

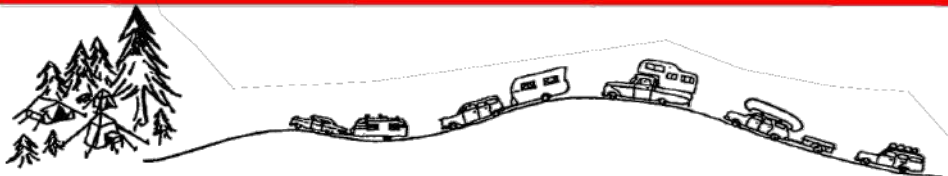
NSDCA



TIMES

March 2025—May 2025 Volume 63 Issue 2

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE
NATIONAL SQUARE DANCE CAMPERS ASSOCIATION, INC.
NSDCA, INC., P.O. Box 241, Butler, WI 53007-9998



BIG NEWS

NEW MEMBERS will receive **FREE NAME BADGES**

All NEW Members receive an NSDCA Badge FREE
(Magnetic back just \$3.00/ea)

\$75.00 Discount **on the 2025 Camporee**

NEW MEMBER Couples will have their 2025 Camporee registration discounted by \$75.00 and Singles will be discounted \$30.00 and pay only the 3-day \$105.00 campsite charge.

NSDCA MEMBERS **Complimentary 2026 Dues**

With each NEW MEMBER (couple/single) you bring in your name will go into a drawing to be held at the 2025 camporee. 5 winners will be drawn and have their 2026 NSDCA dues waived. You can only win once. The member who brings in the most New Members will automatically have their 2026 dues waived. You do not need to be present at the 2025 camporee to win.

50% Discount for 2026 CAMPOREE

5 WINNERS will be drawn at the 2025 Camporee to receive a 50% discount on their 2026 Camporee registration fee above the 3 - Day Campsite Fee.
Your must be present to win!

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John & Dolly Ide



Wow! I'm so excited. By the time you read this, I'll hope to be only a week out from being allowed to put weight on my left leg, maybe a month out from being able to walk again without falling over or using a walker, and maybe two or three months out from square dancing again, just in time for our annual Camporee. Whether or not I'm up to dancing or not, Dolly and I plan to be in Shreveport, ready to have fun with all of our great members who are equally excited about participating. Then to top it off, we can stay at the same campsite with no site changes or a long drive, and participate in the 74th NSDC. Dolly and I are planning to go. How about you?

I put that as a question because it seems that fewer and fewer of you are wearing any of the rubber off the tires of your RVs by actually getting on the road. We miss seeing you once a year and would really love to have our Camporee live up to its title, the **2025 67th NSDCA International Camporee**, and see all of you from far and near, especially our friends from Canada, who it seems have been locked up at the border ever since COVID.

In addition to the convenience of not having to move our camper between the Camporee and the NSD Convention, we'll have two or three days in between to relax and do some sightseeing; there will also be nightly opportunities to dance and socialize at the campground, because the NSDC has said they'll provide access to the building in the campground. We plan to have nightly potlucks and late night after parties after the in-town NSDC activity shuts down. It will be similar to the activities at the NSDC campground at the Atlanta Convention in 2019, with nightly dancing, socializing, ice cream, ... ??

Unfortunately, Dolly and I were not able to get to last year's Camporee in Wisconsin because of several health-related issues, so we're really looking forward to this year, but it really saddens me to see that fewer and fewer of you are taking advantage of our annual get-together. We've been going to Camporees for over twenty years. I'm sure there are some of you who have done so much longer than we have. My hope is that we won't let this great activity of square/round dancing and camping die out. That's where we're headed unless more of you sup-

('President' continued on page 5)



Roy Huddleston & Priscilla Newton



Hello Campers! Priscilla and I are trying to get back into the swing of things after not being able to dance for several months. With me in the hospital in October with heart problems and Priscilla in and out of the hospital all of November with colitis and heart problems, we could not correspond as needed.

We are happy to be back square dancing, and are working on contacting at-large and regular square dancers in Alabama, Georgia, Mississippi and Tennessee to invite them to join in the fun we have as members of the NSDCA and #152.

We also promote the upcoming 67th International Camporee and NSDC occurring in June 2025 in Shreveport, LA. We hope 2025 will be a big and enjoyable square dance year, and are hoping to see all of you in a square.

Happy Trails from *Priscilla and Roy*

(*'President' continued from page 4*)

port it and your NSDCA. Remember that the NSDCA is a member organization, and each year we lose members because we're all getting older. Square dancing is one of the best activities to help you stay fit both physically and mentally as the day you were born continues to become a more distant memory each day. If you're not camping any more for whatever reason, we'll help you find a hotel or motel nearby. Come join all your NSDCA friends from around the country and come to Shreveport, LA this June. The registration form is in this issue of the *TIMES* (in the centerfold) or you can download a fillable version from NSDCA.org.

By the way, your Chapter should have forwarded you our "BIG NEWS" flash a couple of weeks ago for some special incentives for coming to the Camporee. If you missed the e-mail, check it out in this issue.

Hope to see you in Shreveport.

Stay well and enjoy life.

Dolly and John



Tricia & Neal Chartier



All of your renewals and the election of officers should be completed by now and submitted to yours truly, your NSDCA Secretary.

So, now it's time to start working on finding new members for our 2025 camping and dancing season. Your Board came up with a wonderful promotion for new members, and if they can attend the International Camporee in Shreveport, LA we even have more incentives! We even have a contest for the current member that recruits the most new members by the time of the Camporee!

Now, all you have to do is register for this year's Camporee, being held in Shreveport, LA in June. It's right before the National Square Dance Convention. If you are still tenting and you know it's going to be too hot, just get a hotel room and come over every day and join us in all the activities we have planned.

Tricia & Neal Chartier



**New Member Couples\Singles get a
HUGE Discount on the 2025 Camporee**

**BIG
NEWS**



**NSDCA Members get a chance
to have their 2026 renewal waived
and 50% OFF your 2026
Camporee registration fee.**

(Excludes campsite fee)



Susan & Don Wolford



So glad to see each and every Chapter renewal that has been sent in. We still have a few Chapters that have yet to send in their renewal. If you haven't sent in the renewals for your Chapter, please remit it soon.

Each time your Chapter changes/elects new officers, please remember to send in the *Elected Officers of Chapter* form found on the nsdca.org website under the tab "Forms & FAQ" and click on "Forms." Some Chapters have State Federation organizations where they send the names of their officers, but please, also send it to the NSDCA Office at the Butler, Wisconsin address which is on the form. If you don't have any renewals that you are sending at the same time with your new officers form, you can email it to secnsdca@gmail.com.

The NSDCA Board will be hosting the 67th Camporee in Shreveport, Louisiana in June. Have you sent in your registration yet? One very exciting piece of news is that if you register to camp with us at the 67th Camporee, you will not have to move your rig to a different site for the 74th NSD Convention. Yep, you get to remain in your same site throughout the 67th NSDCA International Camporee and the 74th NSD Convention. We are advertising with the 74th NSDC as a Trail-Thru Event. We would love to have more campers come and join in our fun!

We were not able to camp with our Strawberry Travelers Chapter in December as we had planned a cruise, which, of course, included square dancing during that same time. As I write this, we are looking forward to our February Chapter campout.

The Florida State Square & Round Dance Convention in January had a theme of 'Spin The Big Top.' The hosts put on a terrific dance program. The decorations were amazing and the dinner show program was a circus show without the animals. We even had two mimes who did an excellent job and kept everyone laughing. You'll have to mark your calendar to come to Florida for the 2026 convention.

Don & Susan





Kathy Nickel

Membership Secretary



Hi Everyone! I cannot believe February is already here. I am getting anxious to start camping again. As you know, I am from Wisconsin and our camping timeframe is really short. We only have a few good months of the year to get our camping in. With the mild winter we've had so far, I haven't had cabin fever as bad this year—but I do miss camping! We are looking forward to getting some snow this month, as it has been very mild and not much snow to speak of so far.

Our NSDCA Chapter 031 is doing well and active in our area. We are supporting our Wisconsin Convention this year by repainting some wood Dancer Silhouettes that are used at the State Convention. They looked a little used, so we offered to paint them as one of our crafts at a campout. You will have to read the "Chats" this summer and we will be sure to provide pictures. We have all our campouts set and have our reservations already made. It has gotten harder to reserve campsites since COVID, so we have to plan ahead.

I am still receiving Chapter Renewals; they are still coming in slow. Please be sure to get your renewals in as quickly as possible. It is important for the organization as we have to get insurance, and it is based on membership. Now, with the February special (see elsewhere in this newsletter) I hope to see a lot of new members join. What a nice opportunity for campers to join and try it out. Camping and dancing are such two great activities for socializing and dancing.

I still need updates on Chapter Officers. This is important to keep us updated as to the officers of your Chapter. There is a form "Elected Officers of Chapter" on the NSDCA Website www.nsdca.org for you to fill out. This helps me to know who I should contact when there are questions.

Don't forget to register early for our 2025 International Camporee, which is going to be held in Shreveport LA on June 19, 20 & 21. I know it is currently being worked on and there are hints of some really nice things that will be happening. It is always such a fun time, and I look forward to meeting all of you and putting a face to a name. Don't forget, the National Square Dance Convention is the week after, also in Shreveport; you can attend both in one trip. The Convention Center is

('Membership' continued on page 10)

State & Area Representatives' Reports

Illinois State Representative

Greetings from Illinois.

When writing this, it's 25 degrees outside. Where I live we have only 2-3 inches of snow, but further south in the state they have 7" and the temperatures are even colder! Being winter, there's not much activity going on with camping here, but many of our members have gone south and are enjoying temperatures a little bit warmer, although they might also be cold since this Cold Front is blanketing most of the USA.

Now when you're reading this, those aforementioned 'snowbirds' are thinking about heading home and the non-'snowbirds' are looking forward to getting back into camping. Ah! Thank goodness winter (at least according to the calendar) will be gone soon for another year.

Last fall, a former NSDCA member told me about a tidbit she read in the November 4, 2024 issue of "Woman's World" magazine. The article was titled "Sleep better with farm-fresh apples." Now it doesn't matter for this writing what it said, it's the "OR" that matters to us and I quote, "OR SQUARE DANCE - A new Florida State University study found that people who dance about 3 hours a week experience a significant improvement in sleep length and quality." THERE you go - you read it here. Keep on Square Dancing!

Stay Warm, Travel Safe, and Enjoy Life. Remember, Life is full of surprises - some pleasant, some not so, and others Life Changing.

