



August 2023

President's Message

The theme I have chosen for the upcoming year is **“Moving Square Dancing into the 21st Century.”** To increase recruitment and retention in square and round dancing, we need square dancing to be visible and appealing to people of all ages.

ASRDA has updated the website, ASRDA.org, so it is now user friendly, colorful, and packed with information for dancers and non-dancers alike. For publicity, we are moving into advertising on social media and making sure all clubs have some on-line presence either with FB or a website.

Vickie Merchant has developed initial Canva training program so clubs can create beautiful slide shows, flyers, and videos to include on their Facebook pages.

Several clubs have eye catching club T-shirts that members proudly wear in public. Clubs like La Grange and Step 'N Style Rounds, through their grant applications, let their community know that the clubs are valuable to the community by hosting large dances that bring revenue to the businesses in the area. Some clubs are participating in parades; many are doing demo dances to gain visibility in their communities. Advertise those events and share photos through social media and local newspapers. Over the next 3 years, we have an unparalleled opportunity to greatly increase our numbers of square dancers in Texas. The 2026 National Convention in Waco, Texas will be heavily promoted in Texas as an International event that everyone might want to be part of. It will be showcased in Texas magazines, on television and radio, and social media. (Contin'd 2).



Brooke Peters,
President



Dennis Artz &
Tricia Morley,
Vice-President



Cheryl &
Chuck
Sherman,
Secretary



Shirley & Steve
O'Neal,

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Web Links: use these addresses to find:

- Upcoming Events/Flyers <https://asrda.org/events>
- Upcoming Lessons: <https://asrda.org/classes>
- ASRDA Callers and Cuers – See *Resources*
- ASRDA.org is continually being updated. Check it often for the most recent information.
- On Facebook, LIKE *Austin Square and Round Dance Association* and SHARE it with your friends.

President's Message cont'd.

Clubs need to be aware of the advertising being done in their areas and follow-up with their own articles in local papers, on social media, or at public events. Let the public know about square, round, line, or contra dancing and how they can find out about lessons and clubs in their areas.

During COVID, many people missed socializing with other people. Now people are craving social interaction and want to begin a sustainable form of exercise. Square dancing can meet both social and fitness needs. We just need to present square or round dancing in a way that allows non-dancers to figure this out.

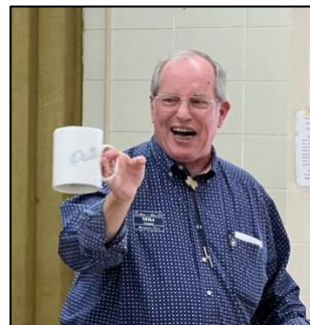
Maybe people will become so interested and excited seeing advertisements for the 2026 National Convention that they will learn to dance to participate at the Nationals at Waco. Or possibly they will learn of the benefits for square and round dancing through online advertising, parades, demo dances, square dance T-Shirts or friends, who already square dance and share that information. Once they realize that square dancing addresses their needs, they should be open to taking lessons. Club members could take new dancers to visit other clubs so that they really feel part of their new club and get to meet new people at other clubs. Tell them about the fun that dancers have at the State Festival and Nationals. New dancers, who are really enjoying square dancing, will share it with their friends and, hopefully, their friends will be in your next set of lessons.

The opportunity to grow square dancing is now. Let social media be your friend. Share ideas and successes with other clubs. Ask for help if you need it. Together we will move square dancing into the 21st century.



ASRDA Secretary, Chuck Sherman honored Billy Grimsley and Ramona Padilla with a plaque and gavel for their service as ASRDA Presidents during 2022-23. Thank you both for a job well done.

Brooke Peters, ASRDA President, presented a few awards.

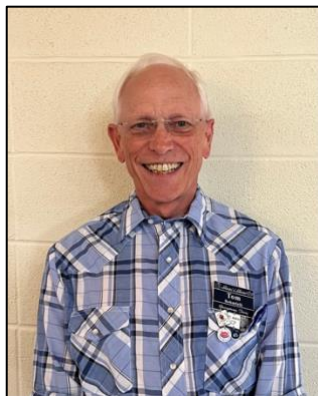


Mike Goggin received HUGE coffee mug to keep working on the website!

Vickie Merchant received a LARGE beer mug from Brooke Peters to keep on designing those ASRDA LOGOS!



