

DANCERgram

June 2023



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

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69th Florida State Square and Round Dance Convention (2023)

There are several items to point out for this convention.

1. **Online registration and payment** is available for the first time. Just go to this link <https://form.jotform.com/230066767013048>.
2. There is also **online registration for the host hotel**, Courtyard by Marriott! This is the same host hotel we had for the last convention, but we have a bigger block of rooms. Don't forget to ask for the Square Dance rate!
3. And...a **QR code** right on the one page flyer. Just scan the code and it will take you right to the above link.
4. In addition to **purchasing** your convention ribbons and making a reservation at the host hotel online, you can also purchase Dinner & Show tickets and merchandise.
5. **Campers**, instead of making your registrations directly with the campground, contact the Camping Chairman, Johnny Brown, at 321-444-5595 or jbgrumpyJB@yahoo.com and he will deal with the campground.
6. There are **raffle tickets** for sale for a \$500 pre-paid VISA card. The tickets are 1 ticket for \$1, 10 tickets for \$5, and 25 tickets for \$10.
7. Everything will still be at one location and there will free parking.
8. All **convention information** can be found at <http://www.dancergram.com/aa-FWS/convention/index.html>.

Days of Yore in 2024



January 19-20, 2024
The Center At Deltona
1640 Dr. Martin Luther King Blvd
Deltona, FL 32725

Mainstream, Plus, A2
Phases 2, 3, 4, & 5
Plus more

Thursday Night
Trail End Dance
The Center At Deltona

ALL AT ONE LOCATION
FREE PARKING

*** Dinner & Show ***

Keep an eye on the Convention website for more information.

Friday, January 19, 2024, 4:15p-6:30p
The Center At Deltona

Dinner & Show price: \$40 per person

Deadline to purchase: Friday, January 5, 2024

Camping:

The Center At Deltona

NO CAMPING REFUNDS after Dec 1, 2023

Make your reservation with
Johnny Brown, Camping Chairman
321-444-5595 | jbrumpyJB@yahoo.com

Merchandise & Raffle:

Yellow Polo w/Blue logo on the front	\$25. ⁰⁰	Raffle Tickets - \$500 prepaid Visa Card	
Yellow T-Shirt w/Blue logo on the front & back	\$16. ⁰⁰	1 ticket	\$ 1. ⁰⁰
Convention Button	\$ 1. ⁰⁰	10 tickets	\$ 5. ⁰⁰
		25 tickets	\$10. ⁰⁰



Registration:

Check dances or the website for a form

Make checks payable to: 69th FSDC

Mail to: Linda Reid
1062 Old Millpond Rd.
Melbourne, FL 32940
Reid20@bellsouth.net

Host Hotel:

Courtyard by Marriott
308 N. Woodland Blvd.
Deland, FL 32720
386-507-2930

Ask for the Square Dance rate!

Scan the QR code to purchase Convention ribbons, Dinner & Show tickets, Merchandise, and to make a reservation at the host hotel.

For more information click on the convention link at
www.dancergram.com

Smooth Dancing

Buddy Weaver

This month we will feature the question most frequently asked by today's square dancers, "*which way do I face?*"

With so many calls and their extended applications it is sometimes difficult to get an uncomplicated answer to the question. Lets start with the fact that a call is desiged not only to move a dancer from one spot to another but to position them correctly for the next call. An important part of mastering any square dance call is knowing where the call ends. Callers take note of this when teaching.

Now lets look at our most basic calls and the simple answer of which way to face.

DO SA DO starts from two facing people. Walking in a smooth circular path, forward passing right shoulders, sliding back-to-back, backing up passing left shoulders. Ending as the call started, face-to-face.

Some callers may often use DO SA DO to some kind of ocean wave call, like SWING THRU, which gives dancers the impression that Do Sa Do ends in an ocean wave, or that Do Sa Do and Swing Thru are always tied together. The true answer t which way do I face after Do Sa Do, is face-to-face, touching hands only with a dancer adjacent to you, if applicable.

SWING, is a call that is often used in two ways, the first is **SWING YOUR PARTNER**. Here dancers will turn to face t heir partner, if turning is necessary, use a ballroom dance hold and rotate clockwise around each other to end facing in towards the center of the square; the woman unrolling off the man's right arm until she is facing the same direction as the man.

SWING YOUR CORNER will have dancers turn to face their corner, if turning is necessary, use a ballroom dance hold and rotate clockwise around each other to end facing in towards the center of the square; the woman unrolling off the man's right arm until she is facing the same direction as the man.

Note that each time the SWING is finishing, it is the man who must complete the call to face the center of the square. If the man is confused on where to face at the end of the call; then both dancers are confused on where to face. For callers teaching SWING to first-time dancers, it is advisable to teach the "TWO-

HAND SWING” where dancers join both hands, man palm up, lady palm down, bend the elbows and dance the call as described above.

