

**2023-24 ASRDA  
Officers**



**Brooke Peters,  
President**



**Tricia Morley  
& Dennis Artz,  
Vice-Presidents**



**Cheryl & Chuck  
Sherman,  
Secretaries**



**Shirley & Steven  
O'Neal,  
Treasurers**



**President's Message**

*Happy Holidays Everyone!* It looks like it is going to be a busy month with Christmas parties/dances and New Year's Eve parties/dances. Just look at [asrda.org](http://asrda.org) under "Upcoming Events" to see for yourself. Be sure and have your Friendship Badge Chart signed.

On November 11th, we had our first meeting of the 75th National Square Dance Convention (NSDC) in Houston. It was great to finally meet and talk with the people I will be working closely with for the next three years. Many shared exciting new ideas to bring to our "Diamond Jubilee" in Waco.

When the meeting was over, Gary and Claudia Lester, General Chairmen bought everyone a pizza dinner and paid our way into the Texas Renegade dance that evening.

I am looking for volunteers to serve on the Convention's Education committee. I am also interested to hear from any of you about classes you would like us to add to the *Leadership Certification Program*. I have some ideas for some new and extremely useful classes that need approval but would still love to hear what classes you would find useful.

Once the holidays are over you will be seeing members of this year's Mid-Tex committee visiting your clubs and encouraging you to preregister for Mid-Tex. You will know them because they will be wearing leis. *Hawaii* is this year's theme.

It helps the committee to know the approximate number of people coming so they can have enough snacks on hand.

ASRDA will be purchasing pre-packaged snacks, while dancers are welcome to bring homemade finger foods that do not have to be refrigerated.

Be safe, drive responsibly, and have a wonderful holiday season!

*Brooke Peters  
President, ASRDA*

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**ATTENTION BOARD MEMBERS:**

THE NEXT BOARD MEETING IS  
SATURDAY, JAN. 6, 2024 AT 2:00 PM. AT HYDE PARK CHRISTIAN  
CHURCH. NO DANCE. PLEASE PLAN ON ATTENDING.

**2024 Election of ASRDA Board Members**

ASRDA will be electing new Board Members in April 2024. A Nominating Committee will be formed in January. Members of the Nominating Committee will actively seek individuals to serve on the Board. They can also suggest individuals to fill the appointed officer positions to the incoming President.

If anyone is interested in serving on next year's Board or would like more information on any of the positions, please let Brooke Peters or Tricia Morley know. We are particularly looking for individuals to fill the *Vice President* and *Treasurer* positions, but anyone can run for any of the offices.

Mid-Tex is also looking for new Board Members - If you could help with decorations, hospitality, split the pot, silent auction etc., we would love to have your support.

If you are interested in any one of the positions, please contact us at [kbookepeters@gmail.com](mailto:kbookepeters@gmail.com) or [morleyprop@gmail.com](mailto:morleyprop@gmail.com). We would love to have you join our team. We are hoping for a great 2024

**Cranberry Feta Pinwheels****Ingredients:**

4 slices bacon  
8 oz whipped cream cheese softened  
½ c crumble feta  
½ c chopped green peppers  
½ c chopped dried cranberries  
½ tsp garlic powder  
½ tsp onion powder  
4 (8 in) flour tortillas

**Directions:**

Place bacon in a large skillet and cook over medium-high heat, turning occasionally, until evenly browned, about 10 minutes. Drain bacon slices on paper towels, until cool, chop into small pieces.

Mix cream cheese, feta, bacon, green peppers, cranberries, garlic powder, and onion powder in a medium bowl until combined.

Spread evenly onto each tortilla. Roll up tortillas, then wrap each one tightly in aluminum foil. Chill in the refrigerator, at least 4 hours or overnight. 4 hours is the minimum.

To serve, remove foil; trim ends of tortilla rolls, and slice into 1-inch-thick pieces.

## Merry Christmas! Happy Hannukah!



### Let's start with a few questions:

- Do you remember who anged you when you learned to square dance?
- What is the role of the "Angel" in square dancing?
- Do you know who wrote the Christmas Carol, "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing?"
- Do you know who wrote the music?
- Do you know who wrote the lyrics?
- What does "Hark!" mean anyway?
- What is the role of the angels in the Bible?



Well, how'd you do? Helen and I fondly remember our angels when we learned how to square dance. We are still dancing with them! Our favorite memory is Helen's angel stating, "Helen, you've got to listen!" We quote that all the time. Which brings us to the carol, "Hark! the Herald Angels Sing." Lyrics written by Charles Wesley in 1739 (with a small bit of revision from George Whitfield). Music written by Felix Mendelssohn in 1840.

"Hark" essentially means "to pay close attention." "To listen." I like the phrase, "Listen up." (Kind of reminds me of Helen's angel.) Angels in the Bible "wait upon the monarch of the universe, and are sent by him to earth, now to execute his purposes; now to make them known to men." And what a message these angels gave to the shepherds keeping watch over their flocks by night: "Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger." And then an entire angel chorus appeared, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests."

Did the shepherds "hark"? God was saying, "You've got to listen." And they did! They immediately said to one another, "Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about."

So, they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger. Imagine, the first people given the announcement of the birth of Messiah were not royalty or the Jewish religious leaders, but lowly shepherds. God was demonstrating that this good news is for everybody, no matter in what social class one might be found. That experience so impacted those shepherds that they "spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them. But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told (Luke 2).

I am so thankful for those angels who helped us learn Mainstream and Plus. They truly fulfilled their purpose: to help translate the calls from the instructor to the students, to further their learning and success, bringing them joy and confidence. It is now our privilege (and responsibility) to be angels to the new students. (If you can, thank your angels.)

I am even more thankful for God sending His Son to be born to a young girl from Nazareth. The book of Hebrews states, "Since the children have flesh and blood, he too shared in their humanity so that by his death he might break the power of him who holds the power of death—that is, the devil—and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by their fear of death." It is a wonderful thing to be set free! We also read in Hebrews 2, "For this reason he had to be made like them, fully human in every way, in order that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in service to God, and that he might make atonement for the sins of the people. Because he himself suffered when he was tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted."

Do we, like the shepherds, glorify and praise God for all the things we have heard and seen?

Charles Wesley understood these things when he wrote "Hark! the Herald Angels Sing." Let's read his third stanza:



Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace!  
 Hail the Sun of Righteousness!  
 Light and life to all he brings,  
 risen with healing in his wings.  
 Mild he lays his glory by,  
 born that we no more may die,  
 born to raise us from the earth,  
 born to give us second birth.  
 Hark! the herald angels sing,  
 "Glory to the newborn King"

*Have a blessed holiday season, Tom*



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## Fun Facts: National Square Dance Conventions

If you are new to square dancing or have never been to a National Square Dance Convention (NSDC), you may want to start. Here are some fun facts about the National Conventions you may not know.

