

USDA NEWS

Published by United Square Dancers of America

SPECIAL ISSUE
June 2016

75TH

ANNIVERSARY



Inside this issue:

35 Years of Accomplishments 17

Affiliate Organizations 26

After Party Flyer 30

Amazon Smile Program 25

Appointed Officers—First 15
35 Years

Birth of the Organization 5

Centennial Award 23

Current Executive Committee 11

Discount Prescription Card 22

Education & Publications 21

Elected Officers— First 35 13

Executive Board Contact Info 32

Insurance Program 28

President’s Message 4

Trip Down Memory Lane 7/25

USA Travelers 21

USDA Educational Schedule 31

Youth Scholarship 18



John Raymond Becker

1932-2016

John was a special person to many of us and he will be dearly missed. He was one of the first people I met when I came on board with USDA and he immediately made me feel at ease and that I was among friends.

Our thoughts and our prayers go out to his wife Alitia and to all the Becker family.

You can read more about John in the Jul-Sep issue of USDA NEWS.

A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

Putting together this “35th Anniversary Special Edition” has been an exciting and challenging adventure for me

Considering that I have only been with USDA for the past four years left me with 31 years of no knowledge. I want to thank several people that helped in so many ways. Jim Maczko, charter member and very instrumental in the forming of USDA, was my “go to man” for whatever I needed. Bonnie Abramson, what would I do without you? Bonnie sent me an email asking “what do you need?” I told her and it was taken care of. Jim and Judy Taylor provided me with photos and other information as requested. Jim Weber also provided me with pictures covering a number of years gone by. Joy Vaccari and Tony and Diana Rock sent information about their programs and Milene getting me a flyer for the After Party on very short notice. I apologize if I have overlooked someone, but t it was definitely a team effort.

We hope you enjoy the contents of this special issue and the history of USDA, learning who your Executive Committee members are and the various programs offered by USDA.



ABOUT THE COVER DESIGN

Special thanks Maggie Burton for the beautiful design of our front cover celebrating 35 years of service to the square dance community.

Maggie, a graphic designer by trade, does the advertising flyers for the TN State Convention and for her local club, the Little T Squares in Lenoir City, TN. It was only natural that I talk to her about the cover of this special issue of USDA NEWS. When I explained what I needed she responded with a very simple, “I would be happy to do this and when do you need it?”

Maggie and her husband Mike, live in Knoxville, TN and are long time square dancers and very dedicated to the dance program. If there is a dance in our local area, you can bet the farm that they are most likely going to be there.

REMEMBERING



The Beginning of a New Square Dance Organization



**Ronald Reagan takes office
as the 40th President of
the United States**



**The Wedding of the Year
Prince Charles
and
Lady Diana**

PRESIDENTS**MESSAGE****Jerry & Donna Robey**

Greetings from your Presidents

We are thrilled to be celebrating the 35th anniversary of the United Square Dancers of America. This edition of the USDA News has been prepared showing the birth of USDA in 1981 up until today. Please read this informative review of our history. It is a vivid reminder of the growth within our organization over the past 35 years, and the many contributions and efforts that have been made on our behalf.

It has been our pleasure to serve as your Presidents this past year; however we are humbled to follow in the footsteps of the other Presidents that have preceded us. Over the years, these Presidents have been supported by a hard working Executive Committee. This has been true for us as well, and we are deeply indebted to the ongoing efforts of the current USDA Executive Committee. This team effort is what it takes to keep USDA strong.

We hope you will treasure this anniversary edition and refer to it often when you reflect on the past of USDA and plan for our future. Although square dancing has decreased in numbers over the past 35 years, the energy and enthusiasm have not. We trust you will join us in looking to the future of the activity we all continue to love.

Remember, “Live Lively.....Square Dance”. We hope to see you in a square.

Yellow Rocks,

Jerry and Donna Robey

USDA Presidents



UNITED SQUARE DANCERS OF AMERICA

Birth of the Organization

Early efforts to create a National Dancer Organization focused on soliciting individual dancers to become members of the National Dancers Organization by paying annual dues of \$10.00 per dancer. The first of these efforts in the early 1970's was led by Cacti Pete, a dancer from California who attended each of the first fifty National Square Dance Conventions®. The second attempt to unite dancers on a National basis was initiated by Ms. Chris Evans of Cedar Falls, Iowa during 1975-1978 when she attempted to form the American Square Dance Association / International by charging family membership fees of \$10.00 or \$5.00 for a single membership.

Seeing little success with this approach to combine individual dancers into a National Dancers Organization, in November of 1978 – Mr. Norm Holloway (General Chairman of the 13th National Square Dance Convention® in Long Beach, California - 1964) suggested to the California Square Dance Council that their Presidents – Jim and Jan Maczko – seek the interest of the various other State and major Regional Square Dance Associations, Councils, Federations, etc. into joining together to form a National Square Dancers Organization by amalgamating all of these State and major Regional Organizations into one National Dancers Association where each State would send representatives to an annual meeting.

The Showcase of Ideas held in Milwaukee in 1979 during the annual National Square Dance Convention® afforded Jim and Jan Maczko – Presidents of the California Square Dance Council – the opportunity to collect contact information on the various State and major Regional Square Dance Associations, Councils, Federations, etc. from around the country. It was in late 1979 and early 1980 that the Maczkos initial mailing (USPS was the primary means of communications during that era) survey's seeking these other groups interest in collaborating in the effort to form what was initially envisioned as a National Square Dancers Association.

Early responses were positive – enough so, that with the assistance of Bob and Janette Kemper, Presidents of the Tennessee State Association of Square and Round Dance Clubs – arrangements were made to hold an informational meeting during the 1980 National Square Dance Convention® in Memphis. This meeting was actually held within the confines of the Memphis Convention Center, site of the 29th NSDC and was open to all. As the initiators of the fact finding efforts – Jim and Jan Maczko were selected to chair this meeting where viewpoints of those in favor as well as those opposed to the creation of such a National Square Dancers Association were expressed.

Those voicing support could see the benefits of the Dancers to have their own voice in the affairs of the Square Dance Movement and to provide support for such efforts to designate Square Dancing as the National Folk Dance of the United States. Those expressing opposition to such a National Square Dancer Association felt that existing organizations such as LEGACY International and the National Square Dance Conventions® Executive Committee already provided a venue for Dancers to be heard. Among the most significant shortcomings of these other existing organizations was that they did not exclusively represent Dancers, nor did they include Dancers from every State.

In the spirit of cooperative involvement it was determined at the 1980 meeting in Memphis that there was a real need to create an Organizational Committee for the Formation of the National Square Dancers Association. This Organizing Committee consisted of not only those in favor of the creation of a National Square Dancers Organization but those who opposed as well. Jim and Jan Maczko

(Contd page 6)

were designated as the Chairs of this fifteen member group. Ed and Mary Barbee – Past Presidents of the Texas Federation of Square Dancers – were chosen to serve as interim Secretaries of this Organizing body. Other members of this Organizing Committee consisting of Regional Directors that included Frank and Helen Cavanaugh (New Jersey); Win and JoAnn Erlandson (Wisconsin); Norm and Sharon Frank (California); Dewey Glass (Alabama); Mike and Mary Gottulo (Nebraska); Freddie Kaltenthaler (Pennsylvania); Bob and Janette Kemper (Tennessee); Elmer and Jean Marose (Oklahoma) Bob and Ginger Prescott (Missouri); Joe Vaccari (Florida); Wayne and Marilyn Wells (Minnesota); Curtis and Jo Young (Texas); and, serving as advisors were Charles and Ebba Naddeo (California).

Correspondence among this group continued via USPS. Other tasks undertaken by the members of this group continued to determine the interest of additional State and major Regional Square Dance Associations, Councils, Federations, etc. from around the country to participate in a National Dancer group. These efforts resulted in determining that sufficient interest did exist to create a National Square Dancers Association.

