

DANCERgram

May 2021



THIS &
THAT

... for the latest news in the square and round dance community.

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West Coast Association

President's Message:



Greetings from the west coast of Florida!

Slowly, clubs have been re-opening with lighter attendance than we are accustomed to.

Caller Dave Magee did some calling in southwest Florida, but they are now closed for the season end. Temple Twirlers in Tampa has been dancing on the second and fourth Mondays and will continue that schedule into the 2nd half of 2021. Suncoast Squares hasn't had their regularly scheduled dances, but they held Zoom meetings every week to keep in touch. They also tried some hula-hoop dancing at the local parks and had a few social events. They have danced at the same location with the same caller since their inception, but now have to find a new location and caller for their dances. Shufflin' Squares in Lake Wales is just now starting the Plus and Advance dance on the first and third Thursdays. They also have an Advance workshop on Sunday afternoons. Live Lively Squares in St. Pete has held some dances but is now closed for the summer.

The West Coast Association will have a "Welcome Back to Dancing" event in conjunction with our annual President's Ball on September 12th at Strawberry Square Dance Center.

We are still planning to hold our annual Fall Fun Fest in Bartow on November 12-13, 2021. We have some catching up to do to be ready for your arrival! Tom Miller and Keith Stevens will be calling and Earle Collins will be cueing. We will start taking registrations soon.

We hope to see everyone on the dance floor soon!

Penny Green
President

2022 Florida State Square and Round Dance Convention



LIGHTHOUSES #29 thru #32 **Smith Shoal Light, Northwest Passage** **Lighthouse, Sanibel Island Lighthouse,** **Charlotte Harbor Lighthouse**

#29 Smith Shoal Light: Little is known about this Lighthouse except it was constructed in 1933 and was built to be unmanned. It is one of the screw-pile lighthouses which stands approximately only 54 feet high. Smith Shoal is northwest of Key West and a long way from anything. It is still in service today.

#30 Northwest Passage Lighthouse: This Lighthouse was delayed being built because of yellow fever among the workers and by unpredictable hard storms. This lighthouse finally was completed in 1855, but the lighthouse was plagued from the very beginning by fires and by a myriad of hurricanes and, of course, the usual wood rot. It was finally deactivated in 1921, 50 years before another big fire finished burning what was left from all the previous devastation. It no longer exists.

#31 Sanibel Island Lighthouse: This Lighthouse was written about earlier but here is a brief synopsis - - In 1833 and 1856 and again in 1877 a Lighthouse Board requested a Light be built on the island but Congress kept declining. It was not until after the Civil War that yet another petition was submitted to Congress stating that a lighthouse would cause a big increase in trade and that boaters and travelers would be able to visit the island more easily. Finally, in 1883 Congress appropriated \$50,000 for the project and the lighthouse was finally started in February and lit in August of 1884.

The lighthouse was built 112 feet above sea level with an external spiral staircase the lighthouse keeper had to climb to service the lamps. There were no provisions for a keeper to live inside the structure but a small home was built beside the lighthouse for his needs. There have been two recorded big hurricanes that struck the lighthouse but fortunately, there was minimal damage either time. The first recorded one was in 1944 where it is said that several residents and the keeper clung to the outside spiral staircase after the keepers' home was destroyed - all did survive. The second hurricane recorded was Charley in 2004 but predicted storm surges never materialized so nothing was lost.

#32 Charlotte Harbor Lighthouse: This lighthouse was built and lit in 1890 and was a manned lighthouse until the end of World War 1 when the keeper

and the assistant were dismissed. After a while, and since it was unoccupied for many, many years, it was torn down during World War 11.