1. Each year a state in the U.S. hosts a National Convention. The National Executive Committee tries to alternate where they are located – one year in the northern part of the U.S. and the next year in the south. 2023<sup>rd</sup> NSDC was in Mobile, in 2024 it will be in Milwaukee, WI, in 2025 it will be in Shreveport, LA, and in 2026 it will be in Waco, TX.
2. Each convention has a theme that is evident in the e-magazine layout, colors and articles, the decorations at the convention, and in promotional materials. Mobile was “Party Gras,” Milwaukee is cows and cheese, Shreveport is “Dance on the Wild Side,” and Waco is “Diamond Jubilee” since it is NSDC’s 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary.
3. Each convention has a set of mascots that travel around with the General Chairman and Assistant General Chairman to state festivals all over the U.S. They are photographed every place they go. Milwaukee has a whole herd of cow mascots, “Harlequin Heifer,” “Kimmie,” “Lulu, and “Ribeye” are just a few. Shreveport has two alligators – “Allie” and “Gator.” Waco has armadillos – “Army” and “Delilah.” You will see their pictures in the National Square Dance e-magazine and on Facebook pages.
4. Nationals is not just square dancing. They have round dancing, clogging, contra dancing, and line dancing. They have all levels of square dancing from SSD through Challenge levels. There are workshops in fun square dance formations like hex, progressive, and kaleidoscope squares just to name a few.
5. Nationals is not just dancing either. There are vendors where you can buy clothing and shoes for whatever type of dancing you do, T-shirts to commemorate the current convention or advertise upcoming conventions, jewelry, and lots of other things that you don’t even know you need until you see them.
6. Nationals are also educational. There are multiple “sit-down” classes where you can learn just about anything you want to know about starting or running a club, recruiting new members, and keeping old ones, social media, dance parties, and the list goes on. There is even a room where they teach you how to make square dance outfits – “Sew & Save.”
7. There are dance demonstrations, a fashion show, a Parade of States, a dinner show, and multiple tours you can take in each city if you need a break from dancing.
8. If you want to follow upcoming events in upcoming National Conventions, go to <https://www.nsdcnec.com/national-squares-e-magazine>. You can also search Facebook under the 73<sup>rd</sup>nsdc (Milwaukee), 74<sup>th</sup>nsdc (Shreveport), or 75<sup>th</sup>nsdc (Waco).

In short, it is like a dancer's Disneyland! There are folks from the San Antonio and Austin areas who will be traveling to Milwaukee by train. Anyone is welcome to join them. Probably more folks will be attending the NSDC in Shreveport, LA because it is only 6 – 7 hours from the Austin Area. Hopefully, almost every dancer in Texas will GO to Waco – it will never be closer, and it is going to be FANTASTIC! "LET'S GO WACO!"



### **Alternative Accommodations to Host Hotels in Milwaukee**

Kimberly Vennard, from Tomball Promenaders, has reserved a block of 15 rooms at Drury Inn & Suites in Milwaukee, Wisconsin for the 2024 National Square Dance Convention (NSDC). These rooms include four kings and 11 double queens. She is letting dancers from ASRDA as well as the Houston area take advantage of these rooms. The Drury Inn is 0.4 miles from the NSDC location so it would be a short walk to and from the convention.

The reservations are for June 26 – 29 (checking out on June 30). The cost is \$165 plus tax for June 26<sup>th</sup> and 27. On June 29, the cost is \$249/night + tax. That comes to \$912 total before tax. This includes daily full breakfasts and "kickback" snacks at 5:30 pm which people have said is a dinner. Alcoholic and non-alcoholic drinks are included as is Wi-Fi, fitness center and pool.

While this appears more expensive than the host hotels (\$169/night), you are saving probably \$50 - \$75/day/person not eating out at restaurants. If two couples or four singles shared a room with two queen beds, the cost would come out to \$228/person plus tax. Not bad for four nights and eight meals in Milwaukee.

Reservations for one of these rooms must be made by Saturday, May 25, 2024. *To make reservations, call the hotel directly at 1-800-325-0720 and give them your group number - 10090209.*

### Bon Voyage Party - A Success!

Thank you to everyone who came out to say “Good-Bye” to Dan and Gail Clairmont. There were about 60 people in attendance along with plenty of food, lots of callers and cuers, and even a “Bon Voyage” cake complete with a cruise ship and RV on the top. There wasn’t much “roasting” of Dan and Gail, but there were some nice stories about them which highlighted what valuable and caring members of our community they are.

Dan and Gail set sail on their nine-month adventure on December 10<sup>th</sup>, 2023. Some of us will be following them on Facebook so you may be reading about some of their adventures in this newsletter in the coming months. “Bon Voyage Gail and Dan! We will miss you.”



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**Note from Dan and Gail:**

Hey, ASRDA Board, Callers/Cuers, and Dancers,  
Gail & I want to send a THANK YOU to all of you for the well wishes in the card, and this great Bon-Voyage dance/party last week for us. It was very thoughtful of all of you to come out to celebrate our next adventure. We will certainly miss all y'all. Talking, laughing, dancing, and calling with you. Please keep on dancing and having fun. See you on the Ocean or on the road.

Thank you so much!!!!

Dan & Gail



### Celebrate Milton Vaverek's 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday

Milton is inviting EVERYONE, square dancers, and non-square dancers, to his private birthday party on Thursday, December 14, 2023 from 5:30-8:30 pm at Dunbar Recreation Center at 801 W. MLK in San Marcos. Arnold and Marie Gladson will host the festivities.

Current square dance students and non-square dancers are invited to participate in different dance activities at **NO CHARGE!** If you know of someone who would enjoy a great time, please share this with them or bring them to the festivities.

Regular square dancers are asked to donate a finger food to share or pay \$5.00 pp at the door. Donations will go to the three clubs Milton frequents.

**No GIFTS** – your presence at this activity promoting square dancing is celebrated

Alcoholic beverages are prohibited.





## Train Travel to 73<sup>rd</sup> NSDC in Milwaukee



Would you like to add something new to your next National Square Dance Convention experience? Rather than driving 1,196 miles (18 hours and 35 minutes without stops from Austin to Milwaukee) or dealing with crowded airports, weather delays and baggage fees, why not try the train?

The quoted price per person traveling in a group of eight is \$225.00 for a round trip ticket from San Marcos to Milwaukee, WI. For comparison, the least expensive round trip coach plane ticket for the same dates was \$441 on Delta. Prices continued upwards to over \$1200 on United.

From San Marcos to Milwaukee the trip takes 33 hours and 30 minutes so you may wonder if you would be able to sleep in your coach seat. The coach seats in Texas Eagle are described as like the seats in business class on an airplane but with more leg room. The seats recline and there is a footrest you can raise if you want to try to sleep. The seats are paired so there is only one person next to you. If you are traveling in a square dance group, the person next to you will be someone you know.

At ASRDA's last Mid-Tex, some out of town dancers who took the train to Evansville, Indiana. They said they enjoyed it. This information was shared with some ASRDA dancers and there were quite a few who voiced an interest in traveling to Milwaukee by train in 2024. We already have eight people "most likely" taking the train. Not to worry though. We can make another group of eight and get the same discount. There is no discount for groups larger than eight people.

