



Official Newsletter of Single Square Dancers, U.S.A.

Joe B. Ellis, Founder

January, 2006



® YELLOWROCK SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

Karmi Richards

Single Square Dancers U.S.A. is proud to announce that Ruth Howell and Velma Doyle have been awarded the YellowRock Scholarship. Ruth and Velma will each receive four hundred dollars to further their calling and cuing career.

Ruth Howell lives in Maple Grove, MN, and is affiliated with the Rainbow Rhythms. She is a new cuer. Ruth started square dancing in 1994 and round dancing in 1995. She met her husband at the New Mexico's Singles Festival, and they first round danced together at Dance-A-Rama, 2003 in Albuquerque that same year.

Ruth stated that seven years ago, a cuer from her area suggested she buy his equipment so he could retire. She said it took her a while to really get the bug to be a cuer and that cuer still has not retired yet.

Velma Doyle lives in Groveport, OH and is affiliated with Bucks & Does Singles and Orbiting Squares Single Square Dances clubs. She learned to dance in 1985 and has been active in three clubs as a square and round dancer and club leader. Velma says, "She is an amateur caller who loves to do singing calls, but my hash calls are rudimentary." She wants to attend caller school to increase and improve her skills.

She does occasional guest tips at local dances and has called at parties at friend's homes and for demos at nursing homes and churches. She has been an apprentice member of the Central Ohio Callers Association since October, 2003.

Congratulations and we wish you both the very best.

To apply for a Yellowrock caller/cuer scholarship the caller/cuer must be at least 16 years old (before September 1 of the current year) and have no more than three years regular calling/cueing experience. The caller must send a cassette tape of one singing call and approximately two minutes of "patter" calling. For the cuer, a cassette tape with two types of tempos (i.e. set waits) must be sent. Do not include name or location on the tape.

"Reunion 36 in 2006" Rochester, New York

Nancy Mirabal & Eileen Okolowicz

We are really looking forward to your visit to Rochester, NY Labor Day weekend 2006! Our committee and our entire club is excited about hosting the 36th National Singles Dance-A-Rama. We have a very enthusiastic class of new dancers this year and they too are getting involved. Our club is more than 100 strong and we will all be ready and waiting to welcome you to Rochester. You can visit our club's website at <http://squaredancingrochester.org/cloverleafsquares/index.html>.

Rochester is the third largest urban area in New York State, and, in 1998 we were one of ten communities in the nation to receive the All-American-City award as a great place to live. But Rochester is also a terrific place to visit, offering plenty of experiences to relish and remember. Whether you're in the mood for museum hopping or antique shopping, cultural adventures or sporting pleasures, scenic cruising or bargain choosing, history, mystery, artistry... when you visit Rochester you'll discover an exceptional place to indulge all your senses! There is a variety of choices for your eating pleasure. Our host hotel, the Hyatt Regency

Rochester offers The Palladio Restaurant and the Focus Lounge. There is a cafeteria-style concession conveniently located in the convention center and directly across the street you will find Bennigan's and Subway. There are numerous other eateries located within easy walking distance including the popular Manhattan Bagel, and Dinosaur Bar-B-Que. Check out all that Rochester has to offer at www.visitrochester.com.

Our Host Hotel, the Hyatt Regency Rochester is located beside the Rochester Riverside Convention Center where the dancing takes place. It is connected to the convention center via a skywalk for easy access even during inclement weather (which, of course, we do not plan to allow during the convention!) Rochester has created a unique

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Dave Hinde took DAR, 2006 flyers to Japan with him -- here they are on a flyer table!

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As I am writing this, I'm sitting here in the airport at Las Vegas waiting for my red-eye flight to Detroit. After hearing about the Consumer Electronics Show (CES) for years, I finally had the opportunity to attend one. Every imaginable electronic equipment in video, audio, photography, computers and software was represented in many forms. Some are available now and others are only concepts that may or may not be available in the future. This multi-day event brought people from all over the world to attend.