Chaplain's Message



I have always loved August. For my birthday is in the first week of August. And I even love it more now, because my son and his son share a birthday in the middle of August! Celebrations are coming! Haven't we all loved birthday parties? Some of my earliest memories revolve around birthday parties...musical chairs, hide and go seek, water balloons, hotdogs, presents, homemade ice cream and the ever-present birthday cake (always chocolate). I still cherish gifts I was given when I was 16 years old! What do birthdays bring to your mind?

There are some other important birthdays. We all grew up celebrating Washington's and Lincoln's birthdays. Martin Luther King's birthday was added as a federal holiday in 1986. Did you know that May 14, 1948 is the day when the nation of Israel was reborn? The most universally celebrated birthday is December 25, when we celebrate the fact that Jesus, who has always existed along with the Father and Holy Spirit, took on a human nature and was born to a poor family in Bethlehem. Why did He do that? Because of His love for us. Jesus came in order to live a perfect life and die on the cross to pay the penalty for our sins and offer us the free gift of forgiveness and eternal life. And all we have to do to receive that gift is to put our trust in Jesus.

Each time we celebrate our birthday, let us thank the Lord for giving us life and families and friends and activities we can share. And then remember to thank Him for providing redemption through Jesus and His death on the cross. "Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift."

August Recipe

Cherry Fluff

(A cool dessert for a hot summer day.)

- 1 can of cherry pie filling
- 1 container of cool whip
- 1 can crushed pineapple.
- 2 sliced bananas (optional)
- 1 c pecan pieces

Put all ingredients in a bowl. Mix all ingredients together. Keep cool until served. It doesn't last long!





We're Going to Waco Y'all!

Howdy, fellow dancers!

In case you haven't heard, the 75th National Square Dance Convention is heading back to Texas. We Texans made a proud showing at the 72nd National Square Dance Convention in Mobile Alabama bringing over 250 of us proud and loud! That was a big reason why we were selected for the Diamond Jubilee of Square Dance Conventions. Another big reason is the hard work done by our convention chairmen **Gary and Claudia Lester** (shown below).

As many of you know, putting a bid package together is no small task, and these two showed they have what it takes. One hundred people attended the open bid session to hear our proposal and ideas to plan the most enjoyable Waco experience for all ages! We were also very pleased at the folks who showed their support at the convention for a dance in Texas by rallying to register 211 participants for our dance. Over 150 Texans marched in the Parade of States! It was an inspiring sight to watch our state stand out from all others!


Ramona and I are pleased to report that support for the Waco Convention is extremely high and folks are excited to register early to help us bring Texas a dance to remember.

For anyone who is available to meet on September 7, 2023 with our NEC Advisors and our representatives from the convention center, hotels and the visitor bureau, you are welcomed to join in the discussions. Quick reviews on RV park options and possible tours will be included. This meeting is on a Thursday instead of a weekend because our requests were impossible to schedule due to Baylor events and other city venues! Even dates as far as October were not feasible. While Chip and Joanne are well known in Waco, Steve Martin and Hank Thompson are also from Waco. There is much to appreciate about this city! Read about it next month! See you on the Brazos!

Ramona and Billy

Assistant Vice Chairmen, National Federation of Square and Round Dancers





ASRDA'S

TEEN SCHOLARSHIP DANCE

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 23RD

TIME: 6:30 – 9:00PM
PRE-ROUNDS 6:30-7PM
SQUARE DANCE 7 – 9 PM (2+2)

LOCATION: HYDE PARK CHRISTIAN CHURCH
610 E. 45TH ST., AUSTIN TEXAS 78751

**CALLERS: DAN CLAIRMONT, GARY BIBLE, WAYNE WESTON,
 BRAD CALDWELL AND AL FRAZIER**

CUERS: TRICIA MORLEY & RON PLOUCH

**ALL DANCE DONATIONS AND
 MONEY FOR SQUARE DANCE
 CLOTHES WILL GO TO THE TEEN
 SCHOLARSHIP FUND TO SEND
 SQUARE DANCING TEENS TO
 COLLEGE OR TRADE SCHOOL**

THERE WILL BE PLENTY OF FANS FOR THE DANCE FLOOR

ASRDA's Teen Scholarship Dance - September 23rd, 2023

Mark your calendars and plan to attend **ASRDA's Teen Scholarship Dance** at Hyde Park Christian Church in Austin, Texas on **September 23rd**.

We have a wonderful line up of callers and cuers who have volunteered to donate their time for this worthy cause. The callers include Dan Clairmont, Al Frazier, and Wayne Weston. The cuers will be Ron Plouch and Tricia Morley.

