

November 2024



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

2	Florida Federation President's Message
3	Florida Callers Association President's Message
4	FCA Announces New Officers
4	Comments from Buddy Weaver
5	Inspirational Quotes from Ed Foote
6	Need to get rid of those square dance clothes?
6	Social Square Dancing by Barry Johnson
7	Mike Hogan on Marketing
9	The Big Picture by Buddy Weaver
13	Marketing Committee Square Dance Club Marketing survey
15	Email Tree – 2024-0916-001
16	Centennial Award
18	Important Information for Treasurers
21	FLYER – Florida Square & Round Dance Convention Raffle Tickets
22	FLYER – Florida Square & Round Dance Convention Dance Socks
	Fundraiser
23	FLYER - Fall 2024 Convention Benefit Dance
24	FLYER - 70th Florida Square & Round Dance Convention
25	FLYER – 74 th National Square Dance Convention®
26	FLYER – 74th National Square Dance Convention Looking for
	Callers and Cuers®



Federation President's Message

Sending prayers to all the Square Dancers, Callers and Cuers that went through and suffered damage from Hurricanes Helene and Milton. Hope the majority of you are back Square dancing.

We are coming up to the busy part of the year with festivals and weekend celebrations and dances. Hope to see you all at some of these. The weekend of November third we have the important Federation meeting in Jacksonville. There is also a dance that the Northeast is sponsoring the 1st and 2nd.

Don't forget to come to the next State Convention Benefit dance which will be held in Wildwood on November 9th from 4 to 7. We need you all to come! There are other important dances, too! Check your newsletters for times and places.

Make your reservations for the "Spin the Big Top" State Convention! Time is approaching and we have a great dinner and circus act on Friday night! You won't want to miss that. You can dance Thursday night at the Trail End dance and then all day Friday and Saturday with some of your favorite callers and cuers and the best part is you can meet some "old" friends and share.

Dawn and Charles, Convention Chairs may need some last minute help so if you have a free hand don't forget to reach out to them.

With kind regards, Ann and Cal Maki



FCA President's Message

Howdy All Fellow Callers, Cuers and Square Dancers,

This may seem strange but in the publication world stories are written well before your current issue arrives in your email box. So this message is being written up before the actual Florida Callers Association Caller

Clinic that was held the weekend of October 17 19, 2024. All of the details of the clinic and the new FCA officers that will be voted into office for the FCA is actually after the publication of this message so for this November issue I will leave you all in suspense! Your next FCA President will introduce himself and the new officers in your December 2024 message!

The planning for the Florida Square Dance Federation continues as we are now 77 days away from the 70th FSSRDC Convention "Spin The Big Top" on January 17 and 18, 2025. The next Convention Benefit Dance will be on November 9, 2024 from 4:00 to 8:00 pm at the Wildwood Community Center, 6500 Powell Rd., Wildwood, Florida.

With the month of November we are now officially in the fall months with all the comfort foods and lots of dancing with the dancers who are now arriving back to Florida to enjoy our fall and winter months. With all the food we eat in November it is a great time to be at more of the dances and get your friends to join the new classes in your area. Let's all keep those effected by Hurricane Helene in our thoughts and prayers. Since this is the month of "Thanks" I want to say thank you to all of the dancers and callers that have supported me during my time as your Florida Caller's President and I know that you all will be there in full support of our next FCA President and the new officers. Again I want to thank you all for the "Extra Mile" award that you presented me with back in January 2024. It has been a pleasure continuing the promotion of Square Dancing to all those involved as we continue to share our square dance family with others.

As always be safe out there as we continue thru 2024 which continues to "zoom" by. Remember wherever you are dancing smile and help to "motivate" and encourage the new students and the other dancers as well as we continue to "promenade and yellowrock" this November with all our square dance family.

With that said this is the last FCA President's message from yours truly Rod Barngrover as my term is now over and I pass the microphone and gavel to the next FCA president and this cowboy rides away to another square dance.

Rod Barngrover, FCA President November 2024

Florida Callers Association Announces New Officers

The FCA held their annual Clinic and meeting the weekend of October 19th in the Villages. They held their elections at the meeting on Sunday morning.

