



**Volume 50, Number 3,
July, August and September
2025**

**NORTHWEST FLORIDA SQUARE AND ROUND
DANCE ASSOCIATION**



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NORTHWEST ASSOCIATION OFFICERS

President:

Brian and Barbara McDonald
704 Trowbridge Ave.
Ft. Walton Beach, FL. 32547-3136
Brian (850) 240-1637
Barbara (850) 217-2890
bjd9@cox.net

Vice President: Program Chair

Tim Tharp
2130 Morris Road
Cottdondale, FL. 32431
(703) 585-7177
tgtharp@gmail.com

Secretary:

Laura Davis
1817 Wales Drive
Tallahassee, FL. 32303
(850) 354-2218
keylime7@comcast.net

Treasurer and Insurance:

Alec Schmidt
116 Bayou Drive
Niceville, FL. 32578
(850) 856-8105
aschmidtmd@aol.com

Panhandle Press Editor:

Barbara McDonald
barbaramcdonald310@gmail.com

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Greetings to you all and you have a great 4th of July! Be sure and look at the dances in the calendar and the coming change for Swinging Squares in Panama City. They are changing their club dance to Thursdays on July 17th. The Emerald Waves and Ragon Hall are sponsoring The Pensacola Rainbow Stroll. Seaside Squares are celebrating their Beach Blast on July 26, 2025 and 62nd Anniversary Saturday, August 23, 2025.



Northwest meeting for officers and delegates is a Zoom meeting **Sunday July 13, 2025 at 2 pm**. Please represent your club by joining us. If you don't know how to Zoom let Laura know. At our Zoom meeting we will appoint a Nominating Chairman for officers for 2026.

Don't forget the **Northwest Roundup** in October. We have the ribbons so please see Tim Thorp, Alec, Deecee and Laura. Tony Oxendine is our caller and he is well known. Sandy Sturgis is the cuer. We are taking flyers to the National Convention and Tennessee State Convention to help spread the word. Tim has been working very hard and is trying to reserve a room at one of the motels for a game room we can use when people are not dancing. Please get your ribbons as soon as possible so we have an idea who will be coming.

For you information Florida will be hosting the 2028 National Square Dance Convention ® in Daytona !

Service for Julie Gray is July 12th.

Brian and Barbara

Presidents

The Florida Federation website is now at
www.dancergram.com/aa-floridasquaredance.com/index.html.

Send flyers for Florida Federation website publication to Cliff Reiss at
dgramwebmaster@yahoo.com.

NORTHWEST FLORIDA SQUARE AND ROUND DANCE ASSOCIATION CLUBS

AGAPE SQUARES Mondays 6:00-7:00 Class. 7:00-8:30 pm Club (SSD, M, P)

Caller: Varies

Cross Point Church Fellowship Hall, 214 Partin Dr. Niceville, FL.

CONTACT: Andrew Sejan (843) 902-5715

EMERALD WAVES SQUARES Tuesdays 6:30-9:30 Mainstream Class.

Caller: Nick Hartley

Ragon Hall, 26 Stratford Rd., Pensacola, FL.

CONTACT: Tim Tharp (703) 585-7177

CAPITAL TWIRLERS Mondays 7-9 pm (MS, P, A)

Caller: George Lavender

Tallahassee Senior Center, 1400 N. Monroe, Tallahassee, FL.

CONTACT: Gary Yancy (850) 524-0510

SEASIDE SQUARES Friday 7:30-9:30 pm (MS, P)

Caller: Varies

Ragon Hall, 2600 Stratford Rd., Pensacola, FL.

CONTACT: Linda Steadman (850) 293-7720

SWINGING SQUARES Friday 6:15-7 pm Class. 7-8:30 pm Club (MS, P)

****Starting July 17, 2025 Club night will be on Thursdays**

Caller: Miriam Merriwether

Grand Square Hall, 1105 Bob Little Rd, Panama City, FL.

CONTACT: Jon & Kathy Kern (850) 896-5798

Website: www.grandsquarehallpanamacity.com

Facebook: @SwingingSquaresGrandSquareHallPanamaCity

T-N-T ROUNDS Sundays 3-5 pm

Cuer: Terri Wilaby

T-N-T Hall, 6419 Dallas Ave., Pensacola, FL.

