

DANCERgram

August 2021



THIS &
THAT

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

This publication is a sub-set of the *DANCERgram*, which provides Square and Round Dance news for the West Coast of Florida AND is the official Newsletter of the West Coast Square & Round Dancers Association (formerly the *West Coast Dancer*).

Table of Contents

2	West Coast President's Message
4	USDA ¹ Centennial Program
5	USDA USA Traveler Program
8	Florida Federation Announces Florida Dance Hall Relief Fund
8	67 th Florida State Square & Round Dance Convention
11	71 st NSDC ² Press Release – Registrations pick up
12	71 st NSDC Press Release – Get outdoors in Evansville and see the sites

West Coast Association

President's Message:



Ugh, it's so hot outside! We need an indoor activity! Where is a square dance?

Unfortunately, the seasonal clubs in our area are closed for the summer, which reduces the number of opportunities for us to square dance (in air conditioning). Many of the year-round clubs are dancing but not on their regular schedule of weekly dances. So even though our opportunities are few, show your support to the clubs that are open by attending, bring refreshments (if needed; you can contribute refreshments even if you don't belong to the club), tell your friends about the classes that will start in the Fall and bring them to the classes, and bring your friends to a dance so they can watch you dance and see what it's all about.

We have lost a lot of dancers over the past two years and have not been able to have classes to bring new ones in to replace them. It's even more important now that you step up and volunteer to help your club or dance with refreshments, set up for the dance and put everything away after the dance, serve on committees (and even be chairperson), help with new dancer classes, and serve as an officer. If we have more workers, it will be less work for all of us.

¹ USDA = United Square Dancers of America

² NSDC = National Square Dance Convention

I can't tell you how many times I have heard, "I don't want to join. You'll put me to work." I'm glad not everyone thinks that way or we wouldn't have any dances!"

I have danced for approximately 40 years and back "in the day" it was always such fun to belong to a committee. We would have covered-dish meals for the committee meetings, shared recipes, talked, and learned about each other (family, careers, home state, travel, etc.). Many lasting friendships developed because of those meetings. Everyone on the committee had a task and we worked together to have special dances, special events, etc. There was none of this having one person/couple committees who did all the planning and work. After a while, people become burned out and drop out of square dancing completely.

Let's pull together and keep our activity alive!

Now is the time to register for the 2021 Fall Fun Fest sponsored by the West Coast Square and Round Dancers' association. It will be held at the Carver Center in Bartow. We have Keith Stevens (Lake Wales) and Tom Miller (Pennsylvania) to call and Earle Collins (Orlando) to cue. There will be 12 hours of dancing and workshops, two halls for dancing, Advanced dancing all weekend with computer squares, a beautiful wood floor in the Main Hall, and light refreshments. There will be Mainstream, Plus, Advanced, and Phases 2 – 4 Rounds. Advanced ribbons for the entire weekend are \$22 per person, \$25 per person at the door. If you don't want to dance the entire weekend you can come for just Friday night or Saturday night for \$12 per person, or if you want to just dance all day on Saturday, it's \$20 per person. If you purchased ribbon(s) for the 2020 Fall Fun Fest that was canceled, they are good for 2021. The split rates are only available at the door. Square dance attire is admired but not required! Hotels: Holiday Inn Express (863-533-8070) \$89 + tax and Stay Inn & Suites (863-533-0711) \$60 + tax. You can order ribbons by completing the registration form and sending it along with your payment to Don and Ann Slocum, 2055 S. Floral Avenue, #99, Bartow, Florida 33830. If you have any questions about the weekend, you can call Penny Green at 863-224-3393 or sqdncfan@gmail.com.

And don't forget our annual Florida Square & Round Dance Convention in Daytona Beach on March 18-19, 2022! If you purchased ribbons for the 2021 convention that was canceled, those ribbons are still good for 2021. All the fundraising items had already been purchased when the decision was made to cancel 2020, so they will be sold for 2021. There will be a price increase on September 1st so if you want to save some money, you need to send your registration in soon! The ribbons are currently \$35 per person and will increase to \$40 per person. Please be aware that the committee is currently experiencing some problems with the businesses in Daytona Beach the weekend we will be there. There is another event scheduled that weekend and some hotels do not want to give the square dancers a special rate, and one of

those is the Hilton right across the street from the Ocean Center where a lot of us stayed. They are also unable to negotiate a parking arrangement at the Ocean Center. Please be patient. The Committee is working very hard to make the arrangements affordable for us.

