

## The Grapevine

#### December 2024

A publication of NEFSARDA, the Northeast Florida Square and Round Dance Association



#### Northeast Asso Contact Personnel

Pres – Shirley Wright	(661) 703-1922	travler4542@yahoo.com
VP – Stephen Bigelow	(904) 612-1081	sfbigelow@sfbigelow.com
Rec Sec - Jim Riddle	(904) 403-9616	Shado1100@aol.com
Janet Riddle	(904) 703-9711	JanMkay1@aol.com
Corr. Sec – Vickie Belue	(904) 707-8188	vbelue02@gmail.com
Treas – Linda Tester	(904) 707-3117	lindactester@bellsouth.net
Grapevine	(904) 612-1081	grapevine@sfbigelow.com

#### KAY WALKER TOY DRIVE

Kay Walker danced with the Moose Promenaders and the Seabreeze Singles. She and her husband Bob became avid square dancers. One of her passions was the Clothes Closet in Orange Park. Every Christmas Kay would ask dancers to bring a new unwrapped toy, and she would deliver them to the Clothes Closet to be given to children whose parents came there for help. Kay died several years ago in a tragic car accident and Bill Chesnut, and I made plans to continue this project in Kay's memory. Several of the clubs have Kay Walker Toy Drive Dances and we deliver the collected toys to the Clothes Closet. When families come in for help with food and clothing, the children may go to the toy room and select a toy.

If you can't attend one of these dances, feel free to send me a check (made out to Susan Snider) and I will buy toys for you. My address is 5110 Santa Cruz Lane, Jacksonville, 32210.

I would like to thank the Square Dancing community in the Northeast for their support of this in the past and going forward,

Susan Snider

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#### From the Grapevine Editor



The month of December is upon us. I remember this month as the month that we remember the Birth of Jesus Christ. The Christmas I remember with a small smirk on my face. I was 9 years old, and my sister Susan was 8. We snuck downstair to look at the presents. My parents at that time did not wrap all the presents. Susan got a bunch of fake kitchen gadgets. I pushed down the handle on the fake toaster, not knowing it was a very loud music box, It woke up my mother and father. I spent that Christmas with a sore bottom from being swatted. Of the things we remember from our childhood. Kindly pay attention to the deadlines for the Grapevine. I would like to receive news from each club every month. The January 2025 Issue deadline is moved up because of the Holidays. The deadline for is December 18, 2024

God Bless You All Stephen F. Bigelow

#### **Dance Club News**



# <u>The Moose Promenaders – Jacksonville – Caller Bill</u>

<u>Chesnut</u> The Moose Promenaders has about 30 minutes in the beginning of our dances for the few, the proud, the

advanced dancers to learn and show off their skill.

On October 31<sup>st</sup> we had a Halloween costume party. We had a lot of people in costumes. Bill Chesnut came as a Whiskey Barrell. Bill and Paula Dion came as Elves. Your Editor came dressed as a Gentleman Cowboy. As you can see from the picture below, we had a lot of people that thought out what they would wear

This coming Thurs the 5th is -Kay Walker dance Please bring unwrapped toys

#### **JACKSONVILLE**

Moose Promenaders

Mainstream & Plus Square Dancing
and
Occasional Line and Round Dancing

Square Dance Lessons 7:00 - 8:15 PM Plus Level 8:15 – 9 ish PM

> Moose Lodge 2020 5051 Collins Road Jacksonville, Florida Caller - Bill Chesnut

President Wayne and Debbie Miller 904 652-5326

> Banner Chair Hanna Watts

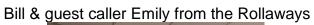


Halloween Dance



Your Editor

Always Great! FOUR squares on the floor!





We have a lot of Red, White and Blue to honor our Veterans this month!









We had a visitation from the Rollaways & Susan cued some rounds...



Always good to have the Rollaways come see us!



It was great seeing Sawyer on the dance floor again!

Dec 5--A busy night Kay Walker toy drive. Please bring an unwrapped toy or money or gift card to this great cause.

### Coastal Georgia Squares - Brunswick, GA - Caller Don Heins

Our friendly and enthusiastic group isn't large, but we enjoy our dancing. We dance at College Place Methodist Church, 3890 Altama Ave., in Brunswick, Ga. most Thursdays at 7:00 PM unless the church is using the room where we dance, holidays, or if some other reason keeps us from dancing.

We appreciate visitors and ask that you please contact caller Don Heins at 912-269-7909 or <a href="mailto:donneins@msn.com">donheins@msn.com</a>. to be sure we're dancing. Ir Don Heins









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#### <u>Grand Squares – Gainesville, FL –</u> Caller Bill Cassidy

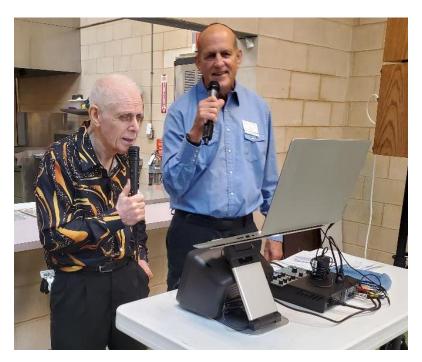
The Grand Squares dances on Tuesday nights from 6:30-8:30 at Meizon Church 3411 NW 83rd Street, Gainesville. Bill Cassidy is our caller and calls Mainstream and Plus. Contact Robin Frazer for more information at <a href="mailto:robin.frazer@yahoo.com">robin.frazer@yahoo.com</a>

The Grand Squares dances on Tuesday nights from 6:30-8:30 at Meizon Church 3411 NW 83rd Street, Gainesville. Bill Cassidy is our caller and calls Mainstream and Plus. Contact Robin Frazer for more information at robin.frazer@yahoo.com

The Grand Squares and their sister club the High Springs Dance Club had a good turn out at NEFSARDA's Fall Festival with Marc and Robin Frazer, Frank and Donna Plunkett, Ken Bettencourt, Donna Andersen, Michael and Wendy Dick, Greg Albert, Denise Adair-Copeland, and Charles and Kathy Trimble in attendance. Marc and Robin were honored with the Circle of Service Award (& Dangle) for their efforts supporting Square Dancing and for bringing Round Dancing to Gainesville.



This month the Grand Squares celebrated Thanksgiving with a potluck dinner dance. Bertha decorated tables and Robin ran a program including an estimation station, door prizes, a sweet potato relay and an activity that gave everyone the opportunity to talk about what they were most grateful for. Lon Ligon did a guest tip and Lon and Bill did a tip together. Good times!









