



Grand Square

KEEPING THE SQUARE DANCE COMMUNITY INFORMED

NORTHERN NEW JERSEY SQUARE DANCERS ASSOCIATION

Vol. 66 No. 1

Summer

May–Sept. 2025

*Summer is in the air ...
... and in your square*



Keep Dancing All Summer Long

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ABOUT GRAND SQUARE

nnjsda.org/nnjsda_grand_square.php

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Due to unavoidable delays in contributions from various sources and unforeseen changes to various events, it is recommended to check other sources such as club websites, NNJSDA website calendar, and NNJSDA list-serve for the most up-to-date information.

The editors of *Grand Square* reserve the right to edit, correct, or modify articles and ad copy submitted for publication. However, the responsibility for accuracy rests with the authors and ad makers. Signed articles reflect the opinions of the authors and not necessarily those of the NNJSDA.

NNJSDA PRESIDENTS' MESSAGE

As NNJSDA presidents, we welcome new graduates into our dances and our clubs. How lucky we are! Dancers in the NNJSDA area have an opportunity that is denied to those in much of the United States. We have clubs within driving distance where we can enjoy Mainstream, Plus, Advanced, Challenge, and round dancing.



We encourage all our dancers – new and seasoned – to take advantage of the opportunity to move with the music every week. Look through this issue of *Grand Square* and see how many different events the clubs are having, such as anniversary celebrations, crazy hat nights, and lots of dangle dances throughout the year.

Another fun and exciting aspect of square dancing is the time-honored tradition of visiting other NNJSDA clubs. In our association, there are two types of visits: one is for the pure fun of it and the other is to fulfill the Raid program criteria. (Note: The trial Visitation program held for the past two years will end on May 31, 2025.)

The Raid program is simple: You get at least eight official members of your club (one square) to attend a regularly scheduled dance at another club. The participants can even be members of both clubs! The NNJSDA provides a form that must be filled out and signed by the host club. Points are awarded to the raiding club based on the number of miles between the two clubs. Once your club reaches a specified number of points, its dues will be reduced in the following dance year.

For a pure-fun-of-it visit, there's no set number of dancers needed. Gather a bunch of people from your own club, perhaps meet for dinner beforehand, and have a great time at the other club – because there's a caller new to you, or a theme like you like, or people you just enjoy dancing with. Even if you don't have a full square from your club, who cares? You're visiting just for the fun of it.

Both types of visits are fun for members of all our clubs and help to keep them strong. So, let's get out and dance!

~ Richard Ball and Chris Wadel

2025 EVENTS | NNJSDA

A = Advanced, C = Challenge, MS = Mainstream, PL = Plus, RD = Rounds

May 17, 2025 (Saturday) 7:00-10:00 PM Bridgewater Betsy Gotta (NJ)/Roy Gotta MS/PL/RD (early PL) Set Up: Hunterdon Flutterwheels Clean Up: Bee Sharps	August 13, 2025 (Wednesday)* 7:00-9:30 PM TBA Randy Longobucco (CT) MS/PL Set Up: RocklandRockytops Clean Up: Belles & Beaux
June 7, 2025 (Saturday)* 2:30-5:30 PM Bridgewater Clay Goss (DE)/Tom Denniston, Ellen McCabe MS/PL/RD Set Up: Motiv8ors Clean Up: Belles & Beaux	August 27, 2025 (Wednesday)* 7:00-9:30 PM Bridgewater Dane Bragg (PA) MS/PL (early PL DBD) Set Up: Bee Sharps Clean Up: Reelers
July 9, 2025 (Wednesday)* 7:00-9:30 PM TBA Sandy Corey (NY) MS/PL Set Up: Circle Eights Clean Up: Lakeland Squares	October 11, 2025 (Saturday) 7:00-9:30 PM Bridgewater Jenn Engimann (PA)/Mary Pickett MS/PL/RD (early RD) Set Up: Rutgers Promenaders Clean Up: Middletown Ramblers
July 23, 2025 (Wednesday)* 7:00-9:30 PM Bridgewater Paul & Stephen Ingis (NJ)/Steve Bradt MS/PL/RD Set Up: Middletown Ramblers Clean Up: Y Squares	November 9, 2025 (Sunday)* 49th Mini-Festival 1:00-6:30 PM Randolph (tentative) Tony Oxendine (NC), Jim Emory (NY), Mark Franks (NJ)/Mary Pickett MS/PL/A/C1/RD
Bridgewater: PeopleCare Center, 120 Finderne Avenue, Bridgewater, NJ Randolph: Randolph High School, 511 Millbrook Avenue, Randolph, NJ	

* Qualifies for Freeloader Award (see page 11 for details)



Other Noteworthy Dates

May 17 – Presidents reception
 June 1 – Club questionnaires due
 July 1 – Reader survey due
 July 17 – *Grand Square* cover contest deadline
 September 14 – Delegates meeting (virtual)

NNJSDA EXECUTIVE BOARD | 2024-25

nnjsda.org/nnjsda_board.php

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READER SURVEY

tinyurl.com/2sr7zjb7

NNJSDA has published *Grand Square* for 66 years. The magazine constantly evolves to meet the needs of readers, and the last reader survey was conducted in 2013. We would like your input for future changes, particularly since so many people now connect through the internet for square dance information. Please complete this survey by July 1. Thank you!

Scan this QR code with your phone →



Belles & Beaux

presents

An Evening of Intrigue, Elegance, and Square Dancing Delight

mURDER

AT A REHEARSAL FOR MY HAIR LADY

Dust off your dancing shoes and don your finest attire as we twirl into a captivating evening filled with:

- Fun Square Dancing (One Beginner Tip!!)
- A Gripping Murder Mystery
- Elegant Atmosphere Inspired by Classic Theater

Date: Wednesday, May 7, 2025

Time: 7:15-9:30 PM

Location: Maywood Recreation Center
340 Duvier Place
Maywood, NJ

Caller: Howard Richman

Admission: \$8



Whether you're a seasoned dancer or a curious newcomer, this is an event you won't want to miss! Solve the mystery – earn a dangle!

Light refreshments will be served.

CONGRATULATIONS, GRADUATES!

Give a big welcome and Yellow Rocks to our newest graduates, and make sure to dance with them and share your experience.

MAINSTREAM

Bee Sharps:	Sondy Epstein, Sydell Fischer, Heidi Garcia, Lauren Haas, Sonny Sliwka
Belles & Beaux:	Anna Bahniuk, Carol Finkelstein, Denise Holzager, Avi Lewinson, Roger Mitchem, Daithi O'Tuathail, Jack Pigut, Michael Royster
Circle Eights:	Christy Cleary, Autumn Hill, Grace Moyano, Beth Parrillo, Marjorie Remington-Howes, Rina Williams
Hunterdon Flutterwheels:	Barbara Engisch, Bill Engisch, Mavis Friedermann, Sharon Stevens
Lakeland Squares:	Matthew Carmel, Chris Carter, Sheryl Gurney, Helen Leba, Nancy Moorshead, JP Plioplys, Jane Ross, Elona Sofer, Monica Wilson
Reelers	Marie Abbey, Maria An, Jean Artler, Paul Gausman, Mary Jansen, Regan Lakritz, Patricia Mascenik
Times Squares:	Heidi Auerbacher, Marina Barry, Elsa Comer, Emily Comer, Jamie Garde, Seko Halim, Jake Karaban, Hila Lenz, Raymond Lund, Cathy Overfelt, Michael Reid, Sara Yun

PLUS

Reelers:	Marie Abbey, Tina Ammerman, Andy Auerbach, Gale Frankle, Janet Gerber, Dean Hartman, Bob Isaacs, Mary Jansyn, Celia Longendyck, David Longendyck, Pat Mascenik, JP Plioplys, Doina Ralea, Ira Seid, Nona Seid, Rana Slosberg, Ron Slosberg, Ellen Taylor, Reggie Yoskowitz
Times Squares:	Heidi Auerbacher, Marina Barry, Tony Bauer, Daphne Calvo, Elinor Dei Tos Pironti, Michael Heilman, Terry McKeon, Richard Stafford

ONLINE STUDY RESOURCES

All dancers, whether new or experienced, can find something useful on these websites.

Ceder Chest	ceder.net/def
Dehn Base	dehnbase.org/sd/tutorial/#gdp
How to Square Dance	videosquaredancelessons.com
Open Squares	opensquares.de/basic.html
Taminations	tamtwirlers.org/taminations

REMEMBERING RICH MOODY

In addition to being a graceful square dancer, Richard W. Moody was a caring grandfather, proud father, devoted husband, loyal friend, meticulous planner, avid puzzler, chocolate chip cookie baker, car enthusiast, coin collector, perpetual tinkerer, lover of nature, and faithful believer.

Rich was the first in his family to pursue post-secondary education, receiving a Bachelor of Engineering degree in 1970 from Stevens Institute of Technology. He married his college sweetheart, Mary McKinnon, the following January. The two were unstoppable in everything from road rally racing to square dancing. They led a coed Explorer Scout troop, joined bowling leagues, walked the Philadelphia half marathon, and hiked Mount Washington. They kayaked everywhere from Round Valley Reservoir to the Thousand Islands, New York, home of the family's summer cottage. The two ultimately settled in Branchburg, New Jersey, where their family has been part of the community for 45 years.



The proud father of four, Rich spent countless nights supervising homework completion, playing games, and planning detailed outdoor family excursions. He coached recreational soccer teams, assisted with 4-H sheep projects, and oversaw the construction of everything from science fair submissions and go-karts to potato cannons. As

“Pop” to five grandchildren, Rich was happy to attend recitals and games, lose card games, share desserts, build Legos, and read stories.

As a longtime member of Hunterdon Flutterwheels, Rich served for several years as the 2nd vice president/class coordinator. He and his wife, Mary (a caller), also served as alternate delegates to the NNJSDA. Rich was always smiling, dancing, and supporting Mary as a dutiful “caller hauler.”

Rich spent his career as a knowledgeable and well-respected engineer, supervising many construction and restoration projects. He was the municipal engineer for Watchung, Roxbury, and New Brunswick. Rich built the long wooden stairs at the family's cottage and installed a beautiful wrap-around deck for his Branchburg home, where family picnics and square dances were hosted.

Despite being diagnosed with mesothelioma in early 2024, Rich continued to enjoy top-down convertible car rides, countless puzzles, square dances, visits with family and friends, and walks. He was an inspiration to everyone who knew him and will live forever in our hearts.

~ Hunterdon Flutterwheels

Let the beauty of what you love be what you do. ~ Rumi

FAREWELL TO OUR FRIENDS

Square dancing is “friendship set to music.” We have shared wonderful friendships with many dancers, and acknowledge here current and former NNJSDA club members who have passed away.

Bobby Bergman – September 25, 2024

Rutgers Promenaders

Sara Goldberg-Burton – December 30, 2024

Hunterdon Flutterwheels

Eleanor Jass – January 7, 2025

RocklandRockytops

Jeffrey Karpf – February 2, 2024

Times Squares

Ray Keywork – October 4, 2024

RocklandRockytops

Joan Mallette – March 20, 2025

Belles & Beaux

Rich Moody – February 15, 2025

Hunterdon Flutterwheels

Michael Parisi – December 7, 2024

Hunterdon Flutterwheels

Joe Regan – October 14, 2024

Times Squares

Tom Simansky – December 22, 2024

Reelers

Eric Turnquist – March 21, 2025

Hunterdon Flutterwheels

Megan Willis – September 1, 2024

Rutgers Promenaders

Jay Zappa – September 13, 2024

Kittatinny Rangers



Thanks for the memories.



Information may be submitted to articles@nnjsda.org

REMEMBERING TOM MILLER

Tom Miller, a beloved decades-long caller for NNJSDA and its member clubs, passed away on March 22, 2025, in Huntsville, Alabama. He was born in Spangler, Pennsylvania, on September 6, 1958.

After starting to square dance at age 14, Tom's hobby became a 52-year career as he dedicated his life both to calling and mentoring new callers. His work included traveling to 43 states and seven countries, plus calling on many square dance cruises.

Tom was eagerly sought as a caller in New Jersey, drawing large crowds to events where he was featured. He also enjoyed spending time with his family, fishing, and taking car rides to look at wildlife while eating ice cream.

A celebration of Tom's life will be held on September 21 in Catonsville, Maryland. He is survived by his daughters, Candace and Lindsay, grandson, Brantley, and fiancée, Pauline Angress, and her family.



