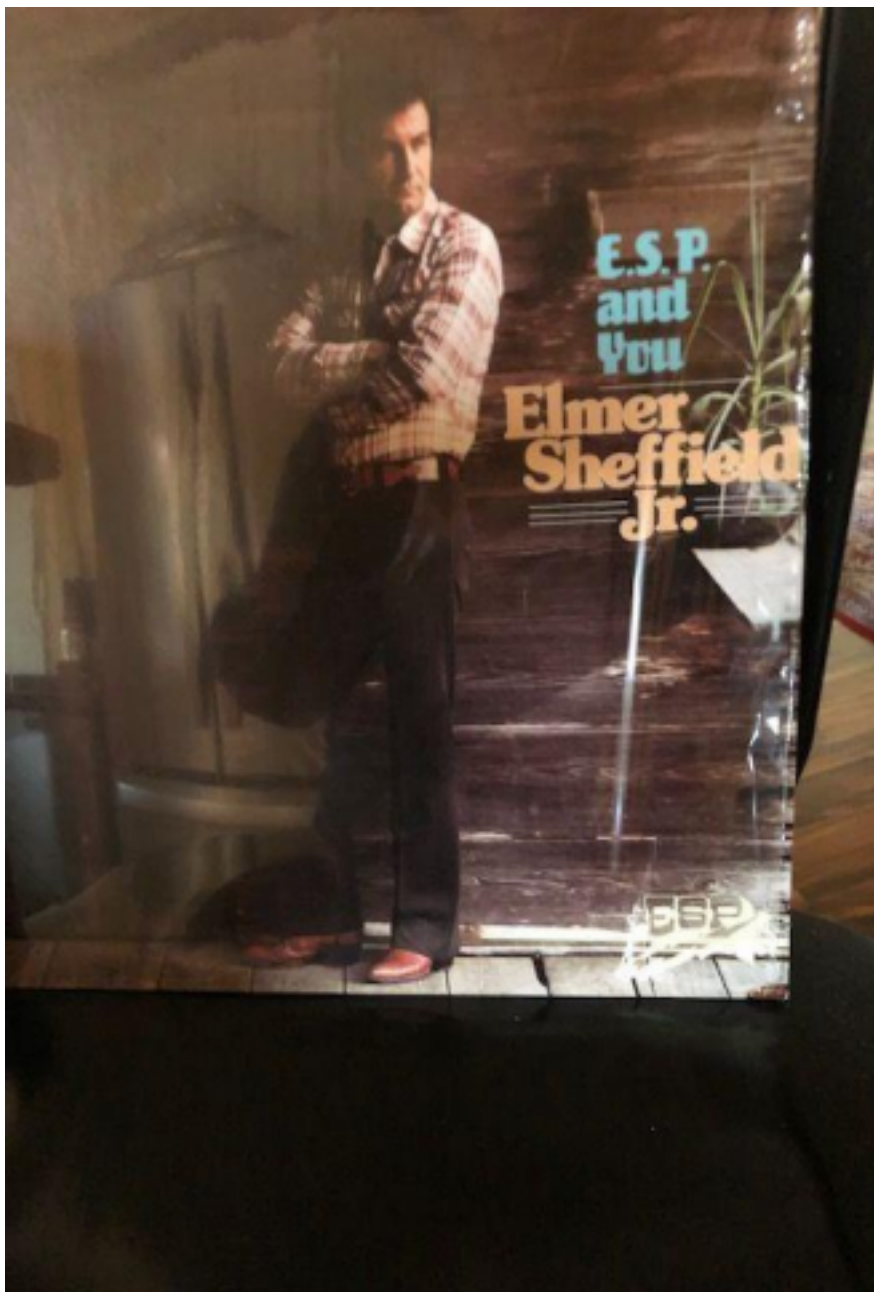




**Volume 48, Number 1
January, February, and March
2023**



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NORTHWEST ASSOCIATION OFFICERS

President:

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

Vice President: Program chairs
Alec Schmidt (850) 856-8105
aschmidtmd@aol.com
Barbara McDonald (850) 217-2890
barbaramcdonald310@gmail.com

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

Treasurer and Insurance:
Alec Schmidt
116 Bayou Drive
Niceville, Fl. 32578
(850) 856-8105
aschmidtmd@aol.com



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PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Our next Northwest meeting is a zoom meeting to be determined. At our last meeting our nominating chair was unable to find volunteers for the Vice President Program Chair. Alec and Barbara started the process last year of

finding callers and a cuer for our October Roundup. We have flyers now but please help volunteer for decorations, food and set ups. Many hands make light work and fun for all!

We finished the year with some great Christmas dances by all the clubs. Capital Twirlers did a super job honoring Elmer Sheffield and the food was great. There were at least 19 or 20 guest callers to honor Elmer, and 3 or 4 calling each tip! It was great to see so many dancers and guests out to honor Elmer, some we had not seen in a long time. There were about 100 there.

Agape started December off with about 5 squares of dancers for their party. They had a 10 am workshop for new students so they were included in the afternoon dance. They had great food, soups and desserts with lots of dancing. Seaside Squares had their dance on the 9th with at least 3 squares and took in food for the Manna food bank. Great meatball subs! Swinging Squares Christmas dance was the 16th. They included their students and had 3 or 4 squares. We danced, then ate and danced more!

