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FREE PHARMACY DISCOUNT CARDS

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WHAT'S INSIDE?

Read the reports from each of the Regional Vice Presidents on what is happening in their area. These people are always on the go attending conventions and other events within their area spreading the word about USDA and how we can help promote your clubs and organizations.

Seems like every time I turn on the TV I hear negative reports about our International relations. Perhaps if they read the article on page 12 they might learn a few things about getting along with our foreign friends.

Judy Taylor has an article on page 13 about a Denver Memory Book and a picture of dancers at the 1959 National Square Dance Convention held in Denver.

Checkout our WEB-SITE (www.usda.org)and discover ways USDA can help you and your club. You might be surprised a what is available .

There are loads of information on our web-site (usda.org) regarding our various programs, such as; our Youth Program, the Handicapable Program, our Centennial Award, the USDA Travelers, and others. The Publications and Educational Materials list continues to add new items as well as frequent updates on all of our brochures and pamphlets. These are available through your regional vice presidents, ordering on-line, or contacting the Education & Publications Coordinators,

THANK YOU to the following for their contributions to this edition of USDA NEWS.

Photographs— Frank Hunter, Judy Taylor, Sally Schmidt, and Marilyn Schmit

Special Articles—Judy Taylor, Guy Lee, Ed Boysel, and Steve Kopman

Cover Design: Chris Dunkel

CLIP AND USE THIS CARD AND SAVE

Cut out and fold

PRESIDENTS

MESSAGE



Tony and Diana Rock

Hello dancers! We hope all of you had a very happy Thanksgiving and joyful holidays. Now that the days are shorter and the weather is cooler we hope that you're putting your minds to building relationships with your fellow dancers and marking your calendars with all of those exciting dances in 2020.

We want to take this opportunity to remind you of a couple of items that may have slipped your mind.

First, the USDA Founders Memorial Youth Scholarship deadline is fast approaching. If you know of a youth dancer who is perusing higher education and might benefit, please encourage them to get the scholarship information from <u>usda.org</u> and apply today as the deadline is February 1st.

Second, many of you may be aware of the USDA prescription card, but may not need to take advantage of it for medications because you already have health insurance. However, did you know that the program also offers significant discounts for hearing aids? If you find that you are in need of a hearing aid you should get the card and informational flier and take advantage of it. You may find similar discounts at wholesale stores/clubs but probably won't find the same quality as you can get through this program. Did you also know that you can share this discount program with friends, family, and neighbors since it is available to everyone and not just dancers?

These are just a couple of the USDA programs that are available to the dance community. Take a few minutes to check out all of the information on usda.org.

Speaking of the USDA Youth Scholarship, we would be remiss if we did not give a shout out to the USDA Executive Committee members who have worked very persistently this past fall quarter on updating all of the USDA youth trifolds and scholarship information. We are optimistic that all of the newly revised youth documents will be available on usda.org by the time you are reading this issue of the USDA News. Hats off to Alicia Becker, Dan Reedy, Dale and Kathy Worthington for a job well done!

Live Lively, Square Dance!

Tony & Diana Rock







EDITOR



Larry W. Dunkel

In a recent conversation with a friend, I suddenly became aware of how often she used the word "amazed". Then I realized that I use that word quite often myself. Sometimes I talk of thing in my past that have amazed me, there will be many things in my future that will amaze me and my everyday life now is full of amazing things. I started thinking of some of the things that amaze, such as; I am amazed at how few people have ever heard of USDA. We are the world's largest square dance association and very few people know we exist. Of the few that do know, they can't tell you what we do. Isn't that amazing?

I am amazed that Amazon has given \$156,109,909.51 to charitable 501(c)(3) public charitable organizations, but USDA has only received \$116.54. Can you imagine the impact it would have if only 10% of our members belonged to this free service offered by Amazon?

Not all amazements are negative. I am amazed that in the past five years we have recognized and honored 15 people that are 100 years old. I am amazed at the financial support we get from many of our state affiliates to help our young people through our Founders Memorial Scholarship Program.

Not all of my amazements are square dance related. My life is full of other amazements. The advancement of technology in medicine, in air transportation, in space travel, and I could go on and on with all the wonderful progress I have seen in my short time here on earth. I watch old movies of our pilgrims taking months to travel in their covered wagons, but today we can go coast to coast in four hours. Who would have ever dreamed that we would see the day a man would walk on the moon. Today a heart transplant is a common thing as are many other body parts that help extend or improve our life style. Amazing!

One thing I don't understand is the eye exam. When I was in the 5th grade, I had my first eye exam and I was told to read the bottom line on this chart posted on the wall. A couple of months ago I had my annual eye exam and one of the first things the Dr. said to me was, "read the lowest line on that chart on the wall". I found it amazing that after all these years we are still "reading the lowest line on the chart. But before my mailbox is flooded with letters telling me of all the advancements made in the optical field, I do want to acknowledge that there is a world of improvements. Both of my parents became blind with macular degeneration as they aged. I happen to have that disease also but, due to advancements made I am told that although there still is no cure for this disease they have found a way to slow or even stop its progress to the point that I should never lose my sight as my parents did. So thank you to those responsible for this amazing accomplishment.

One of my favorite songs is "What a Wonderful World" sung by Louis Armstrong. As I sing along I will sometimes change the word "wonderful" to "amazing". Do we stop and smell the roses? To we take time to tell those we love how much they mean to us? Do we appreciate the everyday things that make life easier for us or do we just take all of this for granted. Do we overuse the word "amazing"? Not a chance!

> "The colors of the rainbow so pretty in the sky, are also on the faces of people going by. I see friends shaking hands saying how do you do. They're really saying I love you. I hear babies crying, I watch them grow, They'll learn much more than I'll never know. Yes I think to myself what a wonderful (amazing) world."

