



September 2023

President's Message



It looks like September is going to be an extremely busy dance month.

La Grange Roadrunners will have a square dance float in the La Grange Labor Day parade on September 2nd, which starts at 10:00AM in downtown La Grange.

Sunday, September 3rd, is "**Scoot Back to the 50's**" in Schertz. This dance is from 3 pm to 10 pm with a break for dinner. John Kephart, Dale Smith, and John Carlton will be calling, and Wayne Weston will be cueing. The dance is on an indoor basketball court, so it has a wooden floor to dance on! There are many very good individually owned restaurants in the area as well as the normal chain eateries.

The following weekend, Dan Clairmont will be calling at the **Hill Country River Dance Hall** in the evening in Fredericksburg. This is a beautiful venue and will give you a chance to dance to Dan's calling before he takes off for his trip around the world in December.

Fun-Sti-Toot will be the next weekend on the 15th and 16th of September in La Grange. Wayne Weston, Chet Miles, Gary Sanders, and Tammy Lee will be calling all weekend with Fred Goynes joining them on Saturday.

ASRDA's Teen Scholarship Dance is on September 23rd at Hyde Park Christian Church in Austin. This year we have five of our six ASRDA callers participating along with Ron Plouch and Tricia Morley as cuers. The Klothes Kloset (used square dance clothes) will be there, and you can begin shopping one hour before the dance starts so you don't have to miss a tip. Remember, the callers and cuers donate their time so all the donations at the door and all the money from the Klose Kloset will go to the Teen Scholarship Fund.

September is also the month that five Mainstream classes will begin in and around the Austin Area. ASRDA has advertised lessons on Facebook for the past six weeks in the form of videos and flyers.

The advertisements have reached over 10,700 people during the last 28 days in the areas that are starting lessons. We now have 574 followers and 22 leads for new dancers. (In August we had 538 followers)

2023-24 ASRDA Officers



Brooke Peters,
President



Tricia Morley & Dennis Artz,
Vice-Presidents



Cheryl & Chuck Sherman,
Secretaries



Shirley & Steven O'Neal,
Treasurers

Table of Contents	
•President's Message	1
•Red Book	2
•Delegate Meeting	3
•Chaplain's Message	6
•Teen Scholarship Dance	7
•Klose Kloset	7
•2024 Mid-Tex Report	8
•Caller Close-up	12
•2026 National Festival	13
•Website Works	15
•Burgharts & Clairmonts	16
•ASRDA Club News	17
•Editor Info	26

The clubs have done a wonderful job advertising their lessons with flyers and on their websites. Several clubs have done demonstration dances over the summer which lets people know that square dancing is still alive. Hopefully everyone's efforts will pay off and we will see an increase in student enrollment this fall.

The **Mid-Tex Committee** is excited to announce that, in addition to A2, DBD, Plus, and Mainstream workshops this year, we will have an hour of "Introduction to Hex Squares" workshop. Dan Sahlstrom knows how to teach Hex Squares and is excited to introduce it to dancers who have never tried it. The best part is that all levels of dancers can take this class – so Mainstream folks – make sure you plan to be at the Georgetown Community Center at 2 pm on Saturday, May 11th. *You must be on time. Hex squares is not a workshop that you can jump into 15 minutes after it started. Not only will you be lost, but you will make it much harder for those who were there on time.*

Speaking of Mid-Tex, the flyers are complete and are on the website. This year's theme is "Hawaii." We have reserved 30 rooms at the Best Western. You must have made your reservations by April 21st at 10 pm to get the Mid-Tex Festival rate of \$120.00 + tax/night. After that, the rooms will be released to the public at the regular rate.

Let us hope that September brings cooler weather so we can all get out and enjoy all the dances that are offered this month.

See you all on the dance floor!

Brooke



Order Your 2023-2024 Redbooks TODAY!

Have you ever wondered how to contact one of the officers in ASRDA, or another association in Texas or even someone in the Texas State Federation of Square and Round Dancers (TSFSRD)? If so, you can now order your own copy of the "Redbook" either as a spiral binder or on a thumb drive.

The Redbook is the TSFSRD Directory of Member Organizations. It is called the "Redbook" because it has always had a red front and back cover. The purpose of the Redbook is to share contact information of officers, committee chairmen (publicity, class coordinator, special dance, etc.) to make it easier to exchange ideas and to share contact information on area callers/cuers and association special events. Any dancer may order a Redbook, not just delegates and TSFSRD Appointed Officers.

The cost of a printed Redbook is \$5.00. The PDF file on memory stick is free. Email Carolyn Smith at carolynann@consolidated.net to order your Redbook and indicate if you want an electronic or printed copy. Also please include your association's name.

Mail your check payable to TSFSRD: Carolyn Smith, 2401 Saddlehorn Trl, Katy, TX 77494. Deadline for ordering Redbooks is **September 15, 2022**. Redbooks will be brought to the TSFSRD Presidents' meeting in San Antonio October 14.

If you will not be attending the Presidents' meeting in San Antonio on October 14th, please let Brooke Peters know and she will plan to have your Redbook or memory stick picked up.

