

DANCERgram

May 2026



THIS &
THAT

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

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Florida Callers Association President's Message

New Callers Needed for the survival of Square Dancing

Perhaps it is more important to find new callers than finding new dancers. Because if we find and train new callers, those callers will then start their own classes and our effort to get new dancers will be multiplied.

We all had mentors when we were growing up as square dance callers. We should always be looking for our replacement. Who will look up to YOU as their mentor?

With that in mind, are you a dancer who likes to sing or perhaps solve puzzles, or who has thought a time or two about trying to do some calling? Or are you a new caller with some experience and still trying to improve your skills? Would you like more opportunities to get on the microphone and do other things to reinforce what you already know? I am collecting names of candidates who would like to meet via weekly Zoom training sessions that will be dedicated to Newbie Callers with no experience and callers with minimal experience. For the Newbie Callers, I am looking to draw from the dancing community.

Anyone reading this, no matter where you live, who is interested, please contact me with you Name, Phone Number and Email. Please state your level of experience. If there is enough interest, I will make arrangements to get something started.

My email address is mike@mike-gormley.com.

I'm still learning new things myself, but feel, after sitting in on similar training sessions, that I have enough knowledge to share what I already know.

"Each raindrop is small on its own, but together, they allow a river to flow strong. In the same way, every" bit of training you get, will help you to become an accomplished caller.

Mike Gormley, President

Florida Callers Association Seminar

Scott Bennett

- CALLERLAB accredited caller coach
- Decades of Square Dance calling
- Created Crest, Acme, and Peak music companies
- International Caller



New and Experienced Callers Welcome

Brand new and want to learn about square dance calling? This is for you!

October 15- 17, 2026

Thursday, October 15, starting at 1:00pm
FCA programs for new/newer callers

Friday and Saturday, October 16-17 clinician:
Scott Bennett, Starts at 9:00 am both days

Admission is free for FCA members.
Non-members pay \$50 or join FCA for \$50
and attend for free. What a great deal!

Reserve a campsite or stay at the hotel. Mention
Florida Callers for a discount.

Clinic Location

Southern Oaks RV Resort
14140 S US HWY 441
Summerfield, FL
352-347-2550

Host Hotel

Comfort Suites – The Villages
1202 Avenida Central
Lady Lake, FL
352 205-7638

Bill Cassidy email: flyingfarm@gmail.com

Florida Callers Association Dance

Saturday, October 17, 2026

7 - 9 PM

\$8 per person

Scott Bennett

**Ann Hadsall
Brenda Corey**



International Square Dance
Caller Extrodinaire!



Fabulous Mother-Daughter
Cuer Team!

All dancers welcome!

Squares and Rounds, Plus and Easy Mainstream
Possibly an Advanced tip at the end of the evening

La Hacienda Recreation
1200 Avenida Central
The Villages, FL

Goodies for the snack table
are welcome and appreciated.

Contact: Bill Cassidy flyingfarm@gmail.com



Circulate the World

Strawberry Square is a mobile home park, created by dancers for dancer, located at 4401 Boot Bay Road in Plant City.

This is how it all began: Strawberry Square is the dream, come true of Marty and Byrdie Martin, who are teaching round dancing. Their dream of a square & round dance hall & mobile home park began to take shape in 1978 when they purchased property near their home & began to sell lots. Marty's son built the hall, with a beautiful floating wood floor. The first dance was held in March 1979. The hall is smoke free, can hold 35 squares & the acoustics are excellent. Soon they were having dances every day of the week – what a joy to watch the happy square & round dance couples in their colorful outfits. In 1995 the Martins decided it was time to retire, but rather than turn the operation over to an outsider they sold the entire facility to the park residents who continue the tradition of fine dancing at Strawberry Square.

We have Square and Round dancing & workshops at every level. There are morning, afternoon & evening sessions daily in an air conditioned, smoke free facility with the floating hardwood floor. Art Springer, Gary Brown & Keith Stevens call square dances regularly and Charlie & Leona Lovelace do a good job calling rounds at Strawberry Square.

We have “Special” Dances such as Michigan Meleé” with callers from Michigan: Valentine & St. Patrick's Day dance & a really great New Year's Eve dinner dance party. Also, a “Strawberry” night with strawberries to eat & door prizes. We have a Square Dance Apparel shop open during the day as well as during dances.

We are only 15 minutes from Tampa & Busch Gardens & 60 minutes from Orlando. Some interesting places near to you include/ Historical Downtown Plant City, Lowry Park Zoo, the Florida Aquarium, Cypress Gardens & Spook Hill.

For more information about Strawberry Square, go to www.strawberrysquaredancing.com or by calling the office at 813-752-0491. Email to strawberrydance@aol.com.

USDA's New Youth Grant!

Short on funds for a youth-related square dance activity?

Apply for a grant from the United Square Dancers of America (USDA) Youth Advisory Committee to help cover the gap!

Examples of eligible needs include:

- Helping families cover youth square dance lesson costs
- Assisting youth attending State or National square dance Conventions
- Filling funding gaps while starting or growing a youth square dance program

Apply for a Youth Grant!



[About - Rhythm & Roots Marketing](#)

77th (2028) National Square Dance Convention[®]

Amazon Wish List

The Amazon Wish List is officially active, and it is on the 77th NSDC[®]. This curated list includes items we need right now as well as supplies essential for a successful convention in Daytona Beach. If you notice something we should add, please reach out and let us now.

When placing an order, please be sure to select “Gift Registry Address” at checkout so your items ship directly to the 77th NSDC®.

Thank you for helping us build an unforgettable convention experience for everyone. Your support truly makes a difference.