If you are interested in "Riding the Rails to Milwaukee", contact Brooke Peters at [kbrookepeters@gmail.com](mailto:kbrookepeters@gmail.com) as soon as possible. Brooke is setting up an email group to keep the train riders up-to-date with things she is learning. Information from Amtrak seems to change every time Brooke calls an agent – particularly the price. It may be as little as \$97.13/person round trip for a group of eight, but that needs to be verified. You can check out Amtrak at [www.amtrak.com](http://www.amtrak.com), but Brooke was told by the Amtrak agent that the prices on the Amtrak website were incorrect. However, she does know that the round-trip ticket price will NOT be more than \$225/person.

For more information on the 73<sup>rd</sup> National Square Dance Convention, you can either visit their website at [www.73nsdc.com](http://www.73nsdc.com) or their Facebook page under 73<sup>rd</sup> National Square Dance Convention. You can also go to <https://nsdcnec.com/national-squares-e-magazine/> and read the monthly e-magazines about what will be happening at the 73<sup>rd</sup> National Square Dance Convention.

183 Drury Plaza Hotel  
Milwaukee Downtown  
700 N. Water Street  
Milwaukee, WI 53202  
(414) 224-7864

## Drury Inn Online Booking Information

Thank you for selecting Drury Hotels to be a part of your next great event! We are looking forward to seeing you soon and we are ready to uphold our reputation for great service and value. Rooms have been held for your group and to make reservations, please **paste this link below into your browser**.

### HSDC Group

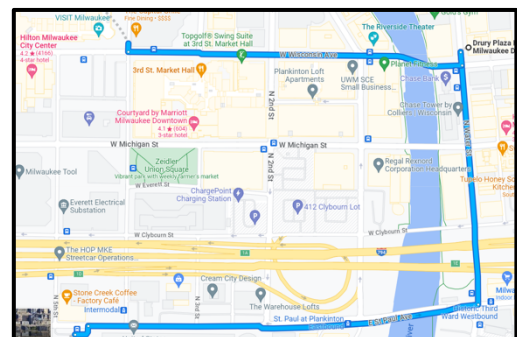
<https://www.druryhotels.com/bookandstay/newreservation/?groupno=10090209>

Please make your reservations by Saturday, May 25, 2024 to receive your group rate. Reservations made after this date will be subject to prevailing rates and availability. Reservations may also be made by calling 1-800-325-0720 and referring to your group number 10090209.

The group has 15 non-smoking rooms (4 King, 11 double Queen). Nightly rate is 6/26: \$165, 6/27-29: \$249 per night (\$912 total not including taxes and fees). Queen rooms will not have to pay extra for third/fourth persons. You do not have to ride the train to get this deal. If driving, on-site parking is \$25 plus tax per parking spot per day.

At Drury Hotels, we know you have enough to worry about when traveling. In addition to the great rate, our generous amenities will brighten your group's day and make your journey easier.

- Complimentary Hot Breakfast* - Enjoy scrambled eggs, oatmeal, fresh fruit, potatoes, pastries, the all-important coffee and more. Hot, fresh, and, best of all, free. Free hot breakfast is served daily from 6-9:30 a.m. on weekdays and 7-10 a.m. on weekends.
- Complimentary Evening Drinks and Snacks\** - Join us from 5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. every evening to enjoy complimentary hot food and cold beverages at our 5:30 Kickback®. The Hotel features a rotating menu of hot food, beer, wine, mixed drinks and soft drinks.
- Complimentary Wi-Fi Throughout the Hotel* - Get the score, check social networks, or email family members!
- On-Site Facilities* - Take advantage of the business center, fitness center or pool while away from home. Print boarding passes, finish a presentation or check e-mail in the Hotel's business centers.



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## Mid Tex 2024



Your current Mid-Tex Committee recently had a meeting regarding the upcoming “Mid-Tex Festival”. We have organized a super staff for this year. We will have Dan Sahlstrom from Minnesota as the Caller and Chris and Steve Davis from Texas as the Round Dance Leaders. I must admit that things are moving right along, and we are planning a great “Hawaiian” themed festival for you. All the Committee Chairs report they have everything well under control as of this date.

One of the items that is of concern to me is that we will be losing quite a few members on the current Mid-Tex Committee. I am asking for individuals to step-up and volunteer now, to be on the next Mid-Tex Committee. Without a fully staffed Mid-Tex Committee, we cannot provide you with this Special Dance you are accustomed to. We have signed contracts for both the Caller, **Tony Oxendine** and Round Dance Leaders, **Carolyn & Tony Ahart**, for 2025. Since we have the Staff for the 2025 Mid-Tex Festival, I would like the flyer for our 2025 Mid-Tex Festival printed and ready for distribution at our 2024 Festival. This will enable individuals to sign up for the 2025 Festival during the 2024 Festival. I am looking (hoping) for a sell-out for the 2025 Festival due to the great staff we have programmed.

I realize my request might be a little pre-mature since the Mid-Tex Committee is usually established after the previous festival. I am trying to get the 2025 Committee established earlier so that a decision can be made about the theme for the 2025 Festival, prior to the 2024 Festival. If we can have someone on the Mid-Tex Committee, that would be willing to be Committee Chair for Decorations for the 2025 festival, we can establish a theme for that festival. I will not establish a theme for the 2025 Festival without prior approval of the Decorations Chair. I need that Chair’s approval to insure they can handle the theme. If we can have the flyer ready by 2024 Festival, we will be saving the Association money by only having one flyer made and printed instead of the two. We will not need a “SAVE THE DATE” flyer and later print the final flyer.

If you are interested in serving on the Mid-Tex Committee, please contact me. We also have other positions that are opening on the Committee: Hospitality, Lodging, Raffle, Brown Bag, even Chairman, if anyone would like to be the Chairman. Please, this is your Association and Dance, and we need volunteers to make it happen. Do not let this Festival fall by the wayside and cease to exist like many other Festivals have due to a lack of participation or volunteers.

Talking to Shirley O’Neal, our ASRDA Treasurer, things are moving a little slow in reference to pre-registrations. With that being said, let’s get your registrations submitted. This greatly helps your committee in planning your Festival. Why wait?

**See page 12 of this newsletter for the Registration Form. Please fill it out and mail it to Make checks payable to ASRDA and mail to: ASRDA, P.O. Box 1195, La Vernia, TX 78121.**

Thank you for reading this and I do hope I receive some calls or messages from you offering your help with the Mid-Tex Festival. Till later - - Ski’s, Mid-Tex Chairman

## 2024 Mid-Tex Schedule and Registration

**LODGING:** Our **HOST HOTEL** is Best Western Plus Georgetown Inn and Suites at 600 San Gabriel Village Blvd, Georgetown, TX 78626. Phone 512-868-8555. Price/room is \$120.00 + tax and fees. We have a block of rooms reserved. There are 30 rooms for May 10<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup> – 15 kings & 15 with 2 beds. The last day for the \$120.00 + tax rate is **April 21, 2024** at 10 PM. Make your reservations online at [https://www.bestwestern.com/en\\_US/book/hotel-rooms.44689.html?groupId=5B6LR1V6](https://www.bestwestern.com/en_US/book/hotel-rooms.44689.html?groupId=5B6LR1V6) or call the hotel, tell them you are with the Mid-Tex Festival on 10 and 11 May 2024 and you will get the discounted rate.