EVENTS IN THE PLAINS REGION

Mark & Bina Krebsbach, USDA Plains Region VP

Greetings from North Dakota The ground is white Christmas is past 2020 is here 2019 ---went by so fast?!

Winter is my favorite time of the year. I watch the sun as it momentarily lingers over the snow covered fields and pays tribute before settling into the horizon for that long winter's nap. I think winter makes me lazy. I also think I gain a pound or two.

I hope each and every one of you enjoyed a safe and blessed Thanksgiving and Christmas Season. And also were able to enjoy a few square dances as well.

This past September, Bina and I were able to attend several dances in North Dakota including a special dance at the Steam Thresher's Show in Braddock, ND. That was a hoot, with quite a large audience. We thank our local caller, Larry Pfennig for coming with us to call the dance.

Then in October we ventured out on a square dance bus trip to Branson, Missouri hosted by caller & cuer, Roger & Bernadette McNeil from Fargo, ND. What an enjoyable trip for 52 dancers. Roger & Bernadette do an outstanding job. Trip highlight --- 3 squares danced on stage at the Clay Cooper show. Ask me if that was pretty cool!!

Two days after we returned from that trip Bina & I headed out on our own 10 state drive about. We were able to represent the USDA and dance in South Dakota, Wyoming, Nebraska, Iowa, Missouri, Tennessee, Kentucky, Arkansan, Oklahoma and Kansas. That trip took nearly 3 weeks as we attended weekend festivals in South Dakota, Missouri and Kansas.

If we can get organized we will plan to travel again in January & February

At the close of another year it is good to renew our faith and reflect on all the blessings that have been bestowed upon us. May the Lord let us never forget that for we who pass here on this earth do not own this land. We use it and hold it briefly in trust for those yet to come. We must never forget that the land, air and water are ours for the moment only. That generations will follow who must themselves live from this same land, breathe this same air, and drink this same water. Let us keep the paths to tomorrow open.

As we enter another year, may God be our guide and direct us, as his will be done. Share with me one prayer; that all of mankind live as one with nature and peace reign everywhere.

May you have A blessed and Happy 2020. See you across the square.

God bless, as ever square dancers,

Mark & Bina





EVENTS IN THE WESTERN REGION

Dale & Kathy Worthington, USDA Western Region VP

September we went to Aurora, Oregon, to attend the Oregon Federation of Square and Round Dance Clubs (OFSRDC) Meeting. There we gave our final report as the appointed Oregon Goodwill Ambassadors. In October, as the Publication and Education Chair, we started working with the Youth Scholarship Committee on the revision of Founders Memorial Youth Scholarship tri-folds and scoring rubic. After numerous edits and emails, we are ready to send them to the printer. Also in October we had the 19th Annual Seaside Sashay Square Dance Festival held in Seaside, OR. Kathy and I have been the Co-Chairs since it started so it is almost a routine (not really). Of course, we had the USDA display set up and it was pretty well picked through. We are now looking forward to the USDA Mid-Winter Meeting which we will be driving to via Arizona, Mexico, Texas, and finally North Carolina.

Dale & Kathy Worthington

EVENTS IN THE CENTRAL REGION

Ed & Lynda Willis, USDA Central Region VP

We are not sure what happened to our report for last quarter, may have gotten lost in the email as we were on the road at the time. Since we were elected Vice Presidents of the Central Region at the Atlanta meeting we have been busy. Fall is our annual camping trip planed a year in advance and this year we traveled to a reunion at Yellowstone National Park. We then spent a month touring six national parks in Canada which caused us to miss three State conventions. While in West Yellowstone, MT. we did attend the Knot Head Jamboree, an excellent dance held in a historic building in West Yellowstone. We highly recommend you attend this event if you are on the area.

Even with the two month camping trip we were able to attend state conventions in Tennessee, West Virginia and Indiana. Tennessee is one of the largest state conventions with over a thousand dancers. This year was no exception. West Virginia, though much smaller, is still a unique event. They dance as late as three AM. They dance until there are no dancers still awake to dance. The Indiana convention is held in French Lick, IN. at a grand historic hotel which includes a casino. They put on an outstanding weekend along with numerous other events going on at the hotel, including the Polar Express train ride. It was interesting to see whole families at dinner wearing their Christmas Pajamas after their trip on the Polar Express.

The Central Region is hosting the winter meeting of the USDA executive committee in January 2020 and we are busy planning the weekend. This year's meeting is being held in Wilmington, NC, (Wrightsville Beach, NC.) The weather here in January can be anywhere from 80 to upper 20's, but we are hoping for the best. If you are in the region please stop by and say hello. The last time Lynda and I hosted a winter meeting we held it in Myrtle Beach and that was the weekend it snowed all over the eastern part of the country. We even had snow flurries in MB. Last year's meeting was in Pittsburg and the snow was kind enough to wait until the meeting was over. If you have anything to bring before the committee please send it to one of the members or present it in person at the meeting.

We hope everyone had a great Thanksgiving, Christmas and a very Happy New Year!

Ed & Lynda Willis

EVENTS IN THE EASTERN REGION

Mike &Pat Matsko, USDA Plains Region VP

At the USDA Board of Directors Meeting held in Atlanta, Georgia, there were no nominations for the Eastern Region Vice Presidents position. Presidents Tony & Diana Rock approached us to fill the position on a temporary basis, until a qualified person(s) would be willing to replace us. The USDA BYLAWS prohibits no two elected officers to be from the same Affiliate. Because we are members of the same Affiliate as our Presidents, we cannot be considered as a nominee for this position.