AHA BENEFIT DANCE

100th BIRTHDAY — OUR 50th ANNIVERSARY



Frank and Susan Dreifus are sponsoring this dance benefiting the American Heart Association on its 100th birthday. The dance is held in honor of our 50th wedding anniversary, which we would never have reached without the AHA. All proceeds from the dance will be donated to the AHA. Cake and water will be available. If you'd like, bring snacks to share.

JENN ENGIMANN calling Plus and Advanced

When: SATURDAY, JUNE 14, 2025
7:00-10:00 PM

Where: PEOPLECARE CENTER
120 Finderne Avenue
Bridgewater, New Jersey 08807

Suggested donation: \$10

RSVP and/or questions: Email sedreifus@gmail.com
or call/text 908-893-5210

NNJSDA INCENTIVE PROGRAMS

nnjsda.org/nnjsda_documents.php

FOR DANCERS

Freeloader Awards of a dangle and a coupon for a free NNJSDA dance are earned by attending at least three qualifying summer NNJSDA dances and the Mini-Festival in the same year.

Tina Ammerman
Lois Autenrieth
Steve Autenrieth
Mark Bippes
Larry Bugal

Mimi Corpel
Lise Greene
Kelsey Kazmac
Ken Kuter
Donald Lane

Joanna Lieuallen
Bonnie Jean Mac Yash
Ginny Platania
Arlene Remington
Ann Rothfuss

Rana Slosberg
Ron Slosberg
Dave Tien
Bob Turner
Ellen Ward
Phyllis Wooster

Patron Awards of a dangle and a coupon for a free NNJSDA dance were earned by the following dancers for having attended at least eight different NNJSDA member club dances:

Tina Ammerman: #1
Larry Bugal: #44, #45, #46
Carol Casale: #4
Donald Lane: #1
Joanna Lieuallen: #1

Arlene Remington: #8
Ann Rothfuss: #16
Ellen Taylor: #1
Ellen Ward: #26, #27

FOR CLUBS

The programs below cover a dance year from June 1 through the following May 31.

One Square Is Fair benefits your club with a dues reduction when eight club members (one square) attend at least five of the scheduled NNJSDA dances. Officially registered students may be counted at the Midterm Student Dance.

Raids benefit your club with a dues reduction when at least eight club members (one square) attend other member clubs' eligible dances. The program is based on reaching at least 200 miles between clubs.



Download the Freeloader, Patron, One Square Is Fair, and Raid program forms at nnjsda.org (see Documents tab). Forms are verified and signed by an officer (usually treasurer or president) at the dances attended and forwarded to the NNJSDA corresponding secretary upon completion.

BEE SHARPS OF SOMERVILLE



- 2nd and 4th Friday Night Dances
- Early Rounds 7:30
- Square Dancing and Rounds 8:00-10:15
- A2 Tip 10:15, if sufficient dancers present
- Contact: Dave @ 908-500-6111

DANCE SCHEDULE May-September 2025

Venue: PeopleCare Center, 120 Finderne Ave., Bridgewater, NJ

<i>Date</i>	<i>Caller</i>	<i>Cuer</i>	<i>Format</i>	<i>Dance Theme</i>
May 9	Howard Richman	Mary Pickett	MS/PL/RD	Broadway Musicals
May 23	Karin Rabe & Greg Moore	TBA	MS/PL/RD	Ice Cream Social
June 13	Howard Richman	NO ROUNDS	All MS	Graduation Dance and Hawaiian Luau

SUMMER WORKSHOPS: JUNE & JULY

Sept. 12	Mark Franks	Mary Pickett	2 MS/1 PL/RD	Vacation T-Shirts
Sept. 26	Betsy Gotta	Roy Gotta	MS/PL/RD	Take Me Out to the Ball Game

** MAINSTREAM SUMMER WORKSHOPS **

Practice your newly learned steps, with a chance to ask questions and improve your dancing. Practice, practice, practice!

Dates: Wednesdays, 7:00-9:00 PM
June 18 · June 25 · July 2

Venue: PeopleCare Center, 120 Finderne Ave., Bridgewater
\$5 for 2025 graduates, \$2 for angels

Info: Susan @ 732-236-6587 / BeeSharpsSquareDance@gmail.com

Visit us Online / Facebook: BeeSharps.org / @BeeSharps

beesharps.org

Cell for dance: 908-500-6111

2, 4 Fri. Sept.-June

Vic Ammons: 908-763-4593

PeopleCare Center

120 Finderne Avenue

The first Bee Sharps dance of this season was epic! We were delighted to celebrate our club's 50th anniversary with a dance called by Howard Richman, cued by Ron Rumble, and attended by more than 100 dancing friends (see photo). Thanks to all who celebrated with us as well as all the club members who decorated the hall, curated our photo and memorabilia displays, organized and provided awesome finger foods and desserts, and contributed themed baskets.



Our first Mainstream class has finished and our second class has started! We welcome our newest dancers: Sondra "Sondy" Epstein, Sydell Fischer, Heidi Garcia, Lauren Haas, and Steve "Sonny" Sliwka. They are continuing as angels in our current class to help our latest recruits while strengthening their own dancing skills. After the class finishes in mid-June, we will hold several summer workshops to focus on Mainstream dancing with an opportunity to review problem areas. We welcome new dancers from neighboring clubs to join us at the PeopleCare Center on Wednesday nights in June and July (see our ad on page 12).



Since our club has Plus as well as Mainstream at our Friday night dances, we are grateful to Brian Horowitz for organizing Thursday night Plus DBD workshops this spring. They were led by Dane Bragg with a focus on "dance by definition." We typically had at least three squares with dancers from several NNJSDA clubs. It's amazing how much we all learned, even after decades of dancing! We are discussing options to continue the workshops, which are open to all Plus dancers. Stay tuned for more information.

We are always thrilled to see our friends blessed with new additions, so congratulations to: Lois and Steve Autenrieth, who welcomed a grandson and a granddaughter within a period of just seven months, and Francesca and Wes Thielke, who recently welcomed their first grandson, Otto.

~ Nancy Ammons

Belles & Beaux

1st and 3rd Wednesdays
Dance 7:15-9:30 PM, Mainstream with a Plus Tip

Maywood Recreation Center
340 Duvier Place, Maywood, NJ 07607

Chris Wadel
President
201-835-7726
cwadel@optimum.net



Claire Zimmerman
Caller Contact
201-291-8417
swissoctober@hotmail.com

May 7	Howard Richman	Murder Mystery and Dance
May 21	Rick Gittelman	Pajama Dance – Come and dance in your PJs
May 31	???	Mystery Bus Ride
June 4	Fran Wadel	Graduation Dance – Welcome and dance with the new graduates from all clubs
June 18	Paul Ingis	Flashlight Dance (please bring your own) – Dangle dance
July 2	Sandy Corey	Fourth of July Celebration
July 16	Karin Rabe & Greg Moore	Celebrate Pandemonium Day (7/14) – Wear mismatched outfits
Aug 6	Betsy Gotta	Ice Cream Social
Aug 20	Mary Moody	Vacation Dance – Wear your favorite vacation T-shirt, sweatshirt, or hat
Sep 3	Sandy Corey	End of Summer Celebration – Wear your shorts or capris before the cool weather sets in
Sep 17	Larry Shipman	Crossword Puzzle Dance – Wear black and white (puzzles will be handed out)
Oct 1	-----	NO DANCE – Yom Kippur
Oct 15	Paul Ingis	Breast Cancer Awareness Month – Wear pink
Nov 5	Stephen Ingis	Oven Mitt Dance – Dangle dance
Nov 19	Dane Bragg	It's Pumpkin Time – Wear orange
Dec 3	Mark Franks	National Write a Friend Month – Notes will be brought to a local nursing home
Dec 17	Fran Wadel	Student Midterm Dance – Bring your students to dance with us

See our Murder Mystery ad on page 6

1, 3 Wed. All Year
Chris Wadel: 201-835-7726

Maywood Recreation Center
340 Duvier Place

Belles & Beaux held a special anniversary dance in September to celebrate our 45th year. Stephen Ingis called and we enjoyed a wonderful dance plus a little cake. (Okay, it was a lot of cake.) We are looking forward to the next 45 years!

Our annual holiday party was held this year at Al Dente in Elmwood Park. We enjoyed a delicious meal, good conversation, door prizes, and games. Everyone went home with full bellies, happy memories, and a candy box.

Finally, we're thrilled to announce the return of our Mystery Bus Ride for the first time since 2019. This popular tradition goes back many years and, along with our annual Murder Mystery Dance, is why we're known as the "Mystery Club." As in the past, the trip will include bus transportation to and from exciting destinations, dinner at a restaurant, and an evening of dancing at a mystery club. More details will arrive through email. If you're interested in attending, reach out to club president, Chris Wadel (contact information above). But don't even try to find out the destinations in advance – he can really keep a secret.

We dance all year on the first and third Wednesday of every month at the Maywood Recreation Center. Come take a turn with us!

~ Deb Stahl





CIRCLE EIGHTS

2025

Mainstream with Plus Tips



May 4 – Jonathan Weiner

Sept. 14 – Karin Rabe & Greg Moore

June 8 – Paul Ingis

Oct. 12 – Betsy Gotta

No dances July and August

Nov. 23 – Howard Richman

Dec. 14 – Karin Rabe & Greg Moore

65th ANNIVERSARY PARTY THIS FALL – DETAILS SOON!

*Sunday afternoons once a month in Maywood
2:00-4:00 PM*

**Maywood Recreation Center
340 Duvier Place, Maywood, NJ 07607**

More information: Pat and Tom 201-955-1495 or circle8s.nnjdsda.org



Square Dancer? Camper?



**The Garden State Square Dance Campers Association
is looking for YOU!**

We have a MS/PL campout in Pennsylvania every month, May to October.

Join us in 2025! gssdca.wixsite.com/gssdca

*Appalachian Campground in Shartlesville – *See website for registration forms*

Don't camp? At Appalachian, rent a cabin (deluxe or rustic) or stay at a nearby motel!

May 2-4

Bob Engel

We are joining Square Up Campers.

White Oak Campground, 3156 White Oak Road, Quarryville, PA 17566

To register, call campground directly at 717-687-6207.

June 13-15*

Dave Black

July 18-20*

Bob Engel

August 8-10*

Mark Franks

September 5-7

Bob Engel

We are joining Square Up Campers.

Shady Oaks Campground, 40 Round Barn Road, Newmanstown, PA 17073

To register, call Kathy Engel at 717-532-5654 by August 1, 2025.

October 3-5

Dane Bragg and Jenn Engimann

Cherry Ridge Campsites, 147 Camp Road, Honesdale, PA 18432

To register, call campground directly at 510-488-6654.

circle8s.nnjsda.org

Cell for dance: 201-744-6463

Various Sun. Sept.-June

Maywood Recreation Center

Pat and Tom Duemig: 201-955-1495

340 Duvier Place

This dance season, Circle Eights brought themes back to its dances: National Grandparents' Day (sharing family photos and memorabilia), Holiday Dance (wearing colorful sweaters and skirts), New Year Dance (dancing with bells on), and National Meatball Day (eating all sizes and types!). Unfortunately, bad weather caused us to cancel our student-level dance.

Congratulations to our new Raid chairs, Debbie and Jose Obarrio, who brought us to Hunterdon Flutterwheels and Kittatinny Rangers. Raiders enjoyed dinner and camaraderie before the dances. While the weather occasionally prevented us from venturing too far, we hope to make up for lost time with more raids before the close of the dance year. Thanks to Lakeland Squares for their wonderful raid to us.

Circle Eights welcomed six members of our original class of eight who graduated on April 1. The graduates attended student dances and now will be dancing and raiding as full-fledged club members.

Our members delighted in square dancing in other parts of the country. Arlene Remington danced in Las Vegas as well as at the Florida State Convention with Debbie and Jose Obarrio. Arlene, Debbie, Jose, Pat and Tom Duemig, and Kim and Rich Ferrentino had a great time at WASCA – rubber duckies, anyone?!

While many lamented the snow this winter, Jose Obarrio was in his glory. He enjoyed the fresh powder of several New England ski resorts while Debbie searched for unique boutiques in the areas!