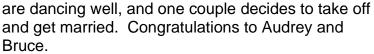
#### <u>Dixie Dancers - Lake City, FL - Caller Bill Chesnut</u>

We hope you will come out and enjoy all the fun any Tuesday night at Teen Town. It is located at 533 W. Desoto Street, Lake City.

Dixie Dancers in Lake City

Thanksgiving is here, Christmas and the New Year are right behind. Take time to be thankful for what we have, celebrate the holidays while remembering that they are not all happy occasions for all. Some of our club members and friends continue to deal with health issues and we wish them all the best. May the coming year see all return to good health and be able to get back to dancing.

We never know what will await us on Tuesday nights in Lake City. Our newer dancers





Bill Chesnut continues to mix us up while reviewing some of the mainstream and plus calls. It seems that some of the easiest calls can be very confusing. Come on out and join us, have fun and maybe learn something new.

We have had Frank and Donna, Lila and Randy and Coletta and Joe attending often. We welcome visitors anytime.

Charles Trimble has gotten the Dixie Dancers website up and running. His charming bride Kathy is getting pictures and the updates continue. Check out the website at dixiedancers.org.

We will be dark on Tuesday, November 26, as Bill is off with family for the week. But come out to Lake

City and dance with us some other Tuesday evening. We do encourage you to contact Bill Chesnut 352-256-8628 or Bob and Barbara Rosenthall at 386-365-7136 if you are coming out. We dance in a city owned building, so they occasionally don't have the building available. We dance at Teen Town. It is located at 533 W. Desoto Street, Lake City.

We look forward to welcoming you at the Dixie Dancers.

#### .Clover Squares - Chiefland, FL - Caller Jim Duncan

Clover Squares meet on the 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and sometimes the 5th Wednesday of the month at the Methodist Church in Chiefland from 3-5 pm. Jim Duncan is our caller, and we dance the Mainstream level with announced Plus tips

### Seabreeze Singles Jacksonville FL - Caller Mike Akers

Seabreeze Singles Square Dance Club
The Place To Find a Dance Partner Or Bring Your Own
Frances Padgett Senior Center
1078 Rogero Road
Jacksonville FL

If you haven't already done so, please note Wednesday, February 5, 2025, as a very special square dance. The Seabreeze Club is proud to announce our Jacksonville Blast featuring National Square Dance callers Jack Pladdys and Tony Oxendine.



As we anxiously await our February Dance, the Seabreeze Club has continued to enjoy our monthly dances. We began the month of November recognizing American Football Day. The dancers exhibited their spirit by sporting attire representing their favorite teams.



Next, we honored our Veterans with recognition and patriotism as reflected in our red, white, and blue.





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Proud Navy Veteran Jim Marine Veteran John Burso's shirt captures it all! The month ended with the Seabreeze Dancers demonstrating their generosity in supporting our dance venue, The Frances Padgett Senior Center, and the Arlington community with donations to our fall food drive. Once again, our Thanksbringing dance was a success.



December provides a month of fun filled dancing, holiday celebrations, and an additional opportunity for community service.

December 10 Kay Walker Toy Drive Dance

December 17 Christmas Dance

December 24 Dark. Merry Christmas! December 31 Dark. Happy New Year!

Dancing will resume January 7, 2025.

#### Join us, fun is awaiting!

Should you have any questions or would appreciate more information about the Seabreeze Square Dance Club, please contact Pam at: <a href="mailto:gabbygirlpam@gmail.com">gabbygirlpam@gmail.com</a>

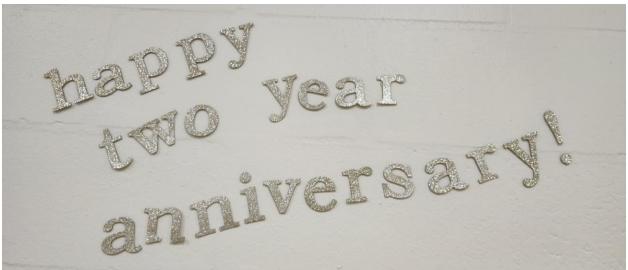
# High Springs Dance Club - High Springs, FL Caller Bill Cassidy Cuer Ann Hadsall

We dance at the High Springs Civic Center off Highway 441. The dance is every Thursday night from 6:30 to 9 pm with the first half hour dedicated to round dance lessons. The address is 23760 NW 187th Ave, High Springs, FL. Contact Deborah Cassidy (352-262-0760)

The High Springs Dance Club celebrated its two-year anniversary on November 14th. Deborah and I arrived 1/2 hour early as usual and found to our surprise that the dance hall was already set up. Our special events planner Katherine Rothgeb enlisted some help and came in early to decorate. The tables and chairs had all been set up and the decorations were marvelous! We had a wonderful dance. It was a chance to reflect on all of the good friends that have come together at the High Springs Dance Club









We are preparing to participate in the High Springs Christmas parade. This will be our first time in a parade, and everyone is very excited. A wagon will be used to pull along an amplifier and speakers so that we may pause and do some square dance routines. We have made up some special bookmarks to advertise our club. They include the club's location, contact information, and of course our QR code link to our Facebook group. The back of the bookmarks have been left blank mostly. In this way, they are generic and may be used for any event or situation. For the Christmas parade, we will be handing them out with a sticker on the back giving the dates for our next beginner

square dance class. We plan to have at least two to four people along each side of the parade route handing out bookmarks

Our next class will begin on Thursday, January 9th. We will be combining our recruiting and teaching efforts with our sister club the Grand Squares. The Grand Squares class start date is Tuesday, January 7th. The plan is to have the same lessons at both locations each week. The students will have the option of attending either dance or both. We will see how it works out!

We dance at the High Springs Civic Center off Highway 441. The dance is every Thursday night from 6:30 to 9 pm with the first half hour dedicated to round dance lessons. The address is 23760 NW 187th Ave, High Springs, FL.

