

# INTERCOM



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

August 2021 Issue

## SINGLE SQUARE DANCERS, USA

### WILL BE CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF DANCING AT SSDUSA'S 50<sup>TH</sup> DANCE-A-RAMA FESTIVAL

**LABOR DAY WEEKEND, SEPTEMBER 3<sup>RD</sup> - 5<sup>TH</sup>, 2021**

**HOLIDAY INN AIRPORT, DES MOINES, IOWA**



By the time you are reading this we are only a few weeks away from our 50<sup>th</sup> and final Dance-A-Rama. Now that people have received their vaccinations for COVID we should all be ready to get out and dance.

Come help us celebrate our 50 years of dancing at the Airport Holiday Inn in Des Moines, Iowa on Labor Day weekend, September 3<sup>rd</sup> thru 5<sup>th</sup>, 2021.

There will also be a Trail In Dance on Thursday evening, September 2<sup>nd</sup>, so you will want to plan on coming for that too.

The hotel offers many amenities and a full service restaurant with dancing in the same building. They have a free shuttle that runs within a two mile radius of the hotel, including the airport, and plenty of free parking. You can use Uber, Lyft, or Taxis to get to the downtown or other places in the local area. 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.

We are looking forward to almost the same 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).

Cuers: Bonnie Lawrence (IN) (with Bonnie also teaching and leading line dances). And Carolyn and Tony Ahart (MO).

As Chairperson in charge of our festival, I am looking forward to welcoming you back to Des Moines. Come early or stay late and see what you didn't get to see in 2012 or when the National was here in 2016.

There are many places for dancers to tour on their own. Below are 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).

Don't forget that ALL square and round dancers are welcome at our Dance-A-Rama festivals. Our registration form is available to download from our website at [dar2021@ssdusa.org](mailto:dar2021@ssdusa.org).

Registration questions can be sent to [reg2021@ssdusa.org](mailto:reg2021@ssdusa.org)

Note: There will be plenty of hand sanitizer available and we ask that you bring your own covered/labeled water bottle. There will be water stations for you to refill your water bottles.

We hope to see you in Iowa!

*Susan Lee, Treasurer / Registrar  
SSDUSA Dance-A-Rama Chairman,  
[rflxsue@aol.com](mailto:rflxsue@aol.com) / 515-244-3247*



Amana Colonies



Boone Scenic Valley Railroad



Pappajohn Sculpture Park



Bridges of Madison County



Robert D Ray Asian Gardens



Salisbury House



Greater Des Moines Botanical Center

**MESSAGE FROM YOUR PRESIDENT**



Fred Moore and I are looking forward to this Dance-A-Rama. Over the years we have attended seventeen DAR's all over the USA, and have enjoyed making new friends, seeing old friends and dancing with them again each year.

We have also appreciated the convenience of always having the dancing in the same hotels where we were staying. It is so much easier on dancers and more FUN to be close to the dancing.

I am also looking forward to going on both of our tours. I was born on my parents' farm in rural Madison County, Iowa, and lived there until my family moved to West Des Moines just before I started 8th grade. It will be good to go back to see the covered bridges and John Wayne's Birthplace Museum.

Back in the days of my youth, the small house where Wayne was born didn't look



**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](http://www.dancepartner.com)

much different than the other small, modest houses surrounding it. I can see from the photos that there will be a lot more to see and more to learn than what I saw years ago.

I also am looking forward to dancing and being entertained by our outstanding callers and cuers. I know they will make it a FUN festival.

It is good to be fully vaccinated against Covid-19 and back dancing again. I remain optimistic that many more dancers will be vaccinated and will feel safe to square dance by Labor Day weekend. I am looking forward to being in Des Moines on Labor Day weekend of 2021 and celebrating SSDUSA's 50 years of dancing.

Don't forget that ALL square, round and line dancers are welcome at our Dance-A-Rama festivals. If you have not already done so, please make your arrangements now to attend our 50th Dance-A-Rama Festival on Labor Day weekend!

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 are available at [www.dar2021.ssdusa.org](http://www.dar2021.ssdusa.org)

*Velma Doyle, President*  
velmadoyle@sbcglobal.net / 614-837-6974

**FRANK NORRIS YELLOWROCK**



Twenty-twenty one is 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 money in this scholarship fund was

generated over the years by the sales of Yellowrock Directories which listed single and single-friendly clubs that were Club Members of SSDUSA. After SSDUSA stopped publishing the Yellowrock, this source of funding the scholarships was eliminated, but we were able to continue to award scholarships due to the generous insurance policy left to SSDUSA by Frank Norris who was our Yellowrock Scholarship Chairperson for many years until his death in the spring of 2007.

By the time this Intercom issue reaches you, the August 1, 2021 deadline for applying for a scholarship will have passed.

At this time, three completed applications with the required demo CD's or DVD's have been received. One or more scholarships will be awarded at DAR 2021 this Labor Day weekend.