Others vacationed internationally: Alicia and David Weschler (Turkey, Buenos Aires), Kathy and Paul Smolen (Portugal, Caribbean cruise), Pat and Tom Duemig (Portugal, Spain, France), and Jeanne Weisman (Ireland, Scotland).

On a forward-looking note, Circle Eights will be celebrating its 65th anniversary in the fall. Be on the lookout for details.

~ Jeanne Weisman




HUNTERDON FLUTTERWHEELS



Hunterdon County Complex Building 1
314 Route 12, Flemington, NJ 08822



2025	Theme	Caller
May 2	Let's Travel Around the World <i>(Share travel photos.)</i>	Dan Koft
May 16	Scavenger Hunt <i>(Gather clues and solve the puzzle.)</i>	Dane Bragg
May 30	Viva Italia! <i>(Dress, dance, and eat like Italians.)</i>	Rick Gittelman
June 6	Cowabunga! Ice Cream Social <i>(Let's head to the beach.)</i>	Paul Ingis
June 20	Barn Dance <i>(Open to experienced and first-time dancers.)</i>	Howard Richman
Summer Workshops (MS/Plus): Saturdays 4:00-6:00 PM June 28 · July 12 · July 26 · August 9 · August 23		
Sept. 19	Bienvenido a Nuestro Baile! <i>(Hispanic music and treats.)</i>	Mary Moody
Oct. 3	Frohe Oktoberfest! <i>(German fun, food, and flair.)</i>	Dane Bragg
Oct. 17	Dancing Down on the Farm – Live Music Dance	Howard Richman
Alternate Mainstream and Plus Tips 1st and 3rd Fridays 8:00-10:15 PM Check Website for Venue Changes		For Information: 908-458-6387 hunterdonflutterwheels.nnjsda.org  facebook.com/hunterdonflutterwheels

Dance
in a
square.



Make a
circle
of friends.

1, 3 Fri. Sept.-June
Frank Laritz: 908-458-6387

Hunterdon County Complex, Building 1
314 State Route 12

What a delightful year it has been! Our live-music event was a tremendous success, with 10 squares dancing to caller Howard Richman and the five-member Longhill String Band. Participants enjoyed various themed dances – from the challenge of identifying the many “ancient artifacts” on display at the Sherlock Holmes Mystery dance to donning safari garb and admiring hosts Diana and Gene Reinhardt’s Africa trip photos at the “Let’s Go on Safari!” dance. George Cerny even wore an entire tiger over his shoulder!

The hall was illuminated by a combination of incandescent lights, LEDs, and glow sticks at the “Thank You, Thomas Edison!” dance. Bonnie Jean Mac Yash donned a crinoline outfitted with a string of lights as outerwear. Good cheer was evident in the decorations, smiling faces, and festive costumes of red, green, and sparkling bling at the “Celebrate the Holidays” dance.

Dancers enjoyed the “Sci-Fi Fête” trivia game and donned everything imaginable – from basic to fancy, from practical to fanciful, from tiny to ridiculously large at our “Hats On!” dance. Caller Jenn Engimann’s unique headpieces and clever singing call lyrics enthralled the crowd.

Dancers “supped” between tips at the annual Souper Bowl dance. If the number of empty bowls wasn’t indication enough, caller Howard Richman needing to slow down tips for digesting dancers was certainly telling! Dancers were both well fed and tired upon departure.

Beatlemania dance hosts Mary and Jim Stamets had two of the best costumes with Jim in a Sergeant Pepper coat and Mary in a fringed leather vest and peace sign necklace. Ruth and Harry Mazujian wore the most authentic ‘60s outfits. Ruth dressed as her teen self (complete with vintage dress and hairpiece) and Harry wore his 1969 Boy Scout Jamboree uniform!

Flutterwheels bid fond final farewells to members Michael Parisi, Sara Goldberg-Burton, Richard Moody, and Eric Turnquist. Michael celebrated his 102nd birthday and was awarded the United Square Dancers of America centenarian award before moving on to that big square dance in the sky. Club members shared what turned out to be memorable last meetings with Rich Moody at the January NNJSDA Student Dance. The square dance community came out to show its loving support for the Moody family at Rich’s memorial service.

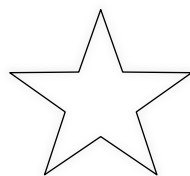
Flutterwheels heartily welcomed Mainstream graduates Barbara Engisch, Bill Engisch, Mavis Friedermann, and Sharon Stevens at our “Somewhere Over the Rainbow” dance, with class instructor Mary Moody calling.

A big thank you to those who have visited or raided our dances.

~ Gerri Vitovitch

KITTATINNY RANGERS

MAINSTREAM DANCE CLUB



2nd and 4th Fridays 7:00-9:00 PM
\$7 Admission Light Refreshments

First Presbyterian Church, 100 Main Street, Stanhope, NJ 07874
Parking in rear of church; enter through red door.

5/23 Paul & Stephen Ingis

Fall dance dates: 9/12 · 9/26 · 10/10 · 10/24 · 11/14 · 12/12

kittatinnyrangers.org

Questions? 973-248-2604

74th

National Square Dance Convention®
SHREVEPORT, LA | JUNE 25-28, 2025



*Dance on the
Wild Side*

For registration and general information, visit our website:
74thNSDC.com

For the latest events and details, join our Facebook group:
facebook.com/groups/750145379807873/

COME DANCE WITH US!

ANNUAL "GREAT AMERICA'S DANCE"

Warren County Farmers' Fair, Rt. 519, Harmony, NJ

Covered dance pavilion!

Plus caller: Paul Ingis

AUGUST 1 7:00-9:00 PM

Watch for upcoming flyers!

Mainstream caller: Hillary Hill

warrencountyfarmersfair.org

kittatinnyrangers.org

Cell for dance: 973-248-2604

2, 4 Fri. Sept.-May

Connie Smith: 973-202-9493

First Presbyterian Church

100 Main Street

Greetings from the Kittatinny Rangers! We have enjoyed dancing with you this year and appreciate other clubs welcoming our graduates into the square dance community.

We had the pleasure of dancing with father and son callers Paul and Stephen Ingis and father and daughter callers Ed Crowley and Katie Wilson. We also enjoyed hosting Jeff Kaufman, Doug Kauffman, Dane Bragg, Hillary Hill, Mary-jane Clewell, and Howard Richman. Each provided a unique and memorable experience.

Our president, Donna Poyer, arranged for a special dance on November 8 with Ken Burke, who was calling for the NNJSDA Mini-Festival on November 10. As a result, we had the privilege of welcoming raiders from Belles & Beaux, Circle Eights, Hunterdon Flutterwheels, Lakeland Squares, Reelers, and Rutgers Promenaders. It was a wonderful reunion with friends from other clubs and members of our own club who have not been able to dance in recent years.

The Rangers have a reputation of hospitality, including delicious refreshments. You will enjoy rice pudding and scones from Donna Poyer, seasonal fruit crumb cakes from Betty Harris, chocolate and nuts from Karen Hartman, goodies from Mary and Paul Olsen, cheese and crackers, and fruit trays. Tina Ammerman, Jean Artler, and Pat Mascenik bake delicious cookies. Pat often provides a gluten-free treat such as chocolate-dipped dates with peanut butter!

We are thankful that Betty Harris and Eddie Mindlin, our nonagenarians, continue to dance, providing hugs and inspiration. Betty remains active in family, church, and social activities. Eddie's hometown, Franklin, paid tribute to his many contributions as a lifelong resident by naming a street in his honor for a year.



We dance at the First Presbyterian Church in Stanhope in their renovated hall.

In appreciation, the club finished our purchase of foot protectors for the metal chairs, ensuring that the new floor is not damaged.

It has been a wonderful and challenging year. We are so grateful for our longtime members who continue to support the club and our newer members who have become part of our tradition of friendship and commitment to square dancing. We wish you a wonderful spring and summer season with lots of dancing and new adventures.

~ Connie Smith

LAKELAND S



GOOD SHEPHERD EPISCOPAL CHURCH
9 TWO BRIDGES ROAD, TOWACO, NJ 07082

(Air-Conditioned Hall)

Alternating MAINSTREAM and PLUS
2nd & 4th MONDAYS (8:00-10:00 PM)

MAY	12	Ed Foote	<i>Anniversary Potluck Dinner and Dance</i>
	26	No Dance	<i>Memorial Day</i>
JUNE	9	Howard Richman	<i>A Night at the Movies</i>
	23	Paul Ingis	<i>Vacation T-Shirt Theme</i>
JULY	14	Howard Richman	<i>Beach Theme</i>
	28	Maryjane Clewell	<i>Ice Cream Social</i>
AUG.	18	Fran Wadel	<i>Intro Dance – No Experience Necessary!</i>
SEPT.	8	Howard Richman	<i>Vacation Theme</i>
	22	Paul Ingis	<i>Pirate Theme</i>
OCT.	13	Betsy Gotta	<i>Nursery Rhymes Theme</i>
	27	Karin Rabe & Greg Moore	<i>Halloween</i>
NOV.	10	Howard Richman	<i>Veterans Day</i>
	24	Stephen Ingis	<i>Thanksgiving/Autumn Theme</i>
DEC.	8	Karin Rabe & Greg Moore	<i>Polka Dot Theme – Bring Toys for Tots</i>
	22	Howard Richman	<i>Holiday Dance</i>
JAN.	12	Fran Wadel	<i>Student MS Dance – Winter Wonderland</i>
	26	Karin Rabe & Greg Moore	<i>Under the Sea</i>
FEB.	9	Howard Richman	<i>Mardi Gras</i>
	23	Betsy Gotta	<i>Wear a Tie Day</i>
MAR.	9	Stephen Ingis	<i>St. Patrick's Day – Wear Green</i>
	22	Fran Wadel	<i>MS Graduation</i>
	30	Howard Richman	<i>Hoedown – No Experience Necessary!</i>

For more information: Kathy Keener 973-229-0698

Monte/Janet: 973-546-3092

Email us at lakelandsquares@hotmail.com

Visit our website at lakelandsquares.wixsite.com/Lakeland



2, 4 Mon. Sept.-July

Good Shepherd Episcopal Church

Kathy Keener: 973-229-0698

9 Two Bridges Road

Ahoy! It has been a good fall and winter. Weather did not interfere with Lakeland dances and classes. Our specials and hoedowns were well attended.

The holiday hoedown with Howard Richman calling attracted many people new to dancing. We had five squares on the floor plus observers cheering. Our crazy hats and shoes dance was a scene of laughing and giggling as almost everyone had a zany hat and/or unusual shoes. The January student dance with Fran Wadel calling was a success, with our own students and those from other clubs enjoying an excellent evening.

Zaniest of all was our Halloween event, with most dancers in costume all night. They included peanut and chocolate M&Ms, a group of party animals (Mickey Mouse, giraffe, fox, skunk, otter, Snoopy, dalmatian, cow), soldierette, jail girl, jail bird, Spider-Woman with skull, black and white newspaper, hippie, spirit of Halloween, tired old man, queen and king of the elves, witch, and Native American.

Our Mainstream class has nine graduates who are very enthusiastic and ready to dance. Welcome to our new dancers: Matthew Carmel, Chris Carter, Sheryl Gurney, Helen Leba, Nancy Moorshead, JP Plioplys, Jane Ross, Elona Sofer, and Monica Wilson. Welcome also to our new angel and member Dean Hartman.

~ Janet and Monte Montagnino





MIDDLETOWN
RAMBLERS
SQUARE DANCE CLUB
MIDDLETOWN, NEW JERSEY



Dancing from 7:30-9:30 PM

middletownramblers.org

Alternating Plus & Mainstream

wheresthedance.com

Dance Schedule

Middletown Senior Center—Croyden Hall

900 Leonardville Road, Leonardo, NJ 07737

Air-Conditioned Hall—Water and Snacks Provided—Hearing Enhancement Equipment Available

5/2	Howard Richman
5/9	Betsy Gotta
5/16	Doug Kauffman
5/23	Jeff Kaufman— Memorial Day
5/30	Karin Rabe & Greg Moore
6/6	Jeff Kaufman
6/13	Betsy Gotta— Disney Night
6/20	Paul Ingis
6/27	Howard Richman
7/4	No Dance—Fourth of July
7/11	Jeff Kaufman
7/18	Howard Richman
7/25	Betsy Gotta
8/1	Jeff Kaufman
8/8	Howard Richman
8/15	Paul Ingis
8/22	Howard Richman
8/29	No Dance—Labor Day

9/5	Karin Rabe & Greg Moore
8/12	Jenn Engimann
9/19	Mark Franks
9/26	Maryjane Clewell
10/3	Betsy Gotta
10/10	Maryjane Clewell
10/17	Mark Franks
10/24	Karin Rabe & Greg Moore
10/31	Howard Richman
11/7	Jeff Kaufman
11/14	Howard Richman
11/21	Howard Richman
11/28	No Dance—Happy Thanksgiving!
12/5	Howard Richman
12/12	Betsy Gotta
12/19	Mark Franks
12/26	No Dance—Happy Holidays!

