

Live Lively-



Square Dance!

The Grapevine

January 2025

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

Live Lively-



Square Dance!

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NEFSARDA News

The next NEFSARDA association meeting is January 12, 2025, at St Catherines Episcopal Church, 4758 Shelby Ave, Jacksonville, FL 32210. @ 3:00 PM

State Convention News

Hello, everyone!

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
islandmom74@att.net

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From the Grapevine Editor



The month of January is upon us. The start of a new year and new resolutions to hopefully keep for the whole year. What is your resolution? Mine is to meet the expectations of the square dance community and keep them informed with the Grapevine and The Bow and Swing

The February issue deadline is January 22, 2025

God Bless You All
Stephen F. Bigelow

Dance Club News

The Moose Promenaders – Jacksonville – Caller Bill Chesnut



The Moose Promenaders haven't had enough advanced dancers during the summer to work on our advanced skills. Hopefully we'll start advanced dancing again in September.

A good car has "four on the floor", So doesn't a good Square Dance!



Rollaways join our fun....Rolla-Moosees?

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



Bill & guest caller Emily, They always sound great together!



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



Susan cueing some rounds...



Steve and Kathy Grant.....Mary and Chuck Giera



Rollaways completing a Raid.... We will be back for our Banner Real Soon!!



Sawyer, So glad you are with us and doing so much better!

Coastal Georgia Squares - Brunswick, GA - Caller Don Heins

The Coastal Georgia Squares dance each Thursday night except holidays or church activities. The dance is at 7:00 at College Place Methodist Church in Brunswick, Ga. We are a small but welcoming group who appreciate visitors dropping by to dance with us.

Please contact Don Heins at either 912-265-1504 or 912-269-7909 or at donheins@msn.com.

Thanks,
Don

Grand Squares – Gainesville, FL – Caller Bill Cassidy

The Grand Squares dances every Tuesday night to caller Bill Cassidy at Meizon Church at 3411 NW 83rd Street in Gainesville. Entrance to fellowship hall is around back. Contact Robin at robin.frazer@yahoo.com for more information.

In December the Grand Squares had our Christmas Dance. Decorations by Bertha, activities planned by Robin, and refreshments provided by everyone ensured a jolly good time was had by all!

We definitely has fun at this dance while we played some Reindeer Games (where no one called Rudolph any names!). We had some good sports playing the roles of Prancer and Dancer. Everyone tried to toss rings onto the reindeer antlers with an overall winner of Marc, with Deborah coming in second place. Jolly good show!

We ate holiday treats and drank punch and eggnog until our tummies were full.

We had door prize - a big barrel of white cheese snow balls that went home with lucky winner Lon, and a festive Estimation Station - a Christmas ornament filled with M&M's - the total of M&M's were... 588! Closest guess was Donna A. with an estimate of 536. Bertha was pretty close, but Donna went home with the prize!

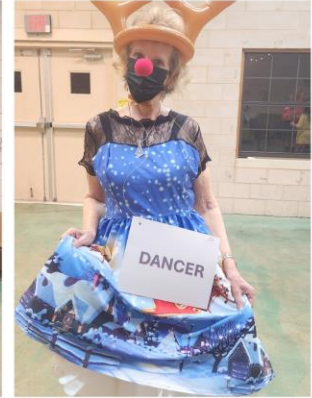
Dancers danced their little hooves off to seasonal music called by Bill. It was a fun night!

In January the Grand Squares and their sister club the High Springs Dance Club will be holding beginner classes. Bill Cassidy will be teaching both classes and they will be paced so class members can attend one or both classes (for extra fun and practice). The Grand Squares class will begin on Tuesday, January 7th at the Meizon Church (see address above) from 6:30-8:30 and the High Springs Dance Club will teach classes beginning on Thursday, January 9th from 7:00-9:00 at the High Springs Civic Center at 19107 NW 24th Street, High Springs, Florida.

The Grand Squares wishes all our family and friends a Very Merry Christmas and a Safe and Happy New Year. Can't wait to dance with you in 2025! Until next year.... Yellow Rocks!!









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.

Dixie Dancers - Lake City, FL - Caller Bill Chesnut

Dixie Dancers in Lake City

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.

The group Alabama had a great Christmas song called Christmas in Dixie. Let us paraphrase it and say Merry Christmas from the Dixie Dancers. Our dance year ended with a Christmas party.