It was great! I was not able to see everything in the three days that I attended but I saw enough to make me realize more than ever the intense competition for our limited time. We complain about the drop off in new dancers and the lower attendance at our dances. We haven't seen anything! It will only get worse as new large screened, surround sound multimedia devices further invade our living rooms, our automobiles and even our cell telephones. Yep, that competition for every bit of our available time will even bring movies on our cell phones.

Before and after the time at the show, I was able to visit with Tim Rice, a dedicated SSDUSA dancer who recently moved to "Sin City." Also, Laurie Steward (Room Locator) arrived a day before my departure and so the three of us were able to spend today together seeing Las Vegas. We had fun! This was possible because of the camaraderie fostered by our hobby. I wouldn't have been able to know these two if I had spent my time in front of the plasma TV!

Now that we are into the new year, please make a dedicated effort to let your square dancing friends know about the upcoming dance in Rochester. Tell them how it is possible to network with new people and make friends all across the country. Now is the time when we need to focus our efforts to make this the best SSDUSA Labor Day weekend ever!

I wish each and every one of you a wonderful and healthful New Year. Keep dancing! Bring your friends! HAVE FUN!



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Horner's Corner - Thoughts from a Co-Editor

Larada Horner

Thanks to all for your marvelous comments about our first collaborative issue -- it seems that Patsy, Doe and I work well as a trio.

Join us in San Antonio, TX Thursday, June 28 from 1:00 - 2:00 pm at the 55th National Square Dance Convention. SSDUSA will be hosting a panel, "The Solo Side of Square Dancing." Dave Hinde, Eileen Okolowicz, and Larada Horner will be the panelist.

Be sure and send any information you'd liked shared to any of the panelist, and be sure to come and join us.

Speaking of the Nationals in San Antonio, I hope that many of you are planning on attending. A record amount of singles were in Portland last year, and I want to see many of you in San Antonio.

Also Thursday evening in San Antonio, SSDUSA will sponsor an Afterparty in the Bridge Hall -- a 16,800 sq. ft. hall, so let's get the single out to fill it!

On April 30, 2006, join Albuquerque in hosting a "Hoedown for Humanity." Proceeds from the activity will go to Habitat for Humanity. Johnny Preston is the one to contact at johnpresto@yahoo.com for guidelines. This could be a great promotional opportunity for the square dance world if we all band together.

TASSD Round-Up Comes to Lubbock

Danny Kingsley

The Texas Association of Single Square Dancers 32th ROUND-UP is just around the corner, on March 10-12, 2006. So it's time to get back together with your friends from SSDUSA and TASSD for a great week-end.



The TASSD ROUND-UP for 2006 will be held in the Lubbock Memorial Civic Center which is within walking distance of the Holiday Inn Hotel & Towers at 1501 6th Street. A lot of dancing and fun is planned for the week-end with Tim Tyl and Dan Sahlstrom and Jerry & Bea Leavelle. A great after party is in store for those that attend with the Larry Johnson Country & Western Band on Saturday night. A Trail-In Dance is also being planned by the Solo Squares, host for the Round-Up, for Thursday night March 9, 2006 at the Lubbock Federation Dance Center at 2305 120th Street. Dennis Horn and Gary Smith will be the callers and Don Dillard will cue the rounds.

Contact Co-Chair Nettie Pritchard at netjop@hotmail.com or CO-Chair June Lange at ilsolo2006@aol.com for flyers or more information.

Like the Old Texas Dance Halls of the past, you can hear the plaintive wail of the fiddle and the scuff of cowboy boots on a polished hardwood floor. And if you listen real close you might hear a little "do-si-doe" going on. A timeless magic lifts your heart in a dance hall, no matter what the decade. Come lift your heart and have a ball at the 32nd ANNUAL TASSD ROUND-UP.

