

Photos From Recent Special Dances

The
**MODERN
SQUARE**



January 2024

E-Editions are released on the Sunday, after the last Saturday of the month, prior to the month of issue. You can download the e-Edition (full or compact) at the ASSDF website, located at <https://www.arkansassquaredance.com/the-modern-square>

The Club Special Dance photos will be in a separate file each month, as will photos from recent ASSDF Fall Festivals. The length of time that these will remain on the website is to be determined, by space requirements, and cost for website storage. Updates will be posted as soon as possible.

Club Special Dances for January, 2024

Please email these assdfmodernsquare@gmail.com – please let me know who took the photos, as I want to give the photographers credit for the photos, especially if they come from the various club Facebook groups.

Because of **space limitations, I can't use all photos** (sent in, or from Facebook); but you can view all of these (and videos, where available) on the various club Facebook pages (including the **ASSDF** page, the **Fall Festival** page, and the **Square Dance Events** group. Also, note that not everyone is on Facebook.

Nearly **180 Special Dance photos** are from recent dances (from mid-November through late December, 2023, including the Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Years Weekend Dances) with the Twirling Lariats, Maverick Mixers, Pioneers, Levi's & Lace, Bluebird Squares, Twirling Funtimers, and the River City Squares. Many thanks to Anika Becker, Carolyn Birdsong, Lanita Pettey Hammett, Becky Hestand, Ginny Short, Ellen Glover Lewis, Daryl Stout, Anieta England, Jody King, and Elaine Cox for the photos.

And at the end of this issue, an article from Elaine Cox, from the NE Oklahoma Square & Round Dance Association, on "Why Black Eyed peas are considered lucky" to start the New Year.

First, photos from the Twirling Lariats Nov. 17, 2023 dance, with Guest Caller Phil Moorehouse.





































Next, several photos from the Maverick Mixers Thanks and Giving Dance on Nov. 25.

























At the Maverick Mixers Thanks and Giving Dance, they collected a large amount of toys, plus \$249 in cash donations...and the club thanks everyone for their kindness during the holiday season.

In the photo on the next page are (from left to right) Rodney Roberts of Rodney's Cycle House, with Mike and Lanita Hammett of the Maverick Mixers. Rodney accepted the \$249 check for Toys For Tots, and all of the collected toys.

The club wishes to extend a hearty thank you to Rodney's Cycle House for all the work they did to get to get the toys to Toy Hill in early December.

The late Bob Robbins of KSSN and KMJX had a big part in Toy Hill over the years, and while he is no longer with us, the legacy he left will remain for many years, bringing joy to many kids during the holiday season. Statewide, Toys For Tots collected 30,000 toys, and \$10,000, to provide or purchase toys for the kids who might not otherwise have something from Santa under the Christmas Tree.



Next, a couple of photos from the Pioneers doing Teaching at Baptist College in Russellville, Arkansas...in a break just before the fall semester final exams.



Next, several photos from the River City Squares Nov. 21, 2023 Dance.



you stumble, make it part of the dance



you stumble, make it part of the dance









Next, several photos from the Twirling Lariats Dec. 1, 2023 Dance.











Next, a couple of photos from the Pioneers Dec. 4, 2023 dance, with 6 couples in a square.



Next, several photos from the Levi's And Lace Christmas Dance on Dec. 8, 2023.























Next, several photos from the Maverick Mixers Dec. 9, 2023 dance.























ASSDF Treasurer Sheila Gesing “topping off the Christmas tree”.

Next, several photos from the Pioneers Christmas Dance.





































Next, several photos from the River City Squares Christmas Dance on Dec. 19, 2023.































Next, several photos from the Twirling Lariats Dec. 15 Christmas Dance.









Next, several photos from the Bluebird Squares Dec. 16 Christmas Dance.











Next, several photos from the Maverick Mixers Christmas Ho Ho Hoedown Dance on Dec. 23.













Top photo: Mike and Ellen Glover Lewis. Bottom Photo: Santa (Mike Hammett) and the Grinch (Lanita Pettey-Hammett) working together.











Next, 2 photos from the Twirling Funtimers Christmas and Graduation Dance.



Lastly, several photos from the Maverick Mixers New Years Eve Eve Dance.











