
DANCERgram



Square and round dance news for the west coast of Florida

Editor: Penny Green (sqdnfan@aol.com)
www.dancergram.com

Volume 7, Issue 51

December 21, 2009

This entire newsletter can also be found at
www.dancergram.com

INDEX	
1	Deadline for <i>West Coast Dancer</i>
2	Deadline for <i>Bow & Swing</i>
2	Hall of Fame Nominations Deadline
2	Extra Mile Award Nominations Deadline
2	From the Editor
3	Health & Sympathy Updates
4	How do I get in touch with....?
6	If They Want to Make It Hip, They Shouldn't Call it Square Dancing
9	National Executive Committee
12	Convention Attire
15	Your Source for Ribbons
16	What's Happening This Week?
20	West Coast Classes and Workshops
22	Looking Ahead
22	Links

This newsletter is published weekly and distributed electronically as a free service to the dancers on the West Coast of Florida. If you would like your own personal copy emailed to you, please notify the Editor either by email or in person.

January 1, 2010 – Deadline for submissions to the February/March 2010 issue of the *West Coast Dancer*. For info: evhenning@peoplepc.com.

January 5, 2010 - Deadline for submissions to the February 2010 issue of the *Bow and Swing*. For info: rgboyd@earthlink.net

January 15, 2010 – Deadline for Florida Square Dance Hall of Fame Nominations – Nominees must have a minimum of 10 years **statewide** involvement in the Florida Square and Round Dance activity. Their contributions must encompass the entire state of Florida, not just 1 or 2 areas. This should require unselfish dedication of time and labor. **Being an Area president, Federation president, Caller/Cuer Association president and/or State Convention chairman is not enough.** The Hall of Fame is seeking individuals or couples whose efforts have affected the majority of the State of Florida. The fact that one is nominated is a very high honor, whether or not they enter the Hall of Fame. For info: Dick and Darleen Nordine at rnordine@juno.com.

February 1, 2010 – Deadline for Extra Mile Award Nominations. To show appreciation to both Callers and Cuers who go beyond the norm in giving freely of their time and talents to the square dance activity. Nominee must be a member of the Florida Callers Association or the Round Dance Council of Florida. For info: rayelsa@aol.com.

From the Editor



Four more days to Christmas! Are you ready?

I haven't heard from very many clubs about whether they are dancing or not on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. The ones I have heard from are noted in "What's Happening This Week?" If your club will be dark on either or both of those days, please let me know so we can get the word out to the dancers.

Did you know that the West Coast Square and Round Dancers Association has established a scholarship fund? The committee has done a lot of work to put together the requirements to qualify for a scholarship, and are planning to award one \$1,000 scholarship a year. The requirements are:

- Applicant must live within the West Coast Square & Round Dance Association boundaries.

- Applicant must be a West Coast member and a square dancer, and promote square dancing at the college level.
- Applicant must submit proof of acceptance to an accredited college or university.
- Scholarship money will be paid to the college for tuition.
- Applicant will receive the scholarship for a period of 1 year only. Must re-apply each year.
- Application must be returned to the committee within 30 days of receipt of form.

How will the money be raised for these scholarships? A benefit dance will be held each year with all proceeds going towards this fund. The first Scholarship Benefit Dance will be Sunday, January 3, 2010 at Strawberry Square Dance Center in Plant City. Sam Dunn and Allen Snell will be calling and Charlie Lovelace will be cueing. Early rounds will be at 1:00 p.m. and squares will be from 2:00 – 4:00 p.m.

This is one way your West Coast Square and Round Dancers Association is working to promote square dancing among young people. Please show your support with your attendance and donations.

Health & Sympathy Updates

These postings, and notices for dancers as well as any previous postings, can be found at www.dancergram.com

Please be sure to also check the website for updates on dancers!

Robert Padgett, caller in the Jacksonville area, lost his father, *Witsell "Witt" Padgett* on December 14, 2009. A Funeral Mass will be held on Saturday, December 19, 2009 at 3PM at St. Michael & All Angels Anglican Church, 5041 Lakeshore Dr. W., Fleming Island, FL. The Rev. Lawrence K. Wells, Rector, will officiate. In lieu of flowers, the family asks that memorial offerings be made in Witsell's name to St. Michael & All Angels Anglican Church.

Robert had recently shared with us how proud his father was upon the birth of his great-granddaughter Emily Elizabeth Jones at the end of October. What a blessing that Mr. Padgett was able to share in this joy before his passing.

Our sincere sympathies are with Robert and his family during this difficult time. Cards and words of concern can be sent to Robert at 4111 Cedar Rd, Orange Park, FL 32065. (Reprint from *The Grapevine* "Joys and Concerns" bulletin – 12/17/09)

*There will be a memorial service and dance for **Mike Jacobs** on January 30th at Cherry Hill Park in College Park, MD. Exact times have not been decided on yet, but information will be forwarded as it is received.*

Marie Bigelow, wife of caller Steve Bigelow from the northeast area of Florida, has been facing several challenges in the past week. She has been having difficulty with her breathing and upon visiting her pulmonologist and having a CT chest scan, it was determined that she has blood clots in both lungs. She is currently at St Vincent's Hospital in room 2325. She is on a medication regime and once it stabilizes, she hopes to be able to return home. If you would like to keep updated on Marie's cancer journey, she has a web site for journal entries and updates. You can visit CaringBridge at <http://www.caringbridge.org/visit/mariebigelow>. As Marie and Stephen update the site, you will be informed of her progress. (Reprint from *The Grapevine* "Joys and Concerns" bulletin – 12/17/09)

Many of the camping dancers know **Doc & Peg Tirrell** of Vermont. They are the former editors of the NSDCA Times as well as active round dance cuers. Late last week Doc suffered several minor heart attacks. He has been in the hospital in Lower Waterford, Vermont and was expected to return home on Thursday, December 17th. He will continue

to be under the care of home nursing. Please keep Doc & Peg, and their family in your prayers. Cards can be sent to Doc at P.O. Box 37, Lower Waterford, VT 05848. (Reprint from *The Grapevine* "Joys and Concerns" bulletin – 12/17/09)

How do I get in touch with?