### OTHER HOTELS

<b>Comfort Suites</b> 11 Waters Edge Circle Georgetown, TX 78626 512-863-7544	<b>Hampton Inn &amp; Suites</b> 160 River Oaks Cove Georgetown, TX 78626 512-688-5300
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### RV CAMPING

<b>JIM HOGG PARK</b> 500 Jim Hogg Rd. Georgetown, TX 877-444-6777 <a href="http://www.recreation.gov">www.recreation.gov</a>	<b>Berry Springs RV Park</b> 131 Market Street Georgetown, TX 512-864-2724	<b>New Life RV Park</b> 1200 Co. Rd. 152 Georgetown, TX 512-931-2073
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### SCHEDULE

**Friday, May 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

2:00 – 4:00 pm  
 7:00 – 7:30 pm  
 7:30 – 10:00 pm

Georgetown Community Center, 455 E. Morrow Street, Georgetown, TX

Trails End dance – Callers and Cuers present

Pre-Rounds

Square and Round Dance – M/S with tips 3 & 6 Plus. 2 Round Dance between each tip

**Saturday, May 11<sup>th</sup> 2024**

ROUND DANCE WORKSHOPS		SQUARE DANCE WORKSHOPS	
Christ Lutheran Church, 510 Luther Drive, Georgetown, TX		Georgetown Community Center, 455 E. Morrow Street	
9:30 – 11:30 am	Phase 2 - 3	9:30 – 10:30 am	A2
12:15 – 2:00 pm	Phase 3 - 4	10:30 – 12:00 pm	DBD
2:15 – 4:00 pm	Phase 4 - 5	1:00 – 2:00 pm	Plus
		2:00 – 3:00 pm	Intro to Hex Squares
		3:00 – 4:00 pm	Mainstream

**Saturday, May 11<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

### EVENING DANCE

Georgetown Community Center

6:00 – 7:00 pm  
 7:00 – 7:30 pm  
 7:30 – 10:00 pm

A2

Pre-Rounds

Square and Round Dance M/S with tips 3 & 6 Plus. 2 Round Dance between each tip.

### PRICES AND REGISTRATION

Advanced Ticket Sales for entire weekend (Includes Trails End Dance)	\$40.00 per person
Entire Weekend at the Door on Friday (Includes Trails End Dance)	\$45.00 per person
All Day Friday (Includes Trails End Dance)	\$20.00 per person
All Day Saturday (Includes all workshops and evening dance)	\$30.00 per person
Teens	Half Price

### MID-TEX REGISTRATION FORM

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Your Home Club \_\_\_\_\_

Highest Level you Dance (Please circle all that apply)

Rounds:      Phase 2      Phase 3      Phase 4      Phase 5

Squares:      Mainstream      Plus      A2

Please  check the box that corresponds to the days for which you are registering.

\$40 per person for **ENTIRE WEEKEND** (including Trails End Dance)

Friday Trails End & Evening Dances (\$20 per person)

Saturday Workshops and Evening Dancing (\$30 per person)      Total Amount Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to ASRDA and mail to: ASRDA, P.O. Box 1195, La Vernia, TX 78121 Contact Pres. Brooke Peters at (210) 392-5433 for more information. You can download this flyer at [www.ASRDA.org](http://www.ASRDA.org). Pre-Registration is available through **April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2024**. The last date to cancel for a full refund is **May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024**. To cancel, please notify Shirley O'Neal at [asrdatreasurer@gmail.com](mailto:asrdatreasurer@gmail.com) by **May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024**.

# Snacks at Mid-Tex Festival



At the last ASRDA delegate meeting, it was announced that ASRDA will be providing the pre-packaged snacks and water at Mid-Tex this year. This decision was made primarily because ASRDA wants to save the clubs some money. HOWEVER, now that COVID seems to be under control and many dances have homemade snacks for dancers, we would like to start having homemade snacks again.



Any dancer who would like to bring a finger food (that is something you can pick up with your fingers, eat off a napkin rather than a plate, without utensils, and does not require refrigeration), we highly encourage you to do so. Examples include, but are not limited to, cookies, brownies, homemade bread, etc.



**A fella once asked me what a hoedown was and I told him it's like a shindig but more like a hootenanny. I could tell he was still confused because his face went all cattywampus.**

## Santa Learns to Square Dance (A Few Weeks before Christmas)

(Read to the rhythm of "Twas the Night Before Christmas)



'Twas a few weeks before Christmas, and Santa was glum  
As he surveyed his workshop now that most work was done.  
There were piles of presents and candy and treats  
All to be sorted, so the Christmas deadline he'd meet.

He glanced out the window, his reindeer he saw,  
Running and jumping and kicking up straw.  
They knew before long, they'd be pulling the sled,  
Delivering gifts from the lists Santa read.

The elves were all singing and dancing and such,  
But good old St. Nick found the noise a little too much.  
"What is wrong with my Santa?" asked dear Mrs. Claus,  
"You don't seem so jolly – What is the cause?"

"Year after year, I deliver these toys,  
In all kinds of weather, to good girls and boys.  
And don't get me wrong, I love what I do,  
But I want to do something for just me and you."

Mrs. Claus's face now brightened as she asked "What would that be?  
It has to be fun and provide energy.  
I would like to make friends, other than elves,  
And eat some great food in spite of ourselves."

Santa said "I've heard down in Texas the folks have a dance,  
That offers fun, friends, and fitness – and even romance.  
It's good for the mind and great for the soul  
But enjoying oneself is the ultimate goal."

"I'm in," said the Misses, and off they did go,  
To take square dance lessons, away from the snow.  
The reindeer were thinking, "This trip is too soon!"  
Yet they all pulled that sleigh, their silhouettes in the moon.

The sleigh finally landed, up there on the roof,  
Where the dancers inside, heard the prancing of hooves.  
"Lessons are starting, so come join a square!"  
Called one of the dancers, "Oh, I see you're a pair."

"We welcome all couples, singles, and teens,  
Wear what you wish – You can even wear jeans.  
The man up in front is the caller tonight,  
He'll teach you the moves and have you dancing just right."

The music was varied from country, rock, to the blues,  
 Even some gospel and songs people knew.  
 The caller's performance was a show in itself,  
 "That caller," thought Santa "Would make a pretty good elf."

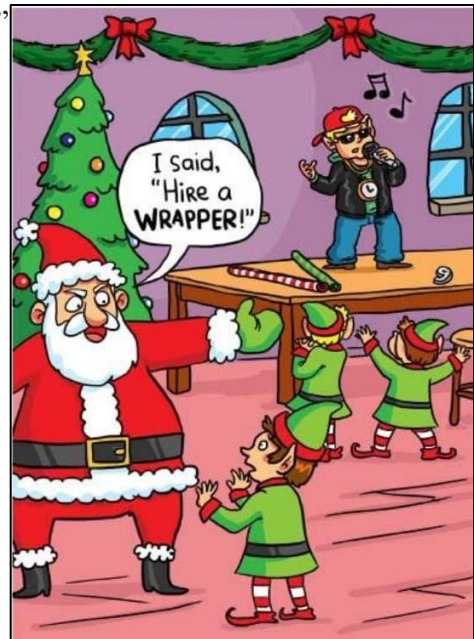
The snacks at the break were amazing to see,  
 Cookies, cakes, fruit, and chips and even veggies.  
 The dancers were friendly, helpful, and fun,  
 Many asking the Santas where they were from.

