

**SOUTHEAST AREA  
SQUARE DANCE  
COUNCIL MEMBERS**

Maverick Monarchs  
Pepper Steppers  
Pikes Peak Plus  
Royal Gorge Promenaders  
Waggin' Wheelers

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**Southeast Swing: Your Help  
Needed NOW!!!**

The Southeast Swing, formally known as High Country Weekend, is a special festival sponsored by your Council each year. In addition to providing a fun dance weekend, the festival provides funds used to help all of our member clubs as well as individual members.

Some of the worthy causes SEASDC funds have been used to support in the recent past include:

- providing funds to assist clubs in holding classes
- sending one of our cuers to cuer school
- providing a college scholarship to one of our deserving youths
- paying annual dues to USDA which enables us to maintain our 501(c)3 certification, which can provide financial benefit to our clubs
- providing support to the host club of the Tumbleweed Jamboree in the event they lose money on the event
- paying annual dues to Colorado State Square Dance Association
- supporting Sunshine and Shadows which provides a kind word to members in need

*continued on page 2*

**Plus Lessons Coming this Fall**

Do you have at least one year of SSD or mainstream dance experience? Do you want to learn how to dance Plus? Do you know Plus, but are a little rusty? Now is the time to learn Plus and/or improve your Plus skills! Pikes Peak Plus is offering Plus lessons this fall.

Starting September 2 and running 14 weeks through December 9, lessons will be held at the International Dance Center located at 2422 Busch Avenue, in Colorado Springs. Hal Barnes, Jeff Palmer, and Debbie Steinkirchner will be offering classes on Tuesdays and Thursday's. Thursday's class will be a repeat of Tuesday's class and provides additional floor time or the ability to make up a missed class.

Register for classes by August 18 and receive the "early bird" discount of \$120 per person. This is the best deal on the planet and equates to less than \$3 per hour for great instruction. The cost after the 18th will be \$130. You can also pay in two installments of \$70. Youth 18 and under are FREE when enrolling with a paid parent! Additional friends 18 and under can take lessons for \$25.

# Square Dance News

## Southeast Swing, *continued*

- supporting the SEASDC website which provides valuable information to our members

Without this event we have no means of making money and supporting our clubs/members and to better promote square and round dancing. If most everyone from our own Council would attend Southeast Swing then we could afford the types of things mentioned above, as well as providing support for other programs and individuals in the future.

Jet Roberts, our featured caller, has called all over the world and is known for his smooth and interesting choreography. Ask anyone who has danced to Jet and they will tell you not to miss the opportunity to dance in the fun-filled and lively atmosphere he provides. Check him out on [You Tube](#).

Mitchell and Chelsea Thompson will be cueing. A prominent cuer in the Denver area, Mitchell has cued many festivals in the state. Both are expert round dancers and Mitchell's style of cueing is always smooth and interesting.

Southeast Swing is near by, at the Colorado State Fairgrounds in Pueblo. The dancing starts October 31<sup>st</sup> (*costumes encouraged*) and continues through the morning of November 1<sup>st</sup>. We have a great rate at the nearby Microtel and full hook-up camping is available on-site.

***AND . . . as an additional enticement, we are offering the early bird rate of \$60 through the end of August!***

So for all these reasons, really, there's no reason for you not to join us. So please, help us out and register as soon as possible to make sure this festival happens. It is not easy to plan things if everyone waits until the last minute to sign up. So go ahead, click the link and REGISTER NOW at <https://squaredanceseadc.org>. And encourage your friends to join you for the weekend too!

## Changes are Coming to Square Dancing

If you've not hit the dance floor recently, perhaps you've not heard of the efforts by CallerLab to review and make recommendations for changes to current square dance programs. A new policy was adopted in May that introduces a newly defined entry level dance program. CallerLab is currently in a 14-month phase-in period to prepare for full implementation of the new policy.

Efforts include the following phases:

- Finalize a new entry-level 50-call list and subsequent 50-call list.
- Develop a recommended teaching order
- Create a teaching plan/playbook and guidance materials
- Update existing documents with expiration dates and revision timelines
- Engage callers, clubs, and dancers to prepare for implementation

Final rollout of the new Program structure is planned for September 1, 2026.

Caller Lab's [public webpage](#) will be updated to keep dancers informed with real-time updates, draft documents, FAQs, and a clear roadmap. Click it to learn more about their progress.

### Square Dancing is a proven workout

IT HAS THE SAME BENEFITS AS LOW IMPACT AEROBICS AND IT WORKS THE BRAIN, TOO!



It's easy to clock 7000+ steps in an evening. Dancing uses both sides of the brain - a proven workout for the mind.

Even better, square dancing turns exercise into something that's social and FUN to do with a group of friends.

# Square Dance News

## Club Photos Wanted

Pretty much everyone loves photos; especially these days when we all carry a camera around in our pocket. We all love to see ourselves or our friends and see, or be reminded of a glimpse in time of our lives. Because photos are fun, we are trying to incorporate more photos into The Bulletin and we need your help.

SEASDC Secretary Sarah Lang has created a Google photo site for each club. If you have a fun photo that you think Bulletin readers would enjoy, please post it to one of the sites below. Please name your photo in such a way that we know what we are looking at e.g., “7-18-25 Waggin Wheeler’s dance” or if there’s more to the story, use your name in the file title, e.g., “7-14-25 Joe Dancer”, which will allow us to reach out to you and get the details of the photo contents. Please **be selective** in uploading photos. And please post photos regularly.

Post your photos to the appropriate club site:

- Monarch Mavericks: <https://photos.app.goo.gl/VzmpUw9pPzcgqeMq5>
- Pikes Peak Plus: <https://photos.app.goo.gl/fJTGrdUKFvCiS1tw7>
- Pueblo Pepper Steppers: <https://photos.app.goo.gl/hWvroCWfecphdKLx9>
- Royal Gorge Promenaders: <https://photos.app.goo.gl/TruDMwBgrv8Ff6hD8>
- Waggin' Wheelers: <https://photos.app.goo.gl/JdrBf1PupCZY9sQZA>
- SEASDC: <https://photos.app.goo.gl/pMhAdbAaEfiKB8yi6>

## SEASDC Supports Joe Saltel

Joe Saltel is a fun and well-known international square dance caller. He has called for many festivals, conventions, and special dances in over 40 states and numerous foreign countries. You may recall that he and Mike Hogan called SEASDC’s High Country Weekend in 2023.



Unfortunately, Joe took a bad fall a while back and as a result of complications he lost his left lung. He has also had blood clots in his right lung. His progress is not what any of us would like to see. Joe and his wife Chris are having challenges with the insurance company’s willingness to pay for some necessary tests and procedures. And we all know how expensive medical treatment can be.

After talking to Chris about Joe’s progress, Ken Tucker felt the need to help. An appeal was sent to the Southeast Area Clubs in late April with a request to donate their share of the 50/50 raffles held in May to a fund to help cover medical expenses. Southeast areas clubs rose to the challenge. With all five clubs participating and with an additional donation from SEASDC, a check for \$1,500 was sent to Joe and Chris to help with medical expenses.



*Dancers take a break from squaring up at a recent Pepper Steppers dance to pose for a group photo.*

# Rhythm & Roots

## Newly Formed Organization Promoting Square Dancing

Rhythm & Roots is a new donor-funded non-profit 501 (c)(3) dedicated to reviving modern square dancing in the U.S. Seven individuals from across the country have made it their mission is to rebuild square dancing using



*Round dancers show off their moves at the R&R promo dance in August. Cueing was provided by Denise Berens.*

modern marketing methods and techniques to attract younger people, as well as dancers of

all ages, to square dancing. The group is currently working on a video to introduce square dancing to the public.