There was dancing



There was food



The newlyweds returned, it was great to have Audrey and Bruce back. We will not be back together until January 7 due to the holiday schedule. Then we prepare for a new class starting in February.

Come out to Lake City and dance with us almost any Tuesday evening. We do encourage you to contact Bill Chesnut 352-256-8628 or Bob and Barbara Rosenthal 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. 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 1st, 3rd 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

CLOVER SQUARES CLUB NEWS

Sending some pics of our club this past month with our Caller Jim Duncan celebrating his birthday a couple of days early and we have been Having the youth of the Church join us on Wed. after school. We meet every 1st, 3rd and 5th Wednesdays of the month, from 2 to 4, at the Methodist Church In Chiefland. We do Main street with learning some Plus calls. Our next dance will be a Halloween Costume Dance and we will have Bill Cassidy calling .So come on out and join us. Scoop Jesk







Clover Squares celebrated Christmas at their dance on the 18th. We all brought canned goods to put under the little tree covered with candy canes. Everyone was to take a Candy cane and the canned goods went to a local charity that gives food to the needy all year through. We had a little Entertainment with Pastor Marco playing his trombone and Chuck Darwin playing base and Gerry playing the accordion. Our Caller Jim Duncan called the tips to a host of Christmas songs. Returning from their honeymoon was Audrey and Bruce King. Their wedding picture below. Our next dance will be Wed. January 8, 2025, so come on out and dance with us at the Methodist Church in Chiefland from 2 to 4vpm.Scoop Jesk



Mixed Nuts met on the 16 with a host of retired dancers, a sort of family reunion and Christmas Party dance. Our former dancers were Mignon Craig, Val Griffith, Sue Griner and Gerry Jesk. They caught up on things while the other danced to the calling of Bill Chesnut and Round dancing to the cueing of Susan Fetzer .. The food table was plentiful and delicious. A grand time was had by all. Scoop Jesk

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) Becky Thompson (386-216-6976)

The High Springs Dance Club was in a parade! It all started when our president Becky Thompson decided our group should be in the parade and she had the foresight to order some extra large banners. There was a lot of work to prepare for this event. A sign-up sheet was prepared to get a list of volunteers willing to participate. A wagon was set up with frames to hold the banners on the sides and bright floodlights to light them up. The wagon carried all the square dancing equipment, including an amplifier, speakers, etc. We also included our sister club's banner The Grand Squares.

The High Springs Christmas parade is an annual event that has been gaining in popularity. This year there were 400 participants. The parade started at 6 PM on Saturday, December 14. We arrived early and set up our wagon with the banners, lights, and square dance calling equipment. A decision was made to start to enter the parade at about the halfway point because it was felt that the entire parade route might be too far to walk. With everything set up and ready to go and all of the dancers present we had plenty of time to mingle with some of the spectators along the road. At about 6:30 pm there was a gap in the parade and we pulled our wagon and walked out into the road. We are sure the spectators expected us to begin just walking the parade route. I took the wireless microphone and said, "square up" and started the music. It was set as loud as possible. Many square dancers will know the patter call version of the song called Rock Paper Scissors. It is a very powerful song that makes you want to move. Definitely not the old-fashioned country and western fiddles, banjos, and honky-tonk pianos that so many people associate with square dancing. The calls were simple, easy-to-dance choreography. The dancers were smiling, enthusiastic, and dancing with a lot of energy. It was just perfect! At the end of the calling the dancers ran into the middle with the usual celebration. I immediately stopped the music and then the most shocking thing I have ever experienced in square dancing happened. The crowd started loudly clapping, cheering, and yelling Merry Christmas to the dancers! It was amazing and the dancers deserved the accolades. We then proceeded to walk the parade route. Kathy Trimble was in the lead, twirling a baton. Next was Square Dance

Caller, Lon Ligon, and myself side-by-side. Lon looked sharp wearing Christmas attire and his gold 50 years of service Florida Caller Association badge. We were followed by Mike pulling the parade wagon. Next came the dancers walking the sidelines handing out bookmarks with our next class information. We stopped and performed for the crowd six times before we reached the end of the parade route. Every time we stopped to dance we played very contemporary, hot music and after dancing, the dancers received applause and cheers. At the end of the parade, the route to the parking lot was to the right along a rather dark road. There were so many spectators they lined both sides of that road as well. We did not want to leave them out so we went down halfway and danced again and then did our final performance at the end of that road. We stopped and performed a total of eight times! We estimate that we performed for up to 2000 spectators. They were on both sides of the road and 2 to 3 rows of chairs deep. This was the greatest public relations and advertising bonanza we have ever done. We plan to participate in next year's parade with many improvements based on what we learned from this first experience.