You may be aware that the TASSD "Single Voice" Newsletter is published four times a year. If you

have information about up-coming events please contact Doe Payne at DPAYNE99@sbcglobal.net or our Webmaster Diane Wright at Dianabana@comcast.net.

SSDUSA Spring Board Meeting Notice

Dave Hinde

The 2006 Spring Board Meeting will take place during the WASCA Festival, in Alexandria, Virginia. The dance takes place March 16 to 18 at the Hilton Alexandria Mark Center Hotel. We will meet at 10 AM Saturday morning in the Solo Hospitality Suite.



For those not familiar with this dance, WASCA stands for Washington Area Square Dancers Cooperative Association. The Association is 50 years old in 2006 and they have been putting this festival on for 47 of those years. Around 1200 dancers attend every year, and about 25% of them are single. WASCA has several special activities scheduled for the Solo dancer. Thursday at 11PM there is a Solo Get Acquainted Dance, followed by an ice cream social. Friday at 7 PM is another Solo Dance, and there is a luncheon at noon on Saturday for Solos. All weekend long there will be a Solo Hospitality Lounge to relax, meet, mingle, and visit in.

The Festival Director is SSDUSA member Arbell Thompson. You can email her at ArbellThompson@aol.com and her phone number is 703 729-2109. Check out more information on the Festival at <http://members.aol.com/wascaclubs/> or look at a flyer at <http://www.cvco.org/signs/rsrda/flyers/023.html>. Registrar for the Festival is another SSDUSA member, Reba Heffernan. Her email address is Rebamh@aol.com and her phone number is 703 327-4674. If you are planning on attending the WASCA Festival, please be sure you have reserved a room. Room reservations must be in by February 20 to get the square dancer rate.

News from South Central Regional Director

Wild Bill Walton

Hi from the dust bowl, Oklahoma and Texas are on fire literally; we are so dry everything is catching on fire. Burned over 20,000 acres in Oklahoma already. From what I hear Texas has that much or more. The rain and snow are all going to Colorado and Kansas. That is all the good news I have, but I would like to remind all about the TASSD dance to be held March 10 through 12 in Lubbock, Texas. The HASSDA dance will be held in Muskogee, Oklahoma April 21 and 22, with trail in and trail-out, dances April 20 and 23 respectively. The Okie Diamonds from Oklahoma City will host the trail-out dance. Those who travel, Oklahoma City has three singles clubs. These clubs are Metro Singles dancing 2nd and 4th Fridays, Single Squares dancing 1st and 3rd Fridays, Singles Rounds dancing every Monday night. If you are in the Oklahoma City area come dance with us.

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system of skywalks throughout our downtown area. Traveling through the skywalks, you can move from one end of downtown to the other without ever having to go outside. However, you won't want to miss going out for a stroll along the Genesee River and enjoying its beauty. The hotel staff is also excited about your visit. Here is a letter from them which will provide a bit more insight into this beautiful facility.



*Hyatt Regency Rochester
125 East Main Street
Rochester, NY 14604*

The Hyatt Regency Rochester eagerly awaits hosting the Single Square Dancers USA's 2006 Dance-A-Rama!

As you may already know, the Hyatt Regency Rochester is currently undergoing major renovations to all our guest rooms and hallways. We will be completely renovating all 19 suites at our hotel this winter, and the improvements to our 318 guest rooms and our banquet space are scheduled to be completed by mid-April, 2006. Some of the room improvements will include new carpeting, wall vinyl, draperies, leather lounge chairs, ergonomic work chairs and desks, and the installation of Hyatt's new "Grand Bed" in all guest rooms. The bathrooms will be installed with new granite counter tops, tile floors, fixtures, and more spacious showers with bowed curtain rods. Our toiletries will be changed seasonally. The upgrades to the hallways will include new carpeting, wall vinyl, and lighting, and our banquet rooms will also be furnished with new carpeting. We invite you to enjoy the full spectrum of amenities in our newly renovated hotel!