Contact Deborah Cassidy (352-262-0760) Becky Thompson (386-216-6976)

#### Mixed Nuts Gainesville FL - Caller Bill Chesnut

Mixed Nuts - Advanced dancing and Workshops
Monday afternoons 4 – 6 PM
Located at Grace Presbyterian Church
3146 N W 13<sup>th</sup> Street - Gainesville, FL 32608
Caller: Bill Chesnut 352-256-8628 or 352-475-2550

#### <u>Salty Bobbers – Steinhatchee, FL - Caller Charlie Pergrossi</u>

7:00 - 9:00 PM at Community Center, 612 SW 812th Street, Steinhatchee.
Caller Charlie Pergrossi Tuesday night from 7-9 pm
Club Contact Jeanette Geer (352) 507-9425
Banner Chairman Doug Moore (512) 605-7773

#### Joy Seas – St. Augustine Shores, FL - Caller Mike Akers

This means the Joy Seas will resume regular dances Monday Night 7-9 pm. We dance from 7 to 9 PM. In the St Augustine South clubhouse on Royal Road in St Augustine FL 32086

Call before you go to verify, they are dancing Call Mary Burzo 904 501-1817

#### **Square Dance- Camping Club - Caller Bill Chesnut**

October 24-26 saw us celebrating our 48th NEFSARDA Camporee. Debbie and Wayne Miller as Chairmen as well as Laura and Marshall Blick as co-chairs organized a terrific weekend with the theme Back to the Future. On Thursday night we were requested to wear outfits that reflected a particular time- Dolly Ide looked so cute in her leg warmers, Pat and Tom Herscha took us back to hippie days, Carolyn Shacter wore her shoulder padded 1980's business chic and then Ken Shacter who was our official weekend photographer dressed as a mad or maybe not so mad scientist. Our after party, organized by the Imus crew saw us with a campfire ringed by more than 50 folks, many consuming smores.

Friday saw us playing golf, playing board games, visiting a really cool gift shop and also relaxing. So many of us gathered at a restaurant to dine- with the one and only server assigned to us- we basically overwhelmed the place- thus we were late beginning the Saturday evening festivities. We still had a super time. After party included apple pie- thanks!

Saturday, began with crafting with Debbie Cassidy leading a group of talented ladies in creating a case out of neck ties. Since I slept in until almost 10 o'clock (not my normal routine) I didn't do this but I admired the pretty cases. Saturday evening was our Italian dinner coordinated by Dolly Ide and crew- it was my favorite dinner in recent years- thank you very much! Post dancing we were given root beer floats and entertained playing trivia coordinated by Laura Ramsey- the folks who attended may be able to tell you who was the president of the USA who walked on stilts along with his entire family.

Sunday, John Ide led a worship service for those who weren't rushing to get back home.

We had almost 80 people in attendance! Square Wheels added 3 new couples to our membership- Audrey and Bruce who will be newlyweds before the New Year, Ed and Glenda Masters who recently came to Florida from California, welcoming back Mike and Wendy Dick. Lou and Josefina join us from over in Tallahassee which makes them our furthest driver, I think- correct me if I am wrong.

I haven't yet acknowledged our fabulous music masters. I tried to write down my favorite song from each of them. Major applause for :our cuers-**Susan Snider**- Rock, Scissors, Paper. **Susan Woford-** Rock and Roll, a waltz

our callers

Bill Chesnut- Alligator Stroll

Mark Fetzer- Phantom of the Opera

Mike Gormley- Somewhere over the Rainbow

Charlie Pergrossi- Dream Lover

and Rod Barngrover and Bill C did a duet and I forget what it was-some reporter I am!

We had a moment of silence for our members who have passed this year:

Ted Hughes

Ron Reardon

Sam Dunn Ivan Hadsall- all greatly missed.

Dec.6-7 SQUARE WHEELS CHRISTMAS PARTY The Springs R.V. Resort 2950 N. E. 52ndCt, Silver Springs, FL 34488. 352-236-5250. Rally rate \$46.80 per night. Also, they will honor Passport America for 3 days. If staying longer than 3 days, additional days will be at \$52.00 per night. Must call campground to make your reservation. Any deposit will not be refunded but will be honored for future reservation within a year.

Debbie Miller still has free one year Passport America passes to share. Her contact number is 904 652-5326.

Laura Ramsey

## **SQUARE WHEELS Chapter 128** CAMPING SCHEDULE – 2024-2025

(Subject to change – Please verify – Revised 2/27/24) (All Rally Rates Subject to Change Due to Inflation)

- Dec 6-7 SQUARE WHEELS CHRISTMAS PARTY The Springs R.V. Resort 2950 N. E. 52<sup>nd</sup> Ct, Silver Springs, FL 34488. 352-236-5250. Rally rate \$46.80 per night. Also, they will honor Passport America for 3 days. If staying longer than 3 days, additional days will be at \$52.00 per night. Must call campground to make your reservation. Any deposit will not be refunded but will be honored for future reservation within a year.
- Jan 17- Florida State Convention The Center At Deltona, 1640 Dr. Martin Luther King Blvd.,
   Deltona, FL 32725. See Flyer for directions and details. Camping-also see flyer. Trail End Dance at The Center, Thursday 16<sup>th</sup>.
- Feb 14- Eagle Roost RV Resort, 5465 Mill Store Road, Lake Park, GA 31636, (229) 559-5192
  Rate is \$38.34 including all taxes. There is no cable tv, but 14-15 channels are available from Valdosta and Tallahassee. Must make your own reservation, deposit required. Also, they have cabins to rent.

- Mar 14- The Springs R.V. Resort 2950 N. E. 52<sup>nd</sup> Ct, Silver Springs, FL 34488. 352-236-5250.

  Rally rate \$46.80 per night. Also, they will honor Passport America for 3 days(\$52/2=\$26 per night). If staying longer than 3 days, additional days will be at \$52.00 per night. All our activities will be in "Friendship Hall", the same hall we used in December 2023. You must call campground and pre-register with a deposit
- Apr 25- Stephen Foster Cultural Center State Park 11016 Lillian Saunders Drive/ Hwy
   41, White Springs, FL 32096. 800-326-3521. Rate normally \$20.00 but \$10.00/night for seniors plus \$6.70 reservation fee.
- May 16- Southern Oaks RV Resort, One Avocado Lane, Eustis, FL 32726.

17 (352) 357-8882. Rally Rate \$40.00 – rate also available for 2 days prior to and 2 days after rally. Must make your own reservations at campground.

June ?- 67th NSDCA International Camporee – ?, ?
?
See <u>nsdca.org</u>, Camping/Dancing, Camporee for registration forms & additional dances.

Jun 25- 74th National Square Dance Convention –Shreveport, LA. See <a href="https://www.74nsdc.com/">www.74nsdc.com/</a> for details

For additional information please contact one of the following:

Mary Chesnut 352-475-2550, cell (352) 214-5880 marynut4@gmail.com

Tim Hill 352-205-0596 Angela Brown 352-408-5721 doramiata62@yahoo.com

# Rollaways Jacksonville, FL Caller Mark Fetzer; Cuer Susan Snider

Come join the Rollaways at Sandalwood High School on Tuesday nights. We dance from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.

