

INTERCOM



Official Newsletter of Single Square Dancers, U.S.A. - Joe B. Ellis, Founder August 2020 Issue



SINGLE SQUARE DANCERS, USA
WILL BE CELEBRATING 50TH YEARS OF DANCING
SSDUSA'S 50TH DANCE-A-RAMA FESTIVAL
LABOR DAY WEEKEND, SEPTEMBER 3RD - 5TH, 2021
HOLIDAY INN AIRPORT, DES MOINES, IOWA



Since the COVID-19 virus forced Single Square Dancers USA to cancel our 50th Dance-A-Rama festival that was scheduled for Labor Day weekend of 2020, the SSDUSA Board has secured a venue to celebrate our 50 years of dancing with a final Dance-A-Rama festival with a one year gap.

We have signed a contract with the Airport Holiday Inn in Des Moines, Iowa to hold our Dance-A-Rama festival there on Labor Day weekend of 2021. Amenities at this hotel include refrigerators, microwaves, and free Wi Fi in the rooms. They have a full service restaurant and a free shuttle that runs within a one to two mile radius of the hotel.

You can use Uber, Lyft, or Taxis to get to the downtown or other places in the local area. There is plenty of free parking at the hotel and a free shuttle (Keck) from/to the nearby Des Moines airport which is just minutes from the hotel, basically just down the street. Dancers may even want to find time to enjoy the hotels unique Tropical Courtyard with indoor pool and whirlpool.

Some of you may remember this hotel from when we held our Dance-A-Rama there in 2012. The hotel has done extensive remodeling since then and all dancing will be on one level this year. Iowa's State Square Dance Convention will be held there in the spring of 2021

We are pleased and excited that we will still have the entire outstanding line-up of callers and cuers that were to entertain us in 2020: Callers: **Jack Pladdys** (OH), **Tim Tyl** (TX), **Tom Davis** (OH) and **Travis Cook** (KY), and Cuers: **Phyllis Burdette** (OH) and **Bonnie Lawrence** (IN) (with Bonnie also teaching and leading line dances).

I will serve as Chairperson in charge of our festival, and am looking forward to welcoming you back to Des Moines. I am already busy looking for places for us to go on tours. Take a look on Page 3 at some of the interesting and beautiful sites that Iowa has to offer. The Capitol, Sculpture Park and our Art Center are free. There is a free shuttle that operates in the downtown loop (from the Capitol to the Sculpture Park). Come early or stay late and see what you didn't get to see in 2012 or when the National was here in 2016.

Don't forget that ALL square and round dancers are welcome at our Dance-A-Rama festivals. Our Registration Form will be available to download from our website as soon as it is finalized. We hope to see you in Iowa!

*Susan Lee, SSDUSA Dance-A-Rama
Chairman, Treasurer / Registrar
rflxsue@aol.com / 515-244-3247*

MESSAGE FROM YOUR PRESIDENT



Can we all agree that in 2015 not a single person got the answer correct to "where do you see yourself in five years from now?"

I recently saw this posted on Facebook, and it certainly is true. When we went through all of the work to make the arrangements to hold our 50th Dance-A-Rama in Ohio this year, we would never have imagined that we would just have to cancel everything. It was a beautiful hotel and I was really looking forward to going on the tour of *The Wilds*. At least we are fortunate that we will still have the entire outstanding line-up of callers and cuers that were to entertain us this year.

But now this is water under the bridge. I am looking forward to celebrating our 50 years of dancing at our final Dance-A-Rama festival in Des Moines, IA. This is especially great for me since I was born and raised on my parents' farm in Madison County, Iowa and moved to West Des Moines at the start of eighth grade. I graduated from Valley High School in West Des Moines and later graduated from Coe College in Cedar Rapids, IA, before moving to Ohio. I still have a nephew, niece and some cousins in Iowa, so this will be an opportunity to see extended family. I look forward to returning to the Des Moines Airport Hotel where I have good memories from our Dance-A-Rama in 2012. Also, I definitely plan to go on the Bridges of Madison County and John Wayne Birthplace Tour on the Thursday before our festival. It should be a fun tour!