The next step was to generate the Governing Documents for this National Square Dancers Association. To accomplish this goal, a special meeting of the Organizing Committee was scheduled in early November 1980 in Oklahoma City during the Oklahoma State Square Dance Festival. This meeting was well attended with representatives from Florida (Joe Vaccari, Joy Richardson), Texas (Ed and Mary Barbee, Curtis and Jo Young, Ed and Angie McCreary, Russ and Roberta Barton), Oklahoma (Elmer and Jean Marose, and Howard Thornton), and California (Mac and Mary McClure, and Jim and Jan Maczko).

Among the issues discussed during the Oklahoma City meeting was the name of this National Dancer organization. It was suggested that adopting the name of the National Square Dancers Association might be confused with the annual National Square Dance Convention® which was a well-established and separate entity. In addition, the organizational structure was determined to allow each existing State and major Regional Square Dance Associations, Councils, Federations, etc. to send four delegates to represent their interests at the annual meetings of this National Square Dancers organization. It was determined that the National Square Dancers organization would be divided into four regions – each region would be serviced by one of four Regional Vice Presidents. To ensure regional equality among the four Regions – thirteen States were delegated to each of the four regions – Eastern Region extending from Maine through Virginia and would include the District of Columbia – Central Region stretching from West Virginia and would encompass Mississippi up to Michigan – Plains Region covering Illinois through Texas – and the Western Region stretching from Colorado to Hawaii.

Proposed Governing Documents – Constitution, Bylaws and Standing Rules – were then distributed (again via the USPS) to all points of contact that had been collected to that point in time with the intent to present these Governing Documents during an organizational meeting to be held during the 30th National Square Dance Convention® in Seattle, 1981.

Following more than a year of preparation, the *Organizing Committee for the Formation of a National Square Dancers Association* issued invitations to all known State and major Regional Square Dance Associations, Councils, Federations, etc. to send four delegates to represent their interests at the formation meeting of this National Square Dancers organization. Early in 1981 the proposed Constitution, Bylaws and Standing Rules were reproduced and distributed to these organizations for their review. These documents allowed for the equal representation of affiliate member groups regardless of whether or not



1981 35 2016



(Continued from page 6)

an organization is established along State lines or on a regional basis covering portions of one or more States.

In advance of this Organizational meeting, a gathering of the *Organizing Committee for the Formation of a National Square Dancers Association* was held on Wednesday June 24, 1981, just preceding the 1981 Seattle NSDC with the Regional Directors from Florida, California, Colorado, Minnesota, Texas and Missouri where the group reviewed the Governing Documents and finalized plans for the Organizational meeting to be held that Friday during the 30th National Square Dance Convention®.

During the Organizational Meeting held in the Westin Hotel in Seattle, Washington on Friday – June 26, 1981, approximately 140 dance leaders gathered to discuss and finalize plans to move forward with a National Dancers Organization or to abandon this effort all together. With the States of Alabama, Alaska, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Delaware, Idaho, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, New Mexico, North Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah and Washington, D.C, each sending authorized delegates, it was readily determined that there was sufficient interest to move forward in the organizational process. Also in attendance were Dancer leaders from ten (10) other States to observe the proceedings.

The proposed Governing Documents were presented to the assembled delegates with each document read and reviewed word-by-word – a somewhat time consuming effort, but those in attendance were sufficiently committed to the cause that no one seemed to mind. In the end, the Constitution, Bylaws and Standing Rules were adopted and the name selected for this new organization – *United Square Dancers of America*.

An election of Officers was conducted with the following results:

- President – Jim and Jan Maczko – California
- Eastern Region Vice President – Vacant
- Central Region Vice President – Jim and Peggy Segraves – Alabama
- Plains Region Vice President – Ed and Mary Barbee - Texas
- Western Region Vice President – Claude and Polly Potter – Colorado
- Secretary – Margret Reynolds – Maryland
- Treasurer – Joe Vacarri – Florida

Among the other decisions made during this initial meeting was the establishment of dues for the USDA at \$100 per year for a State organization with two votes – these dues have never increased, although State Organizations are now allowed four votes, thereby allowing smaller and regional organizations to join with one, two or three votes as was adjusted by the subsequent USDA Board of Directors.

Also at this organizing meeting in Seattle, three Resolutions were approved, one creating the *United Square Dancers of America*, and directing the duly elected Officers to execute drafts of the Constitution, Bylaws and Standing Rules and apply for a Charter of Incorporation under the laws of the United States. Another Resolution supported the efforts of the National Folk Dance Committee in their efforts to obtain recognition of Square Dancing as the National Folk Dance of the United States. The third resolution encouraged the Square Dancers of America in their endeavors to promote Square Dancing through presentation of an annual float in the New Year's Day Tournament of Roses Parade in Pasadena, California.

All-in-all this first meeting was very productive and established the ground work for the *United Square Dancers of America* to represent the Dancers in dealings with the other National Organizations.

(Continued from page 8)

Following the initial formation meeting of the *United Square Dancers of America* – these newly elected Officers held their first Executive Committee meeting on Saturday June 27, 1981, also in the Westin Hotel in Seattle, Washington. Those members of the Executive Committee in attendance were Jim and Jan Maczko – Presidents (California); Nate and Margaret Reynolds – Secretary (Maryland); Joe Vaccari – Treasurer (Florida); Claude and Polly Potter – Western Region Vice Presidents (Colorado); Ed and Mary Barbee – Plains Region Vice Presidents (Texas) and Charles Naddeo – Parliamentarian (California). This group sought to encourage the various State and major Regional Square Dance Associations, Councils, Federations, etc. from around the country to join this new organization – created by dancers for dancers. Their efforts resulted in the following “Charter Members” joining between June 26, 1981 and June 25, 1982:

- Alabama Square and Round Dance Association
- Arkansas State Square Dance Federation
- California Square Dance Council, Inc.
- Colorado State Square Dance Association
- The Federation of Delaware Valley Square and Round Dancers
- Florida Federation of Square Dancers
- Lubbock Area Square and Round Dance Federation (Texas)
- Missouri Federation of Square and Round Dance Clubs, Inc.
- New Mexico Square and Round Dance Association
- North Dakota Square and Round Dance Clubs, Inc.
- Panhandle Square and Round Dance Association (Texas)

The first Winter Meeting of the *United Square Dancers of America* was hosted by USDA Treasurers Joe Vaccari and Joy Richardson in Fort Walton Beach, Florida on January 30, 1982, with all Executive Committee members in attendance, travelling to Florida totally at their own expense to formulate plans and programs for the future of *United Square Dancers of America*. Among those programs discussed:

- National Square Dancers Insurance Program;
- Establish lines of communication and cooperation with existing National organizations on behalf of the Square Dancer;
- Develop a National program for the recognition of the Square Dancer Leader for their services to the movement;
- Provide assistance to those desiring to organize for the betterment of the Square Dance activity;
- Strive for the unification of Dancers;
- Serve to promote Square Dancing in all its forms (Square, Round, Contra, Clog, Line, etc.) in all possible areas.

(Contd page 10)

(Continued from page 9)

This first year cumulated with the *United Square Dancers of America* first Annual Meeting being held in Detroit, Michigan concurrently with the 31st National Square Dance Convention® on June 25, 1982. In preparation for this first Annual meeting, the Executive Committee met in their role as Membership Committee to review the various Applications for Affiliation and discuss possible resolutions for presentation to the Board of Directors. As a result of these Applications the distinction of CHARTER MEMBER status was bestowed upon the following organizations which became USDA Affiliates between June 26, 1981 and June 25, 1982:

Alabama Square and Round Dance Association
 Arkansas State Square Dance Federation
 California Square Dance Council, Inc.
 Colorado State Square Dance Association
 The Federation of Delaware Valley Square and Round Dancers
 Florida Federation of Square Dancers
 Lubbock Area Square and Round Dance Federation (Texas)
 Missouri Federation of Square and Round Dance Clubs, Inc.
 New Mexico Square and Round Dance Association
 North Dakota Square and Round Dance Clubs, Inc.
 Panhandle Square and Round Dance Association (Texas)

The acceptance of these organizations as Charter Members established the *United Square Dancers of America* as the “*World’s Largest Square Dance Organization*,” as a result of these groups representing more than 100,000 Dancers in 1982.

