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NEWSLETTER OF THE WORLD'S LARGEST
SQUARE DANCE ORGANIZATION

USDA NEWS

PUBLISHED BY UNITED SQUARE DANCERS OF AMERICA

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.

Sally Schmidt, Judy Taylor and
Bonnie Abramson

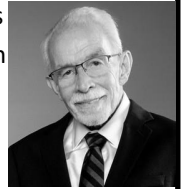
Cover Design: Chris Dunkel
My apology to anyone I failed to recognize.

FREE PHARMACY CARD

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

WHAT'S INSIDE

Dr. Homer (Butch) Hayes passed away on Sept. While Dr. Hayes accomplishment are far too great to mention here, we knew him as "Butch", a square dancer. He was the general chairman for the 2006 National Square Dance Convention square in San Antonio, Texas.



Through square dancing, Butch and Ampie made lifelong friends and traveled all over the United States. They were part of the city, state, and national square dance associations as members and officers for all levels.

Butch, you have touched so many lives and influenced so many people during your time here. You will be long remembered. RIP.

What's inside? Very good question and I am happy to inform you that this issue has about the same information as the previous issues, only different.

For starters, this year, thanks to your generous donations to USDA and the Founders Memorial Youth Scholarship Program, USDA was able to award three scholarships. Read about these amazing young people on pages 17-19.

With the closing of the 70th National Convention in Jackson, MS. USDA lost another Executive Committee member. Joy Vaccari was the first Treasurer for USDA when this association was formed in 1981. Joy has decided that 40 years was enough and she has announced her retirement. Joy is our Feature Article for this issue and her story and pictures are on page 13.

If you think you finally got it straight on who is who at USDA, guess again. Every June we switch things around for the the start of our new year July 1. This year we have new Presidents, VP's and several committees have new Chairmen. I have attempted to break this down for you on page 4 and page 12 has a chart showing the new officers. We do have two new Executive Committee members, Doug and Willa Bradshaw from CO. They are the Chairmen for the USDA Leadership Education Program and we welcome them. (see photo). We also want to welcome Donna Famey who will be working with Dan Reedy as Youth Advisors.



Well that about wraps it up in a nutshell. Enjoy reading.

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A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENTS



MARK & BINA KREBSBACH

Howdy from North Dakota where it is greener and cleaner. Maybe not so green this past Summer as much of North Dakota experienced a severe drought, but it will be greener next year!!

Bina and I returned from the national square convention at Jackson, Mississippi this past June ——— what a great time! We were honored and blessed to be elected Presidents of your incredible organization, the United Square Dancers of America, in short USDA. I can tell you that the USDA Executive Committee is a group of dedicated and hard-working people. We have found those folks are also very enjoyable to work with. (Could have used a group like that when we were farming!!) Yup farmed for 35 years. Bina & I were in the business of growing commercial potatoes for the french fry market. Retired from that in 2007, then we started a company called Arrow Head Development, which developed, designed and built condominiums for retired folks. Quit that in 2013, built a cabin on a lake on one of our farms. Now we enjoy lake life and selling a few lake lots.

We love square and round dancing, been doing that since 1990. Well that us in a nutshell. We have 7 children, 17 grand children & 5 great grandchildren, so our life/house is quite busy and full sometimes.

Square dancers are returning to the dance floor across the USA, sure felt good to get back into the square again. Hopefully that will continue.

One of the founders of the USDA, Joy Vacarri, retired from 40 years of service on the USDA Executive Committee. A big thank you Joy, you are a very special person and will remain in our hearts. Joy is the definition of dedication. God bless and hats off to Joy!!

The Summer of 2021 brought some sad news with the passing of another excellent square dance caller, Roger McNeil of Fargo, North Dakota. What a great loss. Roger and Bernadette were tireless promoters of square dancing. Roger suffered from depression for many years. It was that terrible disease, depression, that took Roger from us. If any of you have issues with depression, please get help as it is a treatable disease.



Since national convention in Jackson, we have been busy setting up our traveling office for square dancing. We call it a traveling office since we are not always in the same location. The Executive Committee continues to stay busy working hard for your USDA.

God's blessings for a Happy Thanksgiving and a joyful and peaceful Christmas.

Live Lively, Square Dance!!

God bless, as ever square Dancers

Mark & Bina



A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR



Larry W. Dunkel

OCTOBER. Fall is in the air. College football now occupies our Saturday afternoons as well as some Saturday evenings. A time of year most men look forward to as well as the women. It's one of the few times a lady can wave to her husband as she walks out the door announcing that she is going shopping and will be back in about 6 hours without any rebuttal.