What we must do is to recruit persons that belong to another Affiliate in the Eastern Region. We ask that you help us in recruiting a qualified nominee for this position. Feel free to contact us for any questions regarding this matter. However, as your appointed Vice Presidents, we ask that you inform your dancers and leaders that they should contact us for assistance and information they need from USDA.

Also, we suggest that in your group meetings you review the USDA NEWS Publication. The articles and reports in these publications can be helpful in learning what USDA offers in educational and program products. Plus hear about the activities and events that are happening throughout the country. For more details on these available educational publications and programs, go to the website, <u>www.usda.org</u>

We look forward to assisting you. Contact us by phone or e-mail.

Mike & Pat Matsko, 570-743-2596, mpmat@ptd.net



Support USDA by Using AmazonSmile for your online purchases!



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 ½ of 1% of your total AmazonSmile purchase to USDA.

Remember, always start at smile.amazon.com

http://smile.amazon.com

amazon Smile Share Amazon Smile with your friends so they can also support USDA:



ARE YOU DANCING UNINSURED? REAL FACTS ABOUT THE SQUARE DANCE INSURANCE PROGRAM

THE BASICS:

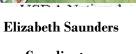
Every square dance organization needs General Liability and Accidental Medical Expense coverage while conducting and sponsoring dance activities. As closely as safety rules are followed, accidents can and will happen. This insurance program, especially designed for USDA dance groups, provides Accident Medical insurance, which helps protect club members from financial loss due to a covered accidental bodily injury, and Liability Insurance, which protects the club and its members and association officials from financial loss due to unforeseen incidents which may develop into litigation against members and dance organizations.

PERIOD OF COVERAGE:

The insurance year is January 1 through December 31. Coverage becomes effective for individual clubs under the policy on the day the application and premium for insurance is received by the USDA Insurance Coordinator. There is no pro-rate provision. This is necessary due to the large administrative expense of maintaining different policy dates.

OUR DANCE FACILITIES LIABILITY INSURANCE:

Limits of Protection: \$1,000,000 combined single limit of liability for bodily injury and property damage per occurrence (subject to a \$100 property damage deductible per claim) while participating in scheduled and sponsored dancing activities. \$100,000 limit for damage to premises rented to you.



Coordinator USDA National Insurance



DANCER MEDICAL INSURANCE WHAT IS COVERED?:

Accidental bodily injury sustained by an insured person while participating in dancing activities sponsored and supervised by a recognized club or organization

WHO IS COVERED?:

Club members will be insured while participating in any regularly schedled and sponsored dancing activity orldwide, including group travel 10 or more club members) in a ehicle commercially licensed for u ansportation of passengers and operated by a person holding a valid operators license for such vehicle, while being transported to or from a covered dancing activity.

LIMITS OF COVERAGE:

\$10,000 Usual and Customary Accident Medical Expense, including Dental (\$10,000), Accidental Death Benefit (\$10,000), Accidental Dismemberment Benefit (loss of one hand, one foot, sight of one eye).

BUT I HAVE MY OWN MEDICAL INSURANCE!

Coverage provided is excess to any other valid and collectible medical insurance covering the same accident. Coverage provided for covered medical expenses incurred within 52 weeks of the accident up to \$10,000 for all eligible expenses as stated in the policy.



OUR DANCE FACILITIES WHO IS COVERED:

The club and its members while participating in club or organization-sponsored and supervised dancing activities. Liability coverage applies in the United States, its territories or possessions, and Canada.

QUESTIONS OR CLAIMS? CONTACT: Elizabeth Saunders, USDA National Insurance Coordinator 1422 Union Point Rd., Stephens GA 30667 -Phone 706 759-3642 Email: usda.insurance@usda.org

usda insurance coordinators notes

Greetings Everyone,

First, I want to say a big THANK YOU to Pat Inglis for her years of service as the USDA Insurance Coordinator. She has been very helpful and a great teacher, in the transition.

Next, Thank You to all the Insurance Coordinators for being so patient with me. As I am writing this article prior to the end of December I am sending out Thanks to all those that have already submitted your 2020 enrollments via the insurance portal. It is not too late to enroll your club or organization, but you need to complete the enrollment forms in the insurance portal.

There is one form that is not on the insurance portal. You will need to keep submitting the paper form for your classes. This is important and submissions should be done ASAP after the class begins. Insurance coverage is a bonus given to us by Markel for our students and to not insure the class does a disservice to our students.

You will be able to add additional members to your club via the insurance portal. You will follow the same procedures as you did when you enrolled the club except you will only be adding names to the roster. Do not delete any names from the roster in 2020. The names should stay on the roster during the entire year of 2020. If there is a need for a certificate for an additional facility during year, it is done the same way. However, do not delete any facilities that are there.

If there is a new club then the insurance coordinator should submit the initial enrollment form to me. Bollinger will then assign a USDA number for the new club; then I will notify the insurance coordinator of the number for the club and you can go into the insurance portal to complete the process.

When in doubt call or send me an email and I will be happy to assist you.

Elizabeth Sanders USDA National Insurance Coordinator P O Box 417, Stephens, GA 30667 706-759-3642 <u>usda.insurance@usda.org</u> or <u>sqdanins@gmail.com</u>



The Card That Can Save You Some Money

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

In addition to prescription benefits the card now offers a hearing and vision program.

Cards and more information may be obtained from the Program Chairman:

Joy Vaccari 27 Hughes St NE Ft Walton Beach, FL 32548 1-850-243-9484



See pages 23 & 24 in this issue

FEATURE ARTICLE

Charlie O Duncan—Centennial Award

It was a beautiful day in Marietta, Georgia, on Sunday, November 3 and a great day for square dancing. Pat Inglis, former USDA National Insurance Coordinator, presented the 15th USDA Centennial Award to Charlie Duncan in front of a large crowd of enthusiastic dancers and friends. Mr. Duncan was recognized with a certificate of appreciation and a special lapel pin identifying him as a USDA 100 -year- old dancer.

