

DANCERgram

February 2024



THIS &
THAT

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

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The 69th was a Success!

The final numbers aren't in yet, but there were a lot of smiling faces at the Center at Deltona over the weekend! Everybody loved the facility and the great dancing.

The first estimates are that we had 350 – 400 paid dancers in attendance. This does not include the callers and cuers or spectators. We made a profit, which will be shared by the Florida Federation, the Round Dance Council of Florida, and the Florida Callers Association.

We've already started on the 70th! Keep reading!

Florida Federation Announces 2025 Florida State Square and Round Dance Convention Theme

With great fanfare at the 2024 Florida State Convention, Dawn DeWitt and Charles Tharp, 2025 Florida State Convention Chairpersons, introduced the theme for the next convention – *Spin the Big Top*. Yes, it's a circus theme. It already sounds like a fun time, doesn't it?

Dawn and Charles are from the Southeast Association and have just completed two years as assistant convention chairman for the 2024 convention. Stay tuned for a lot of new ideas!

First, and most important, the convention will be January 17 – 18, 2025, with the Trail-End Dance on Thursday, January 16, 2025. We will return to the Center at Deltona. We heard numerous good comments about the Center this year and the Center was pleased to have us.

NO REGISTRATION RIBBONS! That’s right; no registration ribbons. Dancers interested in registering are given a convention button along with an info sheet containing a QR code. Using that QR code, you can register online as well as purchase fundraising items and your ticket to the dinner show on Friday night. Even if you just register for the convention and then decide later to purchase items or tickets for the dinner show later, you can still go online and order them later. The goal is to have all registrations completed online, but if you still prefer that pen and paper way of doing things, a committee member will assist you with data entry.

When you arrive at the convention, go to the registration desk to check in and receive a ribbon as proof of purchase.

RATE INCREASE! Yes, unfortunately we have to increase our prices. We tried to keep it very minimal – just \$5.

	1/21/24 – 5/31/24	6/1/24 – 10/3/24	11/1/24 – 1/18/25
Full Convention	\$45	\$50	\$55
Weekender (Friday evening and all day Saturday)	\$35	\$40	\$45
Single Day (can only be purchased at the Registration Desk)	\$30	\$35	\$40
Spectator Ribbon (FREE – only available at Registration Desk)			
SOLO Ribbon (FREE – only available at Registration Desk)			

All prices are **PER PERSON** in **USD** (tax included)

Registrations received after January 1, 2025
- pick up at the Registration Desk

Cancellation Deadline: January 17, 2025
Service Charge for NSF or returned checks: \$35

FUNDRAISERS:

- Benefit Dances - to be scheduled
- Dinner/Show

- Raffles - \$500 VISA gift card and two dinner show tickets. If you have already purchased tickets for the dinner show, you will be refunded)
- Silent Auctions at the benefit dances with items donated from all associations

The hotel link is currently not working as we are searching for a hotel closer to the Center at Daytona.

The convention website will be updated shortly.

Volunteers Needed!

With every good convention, volunteers are needed!

The following positions on the committee are vacant. Please consider helping.

Campers – make arrangements for a special square dance rate at the local campgrounds; promote the convention to the campers

Dangle Dances – establish themes for each of the dangle dances, coordinate with the badge vendor to create dangles for each theme, collect any needed props

Entertainment (Dinner Show): identify caterer and coordinate signing of a contract with a caterer, identify entertainment and negotiate contract, ensure adherence to BMI/ASCAP/SESAC rules by the entertainment, promote the dinner show

Assistant Facilities Chairman – assist Facilities Chairman, coordinate with the Center, be able to answer all questions regarding the Center, negotiate special square dance rate with local hotels

Assistant Lodging Chairman – assist the Lodging Chairman; make contact with the local hotels in an effort to negotiate special square dance rates

Photographer – photograph all convention and related activities, video tape various activities i.e. the kick-off, award presentations, etc., candid shots of dancers, etc. to document for historical value

Publicity – publicize the convention in all Florida publications and various other square dance publications, coordinate with border states to exchange convention flyers for the convention program books

Vendor – schedule vendors for the convention, collect booth rental, be available when the vendors arrive to assist with set-up

Assistant Vendor Chairman – in partnership with the Vendor Chairman, schedule vendors for the convention, collect booth rental, be available when the vendors arrive to assist with set-up.

Round Dance Council of Florida Announces Officers

During the recent convention, the Round Dance Council held their meeting which included the election of officers for the upcoming year. They are as follows:

Presidents: Earle and Carol Collins
Vice Presidents: Tom and Cindy Bunn
Secretary: Lloyd and Ruth McKenrick
Treasurer: Ellen Bell and Don Brown

Florida Federation Announces 2024 Extra Mile Award Recipient

Each year nominations are requested for the Extra Mile Award which is presented during the annual convention. This award is for those callers and cuers that go that extra Mile without personal gain in giving freely of their time and talents to the square dance community and is a member of their respective state organization. The nominations are made by square dancers and the decision is made by the Florida Federation Executive Board. The recipient receives a certificate and a badge or bar.

The 2024 recipient was announced on Saturday night at the Closing Ceremonies, and the winner is **ROD BARNGROVER!**

Congratulations!

For the list of past recipients, go to <https://www.dancergram.com/aa-FWS/documents/ExtraMileAwards/extra-mile.html>

Any dancer can nominate a caller or cuer for the Extra Mile Award. The instructions and nomination form can be found at www.dancergram.com/aa-FWS/documents/ExtraMileAwards/ExtraMileNominationForm.pdf. The deadline for nominations is October 15th.

“They Called Him Mostly Harmless”

Yes, this article has a Square Dance Connection (small).