This New Year is starting off with the Florida State convention on the 19th-20th. Followed by a Dances in January, February and March. Please come support the other clubs. We are so fortunate to have 2 clubs with halls but they need your attendance to keep up with the utilities

By - Brian and Barbara McDonald

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NORTHWEST FLORIDA SQUARE AND ROUND DANCE ASSOCIATION CLUBS

AGAPE SQUARES Mondays 6-8:30pm (SSD, M, P)

Caller: Varies each week (class 6-7pm)

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

CONTACT: Ed and Sherrilee Lewis (850) 496-7744

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

Caller: Elmer Sheffield (class 7-8pm)

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

CONTACT: Libby Penrod (850) 566-2117

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

Caller: Varies Classes start February 3rd and 10th.

2600 Stratford Rd., Pensacola, FL.

CONTACT: Deecee Haslett (850) 293-7720

SWINGING SQUARES Friday 7-8:30pm (MS, P)

Caller: Bob Poyner (class 6-7pm)

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

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

T-N-T ROUNDS (**Starting classes January 8, 2023**)

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

Cordova Lanes meeting room, 211 Airport Blvd., Pensacola,

FL. Please make **RSVP** for the class-limited space.

terriwilaby@hotmail.com



HAPPY NEW YEAR!

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Northwest Florida Square & Round Dance Association (NWFSRDA)

**2022 4th Quarter Meeting – October 29, 2022 @ Noon, Central
Ragon Hall, Pensacola, FL**

Executive Committee Attendees: Brian and Barbara McDonald; Alec Schmidt;
Laura Davis.

Club Delegate(s): Deecee Haslett, Seaside Squares.

Call to Order & Welcome: Brian McDonald.

Invocation & Pledge: Barbara McDonald.

Roll Call: Quorum present. Quorum consists of 25%
of

Board of Delegates (*Board of Delegates: Delegates from
member area associations, member clubs, delegates-at-large, and the Executive*



Committee). Currently 14 / 25%= 4.

Minutes: July 30, 2022 minutes approved with minor edits.

Financial Reports: See 3rd Quarter Financial Report. Starting Checking Balance is \$11,715.90; Ending balance is \$9,155.14; savings are \$8,817.52. The 2022 Roundup Financial Report projects a net loss of -\$1,352.02. Insurance Campaign for 2023 is starting; will probably be \$5 per person again – information pending.

2023 Executive Committee Officers: Brian and Barbara McDonald, President(s); Alec Schmidt, Treasurer; Laura Davis, Secretary. Alec and Barbara are sharing Vice President duties for the 2023 Roundup. Officers are affirmed by quorum unanimously.

Roundup 2023: Callers will be Nick Hartley and Chris Burchfield; Cuer will be Terri Wilaby – contracts are signed. The flyer is ready. Camp Timpoochee is reserved, need to pay the deposit. Starting to look at hotels and restaurants. There are a few cabins at the camp that can accommodate 8 people that can be rented for the event: \$400 per cabin. Still need to order the ribbons, start the ad campaign and work on decorations.

Panhandle Press: No complaints! Corrected addresses on a couple of folks. December 15 is the deadline for next issue. Twirlers will provide article and photos for Elmer Sheffield and the December 19 dance honoring him.

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Bylaws: Standing Rules do not need any changes for potential tax status change. But they do need a review and some updating.

Florida Federation: There will be a Federation meeting tomorrow. Barbara has sent a report of new classes and members. Reported on the Panhandle Press as well. Barbara has ribbons available now for the Florida State Convention, to be held on January 20-21, 2023 in DeLand, Florida and will bring to local dances.

Old Business:

NWFSRDA Tax Status: Discussion was held considering the pros and cons of changing the tax status of the NWFSRDA from 501 (c)(7) to 501 (c)(3). It was decided to not make a change at this time.

New Business:

None

Next meeting will be in January via Zoom, date, and time to be determined.

Announcements:

November 4-5, 2022 NEFSARDA 68th Fall Festival, Jacksonville

November 18-20, 2022 Round Dance Council of FL. Weekend of
Rounds

November 19, 2022 Seaside Squares Thanksgiving Gathering from
1-3:30 pm

December 3, 2022 Agape Christmas Party

December 9, 2022 Seaside Squares Christmas Dance

December 16, 2022 Swinging Squares Christmas Dance

December 19, 2022 Capital Twirlers Christmas Dance

January 20-21, 2023 FL Square and Round dance convention

January 27-28. 2023 January Shine at Ragon Hall

March Shamrock Shimmer at Ragon Hall

Meeting adjourned.

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ELMER SHEFFIELD, A LIFE OF ADVENTURE!!

It was an amazing day back in 1938 in Damascus, Georgia! Elmer Sheffield was born that day and shortly after, moved with his family to Tallahassee. As he grew up, he became a fine young man, very popular in his teens because he was handsome, kind, had a great singing voice and---had a car!