CONTACT: Terri and Tim Wilaby (850) 712-5230

terriwilaby@hotmail.com

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

July 14, 2025, Capital Twirlers Special Dance at Tallahassee Senior Center, 7-9 pm, Caller **Tim Tyl**

July 26, 2025, Beach Blast Jamboree at Ragon Hall, 1 pm-4:30 pm

July 31-August 2, 2025, Tennessee 50th Square Dance Convention in Gatlinburg, TN.

August 23, 2025, Seaside Squares 62nd Anniversary dance at Ragon Hall at 11:00-4:00 pm

September 7, 2025, New Cha Cha Dance lessons starting at T-N-T Rounds in Pensacola

September 18-20, 2025, The Pensacola Rainbow Stroll First event at Ragon Hall, Pensacola, FL. Callers Nick Heartly and Chris Phillips.

October 10, 2025, Ragon Hall fundraiser with Nick Hartley and Ted Kenedy

October 24-25, 2025, **NWFSRDA Roundup** at Grand Square Hall, Panama City, FL. Caller Tony Oxendine and Cuer Sandy Sturgis

October 31, 2025, Seaside Squares Spook Tacular dance at Ragon Hall 7:30-9:30 pm

November 21, 2025, Seaside Squares Before Gathering for Thanksgiving at Ragon Hall 7:30-9:30 pm

December 31, 2025, Seaside Squares New Years dance at Ragon Hall 1:00-4:00 pm

January 16-17, 2026, **71'st FL.** State Square and Round Dance convention.

AGAPE

I'm writing my Agape article from Shreveport, LA. We are here for the 74th National Square and Round Dance Convention!

Agape graduated our newest dancers. We had a great graduation dance and we are happy to have these new dancers joining us. We graduated three and recognized two more dancers that have danced in the past and reviewed during our class. All are ready to join us on Mainstream tips on Monday nights.

We are sad to say goodbye to Rudy and Katrina. They have taken jobs in Central Florida and will move soon. We hope to connect them to a club in their new area and then see them at the Florida Convention every year in February. We'll miss you Katrina and Rudy and wish you the very best in your new home! Hope you'll come back to visit us.

A group from Agape will be traveling to Gatlinburg on July 31-August 2, 2025 for the Tennessee State Convention. We would love to have you join us. It's always fun and you can enjoy Gatlinburg also!

A reminder that we will have a guest caller, Dan Nordbye from Mesa, Arizona at Agape on **July 28**, plan to dance with us that night.

Agape will dance **6:30-8:30 pm** over the summer. We will have a new class starting in September so be thinking about who you want to invite and plant a seed now.

Hope to see you in a square soon!



Kay Schmidt



CAPITAL TWIRLERS

The Capital Twirlers are graduating nine students from their 2025 beginners square dance class on June 30. We hope they will all join the club and continue to dance as the club gets back to regular dancing from 7:00 to 9:00 pm.

The club is looking forward to July 14 when one of Elmer Sheffield's friends from Texas, Tim Tyl, will visit Tallahassee to call for the Twirlers. Tim is known for his energetic, lively, and exciting style of calling while using a wide variety of calls and musical styles. He makes the simplest choreography interesting while successfully moving dancers through complex and unusual choreography. He is known for his quick wit, humor, and ability to keep dancers laughing, and for his unique performances of specialty songs and his parody of songs. We know it is difficult to travel on a Monday night, but you don't want to miss this dance.



Gary Yancy



T-N-T ROUNDS

T-N-T Rounds announces a New Cha Cha Class!

Join us for a brand-new Cha Cha class starting **September 7, 2025**, from **1:30 to 3:30 PM**.

- **Duration:** Classes will take place over a period of **14 weeks**.
- **Cost:** It's **\$10 per person per class**, or you can take advantage of a discounted rate of **\$112 for all 14 weeks**—to be paid in advance at the first class.
- **Location:** Classes will be held at **6319 Dallas Ave, Pensacola, FL**.
- **Note:** Space is limited.

To register, please call **Terri at 850-712-5230**.

Terri's email: terriwilaby@hotmail.com

EMERALD WAVES SQUARES

Dance Schedule: Every Tuesday night at Ragon Hall; 2600 Stratford Rd Pensacola, FL. Doors open at 6pm for those wanting extra time for practice. Mainstream and beginning Plus lessons from 6:30 to 8:30pm. Nick Hartley is our caller.

Welcome to Summer! For all the fuss about the record snowfall and cold temps we saw this winter, some of that cool air would certainly feel good now! Fortunately, our activity of modern square dance is typically an indoor activity and dancing at Ragon Hall with its six new A/C units is a great way to escape the summer heat, socialize with your friends and exercise the mind and body.

