

# INTERCOM



*Official Newsletter of Single Square Dancers, U.S.A. - Joe B. Ellis, Founder - February 2009*

## **39<sup>TH</sup> Dance-A-Rama Square 'em up in the Quad Cities September 3 – 6, 2009 Clarion Hotel, Davenport, Iowa**

Last night in the Quad Cities, we reached an all-time low of 29 degrees BELOW zero. To those of you in Minnesota, that may not sound so bad, but I think it is mighty cold. Trust me, it will be much warmer here in September.

The Solo Steppers are busy getting ready to welcome everyone to our towns. There is a lot to see so be sure to come early and stay after to get in everything. We have tours lined up starting Wednesday evening, September 2. We have reserved seating at Circa '21, a restored theatre and playhouse. All attendees will be seated at tables of 4-8 so if you don't know someone else going, you will have made a new friend or two by the end of the evening. A hearty buffet dinner will be served. Next comes the play—Peter Pan. I am looking forward to see them fly around the stage. The tour price includes the dinner and show, all taxes and tips, and transportation to and from the Clarion Hotel.

On Thursday, September 3, an all day tour has been scheduled to the Amana Colonies. The bus leaves early in the morning from the Clarion. After a 90-minute drive, you will be transported to quaint villages that were established by a group of German immigrants. The bus will stop at the visitors' center for a bathroom break and welcoming speech. A local guide will then board the bus with the group and offer comments and stories as you visit several of the local craftsmen. The Amanas are home to a woolen mill, brewery, broom and basket shop, smokehouse, several wineries and bakeries, a furniture and clockmaker, and a variety of other establishments. A family-style lunch will be served in one of the amazing German restaurants followed by free time to shop. The bus will return to the Clarion a couple hours before the Thursday evening dance so you have (a little) time to rest.

Moline is home to the world headquarters of John Deere, and the Friday morning tour will take in some of the local facilities of the company. Depending on production schedules, there may be a factory tour. If

not, the tour will visit the World Headquarters and grounds. In addition, there will be a stop at the John Deere Pavilion and store.

Friday afternoon we will offer a 1½-hour cruise on the Mississippi River aboard the Celebration Belle, a paddlewheel boat. Various sights will be noted by the captain. You can visit the wheelhouse, purchase a snack, or just enjoy the leisurely cruise and beautiful view.

Don and Doug Sprosty will be your hosts for the Saturday morning tour entitled "Dance in All Four Quad Cities". Participants will board the bus at the Clarion and step off in each city (Moline, Rock Island, Davenport, and Bettendorf) to dance and do some fast sightseeing. Don & Doug will provide the calling, and all on the tour will get a souvenir dangle for the event.

The QC area is also home to the Rock Island Arsenal, a working military post and armaments factory. Saturday afternoon's tour will take you to the island. A guide will narrate a bus tour of the location that includes historic cemeteries, homes, and buildings. Entrance fees to the Mississippi River and Arsenal Museums are included in the price. Due to government regulations, only US citizens may take this tour.

Besides the arranged tours, we have: TPC Deere Run if you're a golfer, casino boats, walking paths along the river, the Figge art museum, historic homes and gardens, the River Music Experience for jazz enthusiasts, the Putnam and IMAX, the River Bandits' baseball team, day trips to Dubuque or Galena or Waterloo (for more John Deere tractors!), and local favorites—the Isabel Bloom studio and Boetjes mustard factory tours. For more ideas or additional information, check out the QC Visitor's Bureau at [www.visitquadcities.com](http://www.visitquadcities.com).

Natalie

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# Message from the President



Welcome to 2009! I hope that your holidays went well and that 2009 is off to a great start for you. I am looking forward to a terrific year with Single Square Dancers USA. We have a great group of board members and committee members volunteering their time to do the various tasks needed to run our organization. I am especially pleased to announce that we have a new Intercom Editor, Sue Van Winkle. She is a member of Cardinal Squares in Springfield, OH. Sue works full time as a technical writer and has experience as a writer and possesses strong grammar and English skills along with good organizational skills. We have another important committee addition. Our regular Web Master continues to be Dave Hinde, but we also have a new backup Web Master, Daryl Stout, who is the Web Master for the Arkansas State Square Dance Federation and Single Square Dancers of Arkansas Association. Daryl will be doing the website for DAR 2010. He can be reached at [tboltbbs@aristotle.net](mailto:tboltbbs@aristotle.net) or 501-227-9183. Welcome on board, Sue and Daryl!