### **Community Outreach**

Mary Ellen Ludeking called a square dance at the Riverside YMCA in Jacksonville on November 24, 2024. The theme of the Giving Thanks square dance was "Dance your way to health with an attitude of gratitude". Mary Ellen & Bill are grateful to the Moose Promenaders – Jim Moss, George & Suzanne Tower, David & Lori Johnston and Steve & Cathy Grant for participating in the square dance as angels and for all their help. (See picture below.) The purpose of the dance was to introduce folks to square dancing. The participants enjoyed the dance and especially liked dancing to "Thank You for the Music" and the call, "Star Promenade".



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#### Fall Festival Nov 1-2, 2024

I have just returned home form the Fall Festival for the year 2024. It was amazing from a great caller and cuer to the phenomenal Spaghetti Dinner prepared by Susan Snyder and a host of other great cooks

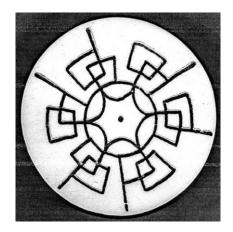


Cindy Grant, Mary Chesnut, Susan Snider, Marilyn Scott. Becky Burkett

The caller for this evening was Dave Viera and he did a great job running us through our passes till we got back home.

The big surprise is the awarding of awards to some of our outstanding Square Dance Couples.

They were three couples that received the circle of Service award. This award was initially thought about and acted on at the National Convention in 1981. There has not been a circle of Service awarded in Northeast Florida since 2020. To get this award it means that you are the top 1% in the square dance world. The Three couple that received it at the Fall Festival were



Circle of Service Award



Robin and Marc Frazier



Walt and Dianne Syphard



Mary and Chuck Giera

These couples have worked hard at Prompting and helping square dancing for many years and I applaud them and their service to the activity that we all love. Next time you see any of these coupes congratulate and thank them.

Another award that was handed out to a square dancer is the 2024 Dancer of the Year. Your past editor of the Grapevine Mary Giera will write about that

#### **NEFSARDA Dancer of the Year 2024**

#### STEPHEN BIGELOW

Stephen Bigelow has been a square dancer since 1981 and was self-taught. He read the definitions to the calls and learned to perform them. He is also a fine round dancer. Over the years he was a member of 13 different clubs in Northeast Florida – 11 of them with his wife Marie who is no longer with us. Stephen has served as President, Secretary and Treasurer of several clubs, was a delegate to NEFSARDA from several clubs for a total of 6 years and served as the Blood Bank Chairman for 3 years. He is a former member of the Florida Callers Association. Most recently Stephen has served and is currently serving as NEFSARDA Vice President, finishing a 3-year term. He is a member of the Moose Promenaders and the editor of both the Grapevine and Bow & Swing. Congratulations to Stephen Bigelow, NEFSARDA's Dancer of the Year 2024. – written by Mary Giera



## Members from the past and present, the 90+ crowd: December





Dr. John Schmnertmann (wife Pauline, deceased)
They were members of Merrysteppers
On Dec 2 he will be 96 years old
Cards may be sent to
2926 NW 14th PI
Gainesville, FL 32605

Mary M. Williamson
She was a member of Grand Squares
She will be 93 on Dec 23.
Cards may be sent to":
615 NW 19th Ave
Gainesville, FL 32609

#### **Gateway Callers Association**



Christmas Hoedown Saturday, December 14th 2:00-4:00 pm

Come out to square and round dance with new as well as experienced dancers from across northeast Florida. There will be a selection of callers cuers from the area and everyone will be able to dance every tip.



Under 18 free

Trinity Lutheran Church 1415 McDuff Ave S. Jacksonville, Fl., 32205

Location:

Hosted by the Gateway Callers Association
For information contact Mark Fetzer 904-716-4962



#### Ramblings from beautiful downtown Melrose – by Bill Chesnut

I told it through the Grapevine: Ramblings from beautiful downtown Melrose. November has been a busy month and I look forward to a week at St. George Island by Apalachicola, FL. It's a reunion of the Chesnut family and a return to the place where I spent lots of my summers as a kid. I hope that all of my faithful readers and their friends and family have a fantastic time as well. We all have so much to be thankful for and yet, we also have so many dancers, callers and friends with special needs. Here is to the best for all.

I had the pleasure this past month of seeing Cindie Miller. Cindie's husband Donnie was taken from this life way to soon. He was a very good caller but even more a good man. Donnie and I started calling as kid's and crossed paths quite often. It was good to have Cindie come out.

I think all had a great time at the NEFSARDA Fall Festival #70. Dave Vieira, Barbara Blackford and the kitchen crew made sure it was an enjoyable weekend. Be watching for details on next year's Fall Festival. But while you wait for that, attend the Gateway Caller's Christmas dance and fun time on December 14 at Trinity Lutheran. And while you are still waiting, attend our Florida State Square and Round Dance Convention in Deltona January 16, 17, and 18. Dance to over thirty callers and cuers. Most of our NE Florida callers and our friendly cuer will be there for your dancing pleasure.

I know that I am a bit of a junkie when it comes to choreography. I love watching other callers work - be it in person or on videos. I enjoy working with new callers and helping them develop their own style. I learn something from all. Sometimes it is something good, others it is things I need to avoid. I was watching a video on face book recently and the caller did a series of calls that had the girls do a total of 540 degrees on one turn. Callers don't do that. Understand the call and how far each person turns. Be nice and smooth. Now for the caller challenge: Can you add to the places you call spread from? Try to make the call more functional and see what you can find. Also, you may find places you always call spread from and not call it there. This is just food for thought, see if it helps you.

A very merry Christmas and holiday season to all.

It seems that Covid has reared its ugly head and a few of our dancers are battling with it now. Remember to stay home if you feel bad, wash your hands, stay healthy and dance when you can. I look forward to seeing y'all.

Bill & Mary Chesnut

### NEFSARDA's 5<sup>th</sup> Saturday Afternoon Dance Schedule

The first 5<sup>th</sup> Saturday Dance in 2025 is March 29<sup>th</sup> 2025. Look here for more information!

