

The
**MODERN
SQUARE**



DECEMBER 2022

THE MODERN SQUARE

December 2022, Volume 61, Number 12

The Modern Square is the official publication of the Arkansas State Square Dance Federation (ASSDF). Print edition: \$20 per year. E-Edition is Free. Both are published monthly. The ASSDF website is at <https://www.arkansassquaredance.com>

Postmaster:

Please Send address changes to:

**The Modern Square
c/o Daryl Stout, Editor
P.O. Box 55655
Little Rock, AR 72215**

Any questions about **The Modern Square**, including subscriptions to the print or e-Edition, ad copy, or the website, should be mailed to the above address, or sent to assdfmodernsquare@gmail.com (email is the best way).

Policies:

1. Ads, club reports, etc. are due on the Editor's Desk by 9pm Central Time on the 14th of the month, prior to the month of issue (May 14 for the June issue).
 2. Club reports should be limited to 250 words, if possible.
 3. **The Editor reserves the right to omit, edit, or rewrite all submissions.**
 4. Letters to the editor must be signed. **Names will be omitted upon request.**
 5. Non-commercial ads that are submitted to promote dance events within the Federation area are accepted **only** from ASSDF member clubs, organizations and their Callers.
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Advertisements :

Due to postage, printing, and website costs, all ads are set at full page, and are \$35 for the print edition, and \$5 for the e-Edition, per insertion. **Advance payment is required**; please send payments (payable to ASSDF) to the Treasurer (noted on the next page). Ad/flier copy, club reports, or dance photos for the e-Edition should be sent to the Editor (noted above). Please be sure that all event or flier/dance information is correct when you send it in.



ARKANSAS STATE SQUARE DANCE FEDERATION

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The ASSDF Board has updated our logo and website. Please let us know your thoughts, and if you'd like to serve as an Officer, by contacting any of the Board.		2023 Fall Festival
		Roy Hestand 55 Fletcher Street Mountain Home, AR 72653 (870) 329-1141 hestandroy@gmail.com



President's Message

USDA insurance is due for all clubs in December; please don't let this important benefit get past you. The insurance is still a great value at only \$5.25 per dancer. Please send in your club roster, plus a check to Sheila Gesing, so your club members will be properly insured. Go to <https://www.arkansassquaredance.com/resources> for additional USDA info, including info on the USDA \$2500 Youth Scholarship.

SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL SQUARE DANCE CLUB! We need club members; with coming out of Covid-19, some members haven't paid in a while. Clubs still must pay for a dance location and caller, no matter how few or many squares are dancing. Even if you are not consistently dancing with a club, please join a club and pay dues, so we can continue dancing! Personally, I think visitor rates may be a little low compared to what I pay when I travel out of state.

ASSDF, during our delegates meeting in October, reached out to clubs that might be in financial distress to help pay for lessons, or even fees such as USDA insurance. Please email me, or any of the officers in the ASSDF if you need financial assistance. Personally, I think every club that is only dancing 1-3 squares should be having lessons twice a year. Are you looking for promotional opportunities to promote square dancing or your club?

Speaking of club promotions, special holiday dances that are coming up include the Heber Springers Christmas Potluck Dance on Dec. 9, the Maverick Mixers Christmas Dance on Dec. 10, the Bluebird Squares "Santa & His Elf" Christmas Dance on Dec. 16, the Twirling Funtimers December Ball Dance on Dec. 21, and the Maverick Mixers New Year's Eve Dance on Dec. 31. For more info, see the Special

Events Calendar elsewhere in this issue, and on the ASSDF website at <https://www.arkansassquaredance.com/events>

I know a lot of the clubs have Christmas parties and special dances in December. We only have 5 listed, so if your club is having a special dance, please let Daryl know, so we can help promote it on the ASSDF website. Also, remember to send in your monthly club report!

Remember to take time to do what is important. Spend time with family, friends, and your special friends you square dance with; and don't forget to go to church and thank The Lord for the blessings we enjoy! See you on the dance floor!

Ted and Tonia Hofmeister, ASSDF President, 2022

From The Editor



I hate to be a Grinch, but the November **e-Edition** is **always big**, from **ASSDF Fall Festival** photos, plus other dances. Except for 12 photos sent in last month, and 6 this month, the rest were from the various club Facebook pages. Not every club or dancer is on Facebook, and it's the club's choice if they don't want to send in anything, or post items on Facebook; but no one outside your club will know what's going on, otherwise. If only sent in photos are used, the e-Edition would be much smaller. I'm thankful for the 6 club reports that were sent in this month.