Once formed, Rhythm & Roots team members quickly organized a dance during which a professional videographer would film dancers. August 2 was the date and Pueblo was the place. The Pepper Steppers jumped at the chance to host the event at their new venue. Jeff Palmer and Debbie Steinkirchner were engaged to provide their always fun style of calling and Denise Berens signed on to provide her smooth cueing for round dancers.

Once plans were confirmed, Rhythm & Roots got the word out to Southeast area clubs and elsewhere. They ensured all ages of dancers would be present. Dancers were encouraged to wear whatever they normally wear to a square dance; from shorts and tee shirts to square dance attire or anything in between.

Dancers showed up in full force to show their support for the promotional effort. In addition to

the five Southeast area clubs, dancers from Swing Aways, Kilowatt Eights, Mountaineers, Rollin Wheels, and Square Halos came to square up. Ten squares hit the floor for the first tip.

The original plan was to stage some squares to highlight diversity of age and attire. However, that plan was tossed aside when it became clear that the diversity in these areas was occurring naturally. There is no doubt that a good time was had by all. The videographer should have gotten some fantastic footage.

When completed, the promotional video will be the centerpiece of Rhythm & Roots marketing campaign. It will be available for clubs to use at no cost. The video will feature dancers and interviews, answering the questions, “What do you love most about square dancing?” and “What got you into it?”

In addition to the video, Rhythm & Roots offers marketing support to help clubs attract new dancers—especially younger ones—using modern, primarily digital, outreach. Grants will be available to clubs that need financial assistance. More information will be available on the R&R marketing website which will be online in the near future.

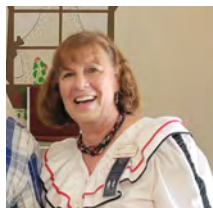


*More than 80 dancers showed up for the Rhythm and Roots promotional dance in Pueblo. Jeff Palmer and Debbie Steinkirchner provided their fun style of calling that kept dancers moving and having fun!*

# Caller's Corner

## Let's Talk

by Debbie Steinkirchner



One of the things I love about square dancing is the great people we get to associate with at every dance. When I come to a dance either as a caller or a dancer, I get the opportunity to visit with folks and catch up what's happening in their life. The friendships we make in square dancing keeps us coming back for more.

Sometimes our continued visiting and talking carries over into the square dance itself. Any time the caller starts the music, it is the signal to square up and start listening. Most of the time that is what happens.

As a caller, though, there are times I feel like I'm trying to talk over the people still talking in the square. Again, once squared up, it's time to start listening.

When I introduce square dancing to new dancers, one of the things I mention is that learning to square dance requires a dancer to learn to be a better listener.

I remember when I first learned to square dance, honing my listening skills became very important to me (*not that I like to talk or anything like that*).

From a caller's perspective, there is nothing more frustrating than to see a square breaking down because a dancer in the square is telling another dancer what to do. Unfortunately, when this happens, both the talking dancer and the dancer being told what to do aren't listening to the caller who is giving the next call. They both miss it and the square breaks down.

If you are in a square where a dancer isn't sure of the moves, don't try to tell them what to do, just point to where they need to go. This allows you and the rest of the square to continue to hear the caller.

Since I mentioned squares breaking down, here's a reminder of what to do when your square breaks down.

- ◆ If your square breaks down during the patter, every guy should get a girl and form facing lines. The caller will notice you are in a line, waiting and will proceed to get the rest of the squares into line formation so that you can resume dancing.
- ◆ If your square breaks down during a singing call, every guy should get any girl and go home. Resume dancing when the caller starts the next singing call figure.

So, let's keep talking, just **not** while we're square dancing and let's keep listening, **especially** when we're square dancing.

### Why did some U.S. states decide to "square" their dance choices?

Surprisingly, 31 states have designated square dancing as their official state folk dance. But did you know that Henry Ford played a role in this? In the 1920s, the automobile tycoon wasn't just cranking out Model Ts—he was also on a mission to promote square dancing!

Ford saw jazz as a corrupting influence and wanted a more "wholesome"



alternative, so he funded square dance programs, published instructional books, and even encouraged schools to teach it. Fast forward, and thanks to passionate advocates (and a bit of Ford's influence), square dancing became an official state symbol in dozens of places. So, next time you do-si-do, just remember—you're part of a century-old cultural debate!

# Cuer's Corner / Member Involvement

## Why Should You Learn to Round Dance?

by Andrith Davis

Round dancing, also called choreographed ballroom dancing, grew from a desire by couples to dance together to popular music during breaks at square dances. The evolution to modern round dancing was inevitable. Tons of history, but let's look at now.

### Why Should I Learn to Round Dance?

1. It sure looks cool, and the music is neat!
2. Who wants to just sit and watch?
3. Once you learn, you don't need a regular partner.
4. Makes the wife/girlfriend happy.
5. The guy doesn't have to decide what to do. He gets told.
6. If you mess up, it only affects your partner.
7. Gives a gal a chance to be pretty and graceful.
8. Gives a guy a chance to be not so klutzy.
9. Opportunity to couple dance somewhere besides a night club.
10. Did I mention the guy doesn't have to decide what to do?

Okay, okay, admittedly this is just from my personal point of view. Round dancing isn't for everyone, any more than square dancing is. But if you have a good handle on squares and are looking to add a little fun, ask your local round dance cuer when the next class will be (*in Southeast Colorado it is Denise Berens, Michael Turley, and me*). Since we don't really advertise to the "muggles"\*, it is expressed interest by square dancers that lets us know when we are ripe for a class. Talk to us, folks!

Round 'em up!

Andrith

*\*"Muggles" are what non-magic people are called in Harry Potter. Non-square dancers and/or round dancers are definitely muggles, poor things.*

## Member Involvement Leads to Club Success

Square dance clubs are the backbone of square and round dancing. Without the clubs, square and round dancing will cease to exist. Therefore, it is important that all dancers belong to and participate in at least one club's well-being. As a member of the club, consider supporting the club by:

- Paying dues in a timely manner.
- Supporting refreshment obligations.
- Attending dances, club meetings, and social activities. Every club needs revenue that they can count on to operate. Halls are expensive and getting more costly. Callers and cuers must be paid. Compare the cost of nearly every other activity with the cost of square dancing and you will find that square dancing is a bargain.
- At the end of the dance the hall usually must be swept, chairs put away, and trash collected. Sometimes a kitchen must be cleaned up, and other small chores must be accomplished. Responsible club members don't just walk out after the dance; they stay until all the work is done.
- Make it your personal responsibility to welcome, visit with, and say good-bye to visitors.
- Visit with non-square dancers. Try to get them interested in lessons.
- Make friends and share the fun with those friends.

DON'T FORGET "A SMILE ON YOUR FACE HELPS YOUR FEET WORK BETTER".

Read more in [The Do's and Don'ts of Square and Round Dancing](#).



Peach Promenade needs more dancers. Please consider attending and supporting a sister club. Learn more and register at: <https://peachpromenade.org>

# Tumbleweed Jamboree

## 10 Squares at the Tumbleweed Jamboree

The original plan was to hold this year's Tumbleweed Jamboree on April 19. However, the weather guessers seemed fairly confident that a pretty big snowstorm would likely adversely affect travel plans. To ensure everyone stayed safe, the decision was made to reschedule the Jamboree for May 31. The later date provided both better travel weather and graduation of all of the classes that started early this year.