President	Keith Stevens
Vice President	Mike Gormley
Secretary	Bill Cassidy
Treasurer	Dave Vieira
Goodwill	Mary Chesnut

Comments from Buddy Weaver

Square dance classes are a relatively new thing starting in the very late 1940s. Up until this time, square dancing was only a part of an evening of folk dances. If the dance was to be "Life On The Ocean Wave" then the caller would teach the dance in its entirety so that everyone could participate. For the folks who really only wanted square dancing and didn't want to learn a dance over-and-

over again, the idea became a class of six weeks where you would learn all the popular dances. Then the dancer who completed the class would be invited to join one or more groups where they would simply dance – no teaches.

Flash ahead a few years and the learning of dances was replaced with learning the calls that made up the dance. There was an increasing number of calls coming into popular use, which meant more to learn and longer classes. It wasn't too long before square dance classes became so lengthy, they were an annual event. Mostly starting in September to coincide with the kids returning to school thus giving parents freedom to go learn square dancing. It was probably no coincidence that square dance classes started after the heat of summer which helped since most halls weren't air-conditioned.

In the 1960s there was a movement to name September as National Square Dance Month, which helped solidify this month as the annual start of classes. Even today many clubs start their classes in September. My own club, which is an SSD club, still starts a class in September, but we have also have another starting in January or February. We have found the secret to sustainability is having more than one class per year.

American Square Dance uses the month of September to celebrate our great activity. It is a great time to post about square dancing on your Facebook and Instagram accounts. Whether you have classes starting, this month is a reminder to share the name – SQUARE DANCING. In closing, I want to welcome new contributors to the publication. The Brendzy family – Ray, Christine, Nicholas, and Caitlyn will appear each month with their unique perspective. They are a wonderful addition to the lineup.

Reprint from American Square Dance Volume 80 Number 9

INSPIRATIOAL QUOTES from Ed Foote

You've got to get to the stage in life where going for it is more important than winning or losing." ...Arthur Ashe, tennis pro

"The art of peaceful living comes down to living compassionately and wisely." ...Allan Lokus, author and teacher

"Those who fear the facts will forever try to discredit the factfinders." ...Denis Diderot, French philosopher

"You may be hurt if you love too much, but you will live in misery if you love too little. ...Napoleon Hill, American self-help author

"If you want to know who controls you, look at who you are not allowed to criticize." ...Voltaire, French writer

Reprint from American Square Dance Volume 80 Number 9

Need to get rid of those square dance clothes?

Once again, there will be recycled Square Dance Clothing sale at the Florida square Dance Convention (January 18-19, 2025) in Deltona which will benefit the convention.

I am requesting donations from around the state of any gently used CLEAN square dance clothing.

Donations can be brought to the convention as early as Thursday evening at the Trail End dance.

Please ask dancers in your area to go through their closet and recycle items they no longer wear or that no longer fit (those pesky closet gnomes!).

You can contact me as follows:

Terri Little 321-427-7950 <u>islandmom74@att.net</u>

Social Square Dancing by Barry Johnson

Things have been a bit crazy in the Johnson household since Nationals. We're in the process of building our own home with help from (professional) family and friends. In early July, I fell from a ladder, breaking my left wrist and causing an avulsion fracture on my "left occipital condyle". For all of us that aren't neurosurgeons, that is one of the bones that carries the full weight of the skull, balancing it on top of the spinal column.

Yes, if I had completely broken that bone, my head would essentially fall sideways — so there's been a lot of "excitement" even though it's just a little crack, and I'll continue wearing a neck brace (a "cervical collar") until at least mid-September. So there's been no dancing, calling, driving and certainly no ladders for me in many weeks.

The good news is that everything is healing at the proper pace. X-rays and CT scans show that the expected improvements are really happening and that the final prognosis is very good.

Meanwhile, on the SSD front, the big news remains "The Proposal" to revamp the CALLERLAB lists below the level of Advanced. The concept is to reposition our activity for the next 50 years, merging everything into a single entry-level program specifically limited to no more than 50 calls and a second step that must contain at least 50 additional calls. Callers and dancers that have listened to the full presentation on the proposal continue to be almost unanimously in favor of it. Most of the objections I've heard have been from people reacting to brief and limited summaries of the idea.