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

HAPPY NEW YEAR 2025

It's January and that means our very special dance with National Callers Jack Pladdys and Tony Oxendine is only weeks away. This dance is scheduled for **Wednesday, February 5 at the Trinity Lutheran Church.**



Before plunging into 2025, let's take one last look at how the Seabreeze Club's year ended.

Once again, the Seabreeze spirit of generosity was evident during our Kay Walker Toy Drive Dance.



Dave secured a wonderful book donation.



Next, Hostess Hanna ensured that our Christmas Luncheon was a lovely event.



Caller Mike certainly created a most festive atmosphere for our Christmas Dance.





Celebrating Our Dear Caller



Now the Seabreeze Club is ready for a dynamic January. Our schedule is as follows:

7 Happy New Year Dance

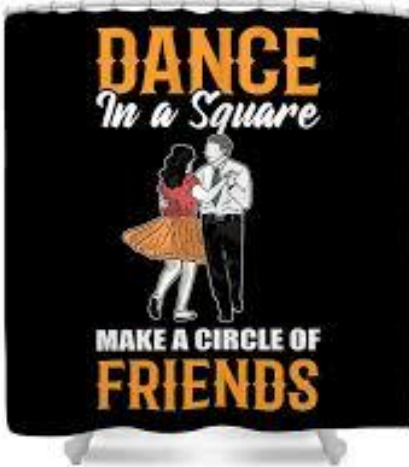
14 Celebrating National Bagel Day The club will provide the bagels. Dancers provide the spreads.

21 Joining the Rollaways for their Chili Cookoff. **The club will not be dancing in Arlington. We will be on the move to Sandalwood High School.**

28 Celebrating the Lunar New Year – The Year of the Snake.

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: gabbygirlpam@gmail.com



Mixed Nuts Gainesville FL - Caller Bill Chesnut

Mixed Nuts Advanced square dance club meets on Mondays at Grace Presbyterian Church in Gainesville 13 St. & 32 Ave. **from 4-6 pm (note new time change until listed otherwise).** We try to do "A" Dancing so come on out and join us in the fun and exercise both mentally & physically.

- Scoop Jesk

Salty Bobbers – Steinhatchee, FL - Caller Charlie Pergrossi

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



You missed an exceptional weekend if you couldn't attend our Christmas campout at the Silver Springs Resort December 6-7. We are so blessed to be able to travel, meet with friends, and dance the night away. We had 22 rigs in attendance, but several people joined us for dinner and dancing without their campers- we had a full house.

Friday evening began with our usual casual dinner- even though I enjoyed my own meal, Debbie and Bill's yummy looking salads made me a teensy bit envious. We began the evening's dancing with 5 full squares! While most of us were casually danced for Friday, Jim Maroldo with his Christmas suit and tie was dressed to the nines as were Laura, Sylvia and Sandy. Carolyn S and Martha wore twin vests! Susan Snider played a waltz that I was not familiar with, An Old Time Christmas Waltz that was really quite beautiful, as well as one of my all-time favorites, the Axel F cha cha. Our after party kept me up past my bedtime- hooray! And I was about to forget that Laura and Marshall Blick won \$56 dollars in the half and half- lucky!

Saturday, the campground members served a delicious breakfast for only \$5 - the only problem is that it ended just before Dennis, and I arrived- rats! However, Dee told us of a newly re-opened cafe and we both had corned beef omelets so we didn't feel so bad- can't remember the name but the blow-up reindeer on the roof next door helped us find our way. Silver Springs is such a cool little town- many of us toured the Dickens exhibit at the Appleton Museum, and a few visited the Equestrian Center. It was a pretty nippy weekend- us Floridians needed to bundle up! Martha and Bob, Debbie C and I enjoyed playing games on the inside- congrats to the winners which were not me. Several of us found things we needed at the Veteran's sale at the campground.