This wouldn't be a Buddy Weaver Smooth Dancing feature without talking about how to SWING. The best way find (so far) has been to ask dancers to take the ballroom position, make sure the man's left hand joined with the woman's right hand is extended at the elbow. There should be resistance at this handhold. Man's right hand should be placed on the woman's left shoulder blade as this provides a place to help body “framing” and is the best place for men who have wandering hands to make a ballroom dance position that is safe for women dancers. The lady's left hand is placed here the man's right muscle should be. Standing straight is crucial and to get that, I ask dancers to tighten their abs, also known as “sucking in their dining room”. Nothing ruins the smoothness of the call SWING like slouching. Dancers should place the outside of their right feet against each other's. This keeps dancers moving forward and prevents feet from flailing about as a trip hazard to other dancers.

It seems there is quite a bit to the SWING – **YES** and it has to be learned when first introduced otherwise sloppy dance habits become the practiced way of doing the call.

Here is a video teach from Buddy Weaver on the call SWING
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QFHtlgPWML0>

Smooth dancing is the foundation of sustainable square dancing.

Reprint from American Square Dance – May 2023 - Volume 79 Number 5

Social Square Dance by Barry Johnson

Last month, I used the word “selfishness” as one of the fundamental causes for people objecting to the Social Square Dance Program. That's a harsh word...let's talk about it.

We're all human – and we're all passionate about sharing the square dance experience with current friends and those friends we haven't met yet. We're passionate about it because we enjoy the experience, and want other people to feel the same joy that we do. In particular we want our new dancers to be happy if and when they go to the dances that we like to go to... we have fun doing it, so hopefully they will have the same fun!

But it's very difficult for many people to take a step backwards, to step out of their own personal experiences, and think about what would really prompt the "joy of the dance" for a person newly introduced to the hobby. We have to remember what it was like for us at the very beginning, not think about what it is like for us right now. We have to set aside our own personal gratifications, and create experiences that ease people into the activity – allowing them to sense the early joys of moving to the music, without pushing them into the more subtle and sophisticated flavors of the dance that each one of us enjoys.

Keep it simple for the beginners, and let them experience the joy of moving to the music. There will be time for them to grow, if they want to, after they have danced for a while. Don't be selfish – don't try to push them up to your level right now. Let them relish THEIR time exploring the opening of this new world.

Reprint from American Square Dance – May 2023 - Volume 79 Number 5

All Things Considered by Ed Foote

THE DAY THAT QUEEN ELIZABETH SQUARE DANCED

(information for this article comes from the Callerlab
CD Journal, December, 2022)

Well it was really Princess Elizabeth, since she was not yet Queen. She and her husband, the Duke of Edinburgh, visited Ottawa, Canada in October, 1951, to represent the King and Queen of England. During their visit they were invited to take part in a square dance, arranged by the Governor-General of Canada.

The dance was held at Rideau Hall following a private buffet dinner. The music was provided by tree fiddles, an accordion, a piano, a guitar, and a bass fiddle. The caller was 39 year old Tony Griffin, who worked in the economics division of the Canadian government.

The Princess, who was already accustomed to the quadrilles of Scottish dances, caught on to square dancing very quickly Griffin later told reporters: "I've never seen anything like it. Both of them seemed to be having a wonderful time." Cowbells sounded at the beginning and ending of each square.

An accompanying photograph with the article shows the Princess wearing a checked blouse and a long steel blue swinging blue



skirt (almost ankle length) with applique figures. The Duke wore a right checked shirt, blue jeans, and a red scarf.

This event and pictures were used in the publicity for Canadian square dancing, including the second Canadian National Convention, held in Ottawa in 190.

Less than four months after square dancing in Canada, Elizabeth became Queen of England, on February 6, 1952.

Reprint from *American Square Dance* – May 2023 - Volume 79 Number 5

INSPIRATIONAL QUOTES

“The hardest job kids face today is learning good manners without seeing any.”...Fred Astaire, dancer & actor

“Mediocrity is excellence in the eyes of the mediocre.” ...Joseph Joubert, French essayist

“Every man has his secret sorrows which the world knows not; and often times we call a man cold when he is only sad.” ...Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, poet & philosopher

“My definition of an educated person is the one who knows the right thing to do at the time it has to be done.” ...Charles Kettering, American inventor

“I don’t have to chase extraordinary moments to find happiness. It’s right in front of me if I’m paying attention and practicing gratitude” ...Brene Brown, American professor

Reprint from *American Square Dance* – May 2023 - Volume 79 Number 5

72nd National Square and Round Dance Convention[®]

Nationals will be here before you know it! It's in Mobile, Alabama, June 21 – 24 2023.

As of May 1, 2023, registration is at 1,999, with 183 of them from Florida.