The Hyatt Regency Rochester is also pleased to invite all Dance-A-Rama guests to sign up and take advantage of Hyatt's Gold Passport program. Gold Passport, Hyatt's global frequent guest program, is designed to provide you with the best in comfort, benefits, and services. As a Gold Passport member, you can enjoy exclusive privileges including earning points toward free nights for every dollar spent at a Hyatt hotel, receiving a daily complimentary newspaper and your choice of coffee or tea over the course of your stay, and having access to exclusive Hyatt Special Offers. The more you stay, the more rewarding your Hyatt Gold Passport® membership becomes. Signing up is free and can be done either online at <https://goldpassport.com/gp/benefits/join.asp> or by filling out a form at the Front Desk of our hotel.

To register for the 2006 Dance-A-Rama, simply call 1-800-233-1234 and request the "Dance-A-Rama" convention rate. We at the Hyatt look forward to seeing you here.

Visit the Hyatt Regency Rochester website at www.rochester.hyatt.com. Please support us by staying at our host hotel. They offer **free shuttle service to and from the Rochester International Airport and free parking for hotel guests** at the attached South Avenue Garage.

We encourage everyone to register for Dance-A-Rama, tours, and souvenir items, and to reserve

your room at the Hyatt Regency Rochester, as soon as possible. Check out our official airline, American Airlines and refer to our registration flyer for discount information.

Be sure to check out our website at dar2006.ssdusa.org for more information as well as links to area attractions. The DAR committee and Cloverleaf squares are looking forward to greeting you in a square at our "Reunion 36 in 2006" in just over 8 short months on Labor Day weekend in Rochester, NY!!!

Dance-A-Rama 2006 Program Book Provides Advertisement Opportunity

Nancy Mirabal & Eileen Okolowicz

Dance-A-Rama 2006 is now selling advertising space in the program book which will be distributed to the hundreds of dancers attending our event in Rochester, NY August 31-September 3, 2006. If you would like to invite dancers from all over the US, Canada, and other countries to your club or event, or if you would like to advertise your product or service, this is a great way to do it at a very reasonable cost. Rates are \$80 per full page (8" x 10-1/2"), \$50 per half page (8" x 5-1/4"), \$25 per quarter page (4" x 5-1/4"), and \$15 per eighth page or business card (4" x 2-5-8"). Square dance related ads will receive a 10% discount (clubs, associations, square dance attire, vendors, etc.)

Even if you have no product or service to sell, there is an additional opportunity for you. If you would like to be listed in our program book as a "Supporter of Dance-A-Rama 2006", you may contribute \$1 or more. Those giving \$1-4 will be listed at the "Bronze level". Those giving \$5-9 will be listed at the "Silver" level. Those giving \$10 or more will be listed at the "Gold" level. Be sure to print your name clearly exactly as you want it listed.

Our program book will be printed in black and white. All submissions must be "camera ready". Be sure to leave border space. All ads, supporter listings, and payments must be received by July 15, 2006.

Mail check, advertising copy, and order form to:
Dance-A-Rama 2006, P. O. Box 194, North Chili, NY 14514.



The Rochester group is ready & waiting!

On the road again... Report from the Vice President

Dave Hinde

When I wrote for the last issue of the Intercom, I was in Chiang Mai, Thailand. I found that Thailand is a beautiful place to visit, and everything was inexpensive. While I was visiting Thailand I made sure to leave Dance-A-Rama flyers with all of the square dancers there. Actually, there is only one that I know of, so I can honestly say that I personally delivered DAR flyers to 100% of the square dancers in Thailand.

From Thailand I traveled to Japan. Japan has a lot of square dancers, and they have a great time dancing. I've included information about dancing in Japan in another article. If you want to see pictures of Thailand and Japan, visit my travel web site at www.evadsti.net. Warning, there's a lot of pictures on the web site!