Mark your calendar and make plans now for ***The Pensacola Rainbow Stroll***, happening September 18 to 20, 2025. The featured callers will be our very own Nick Hartley and special guest caller Chris Phillips from Ft Lauderdale/Miami. The event is being advertised nationally and we fully anticipate a great turnout with many attendees' traveling from out of state to attend. Thus, the term Fly-In Event. The event is cosponsored by Seaside squares, and we'll be dancing levels of Mainstream, Plus and Advanced with workshops for all dance levels, snacks provided at each dance session, lunch on Saturday provided by the clubs and local vendors and restaurants. For full details please visit: <https://emeraldwavessquares.com> or for info email: emeraldwavessquares@gmail.com

We're now officially *Emerald Waves Squares, Inc.* registered in the state of Florida as a 501(c)(3) Nonprofit organization. We've opened our business banking account with All-In Credit Union and will soon be able to take most forms of electronic payment such as: Zelle, CashApp, etc.

We hope, and encourage, all active dancers in the community and surrounding communities will come visit our club and support the continued growth of the square dance culture.

Now let's go dancing!

SEASIDE SQUARES

Welcome to summer everyone. Let's try not to complain about the heat, rain & humidity. Remember our January historic snow.

We continue to enjoy dancing to Ted Kennedy & Nick Hartley on our regular Friday evenings from 7:30-9:30pm. Thank you gentlemen for all you do to keep square dancing alive in our area!

In March, a number of dancers from around the area attended a two-Saturday Advanced level 1 Blast workshop with Nick Hartley. Several of those attendees have continued with lessons on Thursdays from 7-8:30pm. All seem to be enjoying the experience.

On Saturday afternoon, April 5th, several Seaside members attended the Blue and White Ball at Grand Square Hall, Panama City Beach. We were pleased to dance with folks we hadn't seen in a while. Darryl McMillan kept us moving with squares and Sandy Sturgis kept us on our toes with her cued rounds.

We had hoped for more dancers at our Oldies Dance on April 11th, but it was a fun time for those who attended. Cheryl Hamilton kept the ice cream floats coming and Nick kept everyone moving. In keeping with the 50s/60s theme, there was a lot of tie dye, flowers, beads, poodle skirts & pedal pushers on display. Members and guests did a great job with the twist and stroll. And look at those fancy-lit dance shoes.



On April 26th, some of our members traveled to Mobile for an afternoon dance with Port City Squares. We enjoyed dancing to the calling of Ted Kennedy and Ronnie Langley.

On Friday, the 23rd of May we held our annual tribute to Memorial Day. Nick Hartley and Darrin Henry kept an energetic three squares moving. Susan Wolford entertained our round dancers with her cueing. Don Wolford took Arlene Somerville waltzing. We also celebrated Tim Tharp's birthday.



On Friday, June 20th, we danced to Nick & celebrated his wife, Lynette's birthday one day early.



We're enjoying seeing several of our Emerald Waves Squares dancers join us on Friday nights. They have experienced all but a few of the mainstream calls. Hopefully, more of them will join us as they feel more confident in their dancing.

Please plan to join us at our upcoming special dances (see our flyers for details):

July 26th 1:00-4:30pm Beach Blast Jamboree

Aug 23rd 11:00-4:00pm Seaside Anniversary dance

Sep 18th-20th for the Rainbow Stroll sponsored by Emerald Waves Sq & Seaside Sq

Oct 10th evening fundraiser with Ted Kennedy & Nick Hartley.

Remember to support the NWFSRDA 51st Roundup on October 24th & 25th at Grand Square Hall, Panama City Beach. Ribbons are now available.

We hope everyone has a safe, yet fun-filled summer. See you on the dance floor.

SWINGING SQUARES

We would like to thank those who attended the 53rd Blue and White Ball. Sandy Sturgis, the cuer, brought 2 friends from her dance club in Tampa. They were welcomed into the homes of our members. Darryl McMillian always loves returning to Panama City because the building and the area bring fond memories. The decorations for the hall were spectacular and we have several people to thank for that: Deb & John Luzny, Joe Sellars, and 3 of our students, Sandy Lang, Monica Dusek, & Lori Bradshaw .

We would like to extend our condolences to Darryl McMillan on the loss of his wife.