This contact list can also be found at www.dancergram.com

Revised November 30, 2009

<p>West Coast President Lance and Rita Baxter 863-326-1741 lanceandrita@yahoo.com</p>
<p>West Coast Vice President Penny Green 863-967-5004 Sqdnxfan@aol.com</p>

<p>West Coast Treasurer John and Lynne Scott 863-644-9644 Jlscott1@earthlink.net</p>
<p>West Coast Secretary Leon and Joanne Haar 863-875-0296 Sqdance9360@gmail.com</p>

<p>Citrus Bob and Nancy Hagaman 352-382-2631 rhagaman@tampabay.rr.com</p>
<p>Collier Walt and Jan Drummond 239-642-8612 playwalt@comcast.net</p>
<p>DeSoto/Hardee/Charlotte Mary Dow/Jennie Martin 863-494-4065 mdow@embarqmail.com</p>
<p>Hernando Charlie and Lori Gawron 352-540-4708 crabeater@bellsouth.net</p>
<p>Highlands Tom and Isla Coburn 863-471-0923 isla_coburn2002@yahoo.com</p>
<p>Hillsborough Flo Byington 813-810-5548 flobyington@yahoo.com</p>
<p>Lee Ada Haskell 239-948-2063 AMCCH@juno.com</p>
<p>Pasco Larry D. Tate 352-583-5633 larrydtate@embarqmail.com</p>
<p>Pinellas John and Penny Voissem 727-347-7349 Jvoissem64@msn.com</p>
<p>Polk Don and Ann Slocum 863-533-6665 anndonslocum@juno.com</p>
<p>Sarasota Ellen Nicholson 941-223-7812</p>
<p>West Coast Insurance Chairman Don and Marianne Reason 863-223-7812 1reason@htn.net</p>

<p>West Coast Dancer Editor and Circulation Ed Henning 813-659-4787 evhenning@peoplepc.com</p>
<p>Florida Federation of Square and Round Dancers Ray & Elsa Huddleston 954-484-4553 rayelsa@aol.com</p>
<p>Florida Association of Single Square and Round Dancers (FASSRD) Judy Frye 321-268-4450 judy98@netscape.com</p>
<p>Florida Association of Square Dance Campers John & Mary Burzo 904-797-7530 burzom@bellsouth.net</p>
<p>Florida Callers Association Gary Murphy 386-755-2329 southmurphys@aol.com</p>
<p>Suncoast Callers and Cuers Association Clyde and Mary Lou Stocker 863-293-5947 Stocker38@worldnet.att.net</p>
<p>Florida Dance Web Webmaster Tom Perry tom@tipiproductions.com</p>
<p>West Coast Blood Bank Accounts Hillsborough: #03151 (Chmn: Flo Byington) Pinellas: #06547 (Chmn: Sandy Brasfield) Polk: WCSR (Chmn: Ann Slocum)</p>
<p>Bow and Swing Editor: Randy or Bill Boyd 407-886-7151 407-886-8464 (fax) rgboyd@earthlink.net</p>

If They Want to Make It Hip, They Shouldn't Call It Square Dancing.

DECEMBER 16, 2009

Fighting 'Hay Bale' Stigma to Lure the Young; Do-Si-Do to U2, Michael Jackson, Tag Team

By **MARY PILON**

PORTLAND, Ore. -- Every other week, Paul Silveria gathers his friends, many of them tattooed habitués of the punk scene here, in warehouses or large houses and cranks up loud protest music.

Then, the 28-year-old steps forward, do-si-dos his partner, and begins to square-dance.



Petticoat

"Square-dancing here isn't really what people imagine it to be," Mr. Silveria says of the hybrid rock and square-dance moves he does. "It turns into a hoedown mosh pit."

In the 1950s and 1960s, square-dancing was big with young and old folks alike. Today, youthful dancers and "callers" like Mr. Silveria are increasingly rare. If this quintessentially American art form can't lure new blood, many aficionados fear, it could be heading toward its last dance.

To attract young people, square-dancing organizations are making efforts to modernize. To the standard repertoire of Dolly Parton and Johnny Cash, some callers have added Michael Jackson, U2 and hip-hop. To keep younger pupils hooked, instructors use collectible plastic badges that denote dancing milestones. Moves include flourishes such as dancing with a beanbag on your head.

The push has some purists grumbling that the true square-dancing tradition -- which arrived from France during colonial times and thrived as a social activity in rural areas -- is being ruined. In particular, older dancers complain that young people are too loud and don't respect traditional clothing or music.



Charles Espey

Some square-dance organizers are trying to modernize these gatherings in an effort to attract more young people.

Despite the complaints, leaders stress that they must update or die. "It's scary," says Doug Schafer, 60, an active member of the Bonnie Lads and Lassies square-dancing club in Tacoma, Wash. His group has 69 active members, only 13 under the age of 35. In a survey conducted by the United Square Dancers of America, only 36% of dancers were under the age of 60 in 2005. Fewer than 1% were between 19 and 29.

Nationally, the number of square-dancers has declined to 300,000 from more than one million estimated square-dancers in the late 1970s, says Len Houle, president of the USDA. Responding to the grim numbers, a related group voted in June to spend \$22,000 revamping its Web site to feature video and younger dancers.

Attracting the young isn't easy, even in the Pacific Northwest, a bastion of square-dancing all the way back to the covered-wagon days. Organizers must battle a perception among young people that square-dancing is uncool.

For decades, children endured square-dancing taught by indifferent teachers in gym class. Many adults still grimace at the thought of another do-si-do, resurrecting memories of stepping on toes and listening to outdated music.