The weather has also been Grinch-like; our thoughts and prayers to all those who were affected by the swarm of tornadoes on Nov. 4, 2022, with over a dozen of those in Arkansas.

As for **lessons**, as of this issue, classes are noted for **3 weeks after the class start date**; then the listing's **removed** from the **ASSDF website** (<https://www.arkansassquaredance.com/new-dancers>), as well as from **The Modern Square**, until new class info is received. Please see the

lessons info elsewhere in this issue, and what's required for the listing. Classes are our lifeline to keep the hobby alive.

Several **holiday dances** are scheduled this month, but there are also some **dance cancellations**. Please **call before you travel**...and if weather's an issue, or if you feel ill on a dance night, please stay home.

With all the pictures from Facebook this month, I just used photos from the Halloween Dances that were from the River City Squares, Maverick Mixers, Twirling Funtimers, and Pioneers; the graduation dance from the Twirling Lariats, and recognition of 5 dancers who are veterans at the Maverick Mixers Nov. 12 dance. Thanks go to Jody King, Jerry and Ginny Short, Carolyn Birdsong, Anieta England, Ted and Tonia Hofmeister, Kim Fox, Mike Hammett, & Becky Hestand for the photos. Other photos from Facebook will go into the January, 2023 e-Edition.

ASSDF Club Dues and **USDA Dancer Insurance** for 2023 are due, and, the **USDA Youth Scholarship deadline** is Feb. 1, 2023; go to <https://www.arkansassquaredance.com/resources> for more details.

The ASSDF wishes everyone a happy holiday season.

Daryl Stout, Editor, Webmaster, Circulation Chairman

Please notify the Editor if your contact info as a caller or cuer, or your club contact, regular or special dance, or lesson info, is wrong; so it can be corrected. If your print or e-Edition of The Modern Square bounces back due to a bad address, you won't get them anymore, until the updated info is received. Do not have someone else contact the Editor for your info, or it could take longer to fix. The only time that the info should be sent in "second hand" is if someone has died, so the subscriptions can be canceled. The deadline for all items is the 14th of the month, before the month of issue, at 9pm US Central Time.

Before Traveling, Call Ahead First!!

Last Minute cancellations can occur. Calling ahead avoids you making the trip for nothing.

If bad weather is an issue, or if you don't feel well, please stay home!!

Happy
New Year!

Ring in the new year with the
Maverick Mixers
At our
New Year's Eve Dance!

Dance will be held at the
American Legion Hut
(Leah Lane & Mann Road) in Mabelvale.

Phil Moorehouse will be calling!

7:00 to 9:00 PM on
Saturday, December 31, 2022.

Admission \$8.00 at the door!





The Amigos Three In 23

Saturday, Jan. 7, 2023 - 7pm to 10pm - \$10 per person

**American Legion Post 128, 9925 Leah Lane
(Mann Road and Leah Lane), Mabelvale, Arkansas**

Callers: Joey Duhamel, Phil Moorehouse, Gene Gancarczyk





Little Rock Maverick Mixers

Valentines Dance Celebration

February 13, 2023

7:00 pm – 9:00 pm

Join us at the American Legion Hut

9925 Leah Lane (Mann Road and Leah Lane), Mabelvale, AR

Featuring National Caller Jet Roberts



\$10 per person (Non-dancers will be admitted free). Mainstream with announced Plus. Everyone is welcome!! If you have any questions, please contact Ron Wise (870-267-0702) or Lanita Hammett (501-889-4679).

Special Events

Please call before traveling, to check for last minute cancellations. If you're feeling ill, or if weather's an issue, please stay home. Info on Club Contacts, plus Callers and Cuers are in e-Edition. Clubs that are **DARK** aren't noted in the cancellation listings, or in the Google Events calendar on the ASSDF website. Dances after 2023 are noted in the e-Edition.

DECEMBER 2022

Dec. 9, 2022 – Heber Springers Christmas Potluck Dance.

Rosebud Community Center, 5916 Highway 36 West, Rosebud, AR. Dance at 7pm. Caller: Phil Moorehouse

Dec. 10, 2022 – Maverick Mixers Christmas Dance.