The Jamboree began at 12:45 p.m. with a 45 minute new dancer workshop. All SSD all the time started at 1:30 p.m. and ended at 4:00. Callers Jeff Palmer and Debbie Steinkirchner kept things lively and entertaining for both new and experienced dancers.

Ninety-one dancers were in attendance with new graduates from all SEASDC clubs on the floor.

SEASDC clubs have been donating proceeds from their 50/50 drawings to a fund for Caller Joe Saltel's medical

expenses. In addition to their May dance collections, the Waggin Wheelers donated the \$110 raised during the Jamboree's 50/50 to Joe's fund.



*A good time was had by all as callers Debbie Steinkirchner and Jeff Palmer kept the fun going and the dancers moving.*



*The Waggin Wheeler's hosted this year's Tumbleweed Jamboree on May 31 at the International Dance Center in Colorado Springs. Dancers posed for a group photo, with new dancers throwing their hands in the air.*

# Lloyd Shaw Award—The Bentleys

## Bentley's Receive Lloyd Shaw Award

Mike and Bev Bentley were presented with the Lloyd Shaw Award during the Tumbleweed Jamboree held in Colorado Springs on May 31.



SEASDC Co-President Ken Tucker presented Bev and Mike Bentley with Lloyd Shaw Award honors during this year's Tumbleweed Jamboree.

The Lloyd Shaw Award recognizes outstanding contributions to the field of square dancing. The award was established to honor individuals who promote

and preserve square dancing. It recognizes

achievements in teaching, choreography, and leadership. Nominees are evaluated based on their impact on the square dance community. Nominees aim to inspire future generations of square dancers and leaders.

Mike and Bev have been square dancing together off and on for more than 50 years. Mike was the first to take up the activity and started dancing behind the Iron Curtain in 1969. He met Bev in college, and after she literally fell into his arms on a slippery sidewalk, they started dancing together and married in 1973. They had a pause of 25 years when they lived in Washington State and started dancing again in Denver in 1997 with a number of clubs.

They worked at the 2004 Colorado National Square Dance Convention in Denver where Bev was General Secretary and Mike served as Ceremonies Chairman. It is the only National Convention where the General Chair and his wife, Sam and Linda Margheim, were bucked off

their horses in the Opening Ceremony. Both suffered only bruises to body and ego. For one of the few times in his life, Mike, who was MC at the time, was at a loss for words.

The dancing couple moved to Pueblo 2007 and joined Buttons and Bows and Leather and Lace, later the Pepper Steppers. After the Covid shut down, Mike and Bev became Secretary for the Pepper Steppers where they still serve.

In 2010 Mike took up calling. His goal is to teach as many folks as possible the fun and fellowship of Square Dancing. Working and dancing at local, regional, and national Square Dance events has blessed Mike and Bev with many friends, both callers and dancers, throughout the world.

Bev served as SEASDC Treasurer for 13 years; from 2010 until 2023. Mike served as SEASDC Secretary for 12 years; from 2011 until 2023. The two worked together to apply for 501(c)3 certification for the Council; no small feat. Mike currently serves as Council advisor and Pepper Stepper representative to SEASDC.

They volunteered for the Colorado State Square Dance Festivals in 2015, 2019, and 2024. Bev served as Registrar for all three events. Mike was Ceremonies Chairman in 2019 and 2024, and performed various duties for the 2015 Festival. Mike is quick to point out that the State Festival Ceremonies have not, and will not, include horses.

In addition to being active Pepper Steppers, Mike and Bev are helping Canon City regenerate the Royal Gorge Promenaders Square Dance Club. They serve as both advisors and angels.

*"You know, that's a lot of stuff we've done. But when you're doing it you don't think about it, you just do it."*

These were Bev's words after Mike read the draft article to her. That's who they are. They see a need and they step up. Thanks Bev and Mike. And Congrats!

# Hall of Fame Award - Sylvia Armijo

## Sylvia Armijo Inducted into Hall of Fame

Sylvia Armijo was inducted into the Southeast Area Square Dance Council (SEASDC) Hall of Fame during a Maverick Monarch's dance in May and acknowledged at the Tumbleweed Jamboree. SEASDC Co-President Ken Tucker presented Syl with the acknowledgement. Syl was given an award and a bar to hang on her badge that reads "SEASDC Hall of Fame 2025".

The Council found her worthy of the award due to her active participation and volunteer work in the square dance community. She has been squaring up since 2006, with her home clubs – the Maverick Monarchs and the Pueblo Pepper Steppers – and during many Festivals and dances hosted by others.

Syl, as she's affectionately called, has volunteered for numerous officer positions including, President of Hi Valli Swingers, President of Rio Grande Squares, Secretary of SEASDC, and Vice-President of the Pueblo Pepper Steppers. She currently serves as Monarch Maverick's Senior Rep to the SEASDC.



*Syl, Lil, and Christine in the spirit of the Maverick Monarch's 50's dance.*

She served as the Decorations Lead for the 2015 Colorado State Square Dance Festival and was a member of the 2024 Colorado State Square Dance Festival where she served as Solo Lead. Syl has

attended state square dance festivals in Colorado every year since 2007 and has been a regular attendee at New Mexico's State Square Dance Festival. She attended the National Square Dance Convention in Iowa in 2016.

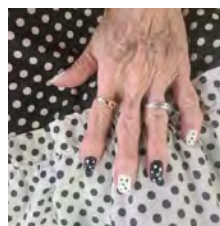
Syl has danced at the state capital Proclamation dance twice.. She represented SEASDC and danced at the Heart of America Festival in Kansas. She attended and helped with breakfast for many years during Hi Country Square Dance Association Festival in Manhattan, Kansas. Syl arranged for two (2) squares to dance at Coors Field. She's danced on a cruise ship, bridges, ball field, Bishop's Castle, Monarch Pass, and Treasure Falls.

During COVID, Syl found places to dance on the Western slope and drove with friends to dance there. If there's a dance, Syl will be there. She's an active member of the Maverick Monarchs and Pueblo Pepper Steppers. Syl loves square dancing and the opportunities it presents to dance and spend time with friends, both old and new. Syl always wears a smile and is a joy to be around and we couldn't be happier for her.

Congratulations Syl for recognition well deserved!



*Syl says a few words after receiving the SEASDC Hall of Fame award from Ken Tucker, SEASDC Co-President.*



*Syl has many, many, MANY square dance outfits and usually paints her nails to match.*

# Hall of Fame Award - The Steinkirchner's

## Steinkirchner's Inducted into Hall of Fame

Debbie and Ron Steinkirchner were inducted into the SEASDC Hall of Fame during the Tumbleweeds Jamboree on May 31 at the IDC in Colorado Springs. The Council thought the induction deserved because of their many accomplishments and contributions to square dancing.

Debbie and Ron first got involved in square dancing in 1986 when they took square dance lessons with the Wheel N' Dealers Club in Colorado Springs. A few months later, in January 1987, they were elected Vice Presidents and took over as Presidents in 1988. They served as Presidents several times on and off during their 14 year tenure with Wheel N' Dealers.

In 1995, at the request of square dancers who knew Debbie could sing, she started learning how to call. Jeff Palmer had taught several callers in Colorado Springs, and he graciously agreed to teach Debbie. Because the dancers requested Debbie learn to call, they became her practice group. Many of them were Advanced dancers. Looking back, Debbie says they were very patient with her as she struggled to learn how to do this "calling thing".

Debbie's first time calling for the public was in April of 1996. She said it was rough but no surprise the dancers loved her. For the first five years of calling, Debbie considered herself a square dancer trying to be a caller. In 2001, she attended her first caller school taught by talented singers and callers Wade Driver and Mike Seastrom. Debbie was their star student. Their positive encouragement gave her the confidence she needed to believe she could be a successful square dance caller. She believes "a square dance is a success when a good time is had by all!"