It is great that we have good people who have stepped forward to help on the board and committees, but this small group of people cannot do everything that needs to be done. We ask all of you to help out by spreading the word about SSDUSA and the great, fun-filled dance festival we have each Labor Day weekend. Please take our DAR registration forms (flyers) with you and distribute them at all of the clubs and festivals you attend. Please encourage all dancers to attend our Dance-A-Ramas. (Don't forget to invite the newly graduated dancers!) We need your help!

Our spring board meeting will be at the HASSDA festival which is April 3-5, 2009 in Excelsior Spring, MO. We will meet at the Leadership Room at the Elms at 10 AM on Saturday, April 4. Our summer meeting will be at the 58th National Square Dance Convention in Long Beach, CA, which runs from June 24 to 27. Our board meeting is to be at 10 AM on Saturday, June 27 (location to be determined). I hope to see lots of you in a square at HASSDA and at the National Convention!

I especially hope to see you all at Dance-A-Rama 2009 in the Quad Cities.

The Solo Steppers have a great dance weekend planned for us. If you have not sent in your registration for DAR 2009 and made your hotel reservations at the Clarion, please get them in soon. You don't want to miss out on the fun that we always have at DAR. It is great to go every year and see old friends and make new ones. Don't wait too long and take a chance of not being able to get into the host hotel. It is more convenient and more fun to be on site and close to the action!

I hope to see you soon somewhere in a square! Meanwhile, keep dancing!

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## **A WORD FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT**

As most of you know, I am the Director of Singles for the 59th National Square Dance Committee (NSDC) in Louisville, KY in 2010. The NSDC committee has given the Singles/Solos a full time hall. It is room 105B and is 5,000 ft. We can do about anything in this hall we want. We can set up tables and display upcoming Singles events.

I need you to provide input as to what you think we can do to use this hall and promote Square Dancing. It will be the hall where we can have a Trail In Dance and After Parties. I have thought about different clubs hosting an hour and having their club caller either call or emcee for that hour. I don't have an answer as to whether we schedule the callers or they do. Maybe we could have an International Callers Hour. Send me your suggestions, and I will present them to the Program Chairman. In case you didn't know, the General Chairman is a former SSDUSA President. Cindy (Bigert) Schoen.

The 59<sup>th</sup> National Square Dance Convention Kick-Off Dance will be on February 7, 2009, at the Kentucky Exposition Center in Louisville, KY. The featured callers are Big & Little Enis, Wes Dyer, and Kenny Jarvis "Together Again!" Tom & Jan Kannapel are on rounds. Admission is 59<sup>th</sup> NSDC Pre-Registration. Details can be found at [www.59thnsdc.com](http://www.59thnsdc.com).

Ron Holland, Chairman  
Vice President, SSDUSA

## **FRANK NORRIS YELLOWROCK SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE**

Single Square Dancers USA has a scholarship fund designed to help new callers and cuers with the expenses associated with getting started in their profession. It is open to any caller or cuer age 16 or over who has three years or less experience. Anyone interested in applying should submit a demo cassette tape or CD, along with an application, to Velma Doyle, Yellowrock Scholarship Chairperson, 3938 Crestfield Drive, Groveport, OH 43125.

If you need a Yellowrock Scholarship application, download a copy from the SSDUSA Website: [www.ssdusa.org](http://www.ssdusa.org), or contact me. The deadline for receipt of the completed packet is August 1. One or more winners will be selected at DAR 2009 on Labor Day weekend.