Ruthann Sanders, RSRN4@aol.com 708-650-6122

Florida State Representative

Greetings from the not always sunny and warm Florida! We had nine days running of temperatures of 30s and 40s with some snow in North Florida the 3rd week in January; I bet you guys in the Northern Chapters are so sorry for us - NOT! Today it hit 83 degrees and is sunny - yay us!

In Florida we are lucky enough to have three active camping chapters with excellent callers and cuers: Square Wheels, Chapter 128; Florida RoadRunners, Chapter 193 (including our hard working NSDCA presidents John and Dolly Ide); and the Strawberry Travelers, Chapter 153. WE ARE EXCITED to announce that we have had an increase in membership this year!

We are happily anticipating our 67th National Square Dance Camping International Camporee in Shreveport, LA, on June 19-21, with a Trail-In dance on the 18th. The location is the Louisiana State Fairgrounds. There is a registration form in the centerfold of this issue. Our campground is just 10 minutes from the location of the 74th annual National Square Dance Convention, which is being held June 25-28. The camping rate will remain the same for those NSDCA members going

('Representatives' continued on page 10)

(‘Membership’ continued from page 8)

close by, so we can stay right at the campground we are at for the International Camporee. I’ve seen flyers where the National Convention is planning activities at the campground as well.

Hope you continue to enjoy the rest of your Winter Season!
Happy Camping and Dancing!

Kathy Nickel, Membership Secretary



YES...you got that right!

Sign up new members and their badges are free.

and you can win your 2026 dues paid

Member Name	
City	
State	

(‘Representatives’ continued from page 9)

from our campers’ shindig to the NSDC. We campers know just what fun we have at our Florida get-togethers.

As a group, we continue to enjoy the friendship set to music at our local campouts. Square Wheels had one tip at Christmas time with six squares on the floor and 16 round dancers as well. On Valentine’s weekend we will all be enjoying campouts: the Strawberry Travelers and Road Runners together at the Red Oaks resort and the Square Wheels will make our annual trip to southern Georgia at Eagle’s Roost campground. Each of our Florida Chapters’ camping schedules are available at the FANSDC.net website, which is maintained by caller Mike Gormley (#153), as well as on the NSDCA website and in the back of issues of the *TIMES* newsletter.

If you have friends who are considering becoming campers, please invite them come for the night and see just how much fun we have when we get together; that’s the way we increased our membership by three couples in the last couple of months of 2024.

Give me a shout if there is anything you want to learn beyond what is on our FANSDC website.

Laura Ramsey; ramseydp@comcast.net; 904 463-7004

NSDCA Publicity Director

The last edition of this great newsletter had a story about how people will start talking to you about square dancing when they see your square dance badges or your apparel. Well, son of a gun, it happened again!

We were on our way back from a square dance and stopped at a little Mexican restaurant that we like here in south Texas near Corpus Christi. We were wearing our badges and talking about how our square dance was just a great time. There was a man that walked by our table a couple of times and each time he walked slower. Finally, my friend asked him if needed something. He said that he was trying to read the name tags and wondered why they had various dangles hanging on them.

We explained that we were square dancers and we used the badges when we dance to help everyone know our names. He explained that his wife was the dance director at a local college and wondered if it would be okay if she called us about square dancing. He also said that she specializes in native or traditional dancing.

Of course, we shared contact information and are working to get this connection to work.

At another square dance, we had a family of mom, dad, and six kids. They have four more at home, but too young to dance right now. The family home schools these children and used the square dance as PE and for social times with others. The kids can dance like pros; mom and dad are very good also. Just another area where we could find people that might want to learn square dancing and many have campers and camping equipment for their vacations.

The recent announcement about the 2025 Camporee in Shreveport, LA, looks like a great change that might bring many more people to the event. One additional plus for having it in Shreveport is that there are several square dance camping clubs that are kind of a local phenomena in Texas. They typically have a brick-and-mortar dance club plus they travel some nice weekends to other dancing locales. Maybe to dance with us.

Kinda sounds like what we do...

So, wear your badges, contact the home school people and see you in Shreveport!!

Bill & Kitty Baker, grandebill@grics.net





002 Pine Tree; Wisconsin

We are already looking forward to our camping season this year. Pine Tree camps from May to October, all within an hour of the Milwaukee area as some of are still working fulltime. June is our NSDCA International Camporee in Shreveport, LA, just before we attend the National Square Dance Convention. We are excited that we can all stay camped at the same location for both the Camporee and the Convention this year. Hope to see you there!



Tricia Chartier; TriciaMooLady@gmail.com; 414-807-4083

044 Illiana Square Wheelers; Illinois/Indiana

Illiana Square Wheelers, NSDCA Chapter 044 doesn't have much to say this month. We've had no activity since early December, and nothing planned for the near future. However, I sadly report the passing of my partner of 63 years. Lawrence became ill as we were on our way to our winter address in Florida and didn't survive the advanced pneumonia that took his life.



Sadly yours,

Ruthann Sanders; RSRN4@aol.com; 708-946-6102

106 Square Up Campers; Pennsylvania

Does Justin Donnelly look nice and relaxed? For sure!



He is Square Up Campers' resident handyman and fix-it guy. As soon as he hears about someone's problem, he appears with tool kit in hand, ready to go to work. The picture caught him on a well-deserved rest break during the weekend's activities at Shady Oaks Campground in Newmans-town, PA. If you look closely, you will find two of his little furry friends—Cozi and Jaz—shih-tzu sisters—snoozing along with him. They will jump up into his lap mostly anytime. Come and join the Square Ups and meet both Justin and



the little pooches on one of our weekends.

Kathy Engel; kathye@kuhncom.net

116 Camping Squares; Kansas

We had a fun Christmas party in December at a restaurant in Wichita with many members and guests attending. This is always a great party with the holiday theme and everyone feeling festive.

Unfortunately, our January party got cancelled due to all the ice and snow we had along with the bitter cold temperatures.

We're planning on having one in February if the weather cooperates! We're just happy most of the snow is melting now since it has warmed up some! We're looking forward to Spring.

Anyone in the area is always welcome to join us! Be sure to check and be sure we haven't cancelled the event! For more information, contact Marty & Frank Golden at fmgolden9515@sbcglobal.net or 316-943-4137.

Cheryl Ferris; marshfur@att.net; 316-640-4273

123 Swing 'n' Traveler's; Illinois

A new year is always a time to look back at the previous year, which I decided to do. Our campouts are always limited to where we can find a brick-and-mortar dance. With only three square dance places to choose from, we seem to go to the same campgrounds now. But I do enjoy all of them as we feel welcome when we camp there.

Along with that, our numbers this past year are much lower than usual with sickness and unfortunately deaths, where the surviving spouse needs to make that decision themselves now. But we are managing anyway, and are enjoying our time together when we do have a campout.

Normally, we have a certain routine which can be changed from time to time. Our first night we always find a local restaurant and eat our dinner meal there. Then sometimes (or sometimes not) play some games afterwards, either at someone's camper or at the pavilion if they have lights. On the next day we usually have our Chapter meeting, then either a craft or game, and afterwards lunch. Sometimes that meal will be our potluck, as we are finding that the ones who want to go square dancing that evening do not have time to fix food to share, clean that up and then get ready to go, for sometimes they have to travel a distance to square dance now. After lunch we usually have games or something else going on, so we are always busy on that day. Except for May, our campouts are over after breakfast on the third day. Sometimes, the hosts will have breakfast for us to enjoy before we leave for our homes. Our May campout is always on Memorial Day weekend, and we reserve it a few years





Chats

(*Chats* continued from page 13)

in advance so we are sure we get the area where we can have all of our fun. With an extra day, Sunday is the day for homemade ice cream and then usually a light dinner, where often people bring their leftovers from the potluck on Saturday night. Since there is no cut-off time to leave the fairgrounds, some stay to play games and enjoy Memorial Day before they pack up and leave.

As we now look at 2025, I am hoping that our numbers will go up, and more square dancers will join our club. All we can do is to invite and encourage others to enjoy our fellowship and dance with us. Looking forward to see what we will have this year at Swing 'n' Travelers.

Janet Bowman; cabjcb2@gmail.com

128 Square Wheels; Florida

You missed an exceptional weekend if you weren't able to attend our Christmas campout at the Silver Springs Resort, December 6-7. We are so blessed to be able to travel, meet with friends, and dance the night away. We had 22 rigs in attendance, but several people joined us for dinner and dancing without their campers; we had a full house.



Friday evening began with our usual casual dinner. We began the evening's dance with five full squares! While most of us were casually dressed for Friday, Jim M with his Christmas suit and tie was dressed to the nines, as were Laura M, Sylvia and Sandy. Carolyn S and Martha wore twin vests!

Cuer Susan Snider played an old time Christmas waltz that was really quite beautiful, as well as one of my all-time favorites, the *Axel F* cha-cha.

Saturday, the campground members served a delicious breakfast for \$5. Silver Springs is such a cool little town; many of us toured the Dick-

ens exhibit at the Appleton Museum, and a few visited the Equestrian Center. It was a pretty nippy weekend; us Floridians needed to bundle up! Several members enjoyed playing games on the inside, while others found items we needed at the Veterans rummage sale at the campground.

Our Christmas dinner highlighted a delicious ham prepared by the Imus crew; I swear I think it was the best I have ever eaten! We do have some fine cooks in our membership. If anyone went away hungry, they were nuts. After a short interlude, our members came back to the dance hall in all their Christmas finery. I cannot point out any of the beautiful ladies who stood out as I would be sure to miss someone, but I can point out that Tom and Marshall were the only dancers with moving musical hats! Laura M, Laura B, Laura R and a visitor Laura posed for twinsie-type pictures. Jill and Adam C brought their sweetheart daughter Alyssa, who danced, as we invited folks from the audience to do a beginning tip with us. Caller Bill and Cuer Susan each played a version of *Stretchy Pants*, which just makes me want to howl with laughter. Pat H, recovering from wrist surgery, proved that elbows work just fine instead of hands when dancing together with careful partners.

Our Christmas gift exchange began as tamely as it did last year, but finally the steals began! Marilyn S gets the award for the most stolen gifts, with Russ U not far behind. Several things did require batteries; thank you John B for beginning that question many years ago. Perhaps the very bright flashlights were the biggest hits.

Our 2025 camping season started with a trip to the Florida State Square and Round Dance Convention in Deltona, followed by our annual trip to Lake Park, GA in February (more on this in the next issue of the *TIMES*). We always welcome new dancers, whether from the campground or beyond, so give us a look if you're in the area.

Laura Ramsey, Secretary; ramseydp@comcast.net

152 Campers & Dancers; Alabama

Our October campout was held at Gunter Hill COE Park in Montgomery, AL. The park is very nice with full hookups. We danced both Friday and Saturday nights to Kevin Cozad, and went out to eat at several nice restaurants in the area.