Judy Anderson - Publicity
2022 Florida State Convention

**A REUNION
TO REMEMBER**

**40 HOURS OF DANCING
13 DANCE HALLS
173 DANCE LEADERS
1 LIVE BAND
... AND YOU!**

WWW.7ONSDC.COM

JUNE 23-26, 2021 | JACKSON, MS

The poster features a dark blue background with white and light blue text. At the bottom, there are three small images: a man and a woman in traditional square dance attire, a circular logo for the 70th National Square Dance Convention in Jackson, MS, and a photo of a smiling man and woman. The logo includes the text '70th NATIONAL SQUARE DANCE CONVENTION', 'Jackson, MS • June 23-26, 2021', and the slogan 'Standing Firm in 2021 in the "City with Soul"'.

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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Something for everyone in 2021!

Dancing, education, and tours, all in one location

April 2021— If you haven't registered for the 70th National Square Dance Convention® in Jackson, what are you waiting for? Less than three months remain until one of the biggest parties in square dancing gets started, and there's bound to be something for everyone to enjoy, no matter their skill level or interest.

Whether you dance mainstream, plus, advance, or challenge, there will be tips for you. You can also dance rounds or hex, contra, lines, or better yet, take in a little bit of everything. It's all waiting for you, so you don't have to make up your mind.

Would you like to dance to a live band? There's no better band to dance to than the Ghost Riders Square Dance Band. They've been around for nearly 50 years and have appeared internationally, were a part of an HBO movie, and have performed at 10 national square dance conventions. You've never danced to anything like them before, so come join the fun.

Maybe you'd like to do a little sightseeing while you're in town. There's plenty to see in the "City With Soul." Check out one of our tours or go off on your own. The city is known for blues, rock and roll, and American history. See what you can discover.

No matter your interest, you can find something in Jackson. But you better register soon, June is coming sooner than you think! Visit www.70nsdc.com and sign up today!

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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71st NSDC to have Dueling Pianos as opening act

EVANSVILLE – Get ready for some fun and fancy music playing as Felix and Fingers Dueling Pianos will be the opening show for the 71st National Square Dance Convention in Evansville. Dinner will begin at 5:30 p.m. Central Time at the Tropicana Hotel and Casino and the show will begin at 7 p.m. The cost is \$50 for the dinner and show, or \$25 for the show only.

Dueling Pianos is a high-energy show that thrives on audience participation. Performers go into a show having little to no idea what songs they will play, and the audience requests songs for them to perform. Their musicians can play in all genres, from country to classical to hip hop to jazz to rock, so there are many songs they can play. Performers also work comedy into the act. The goal of Dueling Pianos is to entertain as many people as possible.

According to Felix and Fingers' website, dueling piano shows started in the late 19th century with two pianists on stage taking requests and seeing which one could play the song better and faster.

The format has evolved since then. Now, many of the shows include humor and even more improvisation, but that core purpose remains.

Learn more about Felix and Fingers dueling pianos at felixandfingers.com. Register for the 71st NSDC at 71NSDC.org.

The DANCERgram magazines presented on this website are written and published by a square and round dancer concerned about preserving our dance activity. The magazines include *Planner* (weekly), *This & That* (monthly), *Joys, Concerns, & Sympathies* (as needed), and *Directory* (as needed). All of the magazines are under the DANCERgram banner. In the event of new information between publication dates, notification is sent via the *Flash*.

The Editor reserves the right to edit, condense, or rewrite any submission to the DANCERgram magazines. Opinions expressed in any DANCERgram magazine or on this website are not necessarily that of the Editor or the West Coast Square and Round Dancers' Association. All new information (since the previous issue) in these magazines is highlighted in yellow.

Distribution of the DANCERgram magazines is encouraged via forwarding or hard copies. All of the Magazines, as well as additional content, can be found at www.dancergram.com.

If you would like to receive the DANCERgram Magazines via email or you would like to submit information to any of the magazines, please contact the Editor at sgdncfan@gmail.com or 863-224-3393.

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DANCERgram Magazines

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Joys, Concerns, & Sympathies (as needed)

Directory (as needed) • WC Key Contacts • WC Dances • SCCA • Links

This and That (monthly) • WCA president's message • Federation

president's message • Club News • Reprint of articles • New Articles