Steve Kopman, a local resident of my hometown of Knoxville, TN, and a world renowned caller was in Atlanta to call this special dance. Steve does not do many individual dances, but a couple of special friends persuaded him to do this dance and told him to expect 4-5 squares. There were 13 squares there. Steve writes a weekly newsletter and he tells of the excitement of the dancers and then he said something else happened that afternoon. And I quote; "The USDA was there to recognize Charlie who was given a plaque and pin for being a 100-year-old dancer. Charlie actually told me he hadn't danced in about a year but if I slowed it down, he'd try a sequence or two. Well, 7 sequences later Charlie completed a whole patter tip to me AND I didn't slow it down. For what it's worth, it might have been a scam because Charlie didn't look a day over 70. Somehow, he'd found the fountain of youth. It was so fun to experience that."

Ross Williams, reporter for the Marietta Daily Journal was also in attendance and said that caller Buddy Trundle commented that no one in the room would bat an eye if he told them that Charlie was only 70. What Buddy wanted to know was why Charlie came in with a walking cane. Ross said that Charlie has been dancing with the Wheel Arounds club since 1982 and he shows no signs of stopping. At 100 years old, he has still got the moves.

I received an email from another lady that read, "He drove himself to the dance! OMG!!! This is not some small retirement village in Florida, this is metro Atlanta with 4-5 lanes of traffic in each direction and no one drives under 80 mpg."

Thanks to Pat Inglis for representing the **U**nited **S**quare **D**ancers of **A**merica and to Charlie Duncan for giving us a reason to honor him with this award. Thanks to Ed Boysel for submitting Charlie's name for this award and for his help in coordinating this event and to Guy Lee for sending the following Bio on Charlie.

Here is a little history on Charlie Duncan

Charlie Duncan was born in Cherokee County, Georgia May 27, 1919, the seventh of nine children. They moved to a farm in west Cobb County Georgia in 1930. In 1938, he married Geneva McDaniel and they had two daughters.

Charlie served during WWII in the US Army Corps of Engineers in the European Theatre 1944 – 1945. After his discharge, he worked for W.P. Stephens until 1947 when he went to work for Randall Brothers in Atlanta. At Randall Brothers he became a wood master craftsman and shop supervisor and retired in 1981. Many of the older homes on West Paces Ferry Drive in Atlanta showcase his work.

His wife, Geneva passed away after 39 years of marriage and he married Mary Gordon Vaughn who was a widow with three children. Charlie and Mary have 10 grandchildren and 21 great grandchildren.

Charlie and Mary took square dance lessons from Ray Mauney in 1982 and then round dance lessons from Lib Hubbard and Carlene Bohannon. They danced DBD with Harold Kelly's B^T's for several years. They were charter members of the now defunct Twisty Vines round dance club and have been continuous members of The Wheel Arounds square dance club in Marietta, Ga. since they graduated in 1982.

Charlie keeps fit by working out at the YMCA's water aerobics three days each week.



PHOTOGRAPHS FROM THE MASDA DANCE AND THE USDA CENTENNIAL

AWARD PRESENTATION TO CHARLIE 0. DUNCAN.





Charlie and wife Mary



UISDA Representative Pat Inglis presenting Certificate of Appreciation to Charlie



Pat pins Centennial Lapel Pin on Charlie



Clap your hands and stomp the ground, Hurry up now or you'll never get around.

THANK YOU

On Wednesday, June 26, 20919 Lennie & Connie Houle, General Chairpersons of the 64th National Square Dance Convention, attended the USDA Board of Directors meeting and presented USDA Presidents LPaul & Sally Schmidt with a very generous check from the 64th convention board in the amount of \$1,000.00.

USDA thanks the Houle's and the 64th National Convention for this generous donation.





Promenade this cute little chick, Make those heels go clickity click.



EAST MEETS WEST

By Steve Kopman

Sometimes, when you have high expectations for an event, they don't pan out. The East Meets West weekend was every bit as exciting and thrilling as I had anticipated.

First some background. I've had the pleasure of calling in Japan a half dozen times in the last 10 years. It is, without question, my favorite country to work in. And if you ask any caller that's had the privilege of calling in Japan they will likely tell you the same thing.

It starts with culture and history. For me, it's also sentimental. My dad (Lee) was one of the first American callers to be invited to call in Japan. One of his most popular calls came as a result of his 1^{st} visit to Asia. He wanted to write a special call dedicated to them and thus Ah So was created. If you're not familiar with the call it's fixed on the C1 list.

The most amazing part of calling in Japan is how they make the American callers feel. No question the "rock star" status permeates the room. After each tip there is thunderous applause for the caller. Yes, I wrote EACH TIP. Nowhere on the planet have I felt so appreciated every moment on stage. They can dance every position for every call with ease. The challenge is knowing almost none of the dancers (and callers for that matter) speak English. But square dancing is a universal language. Do Ci Do here is do ci do there. When I add a new call or concept I have an interpreter (Martha) who explains the idea to the crowd in Japanese. One funny thing that comes to mind: I once called swing thru DOUBLE and no one moved. No think about this: Here are dancers that can do a Left Spin Chain & Exchange the Gears from any position but they can't swing thru twice. But that was because Double means nothing to people who don't speak English. Once it was explained to them what double meant they were flawless in their execution.

So now to East Meets West: Gary Shoemake & Ken Bower call a Senior Games competition every year in Utah. A number of Japanese dancers were coming over and thought it would be exciting to visit my town of Knoxville. Well, on the map UT to TN doesn't seem that far.