Debbie was the club caller for Rollin' Squares, a camping club based out of Colorado Springs, from 2000 until 2012. She calls regularly for the Waggin Wheelers and has been teaching classes for the club since 1998. Debbie has served as both Secretary and Treasurer of the Colorado Springs Caller Association.

Ron and Debbie volunteered to lead planning efforts for the 2019 Colorado State Square Dance Festival in Pueblo. The Theme was "Get Rhythm" and featured callers Wade Driver and Mike Seastrom. It was a lot of work but the couple was happy to have a great team, and just as importantly, they had FUN. Debbie also served as Hospitality Lead and Assistant Dance Program Chair for the 2024 Colorado State Square Dance Festival.

Debbie has called at every Colorado State Square and Round Dance Festival since 1998, missing only one.

She has called at three National Conventions; Denver in 2004, Wichita in 2008, and Kansas City in 2018. She has called the Proclamation Dance at the State Capitol on two separate occasions and is a regular caller for the promotional square dance held at the Colorado State Fair.

In 2011, CALLERLAB asked dancers to vote for their favorite callers. Debbie was chosen by dancers as one of the Top Five Female Square Dance Callers. Today, she calls throughout the state and at various festivals. Debbie is a member of Mountain Magic, a quartet of dynamic callers who are always fun to dance to.

We appreciate all Debbie and Ron have done for the square dance community and extend our congratulations on this well-deserved award.



*Debbie Steinkirchner receives recognition for her and her husband Ron's many years of dedication and service to square dancing.*

# Colorado Day Dance/ Dancer Snaps

## Colorado Day at the State Capitol

August 1 was Colorado Day and in honor of the day, and because the square dance is the official dance of Colorado, a demonstration square dance was held in the rotunda of the Colorado State Capitol. Bob Riggs called for 27 Colorado dancers and a few brave folks from the audience.

Colorado clubs and dancers in attendance included:

- Foot'n Fiddle - Bruce Richens
- Hilltoppers - Jesse and Fran Aguirre, Rose Aguirre, Sonny Risley, Irene Petuchak
- Mountaineers - Paula Ohlemacher
- Pikes Peak Plus - Lisa and Walt Bub
- Pepper Steppers - Sarah, Ron, Naomi, Winston, and Jedidiah Lang, Gene and Denise Berens
- Prairie Stars - Molly and Marshall Blaney, Randy Heisserman
- Ridge Runners - John Cater, Linda Spodyak
- Rollin' Wheels - Larry Padgett, Karen Main, Sandy Herrin
- Sunflower Squares - Phil and Myla Tscheschke, Allynn Riggs



*Waggin' Wheelers pose for a photo and show off their banner.*



*Sarah and Ron Lang took nine (9) teenagers from the Pueblo Pepper Steppers to the Colorado State Square Dance Festival in Grand Junction. The group camped at a local state park. Five of the youths had just finished lessons. On the way to the festival, the group danced at Monarch Pass so they could earn*



*Dancers from area clubs the Pepper Steppers and Pikes Peak Plus squared up during the Colorado Day Dance at the State Capital on August 1.*



*Members of the Maverick Monarchs gather at Hal and Eileen's Dance Shed for a Plus Workshop on weekends opposite the Monarch's dance. They're sometimes joined by members of other SEASDC clubs. Hal tries out new and innovative moves on this group. They call the gathering Squirrelly Plus.*

# Youth . . . The Future of Square Dancing

## Naomi Lang; Colorado's Youth Star

By Ken Tucker

We have been blessed to have Naomi Lang participate in our area square dancing. She is a multi-talented young lady and has been the unnamed leader among our youth over this past year. She has encouraged other youth to join square dancing with the Pueblo Pepper Steppers.

Square dancing for only 15 months, Naomi has attended two of our SEASDC Tumbleweed Jamborees and two Colorado State Square Dance Festivals. She has been an angel for her club, the Pueblo Pepper Steppers, and for the reinstated Royal Gorge Promenaders in Canon City. She regularly attends dances at several SEASDC clubs. She brings enthusiasm, excitement and enjoyment to every square that she dances in. She always has a smile on her face and makes youth dancers feel welcome at every dance she attends.

Naomi will soon be leaving us to attend college at Grove City College in Grove City, Pennsylvania later this summer. Before ever attending the college, she contacted them about starting a square dance club. They are enthusiastically awaiting her arrival to put together a square dance program. She has already found a caller to teach lessons and contacted a local club in the area that has agreed to support her and provide all of the angels needed for a class.

The SEASDC board recently awarded Naomi a Youth Square Dance Merit Scholarship of \$1,000 to recognize her contributions to square dancing in our area. An anonymous donor provided an additional \$300. She can use these funds to help with college expenses this fall. Naomi will be missed but her future is bright and the future of square dancing is even brighter. Youth of this caliber with such drive and initiative is what square dancing needs to grow in the future!

It has been a true honor and pleasure knowing this young lady. She has taught many of us how to change

things to encourage more young people to learn square dancing.



Naomi with her square dancing family at a recent Maverick Monarch's Dance. L to R - Calvin, Jedidiah, Naomi, Sarah, Ron, and Winston.



## CALLER PRACTICE SESSIONS

Come out and have fun dancing as local callers practice.

*Dancer input is highly valued!*

*No cost, casual dress, bring your own water bottle.*

Sundays, 2 - 4:30pm

### 2026

|                   |                 |
|-------------------|-----------------|
| 2025              | January 11 + 25 |
| September 14 + 28 | February 8 + 22 |
| October 12 + 26   | March 8 + 22    |
| November 9 + 23   | April 12 + 26   |
| December 14       |                 |

*Rose Hill Grange  
4001 E. 68th Ave.  
Commerce City, CO*

For more info:  
Molly Blaney t.720-579-5454, [mollybainestblaney@gmail.com](mailto:mollybainestblaney@gmail.com)  
[www.SquareDanceEtc.com/calendar](http://www.SquareDanceEtc.com/calendar)

# Our Trip to the National Convention

## Attending a National Square Dance Convention: Just Do It!

by Lisa Bub

You've heard about it from all your dance friends, and now you're finally going to Nationals! You've probably never danced with quite so many people, and there is so much to see and do that it's all a bit overwhelming. But don't stress- here are a few pointers to help you get the most out of this amazing experience!

Register early! It may seem silly to commit to an event six, eight or even 12 months out, but it's worth it! Getting that registration in early could mean the difference between securing a room in the convention hotel and having to commute for the whole festival. There are always several hotel options close by, but being in the convention hotel has so many benefits. There are lower room rates, you'll be close to fellow dancers and new friends, and you can sneak away to your room to rest (more on that later). So, take the leap, make the commitment, and sign up now for next year! Some people even sign up for two years in advance. There is usually a generous cancellation policy, so check on that when you register so you can feel protected if something happens and you can't make it. Be sure to check out all the flyers for other festivals around the country. You may just find yourself travelling to dance with new friends from all over the world!

Get the app! And get the paper schedule! Some conventions have a free app with all the daily schedules, vendors, maps, and lists of callers and cuers, while some charge a small fee for it. Either way, it's totally worth it! You can customize your own daily schedule, sort events by type of dance, caller, educational content, and more. If you are not an app person, there is also the option of paper schedules and a convention book. There are tons of fun

advertisements, and you can highlight sessions you want to attend. There are so many things offered that you want to try to be organized and have a loose plan of where you want to be and when. Remember that it might take a few minutes to move between rooms / halls, so include travel time into your plan.