We have 10 students that are still coming for lessons. We understand and try to work around times when people have a conflict with graduations, weddings, vacations, etc. Our angels are so appreciated and our students jump right in to bring snacks, clean at the end of the night, and offer their help in other ways. One of our students made a generous donation to Grand Square Hall in memory of her father who passed this year. Miriam is a great caller and teacher. Our students are learning so much and they are really enjoying square dance. We always are blessed when David also comes with Miriam.

The Northwest Round-up will be here before we know it. It will be held at Grand Square Hall with Tony Oxendine as the caller, and Sandy Sturgis as the cuer. It will be October 24th and 25th.

One of our past members lost his wife, Julie recently. Joe and Julie Gray taught line dancing at Grand Square Hall for several years. If anyone would like to send a card, Joe's address is: 314 Prudence, PCB, Florida, 32408

Our condolences go out to Joe.

Joan Payne continues to keep everyone posted on current happenings through our website and our FB page. We are thankful for her.

Jon and Kathie Kern do so much for the hall and for square dancing. A big thank you goes out to them. Joe Sellars is at the hall more than an hour early to help with the caller's equipment. We thank him.

Summers are great to enjoy friends and family. Happy dancing!



Blue and White Dance

This picture has 2 of our students. To the left of Joe is Sandy Lange. To the right of John Luzny is Kim Smith. Kim donated \$1000.00 to Grand Square Hall in memory of her father who passed about 6 months ago.



Just to the left of Joan Payne (green top), in the center front, is Kristie (black and white top) and members of her family. Kristie has 3 children and 2 of them are taking lessons. To the left of Kristie is Margaret and Margaret's daughter, Arianna (orange top).



In Memory

Julie Gray wife of Joe Gray 5-28-2025

Diane Moran wife of Bill Moran 1-2025



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SCAN ME

BJD Because Jesus Died
WHAT IS SO IMPORTANT ABOUT THAT?

Romans 3:23 shows we are all sinners.

Romans 6:23 shows the cost of sin is death.

Romans 5:8 shows Jesus died for our sins.

Romans 10:9-10 shows that if you believe in your heart and confess with your mouth you Will be Saved.

John 3:16 shows God's love for us in that he gave his only son for us through LOVE.



Please get in touch to offer comments and join our mailing list for sales and specials!



GRAND SQUARE HALL REGULAR DANCE SCHEDULE

1105 Bob Little Rd., Panama City, Fl. 32401

President: Kathie Kern (850) 896-5798

Building Manager: Jon Kern (850) 228-8568

SUNDAY: Available

MONDAY: BOP & SWING DANCE CLUB

Doors Open & Lessons 6:30-7:30 pm

Dance 7:30-9:00 pm

Contact: Don Pitts (850) 348-2670

TUESDAY: SLICK KICKERS

Country & Line Dance 6:30-8:30 pm

Contact: Joe Gray (850) 258-9847

WEDNESDAY: Available

THURSDAY: COUNTRY & BALLROOM FUSION

Teach: 6:30-7:30 pm

Review: 7:45-8:15 pm

Dance: 8:15-9:00 pm

Contact: Tammy Jankowski (850) 896-2226

FRIDAY: SWINGING SQUARES (Starting July 17, 2025 The club will meet Thursdays)

Squares: (class) 5:00-6:00 pm 6:30-7:30 pm

Dance: 7:30-8:30 pm

Contact: Kathie & Jon Kern (850) 896-5798

Caller: Miriam Merriwether

SATURDAY: Open for special dances

Contact: Jon Kern (850) 228-8568

IMPORTANT NOTES:

Visitors are always welcome! All clubs occasionally cancel. Please verify with contact. Grand Square Hall is owned & operated by dancers of the Panama City Square & Round Dance Association, a non-profit corporation dedicated to preserving our square & round dance heritage.

RAGON HALL

2600 Stratford Road, Pensacola, FL 32526

(850) 293-7720

Please call to verify dancing is happening.