Take a good look at the information in Susan Lee's article on the front page, and the photos on Page 3. There are some great places to see in Iowa. You may want to come early and/or stay late to take advantage of the local sites. Even if you decide not to do much dancing,

this is a great opportunity for a mini-vacation. Part of the fun at our DAR's is seeing old friends and making new ones. We encourage you to stay at our host hotel. It is easier on you and more FUN to be close to the dancing, plus you can take full advantage of the amenities available at and near the hotel.

Don't forget that ALL square and round dancers are welcome at our Dance-A-Rama festivals. Please make your plans now to attend our 50th Dance-A-Rama festival on Labor Day weekend of 2021! You can have even more fun if you bring your friends along. We plan to make DAR 2021 an outstanding festival and go out in style! Registration forms will be available soon to download at dar2021.ssdusa.org.

Velma Doyle, President

velmadoyle@sbcglobal.net / 614-837-6974

FRANK NORRIS YELLOWROCK
SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE



Twenty-twenty one will be the last year that Single Square Dancers USA will be awarding scholarships to help new callers and cuers with the expenses associated with getting started.

The scholarship is open to any caller or cuer age 12 or over who has three years or less experience. (Youth ages 12 through 18 need to have parental consent.) Anyone interested in applying needs to submit a demo CD or link to YouTube showing them calling patten and a singing call (for callers) or cueing two different rhythms (waltz, two step, fox trot, etc. (for cuers)), along with a completed application. This is to be sent to Velma Doyle, Yellowrock Scholarship Chairperson, 3938 Crestfield Dr, Groveport, OH 43125.

If you need a Yellowrock Scholarship application, download a copy from the SSDUSA Website: www.ssdusa.org, or contact me. The deadline for receipt of the completed packet is

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4



IOWA STATE CAPITOL



PAPPAJOHN SCHULPTURE PARK



AMANA COLONIES



GREATER DES MOINES BOTANICAL CENTER



BRIDGES OF MADISON COUNTY



BOONE SCENIC VALLEY RAILROAD



TERRACE HILL



SALISBURY HOUSE



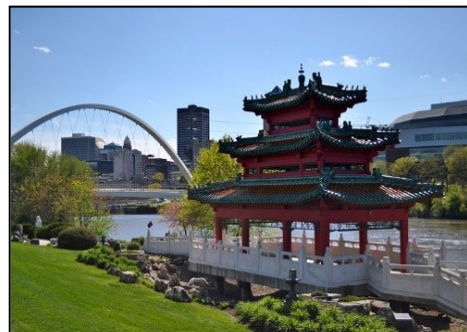
BIRTHPLACE OF JOHN WAYNE MUSEUM



LIVING HISTORY FARMS



DES MOINES ART CENTER



ROBERT D. RAY ASIAN GARDENS

August 1, 2021. One or more scholarships will be awarded at DAR 2021 on Labor Day weekend.

If you know of potential or beginner callers or cuers who might qualify for the scholarships, please let them know about SSDUSA's Yellowrock Scholarships and encourage them to apply.

Velma Doyle
Yellowrock Scholarship Chairperson
velmadoyle@sbcglobal.net / 614-837-6974



ROOMMATE LOCATOR

As always, the roommate locator is ready to help you find a roommate when we get back to dancing.

See you around the square.

Laurie Steward, Roommate Locator
lkstewa@hotmail.com / 507-210-6507

Need a Partner for a dance? Try this site.
www.dancepartner.com

1- SOUTH EAST REGION
Ailene Picheco

There is some dancing in **Alabama**, **Mississippi** and North **Florida**. The Florida State Convention in February has been cancelled. Please check websites listed below for any updates and contact information.