We ended the camping year in November at Roaring Pines RV Park in Somerville, AL. We went out to eat on Thursday and Friday, and then on Friday evening traveled to Decatur, AL to dance with the 8'ers From Decatur. We had a great time dancing to Jim Melton and some round dance cueing by Tim Eum. Saturday we had our annual business meeting and the following people were elected for 2025:

President – Hank Sweetman

Secretary – Jonna Denson

Vice President – Kevin Cozad

Treasurer – George Herndon

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Chats

(‘Chats’ continued from page 15)

On Saturday evening we enjoyed a pot luck dinner, followed by square dancing called by Skip Cleland. We had several visitors from the 8’ers join us for the dance.

Come dance with us at one of our upcoming campouts this year.

Hank Sweetman, President; hanksweetman@gmail.com; 615-406-6917

153 Strawberry Travelers; Florida

In our last Chat, I left you with our “upcoming” December 2024 camping plans. Well, I can report that our weekend went wonderfully well, despite a few hiccups with the campground. Upon arrival, we found that the hall we were scheduled to use was still under renovation due to prior hurricane damage and the office was still in the process of finding a suitable place for us to have our dances and Christmas Dinner. However, it did not take them long till they worked out a solution and we were able to use another hall nearby just a few streets away. Our club hosts for the weekend took it all in stride and worked everything out so the rest of the weekend went smoothly. Bob & Laura Boucher always do a beautiful job of decorating and providing us with delicious treats - like chocolate covered Oreos and hand-made chocolate lollypops all in Christmas designs. We were “eatin” good in the neighborhood! In place of our regular Saturday night potluck, our club provided roasted turkey and all members provided some delicious and festive sides to round out the meal. Our caller, Mike Gormley, did a fantastic job (as always) enhancing our prancing by providing festive holiday tunes for our dancing all weekend long. Our gift exchange game was lots of fun, as usual, with several gifts getting stolen and switched around. A good time was had by all who were able to attend.



I hope everyone has had a wonderful start to this New Year (we are only half way through January as of this writing) and will have a healthy and blessed year ahead. Our next club campout occurred mid-February where we co-camped with #193, the Florida RoadRunners. It is getting more and more difficult to find campgrounds with halls for dancing that are willing to do rallies, especially for small groups. There have been a few times where we have had less than 10 rigs, and that is pretty much the minimum for getting a rally rate here in Florida. Without the rally rate it is rather expensive! At least for now we still have a few places where we can go camp and we are grateful for those. The times, they are a-changing’.

On a lighter and happier note, we have a few new couples who have recently joined our Chapter. At the time of this writing we have not yet

met them, but hoped to see them at our February campout. A big 'THANK YOU' to our, vice president, Susan Wolford, for taking time to share the good news about NSDCA and for promoting Chapter 153 to some of the folks she meets at dances. I've always said when you combine square dancing and camping, you just can't get much 'fun-er' than that! If we can just get people to take the time to come and see what fun and what great folks we have in our groups, they are bound to experience those same feelings!

Our April campout will be held at Strawberry Square in Plant City, FL, April 4-5. That will be like our Homecoming Dance because our club has its roots in Strawberry Square. As always, our club's schedule can be seen on NSDCA website or www.fansdc.net then click on Chapter 153, Strawberry Travelers. So, if you are anywhere around our neck of the woods when we are camping, we would love to have you come on along and share in the good times!

Trucy Rogers; trucy.rogers56@gmail.com

C-175 Riverside Gypsy Squares; Ontario, Canada

Hello!

As I write this, the area that we live in is expecting some really cold winter weather for the next few days. Needless to say, that we are not camping and dancing for a few more months.



Some of our club members are looking forward to a chance to get together at our Mid-Winter dance at the end of February. We will dance to the calling of our regular callers and we are hoping that some of the newer callers in our region will accept our invitation to lead us as well. There is a promise of some homemade goodies to go along with our tea and coffee during the dance.

Looking ahead to the Spring and warmer weather, the May Committee will be pulling together their plans for our first campout the weekend May 22nd to May 25th at the Lower Beverley Lake Campground in Delta, ON, Canada. This date is a little later than our previous May campouts so we will hope for warm, sunny weather. I am sure a great time will be had by all.

The dates for all the upcoming campouts May through to September have been sent to NSDCA and can be found in the website's campout listing and elsewhere in this newsletter.

Enjoy your dancing.

Mary Anne Reinhard; mareinhard1@outlook.com; 613-838-5781



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Chats

(‘Chats’ continued from page 17)

193 Florida RoadRunner Squares; Florida

Hello Friends!

Well, it is time again! Time for you northern members to pull those campers out of winter storage and get back into camping/dancing weekends once again, and for us Florida campers it’s the time that campsites get much easier to find and our roads (as well as nearly everything around here) is a lot less crowded.

Our club hit some bumps in 2024: a couple of our members have stopped camping, and we had to say goodbye two of our talented and much-loved callers/friends. At Thanksgiving, my husband John broke two bones in his leg and dislocated his ankle. The doctor said, “90 days with no weight on the leg.” That is a long time! However, by the time you are reading this I am hoping he will be back walking, and I’m hopeful very close to dancing again.

With all that behind us we did manage to have our 2025 camping season get back up and running with a weekend in February, co-camping with Chapter 153 (Strawberry Travelers). Of course since I am writing this in January, I can only tell you about what we have planned, but I know it will be awesome. How can we miss with two great clubs camping together!

This is my plan anyway: warm weather is at the top of my list, along with great attendance from both of our clubs and with a few northern snowbird friends joining us adding into the fun. That alone will be awesome; however, we have chucked a bit more into our weekend. On Friday, February 14 (which you all know is Valentine’s Day) we’re doing a short road trip to the Russel Stover Candy Outlet for some great buys on chocolates (see photo next page) and then off to enjoy a stroll through a fabulous antique/thrift store, possibly finishing the morning off with a great lunch out somewhere. We have a craft planned for the afternoon and some great dancing in the evening. Then on Saturday, the men cook breakfast for us, we enjoy a workshop in the afternoon with our great caller John Sweeney, and finish the weekend with more great dancing in



the evening.

In March you're all invited to come join us for a fun weekend in Winter Haven, FL from the 6th thru the 8th, finishing off the weekend with a light breakfast and worship on Sunday the 9th. We might just celebrate National Meatball Day and add a celebration of National Oreo Cookie Day to the fun. No kidding, there really is a National Oreo cookie Day in March; who knew?



Finally, your NSDCA Board is hard at work planning a great Camporee in Shreveport, LA for you this summer. As you see, this issue is full of exciting news. I truly hope you can and will help support us by submitting your registration early and volunteering to help make it happen. It takes a team of people to make a great Camporee and as our numbers dwindle each year, please consider being a part of the fun and the work also.

Sadly, Camporees may be just a memory before long, so consider helping us not to let that happen too soon!

If you are in Florida anytime, be sure to check online for our schedule and consider spending your weekend with us. Our schedule is always on the NSDCA.org website and at our site link below.

Enjoy your travels and as always... "We hope to see you all in a square somewhere!" Check out our Campout Listings at www.nsdca.org or our Chapter 193 website, www.whirlaways.org/rr_193_index.html and come join us.

Dolly Ide; dloutz9504@outlook.com; 352-598-7162



Bash on the Bayou

As you read this, it's only March, but June is only three months away. It's a great time for weddings and our next Camporee. Just in case you haven't kept up, your National Board has planned and prepared for all of our members to gather for a "Square Dance Bash on the Bayou" in Shreveport, LA. Our event is being featured as a Trail-Through event for the 74th NSDC, also held in Shreveport, LA. Our Camporee will run from Wednesday, June 18th through Saturday, June 21st. The NSDC will run from Wednesday, June 25th through Saturday, June 28th. The NSDC will, of course, be held in the Shreveport Convention Center, while the Camporee will be held at the Louisiana State Fairgrounds, the two locations being only 10 to 15 minutes apart.

And here's the best part: the 74th NSDC is also using the Louisiana State Fairgrounds as the campground for all campers who will be attending the 74th NSDC. What that means is that if you come to the Camporee and plan to attend the NSDC, you will be camped with friends AND YOU WON'T HAVE TO MOVE YOUR CAMPER to stay for the NSDC.

Since our Camporee ends on Saturday night, you can enjoy two or three days of just relaxing, sightseeing, and enjoying some of the great Cajun food in the area, or simply sleeping in. But don't relax too much, because we have lots of fun and square dancing planned for you. First, you can come as early as June 15th for the same low site rate of \$35 per day, all the way through June 28th if you want and make a two-week vacation of the trip. Just remember that three days, Thursday, Friday and Saturday, are included in your Camporee registration fee. Next, there is a local club, the Southern Swingers, that dance every Tuesday night just across the river in Bossier City. You can check out Southern Swingers Square Dancers on Facebook.

Of course, Wednesday, June 18th, is the first full day for the NSDC when most of you will be checking in. We're planning a potluck meet-n-greet in the afternoon, followed by our own Trail-In dance just a few steps away from your camper. We've got some great callers and cuers lined up, but you'll have to wait 'til the next issue of the *TIMES* for details. Beginning Thursday, we'll have all the great activities you enjoy at Camporees, such as games, crafts, workshops, etc., all beginning with a social coffee and snacks every morning. But you'll have to come and get your coffee, we won't bring it to you! The specific crafts and games will be announced in June and depend largely on what everyone indicates as their preferences on the registration form.

For your evening dancing and other fun, we'll kick things off Thursday night with the Opening Ceremonies and our Grand March, where you can show off your finest outfits, followed by squares, rounds, and probably a line dance or two. As the evening draws to a close, we plan a

fun afterparty each night. Here's where we could use some help from all of you who are coming: dust off your memories and help us with some fun (or wacky) skits and other fun activities from years gone by, and let's have some old-fashioned fun. We'll throw in the snacks, definitely ice cream or other goodies. As has been part of the afterparties at the last two Camporees, we again hope to present Quilts of Valor to our veterans who have not yet received one. So, if you're in that category, be sure to let us know early so that we can arrange for the presentation. Please refer to the preliminary activities schedule immediately below.