Highlights from the July 15th Delegate Meeting

1. **ASRDA bid on hosting the state Presidents' Weekend and meeting on October 4th & 5th, 2024 was accepted.** Tricia Morley and Dennis Artz will be the Chairpersons of the committee. ASRDA will be hosting the 2024 Presidents' weekend in La Grange, TX. Tricia and Dennis have already chosen committee members and most of them are from La Grange. Committee members of any big dance are the behind-the-scenes people who do the planning and logistics for the event. If anyone asks you to help by setting up, cleaning up, or bringing food, please do so. Since this is an ASRDA event, all ASRDA dancers are the hosts.
2. **Updated Friendship Badge guidelines.** A draft of the updated Friendship Badge guidelines was presented to the delegates for a vote. The main change was that dancers, who belong to more than one club, can now get credit for dancing at all, but one club to which they belong. Each dancer is to write their "home" club on the Friendship Badge card that gets signed so, when Tony Burghart reviews the cards, he will know that the "Home Club" should not be listed as a club that was visited. The delegates approved the new guidelines.
3. **New ASRDA Logo.** There was a long discussion about what delegates wanted for the new ASRDA logo. The logo needs to be updated because the one that was on the old website is extremely blurry and did not transfer well to the new website. Vickie Merchant took suggestions from the delegates and will present the potential logo at the next delegate meeting.
4. **"Crowd Release" for Photos and Videos of dancers.** The issue of dancers giving ASRDA permission to post photos and videos on social media was discussed in 2018 & 2019. A sign was created that was to be displayed at the sign-in desk stating that by entering the hall, the dancer automatically gave permission to use his/her photo for square dance promotion in printed or social media. A new sign was created. It states that by entering the dance hall, the dancer gives ASRDA permission to use any photos or videos of dancers to promote square dancing in printed form or on social media. If a dancer does not want to be photographed, that dancer is responsible for letting the photographer know not to include that person in any photographs. Brooke Peters sent copies of the signs out to the presidents of all ASRDA clubs for club use, as desired.
5. **Teen Scholarship Dance.** ASRDA's Teen Scholarship will be on September 23rd, 2023 at Hyde Park Christian Church. The delegates voted against having a pie, chili cookoff or any sort of contest. We will be having regular snacks at the Teen Dance. Dancers are encouraged to bring homemade treats if they wish or just snack on what is provided by ASRDA.

Highlights (continued)

- 6. Caller and Cuer Meals at Mid-Tex.** Historically, ASRDA has only paid for sandwiches from Jason's or Subway for the callers and cuers on Saturday during Mid-Tex since there is limited time for them to go out for lunch. Other organizations also pay for an inexpensive dinner on Saturday evening. Whether or not to pay for lunch and dinner for the caller, cuers, and caller spouse was discussed at length. The final decision was to allocate a total of \$200 to pay for lunch and dinner for four people.
- 7. Canva Training.** Vickie Merchant passed out instructions to delegates on how to make flyers using Canva software. She still needs to know who the person is from each club who will be using Canva so that they can receive the password to use the Canva Pro application. Anyone can set up a basic Canva account at no charge. There are additional features on Canva Pro. Vickie suggested that people, who design club flyers, set up a free Canva account and practice making flyers using the instructions given at the delegates meeting. If they decide they like Canva and want to use Canva Pro for their club, let Vickie or Brooke know. If anyone needs a set of the Canva directions, please let Vickie know via email at vmmerchant.asrda@gmail.com
- 8. Local Beginning Caller Workshop.** Tricia Morley and Dennis Artz would like to set up a caller workshop for dancers who would like to try calling. They would be expected to prepare a singing call for a Friday evening dance, call it at the Friday dance, and be critiqued on Saturday. Before scheduling this workshop, Tricia and Dennis need to determine whether there is interest in the ASRDA community. Delegates were asked to learn if anyone in their club might be interested in becoming callers and whether they would be interested in such a workshop. If so, they need to contact Tricia and/or Dennis.
- 9. 2026 National Convention in Waco, TX.** Ramona Padilla reported that there will be a meeting about the 2026 National Convention in Waco on September 7th, 2023. The department of Tourism will be taking the Convention Committee on a tour of the facilities to be used for the convention. Everyone will meet at 10 am in at the Waco Convention Center and then take the tour. There will also be an afternoon meeting. Anyone interested is invited to attend. If you are unable to attend this meeting, there will be regional meetings, fundraising dances, and special events in the future to become involved in the planning.

10. Mid-Tex Committee still looking for volunteers. Most of the major decisions have already been made for the 2024 Mid-Tex Festival. See the following article on pages 9-10 regarding this topic.

11. Sundancers in Georgetown wants to join ASRDA. Sundancers is a square dance group in Del Webb's retirement community in Georgetown, TX. Until now, there were some restrictions in their by-laws that did not allow them to be members of ASRDA. Those may have changed. Two members of Sundancers have been talking with Brooke Peters, ASRDA President, about what is involved in becoming a member of ASRDA. We are hoping they will apply for membership at the next delegate meeting.

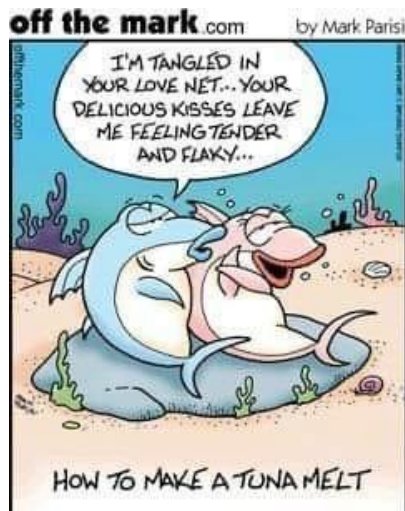
12. The next delegate meeting. The delegates also voted to have the next delegate meeting on the same day as the Teen Scholarship Dance. They were given two dates to choose from that did not interfere with UT football games. September 23rd at 2:00 pm was determined to be the next delegate meeting.