Among the most significant actions taken during this first Annual Meeting in Detroit, the USDA Board of Directors approved the establishment of an economical National Insurance Program for Square Dancers through those organizations affiliated with the *United Square Dancers of America*.

Consistent with the practice established during the USDA organizational meeting in 1981, a number of key resolutions were adopted during this first Annual Meeting, those resolutions included a Resolution to Establish a Committee for the purpose of developing plans and programs to develop a Square Dancers Museum and Hall of Fame; a Resolution encouraging cooperation and the exchange of representatives among the various National and International Square Dance Organizations – CALLERLAB, LEGACY, ROUNDALAB, USDA, NEC, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SQUARE AND ROUND DANCE SUPPLIERS, etc. involving dancers, leaders, Callers and Round Dance Instructors who contribute to the establishment of the direction and advancement of Square Dancing in all its forms; and a Resolution encouraging all USDA Affiliate member organizations to support the Annual National Square Dance Conventions.

All of these accomplishments being achieved in just one short year of existence is a tribute to those who work so diligently on behalf of the Square Dancers to provide a representative body such as the *United Square Dancers of America*.

Written and contributed by Jim Maczko and Patty Wilcox





MEET YOUR 2015-16 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

AND



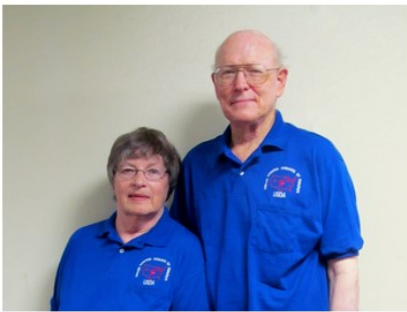
Jerry & Donna Robey
President



Mike & Pat Matsko
Past President



L Paul Schmidt
V P Western Region



Floyd & Judy Engelhardt
V P Plains Region



Lisa Breault
V P Eastern Region



Ed & Lynda Willis
V P Central Region



Jim Maczko & Patty Wilcox
Parliamentarian
President's Advisor



Scott & Brenda Deal
Secretary

*Note: These are the "new guys" on the block. They will not get their full size picture until next year.



Jim & Judy Taylor
Treasurer
Historian

MORE OF YOUR 2015-16 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE



Larry Dunkel
Editor—USDA NEWS
Centennial Award



Bill Flick
Prescription Card
Showcae of Ideas



Bonnie Abramson
Youth Advisor



Tony & Diana Rock
Publications & Education



Joy Vaccari
Badges-USA Traveler
President's Advisor



Jim & Edythe Weber
Webmastger ?Sound
President's Advisor



John & Alitia Becker
Handicapable Dancers
President's Advisor



Milene McCall
Faciilities
After Party



Pat Inglis
Insurfance Coordimnator



USDA ELECTED OFFICERS –THE FIRST 35 YEARS

USDA PRESIDENTS

1981-1983 Jim & Jan Maczko (CA)	1999-2001 Bill & Bobbie Shepard (TN)
1983-1985 Joe & Joy Vaccari (FL)	2001-2003 Lyle & Jean Beck (IA)
1985-1987 Howard & Loraine Backus (AR)	2003-2005 Jim & Edythe Weber (MO)
1987-1989 Jim & Peggy Segraves (AL)	2005-2006 Charlie & Kitty Holley (AL)
1989-1991 Frank & Nan Habersberger (FL)	2006-2008 Si & Marilyn Kittle (WI)
1991-1993 Earle & Joy Hoyt (IL)	2008-2010 Len & Connie Houle (MA)
1993-1995 Larry & Dixie Foraker (MO)	2010-2012 John & Alitia Becker (LA)
1995-1997 Jim & Jody Temple (KS)	2012-2013 Jim Maczko & Patty Wilcox (CA)
1997-1999 Bill & Joan Flick (PA)	2013-2015 Mike & Pat Matsko (PA)
	2015-2016 Jerry & Donna Robey (IL)

VICE PRESIDENTS

EASTERN REGION

1981-1982 Vacant
 1982-1984 Walter & Ruth Henderson (PA)
 1984-1988 Orlo & Rita Roadley (NY)
 1988-1991 Walter & Sally Baechle (NY)
 1991-1997 John & Mary Lachenmeyer (PA)
 1994-1997 Bill & Joan Flick (PA)
 1997-2000 Larry & Penny Matchen (PA)
 2000-2001 Dave & Betty Peak / Bill Flick (PA)
 2001-2004 Bill Flick (PA)
 2004-2007 Len & Connie Houle (MA)
 2007-2010 Dick & Shirley White (NH)
 2010-2013 Mike & Pat Matsko (PA)
 2013-2015 Richard Delgado (NJ)
 2015-2016 Lisa Berault (RI)

PLAINS REGION

1981-1983 Ed & Mary Barbee (TX)
 1983-1985 Howard & Loraine Backus (AR)
 1985-1988 Clyde & Pauline Hanabrink (MO)
 1988-1991 Earle & Joy Hoyt (IL)
 1991-1993 Larry & Dixie Foraker (MO)
 1993-1995 Jim & Jody Temple (KS)
 1995-1998 Mark & Rosalee Mortensen (MO)
 1998-2001 Lyle & Jean Beck (IA)
 2001-2004 Dan & Pat Liska (MO)
 2004-2006 John & Alitia Becker (LA)
 2006-2009 Mike & Mary Strub (WI)
 2009-2012 Si & Marilyn Kittle (WI)
 2012-2015 Jim & Edythe Weber (MO)
 2015-2016 Floyd & Judy Englehardt (MN)

CENTRAL REGION

1981-1984 Jim & Peggy Segraves (AL)
 1984-1986 George & Judy Garland (NC)
 1986-1988 John & Dimple Williford (AL)
 1988-1990 Corbet & Rena Pharos (WV)
 1990-1993 G.P. & Eleanor Caughman (SC)
 1993-1995 Bill & Dody Shepard (TN)
 1995-1996 Bill Shepard (TN)
 1996-1999 Jack & Zonie Taylor (FL)
 1999-2002 Jim & Jill Larkin (SC)
 2002-2005 Charlie & Kitty Holley (AL)
 2005-2008 Bill & Bobbie Shepard (TN)
 2008-2010 Charlie & Kitty Holley (AL)
 2010-2011 Bill & Dot Shepard (TN)
 2011-2014 Jerry & Donna Robey (FL)
 2014-2016 Ed & Linda Willis (NC)

WESTERN REGION

1981-1984 Claude & Polly Potter (CO)
 1984-1986 Joni Fisher (CA)
 1986-1987 Dick & Juanita Kitson (CA)
 1987-1990 Bob & Betty Coates (CA)
 1990-1993 Red & Reva Null (CA)
 1993-1996 Gailard & Jo Ann Janes (CO)
 1996-1997 Gilbert & Dee Leon (AZ)
 1997-1999 Bob & Betty Coates (CA)
 1999-2000 Betty Coates (CA)
 2000-2003 Sam & Marianne Baines (AZ)
 2003-2006 Michael & Kimberlee Streby (CA)
 2006-2009 Jim & Kay Rogers (OR)
 2009-2012 Marilyn Schmit (OR)
 2012-2014 Gilbert & Sharon Leon (CA)
 2014-2016 LPaul & Sally Schmidt (CA)