Charles Espey

The 'Dare to Be Square' dance in Seattle last weekend, where young and old dance.

"We're trying to prove we're not square," says Ray Gallagher, chairman of the Pacific Northwest Teen Square Dance Festival. Fighting "the hay-bale and hillbilly stigma" can be tough.

Mr. Gallagher's annual festival is the largest of its kind left in the country and is credited with anchoring a robust young dancer community in the Northwest. In its heyday in the 1960s and 1970s, the springtime event drew 1,500 dancers from the Northwest. Now, Mr. Gallagher says he'll be lucky to attract 500 competitors. They come from all over the country, because so many other youth square-dance festivals have died.

Baleigh Marquardt, 15, describes herself as a "closet square-dancer." Concerned her high-school friends will make fun of her, she says that only a handful know about her weekly trips to the Maplewood Grange in Aurora, Ore., to practice dancing with the Canby Cloverleaves. In lieu of full prairie skirts worn over lace-trimmed petticoats, Ms. Marquardt opts for "toned-down prom dresses," without open backs.

A few miles north, at Kinton Grange in Beaverton, Ore., dancers sweat and spin, their footsteps thundering on the wood floor. Older dancers welcome half a dozen young dancers on the floor. One girl sports pink-tipped hair, black leather bracelets and a blue prairie skirt. Another boy uses a class ring to cinch his neck scarf.

During one dance, a white-bearded man wearing a pink neck kerchief twirls a 10th-grader so fast that she pleads, "I'm dizzy!" During breaks, younger dancers remove cellphones from belt holsters and begin text-messaging.

Among those twirling and texting is 20-year-old Amanda Roberts. Ms. Roberts recently was elected to the board of the Tualatin Valley Council of Square Dance Clubs. She is the youngest member by a few decades.

Since joining, she has begun a recruitment drive to find young dancers. She made a Facebook page for the Toe Draggers, the club she belongs to in Beaverton. She posts square-dancing fliers on high-school and college campuses, and joins online discussion groups to tell youths where they can find dance lessons. For all that, she's only recruited two people for lessons. Young people "think it's all Western. They have the wrong impression," Ms. Roberts says.

Sometimes it just takes the right incentives to convince people under a certain age to attend square dances. Charmaine Slaven, 29, helped launch a "Dare to Be Square" event in the Northwest two years ago to train new callers and musicians. This year's event sold out all 160 spots. Ms. Slaven's formula for success: cheap cover charges, no lessons required, and kegs of beer.

Teens used to have their own clubs, but because of the dwindling sizes of many organizations, many teen groups have combined with traditional clubs in recent years.

This creates some tensions. Christy Knierim, a 19-year-old dancer in Corvallis, Ore., says she and other youth were relegated by elders to the back corner of the dance floor. Elders worried about confusion when younger dancers switched male and female dancing roles. There were also concerns of "goofing off," she says. In time, the two groups have unified.

Other older dancers embrace the new culture. Down the road at the Oak Grove Community Club, George Hermann, a 62-year-old caller for the Oaky Doaks of Oak Grove, Ore., put on a backwards cap and shades and began rapping to "Whoop! (Square it is)," a square-dance version of Tag Team's 1993 hip-hop hit "Whoomp! (There it is)."

To a thumping backbeat, Mr. Hermann delivers his lines at a rapper's pace into a microphone: "Swing that lady round and round" and "do an allemande left."

Michael Kious, Mr. Hermann's grandson, was mortified as a young boy when he first heard his grandfather rap in front of an audience. But now, the 21-year-old Mr. Kious, a dancer himself, says his grandpa's rap is a favorite.

Mr. Kious met his wife, Lisa, square-dancing. Although they have encountered a handful of other young dancing couples online, the newlyweds realize they're a rare breed.

They say they enjoy dancing with older folks but acknowledge a generational divide. Younger dancers' faster pace, additional hip bumps and extra claps can cause some collisions with elders, many coping with knee replacements or arthritis.

"Sometimes we have to warn older dancers that they're in a younger square," Mrs. Kious says. "It can get crazy."

Write to Mary Pilon at mary.pilon@wsj.com

Printed in The Wall Street Journal, page A1

National Executive Committee

Just what is the National Executive Committee?

The National Executive Committee (NEC) brings you the National Square Dance Convention® with all of its elements!

Each year beginning on Wednesday before the fourth Thursday, of June finds a square dance organization supported by its city presenting the most exciting square dance program in the World! National Square Dance Convention® is the only convention in the world that brings all

forms of square, round, contra, clogging, country western, line and similar forms of dance together in one convention.

The NEC who owns the National Square Dance Convention® and licenses a square dance organization and its partner city to bring dancers from around the world to this exciting event each year. National Square Dance Convention® serves to provide dancer education with seminars and exhibitions.

The National Square Dance Convention® provides leadership training and demonstrations. The National Executive Committee guides and advises the local volunteer organization utilizing the prior convention experience of its members.

Who is the NEC?

The National Executive Committee (NEC) serves as Directors of the National Square Dance Convention®. Each member is a past General Chairman of a National Square Dance Convention®. Only past General Chairman may serve as NEC members.

Each NEC member is assigned a geographical area of the US to which they serve as advisors available to provide information about the National Square Dance Convention®. A square dance organization within this area may contact the NEC member for information about how to bid for a national convention.

Each NEC member may also be assigned a phase of convention area operations to assist in planning, preparing, administering and follow-up with each convention.

When a square dance organization chooses to bid for a future convention, four NEC advisors are assigned to them to assist in the bid preparation and its presentation and continue as advisors to that organization when a bid is awarded until the completion of the convention.

GENERAL INFORMATION OF THE NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

A square dance was held at Riverside, California in 1952. They called it a National Square Dance Convention. It was a great success and plans were made to do it again in another part of the country. The dancers in charge of these first conventions met together and agreed on plans and guidelines for more Conventions. Thus the National Executive Committee (NEC) was formed.