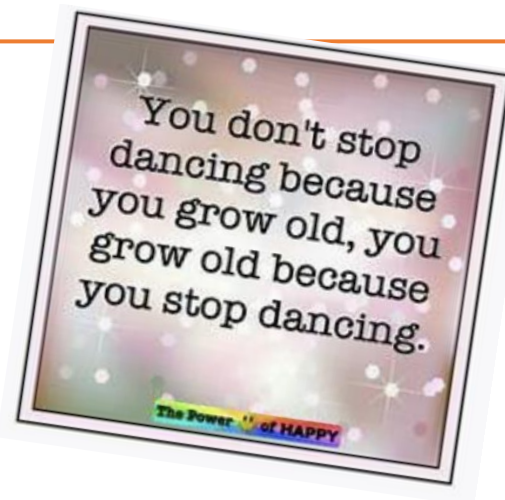
Caramel Apple Cheese Spread

Cream Cheese, Caramel Sauce, Toffee Bits, Pretzels, Sliced Apples or Pears

1. On a platter, place a block of cream cheese.
2. Drizzle top of cream cheese with caramel sauce.
3. Sprinkle with generous amount of toffee bits.
4. Serve with sliced apples, pears, or pretzels.



© Mark Parisi, Permission required for use.



Chaplain's Message for September

"Labor Day 2023 will occur on Monday, September 4. Labor Day pays tribute to the contributions and achievements of American workers and is traditionally observed on the first Monday in September. It was created by the labor movement in the late 19th century and became a federal holiday in 1894. Labor Day weekend also symbolizes the end of summer for many Americans and is celebrated with parties, street parades and athletic events." (From the History page on the Internet)



For those of us "gray hairs" Labor Day meant the end of summer and the beginning of school the next day. My wife informs me that Labor Day was also the last day a woman could wear white! It seems that both traditions have fallen by the wayside! All our grandchildren started school the week of August 16th. And apparently, ladies, white is now OK all year. (It's so much easier to dress as a man—jeans seem to be acceptable every month of the year!)

Honoring those who labor is a wonderful tradition. When I was reflecting on Labor Day, my mind went back to when Helen and I were first learning how to square dance. After those 2 free lessons, we were hooked. But it took a lot of labor for us to learn all those calls. We had to practice and review every evening. We are so thankful for those video square dance lessons. They supplemented Jim's teachings and helped us get all the way through "Plus." And we still refer to Taminations for definitions.

The Bible has a lot to say about labor:

"Whatever you do, do your work heartily, as for the Lord rather than for men."

"Commit your works to the Lord, and your plans will be established."

"You will definitely enjoy what you've worked hard for—you'll be happy; and things will go well for you."

"There is profit in hard work, but mere talk leads to poverty."



I am thankful for ASRDA and how they have helped shepherd square dancing in the Austin area. There is no shortage of opportunities for square and round dancing. The fellowship we enjoy in dancing extends throughout the week. Many of our closest friends were met on the dance floor, and I suspect the same is true for all of you. This September 4th let us remember to thank those callers and cuers who continue to labor faithfully for our benefit. That verse above is really true: You will definitely enjoy what you've worked hard for!

Teen Scholarship Dance – September 23, 2023



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

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



Klothes Kloset will Open Early for the Teen Scholarship Dance!

The Klothes Kloset just received five bins of “new” square dance clothes and accessories. These will be on display at the Teen Scholarship Dance on September 23rd. There is an entire bin of practically new men’s shirts. There are three pair sized 8½ or 9 of lady’s dance shoes that have only been worn a few times. Do you need a place to carry your cell phone while dancing? The Klothes Kloset has small bags that attach to a square dance belt that are a perfect size for cell phones, credit cards, and/or your driver’s license.

The Klothes Kloset also has some unique items. There are two-coin covered belly dancing belts – one is black with gold coins and the other is blue with silver coins. You can find bolo ties, belts, and maybe even some jewelry. There are also a bunch of petticoats. And there are quite a few holiday-themed outfits.

To encourage new dancers (dancers who have graduated from an SSD or Mainstream program within the last year) to come and experience an ASRDA dance, *ASRDA and the Klothes Kloset are offering each new dancer an entire outfit for “free” if they bring a copy of their square dance diploma to the dance and show it to one of the members of the Klothes Kloset (Shirley O’Neal, Cherri Burrows, Luzia Weston, or Brooke Peters). “Free” means we will not request a donation for one outfit.*

The clothes in the Klothes Kloset are all donated to ASRDA by people who no longer square dance. ASRDA asks for donations for the clothes so the money can either be donated to the Teen Scholarship Program or help clubs in ASRDA with their recruitment and retention efforts. We are asking a MINIMUM of \$10.00 for the petticoats.

All the money donated at the Teen Scholarship dance will go to the Teen Scholarship Program. How much should you donate? Be as generous as you can. Did you know that a new square dance outfit costs \$200 - \$300 and the petticoat is an additional \$75 - \$150? The dance shoes pictured with this article are \$125.00 new. What a DEAL!



Please plan on attending this year's Teen Scholarship Dance for an evening of dancing, fellowship, and, of course, shopping. The Klothes Kloset will be open at 5:30 pm, a full hour before the dance for your shopping pleasure. *There will be fans to help with the heat.* Come shop early so you don't miss a single dance!

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!

Mid-Tex Committee Report
Bob & Kay "Ski's" Kurczewski
Mid-Tex Festival Chairman



Your Mid-Tex Committee for the 2024 "Mid-Tex Festival" is hard at work. Things are being finalized- flyers, the program, vendors, and, most of all, the caller and cuer have been scheduled. Once you have the flyer in your hot little hand, why don't you fill out the registration form on the back and pre-register for the festival? This will help our committee with the planning of the festival.