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USDA ELECTED OFFICERS FOR THE PAST 35 YEARS**SECRETARY**

1981-1983 Nate & Margaret Reynolds (MD)
 1983-1985 Bob & Betty Coates (CA)
 1985-1986 John & Dimple Williford (AL)
 1986-1988 Earle & Joy Hoyt (IL)
 1988-1989 Larry & Dixie Foraker (MO)
 1989-1990 Red & Reva Null (CA)
 1990-1993 Gailard & Jo Ann Janes (CO)
 1993-1995 Dick & Lois Currie (LA)
 1995-1998 Lyle & Jean Beck (IA)
 1998-2001 Marilyn & Ron Schmit (OR)
 2001-2003 Michael & Kimberlee Streby (CA)
 2003-2006 Si & Marilyn Kittle (WI)
 2006-2008 Ray & Monica Landry (LA)
 2008-2010 Gilbert & Sharon Leon (CA)
 2010-2012 Jim & Edythe Weber (MO)
 2012-2015 Milene McCall (KY)
 2015-2016 Scott & Brenda Deal (WI)

TREASURER

1981-1983 Joe Vaccari/Joy Richardson (FL)
 1983-1985 Ed & Mary Barbee (TX)
 1985-1989 Frank & Nan Habersberger (FL)
 1989-1991 Larry & Dixie Foraker (MO)
 1991-1993 Jim & Jody Temple (KS)
 1993-1994 Bernie & Sue Auten (NE)
 1994-1996 Gilbert & Dea Leon (AZ)
 1996-1999 Elmer & Lottie Jackson (TN)
 1999-2002 Dave & Shirley Nihart (FL)
 2002-2003 Bob & Loretta Welch / Nihart
 (MO)(FL)
 2003-2004 Dave & Shirley Nihart (FL)
 2004-2007 Bill Flick (PA)
 2007-2010 Jim & Edythe Weber (MO)
 2010-2012 Bill Flick (PA)
 2012-2016 Jim & Judy Taylor (CO)

PARLIAMENTARIAN

1981-1982 Charles & Ebba Naddeo (CA)
 1982-1983 Charles Naddeo (CA)
 1983-1985 Charles & Peggy Naddeo (CA)
 1985-1989 Charles Naddeo (CA)
 1988-1989 Orlo & Rita Roadley (NY)
 1989-1992 Clyde & Pauline Hanabrink (MO)
 1992-1994 Bill & Joan Flick (PA)
 1994-2012 Jim Maczko & Patty Wilcox (CA)
 2012-2013 Bill Flick (PA)
 2013-2016 Jim Maczko & Patty Wilcox (CA)

EDITOR—USDA NEWS

1984-1989 Clyde & Pauline Hanebrink (MO)
 1989-1994 Jim & Peggy Segraves (AL)
 1994-1995 Jim & Peggy Segraves (AL) &
 Jim & Edythe Weber (MO)
 1995-2003 Jim & Edythe Weber (MO)
 2003-2005 Bill Huntington (OR) &
 Merri Anne Huber (OR)
 2005-2012 Jim & Edythe Weber (MO)
 2012-2016 Larry Dunkel (TN)

USDA APPOINTED OFFICERS –THE FIRST 35 YEARS

EDUCATION & PUBLICATIONS

1984-1989 Jim & Peggy Segraves (AL)
 1989-1994 Joe & DeAnn Hutchinson (OK)
 1994-1997 John & Janet Rothrock (KS)
 1997-1998 Larry & Dixie Foraker (MO)
 1998-2003 Jim & Edythe Weber (MO)
 2003-2004 Bill & Mary Ellen Appel (OK)
 2004-2006 Bill Appel (OK)
 2006-2007 Jim & Edythe Weber (MO)
 2007-2013 Len & Connie Houle (MA)
 2013-2016 Tony & Diana Rock (PA)

FACILITIES

1988-1990 Earle & Joy Hoyt (IL)
 1990-1992 Bob & Betty Coates (CA)
 1992-2000 Walt & Sally Baechle (NY)
 2000-2002 Sally Baechle (NY)
 2002-2009 Pat & Ave' Herndon (CA)
 2009-2010 Debra Stewart (AL)
 2010-2016 Milene McCall (KY)

USDA ARTS REPRESENTATIVES

2003-2006 Lyle & Jean Beck (IA)
 Michael & Kimberlee Streby (CA)
 Charlie & Kitty Holley (AL) &
 2006-2016 Jim & Edythe Weber (MO)

USA TRAVELER

2003-2004 Bill & Bobbie Shepard (TN)
 2004-2011 Joe & Joy Vaccari (FL)
 2011-2016 Joy Vaccari (FL)

PRESCRIPTION DRUG CARD

2002-2004 Bill & Bobbie Shepard (TN)
 2004-2006 Bill Appel (OK)
 2006-2007 Michael & Kimberlee Streby (CA)
 2007-2016 Bill Flick (PA)

INSURANCE

1982-1989 Charles & Peggy Naddeo (CA)
 1989-1995 Howard & Loraine Backus (AR)
 1995-2007 Loraine Backus (AR)
 2007-2016 Pat Inglis (GA)

BADGES

1985 Frank & Nan Habersberger (FL)
 1985-1987 Ed & Mary Barbee (TX)
 1987-2011 Joe & Joy Vaccari (FL)
 2011–2016 Joy Vaccari (FL)

CENTENNIAL AWARD

2014-2016 Larry Dunkel (TN)

WEB MASTER

1994-2016 Jim Weber (MO)

SOUND

2003-2009 Pat & Ave' Herndon (CA)
 2009-2011 Si & Marilyn Kittle (WI)

NEC LIAISON

1988-1997 Jim & Peggy Segraves (AL)
 1997-2016 USDA President

THIRTY-FIVE YEARS OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS FOR USDA

1. *Establish United Square Dancers of America, Inc.* - Seattle - 1981
2. *National Square Dancer Insurance Program* - Detroit - 1982
3. *Educational Documents* - Louisville - 1983
4. *Handicapable Dancer Committee* - Baltimore - 1984
5. *NSDC After Party* - Birmingham - 1985
6. *USDA National Folk Dance Committee* - Indianapolis - 1986
7. *Code of Ethics & Code of Conduct* - Houston - 1987
8. *Credit Card Program* - Anaheim - 1988
9. *USDA NEWS* - Oklahoma City - 1989
10. *Long Distance Telephone Program* - Memphis - 1990
11. *Support National Handicapable Convention* - Salt Lake City - 1991
12. *Youth Advisory Committee* - Cincinnati - 1992
13. *USDA NEWS Annual Subscriptions* - St. Louis - 1993
14. *Conduct Dancer Survey on Dance Levels* - Portland - 1994
15. *Founders Memorial Youth Fund* - Birmingham - 1995
16. *USDA Website* - San Antonio - 1996
17. *Expanded Educational Materials* - Orlando - 1997
18. *National Organization Round Table* - Charlotte - 1998
19. *Square Dance Internet Provider Service* - Indianapolis - 1999
20. *Youth Memorial Scholarship Fund* - Baltimore - 2000
21. *Prescription Drug Plan* - Anaheim - 2001
22. *USA Traveler Program* - St. Paul - 2002
23. *Support Alliance of Round, Traditional and Square-Dance* – Oklahoma City - 2003
24. *Long Care Term Care Insurance* – Denver - 2004
25. *USDA “Add-A-Buck” Program to Benefit ARTS* – Portland - 2005
26. *USDA’s Twenty-Fifth Anniversary* – San Antonio - 2006
27. *Acknowledgment of Electronic Age – All Insurance Forms on Website* – Charlotte - 2007
28. *Youth Program’s use of Upsilon Sigma Delta Greek Letters* – Wichita, Kansas - 2008
29. *USDA Resolves to Support Square Dance Competition* – Long Beach – 2009
30. *Establishment of USDA Facebook Page* – Louisville, Kentucky - 2010
31. *USDA Designated as a 501(c)3 Non-Profit Organization by the IRS* – Detroit - 2011
32. *Authorization of IRS 501 (c)3 Non-Profit Group Exemption Program* – Spokane – 2012
33. *Modernizing & Updating of All USDA Educational Materials*
34. *First Live Music USDA - NSDC After Party* – Oklahoma City - 2013
35. *Initiation of Centennial Awards Program* – Little Rock - 2014
36. *Establishment of Live Lively – Square Dance Slogo* – Springfield – 2015
36. *USDA’s Thirty-Fifth Anniversary* – Des Moines, Iowa - 2016



USDA SUPPORTS YOUTH DANCERS!!