So Gary & I planned a mini-weekend after the Sr. game competition in Knoxville, TN. But to make it special for the dancers in the U.S. we included three Japanese callers on the program. Two of the three callers spoke little or no English. I wondered if that would pose a problem to the Americans... It did not. The callers from Japan: QP Hara, Max Ringe, Rascal Araki were wonderfully articulate. Well, except when they told everyone to weave the ring and "Put your hands in the air and CRAP to the beat". I still laugh when I think about that. These callers could sing, entertain and choreograph like the best callers in America. And imagine what it must be like to call a square dance without being able to help the dancers because you don't speak English. And don't forget they dance all position everything in Japan so knowing what's normal in the U.S. can be a challenge.

And what made it even more special was there were about 12 Japanese dancers that came too. So the two halls (Plus and Advanced) were sprinkled with great dancers near and far. You could see the smiles on the Americans faces when the Japanese dancers would join the squares. They knew it was going to be a successful tip.

And now for the spontaneity of the calling experience: Remember that Gary & I have never worked together with the three callers from Japan (2 of whom speak little or no English). Did it matter? Not one bit. The universal language of square dancing made the experience wonderful. We were able to harmonize on singing calls as if it were a normal monthly gathering. There's nothing quite like the feeling of three part harmony materializing with no preparation whatsoever.

This was a once in a lifetime event and one not likely to be repeated because of the distance of the two countries but one all who attended will remember the rest of their lives.

by Judy Taylor

Back in early 2019, we received information about The Denver Post soliciting historical photos from public life in Denver in the 1950s. The Post was looking for photos for their Denver Memories III book, to be available later in the year. So we duplicated and submitted a square dance picture of the 1959 Eighth National Square Dance Convention, held at the old Denver Auditorium. A professional photographer, now out of business, had taken it from the balcony of probably over a thousand posing square dancers. George Smith, our 92-year-old caller, had bought the photo back in 59. After exhausting all avenues to get permission for its use, and trying to read the IRS copywrite rules, we finally gave up and just submitted a copy of the photo, giving George the photo credit. (See photograph below)

I had totally forgot I ordered a copy of the book and couldn't even remember why. But upon its arrival, after looking at the cover it slowly it came back to me that I had sent in a picture---which one, I was at a loss. Imagine my surprise when I opened it up and saw the full page square dance photo, all $6\frac{1}{2} \times 11$ inches of it! A reduced size picture of it is submitted here with this article.

Our next project is to get ready for the "Denver Memories IV" book, which is sure to be published with photos of the 1960s. For a unique, publishable photograph to submit, we will be looking for a 1960 to '69 picture of some square dancers. One possibility is Denver's, "Kilowatt Eights"-"The oldest, continuously dancing square dance club in the world". Another is Timberline Toppers---"The Highest Square Dancing Club in the world, at 9100 feet!" We'll have to round up some dancers who have scrapbooks Timberline Toppers---"The Highest Square Dancing Club in the world, at 9100 feet!" We'll have to round up some dancers who have scrapbooks from long ago.

The company which publishes a lot of these memory books can be contacted through their website: www.pediment.com. They have done books for many cities, and probably will be doing similar memory books in the future. So dancers, if you want to have some free advertising along with some historical value of our favorite sport, see if your area has anything like this going on. It will at least keep dancing in the public mindset!



8th NATIONAL SQUARE DANCE CONVENTION - DENVER, CO 1959





USDA is probably best known for our Insurance Program for dancers, but are you familiar with the following? Additional information on each of these programs and any required forms can be found on our web site <u>www.usda.org</u> -or- by contacting the program chairman.

USDA TRAVELER PROGRAM

Do you like to travel? Do you like to attend square dances wherever you go? Then look into the USA Traveler Program! The purpose of the USA traveler program is to promote visitation between dancers in all 50 states by encouraging dancers to visit 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!

A badge and a bar will be awarded to participants after they have visited at least 12 states. The goal is to dance in all 50 states and any participant who visits 48 or 50 states will also be awarded paid admission to the next National Square Dance Convention.

Program Chairman: Jerry and Donna Robey - email: usda.travelers@usda.org

USDA CENTENNIAL AWARD PROGRAM

Are you aware that we have dancers 100 years old that are still active in their dance clubs? Very few of us reach that age, but USDA recognizes and honors those that do with a "Centennial Award". They will receive a framed certificate of "Recognition and Appreciation" signed by the president and the Regional Vice President of USDA, a "USDA Centennial Award" lapel pin and a special "Feature Article" about them in the USDA NEWS.