Each Director is first a General Chairman of a National Square Dance Convention®. Being a General Chairman is the only way to becoming a Director of the National Executive Committee for the National Square Dance Convention®. This National Executive Committee selects the future Convention sites from among those meeting the requirements and submitting a bid. Criteria for selection are broad and based on dancers needs and desires.

A Pre-Convention meeting is held approximately 15 months prior to Convention. It is conducted by the Convention for their in-depth study, with the National Executive Committee observing and advising. Each member of the National Executive Committee is appointed as Advisor to a particular phase activity: Education, Program, Registration, Services, Other.

The National Executive Committee meets at least twice a year, spending a week each time at Pre-Convention and Convention. They are also responsible for publishing the National Squares magazine, which benefits the upcoming National Square Dance Conventions®.

Each Director is charged with a geographical area, and a bid inquiry from their area receives a prompt and informative response.

The assigned Director selects other Directors to a total of three/four to instruct the bidding square dance organization and the supporting convention bureau on procedures and requirements.

Prior to their first visit, they will forward all necessary forms and details for submitting a bid.

The bidding city is required to pay travel expenses and furnish hotel/motel accommodations for this and a minimum of one other visit. Should any additional visits be needed, prior to presenting the bid, the bidding city requirements remain the same as outlined for the first two visits.

The NEC President and NEC Advisors must approve any additional visit(s). These Directors serve as Advisors during the bid process and to the successful bidders in all phases of the Convention until the Convention is completed and a Final Report is submitted.

There are no paid employees and no salaries. All time is gratuitous on the part of the Directors.

A percentage fee, from Convention Registrations only, is paid to the National Executive Committee to offset expenses.

No fees are collected from Vendor Booth rentals or other items.

Authorized National Executive Committee expenses include:

1. Equipment
2. Clerical and promotional expense
3. Postage
4. Telephone
5. Statistical reports
6. Special awards and plaques at conventions
7. Certain expenses of the National Executive Committee for the Pre-Convention meeting or any specially called meeting.

The Directors pay their own Registration fee, Program Book, etc., travel, and expenses when attending National Square Dance Convention®.

The hosting city is required to furnish hotel rooms to all members of the National Executive Committee for their stay at both Pre-Convention meeting and the National Square Dance Convention®

A special luncheon on Friday of the Pre-Convention meeting is hosted by the local Convention and Visitors Bureau (CVB) for the VIPs of the city so they may learn about National Square Dance Conventions® and how their departments' involvement is critical.

Cost of the meals for the National Executive Committee and city officials is the responsibility of the hosting city.

Director Members of the National Executive Committee are added approximately 90 days prior to their Convention and serve continuously on the committee until they retire, decease, miss two consecutive Conventions, or are removed from the Committee.

They are all active square dancers and are available for discussion with any square dancer.

They may become Member Emeritus upon retirement. They are never replaced.

Reprint from National Square Dance Committee website.

Convention Attire

As a result of an NEC members solicitations for comments regarding the request to relax the Dress Code at a National Square Dance Convention, the following letter was received.



Thank you for all of your hard work. I am sure that you never thought that you would have to come up with a set of rules to tell adults what is appropriate to wear to a National Square Dance Convention. The following are some of my thoughts on the subject. I realize that there are many people and many points of view thank you for letting me express mine.

Karen Reichardt

Sewing editor of the Washington State magazine 'Footnotes'
Sewing Chairman of our 2006 State Festival.

Can anyone really prove that denim blue jeans and a knit T-shirt are cooler than a prairie skirt and a peasant blouse? Or prove that a snug knit T-shirt is cooler than a loose woven cotton men's shirt? Show the numbers.

The hottest part of a ladies ensemble is the panty hose. There has never been anything written that says you will be checked for panty hose at the door.

Neil Diamond's "Forever in Blue Jeans" was a great song but I have out grown that attitude along with the jeans that I wore that year.

If you want to get a lot of women back into skirts just take a picture of them from the back after they have danced a tip. Those knit T-shirts ride up over the hips and back sides and accentuate the positive. They cling to and outline the love handles.

The decorative pockets on blue jean backs call attention to something better left unnoticed. Have a photographer, seated on the side lines, take pictures at eye level of the backs of ladies in jeans and this whole debate will be over.

Don't leave out the guys. Tummies are not shown to their advantage when active dancing causes the T-shirt to pull out in the front. As the belt buckle goes down and the arms go up there is a gap that should not be seen. This gap can occur in back, resulting in crack exposure if the man bends forward. T-shirts also show hairy sweaty armpits. Do you really want to swing with a damp gorilla?

At a convention we are going to be on show. There will be people watching us. There will be newspaper and TV photographers. Do you want to be seen in jeans and a T-shirt on the national news? When "Square Dancing" is mentioned to most people their first thought is our fancy flying skirts. Let's not disappoint them.

It's too much trouble and stress to get changed and go to a dance. Why should we stop with jeans and T-shirts? Let's not get changed at all! Pajamas and night gowns. What! You don't sleep in any thing? That won't bother us, just come in the nude.

You dress to honor the people that you are with. If you show up to a dance in the same clothes that you wore to mow the lawn what does that say about the value you place on the people and the activity. Why bother with going to the dance at all?

Karate students would not think of entering a dojo without being in the proper attire. This is out of respect for their teacher, respect for their heritage and respect for themselves. Basket

ball, football, soccer, and other sports all have their uniforms. Just as “suited up” for a game gets you ready for the competition, “dressing up” for a square dance puts you in a party mood.

There will be a lot of problems if casual dress becomes the norm for all square and round dances. Club names are going to have to change.