HOW CAN YOU HELP???



The **United Square Dancers of America** are huge supporters of youth in square dancing, and we would love to see and learn more about their activities.

What's Available? USDA has a series of brochures and pamphlets designed to help you support youth dancers in your area — just check out our Educational Display tables at the National Convention or download them from our website, <http://www.usda.org>. Among the publications available are “USDA Youth Program”, “Take a Youthful Step to the Future”, and “Information on Competition in Youth Dancing.”



Scholarship Program: Each year USDA names one lucky recipient of our Founders' Memorial Youth Fund Scholarship—a \$1000 scholarship awarded to a graduating senior or first year college student. Application is simple, but the applicants need YOUR help in the form of a Nomination Form completed by the President of the USDA Affiliate organization in the State or Region where the student resides. We also need your help in promoting the availability of the scholarship to youth dancers in your area by downloading the scholarship application and sharing it with them. Application deadline is February 1st each year.

We Need Your Donations: We presented our first scholarship in 2000 to Katrena Langhurst, a young dancer from King City, North Carolina. Since then 16 more dancers have benefited from the scholarship program. But our funding is running low — originally the scholarship was funded from proceeds from our credit card program, but we lost that program several years ago. Any donation, large or small, will help us keep the program going. Can you help? Your donation is tax-deductible so please help us out. Download a donation form from the USDA website and share your support today.



Tell Us About Youth Dancers in Your Area: What better way to promote square dancing to youth than to share what's happening in your area. We've recently heard about dance programs in schools, youth dance and caller competitions, exhibitions, flash mobs and attempts to set World Records for the most youth dancers in one place. So share your news — share on YouTube, on our USDA Facebook page, via Twitter, Pinterest and Instagram — whatever version of social media suits your cause — share the news to let young dancers know that they are not alone.



USDA YOUTH ADVISOR
Bonnie Abramson • 916-213-3640
usda.youth.advisor@usda.org
<http://www.usda.org/youth.htm>

YΣΔ





USDA Founders Memorial Youth Fund Scholarship 16 Years of Honorees



Brittany McCarty
Ganesville, NY
2012 Award Winner

Brianna Stidham
Buckeye, AZ
2015 Award Winner



Tiffany Bennett
Wilmington, NC
2013 Award Winner



**Who Will Be
This Year's
Winner???**

\$1000

Michelle Nuttal
Boise, ID
2014 Award Winner



Alyssa Sawyer
Vancouver, WA
2010 Award Winner

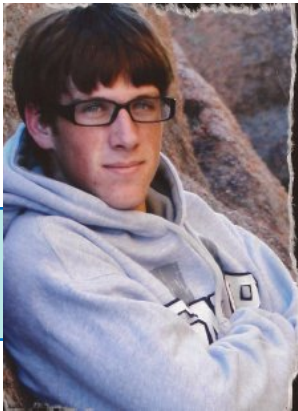
\$1000

**APPLICATION DEADLINE:
FEBRUARY 1ST**

Lisa Jones
Raleigh, NC
2011 Award Winner



Nicholas Harp
Puxico, MO
2011 Award Winner



Requirements:

- High School Senior or College Freshman
- Active Square Dancer
- Volunteer Service in Square Dancing
- Leadership Potential & Communication Skills
- Application Form
- Letters of Recommendation
- Sponsored by a USDA Affiliate Organization

<http://www.usda.org/youth.htm>
Application Form: <http://www.usda.org/trifold/ISy0403.pdf>
Nomination Form: <http://www.usda.org/trifold/ISy0611.pdf>

Bonnie Abramson, USDA Youth Advisor
Phone: 916-213-3640
Email: usda.youth.advisor@usda.org
Mail: 3039 Bridgeford Drive, Sacramento, CA 95833

USDA Founders Memorial Youth Fund Scholarship 16 Years of Honorees



Justine Brown
Artol, ID
2009 Award Winner



Paul Connelly
Lower Waterford, VT
2004 Award Winner



Ashley Parker
Manteca, CA
2007 Award Winner
*She's Calling here
at Nationals!*



William Sundwall
Cross Timbers, MO
2003 Award Winner

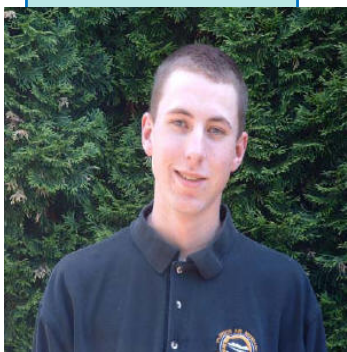


Our Inaugural Winner
Katrena Langhurst
King City, NC
2000 Award Winner



Andrew Turpin
Lincoln, AR
2005 Award Winner

Kobuk Kastella
Vancouver, WA
2006 Award Winner



*Where Are They Now?
Let Us Know!*

Amanda Roberts
Tigard, OR
2008 Award Winner



Rebekah Atkinson
Wake Forest, NC
2001 Award Winner



Robert Sales
Escondido, CA
2002 Award Winner

USDA USA TRAVELER PROGRAM

The purpose of the program is to “promote visitation between dancers in all 50 states”. The goal is to attend a club dance, a state or national convention, or a local festival in all 50 states. No duplications are permitted and records are kept by the Program chairman. Participants working on the first time around will receive a Badge and bars as follows:

- 12 States – Red Bar
- 24 States – White Bar
- 36 States – Blue Bar
- 48 States – Silver Bar
- 50 States – Gold Bar



Dancers must complete the first fifty States before going on to their SECOND TIME AROUND.

Participants who visit 48 states are awarded a free admission to a National Convention. After visiting 50 States participants are also awarded a free admission to a National Convention. Participants traveling as a couple only need to fill out one form. There will be times when couples will need to submit two forms. I.e: When one half the couple finishes before the other.

Last year with the tours held prior to and after the National Convention in Springfield, MA the program has been very busy with requests received weekly. Every State has been visited last year.

Comments about this program have been completely positive. Everyone has had FUN completing their goals. Here are some quotes from Happy Dancers! “We are strong advocates of the USDA USA Traveler Program and wear our badges and bars with pride.” “What a great program” and “Thank you USDA for this wonderful program” are often received as written comments.

Forms can be obtained by either downloading from the internet at www.usda.org or by contacting the Program Chairman Joy Vaccari at: usda.usa.traveler@usda.org



EDUCATION AND PUBLICATIONS

What Does USDA Have to Offer You?

The United Square Dancers of America is an umbrella of information for dancers and dance leaders. We offer a quarterly newsletter, 36 different tri-folds, 5 pamphlets and 6 booklets on a wide range of topics of interest to dancers and dance leaders. Within these documents you will see a variety of subjects including the special programs USDA offers, the nuts and bolts of running a club and how to keep square dancing fun. You will also find information for specific groups of dancers such as new dancers, youth, and those with special needs. So why not relax with us under our umbrella and discover what information is available for you. You can find us in the Showcase of Ideas for each National Square and Round Dance Convention as well as on our website, www.usda.org

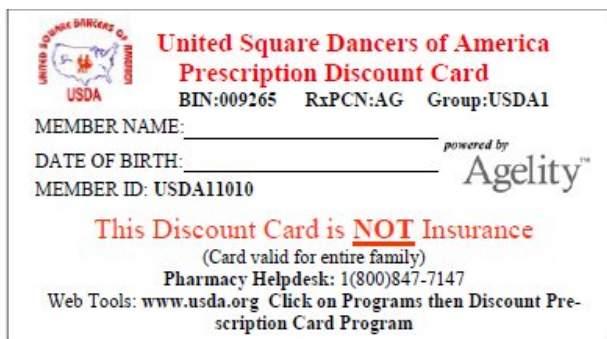


USDA PRESCRIPTION DISCOUNT CARD

Are you, a friend or family member lacking prescription insurance? If so, let USDA help!