Also mentioning, to host a festival like this, it takes a lot of planning, effort, and work to present a festival that people look forward to attending. Right now, we have a "bare bones" committee working for you. We could use some help. I am asking for individuals (or couples) to step up and help our committee chairpersons. We are not asking for hours and hours of work - just be there to aid our chairperson as an "assistant chairperson" or a "back up," if needed. Our "Chairs" have already done most of the hard work. If you are approached by one of our committee members, please think about their request. If you are not asked, talk to me and I will get you on a committee of your liking. The more we have, the less work it is for everyone.

In closing, watch for the flyer and get your registration submitted early. Looking forward to meeting our new volunteers. Take care and see you on the dance floor.

**The 2024 Mid-Tex Festival theme is "Hawaii."
What will be the theme in 2025?**

The 2024 Mid-Tex Committee is asking for volunteers to plan the 2025 Mid-Tex Festival. They would like to mentor these new committee members in their specific area of responsibility, such as committee chairperson, theme selection, publicity, housing, vendors, caller and cuer selection, contracts, decorations, registration, dance scheduling, and ideas for fund raising like split the pot, etc.

After the 2025 Mid-Tex Committee has been formed, a theme should be chosen to begin the planning. By doing so, a 2025 flyer can be completed, and planning can begin. Those flyers can be distributed throughout ASRDA, State and national festivals, clubs, and dances to encourage early pre-registration around the state.

Volunteers will be meeting over Zoom so there's no need for travel. Shirley Myers O'Neal and Brooke Peters are revising a "Mid-Tex Festival Instruction Book" as a guide for new committee members. But having experienced committee members be accessible is a great way to learn the ins and outs of the event.

Ten members of the current Mid-Tex Committee have served on the committee anywhere from two to five years. They know how to put a Mid-Tex Festival together. Current members will be available to the 2025 Committee members to learn about these jobs more easily.

Help Choose a 2025 Mid-Tex Theme (continued)

2024 Committee members will be asking for volunteers at your clubs very soon. If interested, go <http://www.asrda.org/info> and find the list of the Mid-Tex Committee and contact one of those individuals. We look forward to hearing from you!

Past themes include:

Mardi Gras, South of the Border, Hee Haw, Blue Jeans and Lace; Wild, Wild West. Dance down the Yellow Brick Road, 50 Years of Musical Memories, Gay Nineties, Circus-Greatest Show on Earth; Anchors Aweigh; Deep in the Heart of Texas; Signs of the Zodiac; Board the Mid-Tex Queen (Riverboat Theme); A Rainbow of Festivals; Cruise to Mid-Tex; A night in Old Hollywood.

**Find the Mid-Tex flyer and registration information at
www.asrda.org/events**



The flyer features a tropical beach scene with a palm tree on the left, a sailboat on the water, and three people (two men and one woman) on a small boat. The text is in blue and black, with some text in italics. The background is a bright, sunny beach with a blue sky and green grass in the foreground.

**ASRDA 75TH MID-TEX
FESTIVAL
"Hawaii"
MAY 10 & 11, 2024**

DAN SAHLSTRÖM **CHRIS & STEVE DAVIS,**
CALLER **CUERS**

**GEORGETOWN COMMUNITY CENTER
455 MORROW ST. GEORGETOWN, TX**

Vendors

**FRIDAY: TRAILS END AND EVENING DANCE
SATURDAY: WORKSHOPS AND EVENING DANCE**

"Heads or Tails" Hex Squares Split the Pot

**Singles & Couples Welcome
Tropical Attire Encouraged Fri. & Sat.**



Karizmah Dance Shoes Coming to Mid-Tex!



Karizmah is a dance shoe store out of Dallas and offers many styles of high-quality round and square dance shoes, dance sneakers and boots. This year Karizmah and ASRDA will be working together to bring dancers the shoes or boots they are looking for.

Leann Bradford, owner of Karizmah, would like to hear from all of you as to what sort of shoes you would like her to bring to Mid-Tex and she will order her inventory accordingly. Just go to Karizmah's website at <https://karizmahdanceshoes.com/> and look around. Many dancers in ASRDA wear shoes that Karizmah carries so, if you see someone wearing a pair you like, ask them if they find the shoes comfortable, worth the money and if they hold up well. Then you can contact Leann at sales@karizmahdanceshoes.com and ask her to bring shoes of that style and in your size to Mid-Tex.

In the coming months, this newsletter will feature a short article on a particular type of shoe or brand. If there is a particular shoe you would like to know about, please let either the RCS Editor, Vickie Merchant, or Brooke Peters know, and we will do our best to tell you about it.



Square Dance Trivia

Did you know that Saturday, September 16, 2023 is NATIONAL DANCE DAY?

This observance is dedicated to dance and encourages Americans of all ages to incorporate dance into their lives. Good thing that **Fun-Sti-Toot** will be in full swing on that date! See Wayne or Chet for tickets.

September is National Square Dance Month. The traditional square dance known widely across the United States has its roots in 17th and 18th century Europe. English country dances, French quadrilles and Scandinavian, Spanish, and Scottish folk dances were all major contributors. The distinctive country fiddle and caller were added when the dances were performed in 19th century Appalachia.

An exhibit at the Music and Performing Arts Library at the University of Illinois contains resources on Traditional Square Dance (pre-1950), Modern Western Square Dance (which evolved from Traditional), online square dance lessons, terminology used by callers and early forms of European and French square dancing. Much of the music chosen for the playlists are common Traditional Square Dance songs, some with calls. Some are lively instrumentals to which calls, and square dance steps can easily be added.