Contacts: Larry Sherwood 732-319-8920 or Cyndy Allen 732-995-8949

Every Fri. All Year

Middletown Senior Center at Croydon Hall

Larry Sherwood: 732-319-8920

900 Leonardville Road

The Middletown Ramblers are vibrant.

- We continue dancing Mainstream and Plus on Friday evenings year-round.
- We travel to other clubs; some of us travel to regional and national events.
- We have several students graduating from our classes every year.
- We hold successful reunion socials a few times a year on square dance evenings.

Much of our activity is made possible by our stalwart leader, Larry Sherwood. He teaches the class, drives the bus to other locations, and chairs our meetings.

Our refreshments surprise (in a good way) every Friday. Chips and candy are supplemented by baked goods thanks to Karen Berner, Patty Ross, Sandy Stewart, and others.

As of early spring, our students are working on Mainstream. Several have attended our Friday dances, especially on “student level” evenings. Helping Larry teach are several members who (mostly) know the calls – they add to the camaraderie and laughter that fill Tuesday evening classes.

We welcome visitors to our large floor near the Jersey shore. Check us out. Our website, middletownramblers.org, can keep you updated.

~ John Luard



SQUARE DANCING IS
FRIENDSHIP SET TO MUSIC

Northeast Callers School 2025

Programs for Beginning and Experienced Callers



Ken Ritucci
Massachusetts

(CALLERLAB Accredited Caller Coach)



Kip Garvey
California

(CALLERLAB Accredited Caller Coach)

October
9-13
2025

HOST HOTEL & HAYLOFT BARN
STURBRIDGE, MA



Ed Foote
Pennsylvania

(CALLERLAB Accredited Caller Coach)



Jack Pladdys
Ohio

(CALLERLAB Accredited Caller Coach)

TWO LEVELS OF PROGRAMS

Beginner

Designed for new callers who need all the basics, including: Basic Choreography, Microphone Technique, Voice Control, and Introduction to Sight Calling Methods.

Experienced

For Callers with experience of two or more years. Emphasis will be on Advanced Sight Calling Techniques, better timing and body flow, as well as Creative Choreography, plus much more.

WHETHER YOU ARE JUST GETTING STARTED or want to improve your calling, the Northeast Callers School will provide you with the tools to make you a successful caller. Ken Ritucci has 50 years of calling experience.

He and his staff have the knowledge and leadership to assist you with your career.

Register online at *northeastcallersschool.com*

Autumn Leaves Festival

October 17-18, 2025

Dancing begins Friday afternoon at 2pm
and ends Saturday night at 10pm

**Winston Prouty School
209 Austine Drive
Brattleboro, VT**

Squares:

**Bill
Harrison**



**Ted
Lizotte**



**Ken
Ritucci**



Rounds:



Roy & Janet Williams

3 Halls!

**Plus • A2 • C1 (limited C2)
Round Dance Teach**

For more information, please contact:

Ken Ritucci at 413-262-1875 or kenritucci@gmail.com

Sue Ruggiero at 508-930-0542 or sue.t.ruggiero@gmail.com

Schedule, lodging, and registration: autumnleavesfestival.net



Motiv8ors

motiv8ors.nnjsda.org

Sundays at American Legion Post 171

17-08 River Road, Fair Lawn, NJ 07410



Full C1 6:00-6:30

Class Level C1 6:30-7:00

C1 Teach 7:00-7:30

Advanced+New Calls 7:30-9:00

May 4 Ed Foote
May 25 Karin Rabe & Greg Moore
June 8 Jenn Engimann
June 22 Karin Rabe & Greg Moore
July 13 Jenn Engimann
July 27 Betsy Gotta
Aug. 3 Betsy Gotta

Aug. 10 Betsy Gotta
Sept. 7 Mark Franks
Sept. 28 Betsy Gotta
Oct. 5 Karin Rabe & Greg Moore
Oct. 19 Jenn Engimann
Nov. 16 Ed Foote
Nov. 30 Betsy Gotta

Singles Welcome

Computer Squares

Maryjane: 551-206-7905

Rich: 845-735-3222

cmimigirl@aol.com

Sunday July 27, 2025

2-4:30pm

\$5 per dancer

CCNJ
Midsummer Mania

PeopleCare Center
120 Finderne Ave.
Bridgewater, NJ 08807
ccnjcallers.com

Mainstream
Multiple Callers

Various Sun. All Year

American Legion Post 171

Maryjane Clewell: 551-206-7905

17-08 River Road

Due to severe winter weather, we had to cancel a number of our dances. We are happy to have a more consistent dance schedule now in the spring.

Our never-ending gratitude goes to our president, Maryjane Clewell, for the incredible job she continues to do for our club: booking callers, securing our hall, and sending out reminder emails about our dances. Many thanks also go to the other members of the board, who ably assist her.

In December, Sue Baumeister and her daughter enjoyed a river cruise from Switzerland to the Netherlands. They stopped at beautiful Christmas markets and sampled numerous goodies while making new friends along the way. Although the weather was rather cloudy and cool, the atmosphere was warm and friendly.

Snowbirds Jan and Louis Thompson danced with The Wilde Bunch, and IAGSDC club in Albuquerque, New Mexico, during their drive to Arizona. In Mesa, Jan organized two successful Square Dance Fun Nites at their 55+ community. The events reminded them how challenging it seemed 40 years ago to learn even basic moves.

In January, Maryjane, with the help of Claire Zimmerman, called a Me and My Guy dance for a group of kindergarten through fifth grade Girl Scouts. The caller and a total of 135 couples (!!!) had a delightful time. Hopefully, some of the young ladies will become square dancers in the future.

Cathy and Don Schlesinger proudly celebrated the Bar Mitzvah of their eldest grandchild, Logan. For several months prior to the ceremony, he helped out RocklandRockytops dances for one of his *mitzvahs* (good deeds or charitable acts). They also spent a week in Florida and danced twice (see “Where” in the World” on page 46).

In honor of their 50th wedding anniversary, Susan and Frank Dreifus are sponsoring a benefit dance for the American Heart Association on June 14 at the People Care Center. Full details can be found in their ad on page 10.

We extend our sincere condolences to Marie Gower on the passing of her sister.

~ Jan Thompson



Dressed for the Harvest Festival Hoedown's Black & White Masquerade Ball: (front) Frank and Susan Dreifus, Peter Stein, Jan and Louis Thompson (yin and yang), Lisa Waring, Jim Babcock; (back) caller Dayle Hodge, George Voorhis



REELERS

Ironia School, 303 Dover-Chester Road (Route 513)
Randolph, NJ 07869

reelers.nnjsda.org

Info: Karen Condon
201-841-7523
kmc07834@yahoo.com
reelers.nnjsda.org

1st and 3rd Fridays (with summer break)
7:30 Early Rounds 8:00-10:15 MS/PL/RD
Dance program may change in Fall 2025

Round dance classes at various levels: call/text cuer Mary Pickett at 908-419-3605

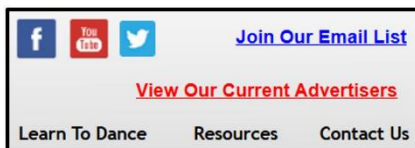
05/02	Ed Foote (PA)	Hawaiian Holiday
05/16	Sandy Corey (NY)	Ice Cream Social
05/30	Betsy Gotta (NJ)	Graduation: Movie and Show Tunes
09/05	Mark Franks (NJ)	Welcome Back: Wear Club Colors
09/19	Clay Goss (DE)	Fall Ice Cream Social
10/03	Howard Richman (NJ)	Book and Puzzle Exchange
10/17	Karin Rabe and Greg Moore (NJ)	Spooktacular Halloween Dance
11/07	Ed Foote (PA)	Veterans Appreciation
11/21	Ted Lizotte (NH)	Give Thanks (Food Donation)
12/05	Doug Kauffman (NJ)	Books for Kids (New Books)
12/19	Paul Ingis (NJ)	Holiday Dance

EMAIL LIST-SERVE

nnjsda.org/dbscripts/secure_emailist_form.php

Are you receiving the most current information about the activities of NNJSDA? Join our email notification list to learn about upcoming events and updates to club and Association square dances. As a subscriber, you can also send square dance related messages to everyone else on the list. The list of members is never shared, although your address will be visible when you send a message.

New dancers: This is a great way to find out about events throughout the region, as well as cancellations or changes in location, caller, time, etc. Please subscribe!



← From the
NNJSDA.org
home page,
click the link

← Scan this QR code with your phone

reelers.nnjstda.org

Cell for dance: 973-216-4524

1, 3 Fri. Sept.-June

Ironia School

Karen Condon: 201-841-7523

303 Dover-Chester Road (Route 513)

Our Mainstream class that finished in February included: (back) teacher Ed Crowley, Paul Gausman, (front) Patricia Mascenik, Marie Abbey, Mary Jansyn, Regan Lakritz. Not shown: Jean Artler, Maria An. Our Plus class will conclude with a combined Mainstream/Plus celebration on May 30. Please join us – and raid! We thank Mark Bippes for his many years as class coordinator. He was joined this year by Karen Condon (recruitment) and Donald Lane and Tina Ammerman (weekly organizing, student contact), while Mark handled finances and ensured sufficient angels.



Our annual holiday party was graciously hosted by Kathy Fetch in her lovely condo. The food and company were excellent and many of the beautiful, festive decorations were made by Kathy.

We were shocked and saddened by the sudden passing of Tom Simansky on December 22, 2024. Tom and his wife, Arlene, were past presidents and longtime active members of Reelers. After moving to Florida, they continued to attend our dances when they were in the area. We greatly miss Tom (and his Track 2 whistle), and extend sincere condolences to Arlene and their family.

Attending conventions is a great way to combine travel with square dancing. The Reelers were well represented in January at the Florida State Convention by Nancy and Jim Anderson, Mark Bippes, and Lise Greene. WASCA, another very popular and fun convention in our nation's capital, was attended in March by Lise Greene and Mark Bippes, Helen and Bruce Haskell, and Lea and Victor Keen.

We have an active Raid program to other clubs; the photo below is from Kittatinny Rangers. We invite your club's raids and visits, and are always happy to welcome all round dancers to enjoy the excellent cuing of Mary Pickett.

~ Irene Stoller



RocklandRockytops

SINGLES WELCOME

ALTERNATING MAINSTREAM AND PLUS TIPS
Second and Fourth Fridays 7:00-9:00 PM (All Year Round)
Congers Community Center – 8 Gilchrest Rd., Congers, NY

05/09/25 **ED FOOTE**
Ice Cream Social

05/23/25 **RICK GITTELMAN**

06/13/25 **JIM EMORY**

06/27/25 **MARK FRANKS**

07/11/25 **HOWARD RICHMAN**

07/25/25 **SANDY COREY**

08/08/25 **BETSY GOTTA**

08/22/25 **PAUL INGIS**

09/12/25 **FRAN WADEL**
Intro Dance

09/26/25 **SANDY COREY**

10/10/25 **BETSY GOTTA**

10/24/25 **RANDY LONGOBUCCO**

11/14/25 **ED FOOTE**

11/28/25* **SANDY COREY**
Free Holiday Spirit Dance

12/26/25 **NO DANCE**

2026

01/09/26 **HOWARD RICHMAN**

01/23/26 **STEPHEN INGIS**

02/13/26 **FRAN WADEL**
Student/Valentine's Day Dance

02/27/25 **BETSY GOTTA**

03/13/26 **RANDY LONGOBUCCO**

03/27/26 **JIM EMORY**

04/10/26 **HOWARD RICHMAN**

04/24/26 **MARK FRANKS**

Directions to Congers: page 16 of *May 2017 Map Supplement*

For further information: Don 845-623-2772 or 845-642-5624

*Venue for this dance: Hillsdale United Methodist Church

sqrdance.org/RocklandRockytops

Cell for dance: 845-642-5624

2, 4 Fri. All Year

Don Schlesinger: 845-623-2772

Congers Community Center

8 Gilchrest Road

I first want to mention something I neglected to include last year. On April 12, 2024, those who arrived early for our dance were treated to a rare sight – a beautiful double rainbow in the eastern sky! Betsy Gotta's first singing call was "Rainbow Connection" and she ended the dance with "Somewhere Over the Rainbow." Three squares enjoyed Betsy's calling that memorable evening.