We now know him as an outstanding square dance caller, well-known by many dancers all over the world and well respected by his fellow callers. Elmer's life has covered many facets and here are just a few:

- He has always loved sports and competition. At an early age, he played baseball and was involved when Tallahassee's first little league was formed. He continued to play through high school and was voted Most Valuable Player in his senior year. Also at Florida High, Elmer became the star quarterback for the Demons.
- In Jr. High, Elmer learned to play the trumpet and continued through high school. At football games, since he was in the marching band and also the quarterback, he would play the first two quarters dressed out, and at half

time he would grab his horn and march with the band on the field without changing clothes, returning to play in position again to finish the game!.

- After attending FSU for a couple of years, Elmer could resist those big brown eyes no longer and he married his childhood sweetheart, Margie. Together, they have raised a family of two children, five grands and 1 great grandchild.
- Elmer loved speed and adventure! He worked in his dad's auto shop growing up. He took up power boat racing and drove a high speed tunnel boat for Johnson Motors for several years. Then built and raced go-karts. He and his son were both quite successful in competitions. Soon drag racing claimed Elmer's interest and he built his own drag racing car, having learned how from his dad! Drag racing continued to enthrall Elmer until a few years ago and in 2022 he was inducted into the Southeastern Drag Racing Hall of Fame.

About 1963, Elmer and Margie attended a square dance and before it was over, the calling bug had bit him and his career as a caller began a couple of years later. Elmer was/is very handsome and, as it turned out, has a beautiful

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singing voice so he became very popular! He has called all over the world and all over the United States and is not only loved by dancers but by callers he has mentored and befriended during his years of calling. He has seen the style of calling evolve during his calling life, beginning with the singing callers, then to non-singing, choreographed calling, and now to the calling that we are used to today.

After about 3 years of calling, Elmer was invited by a major music producer to record a tune which became a number one seller. He credits caller and good friend Gary Shoemake, who suggested the first tune that Elmer recorded. The title was "GOOD MORNING COUNTRY RAIN" and it became a huge hit, launching his career with Red Boot Recordings.

Elmer was on staff and called at Kirkwood Lodge in Missouri for 15 years where he called with Marshal Flippo, Ken Bower and Darryl MacMillan. There must be many stories from that time! He also spent time calling at Copecrest Square Dance Resort in Dillard, Georgia.

In 1968, Elmer formed his own recording company, Elmer Sheffield Productions (ESP) which still enjoys being one of the most successful today! He has recorded over 500 square dance tunes and even as we go to press, he is

recording! He also has held the honor of being Chairman of Callerlab, the caller's professional organization.

In Tallahassee, Elmer has been the beloved caller since 1968. He has called and taught numerous classes—always patient, encouraging and friendly, beloved by his dancers.

Elmer's comment: "All of the callers who are attending and many who are unable to attend this dance honoring me are my friends and are special to me. I could share stories about most but I would run out of time. Ask Wade Driver about our harmony singing at Jekyll Island. Ask Tony Oxendine how I helped him become the star that he is. Ask Darryl MacMillan about our "after-party" skits.....it goes on and on!"

Elmer's memories are shared with Libby Penrod, December 15, 2022, Tallahassee, Florida.

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

January 8, 2023 T-N-T Cha LaLa class At Cordova Lanes Pensacola. Must RSVP to Terri (850)-712-5230

January 19, 2023 Trail-End Dance. Volusia County Fairgrounds Townsend Pavilion, 3130 E. New York Ave., Deland, FL.

January 20-21, 2023 Florida Square & Round Dance Convention. Volusia County Fairgrounds 3150 E New York Ave., DeLand, FL.

January 27-28, 2023 January Shine. Callers Ted Kennedy, Chris Burchfield and cuer Diane Martin. Ragon Hall, 2600 Stratford Rd. Pensacola, FL. Friday & Saturday 7:30-9:30pm; Saturday: 1-2:30pm plus workshop; 2:30-4:00pm Mainstream workshop; and 4-5pm Advanced dance; early rounds 6:30pm on Saturday.

February 4th and 11th, 2023 Seaside Squares Intro to Square dancing class 6-7:30pm

February 10, 2023 Seaside Squares 50's-60's dance. Caller Nick Hartley. Ragon Hall, Pensacola FL. Dance from 7:30-9:30pm.

March 24-25, 2023 3rd Annual Shamrock Shimmer at Ragon Hall. Callers Nick

Hartley and Cuers Jack & Christa Gail Pointer. Donation Dance for building funds. Friday & Saturday 7:30-9:30pm; Saturday Workshops 1:00-3:00pm Advance; 3:00 - 4:30pm Plus workshop.

August 3-5, 2023 Tennessee State Convention in Gatlinburg, TN. A lot of people go so register and get your room.

June 21-24th 2023 72nd National Square Dance Convention. Mobile, AL.

October 20-21, 2023 Northwest Annual Roundup at Camp

February 4-11, 2024 "Top of the Line" Square and Round Dance Cruise, (Caribbean). I think 10-12 of us have already booked. It's \$250/person to book, but fully refundable until final payment due date of Nov. 6, 2023.

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AGAPE SQUARES

Here we are at the start of a new year. We are grateful for the dances, the fun, the many friendships with our fellow square dancers. We look forward to all that and more in 2023!