CALLERLAB members that wish to participate in the discussion of exactly which calls would form the entry level program should join either the Basic and Mainstream or the SSD committee and talk to Harlan Kerr (Chairman of the BMS committee) or Buddy Weaver (chairman of the SSD committee). Attending the 50th Annual CALLERLAB Convention in Greenville, SC is highly recommended, since the official vote approving or rejecting the proposal will kick off during that time.

Become a member and join the committee at <u>callerlab</u>.

Reprint from American Square Dance Volume 80 Number 9

Mike Hogan on Marketing

Public Service Announcements

Public Service Announcements (PSAs) are a service provided primarily by radio and television broadcast stations. Cable TV providers are also required to provide public access channels. I am unaware of any requirement for video subscription services or audio streaming platforms to do so. The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) regulates the grant of broadcast licenses. While the FCC does not mandate that radio and television stations provide PSAs, however broadcasters (as part of their license) are required by the FCC to serve "in the public interest". PSAs are a great way for broadcasters to meet those requirements.

Broadcasters dedicate a certain amount of free airtime for PSAs every week. Just like us, their programming is built to target specific demographics with specific lifestyles and therefore they will tend to dedicate PSA time to public issues and activities that would be of interest or concern to their specific demographic target, and the broader scale the better. For example: a radio station targeted at women between the ages of 35 and 65 would likely dedicate PSA time to promote a breast cancer fundraising event or support of Children's Miracle Network, or Saint Jude's Children's Research Hospital. A station targeted at younger consumers may dedicate PSA time to a national initiative to stop smoking or preventing teenage pregnancy.

Generally, if your business is a not-for-profit business in your state, or better yet a registered 501(c)3 corporations, or better yet, a 501(c)3 corporation that is philanthropic in nature, or even better, a 501(c)3 philanthropic corporation actively supporting local charities, you're chances of receiving PSA support from your local broadcasters is high!

PSAs would be a tactic that could be utilized over a long period of time to drive awareness and brand for square dancing locally or nationally. Many of our leadership organizations are registered 501(c)3 corporations; CALLERLAB, The ARTS, and United Square Dancers of America are three of them.

Just the same, if your club or local association is registered in your state as 13 a not-for-profit organization, you can still use that as evidence to the broadcaster that you qualify for inclusion in their PSA rotation.

If you want to use PSAs to promote square dancing, here are some dos and don'ts to follow:

DO:

- Work ahead. Review the media outlets available in your market and prioritize them based on how they match the demographic description of your target consumer.
- Contact media outlets to determine their PSA submission procedures.
- Determine the name and contact information of the PSA Director for each media outlet.
- Review the section "Get Media Coverage" to determine how to start developing a relationship with the PSA Director. This section was the subject of my last two articles. You can reference those if you don't have a copy of the CALLERAL Square Dance Marketing Manual.
- Follow their procedure: if they require that you submit a pre-written script, do so. If they require four weeks' notice, give them that.
- Include a call-to-action message in your PSA, and a website address. If you're using the PSAs for driving brand awareness, make sure you are giving the listener/viewer the call-to-action of visiting your website or Facebook page for more information on square dancing.
- Let the PSA Director know that we are non-profit organizations.

DON'T:

- Ask for too much. Keep in mind they don't have to do this for you.
- Expect to receive a lot of PSAs. The demand for PSAs from more broad scope social issue groups is very high.
- Expect to receive any kind of reports about quantity of times that your PSAs were played. PSAs are scheduled through a different system than normal commercials, so tracking the quantity and times yours play, while possible, is complicated and time consuming on the part of the PSA Director. Demanding them to account for what you received for free and without an obligation for them to provide it, would likely cause the PSA Director to simply choose a different organization to support.

Reprint from American Square Dance Volume 80 Number 9

The Big Picture by Buddy Weaver

Years of experience has taught us, when people attend a square dance, they expect an engaging blend of social interaction, entertainment, and cultural tradition. Square dancing is more than just a series of steps; it's a community-focused activity that brings people together. While the individual club or group focus may change, for example an Advanced or Challenge group may be more dance centric, the overall sustaining success is driven by the same thing as an SSD club or beginner class.