"We live way up north where no squares have, we seen,  
 Maybe only in Texas lives the square-dancing scene."  
 "Oh no!" said the dancers, "That's simply not true.  
 Square dancing is danced, the entire world though."

"And it is always in English" the caller chimed in.  
 "Whether you dance in Australia, Japan, or Berlin.  
 You'll always be welcome no matter where you go dance,  
 And you can share this with others – Is there a chance?"

"I'd love to!" cried Santa, "A list I will make,  
 Of all clubs and their lessons, contacts, and dates,  
 I'll pass out the lists when I deliver the toys,  
 So, the grownups get something, with the girls and the boys."

They got in their sleigh and off they did fly,  
 To the North Pole for the gifts because Christmas was nigh.  
 The dancers then heard, as they flew out of sight,  
 Merry Christmas, Ya'll! Go Square Dancing tonight!





Arnie, the Armadillo

Claudia and Gary Lester and Ramona Padilla and Billy Grimsley, General Chairmen and Assistant General Chairmen respectively, have already preregistered almost 500 dancers for the 75<sup>th</sup> National Square Dance Convention in Waco, TX happening in June of 2026. That is a record since COVID!

Since it is the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the National Square Dance Convention, when you pre-register this early, you will get a cute little armadillo dangle for your square dance badge and, ladies, you will get a HUGE plastic diamond blinking bling ring. Wear it to all the dances and show what a trend setter you are.

You can also buy very nice crew neck or V-neck T-shirts with a choice of colors and a choice of logos. Just ask Billy Grimsley or Ramona Padilla and they can get one for you. They run a bit small so you might want to order up one size. The T-shirts and some other goodies will be on sale at Mid-Tex, the State Festival, and of course Nationals in Milwaukee. The money from the sale of T-shirts and other paraphernalia helps fund the convention.



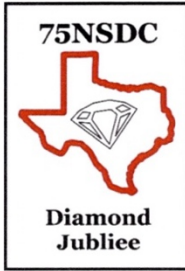
Diamond Jubilee Convention T-Shirt



It takes a small army to host a National Square Dance Convention<sup>®</sup>. We need volunteers to help the Convention Teams prepare for their Convention. Do you have a few hours you'd like to rest from dancing to volunteer, or maybe you have a special talent or expertise that you can offer. We need YOU!

WACO will be an exciting convention! **WACO**  
**Y'ALL!!**  
**W-We**  
**A-Are**  
**C-Coming**  
**O-Over**





**Pre – Registration  
75<sup>th</sup> National Square Dance Convention®  
Waco, Texas  
June 24-27, 2026**



<b>Registration #</b> _____
<b>Ribbons</b> _____

**REGISTER ONLINE at [www.75nsdcinc.com](http://www.75nsdcinc.com)  
This form expires on March 22, 2025**

**Zelle® your registration fee to [75nsdc@gmail.com](mailto:75nsdc@gmail.com)**

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

Primary Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_ First Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Partner's Last Name (if different): \_\_\_\_\_ First Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email Address (if different): \_\_\_\_\_  
 Youth Names & DOB: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Country: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Alt Number: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Check if you want to opt out of email sharing. Email addresses shared only with the NEC for upcoming convention information

Pre-Registration Prices (US currency only)	\$60.00 each x _____ until 3/22/2025 = \$ _____
Youth born after June 27, 2009	\$30.00 each x _____ until 3/22/2025 = \$ _____
	<b>Sub Total:</b> \$ _____
Credit Card Processing Fee	\$3.00 \$ _____
	<b>Total Due:</b> \$ _____

Cash Received \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Check # \_\_\_\_\_ (Payable to 75NSDC) Zelle   
 Credit Card Type: \_\_\_\_\_ Credit Card #: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ Security Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Name of Cardholder: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Statement Mailing Address (if different): \_\_\_\_\_  
 Authorized Card Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**If Registering by Mail: 75NSDC 9597 Jones Rd Ste #122 Houston, TX 77065  
Or Email to: [register.75nsdc@gmail.com](mailto:register.75nsdc@gmail.com)**

**PLEASE HELP US PLAN! Please CIRCLE all that apply**

Dancers: SSD Only, Mainstream, Plus, Advanced, Challenge, Contra, Lines, Rounds, Clogging, Handicapable, SOLO  
 Leaders: Squares, Contra, Lines, Rounds, Clogging. Education Presenter Topic: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Arrive Early or Stay Late # Days \_\_\_\_\_? Stay at Convention Hotels, RV Camping or  
 Other Accommodations? \_\_\_\_\_  
 Group Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Do you need Block Rooms \_\_\_\_\_, Meeting Rooms \_\_\_\_\_ or Storage Space: \_\_\_\_\_  
**Room Blocks Expire September 15, 2025**

\$10.00 cancellation fee per registration. No refunds after April 30, 2026. **This form and registration rate is void after March 22, 2025.** Registration Long Forms will be mailed in January, 2025 for selection of hotel or RV park and additional items. Early registration gives you free admittance to the Pre-Convention Kick Off Dance on March 22, 2025.

**"Convention Badges Required for Entrance to all Convention Activities; Dressy Casual Attire allowed until 6:00 pm. Proper Dance Attire is Requested After 6:00 pm for all Dancers."**

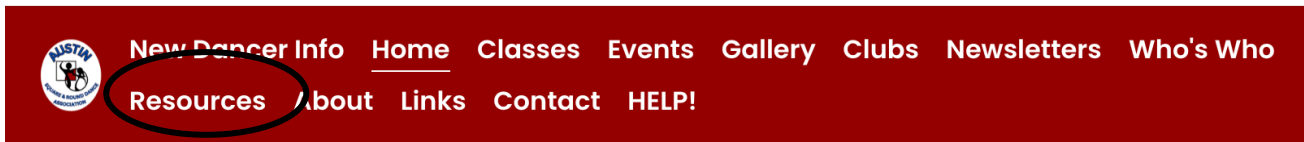
(Internal Use Only) Accepted by: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Registration Location: \_\_\_\_\_ Receipt Sent: \_\_\_\_\_ Date Sent: \_\_\_\_\_

**WE'RE GOING TO TEXAS Y'ALL!**

**Hotel reservations may be made AFTER March 22, 2025!  
Room blocks expire after September 15, 2025**

## Website Works

Do you know how to find ASRDA Policies? They are located under **Resources** at [www.asrda.org/resources](http://www.asrda.org/resources). There you will find a list of **1.** callers, cuers, and line dance leaders and how to contact them. There are policies about **2.** Firearms, **3.** Covid Notification, **4.** Having photos used on public platforms like Facebook and our website, and **5.** Inappropriate behavior. There is also a flow chart of how **6.** ASRDA is related to the Texas State Federation of Square Dancers as well as other square and round associations in Texas. **7.** How are clubs reimbursed for publicity to attract new dancers? **8.** How can my teen receive a scholarship to continue his/her education? **9.** Where are the ASRDA Constitution and Bylaws? **10.** And, finally, New Dancers can click the link to New Dancer Information for questions they might have. All these questions can be answered on the **Resources** page.