Caller Close-up: Gary Bible



This is the Gary Bible we all know and love. He began calling in 1981. He has recorded 10 singing calls including *A White Sport Coat*, *Caribbean*, *I'll fly Away*, *Island*, *Jackson*, *Just Walk on By*, *My Heart Still Belongs to You*, *Una Paloma Blanc*, *Uncloudy Day*, *Walk on By*, *White Sport Coat-Pink Carnation*, *You're My Jamaica*.

It shouldn't be hard to find him. He is now the club caller for the Sundancers in Georgetown on Mondays. He continues to call on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays at Wheel-N-Deals, AND he is teaching mainstream lessons for Waterloo Squares on Thursday evenings as well as being an occasional guest caller for Waterloo's Tuesday evening dances. **"YOU GO GARY!"**



Did you know that Gary is also a beekeeper and just harvested 250 jars of honey from his bees. They are being sold to any interested dancer. You may purchase a one-pound bottle for \$7.00 or a three-pound jar for \$20.00. Just contact Gary at glbible@austin.rr.com



Caller Close Up will be a monthly feature showcasing ASRDA callers and cuers. Most of the information included is found on the Internet. As a caller or cuer, if you would like to send any information not found there, please send to vmmerchant.asrda@gmail.com before the 15th of each month. It will be added as permitted in the future editions.

What a great time at the Wisconsin Square & Round Dance Convention in Madison, WI this past weekend! The dance and fashion show were a lot of fun, Ma Gator enjoyed the fashion show especially.....

48

5 comments 1 share

Like

Comment

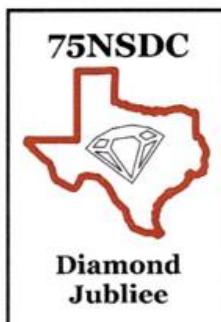
Share



2026 National Square Dance Festival in Waco, TX NEWS



Ramona & Billy



We're Going to Waco Y'all!!!

The latest count on registered dancers is over 300!! Our General Chairmen, Claudia and Gary Lester have been traveling a great deal to promote our Waco convention!!

They have also traveled to Gatlinburg, TN for their state convention followed by the Wisconsin State Square and Round Dance convention!! They were invited to attend additional local dances to further support our convention along the way! They take registrations to their club, The Hey Lollies, and our own Everett and Tina attended the USA Western Convention in Albuquerque, NM and brought home 5 registrations! How wonderful is that!

Our next dance weekend is coming up in PARIS, TEXAS! Mark your calendars for August 31st, September 1, 2 and morning of September 3! It is a great town for square and round dancing and attracts an enthusiastic crowd!!

We are ready to greet y'all at our table! Just to let y'all know, here is the lineup for cuers and callers: Jan and David Toms, Tim Tyl, Scott Bennett, Gary Shoemake, Ken Bower, Buddy Weaver, Darryl Lipscomb, and the fabulous Tony Oxendine!!

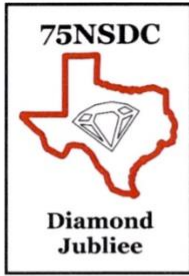
ASRDA members, the Lesters and Billy and I are excited to the brim about our convention! The events we have attended have only been friendly and greatly supportive of our convention with registrations, helping set up our tables, encouraging attendees to sign up and taking flyers to their clubs! They love Texas!!

A reminder for September 7, 2023. Our NEC couple sponsors will be in Waco to take a tour through the convention center and meet up with essential members of our hotel and convention center team to finalize contracts. EVERYONE is invited to attend and ask questions and see what possibilities Waco offers now and what is being planned during the next 3 years!

The meeting begins at 10 am at the convention center as of now! The team members will be staying at the Courtyard Marriott across the street from the convention center, please feel free to contact us: 512-922-3880 (Ramona) or
830-305-9114 (Billy)

Our best is yours,
Billy and Ramona

This is the short form, or you can register online. Rooms will not be available until the date is 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: _____

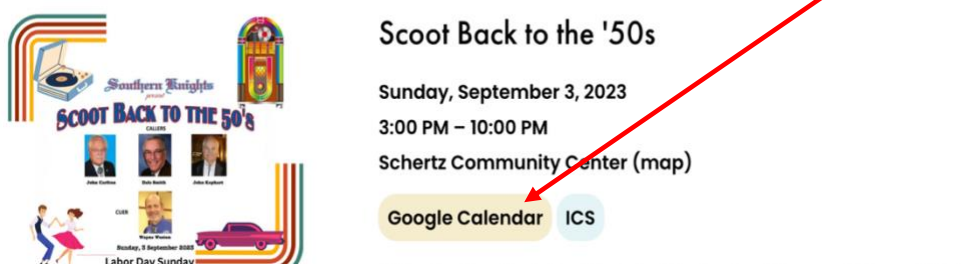
WE'RE GOING TO TEXAS Y'ALL!

Website Works

I. Keeping up with *Upcoming Events on ASRDA.org*

The Website Team realizes that change is difficult. And the new website has changed from the previous one. Change is the only thing you can be sure of – Changes are everywhere and happen every day. However, many of the website comments have been positive.

We have heard that many of you miss the calendar. To expedite the use of your personal calendar, each *Upcoming Event* has a beige button that says “Google Calendar.”



The great thing about this is that if you have a G-mail account, and you click it, the event is sent directly to **your** Google Calendar. So, when you check your Google calendar, you can see the event without having to type it into the Calendar.