Program Chairman: Larry Dunkel—email: usdanews@usda.org

USDA YOUTH SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

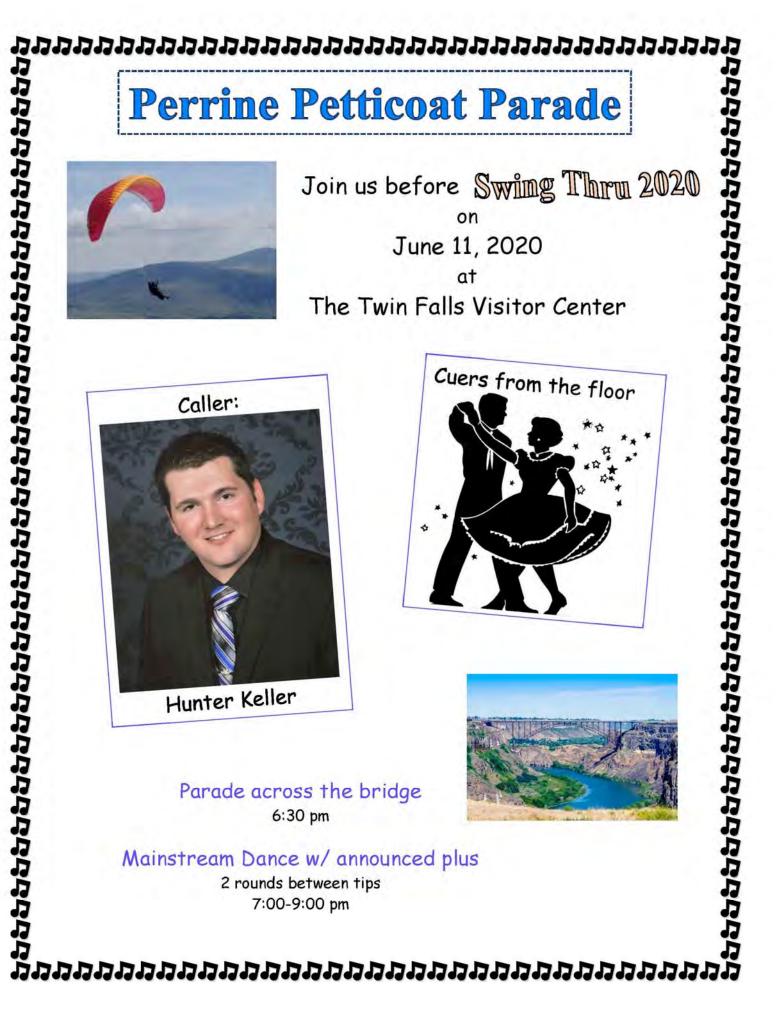
Each year the United Square Dancers of America – the national dancers' organization – awards a merit-based scholarship to a student who has shown their dedication to the promotion and perpetuation of the total square dance movement, including square dance, round dance, contra and clogging. If you know of a youth dancer who is a high school senior or college freshman that would like to apply for the scholarship, the application form can be downloaded from the USDA website, http://USDA.org/trifold/ISy0403.pdf.

Donations are needed to continue making this \$1,000 scholarship available. You can make a donation in memory of a fellow dancer, in honor of a special occasion, or simply because you support youth square dancing. USDA is a 501(c) (3) Public Charities, which qualify for tax deduction status.

Youth Advisor: Dan Reedy—email: usda.youth.advisor.@usda.org

USDA HANDICAPABLE PROGRAM

The USDA Handicapable program is monetary in nature, consisting of allocating monies toward the registration fee for eligible Handicapable dancers to attend the National Square Dance Convention. The only requirement is that they must be a Handicapable dancer and a member of a Handicapable club. Any Handicapable club in the United States may apply for these funds. In order to apply for funds, a club contact person must complete the application form and send it to the USDA Handicapable Committee chairperson.







- 22nd Annual GCSDA Square & Round Dance Festival -

Friday Evening Plus Hall GARY SHOEMAKE

7:00pm - 7:30pm Pre-Rounds - Ronnie Fontaine 7:30pm - 7:45pm 1st Tip Mainstream - Gary & Lee 7:45pm - 9:45pm Plus with Rounds - Gary & Ronnie 9:45pm - Last Tip Mainstream - Gary & Lee

Saturday Daytime Plus Hall

10:00am - 11:30am Workshop & Dance - Gary Shoemake

11:30am — LUNCH BREAK — 1:30pm

1:30pm - 4:00pm Workshop Rounds - Ronnie Fontaine

4:00pm — DINNER BREAK — 6:30pm

Saturday Evening Plus Hall

7:00pm - 7:30pm - Pre-Rounds - Ronnie Fontaine 7:30pm - 7:45pm GRAND MARCH 1st Tip Mainstream - Gary & Lee 7:45pm - 9:45pm Plus with Rounds - Gary & Ronnie 9:45pm - Last Tip Mainstream - Gary & Lee

WESTERNERS WILL FURNISH FINGER FOODS FRIDAY & SATURDAY

FREE COFFEE & WATER AT ALL TIMES

HOSTED BY GCSDA SQUARE DANCE ATTIRE SUGGESTED FOR EVENING DANCES

Schedule of Fees (per Person / Kids under 18 1/2 Off)

(Kids under 18 must be accompanied by a legal guardian or parent) All Events: Friday & Saturday

| Pre-Registration till (March 11, 2020) | - \$25.00 |
|--|-----------|
| On-Site Registration | - \$30.00 |
| Individual Events: On site only | |
| Friday Evening Dance | - \$10.00 |
| Saturday Evening Dance | - \$15.00 |
| Saturday All Day & Saturday Night | - \$20.00 |

Pre-Registration Form (\$25.00 ea. - Postmarked before March 11, 2020)

| For more Information: 6 | maker terreter terretert | eggý Gray, 808 N. 82nd St. #F11 | | Revised : 02-15-2018 |
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Friday Evening Mainstream Hall

LEE HAILEY

7:45pm - 9:45pm Mainstream & Line Dancing - Lee Hailey 9:45pm - Last Tip in the Plus Hall

Saturday Daytime Mainstream Hall

10:00am - 11:30am - Workshop & Dance - Lee Hailey

11:30am — LUNCH BREAK — 1:30pm

1:30pm - 4:00pm Fun Dance - Gary & Lee

4:00pm — DINNER BREAK — 6:30pm

Saturday Evening Mainstream Hall

7:30pm GRAND MARCH in Plus Hall 7:45pm - 9:45pm Mainstream & Line Dancing - Lee Hailey 9:45pm Last Tip in the Plus Hall