We had an impressive turnout at our August 23 dance with Mark Franks calling. There were 15 raiders from Belles & Beaux and five visitors from Reelers. Dancers from other New Jersey clubs and quite a few from Friendly Squares in Katonah, New York, attended as well. Thanks to all who graced our hall that evening.

On October 26, we enjoyed caller Larry Shipman, who filled in for Randy Longobucco. We did get to tap our feet to Randy's calling on January 11, 2025, and again on April 11. Other callers we have been delighted to host this season are Sandy Corey, Jim Emory, Ed Foote, Howard Richman, and Fran Wadel.

My partner, Perry Didriksen, and I were among seven Rockytops members who attended the 48th annual Mini-Festival in Randolph. I was impressed with 19-year-old Cameron Harnish from Pennsylvania, whose calling was masterfully proficient and whose voice is like that of a country-western singer. All those who plan, set up, and run the Mini-Festival do a fantastic job, and it is greatly appreciated.

Many thanks to all the angels and students who showed up for our Student/Valentine's Day Dance called by Fran Wadel, which happened to fall right on February 14 this year. Everyone enjoyed the dancing and delicious refreshments, as evidenced by the smiling faces in the picture.



Regrettably, we lost a couple of Rockytops members this season. Ray Keywork passed away in October 2024 at age 92. Ray and his wife, Rita, who predeceased him, were longtime members of our club. Eleanor Jass, who faithfully crossed the Hudson River from Tarrytown and rarely missed a Rockytops dance, passed away on January 7, 2025, at age 90. Eleanor, Ray, and Rita, you are sadly missed.

~ Joan Schierlitz



Rutgers Promenaders

Square and Round Dance Club

rutgerspromenaders.org

Spring/Summer 2025 Mainstream Dances/Class Schedule

Pioneer Grange #1, 410 Ridge Road, Dayton, NJ 08810

First, Third, and Fifth Sundays* Class 1:30, Dance (Mainstream & Rounds) 2:30-5:00

Class members are invited to stay for the dances.

Guests: \$8 (adult)/\$4 (under 18)

If you need more information, contact Ginny at 732-690-5280.

May 4	Spring/Maypole	Betsy Gotta/Roy Gotta
May 18		Dan Koft/Kathy Koft
June 1	Novelty Songs	Betsy, Dan, Kathy, Roy
July 20	Summer Dance #1	Betsy Gotta/Roy Gotta
August 3	Summer Dance #2	Dan Koft/Kathy Koft
September 7	Welcome Back!/Open House	Betsy Gotta/Roy Gotta
September 21		Betsy Gotta/Roy Gotta

*Check the website for any changes: rutgerspromenaders.org

INDEPENDENCE SQUARES (PA) & TIMES SQUARES (NY)
INVITE YOU TO

WHEEL AROUND



WITH DAN KOFT (PA)
MAINSTREAM | PLUS
ADVANCED STAR TIP

SATURDAY, MAY 31, 2025
6:00-9:00 PM
ADMISSION: \$10

PEOPLECARE CENTER
120 FINDERNE AVE.
BRIDGEWATER, NJ



FOR MORE INFORMATION:

independencesquares.org

timessquares.nyc



WE WELCOME ALL TO OUR INCLUSIVE SQUARE DANCE COMMUNITY

rutgerspromenaders.org

other locations in Central NJ – check website

1, 3 Sun. All Year

Ginny Platania: 732-690-5280

Pioneer Grange

410 Ridge Road

I hope this report finds all our fellow dancers happy and healthy!

We began our first full season of dancing at Pioneer Grange with our veteran calling/cuing team of the Gottas and Kofts. Sadly, we learned of the passing of longtime member Megan Willis on September 1.

During our traditional food drive on November 3, we collected 188 pounds of non-perishables for the Franklin Food Bank. Continuing in that spirit of giving, we held our annual Toys for Tots dance in December.

We are working to provide some interesting variety and mix things up a bit with occasional themed dances. If you're wondering about a particular theme that



might be on our schedule, just check out our website. We have held dances with themes such as Broadway/movie, 1950s and 1960s eras, semi-formal New Year's, sports jersey, and tropical island.

Thank you for your support of our club as we continue to provide an enjoyable and satisfying dance experience! If you haven't had the opportunity to give us a try, please do so!

~ Mary Ann Ryan-Erdek





TIMES SQUARES

New York's Only LGBTQ+ Square Dance Club

timesquares.nyc

CLASSES · CLUB NIGHTS · INTROS · WORKSHOPS

Most Tuesdays · Most Thursdays · Some Saturdays
Too Many to List Them All Here – Check Website for Details

MAINSTREAM · PLUS · ADVANCED · CHALLENGE 1

Singles · Couples · All Are Welcome

OUR FABULOUS CALLERS

Betsy Gotta · Dane Bragg · Dayle Hodge
Ett McAtee · Howard Richman · Mark Franks

Location: Public School 3, 490 Hudson Street, New York, NY



Peel the Pumpkin 2025 SCARE THRU

Betsy Gotta

Ken Burke



Saturday, October 25, 2025

10:00 AM-6:00 PM

PS 3, 490 Hudson Street, New York, NY

Full day \$50 until Sept. 1 | \$60 after | Lunch included

Sessions \$30 at door

Costume contest – dress as your favorite character

[TIMESSQUARES.NYC/PTP/](https://timesquares.nyc/PTP/)

timessquares.nyc

Cell for dance: 347-394-4950

Various Tues., Thurs., Sat. All Year

PS 3

Kim Norland: 347-581-3228

490 Hudson Street

Times Squares started the fall dance season by graduating a new Mainstream class of seven on October 15, in time for our annual Peel the Pumpkin fly-in. With the theme Forward and Back, our 40th fly-in had almost 100 dancers enjoying the calling of Betsy Gotta, Ted Lizotte, Chris Phillips, and Howard Richman. The weekend concluded with an elegant brunch and dance at Yotel in the theater district.

In November and December, we held open houses for people interested in coming to our January Mainstream class. 2024 ended with our annual Boxing/Boxer Day dance on December 26. Always a popular event, it was a chance to see several club members who are not able to attend our regular dances.

In January, eight very eager students began a 12-week Mainstream class on Tuesday evenings under the tutelage of Howard Richman. During the year, graduates from our 2024 Mainstream classes expressed their interest in moving up to the Plus program; others wanted a chance to polish their Advanced skills. In response to both groups, on January 16, we began a combination Plus class/Advanced workshop with Betsy Gotta on Thursday evenings.

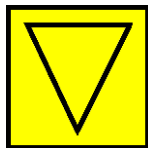
During the cold New York City winter, club members escaped to the warmth of dances in Atlanta, Tampa, and Palm Springs. Others sailed away to the Caribbean on the Let's Rock the Boat Square Dance Cruise sponsored by Tinseltown Squares.

Back in gradually warming New York City, on March 27, we graduated six new Mainstream dancers who are now our newest club members. We also graduated eight new Plus dancers on April 24. While waiting for warmer weather, we began to dream of spring and summer seasons filled with fly-ins, the annual convention, and dances near and far.

~ Kim Norland



Y Squares



2nd and 4th Thursdays – Mainstream with a Plus Tip
Rounds start at 7:30 PM; Dance from 8:00-10:10 PM

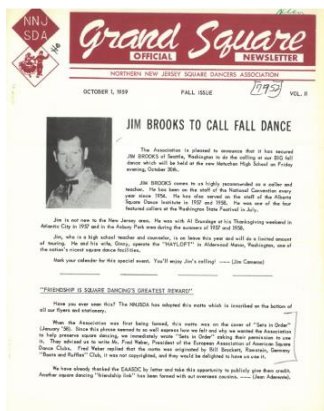
Hehnly School, 590 Raritan Road, Clark, NJ
Questions: Call Maureen Moynihan at 732-259-1559

Date	Caller	Cuer	Theme
May 8	Mark Franks	Mary Pickett	Sock Hop
May 22	Mark Franks	Mary Pickett	Anchors Aweigh with a Half Sashay Ice Cream Social

SAVE THE DATE!
September 11 · Mike Sikorsky

GRAND SQUARE ARCHIVE IS COMPLETE

Last summer, while browsing through past issues of our beloved publication, I came across a plea in the September 2018 issue from then-editor Lise Greene. She was seeking help in locating the single issue, October 1959, missing from the entire 60-year run of *Grand Square*.



I was able to locate this rare item within the special collections of the University of Denver (UD) Library, and last month a digital scan was sent to me. NNJSDA webmaster Ken Robinson added it to our website archive, and now the digital collection is complete and freely accessible. The digital file was also printed and added to the complete print collection, which currently resides with me.

The UD Library has an incomplete collection of *Grand Square* – who knew? – from April 1959 (volume 1) through May-September 2009. Due to the foresight of past editors, duplicate copies of the print issues have been accumulating for decades. With an eye on preservation, one complete print run

is being transferred from copier paper cartons into proper archival storage boxes and will remain with the *Grand Square* editor. The duplicates needed by the UD Library to complete its collection will be mailed off to their new forever home.

Oh, if only everything in life could be this easily accomplished.

~ Jim Babcock, Editor

2, 4 Thurs. Sept.-May
Maureen Moynihan: 732-259-1559

Hehnly Elementary School
590 Raritan Road

After a long summer break and a picnic graciously hosted by Jan and Paul Sanderson, Y Squares entered its 61st year of dancing.

A few of our members attended the Cherry Ridge Square Dance Weekend in Pennsylvania over the Labor Day holiday. Maureen Moynihan and Tony Milito attended the Autumn Leaves Festival in Brattleboro, Vermont, and later took some time to visit Niagara Falls with a stopover to dance with the Copy Cats in Rochester, New York.

The new season began with our annual Mike Sikorsky dance. It was followed by quite a few uniquely themed dances including ABC (Apples, Blueberries, and Cantaloupes), Take Me Out to the Ballgame at World Series time, a fancy Holiday High Tea for Toys for Tots, Breakfast for Dinner featuring assorted breakfast favorites including croissants and Taylor ham (or is it pork roll?) sandwiches, and Café Italiano. Upcoming themes include a Sock Hop and an Anchors Aweigh Ice Cream Social. And our festive refreshment table is always so inviting.

We want to say what a good time we had with Bee Sharps during their February raid. We were informed by the school custodian that the water would be cut off that evening and explained the situation to the raiders. To our delight, they stayed to the end. Of course, the chocolate theme helped to sweeten the dance.

We also extend a big “thank you” to all our guests, especially those who regularly help us fill our squares: Olga D’Arcangelis, Mike O’Farrell, and Florence Speck. We continue to be a Mainstream club with one Plus tip, and round dancing regularly cued by Mary Pickett.

~ Tony Milito and Maureen Moynihan



NORTHERN NEW JERSEY SQUARE DANCERS ASSOCIATION



49th ANNUAL **MINI~ FESTIVAL**

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2025 1:00-6:30 PM

Randolph High School, Randolph, NJ (tentative location)



**Tony
OXENDINE**
(NC)



**Jim
EMORY**
(NY)



**Mark
FRANKS**
(NJ)



ROUNDS WITH **Mary
PICKETT**
(NJ)

Mainstream, Plus, Advanced, Challenge 1, Rounds

Specials: All Singers Mainstream, DBD and Fast Plus, *more to come*

"ONE SQUARE IS FAIR" EVENT FOR NNJSDA MEMBER CLUBS

Info: Chris 201-835-7726 minifestival.info@nnjsda.org

Soft, non-scuffing shoes ONLY – No boots, please

RIBBONS ARE AVAILABLE AT NNJSDA DANCES OR BY MAIL

Please make a copy of this page for your records. Check payable to: NNJSDA

Mail to: Claire Zimmerman, 734 Edel Avenue, Maywood, NJ 07607

Please enclose a stamped, self-addressed, legal-size envelope with your order.