- ‘Shirts & Skirts’ will become ‘Tanks & Tube Tops’
- ‘Boots & Slippers’ will become ‘Sneakers & Flip Flops’
- ‘Ruffles & Rivets’ will be shortened to ‘Rivets’
- ‘Denim & Lace’ will be shortened to ‘Cut Offs’
- Club outfits will be matching T shirts and old jeans
- Calls will have to change. How is a sight caller going to get couples back together if he can’t tell the guys from the gals.
- Uni-sex haircuts and uni-sex outfits will result in uni-sex dancing. “Swing someone and promenade somewhere.”
- Why bother to “Swing and twirl your pretty girl” if there is no skirt to swirl. Swirling skirts and fancy shirts decorate the hall and show that it is a place for square dancing.

If everyone is in jeans and T-shirts you might as well hang out at the local bar. If you dress like a square dancer, you feel like a square dancer. If you feel like a square dancer you are a square dancer.

Have you ever looked down on a square or round dancer from a balcony? The sight of the spinning skirts and colorful shirts as they follow the caller form a kaleidoscope of color. As the dancers weave through the maneuvers the patterns form and re-form. It would not be the same if it was a bunch of people in jeans and T-shirts.

Square dance clothes are for the fun of it. Get wild and wear the colors and prints that you would never wear anyplace else.

Too much lace – never!
Inappropriate color – says who?
Plaid and flowers on the same dress – delightful!

Some people claim that they can not afford a special set of clothes for dancing. Outfits do not have to be expensive. They are certainly cheaper than a lot of those jeans and T-shirts. A prairie skirt and a blouse can be worn anywhere. The man’s shirt does not have to be a fancy embellished western style, any long sleeve shirt will do. A closet full of dance clothes is not necessary. Those who have a dozen color coordinated outfits choose to dress that way for the fun of it.

The Dress Code should be very short and basic:

Men – Long sleeve shirts and long pants

Women – Skirts any length

I am the sewing editor of the Washington State magazine 'Footnotes' and I was the Sewing Chairman of our 2006 State Festival. I am also involved, in a small way, in Washington's bid for the 2012 National.

Thanks again,

Karen Reichardt

k.m.reichardt@g.com or squaredancesewing.com

2303 East Illinois Avenue, Spokane WA 99207-5654

509-489-4492

Your Source for Ribbons

This list can also be found at

www.dancergram.com

I carry ribbons and flyers for the following dances:

January 21 - 23, 2010 - **Florida Winter Festival** - Lakeland, FL

March 19 - 20, 2010 - **10th Annual Shamrock Swing** - The Villages, FL

May 28 - 30, 2010 - **56th Florida State Convention** - Lakeland, FL

What's Happening This Week?

This schedule can also be found at
www.dancergram.com

Week of December 21, 2009

NOTE: Yellow highlighting is a change from last week's issue.

Monday – *Kings Point Swingers A-2 Dance* – King Point Studio, Sun City, Florida – Early Rounds 7:00 – 7:30 p.m. – Squares/Rounds 7:30 – 9:30 p.m. – Caller/Cuer: Mike Cox. Visitors to Kings Point should tell the gate you are attending a Kings Point Swingers event at the Clubhouse Studio. For info: Sonny 813-634-8212 or George 813-642-0900.

Twilight Twirlers – Bonita Springs Community Center, corner of Reynolds & Old 41, Bonita Springs – Plus workshop 6:30 p.m., mainstream dance 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. – caller: Howard Cole, rounds and lines on tape. For info: hwcole@att.net or 239-691-5670.

Hampton Promenaders – **NO DANCE**. For info: 863-669-9827 or fayedenmount@yahoo.com.

Temple Twirlers – Oak Grove United Methodist Church, 2707 W. Waters Avenue (northeast corner of Habana Avenue), Tampa – ER 7:00 p.m., Mainstream/Plus/Rounds 7:30 – 9:30 p.m. – Callers: **Van Coble**, Cuer: Charlie Lovelace. Dancers please use the entrance marked “Family Room” near the rear of the main building on the Habana Avenue side. For info: wlfloyd@aol.com or gaylepullara@aol.com or flobyington@yahoo.com.

Tuesday – *Buttons & Bows of Lakeland Christmas Dance* – Magnolia Building, 702 E. Orange Street, Lakeland – ER 7:00 – 7:30 p.m. – Mainstream/Plus/Rounds 7:30 – 10:00 p.m. – Caller: Art Springer, Cuer: Charlie Lovelace – square dance attire preferred – finger foods. For info: sgdnfan@aol.com or 863-967-5004.

Woodmere Park – 3951 Woodmere Park Blvd. (off Jacaranda Blvd.), Venice – A-2 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. – Caller: Red Bates – casual attire. For info: 941-828-0481 or redbates@juno.com.

Ding-A-Lings – Rice Creek RV Resort, 10714 Hwy. 301 South, Riverview – Mainstream/Plus/Rounds 7:30 – 9:30 p.m. – Caller/Cuer: Allen Snell – square dance attire preferred. The club is collecting unwrapped toys and donations for the Good Samaritan Mission in Wimauma at their dances through December 15. Any donations would be greatly appreciated. For info: chrounds@capital.net.

R&R Gators – Alligator RV Park, 6400 Taylor Road, Punta Gorda – 10:00 a.m. – Caller: Dave Magee, Cuer: Russ Collier – casual attire. For info: callerdave@comcast.net or 941-235-1611.

Maple Leaf Squares – Maple Leaf Golf & Country Club, 2100 Kings Highway, Port Charlotte – time 7:30 – 9:30 p.m. – alternating Mainstream and Plus – Caller: Dave Magee – casual attire. For info: callerdave@comcast.net or 941-235-1611.

J and C Spin-a-Rounds – Pinellas Park Auditorium, 7690 – 59th St. N., Pinellas Park – Phase IV – V 6:30 – 8:15 p.m., Advance – Beginners Mixed Rhythms 8:30 – 10:00 p.m. For info: spinards@tampabay.rr.com or 727-525-7809.