II. Social Secretary's List

If you are planning a special dance and need to confirm the date, look under *Upcoming Events* and click on *Social Secretary's List*. There is a list of upcoming dances already scheduled. Check there to be sure your event doesn't conflict with another dance.

III. Classes Page

Classes have begun throughout ASRDA. Each club offering classes are listed on the “Classes” page along with available flyers. Click on Flyer and the flyer will be visible.

IV. New Dancer Info Page

Every new student will appreciate the information on “New Dancer Info” page. There they will find a short 12-minute video of Brad Caldwell's calling a first lesson; a link to the classes page; a list of ASRDA Clubs by Dance Day; distance between the clubs; information on square dance etiquette; square dance terms and other useful information.

Please encourage them to learn about square dancing through the information listed there. It will educate them about some of the details of square dancing that we often forget to share with them.

Burghart's Relocation Dance

Tony and Martha Burghart along with their grandkids and great-grandkids are hosting a relocation dance in Taylor, Texas on Saturday, October 7, 2023 from 6:30-9:30 at the Tripp Center in Taylor, Texas. Brad Caldwell will call, and Lucy & Jerry Pate will cue. Admission fee: Smiles, hugs, and lots of laughs. See the Flyer at asrd.org/events



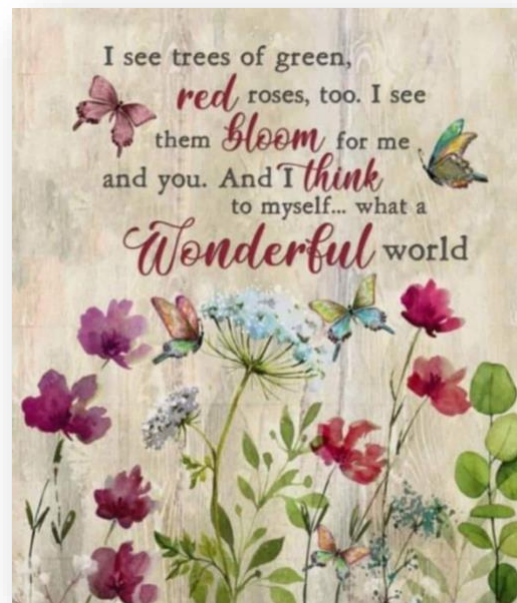
NOVEMBER 4TH, 2023 - SAVE THE DATE Dan Clairmont Roast and Dance



Come say *Goodbye* and *Bon Voyage* to Dan and Gail Clairmont before they leave on their around the world adventure in December 2023. There will be a potluck dinner, a roasting of Dan (and maybe Gail), and then some dancing by any caller who would like to contribute to this send off.

This event will be from 6:00 – 9:00 PM on November 4th at Hyde Park Christian Church in Austin, TX. We are not asking for money at the door but would like all attendees to bring something for the potluck. Planning for this event is still in the early stages. A flyer with more details will be available in the next few weeks.

Please invite anyone who knows them and can share some funny stories.



ASRDA Club News



Canyon Lake Square Dancers



Canyon Lake Square Dancers are still having fun every Wednesday at Goofy's. The photo above shows our club members in their new Excuse Shirts.

We have our Plus workshop for the experienced Plus dancers from 5:30 to 6:30, they are being challenged and having fun. We are looking at the Plus calls from other than normal positions.

Our Mainstream dance is from 6:30 to 8:30 with rounds and lines between tips. We also have a "Hot Hash" tip every evening for those that want something a little faster, perhaps more challenging, and with less time to think.

The first Wednesday of each month is our dress-up night. Everyone is encouraged to wear their Square Dance Clothes, and most do. Wayne is planning a theme night once a month. September 20th we will have a "60's" dance. The music will be from the 60's and lots of fun.

Our Round Dancers are progressing well and should be very near the completion of Phase II by the end of September. We are not rushing through the figures, so everyone feels comfortable with each one. They are doing many different dances already and will be doing more as we go along. You can see them Round Dancing at many square dances and they are doing great! Our Round Dance classes are also at Goofy's on Mondays from 2:45 to 4:45.

Check us out on our Facebook group at "Canyon Lake Dancers". We have a great time Square, Round, and Line Dancing. Come on out and visit.

Carousel Club #340 Liberty Hill, TX



I don't know who turned up the heat but you sure can turn it down now. You could also turn on the faucet for a little rain. It is a tad warm and dry right now.

With the weather we are currently having we wish we were back in the UK. The weather was great, and we had a super time. While we were over there with our tour group, we were able to dance with the Aberdeen Kilt Kickers. We had a ball!! We had dinner on Sunday night with and danced on Monday night with the club. Everyone was so friendly and receptive to us but that is what our dancing activity is all about *Friendship and Fun*.

We drove all the way to the North Sea and the scenery was just breathtaking. If you ever have a chance to do this, all I can do is say "DO IT" but you will need to use a smaller vehicle and not be on a bus. You will not regret it. If I can rent a vehicle next year, I will do this again, but spend a little more time in the area.

Since returning from the UK and suffering from the heat we have been working on dances that are programmed for **the Eureka Springs Round Dance Festival starting on the 20th of August**. We have heard that the weather there was in the 70's last week. Do hope it stays that way for the next couple of weeks.

Once we return from Eureka Springs, we are hoping that the program will be available for the Cen-Tex Festival in October. We would like to review some of the dances that are being programmed for that Festival with the Vogt's. We will be able to do this for about a month and then we are gone again. Hate to miss the festival with the Vogt's, but duty is calling us to take another tour group to Europe.

We are taking another tour group to Germany in September. This will be to Southern Germany, Austria and the Czech Republic, Prague. We did have one couple that had to cancel going with us so if you are interested in going with us, please let us know. It would be nice to have the three couples going with us.