Stephen F Bigelow M.Ed.,

NEFSARDA Vice President, Editor of The Grapevine The Bow and Swing

#### **Cares and Concerns**

We have several dancers in our community who are not well. Their situations are sometimes temporary and sometimes serious. We ask that you keep these dancers in

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your thoughts and prayers, plus we hope for speedy recoveries for all. Please notify us about all dancers who should be on this list by contacting us on <a href="mailto:squaredancejax@gmail.com">squaredancejax@gmail.com</a> Or <a href="mailto:grapevine@sfbigelow.com">grapevine@sfbigelow.com</a>

John Allen – Moose Promenaders
Ralph Beekman – Dixie Dancers
Victor Figueroa - Grand Squares
Rick Lord – Dixie Dancers/Salty Bobbers
Ken Shacter – Rollaways
Sawyer Gray President Rollaways
Lenny Newberry (a visiting caller to NE FL)

FYI: Lenny suffered a stroke while visiting Massachusetts.

Linda Tester Rollaways, Treasurer, and Past President of NEFSARDA.



Margaret Louise McDonald Ibach passed away peacefully at the age of 95 in Jacksonville, Florida, Born March 15, 1929, Margaret Louise, known affectionately as Louise, led a remarkable life filled with love, adventure, and dedication to her family and faith. Louise graduated from Landon High School in 1947. Following graduation, she started a family and spent many years raising her children. She later had a career that spanned over three decades at Prudential Insurance Company, where she held the position of Supervisor. She also obtained an associate's degree in business from FJC. Faith and community at Hogan Baptist Church, where she was a member since birth, brought Louise great joy. There she found solace and strength throughout her life. An avid traveler, Louise explored 39 states across America, including memorable trips to Alaska and Hawaii. Her international journeys took her to Canada, Mexico, Japan, and throughout Europe, where she delighted in connecting with her Scottish heritage and her husband, Herman's Swiss heritage. Her travels were enriched anytime she could visit family, and especially enjoyed time with her daughter Jeannie and her family in North Carolina, and her son Mike and his family in Tennessee. Louise found joy in square dancing with her husband Herman and treasured the Scottish Highland Games where she reveled in the

sounds of bagpipes playing "Scotland the Brave" when they traveled to serve as judges. Herman and Louise spent many years bringing smiles to many around Jacksonville as Topper and Hi-Hat the clown. Her favorite job though, outside of being the matriarch of her family, was serving alongside Herman as the Official Mrs. Claus for the City of Jacksonville. A position she held proudly for 26 years. She attended the Charles W. Howard Santa Claus School in Michigan for four years where she earned a bachelor's degree in being Mrs. Claus. Louise was the perfect Mrs. Claus. She loved the spirit of the season and bringing joy to children. Rumor has it, she holds the official record for the most delivered readings of "The Night Before Christmas." Above all, Louise was a devoted mother, grandmother, great-grandmother and great-grandmother, who valued family above all else. She leaves behind a legacy of love, kindness, and resilience, inspiring everyone who had the privilege of knowing her. Margaret Louise McDonald Ibach is survived by her three children Debbie, Mike (wife Vicki), and Jeannie (husband Harry), five grandchildren Charles (wife Ceinwen), Melissa (husband John), April (husband Rodney), Kyle, and Angela (husband Jason), four greatgrandchildren Megan (husband Christian), Trevor, Carrie, Ava, and one greatgreat-granddaughter Nora Louise, named for her. All of her grandchildren believed they were her favorite. She will be deeply missed and forever remembered for her unwavering love and remarkable spirit. She was preceded in death by her husband, Herman Ibach, and parents Rainey and Rosalee McDonald who were waiting with open arms in heaven for her. A visitation for Margaret will be held on Tuesday, July 23, 2024 from 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM at Hardage Giddens Greenlawn Funeral Home at 4300 Beach Boulevard. Jacksonville, FL 32207. A graveside service for Margaret will be held Wednesday, July 24, 2024 from 10:00 AM to 10:30 AM at Jacksonville National Cemetery, 4083 Lannie Rd, Jacksonville, FL 32218."

Herman and Louise served as:

1975 – FLORIDA State Square Dance Convention General Chairman – Dip & Dive in '75

1973 – NEFSDA President
Jun 1969-1972 – Friendly Frolics President
Herman and Louise were members of:
Dixie Chain Gang
Friendly Frolics



"Fred Lee Groover, 97, passed away peacefully Tuesday, November 5th, 2024 after a life full of love and gratitude. Fred was born December 29, 1926, in Pidcock, Georgia to the late Felix Groover and Rosa Myers. He lived most of his adult life in Jacksonville, Florida. Fred graduated from Jones Business College in 1950. He was a Veteran of the US Army where he served from 1946-1948. In 1953 Fred joined the Army reserves and retired in 1986. He is preceded in death by his wife, Claudia Weaver Groover, brother, Robert Groover, sister, Annie Louise Schumacher, granddaughter, Victoria Nicole Johns, and great-grandson, James L. Johns, III. Fred and Claudia enjoyed dancing, they participated in J-Ville Cloggers and many square dance Clubs. After Claudia's death he became active in the First Coast Shag Dance Club in Jacksonville. Fred was inducted into the Florida "Shag Dance" Hall of Fame in 2014. He loved to travel and was very interested in genealogy. Fred's love for genealogy inspired him to write a book "The Progeny of Peter (Gruber) Groover". A copy of the book is available at the Hinesville Public Library and the Library of Congress for all Groovers to enjoy. Fred will be dearly missed by his many loved ones. Fred is survived by daughter, R. Cheri Johns (Jim); granddaughter, Melissa A. Johns; grandson, James "JR" Johns, Jr. (Kelli) and great grandchildren, Madilynn and Owen. A memorial service will be held Sunday, November 17, 2024 at 2:00 pm at the Thomas L. Carter Funeral Home Chapel in Flemington, GA. A celebration of Fred's life will be held Monday, November 18, 2024 at 2:00 pm at the Marriot in the Mayport Room, 4670 Salisbury Road, Jacksonville, Florida 32256.