United Square Dancers of America has developed a program with Creative Benefit Design, Inc. and AGELITY to provide DISCOUNT PRESCRIPTION BENEFITS for anyone who does not have other prescription coverage. This plan is unique since your cost is zero! That's right—**NO COST TO THE USER!** Enjoy average savings of 30% or more on each prescription fill. The plan is available to **ANYONE—ANY AGE—NO RESTRICTIONS!**

This discount card is accepted at over 53,000 pharmacies nationwide, by virtually every major pharmacy, as well as many independent drug stores. Most pharmacies will be familiar with Agelity, or they can set up an account with a simple call to the number listed on the card.



Every month many folks are using the Agelity card to save substantially on their drug expenses. **YOU CAN SAVE TOO!!** Just cut out the card on the left, pick up some cards at any USDA display at a square dance convention, or get

cards for you and your friends by contacting the USDA Prescription Card Chairman listed below.

How does it work? Take the card to your pharmacy and ask them to apply the discount to all your prescriptions, both standing orders and new prescriptions — it's that simple. Given the purchasing power of the Agelity network, you get the advantage of huge discounts on your drug purchases.

Who Benefits? YOU of course! But also the United Square Dancers of America. USDA will receive \$.25 for each prescription filled under this plan. The funds generated for USDA are applied to a variety of educational and other USDA programs that support square dancers.

Do You Have to Be a Square Dancer to Participate? NO!! Anyone can participate, so this is perfect for anyone who does not have prescription coverage through their private insurance, Medicare or Medicaid coverage.



USDA PRESCRIPTION CARD CHAIRMAN

Bill Flick • 610-812-3193

usda.prescription.card@usda.org

PARTICIPATING PHARMACIES

This is a partial listing of the 53,000 pharmacies in our network. If your pharmacy is not listed call 1-800-847-1747 to find one near you.

A & P Pharmacy ● Albertsons
 BI-LO Pharmacy
 City Drug Store ● CVS
 Dillon Pharmacy
 D & W Food Centers
 Drug Emporium ● Duane Reade
 Eagle Pharmacy
 Eckerd Drugs ● Fred Meyer
 Giant Eagle
 Hy-Vee Pharmacy ● K-Mart
 Key Rexall Drugs
 Kinney Drugs ● Kroger
 Osco Drug
 Payless Drug Stores
 Phar-Mor ● Piggly Wiggly
 Randall's ● Rite Aid
 Safeway, Inc.
 Sam's Club Pharmacy
 Save-More Pharmacy
 Shopko Pharmacy
 Smith Food & Drug ● Super D
 Super Sav-On Drug
 Target Stores ● USA Drug
 Walgreens ● Wal-Mart
 Winn Dixie

CENTENNIAL AWARD PROGRAM

In June 2012 I was offered and accepted the position of Editor of USDA NEWS. As I think most new editors would do, I wanted to add my touch to an already fine publication, but I had no idea what that would be. In late Sept. we were on our way from Knoxville to Orlando, FL when we decided to stop in Macon, GA and spend the night. Since we were new members of the USA Travelers Program and had never danced in GA I got out my laptop, and started a search for a dance in Macon. I have found “wheres the dance dot com” to be one of the most reliable sources for finding a dance and they were right on that night also. We were just a few miles from a local dance. At this dance we met Red, mid-nineties and never sat out a tip. I found out from his fellow dancers that he squares dances a couple or three times a week and if not square dancing you might find him on the ballroom dance floor. That’s when it hit me that I needed to do some stories on our senior dancers. I have always loved old folks and hope to be one some day. So for the next several issues I wrote stories about dancers in their late eighties or nineties.

In the fall of 2013 I got an email asking what USDA did for dancers 100 years old and STILL DANCING? I wrote back and told her we did not do anything at this time, but I thought that was about to change. At the USDA Winter Meeting in Jan. 2014 I presented the information I had to the Executive Committee explaining that due to better diets, improved lifestyles, etc., people are living longer and are more productive in their older age. Approval was given to develop a program to present to the USDA Board at our June Meeting. It was unanimously approved by the USDA Board, that the world’s largest square dance organization should recognize and honor these special people.

We have intentionally kept the qualifying rules pretty basic and simple. First of all, and the hardest of the rules, is to attain the age of 100. Many have tried and many have failed. Secondly, they need to be active in their club. This does not necessarily mean they have to dance every tip, but they do participate in the operation of the club in some way. They need to have at least five years of membership in their club. That’s it! Once they qualify they need to obtain a qualifying form through our web-site: www.usda.org—then select Programs-then select the Centennial Award. Complete the form and mail it to the address shown on the form. We will take over at that point.

Upon receipt of the application we will start the process of presenting the award. Our preferred method is to be able to present this at the annual USDA Board Meeting just prior to the opening of the National Convention. Unless the recipient happens to be in the convention city, it is most unlikely that they could physically travel across country to receive their award. If they can, USDA will pay their convention registration fee. If unable to attend the convention site, we will make arrangements to present the awards at a dance near them. Usually the VP for the region will make the presentation, but if they are unavailable we will have another USDA person to take care of this. The recipient will be given a framed certificate recognizing them and honoring them and the service they have provided during their lifetime. Then we give them a lapel pin signifying they are a Centennial Award Winner. And finally, they will be subject of a “Featured Article” page in USDA NEWS.

Since it’s inception two years ago we have honored six people with this award. Our biggest challenge seems to be in locating these people. If you know of anyone that would qualify for this award please tell them about it and how to submit their qualification form.

On the following page is information about the people currently in the Awards Program. You can also find more detailed information in the Showcase of Ideas display.



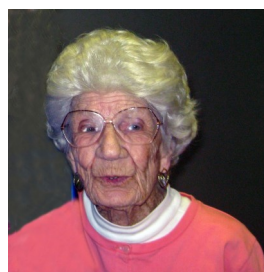
MEMBERS OF USDA CENTENNIAL CLUB



Esther Chute, the lady that started the ball rolling and inspired USDA to begin a program to recognize and honor the senior dancer that had reached the age of 100, still dancing and contributing to her dance club. In April 2014 Esther renewed her drivers license, not for one year, but for 5 years. She is now a valid driver until the age of 106.

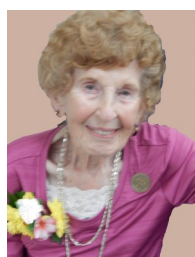
Cathy Langille, Marketing—Square and Round Dance Federation of Nova Scotia sent the original email asking what we do for 100 year old dancers. Thank you Cathy.

Bernice Gruchalla, and her husband George built their lives around their children and grandchildren, St. Vincent's Church, travel, and square and round dancing. They held the presidency of the Oregon Federation of Square and Round Dance Clubs in 1973-1974. George passed away in 2004 at the age of 94 and Bernice now winters in Mesa, AZ, and resides in Salem spring and summer. Dancing is a big part of her Mesa community and she continues to dance whenever she can;



Genevieve Churchill, president of the Oregon Federation of Square and Round Dance Clubs in 1991-1992 and also president of the Evergreen Council in the Square and Folk Dance Federation of Washington. She and daughter Cory Martin worked on the Hospitality Committee of the national square dance convention in Portland in 2005. She has been to 38 national conventions. She is a past Goodwill Ambassador to the square dance festival in Penticton, British Columbia, Canada.

Elmer Mohney (Oil City, PA) At the age of 52 it's not easy to try new things or to make life changes, but that is exactly what Elmer and his wife Mary did in 1965. Their son Tom, got involved a year later and eventually went on to become a caller. Mom and Dad often traveled with Tom on his calling engagements resulting in their visiting hundreds of clubs and meeting thousands of people. Elmer and Mary celebrated 55 years of marriage before her passing in 1996. Elmer was fortunate to find another dance partner and between 1996 and 2011, Elmer danced at ten clubs on a regular basis, attended nine federation dances and went to eleven state conventions.