October also brings us some of the most gorgeous colors that nature can afford as we prepare to face the winter months ahead. If you are fortunate enough to live in some of the mountain areas across our country, or areas that do have four seasons, we stand in awe of nature's colorful display. I am blessed to reside in the foothills of the Great Smoky Mountains and year after year I marvel at such beauty and I say to my self, "What a Wonderful World."

This summer we began to see the light of square dancing coming to life again. Many clubs across the country were unlocking their doors and turning on the lights for the first time in several months. Our National Convention was held in Jackson, MS after having to cancel the previous year's convention in Spokane. To Glinda and Dan Torvik and their staff of volunteers we tip our hat and pat you on the back for putting together a wonderful convention under the most trying conditions.

As summer continued, so did the rebirth of many of our clubs. Plans were being made to start new classes in September, just like we have always done. Things were looking up. Brighter days ahead. But just as quickly as our excitement rose it began to die. The dreaded old virus began to strike again. The number of hospital cases and the number of related deaths were of the rise. State and local officials were again mandating new rules and regulations. Even as I am writing this I am seeing emails coming through cancelling upcoming conventions. Talk about having your bubble burst, wow! What do we do now? I guess time will tell.

United Square Dancers of America held their annual Board of Directors Meeting on Wednesday, June 23, 2021. The crowd was a little smaller than usual, but we anticipated that and made arrangements to carry the meeting live on "ZOOM" for those that chose not to attend this year. Mark that down as another "first" for the USDA Executive Committee.

Well speaking of the Executive Committee there are always a few changes after the Board of Directors meeting and the USDA meeting. New faces are added, old faces are moved around and some faces just fade away. Perhaps referring to these people as faces, old and new, was not the proper way to do this, but it sounded ok when I first did it and now it is too much trouble to go back and redo. So if any of you old faces are offended I do apologize. I did check with our outgoing President, Mr Tony Rock and asked if I would be out of line with this and he said he did not see anything wrong with it.

Here is a rundown of the changes made for this year. After serving as our Presidents and guiding us through a most unusual time with the Corona Virus, Tony and Diana Rock stepped aside to become Past Presidents and in their place you elected the Landlord of North Dakota, Mark and Bina Krebsbach. I was not sure about that Landlord thing so I did ask Mark and I think his reply was "not yet". Mark and Bina have served as our Vice Presidents of the Plains Region where they did an outstanding job.

Our Secretary, Karen (Ellery) Gulbrand was being term-limited but when you get good workers like this couple you don't let them get away and since there was an opening for Vice Presidents in the Plains region, well guess what? They are the new VP's for the Plains.

Edythe Weber added Secretary to her list of responsibilities which included Showcase of Ideas. But she did pass Historian on to Dale and Kathy Worthington. The Worthingtons also picked up Badges and Prescription Card from retiring Joy Vacciri and they passed on the USDA Leadership Education program on to new comers—Doug & Willa Bradshaw from CO. Donna Famey joins Dan Reedy as our Youth Advisors.

I thought it might be a help if I gave you a little recap like this. Do look it over and familiarize yourself with these leaders. This is the first time I have taken the initiative to sort this out for you and I am pretty darn sure it will not happen again.

WHAT KIND OF CLUB WOULD MY CLUB BE

IF EVERYONE IN IT WAS JUST LIKE ME

From all of the USDA Executive Committee we wish you a very happy holiday season!

Until next time.....Larry D

EVENTS IN THE CENTRAL REGION

Ed & Lynda Willis, USDA Central Region VP

Dancing was restarting in our area, but now it is back on hold. Our local club was back to dancing with one to two squares every week, but then the new variant and rules associated with the new rules caused our local club to go dark again. Our camping group is still dancing one weekend a month, but only has two more dances scheduled this year in September and October. Our third club has not restarted.

Tennessee and North Carolina held their state conventions in August, but Lynn and I were already committed to a camping road trip and had to miss both conventions. I believe both events were successful. We do know North Carolina had a small but egger group at a reduced venue with fewer halls and no venders. We thought Alabama was going to hold their convention at the end of August, but unfortunately it was cancelled. Georgia's convention is still scheduled for September 17th and 18th in Gainesville Georgia as of this writing. The Kentucky convention is scheduled for September 9th- 11th in Somerset KY. Indiana's convention is scheduled in French Lick IN on November 5th-7th. These are the only conventions we know that are scheduled in the Central Region for 2021.

We were able to attend NSDC convention in Jackson MS. We were presently surprised at how well it was run. Turned out it was a much better convention then we thought it would be. Congratulations to the Jackson convention committee for doing a great job under COVID circumstances.

We were appointed to represent USDA at the ARTS (Alliance of Round, Traditional and Square Dance) meeting in Jackson and attended their meeting on Sunday following the convention. Look for some exciting things coming from this group this year. You can find information on ARTS at arts-dance.org.