1982 – NEFSDA President

1981-1982 – Diamond Squares President

1981 – Florida Federation of Square Dancers delegate from NEFSDA

1980-1981 - NEFSDA Vice President

1980 – NEFSDA Chairman of Fall Roundup

1980-1981 – Challengers President

1979-1980 – NEFSDA Treasurer

1978 - Gator Promenaders President

1977 – NEFSDA Learners Hoedown Chairman

1977 - both started dancing

They were members of:

Challengers
Diamond Squares
Gator Promenaders
He was a member of:
Fun n' Frolic

Quarter Mores
Sand Dollars

## **National Square and Round Dance Convention**

2025 <u>74<sup>th</sup> National Square dance Convention Shreveport LA</u>

June 25-28 https://74thnsdc.com/

https://nsdcnec.com/national-squares-e-magazine/

2026 <u>75<sup>th</sup> National Square dance Convention Waco, Texas,</u>

June 24-26 <a href="https://75nsdctx.com/">https://75nsdctx.com/</a>

2027 <u>76<sup>th</sup> National Square Dance Convention Loveland CO</u>

June 23-26 <a href="https://76nsdc.com/">https://76nsdc.com/</a>

#### Beginner Square Dance Christmas HoeDown



Christmas Hoedown
Saturday, December 14th
2:00-4:00 pm

Come out to square and round dance with new as well as experienced dancers from across northeast Florida. There will be a selection of callers cuers from the area and everyone will be able to dance every tip.



\$5 per dancer

Under 18 free

Location:

Trinity Lutheran Church 1415 McDuff Ave S. Jacksonville, Fl., 32205

Hosted by the Gateway Callers Association
For information contact Mark Fetzer 904-716-4962



# Let's Dance!

Modern Square Dance beginner lessons
Same lessons at two locations
Starting January 7th and 9th

# High Springs Dance Club

**Thursdays 7:00 to 9:00 pm** 

High Springs Civic Center 19107 NW 24th St. High Springs, FL

**Deborah Cassidy (352-262-0760) Becky Thompson (386-216-6976)** 

# Grand Squares Dance Club

**Tuesdays 6:30 to 8:30 pm** 

Meizon Church 3411 NW 83rd St Gainesville, FL

Robin Fraser (352-317-1636) robin.frazer@yahoo.com

The lessons will be repeated on Tuesdays and Thursdays each week. Attend either club or for twice the fun, come to both classes!

Square dancing offers the trifecta of good health: light exercise, mental stimulation, and a chance to socialize with wonderful, friendly, happy people.

HSDC is courtesy of High Springs parks and recreation.



## **GRAND SQUARES**

**SQUARE DANCE CLUB** 

Caller: Bill Cassidy



DANCING BEGINNERS, BASIC MAINSTREAM AND PLUS

MEIZON CHURCH 3411 NW 83rd St Gainesville Florida

(ENTRANCE AROUND BACK)





TUESDAYS 6:30-8:30 PM

CONTACT ROBIN AT ROBIN.FRAZER@YAHOO.COM







This is the current list that I have for all NEFSARDA clubs in the Northeast area. If your information is wrong or changes, please have an officer of your club notify the Grapevine editor, Stephen Bigelow. If you would like your club added, consider joining NEFSARDA, then send me your club information.

Stephen F Bigelow M.Ed. grapevine@sfbigelow.com 904-612-1081

#### **Monday Clubs**

#### Mixed Nuts

Mixed Nuts Advanced Square Dance Club, Dancing Monday afternoons 4 – 6 pm Grace Presbyterian Church, 3146 N W 13<sup>th</sup> Street, Gainesville, FL Caller Bill Chesnut 352-256-8628

#### Joy Seas

7 to 9 PM. St Augustine South Club house in St Augustine FL 32086 Call before you go to verify they are dancing Call Mary Burzo 904 501-1817. See our current article for updates.

Mike Akers Caller

#### **Tuesday Clubs**

#### Rollaways

7:00 – 9:00 PM at Sandalwood High School 2750 John Prom Boulevard, Jacksonville Caller Mark Fetzer

Cuer Susan Snider

President Sawyer Gray.

Banner Chairman Virginia Bomhold (904) 521-2754

#### Seabreeze Singles

Dance Review 7:00 to 7:30 PM, Club Dance 7:30 to 9:30 PM at Frances Padgett Arlington Senior Center, 1078 Rogero Road, Jacksonville.

Caller Mike Akers

President Pamela Newman (904) 516-7115

Banner Chairman Vickie BeLue (904) 707-8188

#### Salty Bobbers

7:00 - 9:00 PM at Community Center, 612 SW 812th Street, Steinhatchee.

Caller Charlie Pergrossi

Club Contact Jeanette Geer (352) 507-9425

Banner Chairman Doug Moore (512) 605-7773

#### **Dixie Dancers**

7:00 - 9:30 PM at Teen Town, 533 NW DeSoto Street, Gainesville.
Caller Bill Chesnut
President and Banner Chairman Bob and Barbara Rosenthal (386) 466-2984

#### **Grand Squares**

6:30 to 8:30 PM at Meizon Church, 3411 NW 83rd Street, Gainesville, FL Callers Bill Cassidy Club Contact Robin Frazer (352) 317-1636

#### **Wednesday Clubs**

<u>Clover Squares</u> = 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays of the month from 2-4 at the First United Methodist Church in Chiefland, 707 North Main Street, Chiefland, FL Caller Jim Duncan Club Contact Gerry Jesk (352) 949-4446

#### **Thursday Club**

#### Coastal Georgia Squares

7:00 to 9:00 Christian Life Center behind College Place UMC, 3890 Altama Ave, Brunswick, GA. If you're planning to attend the dance from out of town, **please contact me prior to the dance** in case there is a conflict with a church activity. Don Heins – (912) 269-7909. <a href="mailto:donneins@MSN.com">donheins@MSN.com</a>

<u>High Springs Dance Club</u> is conveniently located halfway between Gainesville and Lake City. We dance at the Civic Center off Highway 441 near Winn Dixie. The dance is every Thursday night from 7 to 9 pm with the setup starting at 6:30 pm. The address is 19107 NW 240th Street, High Springs, FL. **Contact Deborah Cassidy to confirm we are dancing. 352-262-0760**.

#### Moose Promenaders

Club dance 7:00 to 9ish PM at Moose Lodge, 5051 Collins Road, Jacksonville. Caller Bill Chesnut President Wayne and Debbie Miller Banner Chairman Hanna Watts (904) 387-6287







#### Advertisements (different sizes/prices)



Place an ad in our Florida State Convention Program Book, and reach more than 400 dancers.

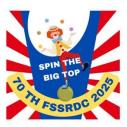
Please fill out the information below, and send with your remittance to the address listed below.