Name(s) _____ Club _____
Street _____ City _____
State ____ Zip ____ Phone _____ Email _____

In advance	\$20 adult (\$25 at door)	# _____	\$ _____
(through 11/1)	\$10 child (\$15 at the door)	# _____	\$ _____
No refunds after 11/7/25 – Thank you.			Total \$ _____

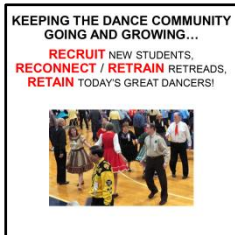
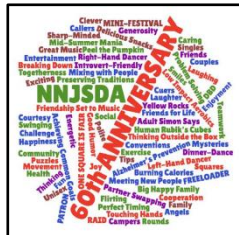
For latest updates and directions: nnjsda.org/mini_fest_info

GRAND SQUARE COVER CONTEST

The winning entry will be featured on the cover of the September 2025 issue.

- The artist will be acknowledged on the cover and receive a dangle.
- All members of NNJSDA clubs are eligible to enter. There is no limit on the number of entries.
- The subject may be any square dance theme, though not localized to a particular geographical area or club.
- Create your entry electronically as a 5"x5" editable document. Images may be in color or grayscale, but all text must be editable.
- Submit your entry by July 21 as an email attachment to: editor@nnjsda.org.
- The *Grand Square* editorial team will select the winning entry.
- All entries become the property of *Grand Square* and may be used in various ways to promote square dancing in general.
- Samples of past winners are available at nnjsda.org/covercontest/winner.php. Note that some entries were also used as posters or flyers for class/club promotion and, therefore, the size and layout shown may differ from these guidelines.

2018 Cindy Whalen	2019 Diane Coffman	2023 Diane Coffman	2024 KJ Bombacci
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ADS/ARTICLES GUIDELINES

Submissions are encouraged about events and activities relevant to the square dance community. If you have an idea for a topic or would like to write an article, please send an email to editor@nnjsda.org.

Next Issue Submissions Due July 7, 2025

<p>ADS: Email your ads to ads@nnjsda.org in any editable format, such as MS Word, and include your club's name in the subject line. Make checks payable to NNJSDA.</p>	Ad Size	H x W	Rate
	Full page	7.5" x 5"	\$55
<p>ARTICLES: Email articles to articles@nnjsda.org; publication subject to available space and editorial constraints. Photographs welcome.</p>	Half page	3.75" x 5"	\$30
	Quarter page	1.75" x 5"	\$15
	Eighth page	1" x 5"	\$10

As you know, square dancing provides many benefits – improved health, friendships, and social opportunities among them. And fun!

The more you dance, the more you benefit. Dancing with NNJSDA also has financial benefits for you and your club. Dangles, free dance coupons, and reduction in your club's Association dues can all be yours with just a little motivation and coordination.

Getting out and dancing with others can be a real boost – not only for you but for the dance organizers, who love an increase in attendance. Actually, who doesn't feel uplifted when the dance floor is packed and buzzing? It's exhilarating!

With summer dances just around the corner, below is a quick review of the NNJSDA incentive programs offered. Hope to see you at many dances soon.

~ Jim Babcock

For Individuals

Freeloader: Attend three or more qualifying NNJSDA summer dances and the Mini-Festival in a single year and have your form signed. Receive a dangle and a coupon for a free NNJSDA dance. Your name will appear in *Grand Square*!

Patron: Attend a dance at eight of the Association's clubs and have your form signed. Receive a dangle and a coupon for a free NNJSDA dance and your name will appear in *Grand Square*!

For Clubs

One Square Is Fair: Sign in with eight or more of your members at five or more scheduled NNJSDA dances. Your club receives a reduction in dues the following year and your club's name will appear in *Grand Square*!

Raid: Dance with eight or more of your club's members at other NNJSDA clubs and earn points. If you achieve at least 200 points, your club receives a reduction in dues the following year and your club's name will appear in *Grand Square*!

For full program details, visit nnjsda.org/nnjsda_documents.php?doctype=A. Recent recipients are listed on page 11 of this issue.



HOT HASH DANDY

Hot Hash Dandy, my new palomino pony, was named after a rousing square dance with longtime caller Paul Ingis. His humor and expertise make him a popular figure with our clubs and keep his events both fun and challenging.

Well, it was at such a dance that this story takes place. I was invited to call a guest tip, and before I took the microphone, Paul did a really exciting, fast-moving patter. When it was breathlessly over, he laughed and announced, "That was really a HOT HASH!" Paul explained that hot hash is very quick and challenging square dancing. I exclaimed, "You know, that's a great name for my new pony!" Paul flashed his trademark smile and replied, "Yes, it is."



So Hot Hash Dandy has come to be our square dance community's mascot, thanks to the inspiration of some fun dance moves. She is on the left in the photo; on the right is her "big sister," Pono, which means "good things" in Hawaiian.

If you come to visit Hawk Hollow Farm in Hardwick, you can see how this feisty pony lives up to her name!

~ Hillary Hill (Freedom Weavers)

LETTER FROM A CALLER

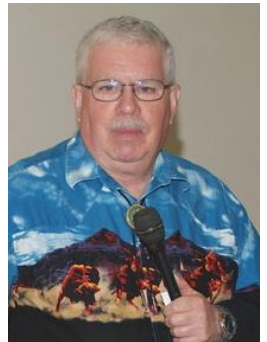
I faded away from the square dance world when Covid hit. I miss the dancers and the calling and the fun we shared – but not the driving! Since I have not seen many of you for several years, here's an update.

Last fall I spent a week in the hospital with a serious bout of pneumonia. I returned in late December, and I was finally released on Christmas Eve. Recently I got the pneumonia vaccine, which I hope will break that cycle. I also have some heart issues that prevent me from dancing.

Even though my mobility is lacking, I hope to play in the Ocean City golf league this season – using a golf cart! I turned 80 on April 3, so I can't complain (too much). If anyone remembers me, tell them I said "hello."

Squarely,

~ Joe Landi (joecaller@hotmail.com)



SUMMER REFRESHMENTS

Some Articles Previously Published in *Grand Square*

The Pleasure Principle – A Guide to Excruciatingly Correct Square Dance

Behavior: What is square dancing all about? Square dancing is all about pleasure: the pleasure of calls well executed, the pleasure of a good laugh if your square does break down, and the pleasure of a social activity in a friendly atmosphere of mutual respect and cooperation. To keep square dancing pleasurable, we must all observe a few guidelines. After all, square dancing is a group activity.

1. Avoid drinking and drugs that may affect your reaction time and cause you to break down a square (or even cause serious injuries). Most clubs discourage drinking both before and during dancing, as the smell of alcohol on the breath can be unpleasant to others.
2. Start out fresh. Shower, use deodorant, and brush your teeth. Avoid eating strong smelling foods like garlic right before dancing. This may sound corny, but it can make a big difference to your fellow dancers.
3. In most clubs, for each new tip, dancers form new sets by squaring up randomly. It is considered unfriendly and discourteous to pass by a forming square to look for another.
4. At the beginning of a new tip, introduce yourself to dancers you don't know. Friendliness is one of the best aspects of square dance activities.
5. Rule: Once in a square, under no circumstances abandon it. Exception: In a medical emergency or if someone is injured, of course you should use common sense. There is an accepted “emergency call for medical assistance”: Members in a square should surround the ill or injured person with uplifted arms to notify the caller or other persons in charge.
6. Help your set dance its best. Be friendly about it. If you see a need to direct a fellow dancer, be sure that you are correct, and be gentle in your assistance. Think of the best interest of the group and take care not to hurt other dancers’ feelings. Do not be too critical of others. This can ruin everyone’s fun if it results in bickering or a condescending attitude. Remember, we all make mistakes and the next one might be yours. Be especially supportive of new dancers; without them our pleasurable pastime would die out.
7. Listen to the caller. Do not talk when the caller is talking or calling. Not only is it rude, but all dancers may need the information offered.

~ F. William Chickering

[Originally appeared in *Grand Square*, May–Sept. 2009, p. 47]

SUMMER REFRESHMENTS

The Value of Hands: As Neil Diamond sang: “Hands ... touching hands ... reaching out ... touching me ... touching you.” Square dancing is a social activity, and the touching of hands constantly reminds us that our square is a team of eight people working together.

1. Take care when taking hands. Do not grab, squeeze, or pull. Sometimes a touch is all that is needed. Respect signs such as badges that indicate an injury is present.
2. Take hands to establish the formation. That will help to keep your lines and waves straight. Clear and neat formations make for easier dancing.
3. Touching hands momentarily at the end of all calls helps you to respond more confidently and quickly to the next call by identifying your partner at the moment (especially useful if the next call requires interaction with your partner); recognizing the square’s formation and your position in it (in a line or wave, you know instantly whether you are a center or an end – ends touch one hand, centers touch two hands); and allowing dancers who are lost to more easily see the “open spot” (an open palm can act as a signal to an unsure dancer and guide him/her to the correct spot). An outstretched arm and welcoming hand have saved many squares from a breakdown.
4. Another hand signal is the pointed finger (“go there”). Use this signal judiciously, when a dancer looks lost or you are certain he/she is headed in the wrong direction.
5. Touching hands helps you as well as the dancers you touch. Many times a momentary touch helps another dancer feel confident that he/she has executed the call successfully and is in a correct position and among friends.
6. Sometimes, it is helpful to momentarily touch hands between the parts of a call. During Load the Boat (a Plus call), the centers touching hands after each of the four parts helps the dancers identify with whom they should do the next part.
7. Hand contacts during the execution of a call help to synchronize the dancers involved. During Spin the Top, momentarily forming a wave after the trade helps to synchronize the foursome while helping the dancers identify whether they are now the “casters” or the “move up-ers.” During Spin Chain Thru, the various hand contacts help to synchronize the two halves of the square.
8. Taking hands while moving together makes it easier to match your speeds and adjust if necessary, which makes for smoother dancing.
9. Know when to let go! For instance, during a Pull By, let go when you begin to pass the other dancer so as not to injure him/her.

Happy dancing!

~ Jan Thompson

[Originally appeared in *Grand Square*, May–Sept. 2011, p. 9]

WHERE IN THE WORLD HAVE OUR DANCERS BEEN?

Memorable Dance Moments Submitted by Our Readers

Dancing Down Under: The square dance community is worldwide indeed! During the pandemic, Karin Rabe and Greg Moore held Zoom dance sessions. People tuned in from around the globe, including Australia. In the fall of 2024, we traveled to New Zealand and Australia on a Road Scholar tour. Karin connected us with an Australian Plus club – Southern Cross in South Melbourne, Victoria. The caller, Howard Cockburn, paid tribute to New Jersey with a Frank Sinatra medley. The dancers were warm and welcoming, of course. And ... Betsy Gotta called there several years ago. Here's to dancing around the world!

~ Ruth and Harry Mazujian (*Hunterdon Flutterwheels, Rutgers Promenaders*)



(l-r) Howard and Brenda Cockburn,
Ruth and Harry Mazujian

Florida State Square and Round Dance Convention: As Rambling Ramblers, we headed south during January's frigid weather, meeting up with current and former New Jerseyans at the Florida State Square and Round Dance Convention. The theme of this year's well-organized event was "Spin the Big Top." In addition to typical circus-themed decorations, there was a circus dinner show on Thursday.

Dancers came from all over Florida, the United States, and Canada. The annual event, which takes place at the Convention Center in Deltona, was held January 17-18, with a trail-in dance on the 16th. We were offered Mainstream to Challenge dancing as well as all phases of round dancing.

Participants from outside the area camped, rented an Airbnb, stayed with friends, or booked a hotel room. The convention hotel was in downtown DeLand, a small walkable city with lots of shopping, local restaurants, and events. The area also offered various sightseeing options.

After the convention, many dancers traveled to Orange Blossom Squares in The Villages for their weekly Sunday dance; the caller that night was from Alaska.

The convention was so much fun that we signed up already for 2026! It would be great to have more dancers from New Jersey next year.

~ Jane Mastrolia and Dennis Hunsberger



Standing: Gary Bergman, Eleanor Oberle, Mark Bippes, Jose Obarrio, Debbie Obarrio, Dennis Hunsberger, Jim Anderson, Arlene Remington / Kneeling: Lise Greene, Jane Mastrolia, Nancy Anderson / Not Pictured: Bob Pinto

WHERE IN THE WORLD HAVE OUR DANCERS BEEN?