Our Christmas dinner highlighted a delicious ham prepared by the Imus crew- I swear I think it was the best I have ever eaten! We do have some fine cooks in our membership. If anyone went away hungry, they were nuts. After just a short interlude our members came back to the dance hall in all their Christmas finery. I cannot point out any of the beautiful ladies who stood out- I would be sure to miss someone- but I can point out that Tom and Marshall were the only dancers with moving musical hats! Laura Maroldo, Laura Blick, Laura Ramsey, and a visitor Laura posed for twinsie type pictures. Jill and Adam Cantrell brought their sweetheart daughter Alyssa who danced as we invited folks from the audience to do a beginning tip with us. Bill and Susan each played a version of "Stretchy Pants" which just makes me want to howl with laughter. Pat H, recovering from wrist surgery proved that elbows work just fine instead of hands when dancing together- with careful partners. Steve and Carol Casto were the winners of the 50-50- another \$56 dollars!

Our Christmas gift exchange began tamely, as it did last year, but finally the steals began! Marilyn S gets the award for the most stolen gifts, with Russ U not far behind. Several things did require batteries- thank you John Burzo for beginning that question many years ago. Perhaps the very bright flashlights were the biggest hits.

Our next event will be the Jan 17-18, 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, on Thursday 16.

God bless and keep you until we meet again. Merry Christmas!

Laura





SQUARE WHEELS
Chapter 128
CAMPING SCHEDULE – 2025

(Subject to change – Please verify – Revised 11/24/24)
(All Rally Rates Subject to Change Due to Inflation)

Jan 17-18

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 16th.

Feb 14-15

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 14-15

The Springs R.V. Resort - 2950 N. E. 52nd 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 & 24. You must call campground and pre-register with a deposit.

- Apr 25-26 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 16-17 Southern Oaks RV Resort, 14140 SE Hwy 441, Summerfield, FL 34491 (352) 347-2550. Rally Rate \$34.00 (subject to change) - rally rate also available for the 15th. Must make your own reservations at the campground.
- June 19-21 67th NSDCA International Camporee – Shreveport, Louisiana Fairgrounds See nsdca.org, Camping/Dancing, Camporee for registration forms & additional dances.
- Jun 25-28 74th National Square Dance Convention – Shreveport, LA. See www.74nsdc.com/ for details
- Aug. 15-16 Wekiva Falls RV Resort – Campground Not Ready To Take Our Reservation – Call Back Next Spring
- Sep 19-20 Southern Oaks RV Resort – Campground Not Ready To Take Our Reservation – Call Back Next Spring.
- Oct. 23-25 **FANSDC 49th Annual State Camp-O-Ree** – Southern Palms RV Resort, One Avocado Lane, Eustis, FL 32726. For more Information see Flyer
- Nov ?-? Northeast Florida Sq & Rd Dance 71st Fall Festival. Recommended campground: Kathryn Abbey Hanna Park (904-249-4700). For more Information see ?????.
- Dec 5-6 **SQUARE WHEELS CHRISTMAS PARTY** Not Reserved Yet. Too Early The Springs R.V. Resort - 2950 N. E. 52nd Ct, Silver Springs, FL 34488. 352-236-5250. Rally rate ??? per night. Also, they will honor Passport America for 3 days. If staying longer than 3 days, additional days will be at ??? 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.

For additional information please contact one of the following:

Mary Chesnut Tim Hill 352-205-0596
352-475-2550, cell (352) 214-5880 Angela Brown 352-408-5721
marynut4@gmail.com doramiata62@yahoo.com

You can also dance to Bill on Tuesday nights, with the Dixie Dancers in Lake City or Thursday nights with Moose Promenaders in Jacksonville.

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

The Rollaways had a wonderful December collecting toys for the Kay Walker Toy Drive as well as a Christmas party. We were not able to dance the last two weeks of December, but we had fun at the Gateway Callers Christmas Hoedown. We will start back on January 7th with a beginner hoedown. The Rollaway's famous Chili Cook-off is January 21st. Everyone is allowed to enter as well as sample and vote. Visitors are always welcome! We dance at Sandalwood High School on John Prom Blvd and park in lot #2. For more information call Robin Burton 904-759-3200 or Banner Chairperson Virginia Bombold 904-521-2754.



The Donations to the Kay Walker Toy Drive



Rollaways

Tuesday, January 21st



- Chili Cook-Off and dancing from 7:00 - 9:00
- Bring your best Pot-O-Chili and compete in our annual Chili Cook-Off.
- First Prize is a gift card to Chili's Bar & Grill



We dance in the cafeteria at Sandalwood High School, 2750 John Prom Blvd, Jacksonville, FL 32246. We park in the parking lot #2.