**TENTATIVE SCHEDULE - 67th NSDCA CAMPOREE at the
Louisiana State Fairgrounds, Shreveport, LA on June 18 - 21, 2025**

WEDNESDAY JUNE 18	FRIDAY JUNE 20
9 - 5 PM Camper Check-in	8 - 9 AM Meet & Greet Coffee w/..TBA
3 - 4 PM NSDCA Board Meeting	9 - 12 PM Crafts/Games/Sports (times TBA)
4 - 5 PM Camporee Team Meeting	1 - 4 PM Square/Rounds/Lines Workshops
5 - 6 PM Pot-luck Dinner	6 - 7 PM Early Rounds / A Level Squares
7 - 9 PM Trail-in Dance (Casual)	7 - 9 PM Squares & Rounds/Lines
	9 - 10 PM After Party
THURSDAY JUNE 19	SATURDAY JUNE 21
8 - 9 AM Meet & Greet Coffee w/..TBA	8 - 9 AM Meet & Greet Coffee w/..TBA
9 - 5 PM Camper Check-in	9 - 5 PM Camper Check-in
9 - 12 PM Crafts/Games/Sports (times TBA)	12 - 1 PM NSDCA Luncheon
1 - 4 PM NSDCA Staff/Rep Meetings	1 - 3 PM General Membership Meeting w/NSDCA Awards
1 - 4 PM Square/Rounds/Lines Workshops	6 - 7 PM Closing w/Special Awards
6 - 7 PM Grand March & Opening Ceremonies	7 - 9 PM Squares & Rounds/Lines
7 - 9 PM Squares & Rounds/Lines	9 - 10 PM After Party
9 - 10 PM After Party	10 PM—?? Tear Down & Clean up

Our last full day will be Saturday, June 21st, when we will conduct the all-important General Membership Meeting. To make it easy and convenient for you to attend, we'll provide lunch. In addition to our normal Election of Officers, we'll also present the normal chapter longevity and game awards and look ahead to next year. This year we're going to hand out a few special awards, but you'll have to be there to see what they are and who they're for. Currently, our plans are to hold the 68th Camporee in or near Waco, TX in conjunction with the 75th NSDC, so if all the plans come together, we will start taking registration for the 2026 Camporee. The last night of dancing will end with, of course, another afterparty, so if you're not staying for the NSDC, just a reminder that you'll have to vacate your campsite Sunday morning to make room for their campers.

But we don't see any reason for you to leave, because the NSDC is making the campground building available throughout most or all of their Convention time, so we plan to dance, party and socialize all the

('Bayou Bash' continued on page 22)

(‘Bayou Bash’ continued from page 21)

way through Saturday, June 28th and then leave on Sunday. As long as the NSDCA and NSDC have existed, there has never been an opportunity like this, and you don’t want to miss it. Be sure to send in your Camporee registrations as soon as possible and register for the 74th NSDC as well. Be sure to let them know that you’re a camping member of the NSDCA so that they know not to assign you to a different campsite.

If you’ve been to our Camporees and the NSDC events, you know the fun we have, but you also have seen reduced attendance at these events each year. Square dancing in general is seeing declining participation, even though it’s our official National Dance. We don’t know how much longer our favorite pastime of square and round dancing and camping will be sustainable, so don’t miss this, our greatest combined event ever, before we all dance into the sunset. We’re saving that last waltz for you, but you need to come to Shreveport and help us celebrate the “Bash on the Bayou.”

P.S. If you’d like to help us with some of the activities, just let one of your Board members know.

Helpful Hints: Some RV Maintenance Tips

The information below was garnered from the following website (see that link for further details and photos): www.doityourselfrv.com/rv-maintenance-tips-repairs/

RV Maintenance Tips #1: Cover your roof

RV rubber roofs are susceptible to sun and environmental damage (e.g., dried out caulking at seams and around openings, ultraviolet damage causing cracks in the roofing material, and tears from driving under tree branches) which can create problems that often go unseen because you don’t regularly get up on the roof. Out of sight, out of mind! But that approach can cost you big time: water seepage can cause dry rot and mold, and replacing and repairing a damaged RV roof can run into the thousands of dollars.

One of the best things you can do is wash your roof at least twice a year and in the process check for roofing material damage. You should also check and refresh the caulking (Dicor or Alpha brand on most rubber roofs; don’t use everyday caulk) to keep the water out. If possible, keep your RV stored under cover, such as an RV carport. (Based on my research, using a traditional RV cover – depending on your local environment – may be a solution or cause more problems than it solves.)

RV Maintenance Tips #2: Run your generator

If your RV has a generator, you should follow the manufacturer’s recommendations regarding ‘exercising’ it every month. If you let your generator sit unused for too long the gas (especially ethanol-based gas) can

(‘Helpful Hints’ continued on page 25)

The 67th NSDCA Camporee is Calling



Dear dancing friends, do you realize that this is a once-in-a-lifetime event for the NSDCA & NSDC? "Quite Unique!"

Never before in our history have our two events been held back-to-back with the Camporee being held at the very location of the NSD Convention camping facility. NSDC is also working with us providing us access to the campground building during their event. We are planning nightly after parties at the campground and hope to offer additional events as well, so you can come back to your camper, relax a bit and enjoy this time together even more!

Don't Miss Out On This History-Making Opportunity

We Remember Our Friends

Lawrence R. Sanders (Illiana Square Wheelers, 044)

Lawrence R. Sanders, 87, of Beecher, IL, former President of NSDCA, passed away on Sunday, January 5, 2025 with his wife and children by his side. Lawrence became ill while enroute to the Florida winter address, was hospitalized, and was unable to fight the infection that had invaded his body.

Lawrence is survived by his loving wife, Cora Ruthann (Dexter) Sanders, whom he married on June 17, 1961. Other survivors include their children, grandchildren and many other family members.



Lawrence was born April 16, 1937 in Chicago, IL. He graduated from Momence (IL) High School, and while he didn't have a college degree, he earned many college credits. He was employed by Ameritech Phone Company (formerly Illinois Bell Telephone Company) for 40 years, beginning as a Lineman and retiring as Outside Plant Engineer.

He was a gentle, non-confrontational man who loved his family and his country. In 1958, he volunteered for the draft and served two years in the US 5th Army, 18 months of which were spent in Berlin, Germany as a member of the Occupational Forces. Upon discharge from the Regular Army, he spent 20 years in the Active Reserves, retiring in December 1980 with the rank of Sargent First Class (E7).

Lawrence was an avid camper, and he enjoyed Square Dancing, bowling, playing cards and table games, watching TV (especially game shows), and eating ice cream! He was actively involved in his church, community and multiple organizations (some of which were the Deeke-Ohlendorf and Illinois State AMVETS, Berlin United States Military Association, and the Family Motor Coach Association). He was a member, Elder, past Council Trustee and past Council President of St. Luke United Church of Christ, Beecher, IL.

Lawrence (and his wife, Ruthann) became treasurer of NSDCA when appointed to fill a vacancy on the NSDCA Board of Directors (BOD) in July, 1995. They were elected to a full term in 1998 and became NSDCA Board/National President. Four years later they were reelected and finished the term alternating between president and 1st vice president as others took a year as president. While on the Board, the Sanders reviewed many years' worth of NSDCA Board and General Meeting minutes and developed Standing Rules from the various motions present in those minutes. Those Standing Rules were reviewed, tweaked, and

finally approved by the full Board of Directors. Additionally, before leaving office, a detailed job description was developed for each Board position with the President's book, including the job description for every officer. They, along with the BOD, also performed a major review of the NSDCA bylaws.

Prior to becoming a BOD member, Lawrence served as treasurer for the 1980 NSDCA International Camporee held in Elkhart, IN. In late 1989, while attending an Illinois State Board meeting as chairman of the audit committee, the new title of NSDCA 1991 International Camporee Chairman was awarded, while in 1992 he was the Nominating committee chairperson. From 1993-1995, he served as the North Central Area Representative, followed by 11 years on the NSDCA Board of Directors.

Back home in Illinois, there were several terms on the Illinois State NSDCA Board, more recently serving as Board/State President. At the time of death he (along with Ruthann) was Illinois State Representative.

The Sanders joined their home Chapter (044, Illiana Square Wheelers) in 1973. Chapter offices held were Treasurer and President. He was an NSDCA member for nearly 52 years.

Submitted by Ruthann Sanders

Remember, if you would like someone included/remembered in the "We Remember Our Friends" section, please let us know their name, important dates, Chapter name and number, and one or two important things about them. And please provide a high-resolution photo if one is available. Thank you.

('Helpful Hints' continued from page 22)

start to break down and damage your generator's internal components. By running the generator, the flowing gas will 'self-clean' components. Onan recommends running their generators for two hours each month at a 50% load. This will keep the generator primed and ready. Other manufacturer recommendations may vary. Be sure to let the generator run for a few minutes in the unloaded state before applying the load (e.g., air conditioner, water heater) and reverse the process when shutting down (unload the generator for a few minutes before shutting it off).

RV Maintenance Tips #3: Open the vents

During times when your RV sits unused during the summer months, depending on your location the temperature inside your unit can exceed 130 degrees F. That intensity of heat can cause the toughest materials to break down and fail over time, including coverings on your dinette cushions, wall coverings and the like.

By keeping your RV vents open, airflow through the RV is promoted by natural circulation and helps keep the temperature down. If you don't have a vent cover (like those made by Maxxair and others) all you need to do is slightly crack the vents; this will help avoid rainwater making its

('Helpful Hints' continued on page 37)

Kathi Sawyer, Newbie Caller **Blackhawk Crosstrailers, 014**

Kathi Sawyer and her husband, Joe, are relatively new members of the NSDCA, joining in August of 2024. When asked how they became involved with the NSDCA, Kathi replied, “While at a dance for an area club, we were chatting with Bob and Cinda Asp and mentioned we had recently bought a trailer. Cinda ran out to the car and came back with their camping schedule.” The rest is history!

Kathi and Joe have been square dancing since 2023, when they signed up for lessons after participating in a western BBQ-themed luncheon at a local senior center (and what is now their current club) which had an introductory dance. They started RV-camping in April of 2024, but they had tent camped a few times during the previous 20+ years.

Kathi started thinking about learning to call last Spring due to a need in her home club (the Glenview Squares, about 45 minutes from her home in Grayslake, IL) and area. In order to see if square dance calling was right for her, she went to the GSI (Grand Square International) caller school at the Nationals in Milwaukee. This was her first caller school and exposure to what is involved in being a caller. When she was taking her lessons, the instructor said on several occasions that she should be a caller; that’s what got her thinking seriously about it. Kathi says at present it is much easier to think of what call should come next when she’s dancing rather than calling!

As she is still in the early phases of learning, she is studying how to put things together so that it is fun for the dancers. She is enjoying learning about all that goes into the process; it’s way more complicated and involved than she ever thought. Of course, being new she gets nervous, and that is her least-favorite aspect of calling as that’s when she makes the most mistakes, and it is stressful because she knows she can do better.