Let's Rock the Boat! Hunterdon Flutterwheels Plus dancers Ken Kuter, Bonnie Jean Mac Yash, Harry Mazujian, and Ruth Mazujian responded to Jeff and Susan Kaufman's Travel Squared Travel flyer: a 10-day cruise on the *Celebrity Eclipse* with stops in Bonaire, Aruba, and Grand Cayman from February 27 through March 8.

On board, we had sessions for Plus, A2, and C1 dancers as well as multi-group sessions for everyone together. There were about 60 people from all over the United States and three from Denmark. Our callers were Michael Kellogg from Los Angeles and Justin Russell from Memphis. Both were great!

Dances were organized between other entertainment events on the cruise. On sea days, there were opportunities to dance morning, afternoon, and night. We were given colorful square dance T-shirts that led other cruisers to ask about square dancing. The second day featured a 60s/70s party with a prize for "the two grooviest people" – which turned out to be us!

We had great fun, food, entertainment, and excursions along with terrific dancing. A big, joyful thanks to Jeff, Susan, Michael, and Justin for sharing their talents.

~ Ruth and Harry Mazujian (*Hunterdon Flutterwheels, Rutgers Promenaders*)



More Florida Fun: We spent a lovely week in the West Palm Beach area visiting friends and square dancing twice in Boynton Beach. First was a Plus dance at Castoffs, called by the great Jack Lewis, a 50-year veteran who was quite impressive with his innovative choreography. He and his wife, Ilene, were very gracious and made us feel right at home. A few days later, we danced A2 at Jack's other club, A-Jacks. There were three squares of accomplished dancers and, once again, we had a wonderful time. If you are ever in southeast Florida, don't fail to look up this very talented caller. You'll be glad you did.

~ Cathy and Don Schlesinger (*RocklandRockytops, Motiv8ors*)



WHERE IN THE WORLD HAVE OUR DANCERS BEEN?

Square Dancing in California: We both have family in Northern California, so we visit once or twice a year. Before leaving, we look up the local clubs to see when they will be dancing and at what level.

The club we first danced with was Tam Twirlers in San Rafael. Their caller, Eric Henerlau, may be familiar to you as he calls at fly-ins and festivals around the country. You may also have benefited from the work of one of their members, Brad Christie, their webmaster and the creator of Taminations. The club took its name from Mount Tamalpais (familiarily known as Mount Tam), a Marin County landmark.

In years past we danced in the Sacramento area, including at a multi-caller benefit dance for the Paradise fire victims. A couple of times, just after Christmas, we danced at a multi-club holiday dance in Oakland. More recently, we danced in Sebastopol with the Redwood Rainbows and the Sebastopol Spinners at their lovely wood-floored Wischemann Hall.

People have been most welcoming everywhere we go. Dancing when traveling is a wonderful way to meet locals and dance to different callers.

~ Cindy and Jonathan Uejio (*Times Squares*)

Wonderful WASCA: The annual festival sponsored by the Washington Area Square Dancers Cooperative Association was a blast! NNJSDA was well represented in Herndon, Virginia, with 50 dancers from 11 of our 13 clubs attending. Programs included Mainstream, Plus, Plus DBD (Dance by Definition), Advanced, Challenge, rounds (phases II through VI), and specials. These included contra, hex squares, line dancing, clogging, and introductions to several of the dance programs.

Nancy and Vic Ammons (Bee Sharps) spent most of the weekend in the round dance halls, learning several new dances choreographed by the Garzas, Preskitts, and Worlocks. First-time attendee Dave Tien (Bee Sharps) enjoyed kaleidoscope squares and fast Plus.

Ten New Jersey dancers tried out hex squares, including 2024 graduates Kim and Rich Ferrentino (Circle Eights). It's a twist for the mind, but great fun! Joanna Lieuallen (Hunterdon Flutterwheels) and I spent much of our time in the DBD room,



learning many of the unexpected ways calls can be utilized. Teens and young adults are very active in WASCA. It was interesting to see the flourishes they put into the dances, and it was even better to end up in a square together and try them out ourselves!

WHERE IN THE WORLD HAVE OUR DANCERS BEEN?

The event included daily 50/50 raffles, basket raffles, vendors, and nightly ice cream breaks. Susan and George Cerny (Hunterdon Flutterwheels) won a square dance themed basket. In accordance with the convention's overall "duck and dive" theme, they were spotted wearing a rubber ducky dress and shirt, respectively, for which they also won a trophy for best-dressed!

There was one sad announcement. Renowned caller Tom Miller, who was often featured at NNJSDA events, had been on the WASCA schedule. But he was hospitalized, and passed away during the weekend. (See the article on page 9.)

Twenty-six NNJSDA dancers shared a meal together prior to the final evening, which ended with an hour-long die-hard Mainstream session (continuous dancing). What a pleasure it was to experience all the callers closing out the weekend together. Mark Bippes (Reelers and Kittatinny Rangers) appreciated their creativity and smoothness, especially Buddy Weaver and Mike Seastrom; Joanna's favorite was Eric Henerlau. You can see the callers and our dancing in videos on the WASCA Youtube channel (youtube.com/squaredancers/wasca). How many NNJSDA members can you spot?

The weekend was not all dancing (although it could have been). Susan and George went to the nearby Steven F. Udvar-Hazy Center (the Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum's annex) and said it was impressive! Jan and Paul Sanderson visited their niece, who is a research editor with the National Geographic Society. Nancy and Vic made time for lunch with their son's family in Alexandria to celebrate granddaughter Claire's ninth birthday.

Even the trip home on Sunday was fun; Joanna and I went in search of an aqueduct and also discovered a hidden-away Covid memorial dedicated to healthcare workers and those who had suffered long-term effects or died. Nancy and Vic were able to livestream the audio of their New Jersey granddaughter, Alexa, playing in three softball games throughout the drive.

It was a perfect weekend with dancing, friends, family, and more dancing!

~ Susan Allen (*Bee Sharps* and *Hunterdon Flutterwheels*)



Plus & Advanced Labor Day Weekend

Aug 29, 30, & 31, Sept 1, 2025
Cherry Ridge Square Dance Campground

Beautiful Woodland/Lake Setting in the Pocono Mts. of Pennsylvania

2 Internationally Known Callers



Bill Harrison



Betsy Gotta



Lodging w/
Private Baths and
Common Kitchen

Full RV
Hookups
(Tent sites
also
available)



2 Wooden Dance Floors

2 Halls during the day (combined at night)

Evening Dances will have the following format

2 Plus Tips followed by 1 Advanced Tip
w/ Rounds in between all.

Dance Fee
\$55/Person

5 Hours of just
Round Dancing



with Roy Gotta

For Fees, Lodging, and Camping info, contact Cindy at:
Cherry Ridge Campground, 147 Camp Rd, Honesdale, PA 18431
Phone 570-488-6654 *cherryridgecampsites.com*

For more info about the weekend, contact Roy Gotta at: 732-249-2086
or *roygotta@optonline.net*

CALENDAR | MEMBER CLUBS' ADVERTISED DANCES

List of dance events prepared from *member club ads appearing in this issue*. See ads for details. All dances are in NJ unless noted.

A=Advanced; C=Challenge; MS=Mainstream; PL=Plus; RD=Round,
TBA=To Be Announced; *italics*=student-level MS or intro/dance party

Date	Club	Caller/Cuer	Location	Program
MAY				
1 Th	Times Squares	Richman	New York, NY	Intro
2 F	Hunterdon Flutterwheels	Koft	Flemington	MS/PL
	Middletown Ramblers	Richman	Leonardo	MS/PL
	Reelers	Foote/Pickett	Randolph	MS/PL/RD
4 Su	Circle Eights	Weiner	Maywood	MS/PL
	Motiv8ors	Foote	Fair Lawn	A/C
	Rutgers Promenaders	Gotta/Gotta	Dayton	MS/RD
7 W	Belles & Beaux	Richman	Maywood	MS/PL
8 Th	Times Squares	Gotta	New York, NY	MS/PL/A
	Y Squares	Franks/Pickett	Clark	MS/PL/RD
9 F	Bee Sharps	Richman/Pickett	Bridgewater	MS/PL/A/RD
	Middletown Ramblers	Gotta	Leonardo	MS/PL
	RocklandRockytops	Foote	Congers, NY	MS/PL
12 M	Lakeland Squares	Foote	Towaco	MS/PL
15 Th	Times Squares	Franks	New York, NY	MS/PL/A
16 F	Hunterdon Flutterwheels	Bragg	Flemington	MS/PL
	Middletown Ramblers	Kauffman	Leonardo	MS/PL
	Reelers	Corey/Pickett	Randolph	MS/PL/RD
17 Sa	NNJSDA Dance	Gotta/Gotta	Bridgewater	MS/PL/RD
18 Su	Rutgers Promenaders	Koft/Koft	Dayton	MS/RD
21 W	Belles & Beaux	Gittelman	Maywood	MS/PL
22 Th	Times Squares	Gotta	New York, NY	MS/PL/A
	Y Squares	Franks/Pickett	Clark	MS/PL/RD
23 F	Bee Sharps	Rabe & Moore/TBA	Bridgewater	MS/PL/A/RD
	Kittatinny Rangers	P. Ingis & S. Ingis	Stanhope	MS
	Middletown Ramblers	Kaufman	Leonardo	MS/PL
	RocklandRockytops	Gittelman	Congers, NY	MS/PL
25 Su	Motiv8ors	Rabe & Moore	Fair Lawn	A/C
29 Th	Times Squares	Bragg	New York, NY	MS/PL/A
30 F	Hunterdon Flutterwheels	Gittelman	Flemington	MS/PL
	Middletown Ramblers	Rabe & Moore	Leonardo	MS/PL
	Reelers	Gotta/Pickett	Randolph	MS/PL/RD
JUNE				
1 Su	Rutgers Promenaders	Gottas & Kofts	Dayton	MS/RD
4 W	Belles & Beaux	Wadel	Maywood	MS/PL
5 Th	Times Squares	Gotta	New York, NY	Intro
6 F	Hunterdon Flutterwheels	P. Ingis	Flemington	MS/PL
	Middletown Ramblers	Kaufman	Leonardo	MS/PL
7 Sa	NNJSDA Dance	Goss/Denniston & McCabe	Bridgewater	MS/PL/RD

CALENDAR | MEMBER CLUBS' ADVERTISED DANCES

Date	Club	Caller/Cuer	Location	Program
JUNE				
8 Su	Circle Eights	P. Ingis	Maywood	MS/PL
	Motiv8ors	Engimann	Fair Lawn	A/C
9 M	Lakeland Squares	Richman	Towaco	MS/PL
12 Th	Times Squares	Gotta	New York, NY	MS/PL/A
13 F	Bee Sharps	Richman	Bridgewater	MS/PL/A
	Middletown Ramblers	Gotta	Leonardo	MS/PL
	RocklandRockytops	Emory	Congers, NY	MS/PL
18 W	Belles & Beaux	P. Ingis	Maywood	MS/PL
19 Th	Times Squares	Hodge (remote)	New York, NY	MS/PL/A
20 F	Hunterdon Flutterwheels	Richman	Flemington	Intro
	Middletown Ramblers	P. Ingis	Leonardo	MS/PL
22 Su	Motiv8ors	Rabe & Moore	Fair Lawn	A/C
23 M	Lakeland Squares	P. Ingis	Towaco	MS/PL
26 Th	Times Squares	Richman	New York, NY	MS/PL/A
27 F	Middletown Ramblers	Richman	Leonardo	MS/PL
	RocklandRockytops	Franks	Congers, NY	MS/PL
28 Sa	Times Squares	McAtee (remote)	New York, NY	MS
JULY				
2 W	Belles & Beaux	Corey	Maywood	MS/PL
9 W	NNJSDA Dance	Corey	TBA	MS/PL
10 Th	Times Squares	Richman	New York, NY	MS/PL/A
11 F	Middletown Ramblers	Kaufman	Leonardo	MS/PL
	RocklandRockytops	Richman	Congers, NY	MS/PL
13 Su	Motiv8ors	Engimann	Fair Lawn	A/C
14 M	Lakeland Squares	Richman	Towaco	MS/PL
16 W	Belles & Beaux	Rabe & Moore	Maywood	MS/PL
17 Th	Times Squares	Gotta	New York, NY	MS/PL/A
18 F	Middletown Ramblers	Richman	Leonardo	MS/PL
20 Su	Rutgers Promenaders	Gotta/Gotta	Dayton	MS/RD
23 W	NNJSDA Dance	P. Ingis & S. Ingis	Bridgewater	MS/PL
24 Th	Times Squares	Hodge	New York, NY	MS/PL/A
25 F	Middletown Ramblers	Gotta	Leonardo	MS/PL
	RocklandRockytops	Corey	Congers, NY	MS/PL
26 Sa	Times Squares	Hodge	New York, NY	MS/PL/A
27 Su	Motiv8ors	Gotta	Fair Lawn	A/C
28 M	Lakeland Squares	Clewell	Towaco	MS/PL
31 Th	Times Squares	Gotta	New York, NY	Intro
AUGUST				
1 F	Middletown Ramblers	Kaufman	Leonardo	MS/PL
3 Su	Motiv8ors	Gotta	Fair Lawn	A/C
	Rutgers Promenaders	Koft/Koft	Dayton	MS/RD
6 W	Belles & Beaux	Gotta	Maywood	MS/PL
7 Th	Times Squares	Richman	New York, NY	Intro