**Bottom Line:** If you have a question, please ask one of the regular dancers or check the website for lots of info for all dancers.



## Friendship Badge Program

**Friendship Badge Program** encourages ASRDA dancers to visit other clubs of which they are not members.

- Club visitations are not limited to clubs within ASRDA. They can be any square or round dance, clogging, contra, or line dance club or exhibition dance in Texas, the United States and abroad.
  - Dancer(s) must designate a HOME CLUB. Attending Home Club dances can't be included in the 15 dances attended on the Friendship Badge Chart.
  - Dancers who attend a dance festival or weekend where there is dancing during the day and evening can receive up to two visitation credits/day – one for daytime dancing/workshops and one for evening dancing.
  - A dancer must have the caller, cuer or person responsible for hosting the dance sign the Friendship Badge Card.
  - To receive this special Friendship dangle, a dancer must attend 15 dances (or one card's worth). When the person finishes the 2nd card (the equivalent of 30 dances), he/she will receive a \$25 gift card.
  - Dancers who currently have the old Friendship Badge card may continue to use it until it is full and then change over to the new card.
  - Effective date for use of this new card and guidelines is 22 April 2023. The program is ongoing.
- Rev 10/21/23

FRIENDSHIP BADGE PROGRAM			FRIENDSHIP BADGE PROGRAM		
Dancer(s)			Dancer(s)		
Home Club			Home Club		
Dancer(s) Name(s)			Dancer(s) Name(s)		
Phone No.			Phone No.		
Email Address			Email Address		
CLUB VISITED	OFFICIAL SIGNATURE	VISIT DATE	CLUB VISITED	OFFICIAL SIGNATURE	VISIT DATE
1			16		
2			17		
3			18		
4			19		
5			20		
6			21		
7			22		
8			23		
9			24		
10			25		
11			26		
12			27		
13			28		
14			29		
15			30		

## What Square Dancing Has Meant to Me!

*Prior to the 2023 State Festival, TSFSRD asked dancers from all over Texas to write about what square dancing has meant to them in their lives. The responses were submitted to the Federation with the understanding the documents would be on a display table at the festival. The display acknowledged the significance of the letters.*

*There were nine responses and SIX of them were from dancers in ASRDA! Many people stopped to read the documents and repeatedly commented "I never knew that about \_\_\_\_\_."*

*All the ASRDA responses will be shared in the next few months. Here is one of the responses:*

Hello, my name is Nancy Olson,

I was born in California and my dad was in construction and we moved around a lot while I was growing up. My dad was a square dance caller and I learned to square dance while I was young but didn't dance very much. Then I took lessons when I was in college. I met and married someone who didn't dance so I didn't dance for 39 years.

When my husband passed away, I saw a flyer for square dance lessons and remembered all the friends that my mom and dad had all those years when they were square dancing, so I took lessons and learned how to square dance again. After lessons, I joined a local club, Waterloo Squares. They were a neat and friendly club, but you really get to know them going out to supper or snacks after the dance.

Our club encourages our members to help with the lessons, so I did that every time we had lessons, which was twice a year. During one of the lessons, I met and became friends with one of the students. We hit it off and began dancing with each other after he finished lessons. He had an RV and we traveled to state and national square dance conventions. We got married and started traveling more.

We had so much fun during our time together. We went on a couple of square dance cruises, went to state and national conventions, camping squares and other dances plus our local dance each week. One thing that we did was continue to help with lessons each time. I encourage you to take lessons more than once. It helps you to really learn the moves and to dance better.

My husband passed away from cancer seven years after I met him, but we had such a good time while we were together. I still dance today; I am 80 years old. Our club is made up of singles and couples so we all can dance. Even if you don't find a husband, you will enjoy dancing and the fellowship and make everlasting friends.

Have fun and I hope you enjoy it as much as I do.  
Sincerely, Nancy



*Please share your experiences with square dancing, please send “What Square Dancing has meant to me” or any other article to [vmmerchant.asrda@gmail.com](mailto:vmmerchant.asrda@gmail.com) and we’ll get it in one of the future newsletters.*



**Want to improve your Mainstream dancing?  
Free Review Lessons Available on Mondays**

Sometimes we all need a review of Mainstream calls. Dan McDonald, a Wheel-N-Deals dancer, and budding caller is offering a **FREE** review of Mainstream calls to new Students, current dancers and/or Retreads, those who are getting back to square dancing.

You can join Dan and others on Monday nights from 6:00-7:00 pm at the VFW Hall in San Marcos at 1701 Hunter Road, which is before the Cen-Tex Plus Club dances.

During this review, Dan will also be practicing his calling skills, while the dancers practice the calls. To help the dancers and Dan, at least eight dancers need to attend. If you would like to take advantage of this square dance review, please contact Dan McDonald at 512-694-0654 or send a text to Bob Anderson at 512-426-8855.

We hope to see you soon in a review square!



## ASRDA Club News

### Canyon Lake Square Dancers

By Wayne Weston



We hope that everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving with family and friends. We also wish everyone a very merry Christmas and hope that you can enjoy the season with your families and loved ones.

*We will not be dancing Rounds on December 25 or January 1 and we will not be dancing Squares on December 27. We will be back on January 3<sup>rd</sup> Square Dancing with gusto in the new year. (We will be dancing off the pounds we all put on over the Holidays.)*

Canyon Lake Square Dancers will be having our Christmas Party at the Weston's Barn (1450 Rotherman, Canyon Lake, TX 78133) on December 9<sup>th</sup>. We will be dancing 5-7pm with potluck and socializing afterwards. Please join us.

We are still having fun every Wednesday at Goofy's. We dance Mainstream from 6:30 to 8:30 with rounds and lines between tips. We also have a "Hot Hash" or "crazy thing" tip every evening for those that want something a little faster, perhaps more challenging, and with less time to think. We also have one Plus tip for those that wish. The first Wednesday of each month is our dress-up night, everyone is encouraged to wear their Square Dance Clothes or our "Canyon Lake Square Dancer's Excuse shirts", and most do.

Our Round Dancers are progressing well and are dancing many Two-Step and Waltz Round Dances. We are not rushing through the figures, so everyone feels comfortable with each one. You may see them round dancing at many square dances and they are doing great. We have started Rumba and they are having fun with the new rhythm. Our Round Dance classes are also at Goofy's on Mondays from 2:45 to 4:45.

January 10, 2024 we are again offering A FREE introductory lesson from 6:00-7:30 with Lessons beginning on January 17, 2024. If you know of anyone who wants to get in on the fun or review their skills, please send them our way!

Check us out on our Facebook group at "Canyon Lake Dancers".

We have a great time Square, Round, and Line Dancing. Come on out and visit. We love having visitors. The more the merrier.