Ed & Lynda Willis

EVENTS IN THE WESTERN REGION

LPaul and Sally Schmidt, USDA Western Region

Hello everyone and Happy Fall. We are glad to be back on the dance floor and looking ahead to resuming our square dance travels around the Western Region. By the time this edition of USDA News has been published, we hope to have attended the Utah State Square and Round Dance Festival held September 17-18 in Midway, UT. We are checking the websites for all of our Western Region affiliates and putting your major events and state festivals on our travel calendar!

We were very excited to attend the 70th National Square Dance Convention® in June 2021 in Jackson, MS. Despite the challenges of planning a major event during a pandemic, the Jackson team did a great job and put on a wonderful convention. We were also pleased to see so many of our Western Region affiliates represented at the USDA Annual Meeting on June 23, held in person at the Jackson Convention Complex while simultaneously broadcast over the Zoom videoconference platform. We had outstanding attendance between the in-person and virtual audiences, and hope everyone found the meeting to be informative and supportive of your efforts to promote and sustain square dancing in your communities.

We would like to continue to encourage dancers and dance leaders around the country to participate in the USDA *Beyond the Dance Floor* webinar series. These monthly online education sessions provide a valuable opportunity to learn about USDA programs and services, and discuss topics of interest to the dance community. Check out the schedule and find links to the Zoom sessions on the USDA website at www.usda.org.

If there is anything we can do to further support local, regional, and state dance organizations throughout the Western Region, please feel free to contact us at WesternVP@usda.org.

LPaul & Sally Schmidt

USDA INSURANCE COORDINATORS NOTES

Greeting Everyone,

The 70th NSDC in Jackson, MS was a big welcome from all that has been going on for square dancers. If you were not there or were there but didn't attend one of my seminars, then you can tune in to a Zoom workshop on October 16. I will be presenting most of the same material that I presented at the two insurance seminars in Jackson. The insurance company gave me a tentative date of October 1 for me to receive the rate for 2022. If I have that information before October 16 then I will give that out during the Zoom workshop. You can go to www.usda.org for the Zoom link.

Questions referring to the pandemic:

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

Rates and Deadlines for 2022: As of September 1, no determination, from the insurance company, has been made for the 2022 Insurance fee. Please begin collecting the information from your clubs. The ideal deadline (for the insurance coordinators) is to have all your clubs' rosters and facility information in the insurance portal by November 15, 2020. You should have your fees for insurance submitted to me by November 30. Of course, this all depends on when I hear from the insurance company. Those deadlines could change.

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

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

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Sanders

USDA National Insurance Coordinator

P O Box 417,

Stephens, GA 30667

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



TIS THE SEASON TO BE JOLLY, LA LA LA

Once again we have borrowed from the pages of "Let's Square Dance", a publication of the British Association of American Square Dance Clubs. We thank editor, Peter Wright and President Susan Ellis for allowing us to copy their material, but to also thank them for having material worth copying.

Even though I have never met either of these, I am beginning to feel as if I know them. Should either of you come across the water to visit our United States I would love to sit and chat with you over a cup of coffee or tea. When you arrive here simply turn left, send me a text and I will find you.

FROM OUR HOUSE TO YOURS....WE WISH YOU A VERY MERRY, JOYOUS AND BLESSED HOLIDAY SEASON

A Special Thanks to Mary O'Keefe for allowing us to reprint her "Freedom". Zoom and Virtual has it's place, but square dancing needs to be on the floor in a square of eight people.

Mary also reminds us that square and round dancing is "fun and friendship set to music" and we must not lose that.

President Susan Ellis has been closing her Presidential Musings articles with "Let's make Square and Round Dancing Great Again".

(Editor's note: That phrase "make it great again" sounds so familiar. Make it Great Again. Make it great again!" Where have I heard that?



FREEDOM

We've come to Swanwick, a weekend away,
We're eventually, carefully, allowed out to play,
Family and dancing are what we hold dear, We
haven't danced since March last year.

We've been square dancing since '65,
It is our life, it keeps up alive,
Some folk are jealous, some think we are mad,
But to follow your heart, can't be all bad.

Zoom and virtual might be alright for some,
But for us, eight in a square, is how it is done,
Fun and friendship set to Music, We must
keep going, we must not lose it.

So thanks a lot to Emma and Rob,
We're dancing again, you've done a Grand Job.

Mary Okeefe



Grandpa, if you give me a dollar, I'll tell
you who sleeps with Grandma when
you're not home.....
Here, I'll give you two dollars, who is it?
Me



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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>.