The "Klothes Kloset" (used square dance clothes) will be open for your shopping pleasure. All donations will go to the Teen Scholarship fund. *Any new dancer who has graduated from lessons in the past year is eligible to receive a "free" square dance outfit* (meaning they will not be asked to donate money for the outfit). *Continued pg. 6*

Teen Scholarship Dance continued

All the new dancers need to do is bring a copy of or their original diploma to the dance to show one of the Klothes Kloset organizers, - Cherri Burrows, Shirley O'Neal, Luzia Weston, or Brooke Peters. Experienced dancers should really encourage the new dancers to attend and even offer to carpool with them to the dance.



Anyone who wants to bring snacks to the dance may do so; it's appreciated, but not mandatory. We will have water and coffee at the dance and will make sure we have plenty of ice for the water and FANS. More information can be found under "Upcoming Events" at <https://www.asrda.org/events>



Canva Conversations

At the last Delegate Meeting on July 15, 2023, printed directions to create a flyer/poster were handed out to each club. Because you can use Canva for free, you can begin designing your flyers and learning how Canva works. Please let us know who will be using Canva from your club so that we can give you information about using the Canva Team Subscription which includes many more options for posting on Facebook, making flyers, slideshows, etc. Just send an email with your name and club name to Austinsrda@gmail.com or to let us know. We appreciate your interest in this new opportunity to publicize your club.

Delegates Approve New Friendship Badge Guidelines

The ASRDA club delegates approved the updated Friendship Badge Guidelines during the delegate meeting on July 15th. The major change is that dancers, who belong to more than one club, can get credit for dancing at every club they belong to but one. Each dancer must decide which, of all the clubs they belong to, will be their "Home Club." The name of that club is to be written on the top of the Friendship Badge Card and they will not get Friendship Badge credit for dancing at that club.

Dancers can download the Friendship Badge visitation card from the ASRDA website under "New Dancer Information" and then click on "Visitation Fun." Once a dancer completes 15 visits, the card is sent to Tony Burghart and each dancer receives a dangle. After the 2nd 15 visits, the dancer receives a 30-visit dangle AND a \$25 gift card of his/her choice. A gift card will be awarded to each dancer for every 30 dances they complete.

For further information, contact Tony Burghart by phone or text at 512-964-0147. A visitation card is shown below.

FRIENDSHIP BADGE PROGRAM			FRIENDSHIP BADGE PROGRAM		
Dancer(s') Home Club			Dancer(s') Home Club		
Dancer(s') Name(s)			Dancer(s') Name(s)		
Phone No.			Phone No.		
E-mail Address			E-mail Address		
CLUB VISITED	Officers/Caller Signature	Date of Visit	CLUB VISITED	Officers/Caller Signature	Date of Visit
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.		

Where are the FLYERS?

The flyers for all the upcoming events can be found on our new website, www.asrda.org/events. This was decided as a cost-effective way to advertise the upcoming dances as well as conserve paper, ink, and time to add them to the newsletter.

Policy on Photography and Videography at ASRDA Dances

As per the Texas State Federation of Square and Round Dancers, having pictures or videos taken at a dance (club, District, State, national or even a demo), there is no expectation of privacy since these events are public and therefore no permission is needed.

YOU ARE ENTERING A PHOTOGRAPHY AND VIDEOGRAPHY ZONE



CROWD NOTICE RELEASE

Please be aware that by entering this area, you voluntarily agree to your image and likeness being used and published, without compensation, by Austin Square and Round Dance Association (ASRDA) for the promotion and advertising of square and round dancing in print and on social media.

**PLEASE ALERT AN EVENT
REPRESENTATIVE IF YOU DO NOT
WISH TO BE PHOTOGRAPHED.**

How NOT To Run Off New Dancers (Students)

At Nationals, Buddy Weaver gave a class entitled “How to Run Off New Dancers.” That was “tongue in cheek” since his entire talk was about how to retain new dancers (also known as “students.”). Here are his suggestions for retaining new dancers.