Well, that's about all the news we have for this month, so I better be going. Take care, stay hydrated and see ya on the dance floor - - - Ski's



All the students in the Plus class are doing well and should graduate in the next 3-4 weeks.

If you like to dance at Plus Level, you are invited to come dance with the club Mondays at the VFW Hall, 1701 Hunter Road in San Marcos.

Cen-Tex Plus San Marcos

Class time is 6:00-7:30 pm with Club members dancing from 7:30-9:00 pm. Nice hall and you can definitely hear Chet! Come and dance with this great group –

No Fussing or Griping; Just fun and laughter!



Country Cuzzins' Marble Falls



The big news is that the flyers for our Wildflower Dance are finished and are in the process of being distributed. This year the Wildflower Dance will feature Tim Tyl as our caller and Ron Plouch as cuer. The Wild Flower dance will be Saturday, April 20, 2024. Mark your calendars and plan to attend! Find flyer at www.asrda.org/events

Country Cuzzins has been busy promoting upcoming lessons beginning September 7th. Terry Martin did an interview on country radio station KBey 103.9 FM. It will air on August 30th at 6:45AM and again on September 5th at 8:15 AM. It can also be heard on the radio station's website at www.KBEYFM.com. Great job Terry for setting this up and being interviewed!

Our promotions did not stop there. There was a home school group having a big event the same night as Country Cuzzins was dancing. The Cuzzins walked through the large hall where the event was taking place. We invited the home schoolers to come over and dance with us. They actually came and danced for about 40 minutes and had a great time. We gave them lesson flyers and encouraged them to come to our Open House on September 7th. Many said they would come.

In addition to the above, we have all been busy passing out lesson flyers and putting them up in businesses who would allow us to do so. Club members have been going out to country western dance halls and passing out flyers to C/W dancers.

Our club is visiting other clubs as much as we can. We hope to visit your club very soon!

La Grange Road Runners

The Roadrunners have been working hard on the square dance float that they will be using for the Fayette County Fair Parade held on September 2nd, 2023 in downtown La Grange beginning at 10:00 am.



The parade route will begin at Jackson and Colorado and go west on Colorado Street, across Hwy 77 N. at the red light and continue down Colorado Street where it will disband at the swimming pool. If you are free on Saturday morning, take a drive out to La Grange and cheer them on.

This parade is a few days before the Roadrunners begin their lessons on September 5th. They are hoping this will encourage some people in the crowd to try square dancing.



Lone Star Lambdas Austin



Lone Star Lambdas Square Dancing Club continues dancing every Monday evening between 6:30 – 8:30 PM at Gethsemane Lutheran Church, 200 W. Anderson Lane, Austin.

Our website is www.lonestarlambdas.org. All are welcome to join us for \$5.00. An RSVP is requested by the Thursday before club night at lambdas.austin@gmail.com. See you in a square!





Shirts N Skirts Georgetown



What a fun time was had for our 2nd Wednesday T-shirt theme night. After all who doesn't enjoy wearing a T-shirt in this hot weather! All had funny, interesting or unique sayings or messages. To top it all off we had round dance by Jerry and Lucy and squares by Brad Caldwell.

We had one brave club member attend the mud dance at Taylor Promenaders and four visit Waterloo Club. We are thankful each week for the visitors we get: Sun Dancers, Killeen Kickers, Waterloo, Marble Falls, ASRDA officers, as well as independents.

We are forever thankful to Tony Burghart who continues to take and process gift card orders for our club. This really helps our club financially. If a person orders \$150 or more in gift cards their name goes into a drawing and the winner receives a \$25 gift card each month.

Starting Wednesday September 13 at 6:45 we begin a new class of mainstream lessons with Brad Caldwell followed by the dance. Angels are welcome and encouraged. Come join us in a square at Christ Lutheran Church, 510 Luther Dr. in Georgetown.



Step 'N Style



September brings new classes starting everywhere.

We will be having our **Quarterly Blast Class** Aug 29th 6-9 pm. Come learn "Solitude City".

Look for us September 4th at the Labor Day Parade on a float riding around the square in La Grange promoting square and round dancing beginning at 10:00 am. Should be a fun day!

Tuesday, September 5th 5:30 - 7:00 pm., we are starting a new Rumba/Cha class at the Randolph Center in La Grange.

September 5th, 7:00 - 8:30 we will be starting new classes in SSD square dancing in La Grange at the Randolph Center.

Wednesday, September 6th, 6- 7:30 pm. new mainstream square dance classes begin, and rounds practice time is offered from 7:30 - 9:00 pm. At the Senior Community Center at 1209 Linden St., Bastrop.

Monday Sept 11th 2-4 pm we are starting a new cha cha class at the Meg Weekley Community Center, Cypress.

Sunday, September 24th, we are starting a new rhythm Cha Cha at Sun City in the Atrium, 1 Texas Dr., Georgetown at 1:00 pm. Intermediate class will follow from 2:30 - 4:00 pm with a new rhythm Bolero and the more advanced class is from 4:00 - 5:30 pm. All rhythms.

We hope you will join us for are new season of classes.

Our next Blast Class will then be Oct 31st with a Halloween Theme from 6-9 pm. We plan on teaching "A Thousand Years", Rumba IV+1 at the Randolph Center La Grange.

Happy Dancing!



Taylor Promenaders Taylor



Taylor Promenaders' Mud Dance



Taylor Promenaders at the end of the Mud Dance

If you have been following ASRDA on Facebook, you have seen plenty of pictures of the Taylor Promenaders dancing squares, chicken dances and dancing the Cotton Eyed Joe in the mud. Hopefully you listened to Ranson Brace's humorous explanation of how the Mud Dance was born.