#### The Square & Round Dancers of Florida Appreciate your Support!

**ADVERTISERS NAME** 

AD SIZE (App	roximate)			
FULL PAGE	(4-11/2 x 7) @	\$60.00		PAYMENT
INSIDE/OU	TSIDE COVER (4-	-1I/2 x 7) @	\$70.00	
HALE DAGE	(4-1/2 x 4) @ \$	35.00		CASH
HALI FAGE	(4-1/2 X 4) @ Ç	33.00		CHECK #
QUARTER F	PAGE (4-1/2 x 2)	@ \$ 25.00	_	DATE:
I REQUEST	A COPY OF COM	IPLETED PR	OGRAM BOO	OK FOR OUR RECORDS
Deadline: D	ECEMBER 1	5, 2024		
MAKE CHE	CK PAYAB	LE TO:	70th	FSSRDC
MAIL TO:	Ailene Piche 345 Hula Cir Merritt Island	cle	52	
	C <b>OPY TO:</b> HONE:			

Alach ad copy here



## Thank you for supporting the 70th Florida State Square & Round Dance Convention Program Book.

Deadline: DECEMBER 15, 2024

#### **BOOSTER NAMES** \$1.00 Per Name

See 'NOTE' Below for Special Club Ad.

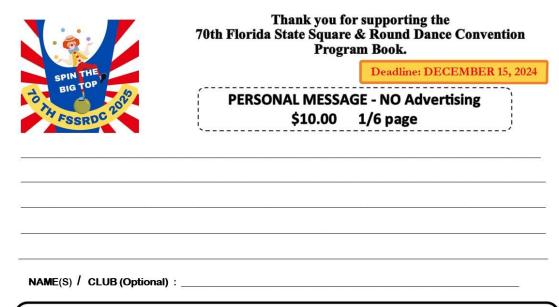
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NOTE: Add your Club Logo, along with your club member names and purchase an ad. \$25 for quarter page ad (about 25 names) - \$35 for a half page ad (about 35 names)

Ad will be returned at your request for your approval.

MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO: 70th FSRDC
MAIL TO: Ailene Picheco, 345 Hula Circle, Merritt Island, FL 32952
EMAIL AD COPY TO: apicheco@att.net Contact Phone: 321-652-0680

#### Personal Ad (No advertising)



MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO: 70th FSSRDC

MAIL TO: Ailene Picheco, 345 Hula Circle, Merritt Island, FL 32952 EMAIL AD COPY TO: apicheco@att.net Contact Phone: 321-652-0680



**New Years Eve** Tuesday, December 31, 2024 6:30 pm to 9:00 pm

510 Poinsettia Ave Bring a Finger Food Sebring, Florida

\$10 per person

First Christian Church

MS/Plus, Phase 2 Rounds



#### Allemande Hall 106 Westlake, Waco TX 76712



Thursday 7:00-10:00 pm — Mainstream w/Plus - Chet and Dale
Friday 2:00-4:00 — Full Blown Plus — Tony and Vernon
Friday 4:30-6:00 - Barbeque Dinner
Friday 7:00-10:00 pm — Mainstream w/Plus - Tony and Vernon

#### Waco Convention Center 100 Washington Ave, Waco TX 76701

Saturday 2:00-4:00 - Full Blown Plus
Saturday 7:00-10:00 pm -Mainstream w/Plus\*
Tony, Vernon and Charlie



\*FREE Dance to those Registered for the 75<sup>th</sup> NSDC You must be registered to attend Yes! You can register at the dance.

#### **HOTELS**

Southside (Closest to Allemande Hall)

Springhill Suites 200 Colonnade Pkwy Waco, TX

Fairfield Inn 5805 N. Woodway Dr. (Hwy 84) Woodway (Waco), TX 254-776-7821

La Quinta Inn 60003 Woodway Dr. (Hwy 84) Woodway (Waco), TX 254-772-0200

Super 8 6624 Woodway Dr. (Hwy 84) Woodway (Waco), TX 254-523-4372 <u>Downtown</u>

Hilton Waco (Walkway connects to Convention Center) 113 S University Parks Dr. Waco, TX 76701 254-754-8484

Courtyard by Marriot (Host Hotel) 101 Washington Ave Waco, TX 76701 254-752-8686

Many other hotels are located along I-35 near downtown exits. (Near "fast food row")

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# More information available at www.74nsdc.com

Code	Hilton Shrevenort Hotel - Headquarters	
_	Hilton Shreveport Hotel - Headquarters	
2	Sam's Town - Weekday Rate (Sunday - Thursday)	hursday)
	Caller/Cuer Hotel – Weekend Rate (Friday – Saturday	' – Saturday)
w	Holiday Inn - Shreveport (3-minute - 0.7 mile)	nile)
4	Holiday Inn Express - Shreveport (3-minute - 0.7 mile	te - 0.7 mile)
CII	Hampton Inn – Bossier (6-minute drive)	
6	Hilton Garden Inn - Bossier (6-minute drive)	9)
7	Homewood Suites - Bossier (6-minute drive)	9)
Indicat	Indicate choice of hotel preference by specifying number: #1 #2 #3	number: #1 #

re by specifying number. #1

for Sam's Town or May 1, 2025 for other hotels to guarantee 74th NSDC pricing to availability. This form must be received, and rooms booked by March 1, 2025 Hotel assignments will be made in order of registration form received & according

7	Room
7	nights
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7	nights needed: (4 Night Minimum)

# Additional arrive early?	□S 6/21 □S 6/22 □M 6/23
or stay late nights?	3 □ T 6/24 □ W 6/25 □
Total nights requested	$\square$ S 6/21 $\square$ S 6/22 $\square$ M 6/23 $\square$ T 6/24 $\square$ W 6/25 $\square$ T 6/26 $\square$ F 6/27 $\square$ S 6/28 $\square$ S 6/29
	29

request. Please list all room occupants here: SHARED ROOMS - only one person per room should complete a hotel reservation

Room request: └─ Single └─ Double └─ Queen └─ King └─ Handicapable

## Housing Committee does not find or assign roommates

BLOCK HOUSING: All Block Housing requests are due by July 15, 2024 and must be **filled by Sept 15th,** include the name, email, and phone number of Block Housing Leader.