1. Create a welcoming atmosphere
 - a. Treat each student with respect
 - b. Have open communication with the new dancers
 - c. On your first encounter with the new dancer, welcome them personally and tell them how happy you are that they came. *Don't immediately ask them for money.*
 - d. Take time to learn the new dancers' names
 - e. Make old and new dancers feel valued
2. Callers
 - a. Clearly communicate expectations and what not to do
 - i. Don't drink alcohol before coming to a dance
 - ii. No roughness or offensive talk – summarize any policies you have on these topics
 - b. Be mindful of your actions and language
 - i. Be open to different religions, races, sexual orientation, and single dancers
 - c. Promote square dancing as a team effort
 - i. If a square isn't working, put people in different squares
 - ii. Team building activities (Start with an ice breaker dance like a Sicilian Circle
 - a. Give regular feedback and encouragement
 - b. Be flexible and adaptable – remember people learn differently
 - i. Visual – demonstrate the move like a do-si-do
 - ii. Audio – describe the move
 - iii. Tactile – slowly walk them through the move so they can feel it
 - iv. Peer to peer teaching –DURING BREAKS ONLY
 - v. If a couple is having trouble, consider having an angel dance with each member of the couple for the tip following the one they were having trouble with but **ONLY IF THE COUPLE IS OK WITH IT.** Only have the couple split up for one tip.



- a. Experienced dancers should get up immediately to dance and not have to be begged to fill out a square – especially during lessons
- b. Identify the reason you are enthusiastic about dancing and share this if asked by a new dancer
- c. If dancers are getting tired, limit each tip to six minutes
- c. Continuously learn and grow -Don't always do the same thing the same way
- d. Connect with students individually – especially during breaks
- e. Celebrate successes
- f. Be a role model

Since COVID, we have lost 50% of the square dance population and 1/3rd of our callers. It is extremely important we welcome new dancers and make them feel valued. We also need to encourage and be supportive of dancers who are learning to call.

REMEMBER

Hot Weather brings out stinky odors.

- Before each dance, pay attention to your personal cleanliness.
- Always shower or bathe before a dance.
- Wear clean clothes.
- Use deodorant.
- Chewing gum freshens your breath.

Don't be a stinker!

Installation Dinner/Dance – July 15, 2023



This year's Installation dinner/dance was a total success! We had 79 people in the hall for dinner & 93 people at the dance! There were 10 squares of floor at one time with people sitting out. Installation Pictures <http://www.asrda.org/installation-dance-2023>

Food was plentiful and Chet Miles, once again, did an outstanding job with his barbecued brisket and chicken. A big "Thank you" goes out to all the dancers who brought food. We had way more food than we needed so no one when home hungry. Our Net Profit from this year's Installation Dinner and Dance was \$899.00. Money from the Klothes Kloset was used to pay for the barbecued brisket and chicken which added greatly to our net income. How does \$899.00 compare to last year's Installation Dance income you ask?

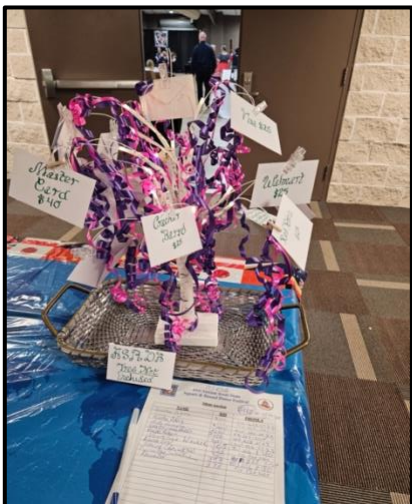
The 2022 Installation Dance net income was \$73.29. What an improvement! Maybe we should plan to have some sort of dinner at every Installation Dance.



Moving Square Dancing into the 21st Century

Texas State Federation of Square and Round Dancers Convention

ASRDA WON THE BASKET CONTEST!



ASRDA's Gift Card Tree "basket" got the highest bid of all the baskets at the State Festival. The final bid was \$375.00. The highest bidder was Country Cuzzins,' Laura Orr. There were \$420 worth of gift cards on the tree, so Laura got a fantastic deal.

For winning the Gift Basket contest, Texas State Federation of Square and Round Dancers (TSFSRD) will be sending ASRDA a check for \$375.00. A Texas-sized **Thank you** goes out to all clubs and individuals who donated gift cards and to Cherri Burrows for putting the gift card tree together. Great job, everybody!

On Friday night, 35 squares danced to Mike Bramlett and other fantastic callers. Saturday night hosted 33 squares with many sitting out.



The Blues Brothers
and their Band!



Grand March, Saturday!



Moving Square Dancing into the 21st Century

72nd National Square Dance Convention – Mobile, Alabama

Did you know there are things other than dancing to do at National Conventions? There are classes to make more informed club leaders, sewing classes, local restaurants to experience, informal after parties, assorted onsite vendors for shopping, a dinner show, dance exhibitions and lots of tours. Here are some pictures that were taken on a few of the tours.