CALENDAR | MEMBER CLUBS' ADVERTISED DANCES

Date	Club	Caller/Cuer	Location	Program
AUGUST				
8 F	Middletown Ramblers	Richman	Leonardo	MS/PL
	RocklandRockytops	Gotta	Congers, NY	MS/PL
10 Su	Motiv8ors	Gotta	Fair Lawn	A/C
13 W	NNJSDA Dance	Longobucco	TBA	MS/PL
14 Th	Times Squares	Hodge	New York, NY	MS/PL/A
15 F	Middletown Ramblers	P. Ingis	Leonardo	MS/PL
18 M	Lakeland Squares	Wadel	Towaco	Intro
20 W	Belles & Beaux	Moody	Maywood	MS/PL
21 Th	Times Squares	Gotta	New York, NY	MS/PL/A
22 F	Middletown Ramblers	Richman	Leonardo	MS/PL
	RocklandRockytops	P. Ingis	Congers, NY	MS/PL
23 Sa	Times Squares	Gotta	New York, NY	MS/PL/A
27 W	NNJSDA Dance	Bragg	Bridgewater	MS/PL
28 Th	Times Squares	Richman	New York, NY	MS/PL/A
SEPTEMBER				
3 W	Belles & Beaux	Corey	Maywood	MS/PL
4 Th	Times Squares	Gotta	New York, NY	MS/PL/A
5 F	Middletown Ramblers	Rabe & Moore	Leonardo	MS/PL
	Reelers	Franks/Pickett	Randolph	MS/PL/RD
7 Su	Motiv8ors	Franks	Fair Lawn	A/C
	Rutgers Promenaders	Koft/Koft	Dayton	MS/RD
8 M	Lakeland Squares	Richman	Towaco	MS/PL
11 Th	Times Squares	Weiner	New York, NY	MS/PL/A
	Y Squares	Sikorsky/Pickett	Clark	MS/PL/RD
12 F	Bee Sharps	Franks/Pickett	Bridgewater	MS/PL/RD
	Kittatinny Rangers	TBA	Stanhope	MS
	Middletown Ramblers	Engimann	Leonardo	MS/PL
	RocklandRockytops	Wadel	Congers, NY	Intro
14 Su	Circle Eights	Rabe & Moore	Maywood	MS/PL
17 W	Belles & Beaux	Shipman	Maywood	MS/PL
18 Th	Times Squares	Hodge (remote)	New York, NY	MS/PL/A
19 F	Hunterdon Flutterwheels	Moody	Flemington	MS/PL
	Middletown Ramblers	Franks	Leonardo	MS/PL
	Reelers	Goss/Pickett	Randolph	MS/PL/RD
21 Su	Rutgers Promenaders	Gotta/Gotta	Dayton	MS/RD
22 M	Lakeland Squares	P. Ingis	Towaco	MS/PL
25 Th	Times Squares	Gotta	New York, NY	MS/PL/A
26 F	Bee Sharps	Gotta/Gotta	Bridgewater	MS/PL/A/RD
	Kittatinny Rangers	TBA	Stanhope	MS
	Middletown Ramblers	Clewell	Leonardo	MS/PL
	RocklandRockytops	Corey	Congers, NY	MS/PL
28 Su	Motiv8ors	Gotta	Fair Lawn	A/C

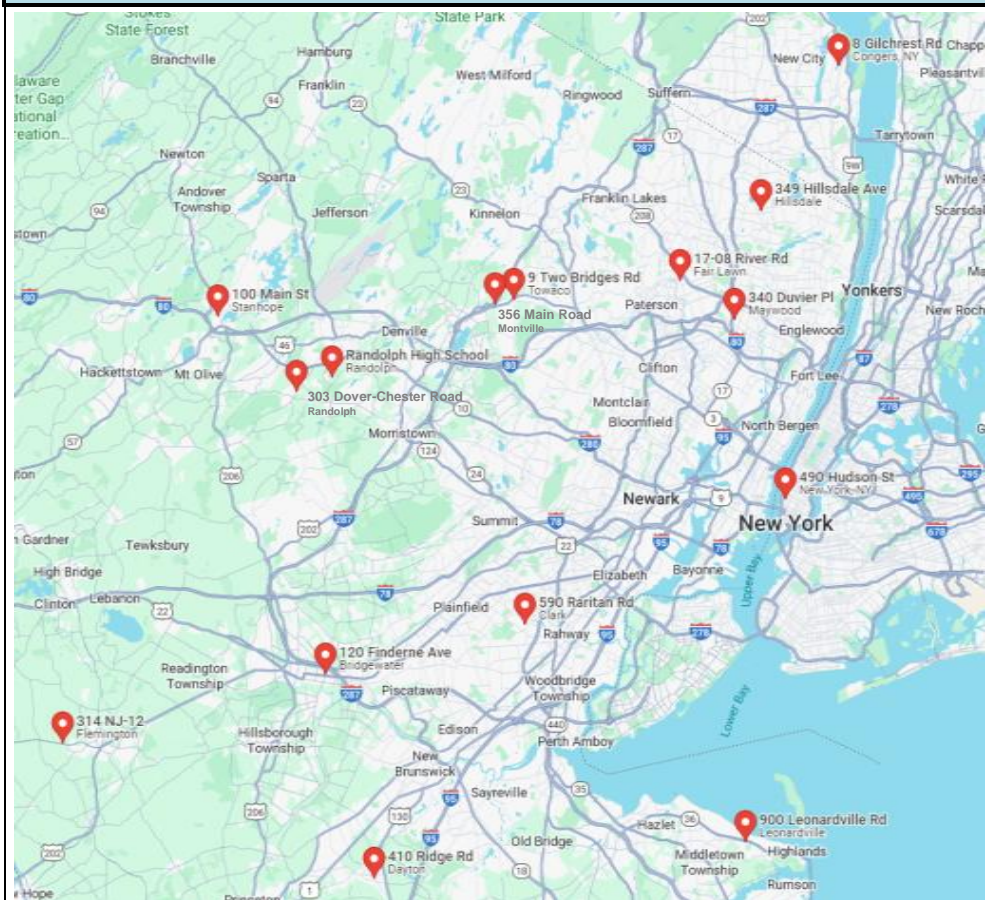
CLEARANCE FOR SPECIAL DANCES AND EVENTS

If your club plans to hold a dance event outside its regular dance program, location, day, or time, *you must request clearance from the NNJSDA*. This helps to avoid conflicts. Please contact the corresponding secretary for guidance. For details, see the *NNJSDA Constitution and Bylaws*, section 14, page 4.

CONVENTIONS, FESTIVALS, SPECIALS, WEEKENDS

Date	Event	Caller/Cuer	Location	Program
MAY				
2-4	GSSDCA	Engel	Quarryville, PA	MS/PL
31	B&B Mystery Bus Ride	???	???	MS/PL
	Wheel Around NJ 2	Koft	Bridgewater	MS/PL
JUNE				
13-15	GSSDCA	Black	Shartlesville, PA	MS/PL
14	AHA Benefit Dance	Engimann	Bridgewater	PL/A
18	Summer Workshop	TBA	Bridgewater	MS
25	Summer Workshop	TBA	Bridgewater	MS
25-28	National Convention	Multiple Callers/ Cuers	Shreveport, LA	All Programs
28	Summer Workshop	Moody	Flemington	MS/PL
JULY				
2	Summer Workshop	TBA	Bridgewater	MS
12	Summer Workshop	Crowley	Flemington	MS/PL
18-20	GSSDCA	Engel	Shartlesville, PA	MS/PL
26	Summer Workshop	TBA	Flemington	MS/PL
27	CCNJ Midsummer Mania	Multiple Callers	Bridgewater	MS
AUGUST				
1	Warren County Farmers' Fair	Hill, P. Ingis	Harmony	MS/PL
8-10	GSSDCA	Franks	Shartlesville, PA	MS/PL
9	Summer Workshop	Moody	Flemington	MS/PL
23	Summer Workshop	Moody	Flemington	MS/PL
29-1	Cherry Ridge	Gotta, Harrison/ Gotta	Honesdale, PA	PL/A/RD
SEPTEMBER				
5-7	GSSDCA	Engel	Newmanstown, PA	MS/PL
OCTOBER				
3-5	GSSDCA	Bragg, Engimann	Honesdale, PA	MS/PL
17	Live Music Dance	Richman	TBA	MS/PL

MAP OF VENUES



Venue

Address

City

American Legion Post 171	17-08 River Road	Fair Lawn
Congers Community Center	8 Gilchrist Road	Congers, NY
First Presbyterian Church	100 Main Street	Stanhope
Good Shepherd Episcopal Church	9 Two Bridges Road	Towaco
Hehnly Elementary School	590 Raritan Road	Clark
Hillsdale United Methodist Church	349 Hillsdale Avenue	Hillsdale
Hunterdon County Complex, Building 1	314 State Route 12	Flemington
Ironia Elementary School	303 Dover-Chester Road	Randolph
Maywood Recreation Center	340 Duvier Place	Maywood
Middletown Senior Center	900 Leonardville Road	Leonardo
Montville Senior House	356 Main Road	Montville
PeopleCare Center	120 Finderne Avenue	Bridgewater
Pioneer Grange	410 Ridge Road	Dayton
Public School 3	490 Hudson Street	New York, NY
Randolph High School	511 Millbrook Avenue	Randolph

NNJSDA MEMBER CLUBS			
nnjsda.org/member_clubs.php			
MAINSTREAM			
Sunday	1, 3 Sept.-June		
	Rutgers Promenaders*	Dayton	rutgerspromenaders.org
Friday	2, 4 Sept.-May		
	Kittatinny Rangers	Stanhope	kittatinnyrangers.com
MAINSTREAM + PLUS TIP			
Wednesday	1, 3 All Year		
	Belles & Beaux	Maywood	sqrdance.org/BellesBeaux
Thursday	2, 4 Sept.-May		
	Y Squares*	Clark	y-squares.org
MAINSTREAM/PLUS			
Sunday	Various Sept.-June		
	Circle Eights	Maywood	circle8s.nnjsda.org
Monday	2, 4 Sept.-July		
	Lakeland Squares	Towaco	lakelandsquares.wixsite.com/lakeland
Friday	1, 3 Sept.-June		
	Hunterdon Flutterwheels	Flemington	hunterdonflutterwheels.nnjsda.org
Friday	1, 3 Sept.-June		
	Reelers*	Randolph	reelers.nnjsda.org
Friday	Every Week All Year		
	Middletown Ramblers	Leonardo	middletownramblers.org
Friday	2, 4 All Year		
	RocklandRockytops	Congers, NY	sqrdance.org/RocklandRockytops
MAINSTREAM/PLUS + ADVANCED TIP			
Friday	2, 4 Sept.-June		
	Bee Sharps*	Bridgewater	beesharps.org
MAINSTREAM/PLUS/ADVANCED			
Thursday	Every Week All Year		
	Times Squares	New York, NY	timessquares.nyc
ADVANCED/CHALLENGE			
Sunday	Various All Year		
	Motiv8ors	Fair Lawn	motiv8ors.nnjsda.org

*Round Dancing (alternating or additional)