Kathi doesn’t consider herself a caller yet. Bob Asp (Chapter 014’s caller) lets her practice at campouts, and it’s fun because he helps her fix any mistakes she makes; that really takes the pressure off of Kathi and allows her to enjoy the learning process more. She says it’s way more relaxed than calling a tip at a club dance or even lessons. She has also been working with her local club callers James Cha, Christine Steffy, Bruce Holmes and Candice Hansen. She calls a tip during lessons right now, and in the Fall she hopes to start helping teach lessons.

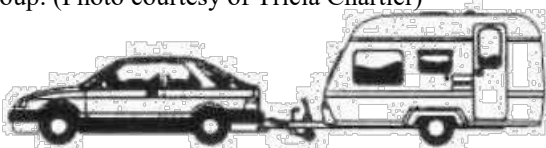
When Kathi joined Blackhawk Crosstrailers, Bob said, “You’re calling at the campout,” and she called a tip each night. She said it was very fun and everyone was supportive; we all know that we need more callers. Kathi and her husband did a singing call together at her birthday party in January, “Baby It’s Cold Outside.” Their friends loved it, but her husband said he was through with calling.

Kathi retired from her job as a Special Education Paraprofessional in the Fremont School District a couple of years ago. While she still sometimes substitutes, she doesn't think she will do this next school year as she wants to be completely retired and focus her energy on other things, including calling. Eventually Kathi hopes to promote square dancing in the community by doing introductory parties. She said, "I think if more people try it, they would get hooked."

We wish Kathi well in her new calling career.



The photo above was taken August 2, 2024 at Pilgrim's Campground in Fort Atkinson, WI. Bob Asp is helping Kathi Sawyer build confidence while she is learning to call. Kathi says, "He's pretty amazing at that!" This was Kathi's first experience camping with an NSDCA group. (Photo courtesy of Tricia Chartier)





SQUARE DANCE BASH ON THE BAYOU
67th INTERNATIONAL NSDCA CAMPOREE
Shreveport Louisiana Fairgrounds
3701 Hudson Ave., Shreveport, LA 71109
June 19, 20, 21, 2025: Camporee Events



NSDCA Membership # _____

NON-Member - (Requires added \$20 Surcharge-See Below)

Information for PARKING by LOCATION & RV NEEDS

ARRIVAL 06/____/2025 DEPARTURE 06/____/2025

STATE _____ CHAPTER # _____ HANDICAP _____

ELECTRIC: 30 AMP _____ 50 AMP _____

 Adult Name #1 (Please Print)

 Adult Name #2 (Please Print)

 Mailing Address (Include Apt and/or Box number)

 City State/Province & Zip/ Postal

 Phone Number (cell phone preferred--include area code)

 Email address

 Emergency Contact Name

 Phone #

Additional Persons per Unit (Base Fees are for two Adults per unit and unmarried children under age 21)

Youth Name _____ Age ____ M ____ F ____ Adult Name _____ M ____ F ____

CAMPOREE T-SHIRTS: \$20 (# of Each): SM ____ MED ____ LG ____ XLG ____ XXLG ____ XXXLG ____

*Shirts available by **Pre-Order ONLY** & must be picked up at Camporee with order deadline of **05/01/2025***

NSDCA Camporee Fees: 3 Days...\$180 2 Days...\$150 1 Day...\$120 (ALL FEES IN US FUNDS ONLY)

Please √ days planning to camp: (Extra Days Campsite Fees @ \$35 per day) **NonCampers** ____ \$90

Tue 17th ____ Wed 18th ____ **Thurs 19th** ____ **Fri 20th** ____ **Sat 21st** ____ To stay @ site for 74th NSDC, Pay 74th NSDC.

Unit with only one person (check): _____ Deduct \$45; Extra adults # _____ \$45 each; **Non NSDCA** Add \$20

Registration \$ _____	Extra Fees \$ _____	Add'l Days \$ _____	Total Fees \$ _____
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If you would like your ribbons sent with your confirmation, please include a self-addressed, stamped business (#10) envelope with your registration. Refunds are available with a written request.

Send check or money order payable in US Funds to "**NSDCA Camporee**" to:

Susan Wolford, 1435 Razorbill Ln, Punta Gorda FL 33983

For more info, contact Susan Wolford 256-673-0170; email: 67th.nsdca@gmail.com

On NSDC Registration Form: Use Group Name: NSDCA Camporee

DANCE INTERESTS (√ Interests)

<u>Square Dance</u>	<u>Round Dance</u>	<u>Line Dance</u>
____ Mainstream	____ Phase II	____ Lines
____ Plus	____ Phase III	____ Contra
____ A-1/ A-2	____ Phase IV/ V	____ Partner
____ MS Workshop	____ Plus WS	____ A WS
____ Youth/Teen Program	____ SSD Workshop	

SPORTS/GAMES (√ Interests)

Corn Hole M ____ F ____ Washer Toss M ____ F ____
 Bocce Ball M ____ F ____ Other _____
Craft Interests M ____ F ____ Youth ____
Other _____
Are you a Veteran? _____ (Branch) _____

Caller / Cuer Participation (√) **(Due by April 1)**

<u>Square Dance</u>	<u>Round Dance</u>
____ Mainstream	____ Phase II
____ Plus	____ Phase III
____ A-1	____ Phase IV
____ A-2	____ Phase V
____ Youth/Teen Dance Program	____ Other

Caller Name _____
 Availability (√) W ____ Th ____ F ____ S ____

Cuer Name _____
 Availability (√) W ____ Th ____ F ____ S ____

Lines Instructor _____
 Availability (√) W ____ Th ____ F ____ S ____



and the FUN continues...

There were only 13 entries this time providing thoughts on the location of our 2025 mascot who has been dubbed Allie Gator, our lost aquatic reptile. The Winter issue contest's winning 'invest-i-gators' were Mary & Dave Bruun of Swing 'n' Travelers (#123, IL). Congratulations to our former NSDCA Secretaries; your 2026 NSDCA membership fee will be waived. (Remember to have the certificate you received in the email sent to our NSDCA Treasurer when you renew in December.)

Some of the comments received about our lost gator are as follows:

From Norma Schertz, #123: The alligator mascot is prefacing the last line of info regarding the NSDCA Camporee; she is ready to go! Last issue's winner, Frank Golden, #116, wrote: The alligator is trying to get hold of Susan Wolford, because she is lost. Meanwhile Susan Wolford, #153 (who is not lost) commented: She's getting ready to chomp onto some more information for our up and coming International Camporee. She's probably going to volunteer to be on the greeting committee for when we arrive.

Perennial punster Jim Sebesta, #045, said: Where Ali is depends on how you look at things. If you're an in-order-and-by-page-number kind of person, you'd say she's in the upper left corner of page 28. However, you'd also have to admit that, by that orientation, she's standing on her nose. I don't think Ali is so rude as to look down her nose at anything or anyone. She's assisting Susan Wolford by announcing that, "For more info" about the Camporee registration process, one should contact Susan. I'm sure Susan appreciates the aid. I like a little gator aid myself now and then. It helps keep my electrolytes in balance.

Pat Edwards, #123 noted: Guess she likes being a centerfold girl. Mary Bruun, #123, opined: Miss Ali is asking Susan for more information. If you haven't sent in your registration form yet, please do so as soon as possible. Your Board is looking forward to seeing you at the Shreveport Louisiana Fairgrounds, June 19, 20, & 21. Jim and Sharon Waller, #123, noted: She's anxious to sign up to go to the Camporee.

Please remember, the contest for the Chapter with the most submissions is not won solely on the number of entries (for a large, motivated Chapter would easily swamp the numbers from a smaller Chapter) but is also based on the percentage of total members of that Chapter. So, if you are a member of one of our smaller Chapters, do not lose hope, for with sufficient entries—your Chapter could win! But, you'll not have that opportunity if you don't make an entry. We have more than 600 members and only a couple of percent make a submission, typically from the same

Chapters (although I applaud our new entrants this time). You can't win if you don't enter. And please remember, in order to win you must be a member in good standing (2025 dues must be paid!)

I've stated this before, and I'll state it many times in the future: This is *your* newsletter! Your contributions make it informative, educational and most of all, entertaining. Let me hear from you on the contest as well as other requests that have been made in the past (e.g., caller or cuer biographies, best practices, handy hints, etc.).

Our 2025 International Camporee is being held in Louisiana, thus an alligator mascot. I'm certain you noticed an alligator in the list of contest submissions immediately below by the members of Chapter 123 that made contest submissions. Let's get this gator back on track—headed to Shreveport—before Ali Gator gets too hungry and noshes on a few square dance campers.

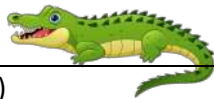
Send your answer to the location of our lost gator (or article/idea contribution) either via: 1) email to **NSDCAtimes@gmail.com** or 2) by regular mail to **Ken Shacter, 5418 Weller Place, Jacksonville, FL 32211-6965** (either method to arrive no later than April 30, 2025). Note that email is the preferred method of communication as the USPS has been slipping up lately on deliveries. Remember, I will confirm receipt of your email within two days; if you don't hear back from me, please double check the address where you sent your submission and resubmit it.

For contest entries, please provide the page number *and* where on the page our lost gator is located. Simply providing something like “on the bottom of page 2” is insufficient; however, if you write something clever like the contributors listed earlier did, it gives a good indication you have properly located our lost gator, and you may get your answer published!

(‘Contest’ continued on page 33)

Chapter name	chapter #	Entrant
Penn-Dixie Square Campers (PA)	045	Jim Sebesta
Camping Squares of Kansas (KS)	116	Marty & Frank Golden Mike Huddleson
Swing 'N' Travelers (IL)	123	Pat Edwards Pat & Chet Bowman Norm Schertz Barry & Joy Vlad Mary & Dave Bruun Jim & Sharon Waller
Square Wheels (FL)	128	Tim Hill Dick & Karin Callender
Rolling Squares (NE)	148	Marion Niemeyer
Strawberry Travelers (FL)	153	Susan & Don Wolford

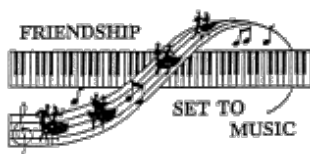
Note: This is NOT the lost gator, but the wayward one looks just like this.