One of the main draws of square dancing is its social aspect. The dance naturally encourages mingling and interaction, with participants regularly switching partners and forming new connections. Square dancing helps them build and maintain friendships while participating in a structured, yet relaxed, environment.

Some of the factors that make up the social aspect of square dancing is :

- Shared Experience. Square dancing brings together people from a diverse backgrounds (age, marital status, work life, home life, etc.), bonding over their love for the dance group.
- Club Memberships. Many local clubs serve as social hubs. Clubs offer a place to dance and foster a strong sense of belonging.
- Teamwork. Square dancing requires cooperation and teamwork within a square. Dancers work together while changing partners during the dance routines. This fosters a collaborative spirit.

- Post-Dance Socializing. Whether after the dance or before, its common for dancers to gather for food and socializing. Informal gatherings provide an opportunity for deeper conversations. This extends further when weekends, festivals, or square dance tours come into play.
- Intergenerational Interaction. Square dancing participants cover a wide age range. This intergeneration aspect adds a unique social dynamic.

Entertainment is another key expectation. A good square dance experience highlights the entertainment value of square dancing, noting the laughter and camaraderie experienced. The role of the caller is crucial here; they guide 16 dancers through the steps, ensuring that everyone, regardless of experience level, can participate fully.

Almost every dancer, I've spoken with felt that the music at square dances played a significant role in enhancing the overall experience. Also, dancers appreciate the guidance provided by callers which made it easier for both beginners and experienced dancers to participate confidently.

Caller engagement plays a crucial role in shaping the social experience too. A skilled caller can create a fun and engaging atmosphere by interacting with dancers and setting the tone for the dance.

Dancers appreciate the cultural richness of square dancing, often finding joy in connecting with a tradition that has deep roots in American history. Many folks have expressed how they valued the acceptance of traditional clothes, some traditional music, and a culture that appreciates its historical roots. Square dancing not only preserves this heritage but also adapts it to modern times, ensuring it remains relevant and enjoyable for new generations.

Square dances are inclusive and welcoming, providing a supportive environment for dancers of all skill levels. The activity is welcoming of couples and singles. Many groups today make it easy for men and women to dance either role. In this one aspect, square dancing has truly evolved.

Of course, square dancing is recognized as a valuable form of exercise, citing it as a fun way to stay active and fit. While it may seem contradictory, the refreshments and social time is valuable. Consider, staying active along with staying social as parts of a larger fitness plan. Square dancing is good for the mind, body, and spirit.

This 40,000 foot view of why people square dance may help guide you and your club leadership is understanding what is working right in your own club. Thinking it would be a good idea to poll your own club members using the

same topics. The results of such a survey would probably start by illustrating how engaged your members are; a strong response would indicate members are engaged. The response of such a poll would be fodder for open discussion on what is working (don't change it) and what needs improvement. Brace yourself as the latter is often surprising and is frequently where I have seen those folks who ask the question, shut down to the answer. It is helpful to know that a negative response is not a statement of failure, rather it is an opportunity to grow. Here is what a survey might look:

Square Dance: Benefits and Perceptions Survey

1. Social Interaction

To what extent do you agree with the following statement: Square dancing helps me build and maintain friendships.

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Neutral
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

2. Fun and Entertainment

How much do you enjoy the entertainment value of square dancing, including the music?

- Very Much
- Quite a Bit
- Neutral
- Not Much
- Not at All
- 3. Instruction and Guidance

How helpful do you find the instruction and guidance provided by callers during square dances?

- Very Helpful
- Helpful
- Neutral
- Unhelpful
- Very Unhelpful

4. Music

How important is the music (traditional and contemporary tunes) to your overall square dance experience?

- Very Important
- Important
- Neutral
- Not Very Important
- Not Important at All
- 5. Exercise

To what extent do you agree with the following statement: Square dancing is a valuable form of exercise that helps me stay active and fit.

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Neutral
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

6. Tradition and Culture

How much do you value the connection to tradition and culture that square dancing provides?

- Very Much
- Quite a Bit
- Neutral
- Not Much
- Not at All

7. Inclusivity

How inclusive and welcoming do you find square dancing events for participants of all skill levels?