Airboat ride on Mobile Bay.



Squid Ink Restaurant



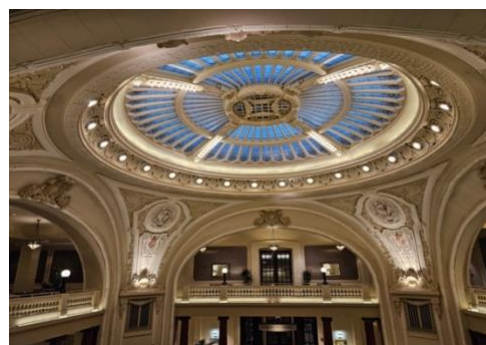
Animal Art Wall found at the
Renaissance Riverview Plaza




During brunch, New Orleans Jazz band
played at a downtown restaurant.





Information desk for the Education
Programs decorated for Mardi Gras.



Images of leaders from different
countries were carved on the pillars.



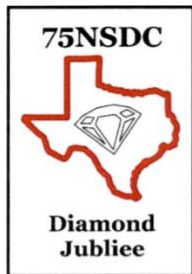
The National Square Dance Convention will be in Texas, June 24-27, 2026, "Diamond  Jubilee" 

The digital sign features the text "Waco - HEART TEXAS -" in a stylized font, a map of Texas with a heart in the center, and "DIAMOND JUBILEE" in all caps. Below the map, it says "The National Square Dance Convention" and "June 24-27 2026".



Moving Square Dancing into the 21st Century

This is the short form, or you can register online. Rooms will not be available until closer to the date of the convention. You can pre-register online or by mail using this form.



Pre – Registration
75th National Square Dance Convention®
Waco, Texas
June 24-27, 2026



Registration #

Ribbons _____

REGISTER ONLINE at www.75nsdcinc.com
This form expires on March 22, 2025

Zelle® your registration fee to 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 = \$ _____
		Sub Total: \$ _____
Credit Card Processing Fee	\$3.00	\$ _____
		Total Due: \$ _____

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

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!

ASRDA Club News

Canyon Lake Square Dancers



Three to four squares are continuing to dance weekly at Canyon Lake Dancers even through the summer. Our round dance group is doing well.

What a great dance in July at the Hermann Sons. Squares, Rounds and Lines and great food. Great caller and great cuer! Thanks to everybody who came. Canyon Lake Square

dancers made up several squares and were having fun! Pictures are on our Facebook Page.

Each Wednesday, we are holding a Plus workshop from 5:30-6:30 pm. Mainstream continues from 6:30-8:30 pm with announced plus with lines and rounds in between. We hope you are excited about this new workshop.

Shirts! Shirts! Shirts!

Many years ago, we made EXCUSE shirts for the club. I finally found somebody locally who can make them. Many dancers, who still had the shirts, wore them last Wednesday to show the newer club members. These shirts are special in that these are the Canyon Lake EXCUSE shirts. Anyone can order. They come in round or V-neck, in many colors, several sizes from Small to 4xL and whether you want the Excuses listed on the front or the back. Let me know if you would like to order one. Prices coming soon.

I cannot believe it, but we already chose the date for our Halloween Dance and the Christmas Dance at the Weston's Barn and our new Mainstream Class date.



HALLOWEEN: Saturday, October 28, 2023, Weston's Barn

CHRISTMAS: Saturday, December 9, 2023, Weston's Barn

MAINSTREAM CLASS: Open House: January 10, 2024, at the Building behind Goofy's 13214, FM- 306, Canyon Lake

Flyers found at www.asrda.org/events
Hope to see you in a square.

Yellow Rocks,
Wayne and Luzia Weston

Carousel Club#340 Liberty Hill, RD

There's not too much to report for this month's newsletter. We put our classes and workshops on hold in the middle of June. With the State Festival and Nationals, and with teaching and Kay cueing at both, we canceled our classes. At the completion of the Nationals it was home to prepare or our tour to the UK.

We made it out of London with the Brit's driving on the wrong side of the road. I will say they are very tolerant of us Yank`s and our driving. We are currently in Edinburgh, Scotland, on our way to the Highlands of Scotland with a stop in Aberdeen to have dinner and then dance the next evening with the Kilt Kickers.

We will start back up dancing towards the end of August after the Eureka Springs Festival. We are planning another one of our outstanding tours to Southern Europe in September if anyone is interested in going with us. We still have space.