Velma Doyle  
Yellowrock Scholarship Chairperson

## **NEWS FROM NORTH CENTRAL EAST REGION**

We are proud that single dancers in Central Ohio have been strongly involved in recent months in raising money for worthy causes. On November 2, Bucks & Does Singles raised \$1,900 to benefit the Bethlehem on Broad organization which helps the less fortunate with food and other needs. On November 16, three local dance clubs, including Hi-Timers and Orbiting Squares (which both have many single members) co-hosted a benefit dance that raised over \$1,000 to help defray the cost of a replacement air conditioner for the Gahanna Congregational Church where the three clubs dance. On November 23, many single dancers supported the benefit dance for the special needs Happy Squares Club, raising \$1,477 to help them with costs for costumes and travel so they can participate in the National Handicapable Square Dance Convention. On November 30, dancers from Bucks & Does went on a banner activity to the Kittyhawk Squares Canned Food Dance in Kettering, OH (in the Dayton area). On December 7, Bucks & Does and Orbiting Squares were among the co-sponsors for the Toys for Tots dance that brought in many donated toys for this worthy cause. On December 20, the Little Brown Jug Singles of Delaware, OH had a charity dance that raised \$482 for their local People in Need organization. On January 25, Bucks & Does is holding the Second Annual Relay for Life Dance to raise money for cancer research. Bucks & Does also has a charter bus reserved for our local dancers to attend the Relay for Life dance in Lubeck, WV on April 25.

Bucks & Does Singles members are excited that we will have a Dance-A-Rama Preview Dance on April 24, 2009, from 7:30 to 10:45 PM at our usual dance location, First Congregational Church, 444 East Broad St, Columbus, OH. Three DAR 2009 staff members will perform at our dance. Doug & Don Sprosty will be calling, and Natalie Sprosty will be cueing. This will be the first time the Sprostys have called or cued in our area. We hope any of you who can attend this dance will join us. We are looking forward to Dance-A-Rama 2009 in the Quad Cities. Please read the separate article in this Intercom to learn about the bus the Bucks & Does has chartered for the trip to DAR 2009.

We have been having fun working with our new dancers. We hope your club has enthusiastic new student dancers too, and that you are working hard to get them ready for Dance-A-Rama. See you in a square!

Fred Moore, Regional Director



## HELP NEEDED! WHY NOT HOST DAR 2011?

We always are looking ahead for future sites for DAR's. DAR 2010 will be held in Alexandria, VA, but we are looking for sites for 2011 and beyond. Please let us know if your club or association has any interest in hosting a DAR.

Of course there is work involved, but there are also lots of rewards. It can bring needed revenue to your organization. It can put you on the map, letting dancers from all over the USA know who and where you are. You can build leadership skills. It can energize your group. There is great satisfaction in doing something well. Great camaraderie and friendships can develop among those working together to accomplish something important.

Please consider the idea and if your club or organization is open to the idea, contact Ron Holland or Velma Doyle. We would be glad to talk with you about what is involved.

It is with regret that we report the death of Joe Carboni of San Jose, California. Joe was a dancer with the Sunnyvale Solos. He is survived by three children, six grandchildren, and one great-grandchild.

Joe was an avid square dancer and a great asset to the square dance community. He will be sorely missed.

The family has offered the following organizations if you would like to make a donation in memory of Joe. Please enclose a note "in memory of Joe Carboni" with your gift.

- Boy Scouts, San Jose CA  
[www.sccbsa.org/html/donate/memorial.html](http://www.sccbsa.org/html/donate/memorial.html)
- Girl Scouts, Oakland, CA  
[www.girlscoutsnorcal.org/donate](http://www.girlscoutsnorcal.org/donate)
- Square Dancing  
Committee to Promote Square Dancing  
Attn: Jane Bishop, Director  
134 Lu-Ray Drive

## WHERE CAN SOLO DANCERS GO TO DANCE?

This time of year there are a lot of good dances and dance festivals. Sometimes it is difficult for single or solo dancers to figure out which ones they can attend without a partner and have a good chance of being able to find someone to dance with.

One way to find out is to call or email the contact numbers for the club or festival and ask. Another way is to talk with other solo or single dancers to find out where they have gone and had a good time. You can also check the calendar in this issue of the Intercom and the online calendar at [www.SSDUSA.org](http://www.SSDUSA.org).