For more info: Joan Amarino 904-629-4560

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

Message from Mary Giera, NEFSARDA historian: I started this project a year ago with NEFSARDA dancers and former dancers whose birthdays were in February. I sent the information each month to Stephen Bigelow who published each list in the Grapevine. I also sent these people a birthday card. This may be the final installment in the project.

January birthdays for those NEFSARDA dancers and former dancers age 90 and older

Grace K. "Kitty" Baker (husband Ron, deceased)

They were members of:

Mandarin Marauders

Orange Park Promenaders

Kitty's birthday is Jan 25. She's in her 90's.

Cards may be sent to:

2271 Doctors Lake Dr, Orange Park, FL 32073



Gladys Elizabeth "Bobbie" Calton (husband Bill, deceased)

1993 – Square Wheels Secretary

They were members of:

Mixed Nuts/BAD Dancers

Square Wheels

On Jan 3 Bobbie will be 101

Cards may be sent to:

15309 SE 182nd Ave, Hawthorne, FL 32640



Pat Diffie (husband Granville)

They were members of:

Rollaways

Yellow Rockers

She will be 94 on January 17

Cards may be sent to
7450 Tinturn Cove, Jacksonville, FL 32244-2644

Glaze, Leon (husband to Sally)

They were members of:

Oak Hammock Twirlers

He was a member of:

Grand Squares

Leon will be 93 in Jan

Cards may be sent to:

5200 SW 25th Blvd, Unit 3223, Gainesville, FL 32608



pictured with Ed Johnson

Ruth Harper

Ruth served as:

2003 – Rollaways Secretary (w/Ed Johnson)

2001 – Rollaways Historian (w/Ed Johnson)

1999-2000 – NEFSARDA Treasurer (w/Ed Johnson)

1997 – NEFSARDA delegate from Joy Seas (w/Ed Johnson)

She was a member of:

Joy Seas

Rollaways

Ruth will turn 95 on Jan 21

Cards may be sent to:

4485 Palm Valley Rd, Ponte Vedra Beach, FL 32082



Ed Hauck - cuer (wife Hazel, deceased)

2007 – Circle of Service Award

They were members of:

Dixie Dancers
Silver Fox Squares
Square Wheels

On Jan 3 he will be 90.

Cards may be sent to:

115 SW Robinson Ct, Lake City, FL 32024-4192

He was a member of:

First Coast Rounds
Dixie Dancers

Arthur E. Krumholtz

He was a member of Joy Seas

He will be 90 on January 11

Cards may be sent to:

5850 Cypress Estates Dr, Elkton, FL 32033

Keith Lindeman (wife Gail)

They were members of:

Fun n' Frolic

Keith will be 92 on Jan 7

Cards may be sent to:

514 Americas Way, Box Elder, SD 57719



Jack McKinney (wife Kathy, deceased)

They served as:

2019 - NEFSARDA Immediate Past President

2017-2019 – Rollaways newsletter editor

2016-2019 – Florida Federation of Square Dancers delegate

2015-2018 – NEFSARDA President

2012 – **FLORIDA State Square & Round Dance Hall of Fame**

2011 – NEFSARDA Fall Festival Chairman

2009-2011 – NEFSARDA Recording Secretary

2007 – NEFSARDA Recording Secretary

2007 – NEFSARDA 50th Anniversary Dance Chairman

2007 – NEFSARDA Fall Festival Chairman

2003 – NEFSARDA Publicity Chairman

2003-2004 – Teddy Bear Squares Banner Chairman
2001-2006 - **Florida Federation of Square Dancers (Parliamentarian – President)**
2002-2019 – Rollaways Treasurer
2000-2001 – Rollaways Vice President
1999 – NEFSARDA Dance Couple of the Year
1999 – NEFSARDA Fall Festival Chairman
1999 – NEFSARDA Visitation Chairman
1999-2000 - NEFSARDA Immediate Past President
1997-1998 – NEFSARDA President
1997 – Circle of Service Award
1996 – NEFSARDA Vice President
1996 – NEFSARDA Showcase of Ideas Chairman
1996 – NEFSARDA Blood Bank Chairman
1995-1996 – Rollaways President
1994 – Rollaways Banner Chairman
They were members of:
Classic Squares/Plus
First Coast Rounds
Happy 2 Be
Mainstream Squares
Rollaways
Teddy Bear Squares
Jack is still a member of Rollaways and attends often, but no longer dances
On Jan 17 Jack will be 93.
Cards may be sent to:
709 6th Ave N, Jacksonville Beach FL 32250-4605