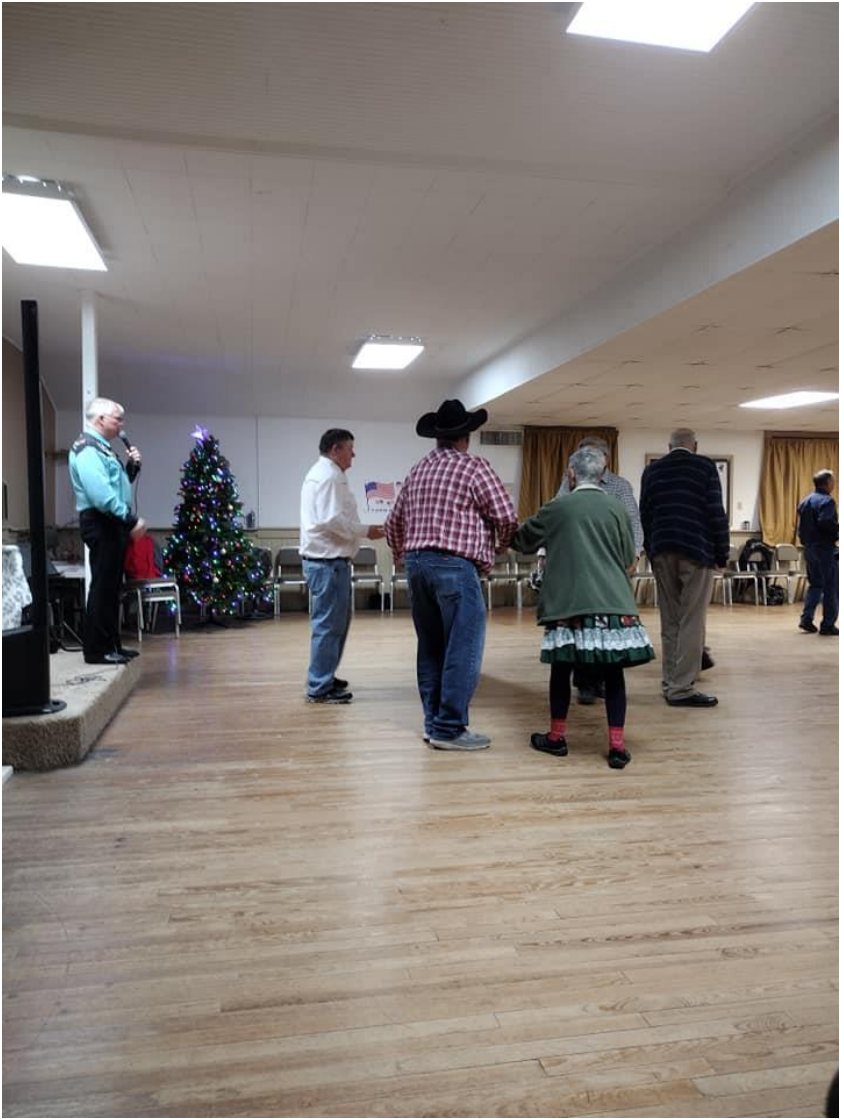






Baby New Year (Lanita Pettey-Hammett), Caller Phil Moorehouse, and Father Time (Mike Hammett).







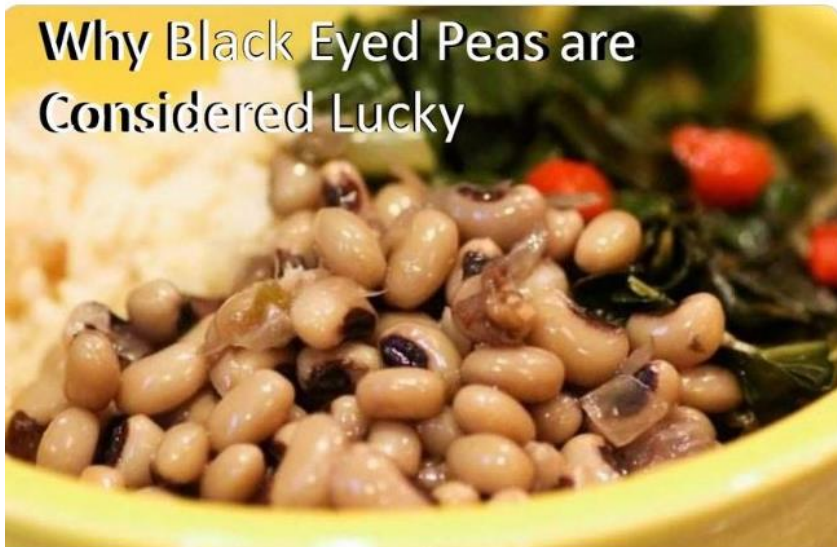




And to finish this issue, an article from Elaine Cox, of the Northeast Oklahoma Square & Round Dance Association on “Why Black Eyed Peas Are Considered Lucky”, with the background on this New Years Southern Meal, and why you’ll see these at some New Years Dances.

As a side note, while I’ve had these, I’m not crazy about them. DS

Why Black Eyed Peas are Considered Lucky



During the Civil War black-eyed peas were considered trash food that was only used to feed cattle. Soldiers from the north left a trail of destruction as they campaigned through the south. Because of their lowly reputation, many fields of black-eyed peas were not burned, but ignored. For many in the south, mostly all that was left of their crops were the black-eyed peas. During the harsh winters, they survived on the crops of black-eyed peas; and southern families felt lucky to have them.

After the war, black-eyed peas became a symbol of good luck and prosperity. Some even believed they represented coins. It became a tradition to serve them with collard greens that represented dollar bills. Add in corn bread, a symbol of gold, and you've got a traditional New Year's southern meal.

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As the late Paul Harvey noted: "And, now you know...the rest of the story".

Daryl Stout, Editor, Webmaster, Circulation Chairman