Ok, the long awaited documentary called "They Called Him Mostly Harmless" will finally be released after more than 2 years from when the filming was done. Four or five other hikers and myself are in the documentary.

For those that don't know, I was the last hiker known to have talked to him on the trail, before they found him dead in his tent, some 2 months later, not 5 miles from where we had conversed. No I was never a suspect.

The documentary will "air" (pun), stream is a better word, on MAX on February 8th at 9pm.

Some of the other hikers got the chance to see the entire 90 minute documentary a while back during a special showing in an Orlando suburb, but I have not seen it. Therefore, I do not know what hit the cutting floor (another pun), so you may learn something about me you never knew. I hope we can still remain friends. :-) I was told some of my square dance calling, during an SSD Class, is in it, but I think they cut the sound that went with it, and put a voice over of me discussing the case. My other hobby, Ham Radio, was shot, but that film (sic) is lying on the floor.

You can see the trailer on ET (Entertainment Tonight) which aired broadcasted, streamed today (Jan. 25) at 11:02 am.

Here is a link to view it:

<https://www.etonline.com/they-called-him-mostly-harmless-watch-the-trailer-about-the-mysterious-appalachian-trail-hiker>

Mike Gormley, aka Water Boy

Old Friends

Another benefit of square dancing that is never mentioned is the life-long friends you make. A lot of these old friends still come visit us at the conventions and it's always good to see them.



During this past convention, **Caller Howard Cole** showed up! I was sitting in a chair in the hallway at the convention watching people go by. Then I saw this tall man in a cowboy hat pushing through the crowd towards me with a big smile on his face. My jaw just dropped. I stood up and said, “Howard, is that you?” He grabbed me in a big bear hug. He hasn't changed a bit, but he's a little thinner than he was. He was wearing that beautiful vest Becky made him years ago with a large horse's head on the back and other western items on the front, his cowboy hat, and he had on his Florida Callers Association badge on.

He told me they lost Becky in 2022. If you would like to read her obituary, it's at this link <https://www.legacy.com/us/obituaries/kpcnews/name/rebecca-cole-obituary?id=36715394>. His daughter brought him down to Florida “on his last trip”¹. He and his daughter were there for the entire convention, renewing friendships and getting caught up with the latest news.

Howard is a past president of the Florida Callers Association (2004) and called for Twilight Twirlers in Bonita Springs, Curliques in Estero, and Snobirds in Bonita Springs. Becky was a retired cuer.

If you would like to get in touch with Howard, his address is 717 W. Main Street, Albion, Indiana 46701 – 239-691-5670 – hwcole@att.net.

Some other old friends visiting this past weekend were **Dewey and Donna Hendricks**. They were Federation presidents (1992-93), Central Association presidents (1986-88), Shamrock Swing Chairpersons in 2005, and Central Association's Couple of the Year in 1987. They probably worked on a lot of Florida Convention committees too!

If you would like to get in touch with them, their address is 5150 Mt. Plymouth Road, Apopka, Florida 32712 – 407-884-9932 – r65vette@hotmail.com.

¹ His words



Promenade Squares
Annual



SQUARE DANCE CLOTHING RE-SALE

Ladies' and Men's dance attire & MORE!

(ONE DAY ONLY)

Wednesday, March 13, 2024



Broderick Recreation Center
6101 66th Ave. N. Pinellas Park
6:00 – 8:00 PM



**SHOP FOR SQUARE DANCE CLOTHES
AND ENJOY THE DANCE!**

(CASH DONATION)



FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

E-MAIL: Friendib@verizon.net

BACK

Make check payable to:
70th FSDC
Mail to: Jenny Green
108 Mound St.
Longwood, FL 32750

Host Hotel

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

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For up-to-date information,
please visit:
www.floridasquaredance.com
and click on the convention
link

Dinner/Show
\$45 pp

Raffle Tickets
\$500 prepaid Visa Card
1 ticket \$1.00
10 tickets \$5.00
25 tickets \$10.00

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FRONT

SPIN THE BIGTOP
70th FSSRDC
January 17-18, 2025

The Center at
Deltona
1640 Dr. M.L.K. Blvd
Deltona, FL 32725

Scan QR code to register online. Pay with cash, check or credit card.



Thursday night Trail End Dance at the Center at Deltona 1/16/25

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Thursday night Trail End Dance at the Center at Deltona 1/16/25

Fri. Dinner Show \$45pp

Dry camping on site

Phase 2-5 Rounds

Trail End Dance Thursday nite

Two full days of Dancing

MS, PLUS, A2 SQUARES

SPIN THE BIG TOP

70 TH FSSRDC
Jan. 17-18, 2025

The Center at Deltona
1640 Dr. MLK Blvd.
Deltona, Florida 32725

TO REGISTER SCAN ME

Make check payable to:
70th FSDC
Mail to: Jenny Green
108 Mound St.
Longwood, FL 32750
Service Charge for NSF or returned check : \$35

**Get Your
Tickets
for the Friday Night
Dinner/Show
\$45 pp**



**Friday, January 17, 2025
4:15-6:30 pm
The Center at Deltona**



**Deadline to
purchase is
January 3, 2025**

Check back for details as the
convention gets near!

**Your purchase will help
support the
2025 convention**

**SPIN THE
BIGTOP**

WIN
A prepaid VISA
Gift Card
a \$500 value



1 for a \$1
10 for \$5
25 for \$10

Pay with cash, check or credit
card
Get your tickets from
convention committee
members or from your local
association

Drawing to be held at the 2025 Florida
State Square and Round Dance Convention
on, Saturday, January 18, 2025.
You need not be present to win.



Your purchase will help
support the
2025 convention

SPIN THE
BIGTOP

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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