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

**1- SOUTH EAST REGION**  
Ailene Picheco

Dancing has returned for the most part, in Alabama, Mississippi and Florida. The Florida State Convention is scheduled for March 18-19, 2022 in Daytona Beach.

Alabama: [www.alabamasquaredance.com/aweb/finddance/eventview.php](http://www.alabamasquaredance.com/aweb/finddance/eventview.php)

Georgia: [www.gssda.org/conventions](http://www.gssda.org/conventions)

Florida: [www.floridasquaredance.com/convention](http://www.floridasquaredance.com/convention)

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

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

Tennessee: [www.tnsquaredance.org/events](http://www.tnsquaredance.org/events)

Puerto Rico: Call or email if you are visiting San Juan  
[mcuretpr@yahoo.com](mailto:mcuretpr@yahoo.com) / 787-647-8810

*Ailene Pícheo, Regional Director*  
*apícheo@att.net / 321-652-0680*

## **2- ATLANTIC EAST REGION**

Helen Jacobson

From the directors of the 61st WASCA Spring Festival Tracking Back to “Get Your Kicks on Route 66” Bobbi & Jeff Fuhr and Linda & Steve Toth.

We are so excited to see all of our “Cool50’s” friends in March of 2022 at the 61st WASCA Spring Festival. What a couple of years we have all had and not much of it was fun at all. We deserve to have the biggest party ever and we are so looking forward to seeing all of you.

For March of 2022, your “Get Your Kicks on Route 66–Back on The Road Again” festival preparation is underway. Your 61st committee has so many great plans and are truly excited to invite you to join in with all the activities. We still plan on having our Friday night show be a “Sock Hop” with a 50’s band. You are invited to come to the show or join in and dance along. Come dance to Elvis, Ricky Nelson, Roy Orbison, Chuck Berry, BB King, Ray Charles, Sam Cooke, The Beatles. This is just to name a few of the artists whose music the talented group we’ve line up plays. The Band’s name is Groove Quest and we hope they can come and if not we will find another band. One of the members of the band has a famous brother you might know named Kenny Farris.

Our opening ceremony will knock your socks off. It will start off the weekend and with our staff of Jeremy Butler, Bill Harrison, Eric Henerlau, Tom Miller, Joe Saltel, Mike Seastrom, Mike Sikorsky, Buddy Weaver, Curt & Tammy Worlock,

Rey & Sherry Garza, Steve & Irene Bradt, Randy & Marie Preskitt and Doug & Donna Riley – just how can we go wrong. Many of you will remember that Joe Saltel retired a couple years ago and just for us he is coming out of retirement to join us.

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

## **3- NORTH EAST REGION**

Nancy Maribal

Cloverleaf Squares started dancing again on Sunday July 18th. We had 5 squares. We are doing 2 hours of dancing, bring your own water with a jug for refills, bring in, take home leftover snacks. Hoping to start lessons again in the fall. Several clubs in the area started before and we have had several free dances outside in Rochester done by The Rochester Area Federation of square and round dancers. Passing out flyers for DAR. Thanks to all.

*Nancy Maribal, Regional Director*  
*nancymirabal@yahoo.com / 585-738-3431*

## **4- NORTH CENTRAL EAST REGION**

Fred Moore

Dancing is coming back more and more in our region.

In our immediate area, the Daylight Dancers club is now allowed by the senior center to have square dancing again rather than just allowing rounds and lines.

Our two Columbus area clubs, that have been SSDUSA Club Members for years, (Bucks & Does Singles and Orbiting Squares) have completed our merger into one club. They are currently doing business as Bucks & Does/Orbiting Squares, and are resuming dances on the 1st and 4th Fridays of the month beginning July 23rd.

Two clubs, Dixie Squares and Maple Leaf Squares, have folded. But the remainder have started back or are planning to hold dances again starting this fall.

One of the best things that has happened in our area is an eleven-week series of free "Refresher Workshops" being sponsored and paid for by the Central Ohio Corporation of Dance Clubs. They are being taught by an excellent caller/instructor Dave Stuthard on Monday evenings. It has attracted an average of five squares each evening so far. After over a year with little to no dancing, this has been helpful to both new and experienced dancers, along with being fun.

Dancing is also starting back in other areas in Ohio and in the other states in our region.

For more information about dancing in Ohio, go to [www.ColumbusSquareDance.com](http://www.ColumbusSquareDance.com) and click on Calendars, then click on Central Ohio Calendar or on Other Ohio Calendars for more information.

The Indiana Dancer's Association website, [www.indancers.org](http://www.indancers.org), and also [www.squaredanceinindiana.org](http://www.squaredanceinindiana.org) have current information about Indiana.

For information about dancing in Kentucky, check out [www.squaredanceky.com](http://www.squaredanceky.com) and [www.kentuckianasquaredance.com](http://www.kentuckianasquaredance.com).

For information about Illinois, check out [www.squaredanceillinois.com](http://www.squaredanceillinois.com).