Moving Square Dancing into the 21<sup>st</sup> Century



**Let's All Dance Together**



**Carousel Club #340**

By Bob and Kay

As we start this letter, we hope you all had a Happy and Blessed Thanksgiving. We were truly fortunate to have two Thanksgiving Dinners and our waistlines are showing it. The first one was on the Sunday before Thanksgiving with family and grandchildren from Tennessee and Louisiana. Our second dinner was Thanksgiving Day where our family joined the family of our daughter-in-law. We have so much to be thankful for.

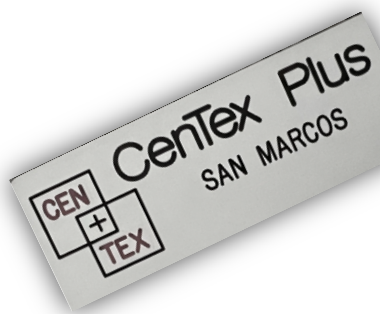
Adding to a great holiday, Friday we were off to Dallas for the "Harvest Holiday Festival" featuring Pamela and Jeff Johnson. What a great weekend of dancing and socializing we had while burning off those Thanksgiving Dinner calories.

For the past month we have been working on dances that were on the Harvest Holiday program. We also participated in a Special Round Dance Party, Let's Dance Together, held in Sun City (Georgetown). This was organized by Trish and Dennis where they invited all Round Dance Leaders to come and cue a Phase 2 thru 5 for an afternoon of dancing. The invite goes out to all Round Dancers to come, socialize, make new friends and dance to many different cuers on the first Sunday of every month. What a great idea! The next dance will be held on December 3rd. For more information contact Trish and Dennis at [morleyprop@gmail.com](mailto:morleyprop@gmail.com)

We are looking forward to having numerous house guests over the New Year Holiday. Some will be in their RVs and others will be staying here in the house. Of course, with a group like this we are looking at having a New Year's Eve Party and Dance here at our home. At present we are planning on dancing: Rounds, Squares (with national callers on records), Kicker and Social Dancing, Games, and who knows what else could happen. You are more than welcome to attend. We ask that you let us know if you plan to and we request you bring finger food to share. It should be a fun time for everyone welcoming in the New Year.

That is about all the news for right now, so we will be signing off. Enjoy your time at the many Holiday Dances that we see are planned in the upcoming month - - - Ski's.

Moving Square Dancing into the 21<sup>st</sup> Century



Dance with Chet Miles and members of the CenTex Plus Club on Mondays from 7:00-9:00 pm at the VFW Hall, 1701 Hunter Road in San Marcos.

To challenge this group, Chet is teaching different ways common Plus calls can be completed-like Coordinate from lines...always a fun evening that makes you think. Hope to see you there soon.



**It's a new day, I'm alive,  
I'm blessed, I'm happy,  
I'm grateful...**



We are meeting from 2-5 pm on Sundays at Hermann Sons in San Antonio. Students are learning Upper-Level figures. We look forward to teaching two-step and waltz lessons.



## Country Cuzzins'

Marble Falls, TX  
By Jenny Saunders

The Country Cuzzins Square Dance Club in Marble Falls has a great new class of dancers, who have caught on pretty fast to new calls and have added fun to our club. New dancers' graduation date is to be determined and announced later, but very likely will be in February.

We celebrated November birthdays for Charlie Taylor and Charlotte Broadway last Thursday. We serenaded them with the birthday song. We'd like to send out Happy Birthday wishes to those with December birthdays, Luzia Weston, and Dennis Roberts.

On December 1<sup>st</sup>, we plan to dance in the Marble Falls Christmas Light-up Parade. One square of dancers will perform with extra couples rotating in as others need to rest. We plan to wear Christmas lights to highlight our dancers, and dance to calls broadcasted from a boom box on a truck tailgate ahead of the dancers. We hope this demo dance will attract more students and dancers to the club and square dancing.

Country Cuzzins' Christmas Dance Party is scheduled for December 21 from 7:00-9:00 at St. Luke's Church in Cypress Mills (263 Spur 962E, Cypress Mills, TX 78663). Christmas attire and finger foods will be in good supply. Those who would like to carpool can meet at the Methodist Church in Marble Falls at about 6:15 p.m.

Our club will be dark between Christmas and New Year's, and resume dancing on Thursday, January 4, 2024 at the First Methodist Church.

That's it for now.  
Thanks,

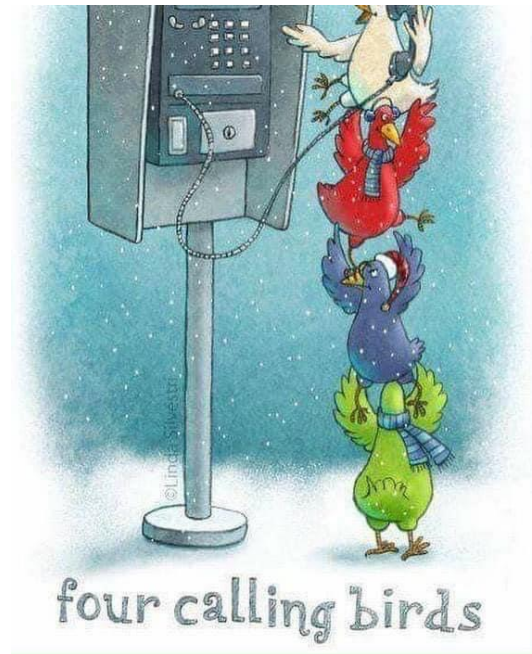


*"You know that song,  
'Grandma got run over by a reindeer?'  
Well, I'm that reindeer."*

## Lone Star Lambdas



The Lone Star Lambda's welcome Jon back after recovering from a bad injury. Glad you are back, Jon! The Lambdas dance Mondays from 6:30-8:30 pm at Gethsemanes Lutheran Church in Austin.



Waterloo Squares are inviting everyone to attend their 41<sup>st</sup> Anniversary on March 16, 2024 at the Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church at 3525 Bee Caves Road in Austin. Pre-rounds are from 7-7:30 pm with Squares from 7:30-9:30 pm. Silent Auction for Homemade Goods, Split the Pot, and a dinner with Pulled Pork Sliders with Sides, Snacks and Desserts will be available.

Scott Bennett will call while Jerry & Lucy Pate will cue. Donation \$15.00, but \$5.00 for teens!  
Come celebrate with us and Have Some Fun!  
Flyer can be found at [www.asrda.org/events](http://www.asrda.org/events).

## Shirts & Skirts Honors 11 Veterans



Wow, the months pass so fast. There have been so many special dances recently and our club members have been there for them.

We did a demo dance at The Cottage at Chandler Creek with Al Frazier as the caller. One of our long-time square dancers, Sue Welch, lives there so we were able to visit with her.

Also, this month we celebrated our Veterans with a special tribute to our 11 club members that evening.

Lessons are going well. Brad has them doing so much already. Our angels are showing up to help this process along. Martha Burghart and Mike Goggin are leading the line dances.

We so much appreciate the visitors we get each week. Happy Thanksgiving to all.



Shirts N Skirts  
Students learning  
Ferris wheel! Great  
job!