About a week after I returned from Asia I went up to New Jersey and danced at the Harvest Moon Classic. Seven dancers from Japan attended that dance. They were very interested in the SSDUSA Dance-A-Rama and bought shirts and tote bags. Two weeks after Harvest Moon it was off to the mountains of Virginia to dance at the Natural Bridge Holiday Dance-A-Rama. Tim Marriner and Tom Miller teamed up with Marshall Flippo for the dance and it was quite a weekend.

After one weekend at home, I struck out again. This time I decided to drive out to Colorado for a few weeks. I spent 13 days in Colorado, and skiing at Monarch Mountain and Ski Cooper for 8 of the days.

January 1st I went up to Denver and danced at the Rocky Tops New Years Day dance. They had a great turnout and I had a good time dancing with them.

From there I headed to Kansas. On January 3rd I had the pleasure of dancing with the Swingin' Singles, in Shawnee, Kansas (Kansas City area). This was another great dance in a beautiful wood floored hall. Both the Rocky Tops and the Swingin' Singles had about 12 squares at their dances. I had hoped to dance in Memphis or Nashville on my way thru, but my schedule didn't work out.

I'd like to thank the Rocky Tops, Swingin' Singles, and especially Tokyo's Chiyoda Square Dance Club for making me feel welcome and making sure I had a good time at their dances. My schedule for the new year includes one more ski trip in February and dancing with the Monarch Mavericks in Salida, Colorado. After that it's the Virginia Beach Sweetheart Weekend in February and the WASCA festival in March. I hope to see you at one of these dances.

In Loving Memory. . . Joseph 'Joe' Fioretti

Joseph "Joe" Fioretti, 48, Homosassa, died Thursday, Dec. 15, 2005, at his home after a year long battle with cancer.

Born Sept. 30, 1957, in Newark, N.J., to Frank Robert Fioretti and Rose Ann (Zaccaro) Fioretti, he moved here from Island Heights, N.J., 16 years ago.

He was a square dance caller. He called for the Florida Association of Single Square & Round

Dance Association's (FASSRD) Single Rama for many years, has called for the Fuzzy Navel in Jekyll Island, Ga, and was one of the callers for the National Singles Dance-A-Rama in Atlanta. He previously called for Orlando Singles in Orlando, Florida. He was a special friend to all the square dancers and you could always find him dancing too when he wasn't on stage.

Survivors include his wife of 29 years, Elizabeth G. (Elley) Fioretti of Homosassa; one son, Joseph C. Fioretti of Ocala; three daughters, Jennifer Fioretti and Julie L. Fioretti both of Orlando, and Lisa E. Fioretti of Homosassa; his father, Frank R. Fioretti of Lady Lake; brother, Frank R. Fioretti Jr. of New Jersey; and two sisters, Mary Rose Brandis of Toms River, N.J., and Susan Cowdrick of Island Heights, N.J.

What's a Yellowrock?

Dave Hinde

There are three answers to that question. We are all familiar with the unofficial call "Yellowrock". If you are not, ask a dancer to show you one. Yellowrock is also the name of a directory of clubs for single (or solo) dancers, and a scholarship fund for up and coming callers and cuers.

Single Square Dancers USA (SSDUSA), publishes a directory every year, listing Single Square and Round Dance clubs, and clubs where the solo dancer is welcome. This directory is called the Yellowrock. Listing your club in the directory is free, and the directory sells for \$5 each from an SSDUSA officer, or \$6 if ordered in the mail. The Yellowrock Directory is printed pocket size, so it can be carried easily as you travel.

The Yellowrock Caller Scholarship was established many years ago by SSDUSA. Each year a scholarship is awarded to at least one new caller or cuer. The money from the scholarship can be used by the new leader to attend a caller or cuer's school or for anything they need to be a caller or cuer, like equipment or records. The money in the scholarship fund is generated by the proceeds from Yellowrock Directory sales. We don't have a complete list of everyone that has been granted a scholarship, but one of the first was a well known caller by the name of Dee Dee Dougherty.