For information about Michigan, go to [www.squaredance-michigan.com](http://www.squaredance-michigan.com).

The West Virginia Dance Federation has a website, [www.wvsquaredance.org](http://www.wvsquaredance.org), but it has not been kept up to date.

I am looking forward to celebrating SSDUSA's 50 years of dancing this Labor

Day weekend in Des Moines, IA. I hope to see lots of you there!

*Fred Moore, Regional Director*  
[velmadoyle@sbcglobal.net](mailto:velmadoyle@sbcglobal.net) / 614-837-6974

## **8- SOUTH CENTRAL REGION**

Art Ritter / Jan Albers

Most of the Arkansas clubs are starting to dance again. Even a new club / class in Sheridan, Tuesday evenings.

The Arkansas publication "THE MODERN SQUARE" is found at: Arkansas State Square Dance Federation Home

<https://www.arkansassquaredance.com/the-modern-square>

Their big state dance is re-scheduled for October 8 & 9 2021 in TEXARKANA ( both Texas & Arkansas sides )

Surprisingly Missouri is also scheduling their annual "62nd MISSOURI STATE FESTIVAL OF SQUARE & ROUND DANCE " October 8 – 10, 2021 / Kenneth E. Cowan Civic Center, Lebanon, MO. - [www.Festival.SquareDanceMissouri.com](http://www.Festival.SquareDanceMissouri.com)

With this region's proximity to Mississippi there is much interest in the 71st National Square Dance Convention in Jackson, actually 62 of the 1862 attendees were from Arkansas. Now we can plan (actually register) for next = 2022 national in Evansville Indiana, June 22 – 25. Or plan ahead for June 21 – 24, 2023 in Mobile Alabama.

Found an interesting site for dance info: <https://gsiinternational.org/>

With today's national, but varyin 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> and  
[www.Festival.SquareDanceMissouri.com](http://www.Festival.SquareDanceMissouri.com)

Kansas:

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

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

Oklahoma:

[http://www.Oklahoma-square-dance-federation.org/p\\_stateclubs.php](http://www.Oklahoma-square-dance-federation.org/p_stateclubs.php)

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

*Art Ritter, Regional Director*  
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#### FROM TEXAS:

More clubs in Texas are opening up! HSRDC (Houston Square & Round Dance Council) has 14 of its 16 clubs open and dancing. Three clubs (Hey Lollies, Katy Prairie Promenaders and Texas Renegades) dance with 5 to 7 squares each week. Attendance at all HSRDC clubs is growing! We are looking forward to having The Texas 'Po Boys call at Huntsville Promenaders' "Welcome Back Bash" on August 28<sup>th</sup>. HSRDC is sponsoring a FREE Harris County Bus to that dance. You may have danced to the Texas 'Po Boys at Nationals this year. Although Houston does not have a singles/solo club, all clubs welcome singles/solo dancers!

TASSD (Texas Association of Single Square Dancers) is sponsoring a FREE Harris County Bus to Tomball Promenaders' Anniversary on September 18<sup>th</sup>. Lee Hailey from Arizona is the caller. You may have danced in one of Lee Hailey's progressive squares in the past. Lots of fun!

TASSD is looking forward to hosting the TSFSRD (Texas State Federation Square & Round Dancers) Presidents meeting on October 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> at Allemande Hall in Waco, Texas.

See: [www.squaredancetx.com/events/presidents meeting](http://www.squaredancetx.com/events/presidents%20meeting)

HSRDC is looking forward to their annual Hoedown November 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> at Red Oak Ranch, in Hempstead, Texas. Dan Sahlstrom is the caller and Bob & Kay "Ski" Kurczewski are the cuers. Singles/Solos are most welcome.

See: [www.squarethru.com](http://www.squarethru.com)

TASSD's 48<sup>th</sup> "Round Up" will be March 11 & 12, 2022 at Allemande Hall in Waco, Texas. Singles, Couples, and Round Dancers are invited and encouraged to attend. Scott Bennett of Lawton, Oklahoma is the caller. Ron & Pat Plouch of San Antonio are the cuers.

See: [www.tassd.org](http://www.tassd.org)

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Live Lively-



Square Dancel

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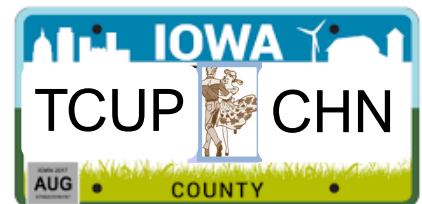
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Be who you are and say what you feel, because those that matter - don't mind... and those that mind - don't matter.

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

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**Looking forward to seeing you for the Thursday, September 2nd tour to Winterset Covered Bridges and John Wayne Museum.**

Our lunch that day will be chicken pot pie, drink and desert.

If anyone is vegan or gluten free, please let me know so that I can notify the place that is doing our lunch accordingly.

There is still room on both tours!

We are asking that *everyone bring their own covered/labeled water bottles.*

Water stations will be available for refilling.