Wednesday – **Grande Squares of Camp Inn** - 3455 U.S. Hwy. 27 North, Frostproof – FREE square dance workshop 7:00 – 7:30 p.m. - 7:30 – 9:30 squares and rounds – Caller: Sam Dunn, Cuer: Phyllis Hathaway – casual attire. For info: 863-382-6792 or samdunn@samdunn.net.

Betmar Bells & Beaus #2 Christmas Dance – Betmar Clubhouse #2, Rt. 54 W., Zephyrhills – Plus Rounds – 7:00 – 9:30 p.m. – Callers: Dave Buys, George Varney, Carol Kelly; Cuer: Ella Bettencourt – square dance attire preferred. For info: 813-783-7523.

Strawberry Square C-2 Dance/Workshop – Strawberry Square Dance Center, 4401 Promenade Blvd., Plant City – 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon – Caller/Instructor: Art Springer. For info: www.floridadanceweb.com/strawberry. Dance Center: 813-752-0491. If you need further information and cannot reach the Dance Center office, you may contact: Nicki Horne 813-707-8905 or 813-727-6210.

Strawberry Square Club – Strawberry Square Dance Center, 4401 Promenade Blvd., Plant City – Mainstream/Easy Plus Workshop 7:00 – 7:30 p.m., Alternating Mainstream and Easy Plus Tips 7:30 – 9:30 p.m. – Caller: Gary Brown. For info: www.floridadanceweb.com/strawberry. Dance Center: 813-752-0491. If you need further information and cannot reach the Dance Center office, you may contact: Linda Lynn 813-659-9040 or Nicki Horne 813-707-8905 or 813-727-6210.

Kings Point Swingers Round Dance – Kings Point Main Clubhouse Studio Room, 1902 Clubhouse Road, Sun City Center – A1/A2 workshop 6:00 – 7:30 p.m. – Advanced Rounds 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. – Cuer: Mike Cox. Visitors please wear your square dance badge and tell the guard at the entrance gate that you are attending the dance at the Clubhouse Studio. For info: 813-634-8212 or 642-0900 or mc8152@verizon.net or 813-649-0754.

Timber Pines Twirlers – Hwy. 19, Spring Hill – Early Rounds 6:30 – 7:00 p.m. - Plus/Rounds 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. – caller: Bob Bourassa, cuer: John Ayers – square dance attire optional – for gate access and directions call 352-688-2995. For info: foxtrotr@bellsouth.net.

Strawberry Square C1 – Strawberry Square Dance Center, 4401 Promenade Blvd., Plant City – 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. – Caller: Art Springer. For info: www.floridadanceweb.com/strawberry. Dance Center: 813-752-0491. If you need further information and cannot reach the Dance Center office, you may contact: Nicki Horne 813-707-8905 or 813-727-6210.

Cultural Center Squares – Centennial Hall, 2280 Aaron Street, Pt. Charlotte - 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. Mainstream/Plus/Rounds - caller: Art Miller; cuer: Jennie Martin. For info: 941-380-5336, mdow@embarqmail.com, or 863-494-2749.

Christmas Eve

(Please call ahead to confirm if there is a dance)

Thursday – **Pine Ridge Promenaders** – **NO DANCE** For info: danshrm@htn.net.

Charlotte Promenaders – **NO DANCE** For info: SQDBIRD@aol.com.

Glenhaven – Glen Haven RV Park, 37251 Chancey Road, Zephyrhills – ER 7:00 – 7:30 p.m., Plus/Rounds 7:30 – 9:30 p.m. – Caller: George Varney, Cuer: Ella Bettencourt. For info: gvarney3@tampabay.rr.com.

Kings Point Swingers – Kings Point Main Clubhouse Studio Room, 1902 Clubhouse Road, Sun City Center – ER 7:00 – 7:30 p.m., Plus w/Rounds 7:30 – 9:30 p.m. – Caller/Cuer: Mike Cox. Visitors please wear your square dance badge and tell the guard at the entrance gate that you are attending the dance at the Clubhouse Studio. For info: 813-634-8212 or 642-0900 or mc8152@verizon.net or 813-649-0754.

Promenade Squares – **NO DANCE** For info: sgdancegranny@juno.com or 727-546-5966.

Strawberry Square Rounds – Strawberry Square Dance Center, 4401 Promenade Boulevard, Plant City – **Phase II Rounds w/Workshop:** 12:00 – 2:00 p.m.; **Phase III/Intro IV:** 2:30 – 4:30 p.m.; **Phase II/Intro III Class:** 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. – cuer: Charlie Lovelace. For info: lurvds@embarqmail.com or www.floridadanceweb.com/strawberry. Dance Center: 813-752-0491. If you need further information and cannot reach the Dance Center office, you may contact: Nicki Horne 813-707-8905 or 813-727-6210.

Dunedin – Dr. William E. Hale Senior Activity Center, 330 Douglas Avenue, Dunedin – Beginners 6:30 – 7:30 – Squares (all sets) 7:30 – 9:30 p.m. - \$5 per person – caller: Allen Snell. For info: settarose1@verizon.net or 727-809-3429 or 727-862-4842 or 727-809-3429 or mcox47@mail.emsvillage.net.

Citrus Squares – First United Methodist Church, 21501 W. Highway 40, Dunnellon - 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. - caller: Ellis Lindsey. For info: lalecl@aol.com.

Christmas Day

(Please call ahead to confirm if there is a dance)

Friday – **Dixie Grande Squares** – **NO DANCE** For info: sgdncfan@aol.com or 863-967-5004.

Woodmere Park – 3951 Woodmere Park Blvd. (off Jacaranda Blvd.), Venice – C-1 10:00 – 12:00 noon – Caller: Red Bates – casual attire. For info: 941-828-0481 or redbates@juno.com.

Strawberry Square A2 – **NO DANCE** If you need further information and cannot reach the Dance Center office, you may contact: Don and Barbara Huff 813-752-2278, Dave and Betty Bradley 989-289-6446, Nicki Horne 813-707-8905 or 813-727-6210.