American Legion Post 128, 9925 Leah Lane (Mann Road and Leah Lane), Mabelvale, AR. Dance at 7pm. \$5 per person. Caller: Phil Moorehouse. In lieu of a gift exchange, donations will be taken for the Ronald McDonald House. See the flier in the e-Edition, and on the ASSDF website for more info.

Dec. 17, 2022 – Bluebird Squares Santa & His Elf Christmas

Dance. Saline County Fairgrounds, 406 Fairfield Road (Exit 116 and I-30), Benton, AR. Dance at 7pm. \$8 per person. Featuring Carolyn Birdsong's Taco Soup. Every dancer will receive a special gift. Callers: Carolyn Birdsong and Phil Moorehouse. See the flier in the e-Edition, and on the ASSDF website for more info.

Dec. 21, 2022 – Twirling Funtimers December Ball Dance.

Lloyd Travis Municipal Building, 14 Skyler Lanes, Lakeview, AR. Rounds at 6:30pm, Squares at 7pm. Caller: Donna Gellenbeck

Dec. 23, 2022 – Heber Springers and Levi's And Lace are DARK tonight.

Dec. 24, 2022 – Maverick Mixers are DARK tonight.

Dec. 26, 2022 – Pioneers are DARK tonight.

Dec. 30, 2022 – Twirling Lariats are DARK tonight.

Dec. 31, 2022 – Maverick Mixers New Year's Eve Dance. American Legion Post 128, 9925 Leah Lane (Mann Road and Leah Lane), Mabelvale, AR. Dance at 7pm. \$8 per person. Caller: Phil Moorehouse. See the flier elsewhere in this issue, and on the ASSDF website for more info.

Dec. 30-31, 2022 – 72nd National Square Dance Convention ® New Year's Eve 2022 Benefit Dance, Fultondale, AL. See the flier and registration form in the e-Edition, on the ASSDF website. Info at <https://www.72nsdc.com/nye>

JANUARY 2023

Jan. 7, 2023 – The Amigos Three in 23 Dance. American Legion Post 128, 9925 Leah Lane (Mann Road and Leah Lane), Mabelvale, AR. Dance at 7pm. \$10 per person. Callers: Phil Moorehouse, Joey Duhamel, and Gene Gancarczyk. See the flier elsewhere in this issue, and the ASSDF website for more info.

FEBRUARY 2023

Feb. 11, 2023 – Maverick Mixers are DARK tonight.

Feb. 13, 2023 – Maverick Mixers Valentine's Special Dance. American Legion Post 128, 9925 Leah Lane (Mann Road and Leah Lane), Mabelvale, AR. Dance at 7pm. \$10 per person. Mainstream with announced Plus. Caller: Jet Roberts. See the

flier elsewhere in this issue, and the ASSDF website for more info.

MARCH 2023

March 24-25, 2023 –East Texas Square And Round Dance Association Spring Festival. Marshall Civic Center, 2501 East End Blvd. South, Marshall, TX. See the flier on the ASSDF website for more dance and lodging info.

JUNE 2023

June 21-24, 2023 – 72nd National Square Dance Convention ®, Mobile, Alabama. Info at <https://www.72nsdc.com>

JULY 2023

July 27-29, 2023 – Heart Of America Single Square Dance Association (HASSDA) Dance, Springdale, AR. Trail-End Dance July 27. Callers: Bob Asp, Charlie Robertson, Jet Roberts. Cuers: Cathy and Fred Fisher. See the flier at http://www.wesquaredance.com/HASSDA_Festival/ or on the ASSDF website for more info.

July 31, 2023 – Summer Nights Dance, Sponsored by the Star Steppers, White Hall, AR (Location TBA). Caller: Jet Roberts.

OCTOBER 2023

Oct. 12-14, 2023 – 73rd ASSDF Fall Festival, Mountain Home, AR (Trail-End Dance Oct. 12).

Club Reports

Maverick Mixers

December member and visitor birthday yellowrocks go to Alana Clagg; there are no anniversary yellowrocks that I'm aware of...sorry if I missed anyone. On a sad note, condolences to the family of one-time Maverick Mixers member Theresa Myers, in the recent loss of her husband, Stanley West.

Just over a square was at our Oct. 22 dance, with guest callers Ron Wise & Nelda Eaton, helping our own Phil Moorehouse with the tips. Then, hot chili, hot patter, and over 3 squares of dancers helped warm things up from the cold, stormy night of our Chili Bash/Monster Mash Dance. Thanks to the other callers who also joined us; several photos from that dance are in the e-Edition. Of note on the costumes, was the Heber Springers as Snow White And The 7 Dwarfs, and Jean Cox as "a fork in the road"!!