Well, I better be going. Need to start getting ready to leave in the morning for Highland Games.

Take care and have a great summer. We sure are, but it is getting to the point it is getting downright cool - upper 60's. I am afraid it is going to be cooler as we head north.

The Eureka Springs Round Dance Vacation Flyer can be found at www.ASRDA.org/events

Take care - - Ski`s



Pleasant and fun dinner with the Kilt Kickers of Aberdeen, Scotland.



Cen-Tex Plus



Did you know that Cen-Tex Plus is the only PLUS club in ASRDA?

Recently, 15 dancers joined Chet Miles to learn or relearn Plus square dance calls. With the angels helping, four squares are dancing during lessons. Upon graduation, these will join our regular 3 squares of Plus dancers meeting on Mondays.

What's the secret to this growing club? His interesting way to give the calls; jokes and kidding, while dancers must listen carefully when he has dancers in regular and DBD formation. Often challenging, but all in all, it's a great group to dance with.

Everyone in and outside ASRDA is welcome to join us on:
 Mondays - Lessons – 6:00-7:30 pm
 All Plus dancing from 7:30-9:00 pm
 VFW Hall, 1701 Hunter Road, San Marcos, Texas.

As Chet says, "No griping or fussing; Just lots of fun and laughter!"





Country Cuzzins



Country Cuzzins has newly elected officers.

President: Robert Alexander

Vice President: Terry Martin & Linda Appleton

Secretary: Ashli Sifuentes & Samantha Beltran, Jenny Saunders

Treasurer: Juanita Coffman

The Wildflower dance is scheduled for April 20, 2024 with Caller Tim Tyl.

Bob Bewley shared, "A FUN dance on Thursday. Wayne Weston threw some Mainstream calls in a way I have never danced before! We had 2+ squares all evening."

Come join us on Thursdays from 6:45-8:45 at the **First United Methodist Church in Marble Falls, TX.**

FMI: www.countrycuzzins.com



Moving Square Dancing into the 21st Century

La Grange Roadrunners.

With many multi-day square and round dances being scheduled in La Grange, the Roadrunners applied for and received two grants. They were recognized for bringing funds into La Grange through dancers frequenting hotels, restaurants, and shopping local stores during the scheduled dance days.

Newly elected officers include President Jenny Baker, Vice-President Danny Smith, Secretary Bobbie Nash, Treasurer Terry Wyatt and Delegates Allen and Mildred Perry.



B4 The Fayette County Record, Friday, July 7, 2023

LG Square Dancers Attend Convention in Alabama



La Grange square dancers from the La Grange Roadrunner Square Dance Club definitely know how to have fun. A group of local dancers headed off to Mobile, Ala. the weekend of June 22-25 for the 72nd National Square Dance Convention. Mary and Rick Grey, Danny Smith, Jenny Baker, Les and Terry Wyatt and Dennis Artz and Tricia Morley (local round dance leaders) had a great time along with 234 additional dancers from Texas with 2,084 nationwide. Square dancing is a great way to make friends, keep the mind sharp and travel. The convention included square dance, round dance, line dance, clogging as well as lots of time to meet new people and see the sights. The La Grange Roadrunners will begin lessons for new dancers on September 5th at the Randolph Center on Pearl St. at 6:30 p.m. All are welcome, no need for a partner. If interested you can contact Jenny at (281) 684-0648.



Two couples attended Nationals in Mobile, Alabama. (See article.)

This busy club is also working on creating a float for the Labor Day weekend Parade which will be held on Saturday.

Ronde Rounds

The Ronde Rounds are offering round dance lessons on Two Step on Sunday afternoons from 4:00-5:00. Please join us beginning July 9, 2023 and continuing until August 27, 2023. Contact Ron & Pat Plouch at 210/381-9179 or RonPatDance@gmail.com for more information. See also www.ASRDA.org/classes for more information.



Shirts 'N Skirts



The months of June and July have been extremely hot for everyone, but it has not diminished the zeal of our club activities. Our **Flag Day** theme dance was well attended, and the floor was graced with red, white, and blue attire. A special recognition was also given to fathers as **Father's Day** was the Sunday following Flag Day. The first dance night in July was on the fifth and, of course, **Independence Day** celebration was a part of the activities, and the following week was our always popular **Ice Cream Social** dance. Attendance was great; 8 squares on the floor. There was ample food and ice cream available; no one went home hungry. We appreciated all the members and visitors who attended and provided the snacks for the evening.