The mud pit didn't always exist in Ranson's back yard. He had to make it. With the heat and lack of rain, the mud continued to dry out so the evening of the Mud Dance, Ranson and his friends were busily watering and raking the mud to get it somewhat mushy.

Here are some behind the scenes of the making of a Mud Dance.



Ranson Brace



The Mud Pit



Watering the Mud



Raking the Mud



Mud Dancing

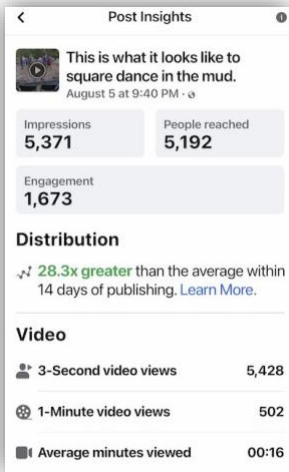


Squaring up for the 1st Dance



Looking for rocks in the Mud

Facebook results of the video of the Mud Dance!
People from all over the world viewed it!



Waterloo Squares Austin



We started our fall lessons with Gary Bible at the helm in our new location at the South Austin Recreation Center. Our open house was July 27 and we had good attendance with students and angels showing a lot of enthusiasm.

The second week many of the students let us know they could not be there the following week, so we had a smaller group, but just as enthusiastic. This coming week, August 10, we will have a better idea of how many will continue with lessons.

Every class, no matter how small a building block is, it helps our club grow and adds new dancers to the square dance community. The support from our Club's Angels has been outstanding. We were honored to have some previous members of Waterloos join us in the lessons. It was great catching up on some of the things they had been doing and renewing our friendships.

Just a reminder that we have two great callers coming to our club at The Senior Center, 3911 Manchaca Rd. in October.

Dan Nordbye will call on **October 17th** and

Bob Asp will call our **Halloween Dance on October 31.**

We plan a big party with hot dogs and Frito pies and maybe some witch's brew. We'd love to see the costumes people can come up with but come no matter what you are wearing.

For anyone who has a copy of our callers scheduled, there is a change to the caller for **November 14. Gary Sanders will be calling for us on that date.**

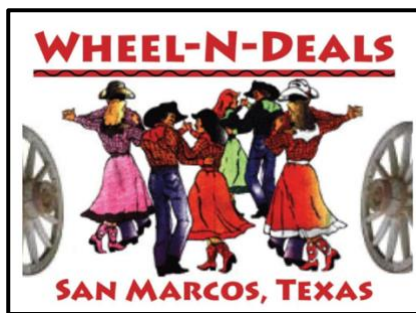
While we enjoy having different callers, we are always grateful to our local callers and love to dance to their great calling skills and fun moves as well. Those who also dance with Southwest Area Camping Squares get to dance to some of those callers as well.

Since we were dark on July 11th, we were able to visit Wheels and Deals where we took 19 of our dancers and had a fantastic time. It was a great opportunity for our new dancers to see how much fun it is to dance with various dancers from other clubs.

They did great and felt so welcomed by the members of Wheels and Deals. Food was abundant also.

A few of us went to the anniversary dance in Taylor and had a great time with Al Frazier and Gary Bible calling a great dance. What a spread they had in the kitchen. No one went away hungry.

That's what we dancers do- - dance and eat. Come see us sometime. We have more fun scheduled for our upcoming dances.



Wheel N Deals Square Dance Club

Wheel-N-Deals celebrated two August birthdays on "Birthday Tuesday" this month with ice cream and cake. The birthday celebrants were Don Rankin (August 15th) and Brooke Peters (August 20th).

If you have been to Wheel-N-Deals lately, you will notice no blankets at the back of the hall across from the caller. The blankets are no longer needed because Gary Bible has a new headset/microphone! Not only can all the dancers hear him and the music without problems, but Gary is also getting to dance while he calls. Additionally, Gary buys new music every week and shares at least one new song with us each time he calls.

Billy Grimsley is teaching quite a few new line dances. He is also getting quite good at calling. Billy and Dan McDonald each do a singing call for the club's last tip of the evening. Both Dan and Billy have come up with some very interesting choreography. Wheel-N-Deals wants very much to encourage new callers and we are happy to dance to their calling.

Wheel-N-Deals will be traveling to Austin to visit Waterloo Squares on August 29th (5th Tuesday of the month) because we are dark that night. We want to work on visiting other clubs this year.

We are looking forward to hosting a lot of new dancers (AKA students) at our upcoming Open House and Ice Cream Social on September 5th from 6:30 – 8:00 pm. And there won't be just ice cream. We will have sandwiches, chips, veggie tray, fruit tray, and assorted other goodies. Lessons begin the following week.

Let us hope that September brings much cooler temperatures and cooler weather brings out lots of new dancers.

Contact info:



What topics would **you** like included 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? Please send your flyers as soon as they are complete so they can be added to the ASRDA.org website.

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



Our RCS subscribers are 274 now. Of those, 49% open regularly, 6% sometimes, and 45% rarely! Do you know what those 49% have over the 45%? They know what's going on in ASRDA!

You can *subscribe to Round the Capitol Square!*

Go to <http://www.asrda.org/newsletters>

At the top of the page are the most recent newsletters and at the bottom of the page. You can subscribe at NO COST! They will automatically come to your email.

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 (.docx)** to an email. Any photos should be sent as a **jpg file and as attachments to** vmmerchant.asrda@gmail.com

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

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