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- 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

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

This is NOT insurance

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PCN: 05100000
GRP: 05690001
Member ID: EB22USDA1

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

Member
Customer Service:
1-800-285-5783

<http://usda.ebccard.com>

Present this card to any participating pharmacy.

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

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

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**71st NSDC
Convention Committee**

John and Carolyn Cook
General Chairman

Dave & Patti Woods
Asst. General Chairman

Cindy Schoen
Secretary

Ray Owens
Computer Coordinator

Sharon Roberts
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Ernie Stone
Business Chairman

Janice Cha
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Nadine Henry
Program Chairman

Bill Garrison & Paula
Egenolf
Publicity Chairman

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Registration and
Housing Chairman

Art & Wanda Kruse
Services Chairman

Charlotte Yencer
Social and Special
Events Chairman

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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Take a break from dancing with these Evansville sites

EVANSVILLE — If you need a break from dancing at the 71st National Square Dance Convention® but want to stay in the air-conditioned indoors, the city of Evansville has plenty of places to spend a few hours.

Evansville has plenty of museums if you find yourself in the mood to learn. The Evansville Museum of Arts, History & Science has more than 30,000 artifacts from all periods of history. The Koch Immersive Theater has a 360-degree digital projection featuring astronomy and science programming. The Evansville Museum Transportation Center concentrates on transportation from the 19th through the mid-20th centuries, including a three-car train and a model train diorama of the city. Evansville's Wartime Museum has airplanes, ships, tanks, and ammunition manufactured in Evansville during World War II, including a P-47.

Two historic homes may also be worth a visit. The Peters Margedant House was built by William Wesley Peters, first apprentice of Frank Lloyd Wright, and made USA Today's list of Top 25 buildings to see in Indiana. It's tiny, at 552 feet, but very influential in design. The Reitz Home Museum is a Victorian mansion with all the hallmarks of that era. Lush furniture, silk walls, and hand-painted ceilings can be seen throughout.

The Eastland Mall is a 10-minute drive away with chain and unique shops if you're in a shopping mood. More information about the convention is available at 71nsdc.org.

What is a Trail Thru Dance?

A Trail Thru dance is a dance held “on-the-trail” to the National Square Dance Convention®. These special dances are sponsored by various groups, clubs, or organizations. Trail Thru Dances are usually held within a day’s drive of the host city for the National Convention. These dances are held to celebrate the visitation of dancers passing through the area “on-the-way” to the National Square Dance Convention®. Trail Thru Dances are not official convention dances, but they are an exciting part of the total National experience enjoyed every year by many dancers.



If you are driving to the 71st National Square Dance Convention® you should attend one or more of these unique dances. Known Trail Thru Dances will be listed on the 71st website, 71nsdc.org, and information provided by the sponsors will be used in other advertisements and press releases as appropriate.

Dancers traveling to the 71st National Square Dance Convention® should check 71nsdc.org for the latest information on Trail Thru Dances taking place on their route and make plans to attend as many of these exciting dances as possible. Trail Thru Dances certainly will be a great way to relax and enjoy yourself with friends after a day of travel.

Visit our web site at 71nsdc.org, and check out “National Squares Online” E-Magazine at nsdcnec.com.





Who and What is USDA?



United States Department of Agriculture? Underground Support for Dancing Activity? Understanding, Sympathetic, Delightful, and Appreciative? No, we are the **United Square Dancers of America** – founded in 1981 by dancers and organized for the square, round, contra, clogging, line and heritage dance communities. USDA aims to support and promote square dancing (and the related dance forms) through both national-level activity and through providing resources to state and regional levels.

At the 2021 Annual USDA Board of Directors Meeting, held in conjunction with the 70th National Square Dance Convention in Jackson, MS, USDA delegates elected new officers for 2021-2022. These officers, along with committee chairs, are available to help and support dancers at the local, regional, and state levels.

President	Mark & Bina Krebsbach Bismarck, ND
Eastern Region Vice President <i>CT, DE, D of C, ME, MD, MA, NH, NJ, NY, PA, RI, VT and VA</i>	Gilbert & Sharon Leon Carrollton, VA EasternVP@usda.org
Central Region Vice President <i>AL, FL, GA, IN, KY, MI, MS, NC, OH, SC, TN and WV</i>	Ed & Lynda Willis Wilmington, NC CentralVP@usda.org
Plains Region Vice President <i>AR, IL, IA, KS, LA, MN, MO, NE, ND, OK, SD, TX and WI</i>	Ellery & Karen Gulbrand Green Bay, WI PlainsVP@usda.org
Western Region Vice President <i>AK, AZ, CA, CO, HI, ID, MT, NV, NM, OR, UT, WA, and WY</i>	LPaul & Sally Schmidt San Diego, CA WesternVP@usda.org
Secretary	Edythe Weber Liberty, MO Secretary@usda.org
Treasurer	Jim & Judy Taylor Littleton, CO

For more information about the USDA Executive Committee as well as USDA programs and activities, check out our website at www.usda.org

Officers and Committee Chair are also listed on the back cover of each USDA NEWS.