67th Camporee Information

1. Square and Round dances will be at all levels, depending on the registration expectations.
2. Evening dances will alternate 2 square / 2 round dances.
3. At least 1 line dance may be included each night in place of 2 round dances.
4. All events and activities will be held in the Round Room adjacent to the camping area.
5. The Trail-In dance (Wednesday, June 18th) and daytime activities are casual attire .
6. Suggested attire for evening dances will be square dance appropriate.
7. The Round Room will be available from Sunday, June 22nd through Saturday, June 28th for use by all campers for special campground activities that will include potlucks, afterparties, dances, ice cream, and others as yet to be planned.
8. Campers registering for the NSDCA Camporee may register for arrival as early as Sunday, June 15th. All extra day campsites will be charged \$35 per day.
9. All campsite charges from Sunday, June 15th through Saturday June 21st are payable to the NSDCA.
10. All campsite charges from Sunday June 22nd through Sunday June 29th are payable to the 74th NSDC.
11. Campers not planning to attend the NSDC must vacate their campsite Sunday morning, June 22nd.

*The **Southern Swingers** are a local Bossier City square dance club. They dance Mainstream, Plus and Phase II, III & IV Rounds on Tuesday night, June 17th at their facility and may host a dance in the campground on Monday, June 23rd.



(‘Contest’ continued from page 31)

Please note any comments provided with your submission implies you are giving your permission to publish the comment. Lastly, as always, be sure to include your Chapter’s number and name, regardless of the way you choose to communicate.

Thank you!



The object of the NSDCA shall be to provide an opportunity for and to encourage those interested in square dancing and camping to:

- a) Combine these two activities for mutual enjoyment.
- b) Permit each member the opportunity of sharing in the responsibility of membership.
- c) Promote interest in square dancing and camping.
- d) Promote Square Dance Camporees as may be decided upon by the membership.

[Reference NSDCA By-Laws as amended June 2018 Article II]

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Square - Round & Line Dancing
Love to Camp
Travel & Make New Friends?



NSDCA
National Square Dance Campers Association
is a non-profit organization of square dancers who are also responsible campers devoted to the betterment of camping and square dancing.

Check up on-line www.nsdca.org
we invite you to join us for a weekend

Just Call, Text or Email one of us...

John & Dolly Ide (352) 208-5980
john.d.ide@hotmail.com
Neal & Tricia Chartier (414) 807-4083
secnsdca@gmail.com
Don & Susan Wolford (256) 673-0170
nsdca.treas@gmail.com

This is us!
Square, Round & Line Dancing
Camp, D-Sleeps & Dance Events
Sight-Seeing
Monthly Campouts
Campfires & Wiener Roasts
Smores!
Dancing & Eating
Crafts & Games
Making Great Friends

'Hey Check This Out'
FREE and Just For You!

We have designed 4 brand new promotional flyers to help you promote your clubs and square dancing.

"4 NEW Flyers"
Available on our website
WWW.NSDCA.ORG
"download and print out"

"Spread the NEWS" & The Flyers Too!

NOTES FROM YOUR EDITOR

I recently received a nice letter along with her submission for the “Lost Gator” contest from a member of Chapter 116, Camping Squares of Kansas, who informed me she will have visited all 50 states camping in her Class B by the end of January. This brought back memories of when my wife and I migrated from tent camping to what we thought was the lap of luxury: a used 1974 bright orange VW Type 2 Westfalia camper van, what we dubbed the “Orange Julius” (after the then-popular not-quite-a-milkshake or -smoothie refreshing orange-flavored beverage).



Our VW model had the pop-top that hinged at the back and included three screened-in windows (many models only had one in the front; ours also included one on each side of the canvas). The camper also had a very small icebox (most of the space was taken up by the block ice), hot and cold running water (depending on the ambient temperature, as we had no water heater), and relied on the occupants snuggling to keep warm in chilly weather. There was no way to cool down in hot weather other than have a box fan blowing on you (which we precariously hung from a support bar holding up the pop-top roof). There was no inside cooking appliance provided as we did not have a model with an LP tank, but there was a small table that folded down; two could eat somewhat comfortably while huddled on the bench seat, but there was no room for company. The van had one 15-amp electric outlet (used by the aforementioned box fan or our somewhat large — by current standards — Proctor-Silex toaster oven) and one very small, dim, 12-volt fluorescent light.



A small clothes closet adorned the driver-side rear of the bus and other storage was under the bench seat. We kept a ‘Son of Hibachi’ grill on the roof along with our spare tire (which we fortunately never had to use). The camper had limited storage capacity, to say the least! Sleeping accommodations were either in the area revealed when the pop-top was raised (basically the metal top of the van as support, complete with a cushion as the bed) or the bench seat folded down making an area where one could spread out their sleeping bags to get some rest. The van itself was powered by a 1.8 liter four-cylinder dual-carburetor air-cooled engine (getting about 20 mpg – something I’d really like to attain in our 2022 Class C!), the transmission was four-on-the-floor, there was no power-assist for steering (but there was for braking), and there was no air conditioning (again, other than open windows). I had to rebuild the engine shortly after we got the van (obviously why it went for such a good

price!) and in that process, I shed the heater boxes that surrounded the engine manifold as they were pitted – so the van also lacked heat. But as I said, we thought we were in the lap of luxury. And we were young, where we (thought we) could handle anything, and mostly did!

Compared to the spacious, comfort-packed Class C RV we have today, I can't imagine how we circumnavigated the country one summer (roughly 12,000 miles in about 10 weeks, accomplished between our college graduation and entering graduate school) spending (on average) less than \$10/day for food, gas, lodging and entertainment. But we did, and that note from our fellow camper/dancer brought back fond memories of that time.

There certainly were more elaborate RVs at the time of our travels (but well beyond our budget): travel trailers had all the bells and whistles one could wish for during that timeframe (but of course you then needed a tow vehicle – a good 8-cylinder sedan would do the trick most of the time, no need for a truck like current times), and Class A motorhomes were de rigueur. A quick web search indicates that what are now known as Class B motorhomes were developed in the late 1980s, with the Airstream (!) B-190 being the first one marketed. Class Cs were first marketed in the 1960s, with some of the first being converted Packard trucks. I guess our VW camper van was a very early, primitive form of the Class B line, before it became known as that.

Many examples of early and modern RVs are on display at the RV Museum and Hall of Fame in Elkhart, IN, which we visited back in 2017. The place was quite fascinating; if you've never been, consider a detour if you're passing through northwestern Indiana visiting Elkhart, Goshen or Middlebury (where most of our RVs are assembled). The museum is right off of I-90, and be sure to consider spending several hours touring the facility (there's also plenty to see and do in the general area). The museum now has a campground associated with the facility, but when we were there it didn't exist; we camped at the old Elkhart Campground (the one with the office that looks like it was a former KOA building – as it was). They're comparably priced but the Elkhart Campground situated away from the Interstate (so it's quieter) and it has (or at least had when we visited) a great laundry facility!

Once again, I remind all correspondents to please include your Chapter number (and name, if possible) along with any email or snail mail sent to any NSDCA officer or staff member, including yours truly. I receive numerous submissions for the 'Lost Camper/Cow/Gator' contest without any indication of Chapter association, slowing down the process of logging the entry. Also, if sending a photo to me, please provide it as an attachment to the email versus embedding it within the body of the text or Word document. If sending the photo from your phone, please do

(Editor' continued on page 45)

Peanut Butter Turtle Torte

Ingredients:

- 18 chocolate cookie wafers, finely crushed (I use Oreo Thins[®], separate the wafers and scrape the filling off and discard, and crush the wafers)
- 3 tablespoons butter melted, divided
- 16 chocolate cookie wafers (as above using Oreo Thins[®], but this time the wafers are not crushed; keep the wafers whole)
- 4 ounces chopped dark or semisweet chocolate (prepackaged chips will suffice)
- 1¾ cups heavy whipping cream
- 1 cup of halved pecans, toasted
- ⅓ cup butterscotch/caramel topping
- 1 (8 oz) package cream cheese, softened
- 1 cup creamy peanut butter
- 1¼ cups confectioners' sugar
- ½ teaspoon vanilla extract



Courtesy of
Susan Snider (#128)

Steps:

- 1) Combine the crushed chocolate cookies and 2 tablespoons melted butter.
- 2) Press the mixture on the bottom of a 9-inch spring form pan.
- 3) Stand the 16 cookie wafers around the edge of the spring form pan, slightly overlapping, and pressed into crumb mixture on bottom of the spring form pan.
- 4) Bake the chocolate cookie crust at 350°F for 5 minutes, and cool.
- 5) Stir together the chocolate, ¼ cup whipping cream and the remaining 1 tablespoon of butter in a small saucepan over medium-low heat, stirring constantly, until the chocolate melts and the mixture is smooth.
- 6) Remove 2 tablespoons of the chocolate mixture and place in a small zip-top plastic bag (or squeeze bottle).
- 7) Pour the remaining chocolate mixture evenly over the cookie crust in the spring form pan.
- 8) Arrange the pecans in an even layer on the chocolate layer in the spring form pan.
- 9) Spread the butterscotch/caramel topping evenly over the pecans, starting from the center, leaving a 1-inch border around outer edge of crust. (Be sure to leave this border; if not, the caramel will ooze out of the torte.)
- 10) Beat the cream cheese, peanut butter, confectioners sugar and vanilla at medium-high speed with an electric mixer until well blended. Decrease speed to low, and gradually add the remaining 1 ½ cups of cream. When the cream is incorporated, increase the speed to high and beat for 1 minute (or until mixture is thick and creamy). Spread the cream cheese mixture evenly over the butterscotch/caramel layer.
- 11) Snip a tiny hole in one corner of the chocolate-filled zip-top plastic bag, and drizzle chocolate over mixture in the spring form pan.

("Cooking" continued on page 37)

(“Cooking” continued from page 36)

- 12) Cover the spring form pan and chill at least 4 hours (overnight is better).
- 13) Just before serving, remove the spring form pan sides.
- 14) For ease of cutting, warm up your knife by dipping it in a glass of hot tap water and then wipe it dry before slicing the torte.

Nutritional information is provided below.

Makes 16 servings. Each torte serving slice is ~580 calories.

Total fat (g)	42	Potassium (mg)	163	Vitamin A	0%
Saturated fat (g)	19	Total carbs (g)	48	Vitamin C	0%
Trans fat (g)	0	Dietary fiber (g)	2	Calcium	5%
Cholesterol (g)	57	Sugars (g)	34	Iron	12%
Sodium (mg)	126	Protein (g)	8		

(‘Helpful Hints’ continued from page 25)

way inside. Of course, as noted above, if you can store your RV under a cover this helps in two ways: reduced intensity of the sun’s rays on your RV (protecting the roof and minimizing temperature gain) and the vents are protected by the cover, eliminating the ingress of water from rain.

RV Maintenance Tips #4: Lubricate your slide-out rails

If your slide squeaks and pops while being extended or retracted, it’s a sign that your slide-out rails need to be lubricated. Letting your slide-out rails go without proper lubrication can cause deterioration and gear damage.