Alabama: www.alabamasquaredance.com/aweb/finddance/eventview.php

Georgia: www.gssda.org/conventions

Florida: www.floridasquaredance.com/convention

Mississippi: <http://mssquaredance.com/dance.htm>

South Carolina: <https://scsquaredance.com/calendar>

Tennessee: www.tnsquaredance.org/events

Puerto Rico: Call or email if you are visiting **San Juan**

mcuretpr@yahoo.com / 787-647-8810

Ailene Picheco, Regional Director
apicheco@att.net / 321-652-0680

2- ATLANTIC EAST REGION
Helen Jacobson

Cancellation of 2021 WASCA Spring Festival

We regret to inform you that the WASCA Spring Festival scheduled for March 18-20, 2021 has been cancelled. This action was taken by a unanimous decision of the Board of Directors and followed a discussion about the potential danger to attending dancers and supporting calling/cueing staff that might exist in March 2021. While it seems early to make this decision, the Board has experienced the unpredictability of the Covid-19 virus and its effect on our desire to return to normal dance activity. Also, in cancelling at this point, our contracted liabilities have been minimized and this enables us to retain sufficient funds to continue operating and able to hold Festivals in the future.

As many of you recall the 2020 WASCA Spring Festival (scheduled for March 19-21, 2020) was cancelled on short notice. The WASCA festival is typically attended by around 1000 dancers from more than 25 states and around 80% of our attendees come from other states. As of the first week of March 2020 there had been no reported cases in the state of Virginia, however, we did have dancers coming from states with reported cases. The first Covid-19 case in Virginia was reported on March 7 and two additional cases on March 8. More cases resulted in the governor of Virginia declaring a state of emergency and restricting large events the following week.

In looking back at March 2020 we believe that

the decision to cancel was in the best interests of the attending dancers and staff and was the correct decision. Everyone has been following the news on progress against Covid-19. Progress as well as prediction of progress has not been totally positive. For example, on March 29, 2020 Dr, Fauci spoke of projections of 100,000 to 200,000 deaths. On April 9, 2020 we were pleased to hear that Dr. Fauci had revised these numbers down to 60,000. However by August 2020 we are above 160,000 deaths.

It is clear that no one can predict the situation in March 2021. At the present date, we could not legally hold the Festival in Virginia and community spread appears higher in Virginia than in the home states of some of our dancers. It seems clear that the set of solutions needed to return to safe dance activity does not exist today and may still not exist in March 2021.

While it was disappointing to make this decision we will look forward to normal dance activity returning during 2021 and a great **Spring Festival on March 17-19, 2022**. Come and join us – it will be glorious!
WASCA Board of Directors

Information for those pre-registered for the 2021 Festival:

All WASCA Festival registrations will roll over to the 2022 WASCA Festival. The Registrars will contact all registered dancers for the process to rollover their registration at a later



date. If you would like a refund, please send an email to festivalregistration@wascaclubs.com
Housing - no reservations have been sent to the Hilton and the few original checks that were sent in with housing will be returned.

Posted by: Margaret Montgomery
memontgomery1@verizon.net

To join WASCADances, send an email to WASCADances-subscribe@yahoo.com

Helen Jacobson, Regional Director
Helen.jacobsonRN@gmail.com / 201-230-4999

4- NORTH CENTRAL EAST REGION
Fred Moore

There is not much to report here since almost no square or round dancing in our area has started back up. All of the state conventions in this region were cancelled, along with our DAR which was to have been held in Newark, OH. Many of our clubs hold their dances in senior centers, and currently none of them have reopened. Many of the churches where dances are normally held also have not opened up to allow outside groups to use their facilities.

If you plan to be in Central Ohio, you can find information about opportunities for dancing in our area at www.ColumbusSquareDance.com This site also has links to other websites in Ohio and a lot of other interesting and helpful information in this and other areas of our country.

I am disappointed that we were not able to hold our 50th Dance-A-Rama festival here in Ohio on Labor Day weekend of 2020, but am looking forward to celebrating our 50 years of dancing next year in Des Moines, IA. I hope to see lots of you there!