Block Leader Name

No airport shuttle services provided. See www.74nsdc.com for transportation information

Phone

weblink and phone number to the hotel reservation system will be sent to attendees in the order that the forms are received. best chance of having your selection available, and no later than May 1, 2025. A Register and submit your hotel room choice early (on the form or online) to have the

Do you prefer email or text notification? Email Text

and phone number which will be provided by the convention Housing Viceonline registration is available for the contracted rate except through the weblink a registration number to receive the convention contracted rate. No self or card number to hold the room. You must be registered for the convention with 2024. The hotel will provide your confirmation number as you provide your credit Note that hotels will not take your reservation for our convention until July 1



## RV & CAMPING ACCOMMODATIONS

	CCCIMINOCALICI	•
Campground	Distance	Rate per Day
State Fair of Louisiana	4.5 miles /	\$35 00
3701 Hudson Street,	9-minute drive	
Shrevenort I A 71109		

30 or 50-amp electrical connections. ☐ 30 amp requested ☐ 50 amp requested Each site is roughly the same size with full hookups including water and sewer with

must be booked by May 1, 2025, to guarantee the 74th NSDC pricing. We have over 200 sites to make sure we have plenty of 50-amp connections. This form must be received, and sites Assignments will be made in the order of registration form received & according to availability

available, so no issue on availability.

Site nights needed: (4 Night Minimum)

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Buses Not Available. Parking Available at Convention Center \$5 per day (in/out).

**GROUP CAMPING** requests must be received by January 2, 2025. Everyone that is part of the group must fill in Group Name and Group Leader Name. **To camp together, best to** arrive together.

**Group Name** 

Email	Group
	Leader
	Name

Your confirmed campground may assess a one-night penalty fee for cancellations received further information see web site: www.74nsdc.com. less than 72 hours of arrival, including early departure. On-line registration available. All site reservations will be coordinated through RV & Camping Vice-Chairman with this form. For

Phone

## Come Camp on the Wild Side

Camping accommodations for the 74th National Square Dance Convention® are available at the State Fair of Louisiana, located at 3701 Hudson St. in Shreveport. Each site (\$35 nightly) is roughly the same site with full hookups, including water and sewer with 30 or 50-amp connections. The 200-site campground is 4.6 miles from the Shreveport Convention Center. There is no bus shuttle service to the convention center. Parking is available at the convention center for \$4 per day (in/out) and at the nearby Sam's Town and Bally's Casino Resorts. The 74th NSDC has rented the campground's air-conditioned hospitality building for our campers to have a place to meet and socialize and there are restrooms with showers onsite. (The campground is currently undergoing renovations, which will be completed in time for the 74th NSDC!)





To the Campling area take 20 West Mexit 16A, Hearne Avenue and State Fair Grounds , 4.6 miles from the convention center. From the campling area, simply take 1-20 East and exit 19A and north to Caddo Street for the Convention patking structure or right at Fanin to dead end at Clyde Fanit for free parking at either Sam's Town or Bally's Casino-parking.

An aerial view of the State Fair of Louisiana grounds in Shreveport shows campground sites highlighted in green (pictured above). Also depicted is a map showing parking areas. Be aware there may be height restrictions.

Register for the 74th National Square Dance Convention® and secure your campsite today!

#### RESERVATIONS

Assignments will be made in order of COMPLETED REGISTRATION form received: https://www.74nsdc.com/register-online. You can not register to camp if you have not registered first for the 74th NSDC. Sites must be booked through the 74th NSDC Registration & Housing by May 1, 2025 to guarantee pricing.

Site reservations will be coordinated through the RV and Camping Vice-Chairmen Dan and Vicki Hatfield, vhat@cox.net. Reserve your RV and Camping using the online form found at our website https://www.74nsdc.com/housing. Requests for Group Camping must be received by Jan. 2, 2025.

No reservations or payments can be made at the Fairgrounds, you must have registered and paid for your RV camping site either by mail, in person with one of our team members, or online through the website: https://www.74nsdc. com/housing.

## Searching for more information about the 74th NSDC?



- Join our 74<sup>th</sup> NSDC Facebook group, <u>https://www.facebook.com/groups/750145379807873</u>, for the latest news and events.
- 2. Visit our website at www.74nsdc.com. Click on Team & Contact and toggle down to FAQ for Frequently Asked Questions, the direct link is <a href="https://www.74nsdc.com/faq">https://www.74nsdc.com/faq</a>. While you are on our website, please take a moment to look around and explore our site. It is a work in progress so check back periodically for updates!
- 3. Subscribe to and read the National Squares e-Magazine. Each convention is responsible for producing the monthly magazine from August-May preceding their convention. The 74<sup>th</sup> NSDC's first issue will be August 2024! Go to <a href="https://nsdcnec.com/national-squares-e-magazine/">https://nsdcnec.com/national-squares-e-magazine/</a> and scroll to the bottom of the page to enter your name and email address to subscribe. It's free!

#### 74th NATIONAL SQUARE DANCE CONVENTION

### Come Explore with the 74th NSDC

#### Experience New Orleans 6/22/25-6/25/25

Take a trip with us to Louisiana's most famous city. Fly into New Orleans a few days early to experience this tour and then ride our bus back to Shreveport for the convention. Stay in the heart of NOLA and see all that the French Quarter has to offer. Highlights include a trip to Mardi Gras World, an airboat swamp tour and fine dining experiences in the city.

#### Come Bowl with Us!

Experience our convention after-after party Friday night at the bowling alley. Busses will transport you from the convention center to historic Holiday Lanes for a night of bowling, food and fun! A package price gets you unlimited bowling and shoes, access to our snack and ice cream sundae buffet and karaoke. Door prizes, contests, arcade. Party into the early hours with us!

#### **Historic Natchitoches**

This all-day tour will transport you to historic Natchitoches, Louisiana's oldest settlement and the filming location for "Steel Magnolias". To start, you will tour Fort St. Jean Baptiste, an original French fort and even have the opportunity to dance in the fort! Next, a hop-on tour guide will give a city tour. Afterward, enjoy food and shopping in the historic downtown on your own. Learn, Explore, Enjoy!

#### **Gator & Friends**

This tour will take you to Gators and Friends where you can have close and personal experience with our convention mascot. You also have the opportunity to zip line over a swamp of gators for an additional cost. Afterward, enjoy lunch at BeauJax Crafthouse where you can eat a gator.

#### Down on the Farm

In this special experience, you will be transported to a local dairy farm where you can learn all of the ins and outs of life on the farm. Afterward you will be treated to a box lunch at the farm and the opportunity to square dance by the cows.

#### **Shreveport City Tour**

See all that Shreveport has to offer on this two-hour tour of the city and the surrounding area from the comfort of an air-conditioned tour bus.

Watch future editions of National Squares, our website www.74NSDC.com/tours, and Facebook group for details and signup information on the 74th NSDC tours.

Background photo of Holiday Lanes bowling alley courtesy of Rachel Rose, 74th NSDC Chairman Social and Special Events, Fashion Show