Speaking of all the great sessions offered, make sure you try out something different! Whether you've always wanted to try clogging or contra, or need to practice your round dancing, make sure you try something other than squares. There are so many talented cuers, cloggers, and teachers that you may just find another dancing passion!

In addition to different types of dancing to try, there are several ceremonies you should definitely check out and maybe even participate in. The opening ceremonies are fun if you get there the night before convention starts, and you will want to don your state attire and join in on the parade of states and closing ceremonies on the last day. It's so much fun to unite with dancers from your own state, and see the representation of all the other states as well. If you get up early, check out the bid session for the next available convention. The state committees put on an entertaining and informative display, and you'll be the first to know about where you might be dancing in three years. And don't forget the educational sessions. Whether you have volunteered to be the insurance manager for your council, or you are trying to grow your club, there are sessions to help you with your endeavors.

One of the most fun parts of the National Convention is dancing to the Ghost Riders live band. They are very talented musicians, and they play every evening. You will get to dance to one amazing caller after another, and the energy in the room is never ending. Try to stay for the after party! The dancing just gets better as the night goes on!

*continued on next page*

# The National Convention - '25 & 27

Last, but definitely not least, it's really important to pace yourself. There are so many things to see and do that you will be tempted to go non-stop all day every day. Plan out rest times during the day. A power nap is an energizing and restorative tool to make the whole event enjoyable. This is why staying on site can be so beneficial- you can quickly take a rest and get back out there! Make sure you hydrate and eat well. It's tempting to skip meals and keep on dancing, but doing this will lead to a crash, and you'll end up missing things you really wanted to do. When packing, don't forget to bring a second pair of good shoes so you can give your feet a break. Attire is casual during the day, so be comfortable. People generally dress up in the evenings, but you should always wear what you feel best to dance in. The most important thing is to have fun, make new friends, and DANCE!

and Chelsea Thompson have graciously agreed to share their talents with our round dancers, and as always, we invite, encourage and look forward to all our talented local Callers and Cuers to join us and share mic time with our featured Callers as well.

The dancers of the Mountains and Plains Square Dance Council will greet you as you arrive. We will help you maneuver the schedule and locations of various events during the weekend. All of this is for you, our dance Family and we can't wait to show you a fabulous weekend. Register please as soon as you can, and if you are not sure you can participate that weekend, register anyway, get on the Track with us, and if for some reason, you cannot attend, we will refund your money.

Please visit our website at <https://mapsdc.coloradosquaredancefestival.com/>. There you can register online or fill in the form, print it and mail it.

## The Triple Scoot Salute

This coming 2025-26 dance season, all tracks will lead us to Greeley for the Colorado State Square and Round

Dance Festival, "Triple Scoot Salute." Our vast dance family will gather to celebrate three milestones. We will celebrate our Country's 250 years of Independence, Colorado's 150th year of Statehood and our 70th Colorado

State Festival. All great reasons to get together in Greeley on June 12 and 13, 2026.

We will treat you to three fabulous, featured callers, Jerry Junck, Mike Hogan and Lanny Weakland. If you have never had the pleasure of dancing to these three callers "together" you are in for a real treat. Mitchell

If you have any questions, you can reach us at [TripleScootSalute26@msn.com](mailto:TripleScootSalute26@msn.com), or (303) 550-8570. We are looking forward to having fun with you this season all around the state.

Your Head Scooters,  
*Ralph, Linda, Cindy and Bill*

Jet Roberts is the featured caller for Southeast Swing. He is not a caller to be missed. See for yourself and check out his fun style of calling on [You Tube](#). Then go ahead and register to attend Southeast Swing! Find a reg form on page 26.

# SEASDC Club News

## Monarch Mavericks

Monarch Mavericks recently had a festive and fun “Hoedown” dance with a cookout following the dance on July 26<sup>th</sup>. They report it was awesome to have four



squares during their dance. After, burgers, hot dogs, and dishes brought by dancers were enjoyed by all. No one went home hungry.

Monarch Mavericks dance

on 2nd and 4th Saturdays at the American Legion Hut at 235 W 10th, Salida. Dances are 1:30-4:00 pm with pre-rounds at 1:00 pm. Head over to beautiful Salida and join the Mavericks for a wonderful afternoon of dancing!

President - Ken Tucker  
Vice President - Craig Galler  
Secretary - Holly Householder  
Treasurer - Kim Kastens  
Sr. Rep - Sylvia Armijo  
Jr. Rep - Lil Bargas

## Pepper Steppers

Pueblo Pepper Steppers hosted a great dance on Saturday, August 2<sup>nd</sup>! This dance included videotaping by Rhythm and Roots, a marketing group seeking to revive interest in square dancing. There were dancers from 10 clubs across the front range and southeast area of Colorado.

Join the Pepper Steppers in their new venue at Covenant Reformed Presbyterian Church, 3913 Sandalwood Lane, Pueblo. The Pepper Steppers dance on the 1st and 3rd Saturday afternoons of each month with Plus at 1:30 and SSD at 2:00. Come join the fun!

Co-Presidents - Sarah and Ron Lang  
Vice President - Sylvia Armijo  
Secretary - Mike Bentley  
Treasurer - Denise Berens

## Pikes Peak Plus

Pikes Peak Plus is happy to announce a fall Plus Class which will begin on September 2 from 7:00 to 8:30 pm. This class will include 14 weeks of lessons on Tuesday and Thursday evenings with an anticipated end date of December 9<sup>th</sup>. The lessons will be taught by Hal Barnes, Jeff Palmer, and Debbie Steinkirchner. The class format will include new calls being introduced on Tuesday and those same calls being reviewed and practiced on Thursday.

New Plus dancers, as well as dancers who want to brush up on their Plus skills, are encouraged to join. As always, angels are needed to support these new Plus dancers as they learn. Register now to be part of this class! Classes will be held at the IDC, 2422 Busch Ave in Colorado Springs.

Pikes Peak Plus dances on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Fridays of each month at the International Dance Club at 2422 Busch Avenue, Colorado Springs.

President – Larylee Hitchens  
Vice President – vacant  
Secretary – Janet Burns  
Treasurer – Ron Ruckdeschel  
Sr. Rep – Susan Swank  
Jr. Rep - vacant

**CHECK OUT THE NEW SEASDC WEBSITE!**

**<https://squaredanceseasdc.org/>**

*Thanks to Leslie Klusemire for all of her hard work to develop and maintain the website!*

# SEASDC Club News, *continued*

## Royal Gorge Promenaders

The summer heat has not slowed Royal Promenaders down!! They are fortunate that the Golden Age Center in Canon City is a well air-conditioned venue with a great dance floor. July was a momentous month as they graduated 17 students on July 14th.

On July 7, the Pueblo Pepper Steppers Angels came to retrieve their banner. There was sometimes a 1:1 ratio of students to angels, with four or five squares dancing and learning!! The RPG extends their appreciation to their beloved angels. Unfortunately, Hal Barnes had a brief stay in the hospital and missed graduation night, but Debbie Steinkirchner saved the day, called the graduation dance, and handed out diplomas!



*The Royal Gorge Promenaders graduated a class of 17 new dancers.*

In addition to their regular club dance on the second Wednesday of the month, on July 16th RPG had a very successful Purple Heart Dance. There were six squares of enthusiastic dancers, most wearing purple! Loren Behm was the primary caller, and there were five guest callers who took turns calling a tip and danced during others. Thanks to Loren Behm, Molly Blaney, Ervin Wyatt, Elaine O'Neill, Mike Lee, and Amy Secord for calling and dancing and making the entire night a great success!! Twenty-seven new dancers earned a Purple heart dangle. All six callers earned several Purple Rocks and even had a Purple Painted Rock to take home to prove it!