Our Christmas Dance at Camp Timpoochee was a blast. (See Pics) Thanks to everyone who came, brought food, helped set up and take down. One thing I love about our club is that most are willing to help any time they are called upon. The food was abundant and delicious. Thank you Ted and Nancy Kennedy for being there. We always look forward to a dance with Ted Kennedy. In fact, we have a fun one coming up on January 28, 2023 with our very own callers Ted Kennedy and Chris Burchfield, January Shine at Ragon Hall in Pensacola. We would love to take a group for this fun dance. Please make plans now.

Our class is doing awesome and moving right along. We'll review after our long Christmas break. Thank you to all the angels that come to help with the class. You make a big difference.

We will be back dancing at Crosspoint Fellowship Hall 214 S. Partin, Niceville, FL 32578 on January 9, 2023 and every Monday with class 6-7pm and MS/ Plus 7-8:30pm. We hope you can join us.

Please look at the Calendar of events for more dances. Come join us for some of them. August 3-5, 2023 48th TENNESSEE CONVENTION Gatlinburg, TN.

October 20-21, 2023 NWFSRDA 49TH ANNUAL ROUNDUP at Camp

Timpoochee Niceville, FL. This dance will be organized by NWFSRDA & Agape Squares, and we are asking for volunteers to be on committees. Remember if you become a member of NWFSRDA you can attend the RoundUp for 1/2 price. Ask Alec or Barbara McDonald how you can become a member.

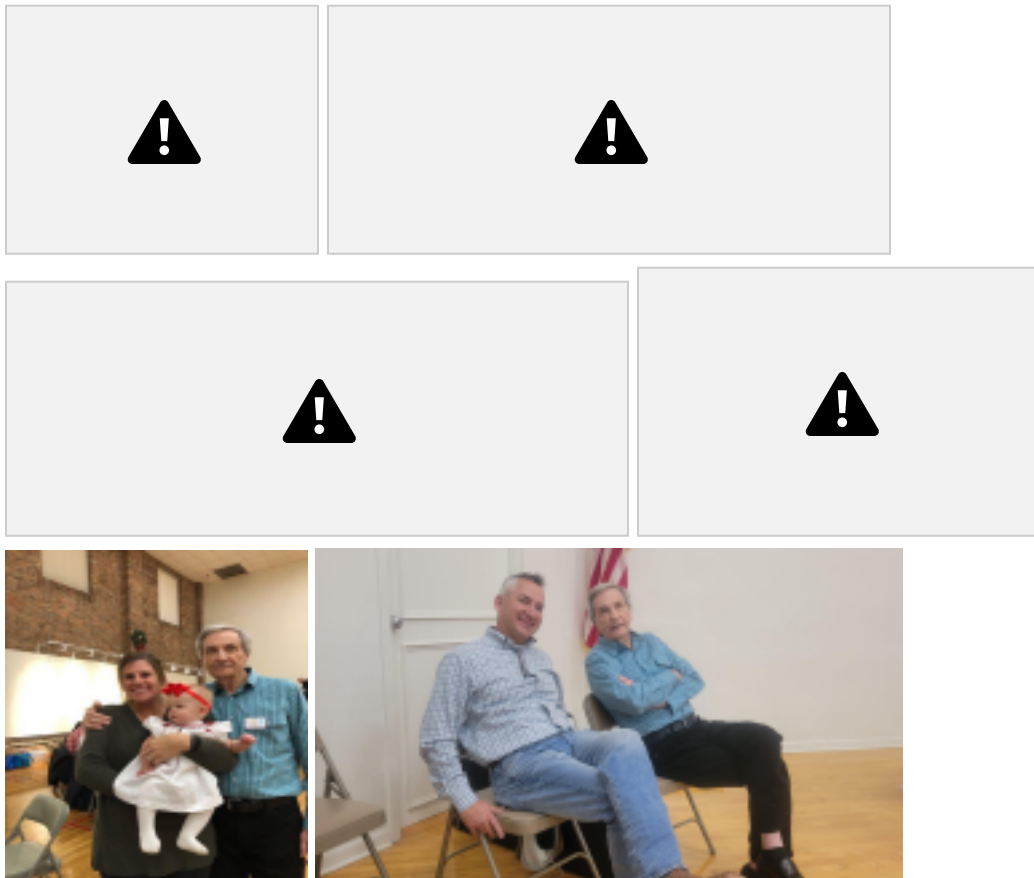


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Capital Twirlers

On December 19, 2022, the **Capital Twirlers** hosted a holiday dinner dance to honor their longtime caller, Elmer Sheffield. Special guests, including callers and cuers from all over the country, attended and shared many great memories and kind words about Elmer and his illustrious career. Members of the Southern Satisfaction band performed live and we had 8 squares on the floor, swinging and alamanding along with some great round dancing. It was a memorable night!





SWINGING SQUARES

We are excited that our 6 students are closing in on the basics of square dancing especially when we remember how the pandemic altered the course of dancing. It is so good to have new people learning again. Denver, Tim Thorp's nephew, is our youngest student and he loves it! It is so nice having a wonderful group of angels willing to help.

Look for photos coming to our Facebook page, Panama City Square Dancers, from our Christmas party on the 16th of December. It was great having the Skippers and Tilmans make it to the party as the men are still coming back from knee issues. Rhonda Sellars will post pictures of our Christmas party and her photography skills are stellar. Mary and Jim Riley decorated the hall for Thanksgiving and Christmas and we thank them for their continued dedication! The Crowe's twin granddaughters will have their 16th birthday on Christmas Day. Their grandson, Joseph, wants to be a caller.