FEATURE ARTICLE

JOY VACCARI

June 23, 2021 the United Square Dancers of America Annual Board of Directors meeting was held in Jackson, MS. It is a unique meeting as this meeting is being offered on “ZOOM” for those delegates that were not able to attend this years meeting. This was the first time the meeting was held with an active audience as well as being viewed on ZOOM. Otherwise you might say it was a normal meeting. Reports ere given by many of our VP’s as well as other committee chairs, new officers were elected for the upcoming year, some promos were given by the General Chairmen of future National Conventions, and Joy Vaccari announced that this would be her last USDA Meeting. She was officially retiring at the end of June.



USDA was celebrating it’s 40th year of existence with cake for our guest, but not for those meeting with us through ZOOM. Forty years ago USDA became a reality. Joe Vaccari and Joy Richardson (later became Vaccari) were quite involved in the beginning of this newly formed association. At this, our 2021 Board of Directors meeting, Joy was presented her service award for her 40 years of loyal and dedicated service by President Diana Rock. See pictures below.

Joe and Joy were Treasurers for the first two years of USDA’s existence followed by the next two years as President. Although Joy has held various positions of responsibility during her 40 years, there were two areas of long term guidance. She and Joe originated our Credit Card program in 1984 and managed it until the program was discontinued in 2008. Then in 1987 they also accepted the responsibility of overseeing our Badges. Joy has held this position until her retirement this past June, for a total of 34 years.

Joy, the USDA Executive Committee extends our deepest gratitude for all you have given over these past 40 years. We sincerely hope that you enjoy your retirement. It is well deserved. You will be missed here at USDA, but you will not be forgotten. And if we should ever be in the Ft. Walton, FL area don’t be surprised if you get a phone call to tell you we are coming by for coffee.



40
And Fabulous!
1981-2021





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

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

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

Country: _____ Email: _____



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

Phone: (____) _____ Alt Number (____) _____

Registration Prices (U.S. currency only) \$50.00 each x _____ = \$ _____

Youth born after June 21, 2005 \$25.00 each x _____ = \$ _____

Cash Received \$ _____ Check# _____ (Pay to 72nd NSDC) **Total Due: \$** _____

Credit Card Type _____ Card # _____

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

Statement Mailing Address (if different) _____

Authorized Card Signature: _____

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

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USDA Founders Memorial Youth Fund Scholarship 2021 Scholarship Winner - \$1000

In 2021 USDA is "Forty & Fabulous!" This year, the USDA Executive Committee was pleased to present three outstanding youth dancers with the prestigious Founders' Memorial Youth Fund Scholarship. The winners were announced during the USDA's Annual Business Meeting on June 23rd in Jackson, MS. Continued support from dancers and organizations across the country has allowed USDA to expand our scholarship program to benefit more deserving young dancers each year with an educational scholarship. If you know of a youth dancer who will be a Senior in high school or in their first year of college, encourage them to apply for the USDA's Founders' Memorial Youth Fund Scholarship. Application deadline is February 1st of each year. And if you or your organization would like to support the scholarship fund through a tax-deductible financial donation, please contact Youth Chair Dan Reedy or download a donation form from the USDA website, www.USDA.org.

A Little Bit About Petrina Bucheit



My whole life has been connected to square dancing in one form or another. My parents met while square dancing and I was lucky enough to have learned this activity myself at a young age. The majority of my friends are part of the square dance community and I have learned that the dancers I know are not acquaintances, but friends and family. They are always there for me.

I started square dancing in the 1st grade and have continued since then. A few years down the road I began to learn round dancing. I started out by just getting on the floor with my dad and he would pull me through each dance. Later on I took both Waltz and Two-Step lessons. After about four years dancing only the girl's part I began to learn the boy's part of rounds and have continued since then moving up in round dancing to Cha-cha, Rumba and a few others. I have also moved up in square dancing as well by dancing the boy's part and plus. Through square dancing I have continued to

expand my dance knowledge to line dancing as well. Not only do I dance, but I call and I teach line dances.

Being active in square dancing and still holding the desire to square dance has taught me to balance my schedule in order to participate in the activities I love. I have also been taught how to lead and teach others through angeling at square and round dance lessons. More importantly, however, I have been able to meet so many amazing people.