In August Mike Olivieri will call community dances on the first and last Mondays. The dance on Wednesday, August 13th a Beach Party theme. RPG will also be celebrating the first anniversary of their founding.

The next SSD class will begin on September 8th with Michael Turley as instructor and caller.

President - Susan Levy  
Vice President - Larry Richards  
Secretary - Debbie Jones  
Treasurer - Candie Day

## Waggin' Wheelers

Waggin' Wheelers hosted a successful Tumbleweed Jamboree on May 31<sup>st</sup>. The IDC was full of square dancers; new and experienced alike. Hall of Fame and Lloyd Shaw recognitions were awarded and it was exciting to have so many dancers enjoying the joy of square dancing and friendship.

New Waggin' Wheeler dancers have been working hard with practice dances over the last several months. They have been putting all they have learned into practice and gaining confidence in their skills and it shows! These new dancers are adding fun and energy to the club dances and a recent high energy dance had seven squares on the floor at one point!

Waggin' Wheelers is tentatively planning to offer SSD classes in January. Stay tuned for more information. Dances are held on the 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Fridays of each month at the International Dance Club at 2422 Busch Avenue, Colorado Springs. Come join us!

President- Chris Schlumpf  
Vice President - Walt Bub  
Treasurer - Gayle Short  
Secretary - Lisa Bub

# Let's Dance!

## AUGUST

| DATE      | CLUB                    | CALLER/CUER               | THEME                                     |
|-----------|-------------------------|---------------------------|---|
| 8/8/2025  | Pikes Peak Plus         | Hal Barnes/Denise Berens  | National Happiness Day/Hal's Do Dah Dance |
| 8/9/2025  | Monarch Mavericks       | Bob Riggs/Allynn Riggs    | Summer Casual                             |
| 8/13/2025 | Royal Gorge Promenaders | Mike Olivieri             | 1st Anniversary                           |
| 8/15/2025 | Waggin' Wheelers        | Debbie Steinkirchner      | Sports Attire                             |
| 8/16/2025 | Pepper Steppers         | Bob Riggs/Allynn Riggs    | Elvis Presley Night                       |
| 8/22/2025 | Pikes Peak Plus         | Bob Riggs/Allynn Riggs    | National Tooth Fairy Day                  |
| 8/23/2025 | Monarch Mavericks       | Mike Olivieri             | Aloha to Summer                           |
| 8/29/2025 | Waggin' Wheelers        | Jeff Palmer/Denise Berens | Sports Attire                             |

## SEPTEMBER

|           |                         |                              |                       |
|-----------|-------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 9/5/2025  | Waggin' Wheelers        | Jeff Palmer/Andrith Davis    |                       |
| 9/6/2025  | Pepper Steppers         | Hal Barnes                   | Labor Day Weekend     |
| 9/10/2025 | Royal Gorge Promenaders | Bob Gaunt                    | Crisp Apples          |
| 9/12/2025 | Pikes Peak Plus         | Hal Barnes/Denise Berens     | Hal's Barn Dance      |
| 9/13/2025 | Monarch Mavericks       | Jerry Gilbreath              | Favorite Sports Team  |
| 9/19/2025 | Waggin' Wheelers        | Mountain Magic/Denise Berens | Birthday Dance        |
| 9/20/2025 | Pepper Steppers         | Pat McBride                  | Cowboy Night          |
| 9/26/2025 | Pikes Peak Plus         | Bob Riggs/Allynn Riggs       | End of Summer         |
| 9/27/2025 | Monarch Mavericks       | Debbie Steinkirchner         | Colorado State Colors |

Open the link to learn the steps in these old or unusual square dance calls.

[Allemande Whee](#)  
[Barge Thru](#)  
[Boomerang](#)  
[Break And Trail](#)  
[Catch All Eight](#)

[Connect Four](#)  
[Criss Cross Thru](#)  
[Cross Your Corner](#)  
[Curl The Line](#)  
[Curl To A Wave](#)

[Dixie Daisy](#)  
[Dixie Derby](#)  
[Dixie Twirl](#)  
[Dixie Wheel](#)  
[Double The Gnat](#)

[Ferris Recycle](#)  
[Flare The Star](#)  
[Fold The Line](#)  
[Frontier Whirl](#)  
[Grand Circle](#)

# Still Dancing!

| OCTOBER    |                         |                                |  |
|------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------|--|
| DATE       | CLUB                    | CALLER/CUER                    | THEME  |
| 10/3/2025  | Waggin' Wheelers        | Jeff Palmer/Denise Berens      |  |
| 10/4/2025  | Pepper Steppers         | Mike Olivieri                  | Warm Apple Cider Night                         |
| 10/8/2025  | Royal Gorge Promenaders | Molly Blaney                   | Fall Leaves                                    |
| 10/10/2025 | Pikes Peak Plus         | Larry Marchese/Melody Albright | Stand up to Cancer/Pink                        |
| 10/11/2025 | Monarch Mavericks       | Mike Olivieri                  | Fall Color Explosion                           |
| 10/17/2025 | Waggin' Wheelers        | Jeff Palmer/Denise Berens      | Clark's Square Crow Dance/<br>Orange and Black |
| 10/18/2025 | Pepper Steppers         | Bob Gaunt                      | Halloween Treat Night                          |
| 10/24/2025 | Pikes Peak Plus         | Larry Marchese/Denise Berens   | Masquerade Ball                                |
| 10/25/2025 | Monarch Mavericks       | Jeff Palmer                    | Ghosties, Ghoulies and Long-Legged Beasties    |
| 10/31/2025 | Waggin' Wheelers        | <b>DARK</b>                    | <b>Southeast Swing</b>                         |
| NOVEMBER   |                         |                                |  |
| DATE       | CLUB                    | CALLER/CUER                    | THEME  |
| 11/1/2025  | Pepper Steppers         | <b>DARK</b>                    | <b>Southeast Swing</b>                         |
| 11/7/2025  | Waggin' Wheelers        | Jeff Palmer/Andrith Davis      |  |
| 11/8/2025  | Monarch Mavericks       | Bob Riggs/Allynn Riggs         | Honoring our Veterans                          |
| 11/12/2025 | Royal Gorge Promenaders | Hal Barnes                     | Happy Veteran's Day                            |
| 11/14/2025 | Pikes Peak Plus         | Hal Barnes/Denise Berens       | Pickle Dance                                   |
| 11/15/2025 | Pepper Steppers         | Bob Riggs                      | Honoring all Veterans                          |
| 11/21/2025 | Waggin' Wheelers        | Jeff Palmer/Denise Berens      | Turkey Trot                                    |
| 11/22/2025 | Monarch Mavericks       | Hal Barnes                     | A Pilgrim's Thanksgiving                       |
| 11/28/2025 | Pikes Peak Plus         | Hal Barnes/Andrith Davis       | Gingerbread Gala                               |

|                                      |                                   |                                |                                 |                             |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| More old or unusual dance calls FYI. | <a href="#">Hinge And Flutter</a> | <a href="#">On To The Next</a> | <a href="#">Release Recycle</a> | <a href="#">Sashay Thru</a> |
| <a href="#">Grand Parade</a>         | <a href="#">Ice Cold</a>          | <a href="#">Rainbow Stroll</a> | <a href="#">Resashay</a>        | <a href="#">Slide Away</a>  |
| <a href="#">Grand Prowl</a>          | <a href="#">Lines Divide</a>      | <a href="#">Recall</a>         | <a href="#">Rip And Snort</a>   | <a href="#">Snapperoo</a>   |
|                                      | <a href="#">Loop The Loop</a>     | <a href="#">Red Hot</a>        | <a href="#">Round Off</a>       | <a href="#">Star Track</a>  |