At our Nov. 12 dance, we recognized 5 dancers who have served their country. They are Stan Stander, Ron Wise, Phil Moorehouse, Jerry Short, and Rick Gesing. A hearty **THANK YOU** to these, and all those who have served their country. A photo with club Treasurer Lanita Hammett, recognizing them, are in the e-Edition.

Be sure to call before you travel, in case of any last minute changes or cancellations. Note that we're **DARK** on Dec. 24 for Christmas Eve, but we'll have a **New Year's Eve Dance** on Dec. 31. See the flier elsewhere in this issue, and on the ASSDF website for details.

We're planning to start lessons on Tuesday, Jan. 10, at 7pm. If you know someone wanting to learn to dance, contact Lanita Hammett at (501) 889-4679.

Don't forget our special Valentine's Dance on Monday, Feb. 13, with Jet Roberts – see the flier elsewhere in this issue and on the ASSDF website for details. We'll be **DARK** the previous Saturday, Feb. 11.

You can also find pictures/videos from recent dances on our Facebook page; thanks to Jerry and Ginny Short, among others, for the pictures

and videos. Happy Holidays from the Maverick Mixers!!

Daryl Stout

River City Squares

A Great Big Thank You to all our dancers! You guys always go the extra mile, to help create a fun experience! A special shout out to CJ, who has been dancing with us, and helping us carry equipment in and out, sweeping the floor, or whatever needs to be done, for many, many years. We thank you CJ (Charlie)!!!

Thanks to all who came (whether in costumes or not), and thanks for all the yummy treats! We had a blast, and we hope that you did, too. Several photos from our Oct. 25 Halloween Dance are in the e-Edition. And, in the Halloween Dance group photo; notice the top, center guys: Zorro was getting his ears checked by Dr. King. (My favorite costume was the butterfly, with BJ the clown "targeted" as a close second. DS).

At our Nov. 1 dance, we were "dancing the night away!". It was nice to have Jim and Dana Christian, plus their son and daughter-in-law with us. Jim and Dana, and their son are former square dancers, and we're so glad they're joining us. And, on Nov. 8, we entertained the residents by dancing at the Peachtree Village Retirement Center.

Jody King

Twirling Lariats

We're so happy to announce that we graduated 5 new students in October, and all of them attended the ASSDF Fall Festival. Our new dancers are Erin Baxter, Andrea and Chris Hooten, Ellen and Mike Lewis. A big thank you to Phil Moorehouse and Joey Duhamel for leading our classes. We plan to start our next class on Jan. 9th, 2023, so if you know anyone in the central Arkansas area that would like to take classes, please contact Carolyn Cullins at 501-847-2157 as she is creating the list of students.

Our club was honored to have Gene Gancarczyk call for us on Nov. 4th. It was a small dance, but we had a ton of fun. I know everyone's busy, but I'd like to encourage you to support your clubs, and I can assure you'll have a great time.

Our remaining dances for 2022 are Dec. 2 and 16; we'll be **DARK** on Dec. 30.

Roger Garner

Star Steppers

Fall is here! Isn't the weather great!! I love the change in seasons and all the beautiful colors. With limited rain it was short lived here in south central Arkansas but certainly enjoyed while it lasted. The Star Steppers dance on the 2nd and 4th Monday at the White Hall Baseball Fields activity center. Feel free to come join us. Phil Moorehouse is our caller.

Halloween was an exciting night for us, as we started our first set of classes since 2019, and enjoyed some delicious treats at the same time. We hope that our dancers will stay with us all the way through graduation and beyond, because on July 31, 2023 we will be "Dancing Under The Stars" with the help of the ASSDF and Jet Roberts at the White Hall Community Center. More details to come after the first of the year.

We hope everyone has a Happy Thanksgiving, and safe travels if you will be on the road visiting family and friends!! Keep joy in your heart and square dancing on your mind wherever you go because I am sure you can find a square dance club dancing close to your destination!

Rick and Sheila Gesing

Twirling Funtimers

In seed time learn, in harvest teach, in winter enjoy. - William Blake
English Poet 1757-1827 -- How true.

Our Square Dance club promoted, recruited, taught throughout the year. Now we invite you to enjoy the start of the winter season and the fruits of our labor. Come meet our new students who now, also share our love of square dancing. Dress in your fanciest square dance outfit, and join us for a gala of square dancing.