Fred Moore, Regional Director
velmadoyle@sbcglobal.net / 614-837-6974

5- NORTH CENTRAL WEST REGION

From the Heart of America Singles (Nebraska, Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Oklahoma and Arkansas) -- unfortunately the HASSDA Festival that was to be held July 24th-25 in Manhattan, Kansas in the Union Ballroom at K-State has been cancelled due to the decision by the University to cancel all events through the end of July.

The 2021 festival will be held in St Joseph, Missouri. They are in the process of getting the 2021 flyers put together and will get them in circulation. Here is the link for their website: www.HASSDAFestival.WeSquareDance.com

*Susan Lee, SSDUSA Treasurer
(IowaHASSDA representative)
rflxsue@aol.com / 515-244-3247*

8- SOUTH CENTRAL REGION Art Ritter / Jan Alders

Arkansas is starting to dance again. I have attended two Heber Springers dancing 2nd and 4th Fridays @ 7 pm @ Rosebud Community Senior Center - 5918 West Highway 36 . Call 501 238 2713.

Arkansas has a federation publication "THE MODERN SQUARE" find at: [Arkansas State Square Dance Federation Home](http://www.arkansasstate.org)

<http://www.arkansasquaredance.com>

The ASSDF Fall Festival, scheduled for Oct. 8-10, 2020, in Texarkana, is still ON, as of Aug. 12, 2020. A final decision will be made on the festival by mid-September, 2020.

When everything seems to be going against you, remember that the airplane takes off against the wind, not with it.

- Henry Ford

The "61st MISSOURI STATE FESTIVAL OF SQUARE & ROUND DANCE " October 16 - 18, 2020 / Missouri State Fairgrounds in Sedalia, MO. -

CANCELLED

www.Festival.SquareDanceMissouri.com

With today's national constraints, the best we can do is refer you to the information found at the various state federation web-sites:

Arkansas: <http://www.theassdf.org>

Louisiana: <https://louisianasquaredance.com>

Missouri: <http://www.squaredancemissouri.com/Missouri/Directories>

Kansas: <http://www.kansassquaredance.com/m-clubs.html>

Oklahoma: http://www.Oklahoma-square-dance-federation.org/p_stateclubs.php

Texas: <http://www.squaredancetx.com>

47th TASSD ROUND-UP 2021

(Texas Association of Single Square Dancers)

Date: March 12 & 13, 2021

Location: Allemande Hall, 106 Westlake Drive, Waco, TX

Callers: Nelda Eaton (New Boston, TX)

Cuers: Martin Philyshaw (Greenwood, LA)

FMI: Curtis Linscomb - 409-893-5570

Website: www.tassd.org

HSRDC 72nd Houston Hoedown

Conroe, TX

Date: October 16 & 17, 2020

CANCELLED

Email: missyjan@comcast.net

And reserve your slot at our # 50 D A R !

<http://ssdusa.org/dar.html>

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Archives, Historian,
Sergeant-at-Arms,
Nominations,
ByLaws/Parliamentarian,
VACANT

I resolve to love myself for who I am and who I will become - not what I have been in the past, not what others think of me.

SSDUSA INDIVIDUAL Membership Application	
Name:	
Address:	
City:	
State:	Zip:
Phone:	Email:
Annual Dues \$6.00	
Membership Badge \$7.00 (Plus \$4.00 for shipping and handling)	
Make checks payable to SSDUSA, Mail to: Ailene Picheco, 345 Hula Circle, Merritt Island, FL 32952 Phone: 321-652-0680 Email: apicheco@att.net	

AILENE PICHECO
345 Hula Circle,
Merritt Island, FL 32952

The Official Newsletter of Single Square Dancers, USA
First Class Mail
Address Correction Requested

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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	
Mail to: Ailene Picheco, 345 Hula Circle, Merritt Island, FL 32952	
Phone: 321-652-0680 Email: apicheco@att.net	