The information in most owner manuals recommend you should apply lubricant to your rails once or twice a year, depending on how often you use your RV. You can find a can of lubricant spray that is specifically designed for slide-outs for around \$15.

RV Maintenance Tips #5: Keep your tires in good condition

Keep your tires clean, protected, and covered when in storage or parked for an extended period. The sun’s UV rays can deteriorate your tires rapidly (especially ST tires), requiring them to need replacement long before you wear out the tread. (See other information on tires in past *TIMES* issues: V57#1, Winter 2018; V58#4, Fall 2020; and V59#3, Summer 2021.)

After you clean your tires, treat them with a UV protectant (such as 303 Aerospace Protectant). Again, my research indicates that there’s a trade-off between leaving your tires uncovered when stored and covering them. However, if you are going to use commercially available tire covers, the recommendation is to use white versus black material, as the latter absorbs more heat energy from the sun’s rays.

(‘Helpful Hints’ continued on page 45)

Chapter Campouts

The following listings were last updated on February 1, 2025. The start day for the events listed is Friday unless otherwise noted. Please check with the campout contact(s) to confirm the status of the event before making your plans to attend, as sometimes a Chapter's plans change. Also remember an up-to-date list may be found on the NSDCA website. Thank you.

Thursday March 6 → 9

193 Roadrunner Squares: Florida

Hammondell Campsites and RV Park

5601 Cypress Gardens Rd, Winter Haven, FL; 863-324-5775

Make your own reservations (contact information above) and then let Tom (contact information below) know you are coming.

Tom Biehn; 757-672-0069 or rtb6273@gmail.com

March 14 → 15

128 Square Wheels: Florida

The Springs RV Resort

2950 NE 52nd Ct., Silver Springs, FL; 352-236-5250

Rally rate is \$46.80/night. They will honor Passport America for 3 days. If staying more than 3 days, rate is \$52/night.

All activities are in the "Friendship Hall."

You must call the campground to make reservations; a deposit is required.

Mary Chesnut; 352-475-2550, cell 352-214-5880; marynut4@gmail.com OR Tim Hill, 352-205-0596, doramiata62@yahoo.com OR Angela Brown 352-408-5721

April 4 → 5

153 Strawberry Travelers: Florida

Strawberry Square Mobile Home Park

4401 Promenade Blvd., Plant City, Florida

Rally Rate varies based on accommodation type.

Accommodations available: Berm / Camper Lot / Park Model

Call Susan at 256-673-0170 for a reservation.

Susan Wolford, 256-673-0170, 2susanwolf@gmail.com

Thursday April 10 → 13

193 Roadrunner Squares: Florida

Wekiva Falls RV Resort

30700 River Road, Sorrento, FL; 352-268-9556 or 352-383-8055

Make your own reservations (contact information above) and then let Tom (contact information below) know you are coming.

Tom Biehn; 757-672-0069 or rtb6273@gmail.com

April 25 → 26

128 Square Wheels: Florida

Stephen Foster Cultural Center State Park

11016 Lillian Saunders Dr. Hwy 41, White Springs, FL;

800-326-3521 or 386-397-4331

Normal rate is \$20/night, but FL seniors are charged only \$10/night, plus a \$6.70 reservation fee and \$7/night for electricity.

Mary Chesnut; 352-475-2550, cell 352-214-5880; marynut4@gmail.com OR Tim Hill, 352-205-0596, doramiata62@yahoo.com OR Angela Brown 352-408-5721

May 2 → 4

001 Garden State Square Dance Campers: New Jersey / Pennsylvania

White Oak Campground

3156 White Oak Rd, Quarryville, PA; 717-687-6207

You must call the campground to make a reservation.

We are joining the Square Up Campers #106

Ron/Pauline Vande Vrede; 973-343-3152; vandevrede@optonline.net

Thursday May 8 → 11

014 Blackhawk Crosstrailers: Illinois

Pilgrims Campground

W7271 County Rd C, Ft. Atkinson, WI; 920-563-8122

Which will include Fireside Theatre buffet dinner & performance on Thursday night of

Agatha Christie's "Murder on the Orient Express."

Call Pilgrims to make your reservation and then let Bob Asp know you're coming.

Cinda or Bob Asp; Cinda.asp@gmail.com

193 Roadrunner Squares: Florida

Bonnet Lake Campgrounds

2825 State Road 17 S; Avon Park, FL; 863-385-3700

Make your own reservations (contact information above) and then let Tom (contact information below) know you are coming.

Tom Biehn; 757-672-0069 or rtb6273@gmail.com

May 16 → 17

014 Blackhawk Crosstrailers: Illinois

Solid Gold Weekend at the Amana Colonies - Amana RV Park

3850 C Street, Amana, IA; 319-622-7616

Dancing at the charming & historic Hotel Millwright.

FLYER available at www.solidgoldrecords.net

Cinda or Bob Asp; Cinda.asp@gmail.com

128 Square Wheels: Florida

Southern Oaks RV Resort

14140 SE Hwy 441, Summerfield, FL; 352-347-2550

Rally rate is \$40/night. Rate also valid two days before and after rally.

Call to make your own reservations.

Mary Chesnut; 352-475-2550, cell 352-214-5880; marynut4@gmail.com OR Tim Hill,

352-205-0596, doramiata62@yahoo.com OR Angela Brown 352-408-5721

May 16 → 18

031 Badger Rovers: Wisconsin

Derge County Park

N8379 County Road Camp, Beaver Dam, WI; 920-386-3700

May 23 → 25

119 Wander Yonders: Wyoming

Grays Gable (Quadra Dangle Square Dance Club)

3905 Grays Gable Road, Laramie, WY; 307-742-6008

Diana Fergel, 307- 635-7312

C-175 Riverside Gypsy Squares: New York / Ontario / Quebec

Lower Beverly Lake Park

146 Lower Beverly Lake Road, Delta, ON; 613-928-2881

Opportunity to dance, socialize, enjoy fishing/swimming.

Helen MacCallum; 613-330-4873

Chapter Campouts—continued

(‘Campouts’ continued from page 39)

June 6 → June 8

014 Blackhawk Crosstrailers: Illinois

NSDCA ILLINOIS STATE CAMPOREE @ Winnebago County Fairgrounds
500 West First St, Pecatonica, IL

Cinda has registration forms
Cinda or Bob Asp; Cinda.asp@gmail.com

031 Badger Rovers: Wisconsin

Buffalo Lake Camping Resort
555 Lake Avenue, Montello, WI; 608-297-2915

June 13 → 15

001 Garden State Square Dance Campers: New Jersey/Pennsylvania

Appalachian RV Campground
60 Motel Dr., Shartlesville, PA; 877-570-2267 or 610-488-6319

Caller Dave Black
Ron/Pauline Vande Vrede; 973-343-3152; vandevrede@optonline.net

Thursday June 19 → 21

♥♥♥ 67th NSDCA International Camporee ♥♥♥

Shreveport Fairgrounds
3701 Hudson Ave; Shreveport, LA
See the centerfold of this issue or <http://nsdca.org/camporees.php> for registration form
and other details.

If going to the 74th NSDC, you can stay in your same camping spot.
John Ide; 352-208-5980

June 20 → 22

C-175 Riverside Gypsy Squares: New York / Ontario / Quebec

Lower Beverley Lake Park
146 Lower Beverley Lake Road, Delta, ON; 613-928-2881

Opportunity to dance, socialize, enjoy fishing/swimming.
Helen MacCallum; 613-330-4873

Wednesday June 25 → 28

♥♥♥ 74th National Square Dance Convention ♥♥♥

Shreveport Fairgrounds
3701 Hudson Ave; Shreveport, LA
See <https://www.74nsdc.com/> for registration forms and other details.
Cheryl Rush; 903-725-0245 (landline) or peppercatt2@gmail.com

July 18 → 20

001 Garden State Square Dance Campers: New Jersey/Pennsylvania

Appalachian RV Campground
60 Motel Dr., Shartlesville, PA; 877-570-2267 or 610-488-6319

Caller Bob Engel
Ron/Pauline Vande Vrede; 973-343-3152; vandevrede@optonline.net



July 18 → 20

C-175 Riverside Gypsy Squares: New York / Ontario / Quebec

Lower Beverly Lake Park

146 Lower Beverly Lake Road, Delta, ON; 613-928-2881

Opportunity to dance, socialize, enjoy fishing/swimming.

Helen MacCallum; 613-330-4873

Thursday July 24 → 27

014 Blackhawk Crosstrailers: Illinois

Rustic Barn Campground & RV Park

3854 Dry Hollow Rd, Keiler, WI; 608-568-7797

Call campground for reservations

Cinda or Bob Asp; Cinda.asp@gmail.com

August 8 → 10

001 Garden State Square Dance Campers: New Jersey / Pennsylvania

Appalachian RV Campground

60 Motel Dr, Shartlesville, PA; 877-570-2267 or 610-488-6319

Caller Mark Franks

Ron/Pauline Vande Vrede; 973-343-3152; vandevrede@optonline.net

August 15 → 16

128 Square Wheels: Florida

Wekiva Falls RV Resort

30700 River Road, Sorrento, FL; 352-268-9556 or 352-383-8055

Passport America accepted for up to 6 days.

PPA rally rate is \$44.50/night. You must call and pre-register. Deposits will NOT be refunded, but will be honored for a future reservation within a year.

Mary Chesnut; 352-475-2550, cell 352-214-5880; marynut4@gmail.com OR Tim Hill,

352-205-0596, doramiata62@yahoo.com OR Angela Brown 352-408-5721

Thursday August 21 → 24

014 Blackhawk Crosstrailers: Illinois

Big Rock Campground

46W499 Granart Road, Big Rock, IL; 630-444-1200

For reservations, www.kaneforest.com/location/big-rock-campground

Cinda or Bob Asp; Cinda.asp@gmail.com

August 22 → 24

119 Wander Yonders: Wyoming

Glenrock Town Park

Town Park Road, Glenrock, WY

Please make your own camping reservations

Diana Fergel, 307- 635-7312

C-175 Riverside Gypsy Squares: New York / Ontario / Quebec

Lower Beverly Lake Park

146 Lower Beverly Lake Road, Delta, ON; 613-928-2881

Opportunity to dance, socialize, enjoy fishing/swimming.

Helen MacCallum; 613-330-4873

(‘Campouts’ continued on page 42)

Please remember: If there is a change to your campout schedule, report it so that the website can be updated. To do this, simply use the process you normally do, enter the dates and location of the campout, and then in the comments section indicate the event has been canceled or relocated. If the latter occurs, be sure to make a new entry indicating the new location. Thank you!