We were saddened by the loss of our friend and cuer, Jimmy Griffin, who died of cancer in the middle of July. We send our sincere sympathies to his wife, Carol, and their sons.

I hope to see you on the dance floor soon.

Penny Green, President

USDA Centennial Award Program

In the fall of 2013 we received an inquiry about what USDA does for square dancers that have reached the age of 100. Most of us did not know we had dancers of that age, so we did not have a program to recognize them.

A little research revealed some interesting facts about this age group. Currently it is the fastest growing population in the United States. The 2010 US Census reports over 53,000 people living in the United States are age 100 and above. With the current medical advances, improved diets, and changes in lifestyle this number is expected to reach a record high by mid-century. Not only are we living longer today than ever before, we are remaining more physically and mentally productive in our later years.

At the winter meeting of USDA in January 2014, a proposal was introduced and approved to begin a program of special recognition to those individuals that had reached the age of 100 and were still either dancing or still taking part in their Club activities.

Purpose:

\As the world's largest square dance association, the Executive Committee of USDA is proud to provide a Centennial Awards" program for this group of dancers.

The qualified recipients will be given a nice framed "Certificate of Recognition and Appreciation" signed by the President of USDA and the Vice President of their Region. They will also receive a "United Squares Dancers of America Centennial Award" lapel pin. This award will be presented to them by a member of the Executive Committee at a dance attended by the recipient when possible. Should the recipient be able to attend the USDA Board of Directors meeting the day prior to the National Convention, USDA will pay their Convention Registration.

Finally, the USDA News will honor them in a special “Feature Article” about them. When available we also include pictures of their receiving their awards from the USDA representative.

Qualifications:

We have tried to keep the qualification for earning the Centennial Award simple. The most difficult part is reaching the age of 100. That is the number one criteria on the list of qualifications. Once you have met the age requirement you are well on your way.

Requirement number two is that you are still active in the square dance community This does not require that you still dance, but you must still attend dances on a regular basis and be involved in the club in some way. This may be sitting at the front table and welcoming dancers as they come in.

Requirement number three is that you must have a minimum of five years membership in your club.

Once you have qualified for the Centennial Award, you must notify USDA by completing the form on the back of the USDA brochure.

For application, go to <http://www.usda.org/Trifold/IS-024.pdf>.

Copied from USDA brochure.

USDA USA Traveler Program

Purpose:

To promote visitation between dancers in all 50 states. To encourage visitations of square dancers to regular club dances, festivals and state or national square dance conventions across state lines and around the United States.

Goal:

To attend a club dance, a state or national convention, or a local festival in all 50 states.

Rules:

A badge and a bar will be awarded to the participant(s), at no charge to them, after they have visited at least 12 states, and have a form signed and returned to USDA to be verified. Additional different colored bars will be awarded as follows

- 12 states – Red bar
- 23 states – White bar
- 36 states – Blue bar
- 48 states – Silver bar
- 50 states – Gold bar

No duplication of states is permitted. You must visit each of the 50 states,

Badges and bars will be presented to participant(s) at the annual USDA meeting that is held during the annual National Square Dance convention or will be mailed by US Postal Service.

Any participant who visits 48 or 50 states will also be awarded paid admission(s) to the next National Square Dance Convention.

USDA will maintain records of all participants so you may check to see which states you have or have not visited.

Participants traveling as a couple only need to fill out one form, with both names on it.

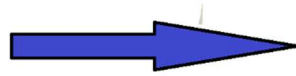
Copied from USDA brochure.



National Square Dance Convention [®]

The Torch Has Been Passed

70th NSDC



71st NSDC



See you in Evansville, IN
June 22-25, 2022
Register at www.71nsdc.org

Florida Federation Announces Florida Dance Hall Relief Fund

At the last Federation meeting in May, they approved the implementation of a Disaster Relief Fund.

The purpose of this Fund is to financially assist caller, cuer, dancer, or vendor-owned dance halls with significant repair or installation of equipment at their facility that is not covered by insurance.

In the past, we have had several of our Florida dance halls suffer damage to their facilities due to hurricanes, flooding, etc. We felt there was a need to assist these halls when they need financial assistance to re-open their halls. The fund will reimburse up to \$1,000 per incident per year for expenses not covered by insurance.

