTIONS

2023—June 21-24—Mobile, AL
2024—June 26-29—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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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. Mail checks to: Larry Dunkel, 6012 Ridgeview Rd., Knoxville, TN 37 918-8201

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