The following Florida callers are registered:

Rod Barngrover (C)	Ted Hughes (WC)
Bill Cassidy (NE)	Emily Jones ¹ (NE)
Bill Chesnut (NE)	Bob Ormsbee (WC)
Jim Duncan (NE)	Patty Ping (NW)
Mark Fetzer (NE)	Bob Poyner (NW)
Mike Gormley (WC)	Curtis Smith (?)
Dianne Hicks (WC)	Dave Vieira (C)
Gary Hicks (WC)	Don Whitaker (C)

The following Florida cuers are registered:

Judy Barnhill (TN/FL)	Sandy Sturgis (WC)
Barbara Blackford (NE)	Scott Vallee (C)
Don Brown (NE)	Terri Wilaby (NW)
Earle Collins (C)	Susan Wolford (AL/FL)
Susan Snider (NE)	

And, there are two line dance prompters from Florida!

Diane Hissong (WC)	Leslie Rebick (?)
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Click here to register and pay online.

<https://www.72nsdc.com/registration-long-form/>

¹ Youth Caller

You don't want to miss this.....

Mobile Derby

FRIDAY NIGHT 6:30PM
SOUTH/LIVE BAND HALL

**THE DERBY IS NOT JUST FOR YOUR ENTERTAINMENT -
ITS ALSO A FUNDRAISER!
BE SURE TO PLACE YOUR BETS BEFORE
THE RACE!**

**COME CHEER ON YOUR FAVORITE
PRIZE FOR THE JOCKEY THAT RECEIVES THE MOST BETS!
DERBY WINNER WILL CALL THE FIRST TIP IN THE LIVE BAND HALL FRIDAY NIGHT**



AZALEA TRAIL MAIDS



The Azalea Trail Maids are a group of fifty high school seniors chosen yearly to serve as "Official Ambassadors" for the city of Mobile, Alabama.

The Maids, wearing dresses meant to evoke Southern charm and hospitality, make appearances at many local, state, and national events. They often serve as greeters when foreigners and dignitaries visit the city, and are required to be knowledgeable about the city landmarks and history. In addition, they must have a good grade point average to be accepted and have great interview skills. The Maids are selected through a dual interview process, interviewing at the school and county level. Hundreds of girls initially try out, but only fifty become Azalea Trail Maids. The Maids are meant to embody the ideals of "Southern hospitality".

Representing Mobile, Alabama since 1929

<https://mobileazaleatrimaids.com/>



SEW & SAVE

SAVE What???

In our base article, the Sew and Save Staff discussed several ways you can **SAVE** money on **Square Dance attire**. We even listed some cost comparisons for you. As you can see from the information contained in that article, you can **SAVE** a lot when you get back to basics – or you can choose to splurge by adding a lot of ruffles, lace and/or embellishments.

But now we are going to look at a **DIFFERENT** way to **SAVE** - - by **SAVING MEMORIES!!** Did your 'honey' work in a job that required suits and **TIES**? But now he is retired and you are finding it difficult to just 'throw' these away? Oh my – here is a special one you gave him for your 10th Anniversary. Here is another special **TIE** his daughter or son gave him for Father's Day. Mom – please keep that one! Well – you see what we mean. Here's a novel use for the **TIES** – while **SAVING the MEMORIES** of each **TIE**. We turned the **TIES** into a full apron that also uses a **TIE** at the neck and one for a bow at the back of the waist. And what a great conversation item this is. Imagine those special gatherings when all of your guests inquire about the apron.

You don't have any **TIES**? Don't have time to sew an apron. You don't feel confident enough in your sewing skills (yet) to try this project? **NOT TO WORRY!!** When you check-in at the Registration Desk at the 72nd National Square Dance Convention in Mobile AL, June 21-24, 2023 - tell the registration staff you want to purchase some **RAFFLE TICKETS** so you can **WIN** a '**NECK TIE APRON**'. Tickets are only \$1.00 each. Then bring your **RAFFLE** Tickets to **SEW & SAVE** to select the item(s) you are interested in winning. **SEW & SAVE** will have several items for Raffle. To learn about **all the other items** being offered by **SEW & SAVE** - watch for the next issue of the 72nd NSDC E-Magazine.





Florida has participated in the Showcase of Ideas for over 25 years! There is a plaque on the wall at the Strawberry Square Dance Center recognizing us for that distinction.

Opportunity to Play on Mobile Bay!

ALAN'S ANTICS

Good Ole Country Boy Alan Hall is known round these here Southern Parts for his stage performances of "Free Bird" as well as his take on some retired, reinvented, or just plain ole made up square dancin' calls. He will teach you how to do 'em, you just need to dance and enjoy 'em

SHOWTIME:
Thursday
3:30-4 PM
South Hall



The DANCERgram magazines 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. 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 sqdnxfan@gmail.com or 863-224-3393.

DANCERgram Magazines

Planner (weekly)

Joys, Concerns, & Sympathies (as needed)

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

This and That (monthly) • Reprint of articles • New Articles

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