- Very Inclusive and Welcoming
- Inclusive and Welcoming
- Neutral
- Somewhat Inclusive and Welcoming
- Not Inclusive or Welcoming

8. Refreshments and Social Time

How much do you enjoy the opportunity to socialize during breaks with refreshments provided at square dance events?

- Very Much
- Quite a Bit
- Neutral
- Not Much
- Not at All

9. Overall Satisfaction

Overall, how satisfied are you with your square dance experience?

- Very Satisfied
- Satisfied
- Neutral
- Dissatisfied
- Very Dissatisfied

10. Additional Comments

Please share any additional comments or suggestions on how we can improve the square dance experience:

It's important to recognize that conducting a survey of the membership without implementing any changes, particularly when there is a clear need for action, can be more damaging than not surveying at all. Be prepared to accept the feedback, especially when polling former club and class members who have dropped out.

Reprint from American Square Dance Volume 80 Number 9

Marketing Committee Square Dance Club Marketing Survey

Jack Pladdys, Marketing Chair & Brian Freed, Marketing Vice Chair

Help Us Understand Successful Marketing Strategies

The CALLERLAB Marketing Committee is excited to announce the launch of a new survey aimed at understanding the marketing strategies used by square dance clubs that sponsor lesson classes. Our goal is to gather insights on the various methods employed to attract and retain new dancers, and to compile this information into a comprehensive and actionable report.

Share Your Success This is an excellent opportunity for your club to showcase the strategies that have worked well for you. By sharing your experiences, you contribute to the collective knowledge of our square dance community.

Learn From Others Gain insights from other clubs' marketing tactics and discover new ideas that you can implement in your own club.

Enhance Community Growth Your participation will help create a more vibrant and growing square dance community by identifying and promoting effective marketing practices. Along with the raw data we gather, here is some of the knowledge we hope to gain....

<u>Advertising Channels</u> Which platforms (social media, local newspapers, community bulletin boards, etc.) have been most effective in reaching potential dancers?

Promotional Activities What types of promotional events (open houses, free introductory sessions, demonstrations at community events) have you conducted, and how successful were they?

Partnerships and Collaborations Have you partnered with local businesses, schools, or other organizations to promote your classes? If so, how did these partnerships contribute to your success?

How you can support this project.....

First, if you are currently or planning on teaching classes, please complete our online survey. If it is a club sponsored class, you may want to collaborate with the officers. Secondly, please share the survey with other clubs and Caller Associations in your area. We want as much data as possible, even if the club is not using a CALLERLAB member as their instructor.

The survey can be accessed through the following link: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CALLERLABMarketing2024.

We would like to have the surveys completed by September 30th. Once we collect and analyze the survey responses, we will compile the findings into a detailed report. This report will be posted on the Marketing Committee section of the CALLERLAB website, the Knowledgebase, and shared with all participating clubs. Your participation is crucial to the success of this initiative. By working together, we can uncover the best marketing strategies to attract new dancers and strengthen our community. We look forward to your valuable input and thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Reprint from American Square Dance Volume 80 Number 9

E-mail Tree 2024-0916-001 (New ARTS Board Member)

Hi All,

I am writing to report there is a new ARTS Board Member organization.

I am very pleased to announce, on behalf of the ARTS Board, that the International Choreographed Ballroom Dancing Association (ICBDA) is now a Voting Member of The ARTS Board. We welcome the ICBDA and look forward to working with them toward the goal of increasing public awareness of the activity and increasing the number of dancers.

The ARTS Board contact person for the ICBDA is: Bob Nolen - <u>bnolen79@gmail.com</u>

If there issues which need direct attention of the ICBDA, please contact Bob as noted above.

For other, general issues, please do not hesitate to contact me: <u>DirectorARTS@aol.com</u>

The Board looks forward to working with the ICBDA to reach our goal of increasing the number of dancers.

I am also pleased to report the ICBDA has created a well thought out and detailed marketing plan. We will send additional information about this plan in the future.