Ramblings from beautiful downtown Melrose – by Bill Chesnut

I told it through the Grapevine: Ramblings from beautiful downtown Melrose. It is time to retire 2024 and charge forth into 2025. It has been an interesting year, full of challenges, great moments, loss and arrivals. I am happy I survived it and sad that so many friends and family members did not. We are happy to have new family members join us and new dancers joining our activity. May you all be blessed in the coming year, and all good things come to you. Our activity is still reeling from the effects of Covid, but some clubs and areas are continuing to rebound. It will take all of us to spread the word on square and round dancing. Some people think the clothing is the answer, some think the level of dancing keeps people away. I hope the callers will continue to work with their clubs and find out what works best. The big issue continues to be not getting enough to the door to tat learning. Continue asking people to join us, share the information on Facebook, and encourage those who do come out. No matter what they wear, no matter the level, let's make sure they have fun.

Callers, do you look at body flow from the perspective of your partner? Some things feel great to the left-hand dancer but awkward to the right-hand person. We all use star thru, veer left but look at the flow from the ladies side. Would you use star thru, veer right? It is something for us all to think about. How about using Tag the Line as the emphasis call for a few dances? We have Tag, ½ Tag and ¾ Tag available. And for some real interesting looks from the dancers, call tag the line from facing couples. (But you might want to be prepared to help.)

Mary and I wish you the happiest of holidays. A very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to you all. Now to get real busy on losing those 20 pounds I was going to lose in 2024.

Now wash your hands and go recruit some new dancers.

Bill & Mary Chesnut

New Dancer Coordinator

by Tim Marriner

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After the Club President the New Dancer Coordinator (NDC) is the next most important officer of a square dance club. They must coordinate between the Club President and the club instructor many necessary duties to achieve success. Without new dancers clubs are destined to fail. New dancers are the lifeblood of our activity. New dancers usually have friends nobody has ever contacted to join the square dance activity. They are often highly motivated and willing to encourage others to join something they find new and exciting. The main objective of the NDC is to provide the best fun filled learning experience possible. The NDC must also work year round to energize the club to recruit prospective new dancers, not just one month prior to a new dancer session. The task is very rewarding when everything comes together and you are able to achieve club growth.

To that avail, below is a list of some of the responsibilities every NDC should strive to achieve.

New Dancer Coordinator (NDC) list of responsibilities:

1. Recruitment must be done year round by members. Material needs to be updated and available at all times to facilitate recruitment such as club business cards, new dancer information post cards, and publicity flyers for any new dancer sessions. Other unique promotional materials could also be used such as pens, wooden nickels, and magnets.
2. Plan ahead with the club President and the instructor when a new dancer session is to be held and for how long a period. Most successful clubs offer more than one new dancer session per year, use multi-cycle or condensed teach methods, or a combination of both depending upon hall availability and instructors. The facility must be secured in advance by one of the parties involved; and where available, the set up should be properly documented.

3. Use existing club members as angels to produce a schedule where there will be three available couples present at each session to fill the odd square. It is possible angels are not needed to even the sets per session but that is not usually known until the session starts due to unforeseen circumstances.
4. Throughout the year contact information of prospective new dancers should be collected by members and organized in a data base to send reminders or other information regarding the starting dates and times set for open house dance parties and/or the next new dancer session.
5. Often an open house dance party is used as an introduction before a new dancer session begins. This event needs to be well planned and highly advertized by as many means possible. Publications, community news papers, classified ads all help but the most effective means still is one on one recruitment of friends.
6. Temporary name tags should be made available for everyone needing one in order to recognize individuals to encourage conversations.
7. A profile sheet should be available for guests to fill out requesting contact information such as address, phone numbers, and email; along with a few other brief questions; such as, how they heard of the new dancer session, if they mind being contacted for future events, and any other clubs or hobbies they wish to share. Knowing the latter can help make connections between members with similar interests, and discloses skills that could have future use.
8. A welcome letter should be developed and made available for all the new dancers. It should contain all the information they need to know regarding the upcoming new dancer session. Session times, number of sessions, dress considerations, the NDC contact information, goals and objectives, and any other necessary elements they are going to need to know should be provided in this letter. The do's and do not's information along with a brief history and list of calls that are to taught should also be available but not necessarily provided until they have officially joined the new dancer sessions. This material should also be reviewed, updated, and maintained for future use.
9. Once the sessions start, the NDC should arrive early to assure the room is set up according to the instructors needs and to make preparations for the new dancers. Water, mints, and other supplies might also be needed.
10. An attendance spread sheet should be developed to track a trend that may become a problem. Occasionally new dancers have scheduled work trips or vacations that should be blocked off on the attendance sheet. Knowing this information ahead of time can assist the NDC to find replacement angels for the missing dancer/s to keep the