Our club members responded well to the **Taylor Promenades 2nd Anniversary Dance** in July. We had 16 members in attendance and there were 4 or 5 squares on the floor all evening. Al Frazier and Gary Bible kept the squares moving, while Martha Burghart and Billy Grimsley led line dances between tips. A highlight of the evening was the weekly "Chicken Dance" with all the youngsters in the club (along with several elders) flapping their wings. Congratulations to the Promenaders on their successful club.

We are now looking forward to our **August "Crazy T-Shirt"** theme night on the 9th. We hope you will all dig out those old shirts with the funny "sayings" and share them with us. Maybe someone will even win a prize for their efforts.

We are also planning for our **Fall mainstream lessons** which will start on **September 13th**. Please spread the word not only to new dancers but to anyone who wishes to attend and gain more expertise through increased floor time. Brad Caldwell will be teaching the class each Wednesday evening prior to the regular dance. See www.ASRDA.org/classes for more information.

Shirts 'n' Skirts wishes everyone a great rest of summer and look forward to having you visit us as often as possible. God's blessings to all.

Check out the video on our club page <https://www.ASRDA.org/shirts-n-skirts>



Tricia Morley & Dennis Artz

We have been blowing and going. Step 'N Style have been teaching Rumba/Cha Cha lessons at most locations. Everyone is progressing well.

In May, Tricia drove to St. George, Utah for Choreography school and wrote and published a Ph II, Two Step, *You're the Reason God Made Oklahoma*.

Mid-Tex was a great dance, many students from Houston came out to enjoy the Rounds.

In June many of our students attended the State Festival and Nationals. Tricia attended the Roundalab conference (which was at the same time as State) then drove to AL for the GSI caller school in Mobile. At Nationals she was presented with a scholarship from the Executive Committee of the National Square Dance Convention. Dennis and Tricia presented and taught a Ph IV, slow two step their newest choreography to Shania Twain's, *The Woman in Me*. You can see this on YouTube at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LYOaQY0GJX4>

July 1st brings the Teen Scholarship to Houston, and we will be offering a full hour of pre-rounds and rounds between tips. In July we will be attending ICBDA (International Choreographed Ballroom Dance Association) Conference in Winston, North Carolina.

July 15th is the Installation dance for ASRDA where Brooke Peters will be installed as President, and we will be installed as VP's.

Labor Day weekend Road Runners Square Dance Club is having a float in the local Labor Day Parade, and we will be providing music and calling. Should be a fun day!

New classes are starting now for Two Step and SSD will begin the first week of September. See <https://www.ASRDA.org/lessons>

We hope everyone has a good Summer and continues to keep dancing.

Happy Dancing!





Connie & Al Frazier

Taylor Promenaders



Do hope everyone had a great 4th of July.

Al and Connie made a trip to Caller Lab in Reno. Don't know how many new things Al learned, but maybe some. They also made a trip to Colorado to visit family.

All the Ripple families made a trip to Kentucky to see Noah's Ark. Such a great trip for the whole family to make.

The **Second-year Anniversary for the Promenaders was celebrated on July 20th from 7-9:00 pm.** Gary Bible helped Al call this dance. There were 43 guests at the dance. Thanks to everyone who attended. I think that is a good amount for anyone. We have a nice hall to dance in. More photos are posted on our club page <http://www.asrda.org/taylor-promenaders>

We are having a **Mud Dance on August 4th at 7:30 pm** at one member's homes. If you are interested in joining us to dance or just to watch the younger dancers, then you can give Al a call and get additional information. See ASRDA.com/events for more information.

On **December 14, 2023, the Promenaders are again having a benefit dance for Shepard's Heart in Taylor Texas from 7:00-9:00 pm.** This will be the second year for this. The first year was a great year in donations. Money or food may be donated. Please think about attending this dance.





Waterloo Squares

I think we are all convinced it is summer by now. With so much heat, we are planning some cool treats and fun at our **50s dance with Brad Caldwell on the 18th of July** with ice cream sundaes. Fifties attire is encouraged.



Much of our energies have been in finding a more economical venue for our **upcoming fall lessons beginning on July 27th**. Thanks to Anita Austin for locating a spot at the South Austin Recreation Center on Thursday nights at 1100 Cumberland Road in Austin. David and Linda Stewart helped seal the deal. They have been our go-between for our spot at the senior center for many years and were able to submit the same deal we have at the Senior Center on Tuesday nights. *See ASRDA.org/classes for more information.*

This will help to ensure that we will have a full set of lessons starting in July with Gary Bible as our instructor. Of course, this meant we were going to have to get word out that the old flyer was replaced with the new information. Wanda Carter whipped up a new flyer and we got it distributed through our email channels. Thanks, Brooke for your help with that.