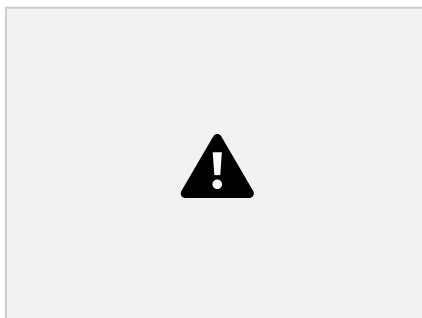
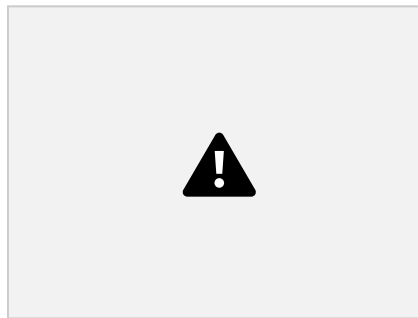
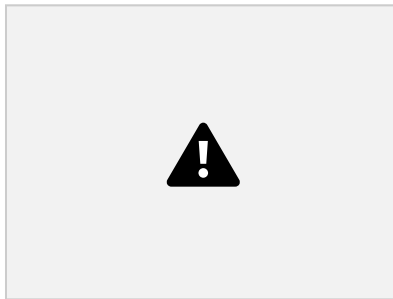
Many of our members are traveling during the holidays. Patricia and Joe McLendon are traveling to visit with Patricia's brother and also to their daughter. We want safe travels for all. We also have prayers going out for

Barbara Switzer for a hip replacement in the new year. After that, she'll be dancing again!

We would like to thank Jon and Kathy Kern for their service and leadership to Swinging Squares. Many club members support the Kern's efforts and it is much appreciated!

By - Anne Mahowald

Thanksgiving dance picture



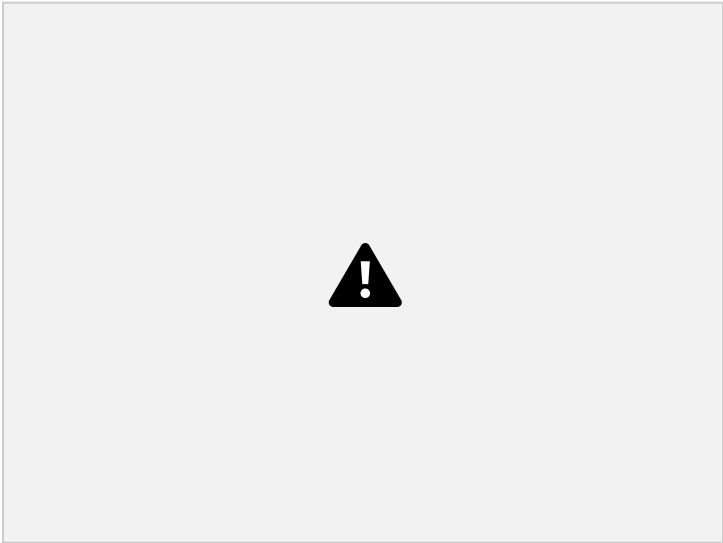
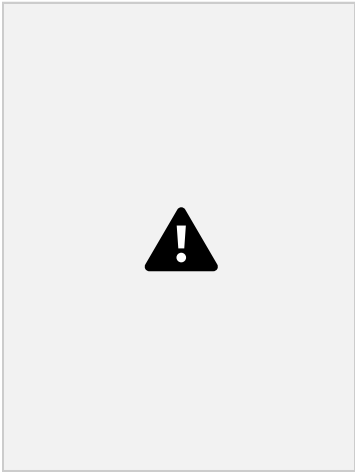
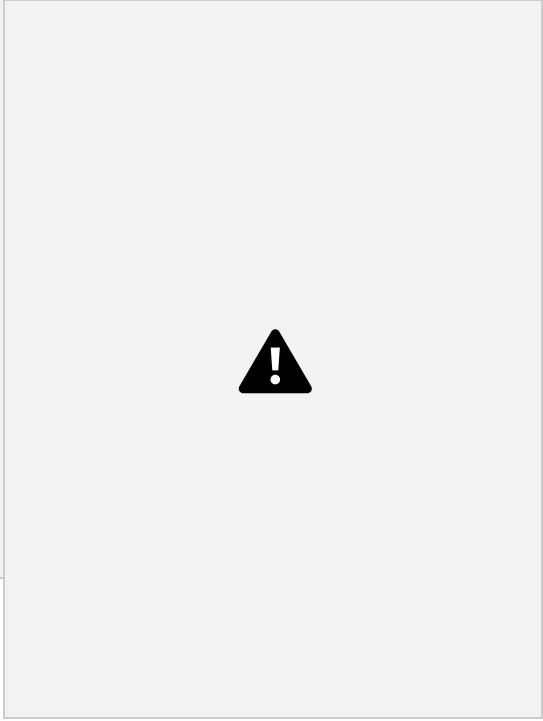
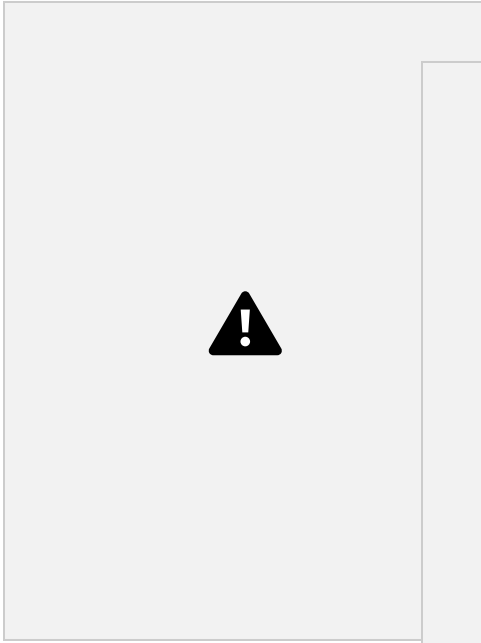
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SEASIDE SQUARES