The editor of the Yellowrock is Larada Horner, larada@earthlink.net. Please send all club listing information to her. Advertisements in the Yellowrock are also available, and help defray the cost – ultimately enabling us to donate more to help future callers and cuers. Contact Larada for advertising costs. It's a great place to advertise your special dances for the next year.

Is your club listed in the Yellowrock? If your club welcomes single dancers, then it should be listed in the Yellowrock! Visit ssdusa.org and select the Yellowrock page to get a listing form, or email the information to Larada at larada@earthlink.net. Do you know an up and coming caller or cuer that could use a little scholarship help? Contact Frank Norris at franknorris@earthlink.net for scholarship information. Forms for applying for a scholarship can also be found online at www.ssdusa.org.

Calendar of Events



VA - February 17 & 18, 2006 -- 16th Annual Sweetheart Weekend. Virginia Beach Ramada Plaza Resort, Virginia Beach, VA. Callers: Tim Marriner, Bill Harrison, Steve Jacques, Bob Worley, Matt Worley, Jeremy Butler. Cuers: Judy & Ed Jaworski, Jim & Priscilla Adcock, Tim Pilachowski & Sharon DeLauter. Website: <http://sweetheart.greatdances.net/>. Info: 757-467-2557, or 757-497-5242 after 6 pm. E-mail: sweetheart@greatdances.net

TX – March 10 – 12, 2006 – 32nd Annual TASSD Round-up. Lubbock Memoria Civic Center, 1501 6th Street, Lubbock, TX. Callers: Tim Tyl, TX & Dan Sahlstrom, MN. Cuers: Jerry & Bea Leavelle, TX. Early Registration before December 31, 2005 - \$38; Registration after January 1, 2006 - \$42. Info: Nettie Pritchard, 806-799-6734 or E-mail netjop@hotmail.com or June Lange, 806-762-2651 or E-mail jisolo2006@aol.com

VA – March 16 – 18, 2006 – WASCA 47th Spring Square & Round Dance Festival. Hilton Alexandria Mark Center Hotel, Alexandria, VA. Callers: Tom Miller, PA; Dave Walker, MI; Tim Crawford, Canada; Joe Saltel, TX; Mike Callahan, NY, Mike Sikorsky, AZ, Jim Lee, Canada; Jerry Biggerstaff, NC. Cuers: Ralph & Joan Collipi, NH; Kay & Joy Read, TX & AZ; Chuck & Sandi Weiss, AZ. Mainstream – Challenge. Rounds Phase II – VI. Clogging. Sponsored by: Washington Area Square Dance Cooperative Association. Cost: \$35 per person. Info: Arbell Thompson, 703-729-2109 or John Burnett, 301-776-5276. E-mail: arbellthompson@aol.com or salsajon@aol.com. ROOM RATES GO UP February 20 – SO BOOK YOUR ROOMS NOW!!

FL/GA - March 24-25, 2006 -- Annual Fuzzy Navel Dance sponsored by the Florida and Georgia Singles Associations. Holiday Inn Beach Resort on the beach at Jekyll Island, GA (1-888-868-5397 for room reservations). Caller: Jim Cosman. Cuer: Misty Hanna. Info: Mary Lou Pelz, 904-733-1869 (maryloupelz@aol.com) or Penny Green (sqdncfan@aol.com)

PA – April 21 – 23, 2006 – Operation Pocono Manor. Hosted by: Lehigh Valley B 'n B's. Callers: Matt Worley and Roy Leber. Cuer: Steve Bradt. Plus Level Dancing, Workshops. Cost: \$210/person – includes Saturday breakfast and dinner, Sunday breakfast, 2 night lodging. Info: Sheila, 610-799-6336 or Cathy, 610-282-0436.