Mondays

West Coast Swing 5:00-9:00 pm

Instructor: Justin Grubb (850) 503-9978

Tuesdays - Emerald Waves

Continuing Class and dance 6:30-9:30 pm

Contact: Tim Tharp (703) 585-7177

Wednesdays **Open**

Thursdays

Advanced Dancing 6:00-8:30 pm

Caller Nick Hartley

Fridays

Seaside Squares Callers vary

Mainstream/Plus Squares 7:30-9:30 pm

Contact: Linda Stead (850) 293-7720
ragonhall3@gmail.com

Saturdays

Assorted Activities

Sundays

Available

NWFSRDA's 51st Annual Roundup October 24-25, 2025

Grand Square Hall
1105 Bob Little Rd Panama City, FL

Featured Caller:
Tony Oxendine



Featured Cuer:
Sandy Sturgis



Schedule of Events

Friday & Saturday Nights

7:00 - 7:30: Early Rounds
7:30 - 7:40: Introductions
7:40 - 9:45: Squares w/ Rounds

Saturday Morning & Afternoon

9:00 - 11:00am: Plus /Plus workshop
11:15 - Noon: NWFSRDA Meeting
Noon - 1:00pm: Potluck Lunch
1:00 - 3:00: Advanced level dancing
3:00 - 5:00: Rounds (Teach & Dance)
5:00 - 7:00: Dinner on your own

Square dance attire requested, but not required

See reverse for Motel / Rv info

&

Ribbon Pricing



Roundup Coordinator- Tim Tharp

tgtharp@gmail.com 703-585-7177

MOTELS

(Convenient to Grand Square Hall)

Holiday Inn Express (1.7 miles)

5627 E Highway 22, Panama City, FL 32404 Ph: 850-215-3200

Comfort Suites (1.7 miles)

264 North Tyndall Parkway, Callaway, FL 32404 Ph: 850-215-5551

RV Parks

(These are the closest according to Google. Others may be available)

Gulf Oaks RV Park & Smuggler's Cove Marina

5612 E Hwy 98, Panama City, FL 32404 Ph: 850-704-8435

Nautical Point RV Park

317 Blackshear Dr, Panama City, FL 32404 Ph: 850-596-9052

Tyndall AFB FamCamp (Military and Veterans)

101 Fam Camp Rd, Tyndall AFB, FL 32403 Ph: 850-283-2798

Ribbon Pricing

Through 01 Oct 2025: NWFSRDA members \$15.00pp, non-members \$30.00pp

After 01 Oct 2025: NWFSRDA members \$18.00pp, non-members \$36.00pp

Youth (13 or younger) Price: Through 1 Oct 2025: \$8.00pp. After 1 Oct 2025: \$9.00

One day only pricing, at the door: Friday night \$18.00pp. Saturday workshops & dance \$24.00pp

*Initial NWFSRDA membership cost: \$15.00. Annual renewal \$10.00

Florida residency not required.

Ribbon Order

Name(s) _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Number of Ribbons: ____ Amount of enclosed check: _____

Make check payable to NWFSRDA and mail to:

Alec Schmidt, 116 Bayou Drive, Niceville, FL 32578.

Please include a SASE for ribbons to be mailed. Otherwise, ribbons will be held at the door.

PANHANDLE PRESS BOOSTERS

We are seeking boosters for 2025 to help cover the costs of our printing, ink, and paper. Consider making a donation of:

\$5.00 (**Bronze**) \$15.00 (**Silver**) \$25.00 (**Gold**) \$35.00 (**Platinum**)

Your contribution will ensure that your name appears in the booster section. Please send your name and donation to Barbara McDonald. Thank you for your support!

Platinum sponsor:

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A heartfelt thank you to our Sponsors! Your support is truly appreciated.

The Panhandle Press is published four times a year by the Northwest Florida Square and Round Dance Association Inc. - a not for profit corporation. It is distributed at no charge to members and clubs of NWFSRDA. It is not copyrighted. We welcome articles from clubs and members. We reserve the right to edit, condense or omit articles in order to best utilize space. Dance flyers can be shrunk to fit. PLEASE send articles, images and advertisements as a jpeg.

Advertisement Rates:

One time-ad:	¼ Page=\$5.00	½ page=\$10.00	Full page=\$20.00
Full Year ad:	¼ Page=\$17.00	½ page=\$35.00	Full page=\$70.00

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: **NWFSRDA** AND MAIL TO:

Editor: Barbara McDonald, 704 Trowbridge Ave. Ft. Walton Beach, FL. 32547-3631

barbaramcdonald310@gmail.com or bjd9@cox.net

DEADLINE FOR ADVERTISEMENTS AND ARTICLES September 25th

71st Florida State Square & Round Dance Convention

Survive The Curse at the 71st

January 16-17, 2026

The Center at Deltona

1640 Dr. Martin Luther King Blvd.

Deltona, FL 32725

Trail End Dance:

Thursday, January 15, 2026

COSTUMES ENCOURAGED!



Be sure to also register for the Friday night Dinner

Visit www.floridasquaredance.com for more information and to register.