We hope everyone had a blessed Christmas holiday season. The members of Seaside Squares would like to thank our vice-president, Joe Haywood, for designing & painting our new sign in front of our building. It looks so much better than the old rusty one. Don't you agree?

On Oct 28th-29th, we held our annual Spooktacular. For those of you that were unable to attend, you missed a great dance. Nick Hartley was our caller and Diane Martin was our cuer.

They both did a fantastic job. On Saturday night, several people came dressed for the occasion in their Halloween best. Nick and Lynette won the prizes for the best dressed. The winner of our 50/50 donated the money back to the club.



We held our annual Gathering Before Thanksgiving on Nov 19th. Nick Hartley very graciously donated his time. We would like to thank everyone who attended and generously donated to the club and to Manna Food Bank. Manna Food Bank was very appreciative of the donations.

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Several of us attended the Agape Christmas Party at Camp Timpooshee on Saturday Dec 3rd. We had a lot of fun. We now know our way to Camp Timpooshee, the location of our next Roundup in October 2023. Thanks to Agape Squares for inviting us.

We held our Christmas dinner & dance on Friday, Dec 9th. The meatball sub-sandwiches were a great idea – Thanks Kathy!! Of course, all the side dishes everyone brought were wonderful. We're told all those side dishes were calorie-free! An elf escaped from the shelf and called for us. Of course, we enjoyed all the dancing with Ted & Nick to work off any calories that snuck into our dinner. Thank you to everyone who brought nonperishable items & cash donations for Manna Food Bank. Our dancers are always so generous.

On Monday, Dec 19th, we're looking forward to the Capital Twirlers Christmas dinner/dance honoring their long-time caller extraordinaire, Elmer Sheffield. Many callers & cuers are expected to provide a great evening of dancing & celebration.

During 2022, we were blessed to continue weekly dancing with excellent callers & cuers. Thank you to Rob Baird, Larry Belcher, Chris Burchfield, Kevin Cozad, Nick Hartley, Darrin Henry, David Holladay, Bubba Mingus, Ted Kennedy, Jack Pointer & Susan Wolford.

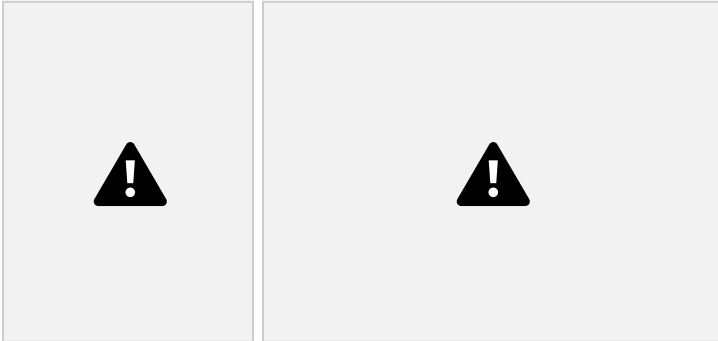
Beginning on Thursday, Jan 12th at 6pm, we'll start weekly Advanced level classes. Regular Advanced dancing will start at 7:30pm.

We'll have an open house on Feb 3rd & 10th at 6pm to determine interest in beginner's squares lessons. If we have sufficient interest, progressive weekly classes will start at 6-7:30pm on Feb 17th.

Please plan to join us for some of our upcoming special dances. January Shine on Saturday, the 28th with Ted Kennedy, Chris Burchfield and Diane Martin. A special 50s-60s dance on Feb 10th. Our annual Shamrock Shimmer Mar 24th – 25th. We'll have our regular Friday night dances and would love to have several squares.

January 28th with Ted Kennedy, Chris Burchfield & Diane Martin will be our first special dance. Please come join us.