Moving Square Dancing into the 21<sup>st</sup> Century

## Step 'N Style

Sunday class in Sun City is enjoying Cha and Bolero. We recently started a "Let's All Dance Together" dance to be held on the first Sunday of each month from 2-5, Level II - V at the Atrium in Sun City. The first dance was very well received with cuers dancing for free (if they cued). All proceeds are donated to TRDTA (Texas Round Dance Teachers Assoc.) to help defray the costs for their dance February 23-24th, 2024 in La Grange. Our next Special Dance will be Dec 3rd 2-5 pm. in the Atrium.

Monday, our classes are currently learning waltz and bolero. We have completed all Ph II waltz and in Bolero all Ph IV figures and are working on Ph V bolero figures for the next month. After the new year we will be starting a new Slow Two Step class.

Tuesday in La Grange - we are concentrating on Cha and Rumba in Round dancing. We also plan on completing SSD by the end of the year. We have three generations within the 12 students who are square dancing together, ranging in age from Junior High to retired Grandparents.

Wednesday, Bastrop 13 new students are working on the same material as La Grange. They will go all the way thru Mainstream. Students are trying to get faster to manage the singing calls.

We attended TEXPAC in Paris for some "C" dancing and the Houston Hoedown as well as Dan's Farewell party where we called a singing call for Dan and Gail. We attended a most informative planning meeting at the Renegades in Houston for the 75th NSDC. We also enjoyed dancing to Bronc Wise at the Renegades on Veterans Day.

December activities include: •**December 2nd** will bring us a great Christmas Dinner and Dance in La Grange with Matt Barnes and Tricia cueing. •**December 3<sup>rd</sup>**, "Let's All Dance Together" gathering at Sun City. •Darrell Lipscomb will be calling at Schertz on **December 15-17th** for A2 - C3A dancing. •**December 30th** New Year's Eve Dance at Sun City with Gary Bible Calling and Tricia cueing. Looking forward to a bigger and stronger dance community in 2024.

Monday	Cypress Weekley Center	2:00 - 3:30 pm Waltz, Ph II-III, wkshp & figs. 3:30 - 5:00 pm Bolero, Ph III-VI, wkshp & figs Jan.8 – New Class – Beg Waltz & Beg. Slow Two-Step
Tuesday	La Grange Randolph Center	5:30 - 7:00 pm Waltz, Ph III-IV, wkshp & figs. 7:00 - 8:30 pm SSD Square Dance Lessons,
Wednesday	Bastrop Community Center	6:00 - 7:30 pm Mainstream SSD Square Dance Lessons 7:30 - 9:00 pm Rounds All Rhythms, Open Dancing Ph II - VI, practice time
Sunday	Sun City Atrium, 1 Texas Dr. Georgetown	1: 00 - 2:30 pm Rumba/Cha, Ph III-IV, wkshp & figs. 2:30 – 4:00 pm Beginner Bolero classes, Ph III-IV, wkshp & figs. 4:00 – 5:30 pm Advanced All Rhythms, wkshp & figs.
		<b>New Class</b> Beg. Waltz and Beg. Slow Two-Step

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## Taylor Promenaders

By Connie Frazier



We had our Halloween Dance on October 26<sup>th</sup>. It was an enjoyable night. We had the *Man in Black* calling and a man from the 60's maybe, may have been the *Fonz*. Also present was farmer Joann. Thank you, Dan, for calling with AI.

On December 14, 2023, the Promenaders are again having a benefit dance for **Shepard's Heart** in Taylor Texas. This will be the second year for this. The first year was a great year in donations. Money and/or food may be donated. Please think about attending this dance. There will be no charge for this dance if you bring a food item or donate. Starting soon there will be a container out at the regular dances for any donation someone might want to make and a Christmas box for any food that might be brought.

We will not be dancing on December 28<sup>th</sup> but will start again January 4, 2024.

Wish everyone a Merry Christmas. Safe travels and good eats.



## WHEEL-N-DEALS



### Wheel-N-Deals Celebrate Students with a Halfway Dance

On Tuesday November 28<sup>th</sup>, Wheel-N-Deals celebrated their current students being a little more than halfway through their lessons with a “Half-Way

Dance.” We had four squares on the floor with a few people sitting out. There were visitors from Canyon Lake, CenTex Plus Club, the clogging group, and a couple from out of state. Gail Dupre did an excellent job organizing the snacks. There were four pans of ham and cheese sliders, chicken wings, corn pudding, several cheese balls and crackers, chips & dip, a veggie tray, a fruit tray, deviled eggs, a chocolate cake, cookies, brownies, and a pumpkin cobbler. Once the food was ready, it was hard to get dancers back on the floor! No one went home hungry and some even left with doggie bags.

Gary Bible did a great job calling. While he called only the moves the students had learned, he called different patterns from those called in class. The students really enjoyed the variety and did very well. Billy Grimsley was supposed to be calling at another club but got another caller to cover for him so he could lead the line dances at our party.

A few hard badgers wore square dance outfits, and the students were asking where they could get some outfits. Fortunately, both Luzia Weston and Brooke Peters were at the dance. They assured the students that there were plenty of used square dance outfits for them to try on either before their graduation or on graduation.

We look forward to our students’ graduation I February so they can start visiting other clubs with us. Three of our seven students have expressed an interest in taking the train to the National Square Dance Convention in June. They are going to be outstanding square dancers!



Moving Square Dancing into the 21<sup>st</sup> Century

## Newsletter News

### ASRDA Website/Facebook Statistics

From Oct. 31 through Nov. 29, 2023, [www.asrda.org](http://www.asrda.org) has had 459 people look at the Home Page of our new website; 150 have viewed Upcoming Events. 125 readers have checked out the Newsletters, while 78 people have looked at Classes. 51 folks have examined New Dancer Info, while 36 examined the Resources. Wow! Exciting news!

**Facebook Followers** have increased to 603 with 5 new followers. In the past month, 770 people have seen our posts and 489 have clicked or liked or shared! Congratulations! We're growing!

•What topics would **you** like included in the ASRDA newsletter that would make it more interesting to YOU?

•*What questions/suggestions do you have for any of the ASRDA officers?* These can be anonymous.

•Do you have a favorite recipe to share?

•*What do you like about the newsletter? What don't you like?*

Please send me your suggestions, articles, photos, recipes, etc. as attachments to [vmmerchant.asrda@gmail.com](mailto:vmmerchant.asrda@gmail.com)

Please send your flyers for dances as soon as they are complete so they can be added to the ASRDA.org website under "Upcoming Events."



Hopefully, new students will *Like* and *Share* our Facebook page with their friends. Please tell them about it.

You can **subscribe** to *Round the Capitol Square!* Go to <http://www.asrda.org/newsletters> and scroll to the bottom of the page. Fill out the form and you will be subscribed or Download RCS for no charge.

*Round The Capitol Square* is the official publication of the Austin Square & Round Dance Association. There are eleven issues per year (no July issue).

All articles and flyers (8.5 x 11) must be received by the 15th of each month preceding the month of publication (i.e., 15th of August for publication in the September issue). When sending your articles in, please **attach** the **document (.docx)** to an email. Any photos should be sent as a **jpg file and as attachments to** [vmmerchant.asrda@gmail.com](mailto:vmmerchant.asrda@gmail.com)

The Editor reserves the right to condense, rewrite, omit, or rearrange any items submitted.

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