Still another way is to subscribe to the SSDUSAGram email that Larada Horner puts out every other month. The SSDUSAGram, Single Square Dancers USA's bi-monthly electronic newsletter, has one mission—to get information about single friendly events out to the single dance world. The dances she lists are either put on by single square dance clubs or are recommended by other single dancers. Her current listing includes dances across the United States as well as conventions in Australia and Germany.

One of the helpful features the SSDUSAGram offers is a roommate locator. If you are looking for roommates at a specific dance, contact Laurie Steward at [Lkstewa@hotmail.com](mailto:Lkstewa@hotmail.com) or 507-685-4476 with your name, phone number, e-mail, gender, and dance that you are trying to find a roommate for. She can tell you if others are looking for a roommate for that same dance.

If you want to receive this newsletter by email, contact Larada at [promosssdusa@earthlink.net](mailto:promosssdusa@earthlink.net). This information can also be accessed through the SSDUSAGram website (<http://ssdusa.org/calendar.htm>).

What would you like to see in the Intercom? Do you have an idea for an article? How are we doing? We'd like to hear from you! Email us at [Intercom@SSDUSA.com](mailto:Intercom@SSDUSA.com) or phone 937-323-4512.

## Going Solo to a Convention?

Here are some tips to get a dance partner when you're solo at a convention:

- Get a "solo" ribbon and wear it everywhere—the dance floor, the vendor area, the snack bar. You never know when someone may see you and realize you're available.
- Smile. Even if you're sitting out a dance, smile, tap your toes to the music, clap if it's part of a dance—in other words, participate from the sidelines. Show that you're enjoying yourself. After all, that's why you came, isn't it?
- Accept offers to dance. Maybe the individual isn't your first choice, but one dance won't hurt, and you might just end up in a square with someone who does strike your fancy.
- If you're a lady, dance with another lady if a square needs a couple. The idea *is* to get on the floor and dance. No one knows if you can dance as long as you sit.
- Chat with the person you're sitting with. Chat with people in the hall and on the elevator and on a tour bus. Make it easy for someone to approach you and ask you to dance.
- Know the calls, and know them well. If you don't, brush up *before* the convention. We all make an occasional mistake, but if you break down a square more than once, you'll find yourself sitting out a lot. On the other hand, it is absolutely exhilarating to have someone grab your hand and say, "Let's dance! I'm ready for a great square!"
- Last but not least, don't be shy. Remember that at a singles' convention, anyone can ask someone else to dance!

## Happy Dancers at the 2008 Dance-a-Rama



## JOIN THE PRESIDENTIAL EXPRESS TO DANCE-A-RAMA 2009!

Bucks & Does Singles has reserved a 54-passenger bus to take dancers from Columbus, OH to Davenport, IA for Dance-A-Rama 2009.

We will leave Columbus on Thursday morning, September 3, 2009, and arrive back in Columbus on Monday (Labor Day) evening, September 7, 2009. The cost will be \$105.00 per person, round trip.

We are inviting dancers from other areas to meet us at locations being arranged in Columbus, the Springfield/Dayton area, and in Indianapolis, IN. It is great not to have to do the driving and to arrive relaxed and rested. Anyone who has gone with us on any of our bus trips in the past knows how much fun we have!

If you would like to join us on the bus, contact Velma Doyle (614-837-6974 or [velmadoyle@sbcglobal.net](mailto:velmadoyle@sbcglobal.net)) to get your name on our waiting list. We are asking for a \$50 deposit by April 1 and for the balance to be paid by August 1. Checks should be made out to Bucks & Does Singles and mailed to Bucks & Does, P. O. Box 332, Columbus, OH 43216.

Get your reservations in. Once the bus is full, you could be out of luck. We would love to have you join us!

## 5 of the 17 Bucks and Does who attended the 2008 Dance-a-Rama



## IS YOUR CLUB OR ASSOCIATION A MEMBER OF SSDUSA?

Is your club or association a member of SINGLE SQUARE DANCERS USA?

Many people do not even realize that there are club memberships as well as individual memberships in SSDUSA. SSDUSA has a classification of membership for singles clubs, singles friendly clubs and singles associations.