Pictures

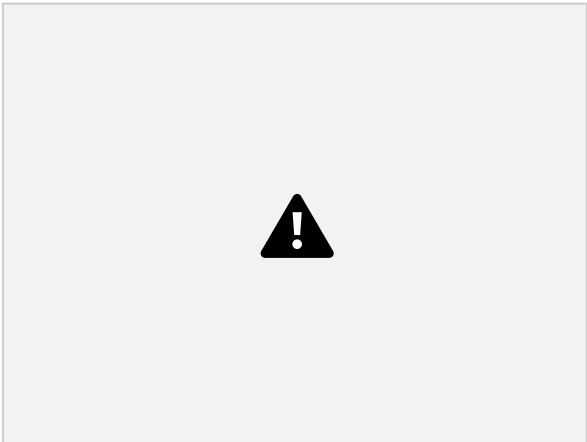


Swinging Squares Thanksgiving Pictures

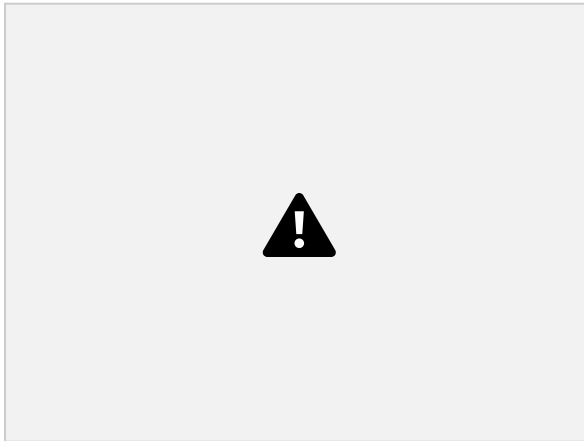
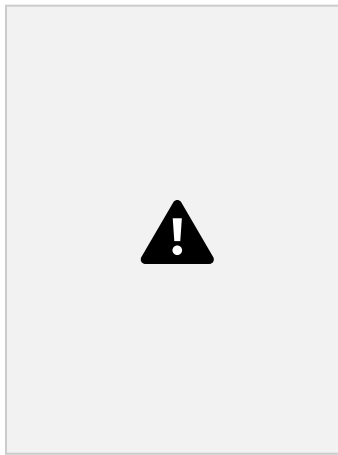
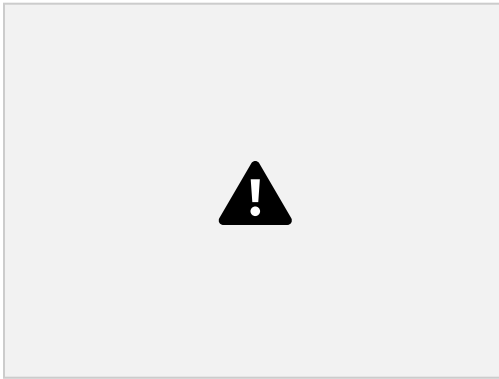




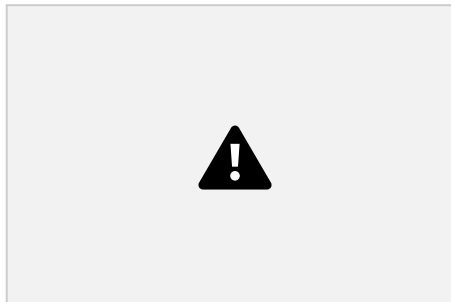
Roundup Pictures, July 30, 2022



Swinging Squares Jamboree, July 16, 2022



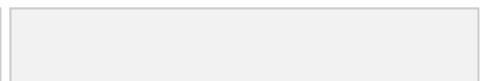
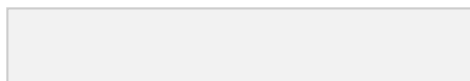
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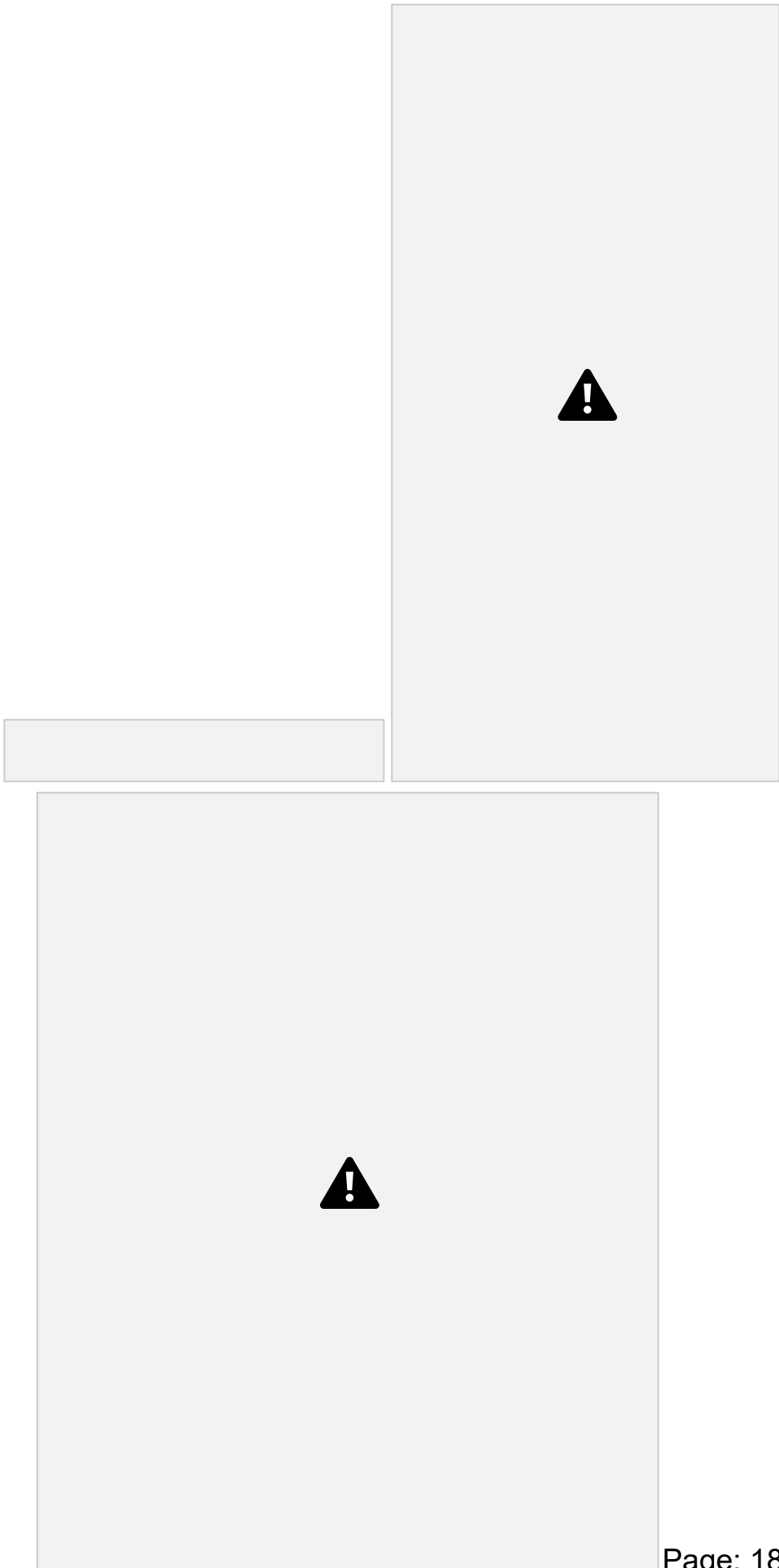