OK – April 21 – 22, 2006 – HASSDA – 2006 – 26th Annual Festival “An Okie from Muskogee.” Civic Center, Muskogee, OK (425 E. Boston). Callers: Shane Greer, OK; Art Tangen, KS; Jeff Holley, OK. Cuer: Patti Wheelington. Hosted by: Okie Diamonds. Host Hotels: Bacone Inn and others. Cost: \$25 – Early registration. \$30 – Late Registration. Dry camping free at Civic Center. Festival Colors: Red, White & Blue. Info: Dave Hitchcock, 918-409-8072. E-mail: Varch1@aol.com Website: http://www.wesquaredance.com/HASSDA_Festival/

NM -- May 5 – 7, 2006 -- 26th Annual New Mexico Singles Square Dance Fling – The M 'n' M Tour, ASDC Hall, 4915 Hawkins, Albuquerque, NM. Callers: Mike Seastrom & Mike Bramlett. Cuers: Ronnie & Bonnie Bond. Trail-In Dance Thursday, May 4, 2006. Info: Kathi Raver, 505-286-9000, Kathleen Rogers, 505-897-4313, or Roxy McNeil, 505-291-8009. E-mail: kathiraver@earthlink.net or redoc99@aol.com

TX – June 21 - 24 2006 – 55th National Square Dance Convention, San Antonio, TX. SSDUSA's Panel will be Thursday, June 22 at 9:30 am. Thursday evening, June 22 - Afterparty in the Bridge Hall -- a 16,800 sq. ft. hall, so let's get the single out to fill it! Info: 210-521-7185. Website: www.55thnsdc.org

WA – July 28 - 30, 2006 -- Summerama in Spokane, WA. Callers: Friday: Don Cochrane. Saturday: Glenn Raiha, Olympia, WA & Kevin Thomaier, Renton, WA. Cuer: Tami Helms, Portland, OR. Friday, July 28, 2006 at 7 PM w/Get acquainted hour, 8 PM pre rounds, and 8:30 to 11 PM a MS dance with our own caller, Don Cochrane. Saturday, July 29, 2006 Fun Dance w/Don Cochrane followed by 11:15 No Host Brunch. Saturday at 1:30 to 3:30 pm Plus dance with Glenn Raiha & Kevin Thomaier, followed by a no host dinner. Saturday at 7:30 PM pre-rounds followed by a MS dance with Glenn Raiha & Kevin Thomaier followed by an afterparty. Sunday 10 am a trails out dance with Don Cochrane. PLEASE NOTICE CHANGE OF CALLER BECAUSE OF BILL HELMS' DEATH!

NY – August 31 – September 3, 2006 -- 36th Annual National Singles Dance-A-Rama, Rochester, NY. Rochester Riverside Convention Center. Host Hotel: Hyatt Regency Hotel. Reservations: 1-800-233-1234. Caller: Mike Callahan, NY, Tim Crawford, ONT, Canada, Jim Lee, ONT, Canada, Tom Miller, PA, and Art Tangen, KS. Cuers: Wayne & Barbara Blackford, FL & AZ, Mike & Linda Liberti, AZ, Pete & Mary McGee, PA, and Mark & Marlene Thone, NY. Hosted by: Cloverleaf Squares. Info: Nancy Mirabal, 585-621-5596. E-mail: nancylm@localnet.com Website: dar2006.ssdusa.org

Club News

Swingin' Single Squares, Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Tom Mc Govern, President

As I near the end of my one year term as President of our club which has been in existence for over 30 years, I have mixed reactions. It has been an honor and a challenge to be President. I have also been lesson coordinator for several years. On the positive side, we started lessons on the same night as dances mainly to promote more interactions with members while saving hall rentals and nights out for members. And we have had workshops for the new dancers for the purpose of socialization, review, just plain fun.

On the negative side, the angel turnout and thus the interaction between members and new dancers has been less than hoped for. We have difficulty obtaining members to be officers. And too many singles who have a partner/significant other do not dance often or at all with the non paired singles. Our membership is small by historical comparison due largely to the aging population in the activity in general and in our club.