**SSDUSA CLUB MEMBERSHIP** gives your club or association the right to have one or more delegates (depending on club size) who are eligible to vote at our annual meeting held each year over the Labor Day Weekend in conjunction with the Dance-A-Rama. Also, SSDUSA sends a certificate for display at the club dances and a copy four times each year of the Intercom, our quarterly National Singles Newsletter.

At present there are only 32 registered clubs. Please use your influence to get your club to join and/or renew their club membership.

To become affiliated with our organization as a **MEMBER CLUB**, please fill out the application below. Make your check payable to **SSDUSA** and forward with the application to Patricia Powell, 3411 Whirlaway Road, Dallas, TX 75229.

SSDUSA Club Membership Application	
Name of club:	
Number of members:	
Contact Name:	
Address:	
City:	
State:	Zip: _____
Phone:	Email: _____
Club Website:	
Annual Dues: \$10 per year for clubs up to 50 members (1 club delegate)	
\$15 per year for clubs with 51-100 members (2 club delegates)	
\$20 per year for clubs with 101 or more members (3 club delegates)	
Delegate names:	
Please check one: New membership _____ Renewal _____ If renewal and address has changed, please include old address.	
Make checks payable to SSDUSA and mail to: Patricia Powell, 3411 Whirlaway Road , Dallas, TX 75229; 214-358-0511	

# CALENDAR

**VA – February 20 & 21, 2009 – 19th Annual Sweetheart Weekend** – Wyndham, Virginia Beach, VA. Callers: Tim Crawford, Bill Harrison, Steve Jacques, Jeremy Butler, Matt Worley and Bob Worley. Cuers: Judy & Ed Jaworski, John & Patty Toll, and Steve & Irene Brandt. Website: [www.sweetheart.greatdances.net](http://www.sweetheart.greatdances.net). For more information call 757-467-2557.

**IN – March 6–7, 2009 – Spring Extravaganza** – Noblesville, IN (suburb of Indianapolis). Callers: Dee Dee Dougherty, Jerry Story, Tim Crawford and Tony Oxendine. Website: [www.springextravaganza.com](http://www.springextravaganza.com). For more information contact: Jim & Lue Lewis, 317-896-3138 or David & Patti Woods, 765-734-1597, [prwoods@iquest.net](mailto:prwoods@iquest.net).

**TX – March 19, 2009 – TASSD Roundup Trail End Dance**, Civic Center, 2000 Civic Center Lane, Waxahachie, Texas, 7:30 PM. Callers: Mike Bramlett and family (Drew and Dee). Cuers: Christine and Theron Hixon. Early rounds start at 7:30.

**TX – March 20–21, 2009 – 35<sup>th</sup> Annual TASSD Roundup – “Stampede to Waxahachie.”** Hosted by Texas Association of Single Square Dancers Executive Board of Officers. Waxahachie Civic Center, 2000 Civic Center Lane, Waxahachie TX. Callers: Tim Tyl, TX; Jerry Dews, TX. Cuers: Mark & Pam Prow, TX. Website: [www.tassd.org](http://www.tassd.org). Contact: Danny Kingsley, 806-799-0963, [daddydan40@swbell.net](mailto:daddydan40@swbell.net).

**VA – March 19–21, 2009 – WASCA 50th Spring Square & Round Dance Festival**, “Happy 50th Birthday.” Hosted by WASCA (Washington Area Square and Round Dance Cooperative Association). Hilton Alexandria Mark Center, 5000 Seminary Rd., Alexandria, VA. Callers: Tom Miller, PA; Mike Sikorsky, AZ; Tim Marriner, NC; Tim Crawford, Canada; Mike Callahan, NY; Mike Jacobs, NJ; Jim Lee, Canada; Jerry Biggerstaff, NC. Cuers: George & Pamela Hurd, TX; Ralph & Joan Collipi, NH; Carol & Allen Lillefield, IN. Levels of square dancing: Mainstream, Plus, Plus DBD, Advanced, Challenge. Rounds: Phase II – VI. Clogging. For festival rates: Contact Jay Kolakoski, 703-455-3009 or E-mail: [2009FestivalHousing@wascaclubs.com](mailto:2009FestivalHousing@wascaclubs.com). Visit the Festival Website [www.wascaclubs.com/pages/wasca-spring-festivals/wasca-50th-birthday-bash.php](http://www.wascaclubs.com/pages/wasca-spring-festivals/wasca-50th-birthday-bash.php)