Mary Anderson 8-20-2022. She was wife of Buddy Anderson, caller for Seaside Squares.

Sandy Williamson 8-11-2022. She was the wife of Jerry Williamson of Seaside Squares.

Michael Nichol of Seaside Side Squares 11-16-22. He was the husband of Bobbi Nichol.





GRAND SQUARE HALL REGULAR DANCE

SCHEDULE

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

President: Kathie Kern (850) 896-5798

Building Manager: Jon Kern (850) 228-8568

SUNDAY: Available

MONDAY: BOP & SWING DANCE CLUB

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

Dance 7:30-9:00pm

Contact: Don Pitts (850) 348-2670

TUESDAY: SLICK KICKERS

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

Contact: Joe & Julie Gray (850) 258-9847

WEDNESDAY: Available

THURSDAY: COUNTRY & BALLROOM FUSION

Teach: 6:30-7:30pm

Review: 7:45-8:15pm

Dance: 8:15-9:00pm

Contact: Tammy Jankowski (850) 896-2226

FRIDAY: SWINGING SQUARES

Squares; (class) 6-7pm

Dance: 7:00-8:30pm

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

Caller: Bob Poyner

SATURDAY: Open for special dances

Contact: Jon Kern (850) 228-8568

IMPORTANT NOTES:

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

(850) 293-7720

Please call to verify dancing is happening.

Mondays

West Coast Swing 5:00-9:00pm

Instructor: Justin Grubb (850) 503-9978

Tuesdays

Ballroom Lessons and dancing 6-9:30pm

Instructor: Rachel Bowlby (850) 612-9652

Wednesdays Available

Thursdays

Advanced class 6-7:30pm

Advanced dancing 7:30-9pm

Caller Nick Hartley

Fridays

Seaside Squares

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

Contact: Deecee Haslett (850) 293-7720

ragonhall3@gmail.com

Various callers

Saturdays

Assorted Activities, see our calendar at

<https://www.floridasquaredance.com/ragonhall/index.htm>

Sundays Available



PANHANDLE PRESS BOOSTERS

Boosters for 2022 are needed to help defray the expense of our printer for the next year.
Make your donation of:

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

To see your name listed in the booster section. Simply mail in your name and money to Alec Schmidt below at any time or give it to the Panhandle Press editor. Thank you!

Platinum sponsor: Joy Vaccaro (1-2023)

Jackie Kramer (7-2023)

Mike and Ann Mahawald (7-2023)

Show your support and your name can appear here, too!



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Advertisement Rates:

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

Full Year ad: ¼ Page=\$17.00 ½ page =\$35.00 Full page=\$70.00

Dance flyers can be shrunk to fit.

Club news: Association clubs- Free

Non-association clubs- see above rates.

Calendar of events: Free

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: NWFSRDA

AND MAIL TO: Alec Schmidt

116 Bayor Drive

Niceville, FL 32578

DEADLINE FOR ADVERTISEMENTS AND ARTICLES is **March 15, 2023** PLEASE send articles as text, and images or advertisements as a jpeg. Thank you to Colleen McDonald who is now my official advertisement maker and assistant editor! Barbara McDonald editor: barbaramcdonald310@gmail.com or bjd9@cox.net