Dottie Chambers received a very special surprise when USDA Past President Jim Maczko & Patty Wilcox along with USDA Western VP L Paul & Sally Schmidt presented her with the USDA Centennial Award. She did know that this was a special dance to celebrate her 100th birthday, but did not know about the Award Presentation. What made it even more special was the fact that the presenters from USDA were all long time friends and that all of this happened on her actual birthday.

Frank Habersberger and wife Nan started square dancing in the 1950's and continued to belong to square dance clubs in New York, new Jersey, Florida and Colorado. When they retired to Florida they became more involved and held state and national offices. Frank and Nan were members of USDA Executive Committee at one time holding various positions of responsibility, including that of President. Square dancing has always been a big part of his life and at age 100 he still rates square dancing as one of his favorite things is life.





1981 **35** 2016



1981 **35** 2016



Support USDA by Using AmazonSmile for your online purchases!



How it Works: Simply go to <http://smile.amazon.com> and select **United Square Dancers of America** as the 501(c)3 charitable organization you wish to support. Don't have an account? It's simple to sign-up and select USDA. Then, proceed with your purchase as normal. Amazon will donate 1/2 of 1% of your total AmazonSmile purchase to USDA.

FUND RAISING PROGRAM

Remember, always start at smile.amazon.com



Welcome to **amazon smile**

Share AmazonSmile with your friends so they can also support USDA:



USDA AFFILIATE ORGANIZATIONS

Eastern Region

Delaware

- The Federation of Delaware Valley Square & Round Dancers(*1982)

Maryland

- DELMARVA Square Dance Federation Inc.(1992)
- Mason Dixon Square Dancers Federation Inc.(1992)
- Washington Area S/D Co-op Assoc. (1997)

Massachusetts

New Jersey

- Square Dance Council of New Jersey (1987)

New York

- Hudson Valley Council Inc. (1997)
- Capital District Square & Round Dance Assoc. (2002)
- Rochester Area Fed. of Western Round & Square Dance Clubs(1984)

Pennsylvania

- Pennsylvania Square & Round Dance Fed (1985)

Rhode Island, Connecticut, Maine,Massachusetts, New Hampshire & Vermont

- Eastern District Square & Round Dance Assoc.(1997)

Virginia

- Richmond Square & Round Dance Assoc (1991)

Central Region

Alabama

- Alabama Square & Round Dance Assoc (*1981)

Florida

- Florida Federation of Square Dancers (*1982)

Georgia

- Georgia State Square Dancers Assoc (1996)
- Metro Atlanta square Dancers Association(1987)
- Northeast Georgia Federation (2015)

Indiana

- Indiana Dancers Association (2000)



Kentucky

- Kentucky Square & Round Dance Federation
- Lexington Metro Square Dance Council (1987)
- Kentuckiana Square Dance Council(2004)

Michigan

- Michigan Council of Square & Round Dance Clubs (1993)

Mississippi

- Mississippi Square & Round Dance Assoc. (1995)

North Carolina

- Folk, Round & Square Dance Federation of North Carolina (1996)

Ohio

- Southwestern Ohio Square Dance Fed Inc. (1993)
- Toledo Area Western Dance Leaders Assoc. (2003)
- Akron Area Square & Round Dance Fed (1999)
- Central Ohio Corp of Square Dance Clubs (2015)

South Carolina

- South Carolina Square & Round Dance Fed (1985)

Tennessee

- Tennessee State Assoc of Square & Round Dance Clubs(1991)

West Virginia

- West Virginia Square & Round Dance Fed (1984)

Plains Region

Arkansas

- Arkansas State Square & Round Dance Fed (*1981)

Illinois

- State Council of Illinois Square & Round Dance Assoc. Inc. (1984)

Iowa

- Iowa State Fed of Square & Round Dance Clubs (1988)



Contd from previous page

Plains Region

Minnesota

- Square Dance Federation of Minnesota Inc. (1986)
- Square Dance Minnesota Inc. (2015)

Missouri

- Missouri Fed. of Square 'N Round Dance Clubs (*1981)
- Heart of America Federation of Square & Round Dance Clubs(1989)

Nebraska

- Nebraska Square & Round Dance Assoc (1983)

North Dakota

North Dakota Square & Round Dance Clubs Inc. (*1982)

Wisconsin

- Square Dance Association of Wisconsin (2001)

Oklahoma

- Oklahoma Square Dance Association(2010)
- Northeast Oklahoma Square Dance Assoc. (1987)

Louisiana

- Louisiana Square Dance Assoc.(1985)

Kansas

- Fit and Fun Square Dance Association(2013)
- Kansas Square Dance Assoc. (1986)

NOTE: * BY THE DATE INDICATES CHARTER MEMBER

Western Region

Alaska

- Alaska Square & Round Dance Federation(1993)

Arizona

- Squares & Round Dance Association of Southern Arizona (1985)
- Grand Canyon Square Dance Association(1989)

California

- California Square Dance Council(*1981)

Colorado

- Colorado State Square Dance Association(*1981)

Hawaii

- Hawaii Square Dance Federation (2015)

Idaho

- Idaho State Square Dance Association(1993)

Montana

- Missoula Area Federation of Square & Round Dance Clubs(1997)
- Yellowstone Square Dance Council(1987)

New Mexico

- New Mexico Square & Round Dance Association (*1982)

Nevada

- Las Vegas Square & Round Dancers (1985)

Oregon

- Oregon Fed. of Square & Round Dance Clubs (1987)

DO YOU REMEMBER??? **DO YOU RECALL???** **THINGS & PEOPLE FROM THE PAST 35!**



History of the USDA Insurance Program

Insuring Our Facilities & Keeping Our Dancers Safe



How it Started: The subject of the *United Square Dancers of America* offering an economical Square Dance insurance program was proposed by Charles Naddeo, USDA Parliamentarian from California, during the first Winter Meeting of the USDA Executive Committee held in Fort Walton Beach, Florida, on January 30, 1982. A similar program had been in place in California for several years, offered through the California Square Dance Council. Based on a proposal presented by R.F. Lyons Co., the program would provide general liability protection and accidental medical expense benefits for square dance organizations. The plan offered general liability insurance in the amount of \$1,000,000 for bodily injury and property damage. The premium initially suggested for this coverage was \$1.25 per dancer, a rate far cheaper than most clubs would be able to afford if purchasing liability insurance on their own.



The added benefit for both the local dancer association and USDA was that each organization would retain \$0.05 to cover administrative fees,

including the registration of dancers and clubs, as well as providing printed certificates to participants.

Under the proposal, medical and liability insurance must be purchased as one unit. It would be the responsibility of State Associations / Federations to collect premiums and provide a list of club members to USDA. While it is not mandatory for every Association / Federation within USDA to participate,

100% membership is required for every club within a participating Association / Federation to qualify for insurance coverage.

Approval and Implementation: This Insurance Program was approved by the USDA Board of Directors during the first Annual Meeting of the USDA in Detroit, Michigan, held concurrently with the 31st National Square Dance Convention®. USDA initiated this program under the direction of Charles Naddeo as the first USDA Insurance Coordinator. The program began on September 1, 1982, with a policy period commencing on January 1, 1983.

During this first year – 1983 – there was significant interest in the USDA Insurance Program, not only from USDA Affiliates, but also from non-members. As a result, a non-affiliate rate ranging from \$0.25 to \$0.75 per dancer higher than the Affiliate rate was established.

Competition Generates Better Rates: As interest in the USDA Insurance Program increased, competition developed among insurance providers leading to a new proposal presented to the USDA Board of Directors during the 1983 USDA Annual Meeting held in Louisville, Kentucky. The winning proposal afforded an insurance premium rate of only \$1.00 per dancer while allowing USDA and its affiliates to share a \$.15 administrative fee benefit.