squares even. Coordinate with the instructor if a make-up workshop session can be offered a half hour prior to the start time for anyone missing more than one session at a time.

11. Having a club roster available is helpful in case there is a last minute need for an extra angel due to an emergency or illness. Having a roster of new dancers can also be an asset to the group.

12. Sending out an encouraging weekly email reminder listing the new calls taught helps tremendously. Having this information along with a link to Taminations and Saddle Brook Squares will provide the dancers a place to review the material between sessions. Basic/Mainstream handbooks, instructional DVD's, WEB references, practice dance material, and other publications, should be made known to the new dancers for them to review.

13. Coordinate with the club and instructor times the new dancer group could attend special events that would offer dance tips geared at the proficiency of the new dancer, possibly at the start of the event. This helps with the transitioning between class and club as new dancers get to know more club dancers.

14. Plan and coordinate any graduation ceremonies to be held with all the parties involved. Diplomas need to be filled out and signed. If games are to be played, it is best to do so with the entire room of dancers not just as an initiation of new dancers, as this could be deemed a form of humiliation. New dancers have been through enough just to learn the calls; no need to stress them out by watching them perform under high duress being blind folded and made to walk on potato chips. Be sure to take a group photograph for all to remember!

15. The NDC must help new dancers with the transition between the new dancer sessions and the club dances. Provide them information they might need to know such as membership dues, badges, club shirts, workshop times; and if utilized, how the dancer rotations system works. Regional and State Organizational information could also be provided along with a list of area clubs and special events.

16. One important item is a final evaluation of how well things worked. What was the retention ratio of graduating new dancers per everyone that started the course? Could anything have been done differently to achieve a higher rate of success? Would you recommend adding or changing anything on this list of responsibilities? These details should be kept for future reference correlating any trends and should be shared with the instructor.

17. Training a successor is encouraged so having folks help along the way provides others the opportunity to learn some of the duties of a NDC, while creating a list of prospective candidates for the position in the future.

NEFSARDA's 5th Saturday Afternoon Dance Schedule

The plans for the 5th Saturday Dances in 2025 are March 29, May 31, August 30 and Nov 29

I have no plans for these dates at the present time. Keep an eye out in the future as they will materialize right before your eyes!

Stephen F Bigelow M.Ed.,
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 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 squaredancejax@gmail.com Or grapevine@sfbigelow.com

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.



Kieffer, Gerald Leon – born Mar 7, 1927 (dec'd 13 Mar 2024) Gerald and his wife Mary (dec'd 2015) were the coordinators of dancing aboard an air craft carrier in 1965.. Obit: "Gerald Leon Kieffer,97, of Jacksonville FL. Passed away peacefully at his home on March 13, 2024. He was born in Macon, Ohio on March 7, 1927. Gerald graduated from Mt. Orab High School in Mt. Orab, Ohio. He was married to Mary Elaine Neal on June 17, 1944. Gerald worked as a window installer and in construction. He loved camping, fishing, and building things with his hands. He and his wife built several houses in Ohio and the one they lived in Florida. This home served as a gathering place for many family functions over the years. Sunday dinners were a regular event that Gerald and his wife Mary would host. Immediate and extended family would share food, laughter and make memories there. Another important event in Gerald's life was his involvement in square dancing. Gerald and his wife Mary both loved square dancing and introduced their daughters to it as well. They would often host square dancing parties in their Florida home. He would share stories of staying up to all hours dancing the night away. Gerald's love of travel took him and his wife Mary on many trips over the years. One of his favorites was an extended trip to the western part of the United States including Branson, Missouri where they enjoyed seeing the "shows" and meeting lots of people along the way. Being from Ohio, Gerald loved to take trips back home. His daughters and their families would often accompany him on these trips, and he loved to show off his hometown to his grandchildren. These trips allowed Gerald to share how he was raised, and he would point out homes he built or lived in with much pride. One thing Gerald was known for was his love of wearing "Hawaiian" shirts. He had quite a collection over the years. One of his nieces from Ohio remarked that his Ohio family often joked about how, "Uncle Gerald lived in Florida for a "bazillion" years and still dressed like a tourist!" Gerald was predeceased by his wife of 71 years, Mary Elaine Kieffer, his daughter Geraldine Lee Kieffer Garrahy, his granddaughter Alicia Dawn Livingston, his father Chester Ray Kieffer and mother Anna Isabelle Rhoades Kieffer. He is survived by his daughter Pambla Elaine Kieffer Ward (David); sister Annabelle Kieffer Neal; granddaughter Stephanie Ann Garrahy Braun (Joe); granddaughter Robin Colleen Garrahy Perry; grandson Anthony Sean Garrahy (Staci); granddaughter Angela Michelle Garrahy Norwood (Gary); and grandson Timothy James Garrahy (Allison), along with his six beloved great grandchildren and one great, great