Strawberry Square C2 Dance and Workshop – Strawberry Square Dance Center, 4401 Promenade Blvd., Plant City – Dance and Workshop 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon – Caller: Gary Brown (and Brown's Bunch). For info: www.floridadanceweb.com/strawberry. Dance Center: 813-752-0491. If you need further information and cannot reach the Dance Center office, you may contact: Nicki Horne 813-707-8905 or 813-727-6210.

Curliques – Corkscrew Woodlands Park, 21500 Corkscrew Road (I-75 exit 123), Estero – Workshop: 6:00 p.m., Squares w/taped rounds 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. For info: HWCole@att.net or 239-980-0939 or 239-466-7132.

Spinning Wheels – **NO DANCE** For info: helenm720@aol.com or jbarnes73@tampabay.rr.com.

B & S Flutter Wheelers - Bayonet Point Enrichment Center, 12417 Clock Tower Parkway, Bayonet Point, Hudson - ER 6:30 p.m., Plus/Rounds 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. - AS tip at 9:00 - relaxed attire June to October - caller: Bob Bourassa, cuer: John Ayers. For info: Bob Bourassa 352-796-8254 or rbourassasr@tampabay.rr.com.

Snell's Bo's & Bell's – Largo Community Center, 65 – 4th Street NW, Largo – 7:30 – 9:45 p.m. – Caller: Allen Snell, cuer: Pat Fiyalko. For info: settarose1@verizon.net or 727-862-4842 or 727-809-3429 or mcox47@mail.emsvillage.net.

Sun City Swinger – **NO DANCE** info: gail3357@gmail.com or 813-633-1297 (Gail) or 813-633-8780 (Sue).

Saturday – **Strawberry Square** – Strawberry Square Dance Center, 4401 Promenade Blvd., Plant City – ER 7:00 p.m., Plus/Rounds 7:30 – 9:30 p.m. – Caller: **Sharon Short**, Cuer: **Jimmy and/or Carol Griffin**. For info: www.floridadanceweb.com/strawberry. Dance Center: 813-752-0491. If you need further information and cannot reach the Dance Center office, you may contact: Don and Barbara Huff 813-752-2278, Linda Lynn 813-659-9040, Mary Lee Van Valkenburg 813-707-1702, Nicki Horne 813-707-8905 or 813-727-6210.

Palace Promenaders – Palace Square Dance Hall, 1647 NE Floridian Street, Arcadia – Mainstream/Plus/Rounds – 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. – caller: Art Miller, cuer: Jennie Martin – square dance attire preferred – park in back of the building - \$8 per couple. For info: Jennie Martin – 863-494-2749; Mary Dow – 863-494-6062/ mdow@embarqmail.com.

Sunday – **Cloverleaf Leprechauns** – **NO DANCE** For info: 352-688-9802 or <http://www.geocities.com/leprechaun34601/>.

B & S Flutter Wheelers - Bayonet Point Enrichment Center, 12417 Clock Tower Parkway, Bayonet Point, Hudson - A 2 workshop 5:30 - 6:00 p.m. - A 2 Dance - 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. - relaxed attire - caller: Bob Bourassa. For info: 352-796-8254 or rbourassasr@tampabay.rr.com.

Huggables - King of Kings Church, 10337 U.S. 19 (between SR 52 and Ranch Road), Port Richey - casual dress – Mainstream/Plus 2:30 – 4:30 p.m. - caller/cuer: Allen Snell. For info: 727-809-3429 or 727-809-0323 or settarose1@verizon.net or mcox47@mail.emsvillage.net.

Orange Blossom Squares – **NO DANCE** For info: willowhouse@msn.com or 352-753-2325.

West Coast Classes and Workshops

These classes are also listed at

www.dancergram.com

Revised December 21, 2009

Please provide start date, start and ending time, level (beginner, Mainstream, Plus, etc.) exact address (with city) where class and/or workshop will be held, instructor's name, contact name, email address and phone number.

No beginner classes or plus workshops at Maple Leaf on December 18th, 25th and January 1st.

No advanced workshop at Maple Leaf on December 17th, 24th and 31st.

No beginner classes or plus workshops at Dixie Grande Squares in Winter Haven on December 25th and January 1st.

No Auburndale round dance classes or workshops December 23rd or 30th.

PLEASE KEEP IN MIND THAT THIS INFORMATION NEEDS TO BE COMMUNICATED OUT TO NEW DANCERS! IT'S NOT A SECRET!

December 6, 2009 – **Ft. Meade Squares Plus Workshop** – City Mobile Home Park, 1046 Second Street, Ft. Meade – 2:00 – 3:30 p.m. – caller: Russ Young – casual attire. For info: FMRLyoung@aol.com.

December 6, 2009 – **Ft. Meade Squares Beginner Lessons** – City Mobile Home Park, 1046 Second Street, Ft. Meade – 4:00 – 5:30 p.m. – caller/instructor: Russ Young – casual attire. For info: FMRLyoung@aol.com.

January 4, 2010 – **Beginning Square Dance Lessons** – Blue Jay Park, 38511 Wilds Road, Dade City; the hall is on Pelican – 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. – Caller/instructor: Marty VanWart - \$20 per person for three months – the hall is at the entrance to the park - class is open for new students for two weeks. For info: 813-788-2004 or mav19@myfairpoint.net.

January 5, 2010 – **Intro to Plus** – Betmar Mobile Home Park, Rt. 54 W., Clubhouse 3, Zephyrhills – 1:00 – 2:30 p.m. - Caller/instructor: Marty VanWart. For info: 813-788-2004 or mav19@myfairpoint.net.

January 5, 2010 – Intro to A-1 – **Betmar Mobile Home Park**, Rt. 54 W., Clubhouse 3, Zephyrhills – 2:30 – 4:00 p.m. – Caller/instructor: Marty VanWart. For info: 813-788-2004 or mav19@myfairpoint.net.