Additional information regarding the ICBDA can be found on their web site: <u>https://www.icbda.com/</u>

Thanx,

Jerry Reed ARTS Executive Director

Jerry Reed ARTS Executive Director 4461 Stack Blvd Apt D-231 Melbourne, FL 32901 Email - <u>DirectorARTS@aol.com</u> Phone - 321-794-9645

CENTENNIAL AWARD

Ed and Lynda Willis

The United Square Dancers of America¹ have an award that is presented to dancers who have achieved a "special" milestone. That being reaching the age of 100 years and still active in the square dance world. On July 25, 2024, Petunia City Square Dance Club from Beloit WI held a "surprise" birthday party and dance for one of their members who reached this milestone. Mr. Thomas Stevens turned 100 and the club surprised him with a potluck dinner and dance. As Presidents of the USDA Ellery and Karen Gulbrand along with Jerry and Donna Robey, Executive Committee Members, presented Mr. Stevens with the Certificate and Medallion for the Centennial Award. We were joined by Scott and Brenda Deal, former USDA members and now members of the National Convention Executive Committee. It was an honor to meet this amazing man and to hear stories about him and everything he still does. He joined in several tips of dancing that evening. The following is a bio written by Mr. Stevens daughter and granddaughter.

Thomas E Stevens

Born on July 26th, 1924, in a farmhouse near Nelson in Avon, Wisconsin. His birth mother (Marie) and father were not married and not ready to be parents.

 $^{^{1}}$ USDA

His father, Chris Hanson, asked his sister Olga, who came from Norway at age 14, if she would help raise Tommy(we believe she was in her early 20's at that time). He was only three months old and was transported in a dresser drawer as his bassinet.

As a young boy Tommy lived in Chicago, as many of his aunts and uncles did, including his dad, Chris. His dad owned a Speakeasy before Prohibition ended. His aunts and uncles ran a fruit and vegetable stand. So, Tommy would walk the neighborhoods with a wagon selling his produce goods. His mother, Marie, would come to visit him every six months to a year to visit him, usually on his birthday. He received a baseball and bat from his mother. Then another year she brought him a model airplane kit, plus an already-made silver plane that his mother's boyfriend made. Well, that started it all, building model airplanes.

At age 15 he moved to Beloit, Wisconsin, with his adopted mother, Olga, and her son Robert. Eventually, He joined the Hanger 13 Flying Club that met at the local YMCA. He had to pay monthly dues of 5 cents, but it included all the modeling he needed. He started working doing paper routes to earn money for his hobby. He worked diligently, getting up early and delivering papers, even in the terribly cold weather. He came down with the mumps and lost most of his hearing in one ear at about age 18.

He graduated from Beloit Senior High School and met his wife, Doris, on a blind date. They had a double wedding with his older brother, Robert, and his wife, Frances. They honeymooned at Lake Ripley in Wisconsin.

He joined the Navy in 1943 and served during WWII. He served on a small tanker ship that had traveled to Pearl Harbor and Saipan and surrounding islands. During this time, they were stationed in Los Angeles. They bought a small hobby shop and lived in the back. His wife ran the hobby shop while he went to watchmaking school. When watchmaking school was over, he enlisted in the Army. Their first child, Susan, was born in 1950. He joined the Army reserves in late 1949, then volunteered for active duty when the Korean War started. At that time, he transferred to Yakima, Washington.

Fortunately, he did not have to travel overseas during the war.

Tommy and Doris made their way back to Beloit around 1952-1953. They lived on Afton Road near Newark Road in a small garage, turned into an apartment.

In 1954 they moved to Janesville. Thomas worked as a machinist for a company called Gilman, which is where he retired from. Their son Eddie was born June 14th, 1956. Around 1956 they started round dancing at a club in

South Beloit called the Rhythm Rounds. They decided to start square dancing and joined many clubs in the area throughout the years, including Janesville, Milton, Elkhorn, and Beloit. Square dancing was something they enjoyed for exercise, and it took their minds off the untimely tragic death of their son in 1977 from a motor vehicle accident.

Granddaughters Tamie and Kristie occupied much of their time. They brought them to many square dances throughout the years. His wife of 70 years passed away in 2015. Tom was not done dancing; he continues with square dancing in Beloit on a regular basis when he can get a ride from his daughter, granddaughters, and now his great-granddaughter, Paige. In addition to dancing, he enjoys going to the Senior Center to play ping pong and dance, along with exercising at the Y doing the Silver Sneakers twice a week. He plays ping pong at home with his other great-grandchildren: Amelia, Dennis, and Sawyer.