**GA – March 27–28, 2009 – 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Fuzzy Navel Dance**. Sponsored by the Florida & Georgia Singles Association. Oceanside Inn & Suites, 711 North Beachview Drive, Jekyll Island, GA 31527. Caller: Bud Whitten (GA). Cuer: Shirley Wilson (GA). Contact Mary Lou Pelz, 4815 Southland Drive, Jacksonville FL 32207 904-733-1869, [maryloupelz@aol.com](mailto:maryloupelz@aol.com) or Dot Williams, 55 Overlook Circle, Dawsonville GA 30543 706-216-4374.

**MO – April 3–5, 2009 – HASSDA Spring Festival**. Sponsored by: The Swingin' Singles club. The Elms Resort Hotel & Spa, Excelsior Spring, MO. 30 minutes from Kansas City or Airport. Website: [www.HASSDAFestival.WeSquareDance.com](http://www.HASSDAFestival.WeSquareDance.com).

**NM – April 30–May 3, 2009 – 29th Annual New Mexico Singles Square Dance Fling** – May Day Fantasy. Albuquerque Square Dance Center, 4915 Hawkins, NE, Albuquerque, NM. Callers: Tim Tyl, White Oak, TX & Richard Lane, Placitas, NM. Cuers: Bob & Sally Nolen, Los Alamos, NM. Contact: Gerry Dunbar, 15 Caller Pueblo Pinado NW, Albuquerque, New Mexico 87120, 505-839-4962, [dukedancer123@msn.com](mailto:dukedancer123@msn.com).

**GA – May 15–16, 2009 - 27th Anniversary Dance/GA Singles State Convention** – Commerce Civic Center, 110 State Street, Commerce, GA. Caller: Rudy Saunders, Monroe GA. Cuer: Rita Mason, Rome, GA. Friday 7 pm – 10:30 pm. Saturday 10 am – noon; 2 – 4 pm; 7 – 10:30 pm. Wonderful wood floor for dancing and excellent AC. Contact Dot Williams, 706-216-4374.

**CA – June 24–27, 2009 – 58<sup>th</sup> National Square Dance Convention, California Dreamin’**, Long Beach, CA. Join callers, cuers and dancers from all over the world at this great annual event. In addition to more dancing than anyone could possibly keep up with, there are tours, educational panels, clinics, and much more fun. Check out the details on the website: [www.58nsdc.org](http://www.58nsdc.org).

**IA – September 3–6, 2009 – 39<sup>th</sup> National Singles Dance-A-Rama. “Square Em Up.”** Hosted by: Solo Steppers. Clarion Hotel, Davenport, IA. Callers: Bill Harrison, MD; Matt Worley, VA; Mike Hogan, NE; Ken Burke, IN; Curt Braffet, IL; Don & Doug Sprosty, IA. Cuers: Adrienne & Larry Nelson, IA; Tony Speranzo, TX; Natalie Sprosty, IA. Lines: Jo Saffel, IA. Website: [www.ssdusa.org](http://www.ssdusa.org). Contact: [dar2009@ssdusa.org](mailto:dar2009@ssdusa.org).

# Single Square Dancers, USA Membership Application

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

**Make Checks Payable to SSDUSA**

**Mail to: Pat Powell, 3411 Whirlaway Road, Dallas, TX 75229**

**Annual Individual Dues: \$6**

**Membership Badge: \$5**

**Club Membership, please see [www.ssdusa.org](http://www.ssdusa.org) for Club Membership Form.**



**From:**

**Pat Powell**

**3411 Whirlaway Road**

**Dallas, TX 75229**

***The Official Newsletter of Single Square Dancers, USA***

**First Class Mail**

**Address Correction Requested**

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