I have been fortunate enough to have been able to compete in the Pacific Northwest Teen Square Dance Festival (PNTSDF) with my friends and family for almost 9 years now. This competition has allowed me to meet new people I never would have before and also taught me skills which I may not have been able to get otherwise. Dancing as a team has taught me how to help others and responsibility. I am responsible for myself and making sure I am where I need to be when I need to be there, as well as teaching myself to rely on others to do the same.

An aspect of the competition-for my team-is fundraising. Fundraising allows other youth, who may not be able to afford to compete, to compete. This fundraising has taught me how to step out of my comfort zone and talk to other people and ask them to support us youth and help us along our journey. I have also learned some public speaking skills by standing in front of a room and making announcements, which has helped me with my calling.

Additionally, square dancing has allowed me to develop skills, similar to public speaking. I have been our club reporter for almost a year, which has improved my writing skills. I have also developed leadership skills through being a Co-Captain for my competition square, along with various others. I am a part of square dancing and square dancing is a part of me. There is no way around that because square dancing has been such a huge impact on my life.



USDA Founders Memorial Youth Fund Scholarship 2021 Scholarship Winner - \$750

A Little Bit About Sophie Brockman

I was born and raised in Concord, California. As a child I spent most of my time outside in my backyard collecting bugs, spiders and lizards to keep as pets. I also often worked in the garden, helping my grandma raise tomatoes, peppers, and zucchini. Because I was homeschooled and spent most of my time at home, my pool of friends was small. As I grew older my mom found different homeschool groups for me to connect and make friends in. One of those homeschool groups hosted a square dance. I was twelve at the time and had no idea how much I would come to love it after that experience.

Another activity my mom enrolled me in was 4-H, which is a youth educational and development program with different clubs that teach members leadership, community service and many other life skills. I have been participating in 4-H for the past ten years. 4-H has been a very fundamental part of my life and has really shaped me into the person I have become. Through 4-H, I learned to serve my community and look for ways to help others in society. In addition, I have held many leadership roles such as teen project leader, club vice president, committee member and president of my 4-H club. I have led and taught sewing and baking projects in my club. I have also gone to many of the club events and learned about properly caring for animals and how to give a prepared talk. At one county event, I was once able to share my square-dancing knowledge with different clubs and help lead and teach members about it. In the Fashion Revue event, I was even able to make my own skirt and modeled it on the runway to help further educate members about square dancing.

Through my many leadership roles in 4-H, I have learned public speaking. This inspired me to join a speech club and compete in tournaments starting as a freshman. With the STOA homeschool speech foundation, I became a part of Edify, a local speech club. For the next three years, I wrote many different speeches and participated in tournaments. While I never won any of them, I really loved and enjoyed the experience. I eventually was able to introduce some of the friends I made in speech to my square-dancing club, Clutch Busters, and they joined!

Not only did 4-H show me how much I enjoyed public speaking, but it also revealed my deep love for writing. Since childhood, I have always appreciated a good story or poem. I love words and how they work together to create images or convey emotions. When I was nine, I started writing poems of my own. In middle school, I was elected as editor of the Club Cloverleaf, a small club newsletter that allowed the members to write and share their experiences in different projects and events. Through this experience I learned how to create a newsletter, and to write articles. During this time, at least three of my articles about 4-H were published in the local Clayton newspaper. At the beginning of my freshman year, I was offered the chance to be part of a leadership project with three former editors to create a county-wide newsletter, *The Contra Costa Cloverleaf*. This newsletter would cover the news of eleven different clubs in the county, reaching over 250 people. I learned how to develop a proposal and budget, advertise, use Publisher software, write articles, solicit

contributions, edit & proof submissions, and conduct interviews. Because of our hard work on this two-year project, my teammates and I won the advanced 4-H star award, the Emerald Star.

Through this rewarding experience, I realized how much I wanted to continue writing and I have decided to pursue a degree in journalism. I love reporting news and especially doing interviews and hope to become a court reporter. Next year, I will attend Diablo Valley College locally and transfer to Masters College to finish my studies. Now as I strive toward my goals, I face the future with hope and confidence.



**Who Will Be
Next Year's
Winner???**



USDA Founders Memorial Youth Fund Scholarship 2021 Scholarship Winner - \$500

A Little About Matthew Suzuki

My name is Matthew Suzuki. I am an older brother, a dog handler, a student, a scuba diver, and a naval enthusiast. But what people are most surprised to learn about me is that I am a square dancer. I have been a member of my local club since my freshman year in high school.

My story kicks off in a little town in the California Bay Area called Concord. There, I have been raised and reared by my loving parents. They homeschooled me all the way through high school and taught me almost everything I know about being a man. My mother's background as a high school math and language teacher and my father being Japanese meant that my education was both rigorous and tough, but also fair and well rounded. To fulfill my social needs, my parents made sure I was part of many homeschooling circles and groups with whom I could learn, develop friendships, and engage in friendly banter.