I have seen many local area clubs fold in recent years, but also a few small ones have survived mainly through the efforts of a few hard working folks. Perhaps it is always so.

I follow the discussion and debates nationally about teaching and learning square dancing, adding or subtracting calls, combining programs etc. I for one think Mainstream Square Dancing is too complicated and lengthy, requiring months of lessons and months of continued "on the job" learning. Some become discouraged and drop out at various points along the way. Like some others, I think the entry program, Mainstream, should be shorter and easier and those who want more challenge can pursue Plus, Advanced and beyond. These are not new ideas, but mine after nearly 30 years of involvement in square (and round) dancing.

I will have a one year term on the Board as Past President, will continue as lesson coordinator for the rest of this class, and will angel and attend dances in the future. Though I am a little short of being "burned out," I am ready to pass the torch to others, hoping there will be enough to keep the club going. I suspect there are many others who have had this experience. I don't see the activity dying because it is too much fun but it will change, because nothing stays the same. We need to be willing to face that reality.

Lehigh Valley B & B's Allentown, Pennsylvania

Cathy Roth, 2nd Vice President

Hello from the Lehigh Valley in Pennsylvania. We are the B & B's of the Lehigh Valley and we are answering your call for club promotions.

We are a friendly club that meets on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month, and we meet at the



Lehigh County Senior Center. (Not that we are all old its just where we meet). LOL. Our President is Henry Buffington and he can be reached by calling 610-838-6390 for more information or directions to our club.

We would like to invite anyone who is interested in having the best time of your life, to our Spring weekend. We are having a patriotic theme, and it is called "Operation Pocono Manor", our weekend will be held April 21 - 23 2006. It has been moved back a few weeks, so we are sure to have good weather. The callers will be National Caller, Matt Worley, and Roy Leber, and our very best cuer, Steve Bradt, who will be doing a dance demo with his lovely wife and be teaching Swing dancing.

If you have never been to one of our weekends, we boast about the lovely wooden dance floor, the newly renovated hotel and swimming pool, a relaxing spa, and never ending fun and food. We strive to make each and every participant feel welcome, and up till now we have done just that. So please get your reservations in now and join us in the Wonderful Pocono's of Pennsylvania.

Questions can also be directed to our Committee: Sheila Lash @ 610-799-6336 or Cathy Roth @ 610-282-0436 We can't wait to meet you!

Levis & Lace Grand Junction, CO

Sally Musgrove

Research has shown that mental and physical exercise can help ward off Alzheimer's. It is also a fact that you can never start too young. Square Dancing is great for mental and physical exercise. It is also good for your heart. But the best part of Square Dancing is that it is a fun way to stay young and healthy.

Levis & Lace Square Dancing Club for singles/couples is starting lessons on February 15, 2006. Lessons are at the Masonic Lodge 2400 Consistory Ct. (First St. & Bookcliff.) from 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm.

Contact Sally @ 314-3477 or Del @ 434-6541.

GOOD NEWS SHARING

Doe Payne
January 8, 2006

I became a grandmother this morning!

Jaina Lynn Payne arrived at 2:38 a.m., weighing 8 pounds and is 20 inches long. According to both her parents, "She is just beautiful!". And healthy, and both my son and his wife are exhausted (36 hours of labor), but happy. Of Course, I am past happy!!!



The Intercom is published quarterly in February, May, August and November. The deadline for articles is 15 days prior to the date of publication (e.g. January, 15th for February issue).

SSDUSA Membership Application



Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____ Phone # _____

Make checks payable to SSDUSA

Mail to:

Annual Individual Dues - \$6.00

Yellowrock Directory - \$6.00

Membership Badge - \$4.50

Patsy Nester

5356 Waterford

Mesquite, TX 75150



From:
Patsy Nester
5356 Waterford
Mesquite, TX 75150

Official Newsletter of Single Square Dancer, USA

First Class Mail

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