For more information and the claim form, please go to <http://floridasquaredance.com/disasterrelief/Relief%20Fund%207.1.21.pdf>.

67th Florida State Square & Round Dance Convention

LIGHTHOUSES #38 THRU #41 Cedar Keys Light, St. Marks Lighthouse Dog Island Light, Crooked River Light

#38 Cedar Keys Lighthouse: This Lighthouse is located across the harbor from Cedar Key on Seahorse Key, three (3) miles southwest of Cedar Key, and was the site of a watchtower erected in 1801. After the watchtower was destroyed by a Spanish naval force in 1802, it was used as a detention center for Seminole Indians captured in the Second Seminole War (1835-1842), to be held there before being transferred out West. Cedar Key became an important port during the 1840s and in 1850 Congress appropriated funding for a lighthouse on Seahorse Key which was completed and lit in 1854. Federal troops occupied Seahorse Key in 1862 and used it as a prison for the duration of the Civil War. The lighthouse building was tripled in size in 1905 when a U.S. Navy wireless station was established. The light was taken out of commission in 1915. The Cedar Key Lighthouse is the oldest standing lighthouse on the west coast of Florida.

#39 St. Marks Lighthouse: Approximately 25 miles south of Tallahassee is Florida's Big Bend region where the state's Gulf coastline changes from a

north-south direction to an east-west direction. A river empties into the Gulf at this point and it was here that an early settlement was established by the Spanish. In 1818, Andrew Jackson captured St. Marks from the Spanish, however, 3 years later control of Florida was officially transferred from Spain to the United States. In 1828 a territorial delegate was sent to Congress to petition for the construction of a lighthouse at St. Marks. An act appropriating \$6,000 for the construction of the lighthouse was passed. The construction ended up costing \$11,765 but the Collector of Customs refused to accept it since it was built with hollow walls. A replacement tower was accepted in 1830.

Under the 1832 Treaty of Payne's Landing, Florida's Seminole Indians were to relocate west of the Mississippi River by 1835. However, the Indians refused to leave and the Second Seminole Indian War erupted and lasted for 7 years. As the port of St. Marks was growing the land protecting the lighthouse was shrinking. By 1842, erosion was threatening the tower so a new lighthouse was built farther inland, which still stands today. The stout walls are 4 feet thick at the bottom and taper about 18 inches at the lantern room. A breakwater was built to protect the lighthouse after a hurricane struck in 1843. The tower was used by both sides during the conflict between the States. After the end of the conflict, the tower was repaired and back in service by 1867. In 2016, then-Governor Rick Scott was instrumental in getting money allocated for the preservation of St. Marks Lighthouse.

#40 Dog Island Lighthouse: The Dog Island Light was located on the western tip of Dog Island south of Carrabelle, Florida. It marked the "middle entrance to St. George's Sound," between St. George and Dog Island, during the 19th century, until its collapse by a hurricane in 1873. The first lighthouse was a 50-foot brick tower and was completed in 1839 but a storm in 1842 destroyed the keeper's house and badly damaged the lighthouse tower. A 40-foot wooden tower was completed in 1843 to replace the brick tower however the second tower was destroyed by a hurricane in 1851. A replacement brick tower was completed also in 1851. During the Civil War, Confederate forces burned the stairs in the tower and damaged the lens to prevent the tower from being used as a lighthouse or a watchtower. The light was repaired and put back into service after the war. In 1872 beach erosion undermined the tower and caused it to fall. The lantern was salvaged and moved to the top of the keeper's dwelling. The in 1873 another hurricane destroyed both the tower and the keepers dwelling. Congress appropriated funds for a replacement in 1874 but the local Lighthouse Board recommended that the new work be indefinitely postponed. The Dog Island Light was never replaced. However, the Crooked River Light (built near Carrabelle on the mainland in 1895) serves as a leading light for the same channel that was formerly marked by the Dog Island Light.

#41 Crooked River Lighthouse: This lighthouse was originally constructed in 1895 to replace a nearby lighthouse on Dog Island that was destroyed in a coastal hurricane in 1873. After many years of flawless service, this lighthouse

was officially decommissioned in 1995 and sat isolated and almost forgotten for several years but in 1999 a group of local residents created the “Carrabelle Lighthouse Association” and obtained ownership of the landmark. Private and public funds helped commission the restoration that was completed in 2007. The new skeletal tower lighthouse stands 103 feet tall and is the tallest lighthouse along the Florida Panhandle.