## With Love, from our Square Dance Community . . .



Debbie Palmer—Recovering from heart surgery  
Mike Bentley—recovering from surgery  
Alec Panici—recovering from surgery  
Christine Mondragon—recovering from surgery

### In Memoriam



Condolences to Larylee Hitchens on the death of her grandmother  
Condolences to Debra Carol Jones on the death of her daughter

*To live in hearts we leave behind is not to die. – Thomas Campbell*

### Send a card...

If you know of a dancer who would appreciate a card, please send their name and address to:

Adria Tuttle

719-948-5552

[adrlyntut@gmail.com](mailto:adrlyntut@gmail.com)

Fran Worthington

[bfworthington@aol.com](mailto:bfworthington@aol.com)

### About dance . . . did you know?

- ◆ Michael Flatley of *Riverdance* holds the record for the world's highest-paid dancer, earning \$1.8 million a week at his prime. His legs were insured for \$44.7 million.
- ◆ In 1996, David Meenan set the record for the farthest dance when he tap-danced over 23 miles
- ◆ The Greek word *chora*, meaning "source of joy," is related to the word *choros*, the Greek word for "dance."
- ◆ In ancient Greece, dance was seen as a gift from the gods. The main qualities of dance, such as order and rhythm, were also qualities of the gods.
- ◆ In some parts of southern and western Africa, dancers perform on stilts up to six feet high. Their dance symbolizes that the key to human wisdom is finding the right balance.
- ◆ The leotard is named after its inventor, Jules Léotard, a French acrobat who performed the first flying trapeze act in 1859. He wore his tight-fitting ensemble to show off his muscles.

Read more dance factoids at [FactRetriever.com](http://FactRetriever.com).

# SEASDC Meeting Minutes

## Council Meeting Held

The Council met on July 12, 2025 at the American Legion Hut in Salida. Council members in attendance included Sheila Prior, Susan Swank, Sarah Lang, Ronald Lang (subbing for Mike Bentley), Susan Levy, Lil Barges, Ken Tucker, Sylvia Armijo, Craig Galler and via Zoom. Lisa and Walt Bub. Guests in attendance included Andrith Davis and Nancy Bowsher.

**Welcome** - Sheila welcomed attendees, thanked them for their punctuality, and called meeting to order at 11:03 a.m.

**Meeting Minutes:** Sheila asked for any additions or corrections to the January minutes. Hearing none, Ken made a motion to approve minutes. Syl seconded. The motion passed.

**Previous Action Items:** A review of the Action Items list was completed.

- Changes to revised constitution and bylaws were approved. Syl-motion, Lil-2nd, motion passed. All member clubs will receive copies and they will be posted to the SEASDC website.
- The transfer of funds to Barclay is pending, as is the audit.
- Email addresses for The Bulletin mailing list were sent to Susan Swank.
- Passes were exchanged between clubs for new graduates.

**Treasury Report:** Craig gave the treasurer's report  
**Assets:** \$17,576.64 (\$1,081.35 of this is earmarked for the SEASDC Grant and \$1,251 for the Joe Saltel fund. Lil made a motion to approve the treasury report, Ken seconded. Motion passed.

**Tumbleweed Report:** Lisa Bub reported that the Jamboree had 91 dancers with dance receipts of \$895, rent of \$140, callers \$602, leaving a net of \$151. (WW's typical formula is that the callers get 80%, the club gets 20% after expenses). Waggin' Wheelers donated that dance's and the rest of May's 50/50 collections to Joe Saltel via a \$110 check to SEASDC.

**Joe Saltel Fund-** Members were uncertain of the total amount as all donations might not yet be collected, but the amount is presumed to be around \$1000.

(NOTE: Actual funds collected are \$1,251.) The SEASDC will round up the amount to be donated to \$1500 (adding \$200-500) to the fund for Joe. Ken made motion, Susan seconded. Motion passed.

**SEASDC Youth Merit Scholarship:** Ken Tucker discussed his article for the newsletter about Naomi Lang's "unsung" efforts to get young people into square dancing, including recruiting and encouraging new dancers, being an angel for two clubs, and working to start a club at the college she plans to attend this fall. As Naomi did not receive the national scholarship, Ken suggested SEASDC grant a scholarship for Naomi. We discussed giving this scholarship in future years as appropriate. Craig made a motion for \$1000, Syl seconded. Motion passed. All clubs should announce this so that people know this is an opportunity for college-bound youths in our area. Sheila will send a notice to the club presidents to announce this. Ken will send the letter (and check) to Naomi.

**Lloyd Shaw Award:** Boone McReynolds has worked on the Lloyd Shaw Award for many years and would like to pass on this responsibility. Ken Tucker accepted the job. He also suggested that nominations and bios be submitted by the end of the year to allow time to make plaques and announcements. If there is more than one nominee, the Council will vote on the recipient.

**Southeast Swing:** We have only 25 people registered so far. Everyone needs to talk this up in their clubs and market it (emails, Facebook, social media, websites, announcements). Lisa applied for and received a state grant for Southeast Swing for about \$300. We need to show a workshop/educational component. Think of silent auction ideas for this event.

**Royal Gorge Bridge Dance Update:** The bridge contact suggested a couple squares to come to dance on the bridge to see how the bridge would respond, suggesting that perhaps we would end up dancing on the deck instead of the bridge. Every dancer would have to pay a

# SEASDC Minutes, *continued*

park entry fee (reduced rate of \$20 vs \$39) to get in—but this could deter some from participating. This dance would be only a few tips. (Potential Problems were discussed including: Weather, sound, uneven surface, cost, possible unwillingness to drive to the bridge for only a few tips, finding a caller) The Bridge Dance is tabled for next year as a possible trail-end dance for Southeast Swing on 10/29/2026.

**CSSDA:** Lisa and Walt said there is a push for registrations for Nationals in 2027. There is a promotional dance in January and registering for the National ahead of the promo dance includes admission to the January dance. (They suggest clubs go dark for this dance, but most of us will not as most clubs did not regard this as an event their members are likely to attend.)

**Pikes Peak Plus** is offering PLUS lessons (see flyer). This will feature new teaching on Tuesdays, with a review on Thursdays. This is a two day a week class and dancers need to commit to both days. Susan Swank will send every club electronic flyers to sign up

**Waggin Wheelers** tentatively planning for lessons in spring.

**Newsletter:** Council members should send Susan their club updates (other than upcoming dances) and photos. Please use the new Google Photos link that Sarah Lang will send.

**Royal Gorge Promenaders** will graduate about 16 and are hosting a Purple Heart dance on 7/16 that they hope new dancers will attend. They also plan to offer SSD lessons this fall.

**Tumbleweed Jamboree:** Pepper Steppers will host on 5/2/26.

**Southeast Swing:** We will reserve the fairgrounds venue, but we cannot sign a contract until one year out. Next year the Swing will be held October 30, 31, and November 1, 2026.