My parents emphasized studying the classics. Throughout primary and secondary school, I was exposed to Latin, Roman history, and classical works of literature such as Homer, Virgil, Plato, and Aristotle. Additionally, I had the pleasure to read more modern writers such as Dante, John Locke, and G. K. Chesterton, all of which I thoroughly enjoyed.

In high school, I dual enrolled in my local junior college: Diablo Valley College (DVC). My parents and I believed that DVC would both challenge me and meet my educational needs (Calculus) and desires (Japanese). There, I adapted to the demanding nature of college level education, helping prepare me for college life later.

Around this time in high school I began attending my local square dancing club, Concord Clutch Busters, as part of my "well-rounded education." I was unwilling at first due to my fear of cooties, but I quickly learned and grew to love square dancing and its community. As of today, I am a Plus Level dancer.

I am thankful to square dancing. It has broadened my world, exposing me to partner dancing for the first time and introducing me to people in my community, many of whom I still stay in contact with even after the shutdowns. Square dancing has shown me how to be more socially adept by requiring of me proper mannerisms towards both men and women. Additionally, the ageless nature of square dancing gave me access to both the fellowship of my peers and the mentoring of my elders. There is no doubt in my mind that in the nineteen years of my time on this earth square dancing and its camaraderie has had a profound effect on my life.

Today, I am looking to move on from junior college and attend a four year. As of now, I am looking at the numerous UC schools located in my area such as UC Berkeley and UC Davis. I am also interested in the Maritime Academy located in Vallejo, CA, just north of my hometown. However, no matter what the future may bring, I hope to continue square dancing long into the future. Someday, I will be promenading my own children and maybe even theirs.



\$1000

APPLICATION DEADLINE: FEBRUARY 1ST

Requirements:

- High School Senior or College Freshman
- Active Square Dancer
- Volunteer Service in Square Dancing
- Leadership Potential & Communication Skills
- Application Form

Know A Youth Dancer?

Be sure they know about the Scholarship Program

OR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

Dan Reedy, USDA Youth Advisor

Phone: 731-612-1155

Email: Youth@usda.org

Website: <http://www.usda.org/Youth.php>



The United Square Dancers of America's Zoom Series

Beyond the Dance Floor

Dancing — We all miss dancing! Just when we thought we were getting back on the dance floor some of our plans have once again been challenged — not completely ended, but revised. The great news is how well the square dance community all over the World has adapted to and benefitted from the challenges we've been facing. How have we benefitted? Remote networking platforms such as Microsoft Teams and Zoom have introduced us to new friends and dance experiences we might never have enjoyed before — from Zoom dance sessions with international participation to opportunities to participate in State, National and International dance events, conventions and workshops.

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

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 Online Education Committee



Proudly Presents

Beyond the Dance Floor

WORKSHOP SCHEDULE* *subject to change*

All Programs will begin at 2:00 p.m. Eastern; 1:00 p.m. Central; 12:00 noon Mountain;

Saturday, October 16, 2021

Title: USDA's Insurance Program

Faculty: Elizabeth & Eddie Sanders, USDA Insurance Director, Stephens, GA

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 2022 as well as how local, regional and state insurance directors get dancers enrolled in the program.



Saturday, November 13, 2021

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

Faculty: Jim Maczko & Patty Wilcox, 501(c)3 Group Administrators, San Diego, CA; Pat Inglis, 501(c)3 Group Renewals, Stone Mountain, GA

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



For More Information: For more information about upcoming workshops, or to download the slide presentations from previous sessions please visit the USDA website, www.USDA.org. Recordings of most of the previous sessions are also available on the website.



40
And Fabulous!
1981-2021

You 2 Can Dance

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

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

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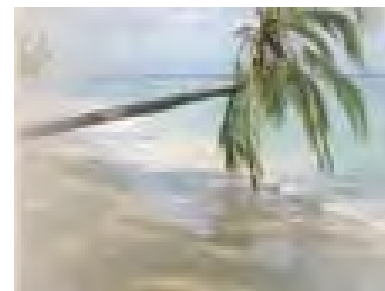
This site was created by ARTS-Dance to be a tool for promoting Square Dancing, Round Dancing, and Contra Dancing. Rather than trying to describe each activity on a flyer posted on a bulletin board, you can direct the potential dancer to this site to **show them**. They can watch video, read detailed 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.