* * * *

Things are starting to get more and more exciting as the State Convention draws closer and closer. Even though March may seem like a long way away—time seems to be moving faster and faster especially for our chairmen, Carol & Richard Douget. They are looking for a couple of volunteers for some really fun activities. They are searching for someone or two or three or more friends to plan and make happen the ever-so-popular Dangle Dances. The convention warehouse already has several containers of supplies used in previous years that would be a great start for new ideas or you can create your own new ones. SusanElaine of SuzieQ Creations is great fun to work with creating all those cutesie “FREE” fun dangles we all love to earn.

They are also in need of a Vendor/Assistant Chairmen for that committee who will work well with our vendors to help them with spaces for setting up their merchandise. Making sure they have enough tables and chairs and other vendor needs. This includes spaces for all future Local and National Conventions.

Interested “fun” people can contact Carol at cldcpa@yahoo.com or call 410-952-7208

Judy Anderson Publicity



NEWS RELEASE

**For
Immediate Release**

Contact Information:
Bill Garrison/Paula Egenolf
3172738345/3173709213
Bgarrison27@comcast.net
Paulaegenolf50@att.net

Registrations pick up for 71st NSDC®

EVANSVILLE – Registrations for the 71st National Square Dance Convention® in Evansville, Indiana June 22-25, 2022 increased significantly during the 70th National Square Dance Convention in Jackson, Mississippi.

More than 800 people from 39 states have registered for the 71st NSDC, so much so that the convention hotel, Doubletree by Hilton, is sold out. But don't worry, there are still plenty of other hotels for dancers to stay at and enjoy the city and the convention.

The closest hotel to the Old National Events Center, where most activities will be held, is now Hyatt Place, a three-minute drive or ten-minute walk. Rooms at that hotel are going for \$149 a night and are filling up fast, so be sure to sign up now.

The next closest hotel is the Tropicana Hotel, which is located on the Ohio River. It is a four-minute drive from the Old National Events Plaza and includes a casino, two restaurants, and a deli. Rooms at that location are \$169 a night.

Other hotels in the area include a Courtyard by Marriott, a Hampton Inn, a Hilton Garden Inn, and a Home2Suites. Make sure your register now to get the best locations.

To register for the convention, visit 71nsdc.org. Click on register at the top of the screen to see a list of hotels available and their distance from the plaza.

NEWS RELEASE

**For
Immediate Release**

Contact Information:

Bill Garrison/Paula Egenolf

3172738345/3173709213

Bgarrison27@comcast.net

Paulaegenolf50@att.net

Get outdoors in Evansville and enjoy these sites

EVANSVILLE — The 71st National Square Dance Convention® will keep dancers busy indoors, but if you need some fresh air for a few hours, these attractions within the city can help.

Angel Mounds State Historic Site is one of the best-preserved Native American sites in the United States. Wander through trails and marvel at the ingenuity of these indigenous people that lived 700 to 1,000 years ago. See tools and methods they used and learn about their culture.

Bosse Field is where the movie “League of Their Own,” starring Tom Hanks, Madonna, Gina Davis, and Rosie O’Donnell, among other stars, was filmed. It’s also the third-oldest baseball field in the U.S., only Fenway Park in Boston and Wrigley Field in Chicago are older.

Mesker Park Zoo and Botanical Garden is a great way to spend an afternoon. Home to more than 700 animals, there’s plenty to see among its 45 acres. Walk through its Amazonia exhibit, which mimics the South American Rainforest.

If you’re looking for more nature, try Wesselman Woods, a National Natural Landmark and State Nature Preserve just a 7-minute drive from the convention center. It has more than 190-acres of virgin bottomland hardwood forest and is the largest old-growth urban forest in the nation.

Speaking of relaxing walks, the riverfront plaza is a great place to walk and enjoy scenic views of the Ohio River. Take in the Four Freedoms Monument as you watch the sun rise or set.



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.

DANCERgram Staff

Editor: Penny T. Green Webmaster: Cliff Reiss

DANCERgram Magazines

Planner (weekly)
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