SELF CONTAINED RV PARKING

IS AVAILABLE

call for pricing and availability) Available: Breakfast - WiFi - free parking



| Ice Convention® Far Convention Use Only re in 2020® Far Convention Use Only re in 2020® Registration # m Date Received ante, Washington Check # | ify at which Dance Program you intend to spend Basic □ M □ P □ DBD □ HEX □ A1 Brgy □ Low Energy agging □ Contra □ Line Dancing/Country Weste a participating in the Education Leadership Cen is for more information on our Education Progra Housing our hotel online at: www.69nsdc.com select "Ho secure link to the Hotel Booking Module after M Selected Hotel on-line? □ YES □ Selected complete the entire Housing portion of quired? □ YES □ NO Please Circle Roor | June Sat Sun Mon Tues Vied Thurs En Mi 19 Hotel Preference (hotel codes on back): 1st 2nd 3rd 3rd 1 <i>3 hotel Preferences Required</i> Please check the appropriate box: One Bed (1-2 people) 2 Beds (2-4 people) | Came Hotel as: For Assignment in Block Housing – Requests are due by Jan 2, 2020 Block Leader Name: Email: To guarantee your room reservations, you must provide a credit card number, Payment for the room will be charged at check in. Payment for the room will be charged at check in. Payment for the room will be charged at check in. Payment for the room will be charged at check in. Payment for the room will be charged at check in. Payment for the room will be charged at check in. | Expiration Date: (Ensure expiration date is after June 2020) Security (/orl/s) Expiration Date: (Ensure expiration date is after June 2020) Security (/orl/s) Dance Leader Name to be programmed "So to www.69nsdc.org to update your (/// //s) Please Circle Caller Cuer Contra Clogging CAV (// // // // Name: | Convention Badges Required for entrance to all convention any (withow Dressy Casual active allowed until 6:00 pm. PROPER DANCE ATTIRE is Required after 6:00m pm for all Dannents Return completed form with payment to: 69-NSDC 4511 Bittensweet Lane Lansing, MI 48917 |
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| 69 th National Square Dance Convention [®] "Keeping the Vision Alive in 2020" Registration Form June 17, 18, 19, 20, 2020 Spokane, Washington Online Registration - Website <u>69nadr. org</u> | Country: ation.) Registrant Adult \$60.00. after June 20, 2002. | Sutholais DOB /// | , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , | 4. #@ \$45.000 F Sa 19 20 (U.S. Funds) Total00 | mand submit payment cover Card dmerican Express ar June 2020) Security Code 22-2571, Email reg2020@comcast.net |
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| Instructions for Registration (left side) Frist legiby all names, address, city, state, zip code, country, and B/D of youth (age 5-17 by 6/20/2020 -1/2 price) to ensure correct registration. | Correctly enter all amounts in the Subtotals including registration fee for each dancer plus quantity and amounts for all other materials and rours. Imperturated 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. Correctly calculate the Toral and include credit card information (with signature), check or money order payable to 10.5. funds to the 60th National Square Dance Convention [®] and return it with the Registration Form. Do Net Sael Cath. No Saefe Day Registration Sold . W Camping. Indicate RV Camping on your Registration Form, and enclose the required fees (four-night minimum) to cover the nights that you intend to stay. Please check appropriate boxes. RV camp sites will be assigned on a first come first served basis. There are 30 anno & 50 anno electrical service with water. Swaree duma station | on-site at no additional charge. If you plan to camp together, you must arrive together. For more information contact RV Chairman, Donald Kloepfel; camping69th@gmail.com, 509-251-8215. Ber Pass bus will only stop at Spokane Coury Fair Campgrounds. Tour forms and Payments are to be mailed directly to: 69th National Square Dance Convention ⁶ , 4511 Bittersweet Lang, Lansing MI 48917. For Tour information and form go to www.69nsdc.org and click tours. Indude completed Tour Form with this Registration Form. A 510.00 fee per registrant will be assessed for cancellation. No refnade after April 30, 2020. | Instructions for Housing (right side) The 69th NSDC Housing Committee is partnering with Wair Spokane Housing Bureau to provide website access for housing reservations after March, 1 2019. Dancers can make reservations online by going to www.698raGc.org. Dancers who choose, may make housing reservations using the printed registration form, the same way dancers have made housing reservations to past Conventions. Complete the housing pertion of this form only if you choose not to make your hotel reservations online at www.698rdc.org. This form must be received by May, 15, 2020 to receive the 69th NSDC contracted noom rates if you request housing at hotel ordes 1-4, you must stay a minimum of four (4) nights, induding Wednetday | through Saturday, June 17-20, 2020. Only one person per room should complete a hotel reservation request. Please list all room occupants. (The Housing Committee does not find or assign roommates.) Same Hotal Requests can be made through the online site or registrations forms must be in the same envelope | and mailed to arrive rogenter. Submit all Block Housing requests with the name and relephone number of the leader. All rooms not reserved by | plateary 4, 444 min we returned to the general proversion poor. Indicate Three (3) choices of housing preference, by specifying hotel code number. Be sure to indicate 1 or 2 beds as well as preferences. Hotels will be assigned on a first-come first-serve basis according to availability | Hutel Reservations must be guaranteed with a credit card. Your credit card will not be charged in advanced an alternative form of payment may be presented at check in. | Hotel Reservations: Spokane Housing Services will send a reservation acknowledgment within 24 hours via email if booked online or by telephone. See contact information on bottom right. If you do not receive your acknowledgement in this time frame also accounted Knowled Review Service of Antimetican induded is very | important. Hetel canfirmation tembers will NOT be indeded is year advowledgement temail. Caages/caacelations BEFOK hay 15, 2020 - Please use the link at the bottom of year advowledgement email | or contact Spokane Housing Services. Make sure to read the Reservation Agreement on your acknowledgement, as each property has their own cancellation policy. DO NGT CONTACT THE HOTELS UNTIL AFTER NAY 15, 2020 For Earth. Faster is accord amount from Cathon University contact will be seen following the housing strated | date of Frida character and a non-poycate provide portuge and accepted and accepted and accepted and accepted a |

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| and gives you Fl | he 70 th National Square Dance Con REE admittance to the Saturday e te the form below and send it alon | vening Pre-Conventio | on Dance on March 28, 2020. |
| 70 th National Square Dance Conven 5252 McIngvale Hernando, MS 38632 Email: <u>register70@yahoo.com</u> • Pho | | Registration # Ribbon | _(Internal Use Only) |
| LEASE PRINT CLEARLY | | | |
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February 1st 2020

Advance: 6:45 - 7:30 • Mainstream & Plus: 7:30 to 9:30



Rod Shuping Caller



Zena Beaulieu _{Cuer}

Grace Presbyterian Church 1515 W. Charleston Blvd. Las Vegas, NV. 89102

Donation: \$12.00 per person

More Information Call

Rosie Buck - 310-730-7673 • Mary LaFerney 702-562-1550

WHO'S GONNA FILL THEIR SHOES?