ARTS Travel The Dancer's Online Travel Web Site



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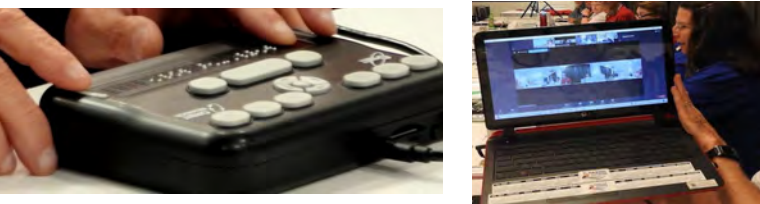


USDA BOARD of DIRECTORS MEETING JUNE 23, 2021 JACKSON, MS

President Tony Rock has just called to order the 2021 USDA Board of Directors .



Meeting began with some announcements from a few guest.
Speaking -John & Dimple Williford.
Waiting - Louis & Angie McClure



This year the meeting was streamed live via ZOOM for those that were not able to attend the meeting. Just a couple more boxes and a few more wires and people at home can now participate in our meeting.



Edythe notifies the President that he has a question from a ZOOM participant.

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70th NCDC General Chair. Glinda & DanTorvik presents Milene McCall with a Certificate of Appreciation for USDA



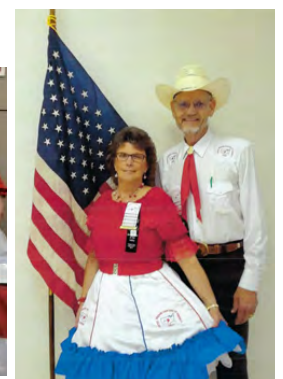
S. C. Delegates reviewing vote proposal.



Milene McCall's granddaughter, Kelli, is being "stickered" as USDA's 70th NSDC mascot



Out-going Presidents, Tiny & Diana Rock displaying plaque presented to them by previous Presidents LPaul & Sally Schmidt.



CONVENTION SCHEDULE

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

2021

Oct 8-10 **Missouri State Convention**
Cowen Civic Center
500 E. Elm St.
Lebanon, MO 65536
Billie Jean Butler 660 287-1443

Oct 22-23 **52nd Louisiana Square Dance Convention**
Rayne Civic Center
Rayne, Louisiana
I—10, Exit 87
Bob Landry (337) 258-5781

Rayne Civic Center

Nov 5-7 **Indiana Square & Round Dance Convention**
French Lick Springs Resort
French Lick, IN
Phone 574 654-3395

Nov 12-13 **46th Annual Fall Fun Fest**
Carver Recreation Center
Bartow (Lakeland Area), FL
Info: jgreen102286@gmail.com
www.dancergram.com
www.floridasquaredance.com

THIS SPACE RESERVED FOR YOU

Now that we are beginning to dance again let us help you advertise your conventions We will list your state association/ federation conventions here at no charge.

2022

Mar 18-19 **67th Florida Sate Square & Round Dance Convention**
Daytona Beach Ocean Center
101 N Atlantic Ave
Daytona Beach, FL 32118
www.floridasquaredance.com

Jun 3-4 **Kansas State Square Dance Conventi**
4-H and Kenwood Hall
900 Greeley
Salina, KS 67401
Info: Tammy Gough Phone: 316 371-3991
btsgough@cox.net
www.kansassquaredance.com

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

2023

Apr 20-21 **62nd California State Square Dance Convention**
Yuba-Sutter Fairgrounds
Yuba City, CA
Postponed from 2022
Katie Pearce & Bonnie Abramson, Co-General Chairmen
bjabramson@gmail.com
www.CAState2022.org

FUTURE NATIONAL CONVENTIONS

2022—June 22-25 Evansville, IN
2023—June 21-24—Mobile, AL
2024—June 26-29—Milwaukee, WI

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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.

If you would like to receive notice when a new issue is posted on our website please [click here](http://www.Subscribe.USDA.org) (or type in the address - www.Subscribe.USDA.org) and follow the instructions. As soon as a new on-line edition is posted you will receive an email with a link to the website.

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GOING AWAY FOR THE WINTER? SUMMER?



HAVE YOU MOVED?

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

USDA NEWS PUBLICATION POLICY

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

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

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

USDA ADVERTISING POLICY

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

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

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

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

ADVERTISING RATES

	<u>COLOR</u>	<u>BLACK & WHITE</u>
½ Page	\$25.00	\$20.00
Full Page - 1 side	\$45.00	\$35.00
Full Page—2 sides	\$60.00	\$50.00

Publication	Deadline
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Jul—Sep	Jun 01
Oct—Dec	Sep 01

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2020-2021 Executive Committee

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Gilbert & Sharon Leon
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usda.waysandmeans@usda.org

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usda.501c3.chairman@usda.org

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usda.prescription.card@usda.org
javajoy2@cox.net

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usda.travelers@usda.org

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webmaster@usda.org