Disney World Raffle

We are excited to announce the launch of the **77th NSDC Disney World Vacation Raffle**, offering a chance to win a *three-night, four-day Disney vacation* valued at \$2,500. This experience includes an on-property Disney hotel stay along with tickets for two adults. All proceeds support the upcoming 77th National Square Dance Convention® in Daytona Beach in 2028. We invite you to share this opportunity with your audience and help us spread the word about this exciting fundraiser.

Wave Payment Plan (WPP)

Wave Payment Plan – 77th NSDC

The WPP makes it easy to book and pay overtime for your 77th National Square Dance Convention® experience in Daytona Beach. Whether you're planning a getaway or a group adventure, this flexible installment plan helps you budget with ease—no interest, no credit checks, and no stress.

We are pleased to announce that applications are now open for both the **Host Hotel** and the **Dance Leader Hotel. Dancers and team members** may begin applying **starting today**. This 100% gaurantees anyone that hotel prior to us releasing the hotel links. If you are **already registered for the 77th NSDC®**, no down payment is required at this time. Please help us spread the word by sharing this information widely — with your clubs, your friends, and even those you haven't met yet. The more people who see it, the better we can support our dancers and leaders.

[Hilton Resort Payment Plan \(Host Hotel\)](#)

[Hard Rock Hotel Payment Plan \(Dance Leader Hotel\)](#)

New Bow & Swing Editor Named

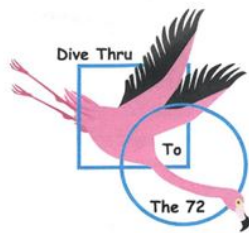
The *Bow & Swing* was originally published in 1951 by Harold Emery. Over the years, there have been several editors. At one time, the Florida Federation published the magazine, another time the Florida Callers published it. In the early '90s, Bill and Randy Boyd took it over. Bill retired in 2020 and sold it to SusanElaine Packer. Three years later, Stephen Bigelow took it over. Stephen passed away about a month ago, and we have another editor.

Annie Minor is the new editor. She is from the Southeast Association and is currently the Florida Federation Vice President and is the Ways & Means chairperson for the 72nd Florida State Convention. Her first issue will be in May.

The presidents of the Florida Callers Association, Florida Federation, and the Round Dance Council, as well as the presidents of each of the Florida associations, are asked to submit articles about your respective organizations.

All of the clubs are asked to send articles and photos about what your club is doing.

If you would like to receive issues of the *Bow & Swing*, please send Annie your email address, or it will be posted at www.floridasquaredance.com. Annie can be reached at bowandswingmag@gmail.com – 571-216-7131.



**72nd Florida State Square
& Round Dance
Convention
Benefit Dance**

Saturday May 16, 2026

Squares:

**Darrell Cevasco
Caller Co-Chairperson**

Rounds:

**Earle & Carol Collins
Cuer Chairpersons**

**Strawberry Square Promenade Blvd.
Plant City, Fl 33563**

ADMISSION: DONATION AT THE DOOR

Early Rounds: 6:00 – 7:00p.m.

Mainstream & Plus w/ Rounds 7:00 – 9:00p.m.*

***Advanced tip if enough**

Registration and merchandise available to purchase

**A gift basket silent auction will be held
donated by fellow dancers.**

**Contact: Annie Minor annien.minor@gmail.com
or 571-276-7137**

Sponsored by the Florida Federation of Square Dancers, Inc.



Gift Baskets

Needed for Silent Auction



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You can donate a basket as an association, club, or individual.

**Please bring baskets to Strawberry Square in Plant City
Saturday May 16, 2026 by 5:30pm**

For the 72nd Florida State Convention Benefit Dance

Please include a list of items that are in the basket and their value.

These must be new, unopened items. The theme is flamingos or Florida. Popular items: wine & chocolate

Please contact Annie Minor annien.minor@gmail.com or 571-276-7137

Dinner and Beach Music

Featuring the



Jimmy Buffett Tribute / Beach Boys Tribute Band

Performing all your favorite beach music from Jimmy Buffett, the Beach Boys and many more of your favorite summer music classics.



Presented by the 72nd Florida State Square and Round Dance Convention

Friday February 26, 2027

The Center at Deltona

Doors Open at 4:30

\$45 per Person

Aluminum Can Recycling Fundraiser

Collect and recycle empty aluminum cans to raise money for the sound equipment for the 77NSDC!
How to contribute? Give Dave Vieira a bag or more of aluminum cans OR collect your own cans and turn them in to your local recycling center. Then either mail the money earned in, or had it to the General or Assistant General Chairmen

Kroger Community Rewards Program

Kroger Community Reward Program has a donation program that is based on a percentage of your purchase. Nothing will be added to your bill, you only need a Kroger account and then associate that with our convention. 77 NSDC Inc.

Once logged into your Kroger account you can search for 77 NSDC INC. either by name or VR672 and then click Enroll. New users will need to create an account which requires some basic information, a valid email address and a *rewards* card.

Walmart Round Up

Every penny counts—and now you can help support the 77th National Square Dance Convention® just by shopping at Walmart! When you check out, simply select us as your preferred organization and round up your total to the nearest dollar.

That spare change goes directly toward making this unforgettable event even more welcoming, vibrant, and fun for all generations.

Just choose 77th National Square Dance Convention® (77 NSDC Inc) at checkout—online or in the Walmart app!

Amazon Wishlist

To help gather supplies for the 77th NSDC an Amazon Wishlist was put together. Follow this link, and make sure to select the 77NSDC for delivery location.

77NSDC AMAZON WISHLIST

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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