We still dance at the Loyd Travis Municipal building at 16 Skyles Lane in Lakeview Arkansas, from 7-9pm. Remember, winter season is upon us with winter driving problems, which can cause us to cancel. So please before you leave, call and check to see if we're still dancing.

The Twirling Funtimers wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy and safe New Year.

Ray and Linda Peacy

Bluebird Squares

May the Christmas angel touch each one of you and your family not only during this holy season but every day. Jesus' most important rule is for us to love one another.

Come on over to the Saline County Fairgrounds December 17th 7:00 to 9:30 for the 6th annual Santa and His Elf Christmas Dance! Come celebrate the Joys of Christmas, with callers Phil Moorehouse and Carolyn Birdsong! There'll be lots of Christmas square dance music and everyone is invited to sing along! We'll also have line dancing, my (in)famous taco soup and each dancer will get a gift; all for only \$8 each! See the flier elsewhere in this issue for more details.

I've come up with an alternate route to the Fairgrounds to avoid the mess on the service road in front...it's noted below this report.

The food and dancing were very good at the Maverick Mixers' Chili Supper/Monster Mash! It's always fun to dance to the state callers and they all sounded great! Loved our very own Pirate Phil, and Snow White, And Her Seven Dwarfs visiting from Rose Bud!

The hummers have left, but now we have the over-wintering birds coming: White-throated Sparrows, Juncos, American Goldfinches and

more! Offering food to the birds for winter is much more important than summer. There's plenty for the birds to eat in the warm seasons but maybe not much when it's cold! If you offer black-oil sunflower seeds and suet, that would be great! But I'm a bird nerd, & offer those two things; except my suet is homemade suet cakes, plus homemade suet dough and homemade bark butter I put in a log. Anyone interested in those recipes, let me know! I'm always happy to share them!

Ya'll come on over and dance and laugh with us!

**

Back way directions to Saline County Fairgrounds (Exit 116 & I-30)

From Hot Springs: Turn right on Fairfield Rd, turn left into open gate, drive alongside the fence, and turn next to red building, drive around to the front, and you'll see the Office Building on the other side.

From Little Rock: Go over bridge on South Street. Right on Jefferson. Go several blocks and through a round-about, turn right on Fairfield. Go through the open gate on the right, drive alongside the fence, and turn next to red building, drive around to the front, and you'll see the Office Building on the other side.

Carolyn Birdsong





The following clubs are doing lessons (square dance, round dance, or clogging) soon. Please contact the person noted for more info. As of this issue, listings will be up until the third night of class; after which, they'll be removed from The Modern Square, and from the ASSDF website under New Dancers, until new class info is received. The info will be at <https://www.arkansassquaredance.com/new-dancers>

Info needed is club name, class start date and time, location, and a contact person for more info. Please email the class info to the Editor at assdfmodernsquare@gmail.com

Club: Twirling Lariats

Class Start Date: Monday, Jan. 9, 2023, 7pm

Location: American Legion Post 128, 9925 Leah Lane (Mann Road and Leah Lane), Mabelvale (Little Rock), AR

Contact: Carolyn Cullins (501) 847-2157

Comments: Hamburgers and Hot Dogs before the first lessons on Jan. 9, 2023.

Club: Maverick Mixers

Class Start Date: Tuesday, Jan. 10, 2023, 7pm

Location: American Legion Post 128, 9925 Leah Lane (Mann Road and Leah Lane), Mabelvale (Little Rock), AR

Contact: Lanita Hammett (501) 889-4679

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If you'd like the free e-Edition, and updates on ASSDF clubs, please enter your email address. Otherwise, place N/A on that line. Make checks payable to ASSDF, and mail them with the form to Rick and Sheila Gesing, 9760 Grant 7, Sheridan, AR 72150.

The expiration date of your print subscription is on the mailing label on the back page. A Reminder Letter is mailed out about 6 weeks prior to the expiration of the print subscription.

The Modern Square is usually mailed by the 23rd of the month, prior to the month of issue. If you haven't received it by the 1st of the month (excluding Sundays and holidays), contact the Editor to see if your print subscription is still current, or if a delay has occurred in printing and mailing.

If the print subscription is current, and your mailing address is correct, then please contact your local area Post Office, to find out what the delay is. Please stress that you need The Modern Square, because of the dance dates within it.