**Next SEASDC Meeting:** 10/4 in Pueblo at 11 a.m. Ken made a motion to adjourn, everyone seconded. Meeting adjourned.

## **Action Items:**

- ALL: Push Southeast Swing
- Sheila will announce the scholarship so club presidents can announce it to their clubs.
- ALL: Announce Pikes Peak Plus lessons to your clubs (you have a flyer)
- Susan Swank will send the Plus lesson flyer and new Southeast Swing flyers to Council members emails.
- Sarah Lang will create a Google Photos folder and invite all club presidents and Council members to contribute photos.
- Sheila will send the scholarship letter and check to Naomi Lang.
- ALL: Encourage members to sign up for next year's state festival and the 2027 national festival
- Sheila will talk to Gayle at the Royal Gorge Bridge about the possibility of having the Trail End dance for 2026 Southwest Swing at that location.

*Respectfully submitted,  
Sarah Lang, Secretary*

## Remaining 2025 Council Meeting Schedule

October 4, 2025      Pueblo

## SEASDC OFFICERS

**President:** Sheila Prior, [president@squaredanceasdc.org](mailto:president@squaredanceasdc.org)

**Co-President:** Ken Tucker, [tucker\\_kw@yahoo.com](mailto:tucker_kw@yahoo.com)

**Secretary:** Sarah Lang, [sarah.otto.lang@gmail.com](mailto:sarah.otto.lang@gmail.com)

**Treasurer:** Craig Galler, [treasurer@squaredanceasdc.org](mailto:treasurer@squaredanceasdc.org)

**Senior Rep to CSSDA:** Lisa Bub, [lisambub2014@gmail.com](mailto:lisambub2014@gmail.com)

**Junior Rep to CSSDA:** Walter Bub, [Walter.bub335@gmail.com](mailto:Walter.bub335@gmail.com)

# Upcoming Festivals

## Hot August Nights



A full Plus weekend

August 15-17, 2025

Albuquerque, NM

Learn more and register at:

<https://larada.wixsite.com/hotaugustnights>



**56th Peach Promenade August 22-23**

Learn more and register at:

<https://peachpromenade.org>

## 43rd NEW MEXICO STATE ROUND DANCE FESTIVAL

September 5, 6, 7, 2025

Learn more and register at:

<https://asdc.org/41st-nm-round-dance-festival/>



**4th Scootin' into Autumn**  
with **Rick Hampton**  
Plus **& Rod Shuping**  
**Advanced Rounds** **September 19-21, 2025**  
Albuquerque, NM, 4909 Hawkins St. at the  
Albuquerque Square Dance Center

Learn more and register at:

<https://acsquaredance.com/files/>

## Colorado Round Dance Association

October 3-4, 2025

Highlands Ranch, CO

Learn more at:

<https://www.crda.net>

CRDA's 63rd Annual Gala

*Fairy Tales*



# Upcoming Festivals

## Colorado State Proclamation Dance

Wednesday, September 10, 2025

2:00-3:00 p.m. Colorado State Capitol

Learn more at:

[Colorado State Square Dance Association](#)



October 5-17, 2025

St. George, Utah

Learn more and register at:

<https://seniorgames.net/>

## Cornucopia Jamboree

October 24-26

Learn more and register at:

<https://acsquaredance.com/Cornucopia-Jamboree.html>



## Southeast Swing

October 31 - November 2, 2025

Creative Arts Building, Colorado State Fairgrounds Pueblo, CO

Learn more and register at:

<https://squaredanceseadc.org>

**EARLY BIRD RATE EXTENDED  
UNTIL 8/31/25**



December 5-7, 2025

Albuquerque, NM

Learn more at:

[https://www.asdc.org/event/large-hall-jerry-ken-ritucci-weekend/?instance\\_id=14715](https://www.asdc.org/event/large-hall-jerry-ken-ritucci-weekend/?instance_id=14715)

# Plan Ahead . . . 2026 and Beyond



**June 12-13, 2026  
Greeley, CO**

Learn more and register at:

<https://mapsdc.coloradosquaredancefestival.com/>

**75th National Square  
Dance Convention<sup>®</sup>**



**June 24-27 2026  
DIAMOND JUBILEE**

Learn more and  
register at:

<https://75nsdctx.com>



Learn more and register at

<https://usawest2026.com>



**76<sup>th</sup> National Square  
Dance Convention<sup>®</sup>**

**June 23-27, 2027**

**Loveland, CO**

Learn more and register at:

<https://76nsdc.com>

*The Pepper Steppers went all out and among other goodies, provided ice cream and all the fixins during the August 2 Rhythm and Roots promo dance. Young dancers wasted no time before digging in. Other dancers weren't too far behind.*





# Plus Square Dance Lessons

Sign up to learn Plus Square Dancing or for a refresher.

This is an advanced level, and students are required to have at least one year of SSD or Mainstream dancing experience or instructor approval. *Special note: If you already dance Plus but are "rusty," we request that you please attend as a paid student, not as an Angel.*

**Lessons start September 2nd** at the IDC 2422 Busch Ave 80904  
**Tuesday & Thursday evenings, 7:00 - 8:30 PM, for 14 weeks thru Dec 9**

Instructors are **Hal Barnes, Jeff Palmer, Debbie Steinkirchner**

"Early bird" discount cost is **\$120 per person if paid directly or mailed and postmarked by 18 August** (This is the best deal on the planet and equates to less than \$3 per hour for great instruction). **The cost thereafter will be \$130.** There is also the option of paying in two installments of \$70. Youth 18 and under are **FREE** when enrolling with a paid parent! Additional friends 18 and under cost \$25.

Return form and check to: **Pikes Peak Plus Dancers**  
(or pay in person) 504 Pluto Dr.  
Colorado Springs, CO 80906

Questions? Contact Ron R @ 719-473-1848/439-9103 or Terry B @ 719-661-9126

| Name  | Email | Phone # |
|-------|-------|---------|
| _____ | _____ | _____   |
| _____ | _____ | _____   |
| _____ | _____ | _____   |
| _____ | _____ | _____   |

Total amount paid or attached: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

The Southeast Area Square Dance Council invites you to

# Southeast Swing

October 31 - November 2, 2025

Creative Arts Building, Colorado State Fairgrounds  
Pueblo, Colorado



International caller **Jet Roberts** has more than 50 years of experience and is sure to provide a great dance experience.



We'll be dancing on a wooden floor.

**Mitchell and Chelsea Thompson** are our featured cueers. With more than 20 years of cueing experience, they are a true joy to dance to.



**Early bird rate extended to 8/31/25**

### Dance Schedule

**Friday**  
7:00-10:00 Halloween Dance

**Saturday**  
9:00-12:00 Rounds/SSD/Plus Workshops  
1:30-4:00 Plus/SSD/Rounds  
6:30-10:00 Rounds/Southeast Swing

**Sunday**  
9:00-11:00 Trail Out Dance

Wear a fun Halloween costume on Friday night.

### Registration Fees

Early Bird - by 7/30/25 - \$60  
 Pre-Reg - 8/1 to 10/1/25 - \$65  
 On-Site Reg - \$75  
 1 Day Pre-Reg - by 10/1/25 - \$40  
 1 Day Reg - After 10/1/25 - \$55  
 Youth (18 and under) - Free  
 Credit card fee - \$5

### Hotel Accommodations

Book a room at the Microtel Inn & Suites located at 3343 Gateway Drive in Pueblo by calling [\(719\) 569-5274](tel:7195695274).

Visit our website to learn more.



### Camping

Full-service RV camping is available at the Fairgrounds for \$45/night. Contact Ava at (719) 404-2049 to make your reservation.

## Southeast Swing Registration Form

Dancer #1: \_\_\_\_\_ Dancer #2: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

# of People Registering: \_\_\_\_\_ Registration Fee(s) Enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Today's Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Payment by check: Please make check payable to "SEASDC". Mail your check, along with your completed registration form to: Lynn Boone, P.O. Box 1156, Salida, CO 81201.