grandson. At Gerald's request there will be a private family service where he will be laid to rest next to his wife Mary. The family would like to thank his hospice nurses for their care and comfort and a special thank you to his long-term caretaker, Mary Thompson, for her care and dedication which allowed Gerald to remain in his home until his passing." They were buried in Jacksonville Memory Gardens, Orange Park, FL.

The served:

1964 – Paxon Prancers President

1962 – Paxon Prancers Secretary/Treasurer

They were members of:

Paxon Prancers



Word has just been received of the passing of Art Springer on Wednesday, December 4, 2024. He was 94.

Art was an international caller and recording artist and traveled for 15 years. He covered all of the US, Canada, England, and Germany.

He started calling in 1961 while stationed in Germany. He learned under Lloyd and Mazie Pool. He lived in Tampa and called for Spinning Wheels (Tampa), Strawberry Square (Plant City), Bay Area Twirlers (BATS (Brandon), Sun-n-Fun (Sarasota), Hampton Promenaders (Auburndale Buttons & Bows (Lakeland), Temple Twirlers (Tampa), and Sun City Squares (Sun City).

He was president of the Florida Callers Association in 1973; past president of the Suncoast Callers and Cuers; and a member of the American Callers Association.

He was part of the team that created the Circle of Service Award. He was inducted into the Hall of Fame in 1999.



Alexander Adolfo Lobato, age 99, of Jacksonville, Florida passed away on Monday, December 16, 2024.

A funeral service for Alexander will be held Thursday, December 26, 2024, from 11:00 AM to 12:00 PM at Sacred Heart Catholic Church, 5752 Blanding Blvd, Jacksonville, FL 32244. Following the funeral service will be a committal service from 2:00 PM to 2:30 PM at Jacksonville National Cemetery, 4083 Lannie Rd, Jacksonville, FL 32218.

Al was V-President of Moose in 2001 and Secretary of Silver Fox in 1994.

From your editor: I knew Al and Dot Labato. They were the friendship when you think about square dancing. Never had less than a smile on their faces and Love and joy in their hearts for this activity that we all love. They are once again united in that big square dance in the Lords Square Dance Hall.

National Square and Round Dance Convention

**2025
June 25-28**

74th National Square dance Convention Shreveport LA
<https://74thnsdc.com/>

**2026
June 24-26**

75th National Square dance Convention Waco, Texas,
Website to follow.

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.

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@sbigelow.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 13th 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 Emily Jones
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 Lon Ligon

Club Contact Robin Frazer (352) 317-1636

Wednesday Clubs

Clover Squares - 1st, 3rd, and 5th Wednesdays of the month from 3-5 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. donheins@MSN.com

High Springs Square Dance Club 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

Fri. Dinner Show \$45pp

Dry camping on site

Two full days of Dancing

MS, PLUS, A2 SQUARES

Phase 2-5 Rounds

Trail End Dance Thursday nite

SPIN THE BIG TOP

70TH FSSRDC
Jan. 17-18, 2025

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

TO REGISTER
SCAN ME

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

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



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



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

Check back for details as the
convention gets near!

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

**SPIN THE
BIGTOP**