Tom continues to stay active in his first hobby, model airplanes. He has been a member of Hanger 13 Model Airplane Club since he was 15 and is still a member today. They often meet at Turtle Creek International Airport in Shopiere, Wisconsin.

Family is especially important, and we get together for every birthday and holiday.

Reprint from USDA NEWS VOLUME XXXVI ISSUE 4 Oct – Dec

For information on qualifications and nomination process, go to <u>https://www.usda.org/Centinnal_Award.php</u>.

Important Information for Treasurers

One of the overlooked duties of the Treasurer of a nonprofit organization is the essential requirement to file annual reports with the Internal Revenue Service (IRS). Any entity that has an Employer Identification Number (EIN) also known as a Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN), must file one of the annual 990 forms with the IRS. The EIN or TIN are necessary to have a bank account.

Failure to file this annual report with the IRS may result in a entity's EIN / TIN to become inactive and potential loss of nonprofit status.

- Form 990 Return of Organization Exempt from Income Tax available online at: 2023
- Form 990 (irs.gov) Form 990-EZ Short Form Return of Organization Exempt from Income Tax- available online at: 2023 Form 990-EZ (irs.gov)
- Form 990-N (e-Postcard) May be completed online at: Annual electronic filing requirement for small exempt organizations — Form 990-N (e-Postcard) Internal Revenue Service (irs.gov)

Small tax-exempt organizations generally are eligible to file Form 990-N to satisfy their annual reporting requirement if their annual gross receipts are normally \$50,000 or less. Form 990-N is easy to complete. The only things needed are these eight items of basic information about your organization.

- Employer identification number (EIN), also known as a Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN)
- Tax year (calendar or fiscal filer)
- Legal name and mailing address
- Any other names the organization uses
- Name and address of a principal officer
- Website address if the organization has one
- Confirmation that the organization's annual gross receipts are \$50,000 or less \cdot

If applicable, a statement that the organization has terminated or is terminating (going out of business)

Form 990-N is due every year by the 15th day of the 5th month after the close of your entity's tax year. It is not possible to file the e-Postcard until after your entity's tax year ends.

The IRS now offers sign-in options with Login.gov and ID.me. Both offer access to IRS online services with a secure account that protects your privacy.

Login.gov is an account created, maintained, and secured by the U.S. government. ID.me is an account created, maintained, and secured by a technology provider.

Currently, Login.gov can only be used to access IRS Form 990-N (e-Postcard), the Qualified Intermediary Application and Account Management System

(QAAMS), the Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act Financial Institution Registration System (FATCA Registration).

Reprint from USDA NEWS VOLUME XXXVI ISSUE 4 Oct – Dec

Life Lessons from Square Dancing

- 1. Honor your partner
- 2. Greet your neighbor
- 3. You can' go it alone
- 4. When in doubt, hold hands
- 5. If you get confused, head for home
- 6. Laugh, have fun and keep moving
 - 7. It will all work out in the end



Page 21 of 27



Page 22 of 27



Page 23 of 27



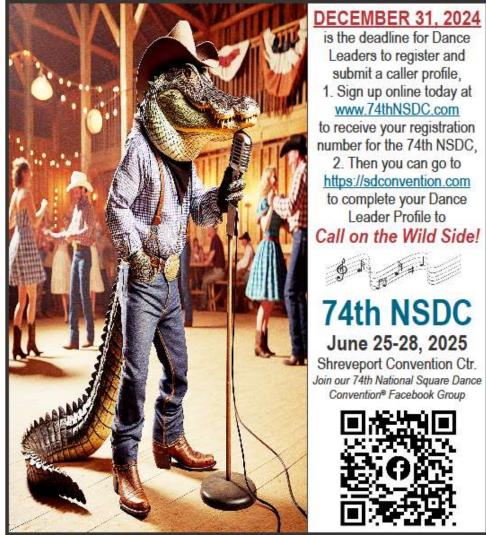
Page 24 of 27





Page 25 of 27

Looking for Callers and Cuers who want to Call on the Wild Side!



Florida should be well represented in Shreveport. It's right at our back door!

Page 26 of 27

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 <u>www.dancergram.com</u>. 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 <u>sqdncfan@gmail.com</u> or 863-224-3393.

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