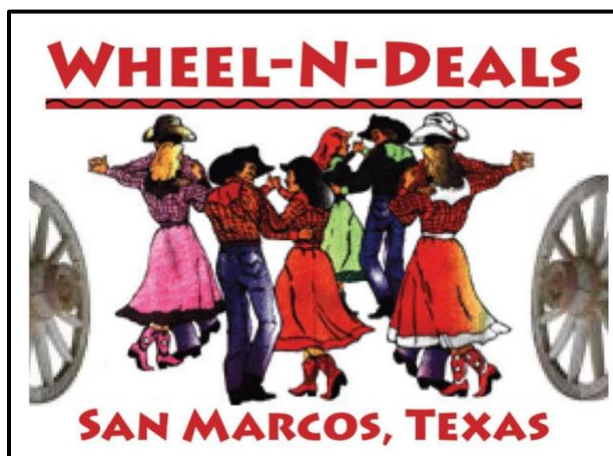
We also have been planning our theme dances with flyers for some great callers coming to our club in the coming months. **Dan Nordbye will be with us on Tuesday, October 17** then two weeks later, **Tuesday, October 31st Bob Asp will be calling our Halloween dance**. We strongly encourage costumes but wear what you're comfortable in. There will be hot dogs and Frito pies. Bob Asp is a fun caller, and it should prove to be a lot of laughs. See <https://www.ASRDA.org/events>

We have added a total of 8 to our club membership. Some of our graduates, who had trips planned before graduation, are planning to continue dancing when they return.

Since we were dark on July 11th, it gave us an opportunity to visit Wheels and Deals in San Marcos. Nineteen of our members were able to attend. It was a wonderful evening with it being their birthday night so a birthday cake was in order along with many other goodies. What a great experience for all of us. Our new members got a taste of the real fun square dancing can be.

Bruce and Wanda Carter have been working to getting our Waterloo website back up and going. They have worked with Lori Olesky to renew the site. We are looking forward to having that soon.

Let's beat this summer heat with some cool dancing.



May 30th Wheel-N-Deals visited Waterloos for their Root Beer Float Dance. We think most members of our club attended and probably set a record for a single dance visitation from one club to another. For July 4th Wheel-N-Deals decided to allow members and guests enjoy the holiday rather than kicking up their heels so we gave everyone the night off and pushed Birthday Night to July 11th.

We wish to thank Dave and Debi Odekirk from Swingin' Beavers square dance club in Wisconsin for dancing with us two times in June. They last visited in 2019.

Dan McDonald is still on task to increase his skills as a caller. If you are available to be in a practice square on a Sunday afternoon, see Dan at Wheel-N-Deals on a Tuesday night.

Our new Wheel -N-Deal ASRDA Delegates are Nancy Owens and Dan McDonald. The Alternate Delegate is Silvia Pilgreen. Our newly elected 2023-24 Officers are: President - Don Rankin; Vice President - Nancy Owens; Treasurer - Beth Rankin and Secretary - Gayle Dupre.

Wheels-N-Deals will begin lessons on 5 September 2023. The 5th of September will be an Open House with an Ice Cream Social, which will be easy since it is birthday Tuesday. There will be 20 weeks of mainstream lessons. The lessons will be from 6:30 - 8:00 pm at the VFW Hall, 1701 Hunter Road, San Marcos, TX 78666. Cost will be \$80 for each adult. Kids 8 and above can take lessons for free if parents take lessons. For more information, see <https://www.ASRDA.org/classes>



Contact info:

What would you like to include in this monthly newsletter that would make it more interesting to our readers? What questions do you have for any of the ASRDA officers? These suggestions can be anonymous. Do you have a favorite recipe to share?

I look forward to hearing from you.

Please send me your suggestions, articles, photos, recipes, etc. to vmmerchant.asrda@gmail.com

Round The Capitol Square is the official publication of the Austin Square & Round Dance Association. There are eleven issues per year (no July issue). *Download RCS at no charge from ASRDA.org/newsletters.*

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** to an email. Any photos should be sent as a **jpg file and as an attachment.**

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

Ad Cost: \$25 for non-ASRDA clubs per issue.