Oregon Square Dancers lost one of their long time advocates with the sudden passing of **Jim Rogers** on November 24, 2019. Jim and Kay had eaten their Thanksgiving meal with the family all gathered at their beach rental, and Jim passed about five hours later.

In addition to their involvement as Past Presidents of the Oregon Federation of Square and Round Dance Clubs, Jim and Kay Rogers were United Square Dancers of America Western Region Vice Presidents 2006 - 2009. They were the Oregon Federation Insurance Chairs for many years. Jim and Kay were Chairs for three USAWest



Square Dance Conventions - Pendleton, Oregon - 2008, Kelso, Washington - 2011 and again in Pendleton, Oregon in 2014. They were also Housing and Registration Chars for the 2005 National Square Dance Convention in Portland, Oregon. It was all of this involvement in the activity that they loved which enhanced their 56 year marriage. Jim is survived by his wife Kay, four daughters, nine grandchildren and five great grandchildren.

Jim Rogers has left a legend to be remembered for years to come. RIP sir, job well done.

Single Square Dancers USA lost its champion with the passing of **Ron Holland** on November 20, 2019. For many years Ron served as the ARTS Board Rep for the Single Square Dancers USA (SSDUSA). He was an excellent advocate for the goals of the ARTS and the SSDUSA. He always offered very useful and meaningful input to the discussions of various issues by the ARTS Board. He will be missed.



BILL FOX was a local square dance caller that gave 51 years of his life to promoting square dancing in the East TN area as well as several of our neighboring states.

In the early 90's the building used by the Knoxville clubs was being sold and the square dancers were faced with finding a new place to dance. Mr. Fox was very instrumental in the decision to purchase a new home. An old abandoned warehouse was located and Bill convinced us all that if enough people pitched in and helped with the needed repairs we would have a nice dance hall. This two floor dance hall with wood floors has been the

home to many dancers for the past 30 years.

At one point Bill mentioned to some caller friends that he would like to start a singles club. His peers quickly responded that this was not a good idea. Singles were too irresponsible and would not stay the course. Bill ignored their well intended advice and proceeded with his plan. I was in his third -year class and we graduated approximately 125 dancers.

Bill Boyd, Editor of the American Square Dance Magazine, recently wrote an editorial about the benefits of square dancing. There are things that we have all used in our recruiting flyers such as, the physical and mental exercise, weight loss, making new friends, and the list goes on. Then Mr. Boyd inquired as to which of these enticed us to join a square dance group. None of them. The reason we joined square dancing was because it looked like fun.

Bill Fox loved his wife, his church and he loved square dancing and he made it fun. Whether it was a new class or a big dance, he wanted everyone to have a good time. Oh, I almost forgot to mention that Bill loved the dinner dances. He often said "a square dancer may die broke, but they will not die hungry.



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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. <u>2020</u>

CONVENTION SCHEDULE

Send the USDA NEWS Editor your State Association/Federation

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

2020

| 14 00 01 | Louisiana Comana Danas Commentian | | |
|------------|---|-----------|---|
| Mar 20-21 | Louisiana Square Dance Convention LSU Ag Center, Hwy 71 South 8205 To m Bowman Dr. Alexandria, LA 71302 Caller Workshop Info: 318-547-9578 | Sep 11-13 | New Mexico State Round Dance Festival Albuquerque Square Dance Center 4915 Hawkins, NE Albuquerque, NM 87109 williamnsdeem116@gmail.com |
| May 14-16 | 32nd Virginia State Convention Founder's Inn and Spa | Oct 23-24 | MidSouth Square & Round Dance Festival |
| | Virginia Beach, | | St. Paul United Methodist Church 949 Davies Plantation |
| June 04-05 | 68th Kansas State Square Dance Convention Tony's Pizza Event Center 800 The Midway | | Lakeland, TN 38002 patti.bundy@gmail.com |
| | Salina, KS 67401 Info: Kathy Mears 785 841-7555 kathymm785@gmail.com www.kansastatesquaredanceconvention.com | Nov 01-03 | 69th Fiesta de la Cuadrilla Balboa Park, San Diego, CA Check website for flyer and info: http://sdsda.org/fiesta Info: call Cindy at 619-890-4058 |
| Jun 12-13 | Idaho State Square & Round Dance | | |

 Idaho State Square & Round Dano Festival
 Jerome, ID
 Info: magicvalleysquaredance.com
 See AD Pages 15 & 16

Aug 6-846th TN State Square and Round
Dance ConventionM.L. Mills Conference Center
234 Historic Nature Trail
Gatlinburg, TN
meincke_us@yahoo.com



FUTURE NATIONAL CONVENTIONS 2020—June 17-20, Spokane, WA * This is a one time change to avoid conflict with Hoopfest 2021—June 23-26 Jackson, MS



We saved a space just for you and your State Association/ Federation's Convention or Festival. Just send us the details and it will be in the next edition of USDA NEWS

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.

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

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