The Program Grows: By 1987 the Insurance Program had grown to cover more than 53,000 dancers. With this growth it was determined by the USDA Executive Committee that an audit of the Insurance Program books be performed by a CPA. Also in 1987 the USDA Insurance Program entered a new era under the leadership of Howard and Loraine Backus from Arkansas.

Changes Afloat: Beginning in 1988 the Insurance Premium saw a significant increase in rates when the initial program managers, R.F. Lyons Co., discontinued offering this coverage. A change was made to the Rhulen Agency. By this time, the number of dancers covered had grown to 79,420 dancers from 34 States. With this growth in the program, it was necessary that the Insurance Coordinators purchase a computer, copier and fax machine with a dedicated phone line to facilitate their ever-increasing work load. Fortunately, these expenses were paid through the premiums collected by USDA for the Insurance Program.



Markel Services—Our Longtime Partner: In 1990, the Rhulen Agency became a subsidiary of Markel Services, Inc. Fortunately for USDA, Markel continued to manage the program in the same manner that Rhulen had in the previous years. While the USDA Affiliates continued to represent the vast majority of those groups participating in the Program, the number of non-affiliates had grown to represent nearly 20% of those obtaining insurance through USDA.

Our Dancer Population Grows, Then Declines: By the end of 1991, a total of 92,932 dancers were insured through the USDA Insurance Program representing 46 States. By 1993 these numbers

grew to 95,502 dancers in 48 states. Unfortunately, as we've seen our overall number of dancers declining, so have the number of insured dancers. As of the USDA's Executive Committee meeting in June of 2016, only 31,715 dancers were insured, however membership records continue to be received by the Insurance Director throughout the year.

Through the years the Insurance Premium has increased as we have seen all prices go up. Inflation, higher premium payouts in the insurance industry in general, and the overall economy have played a significant part in these increases. However, through it all USDA has been able to provide dancers and dancer organizations with very affordable insurance coverage for all concerned.

It's a BIG Job: Among the responsibilities of the USDA Insurance Chairman is to inform dancers anywhere of the benefits of the USDA Insurance Program – resulting in significant travel for the USDA Insurance Chairman. Fortunately for USDA, we have enjoyed the benefits of very dedicated Board Members who have chaired our insurance program. In 2007, Pat Inglis from Georgia took over from a retiring Lorraine Backus as our current Insurance Coordinator.

With the improvement in technology, almost all of the work of the National Insurance Coordinator, affiliate/non-affiliate chairmen and club chairmen has become electronic. Virtually all forms submitted (except those dealing with money) and distribution of insurance certificates can be done via email, significantly reducing the costs of equipment, postage and fax services. The reduction in any overhead costs enables USDA to keep the premiums as low as possible for all dancers and related organizations.



QUESTIONS OR CLAIMS? CONTACT:

Pat Inglis, USDA National Insurance Coordinator

P.O. Box 22, Tucker, GA 30085-0022 / PH: 404.298.6148 / FX: 404.298.6149 / Email: usda.insurance@usda.org

Celebrate 35 Years of USDA! **AFTER PARTIES**

Friday June 24th 10 PM

Hy-Vee Hall with the The Ghost Riders Band

We have a great list of callers for your dancing pleasure, please help us celebrate our 35th Anniversary of United Square Dancers of America!!

MC: Bear Miller, with this great line up of Callers:

Mike Hogan, Pat Carnathan, Hunter Keller, Paul Cote, Ted Lizotte, Lottie Ainsworth, Buddy Weaver, Dick Reuter, Tom Allen, Tom Manning, Bob Asp, Matt Worley, Scot Byars, Bob Poyner, Tony Oxendine, Ashley Parker, Mike Seastrom, Patty Greene, Lanny Weaklend, Jack Pladdys, Jay Henderson, and Eric Henerlau



**Saturday June 25th
@ 10:00 PM**

Join us in the YOUTH HALL RM 402 where every one can dance together and close out a fantastic Convention. We will have a great line up of Callers .



Come join us and help us celebrate 35 years of the United Square Dancers of America!!



USDA WILL BE PARTICIPATING IN SEVERAL EDUCATIONAL CLASSES

WE WOULD LOVE TO HAVE YOU JOIN US. SEE THE SCHEDULE BELOW.

DATE	TIME	ROOM	SUBJECT	PRESENTERS
THU - 23	11:00-11:50	312	HOW TO PROPERLY INSURE YOUR CLUB	PAT INGLIS
	12:00-12:50	311	The Power of Social Media Today	SCOTT & BRENDA DEAL
	3:00-3:50	311	Convention Management	BONNIE ABRAMSON
	3:00-3:50	302	The ARTS - "Our Future - Potential - Perspective - Re-Imaging Efforts":	Jim Taylor/ Jim Maczko,/ Jim Weber
FRI - 24	10:00-10:50	311	Club Incorporation	Jim Weber/Jim Maczko
	10:0 - 10:50	312	Education With Publications	Larry Dunkel/Tony & Diana Rock
	12:00-12:50	312	- The Power of Social Media Today	SCOTT & BRENDA DEAL
	3:00-3:50	311	How to Properly Insure Your Club	PAT INGLIS
	3:00-3:50	312	The ARTS-Our Future Potential-Perspective-Re-Imaging Efforts	Jim Taylor/ Jim Maczko,/ Jim Weber
SAT-25	1:00-1:50	311	Education With Publications	Larry Dunkel/Tony & Diana Rock



Recap of Classes



Insurance Coordinator Pat Inglis explains the USDA Insurance Program and answers your questions. You can find her in room 312 on Thursday at 11:00 and on Friday at 3:00 room 311.

The Power of Social Media Today can greatly benefit your club if you know the proper techniques. Scott & Brenda Deal will give you the information needed. They are in room 311 on Thursday and room 312 on Friday at 12:00.

Bonne Abramson has the answers you need as you prepare to host your convention. It's not as difficult as you might think. Let her share with you the secrets to a successful convention at 3:00 on Thursday in room 311.

Tony & Diana Rock will inform you of the educational publications that USDA has in our vast library. Subjects covering most all aspects of folk dancing are available to you without charge in most cases. Larry Dunkel, Editor of USDA NEWS will tell you about our newsletter and why every club should have one.

Should your club be incorporated? If you are not sure then you need to visit Jim Weber and Jim Maczko's class for some interesting thoughts and ideas on the subject. They are in room 311 on Friday at 10:00.

UNITED SQUARE DANCERS OF AMERICA

2015-2016 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Elected Positions

PRESIDENT

WAYS & MEANS

Jerry and Donna Robey
2702 Aldersgate Dr.
Rockford, IL 61103
(352) 284-7912
president@usda.org

VICE PRESIDENT EASTERN REGION

Lisa Breault
1397 Mendon Rd #8
Woonsocket, RI 02895
(401) 524-7610
usda.eastern.region.vp@usda.org

VICE PRESIDENT CENTRAL REGION USDA APPAREL, DRESS & JACKET

Ed and Lynda Willis
P. O. Box 7524
Wilmington, NC 28406
(910) 616-3639
usda.central.region.vp@usda.org

VICE PRESIDENT PLAINS REGION

Floyd & Judy Engelhardt
142 Woodcrest Terrace
Le Sueur, MN 56058
H: (507) 665-2443 C: (507) 340-4944
usda.plains.region.vp@usda.org

VICE PRESIDENT WESTERN REGION INFORMATION OFFICER

L Paul and Sally Schmidt
4822 Huron Ave
San Diego, CA 92117
(619) 222-0445
usda.western.region.vp@usda.org
usda.information.officer@usda.org

SECRETARY

Scott & Brenda Deal
P.O. Box 275
Iron Ridge, WI 53035
B: (920) 248-2179 S: (920) 248-2371
usda.secretary@usda.org

TREASURER / HISTORIAN / ARCHIVES

Jim & Judy Taylor
1411 W. Lake Ct.
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