January 5, 2010 – **Strawberry Square C-1 Continuation Class** - 4401 Promenade Blvd., Plant City – 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. – Caller: Keith Stevens. For info: www.floridadanceweb.com/strawberry. Dance Center: 813-752-0491. If you need further information and cannot reach the Dance Center office, you may contact: Don and Barbara Huff 813-752-2278, Dan & Thelma Ogilvie 813-752-1350, Nicki Horne 813-707-8905 or 813-727-6210.

January 6, 2010 – **Basic and Mainstream Square Dance Class** – Central Park 1, Commerce Avenue (behind Sonny's Barbecue), Haines City – 1:00 – 2:30 p.m. - \$4 per person per session – Caller/instructor: Clyde Stocker. For info: stocker38@att.net or 863-293-5947.

January 6, 2010 – Plus Workshop – Central Park 1, Commerce Avenue (behind Sonny's Barbecue), Haines City – 2:30 – 4:00 p.m. - \$4 per person per session – Caller/instructor: Clyde Stocker. For info: stocker38@att.net or 863-293-5947.

January 7, 2010 – **Strawberry Square Intro to C-1 Class** - 4401 Promenade Blvd., Plant City – 9:30 – 11:30 a.m. – Caller: Marty VanWart. For info: www.floridadanceweb.com/strawberry. Dance Center: 813-752-0491. If you need further information and cannot reach the Dance Center office, you may contact: Don and Barbara Huff 813-752-2278, Dan & Thelma Ogilvie 813-752-1350, Nicki Horne 813-707-8905 or 813-727-6210.

January 7, 2010 – **Beginning Square Dance Lessons** – Gem Estates, North Avenue, Zephyrhills; the hall is at 3945 Elgin Drive – 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. – Caller/instructor: Marty VanWart - \$5 per person per week - class is open for new students for two weeks. The hall is in the front of the park and the park is the last one on the right of North Street. For info: 813-788-2004 or mav19@myfairpoint.net.

January 8, 2010 – **Strawberry Square C-3A Teach & Workshop** – 4401 Promenade Blvd., Plant City – 12:45 – 2:45 p.m. – Caller: Keith Stevens. For info: www.floridadanceweb.com/strawberry. Dance Center: 813-752-0491. If you need further information and cannot reach the Dance Center office, you may contact: Don and Barbara Huff 813-752-2278, Dan & Thelma Ogilvie 813-752-1350, Nicki Horne 813-707-8905 or 813-727-6210.

Looking Ahead

The events listed below are new this week. The entire list of future events can be found at www.dancergram.com

Links

Associations/Organizations

<http://www.floridadanceweb.com/> (Florida Dance Web)

<http://floridasquaredance.com/> (Florida Federation)

<http://www.flcallersassoc.org/> (Florida Callers Association)

<http://www.usda.org/> (United Square Dancers of America)

www.iagsdc.org (International Assn. of Gay Square Dance Clubs)

www.floridadanceweb.com/fassrd (Florida Singles)

<http://www.callerlab.org> (CALLERLAB)

<http://www.americancallers.com> (American Callers Assn.)

<http://www.roundalab.org/> (ROUNDALAB)

http://floridadancing.com/html/west_coast_squares.html (West Coast Assn.)

<http://ssdusa.org> (Single Square Dancers USA[®])

<http://www.nsdca.org> (National Square Dance Campers)

<http://www.arts-dance.org> (Alliance of Round, Traditional and Square Dance [ARTS])

<http://www.58nsdc.com> 58th National Square Dance Convention - Long Beach, CA

<http://www.59thnsdc.com> 59th National Square Dance Convention - Louisville, KY

<http://www.60thnsdc.com> 60th National Square Dance Convention - Detroit, MI

<http://www.nsddirectory.com/> (National Square Dance Directory - information and contacts for clubs in the U.S., Canada and around the world)

Vendors

<http://usda.fundlinklic.com/> (online shopping mall)

www.suzieqcreations.com (Suzie Q Creations)

www.Bobsengraving.com (division of Suzie Q Creations – covering southwest Florida)

<http://www.aronssquaredanceshopandpatterns.com/> (Aron's Square Dance and Western Wear Shop)

<http://www.calyco.com/> (CaLyCo Crossing - a full line square dance shop)

<http://www.tictactoes.com/> (Tic Tac Toes - shoe vendor)

www.sheplers.com (Sheplers - the world's largest western stores and catalog)

www.PerfectPetticoats.com (Perfect Petticoats)

<http://www.grandsquare07.com> (Grande Square.com – square dance clothes and accessories)

Square Dance Halls

www.floridadanceweb.com/strawberry (Strawberry Square)

Callers/Cuers

<http://www.samdunn.net/> (Sam Dunn)

<http://home.rr.com/jcspin> (Jimmy and Carol Griffin)

www.2fwd2.com (Lisa Wall)

www.keithstevens.com (Keith Stevens)

This E-Newsletter is published by a square and round dancer concerned about the preservation of our dance activity. This is not a publication of the West Coast Square and Round Dancers' Association, Inc. The target audience is the dancers in the West Coast area of the state of Florida and contains dance information for the upcoming week in this area as well as major dances around the state and nation, and any other information of interest to the dancers. It is published weekly with addendums as needed. New information each week is highlighted. Permission is given to forward this newsletter to your membership or others interested in receiving a copy or to provide printed copies to your members and visitors to your club. It is also available on the West Coast page of the Florida Dance Web at www.floridadanceweb.com. If you would like a copy emailed to you or would like your club information added, please contact the editor at sgdnfan@aol.com. Please continue to support the West Coast Dancer, a publication of the West Coast Square and Round Dancers' Association, which is published bimonthly and is provided free of charge for all dancers. For circulation, listings, club news, ads and articles, contact Ed Henning at 813-659-4787 or evhenning@peoplepc.com.