Chapter Campouts—continued

(‘Campouts’ continued from page 41)

Thursday September 4 → 7

119 Wander Yonders: Wyoming

Grays Gable (Quadra Dangle Square Dance Club)

3905 Grays Gable Road, Laramie, WY; 307-742-6008

Diana Fergel; 307- 635-7312

September 5 → 7

001 Garden State Square Dance Campers: New Jersey/Pennsylvania

Shady Oaks Family Campground

40 Round Barn Rd, Newmanstown, PA; 717-949-3177

You must call Kathy Engel to register at 717-532-5654 by August 1, 2025

We are joining the Square Up Campers #106

Caller Bob Engel

Ron/Pauline Vande Vrede; 973-343-3152; vandevrede@optonline.net

031 Badger Rovers: Wisconsin

Token Creek Campground

6200 US Hwy 51, Deforest, WI; 608-224-3730

September 19 → 21

C-175 Riverside Gypsy Squares: New York / Ontario / Quebec

Lower Beverley Lake Park

146 Lower Beverley Lake Road, Delta, ON; 613-928-2881

Last weekend of the season and includes the Chapter’s Annual General Meeting.

Helen MacCallum; 613-330-4873

October 3 → 5

001 Garden State Square Dance Campers: New Jersey/Pennsylvania

Cherry Ridge Campsites

147 Camp Rd, Honesdale, PA; 570-488-6654

You must call the campground to make a reservation.

Callers are Dane Bragg and Jenn Engimann

Ron/Pauline Vande Vrede; 973-343-3152; vandevrede@optonline.net

Tuesday October 7 → 11

014 Blackhawk Crosstrailers: Illinois

Kamp Komfort RV Park and Campground

21408 County Rd 600 E, Carlock, IL; 309-376-4411

Will include a visit to Braffet Berry Farm, community dance, PLUS a possible dinner & play at Barn III Theatre of “Arsenic & Old Lace.”

Cinda or Bob Asp; Cinda.asp@gmail.com

Did you miss it?

BIG NEWS

Go to Page 2

"Square Dance Bash on the Bayou" 2025 Camporee T-Shirts

All sizes!



2 Colors!



**'\$20.00' Order Yours TODAY
On Your Registration Form**

All purchased T-Shirts will be included in your Welcome Packet at the 2025 Camporee.

Available in Lavender & Purple

**Purchased thru your registration:
These T-Shirts run true to the size.**



I just gotta have one of
them T-shirts!
I'M TELLING YOU...
EVERY GATOR'S GOT ONE.

READY...SET....

ACTION!



Shake the dust off
from all those Old Skits
and Cute & Crazy Fun Antics!

AFTERPARTY HELP WANTED

Now that you have made up your mind to come to the Camporee this summer, consider helping us out with some of the Fun.

“MANY HANDS MAKE LIGHT THE WORK”

**Contact any BOD Member
and ask how you can help.**

(‘Editor’ continued from page 35)

not have your email program compress the image; I need it ‘full strength’ to ensure it will reproduce well in the newsletter. Just as a hint, photos garnered from Facebook are typically already compressed by that platform and do not yield a high quality when reproduced in the *TIMES*; please try to find the original that was posted and send me that one.

As snowbirds (and others) will be soon migrating back home, please remember to keep our Membership Chair, Kathy Nickel, aware of your physical location and where you will be when the next issue of the *TIMES* is mailed. This is important as she provides the information given to the mailing facility for distribution of the *TIMES* newsletter. The USPS does not forward non-profit material due to the price break we receive for initial mailing, and it costs your Association several dollars to have the undeliverable newsletter returned to us. Kathy’s email may be found along with other Staff members’ contact information on page 47 of this issue, as well as on the NSDCA website.

Lastly, please respond to information requests from our Board. You can email them your thoughts on the topics they ask about. I know we are constantly bombarded by stores and your medical providers to regularly provide feedback on their services and how well they did, but our Board really needs to hear what our membership has to say about certain topics; they don’t like making decisions in a vacuum. If you do not wish to write directly to a Board member, please feel free to send your comments/suggestions/feedback to me, and I will pass them along. I often do this for members that are relocating to a different address; they notify me and I pass the information along to our Membership Chair.

Here’s to a safe, happy and healthy restart of the 2025 square dance camping season.



(‘Helpful Hints’ continued from page 37)

RV Maintenance Tips #6: Document your RV maintenance

Lastly, keep track of and document these and other maintenance tasks. You can use a paper log in a notebook (where you can put your receipts for work and materials, and which you should keep in the RV), a computer spreadsheet or word processing document, or an online or phone-based maintenance tracking tool. Having a log of your maintenance will also help garner a higher price if you decide to sell or trade in the future.

The NSDCA *TIMES*

...is published four times yearly for NSDCA members. The yearly subscription fee is included in the annual membership dues. The NSDCA *TIMES* is sent to all paid NSDCA members to provide: 1) general square dance camping information, 2) communications between Chapters and 3) information about NSDCA, Inc.

The Editor reserves the right to condense, omit, or edit articles in order to best use available space; submissions may be limited to 250 words and one photograph. Please note that opinions are not necessarily those of the Editorial Staff or the Association.

All material should be submitted for publication by email. US Post Office mail submissions will be accepted but must be typed or computer printed. All caps print will not be accepted. Hard copy (e.g., chat submissions, photos) will not be returned.

The Editors will not be responsible for material received after the deadline or material that is illegible or that violates the standards of the NSDCA.



The deadline for submission of articles, pictures and advertisements is the last day of January, April, July and October.



Unless identified as "Used with permission" or a reference is cited, items and articles used in this publication are not copyrighted and we encourage their use in the furtherance of Square Dancing. We only ask that if used, please give credit where due.

Advertising Information and & Rates

- RATES for MEMBER ads:

To encourage our NSDCA members, all NSDCA Chapters or NSDCA state, province or other member organizations may place one (1) ad (single page or smaller) once each year free of charge subject to available space. A second ad will be discounted 50% from the commercial rates. Subsequent ads for the same year will be receive a 25% discount from the commercial rate.

- RATES for COMMERCIAL and NON-MEMBER ads:

Full page	\$65.00	Three-Quarter page	\$50.00
Half page	\$35.00	Quarter page	\$20.00

Contact the Editor today to place your ad at these fantastic prices! Questions concerning advertising in the NSDCA *TIMES* should be directed to the Editor.

EDITOR: Ken Shacter
EMAIL: NSDCAtimes@gmail.com

Please visit the NSDCA on the Internet at www.nsdca.org

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*"Let's go
Dancing"*

NSDCA AREA REPRESENTATIVES (2024-2025)

CANADA

Stan & Mary Smith
585 Garatraxa St. West, Fergus, ONT NIM2W3
(519) 843-7080; stamar@wightman.ca

NORTH CENTRAL

(Indiana, Iowa, Minnesota, Ohio and Wisconsin)
David Lust and Sharon Schmidt; 121 Fieldstone Dr.; Lodi, WI 53555
(608) 650-5743 ; davidlust@ymail.com

NORTH EAST

(Connecticut, Delaware, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New Hampshire, New York, Rhode Island and Vermont)
Barbara Connelly
Lower Waterford, VT
(802) 748-8538; artsrep@nsdca.org

NORTH WEST

(Colorado, N & S Dakota, Idaho, Montana, Nebraska, Oregon, Washington and Wyoming)
Gaylord & Shari Madison
4078 Palace Drive, Grand Island, NE 68803-6404
(308) 384-8541; Cell:(308) 390-2247; sharamadison@hotmail.com

SOUTH CENTRAL

(Arkansas, Kansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, Oklahoma and Texas)
Ted & Nancy Kennedy
5430 Grand Bay Wilmer Rd, Grand Bay, AL 36541
(985) 788-2253; nancykennedy211@hotmail.com

SOUTH EAST

(Alabama, Georgia, Kentucky, N & S Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia and W Virginia)
Jan & Jon Bloodworth
256-508-9331; janb10756@yahoo.com

SOUTH WEST

(Arizona, California, Nevada, New Mexico and Utah)
The Board is seeking a volunteer to fill this position.
Please contact a Board Member (page 47) if you wish to be considered.

ILLINOIS

Ruthann Sanders
(708) 946-6102; RSRN4@aol.com

MICHIGAN

Gary & Alberta Gunsell
(989) 666-4232; gunsell@lentel.com

FLORIDA

Dennis & Laura Ramsey; Fleming Island, FL
(904) 269-4405. ramseydp@comcast.net

PENNSYLVANIA

Park & Kathy Bierbower, Shippensburg, PA
(717) 300-5111; scoutguyone@gmail.com

Pop Secret!

Do you like microwave popcorn, but find that lots of kernels don't pop? Here's a trick I've found that works fairly well.

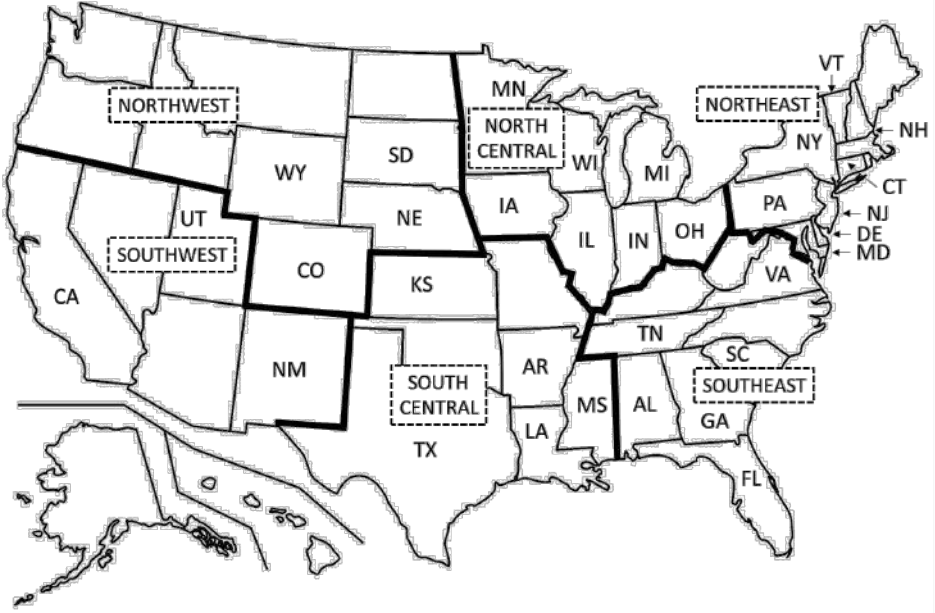
Place the popcorn bag on an inverted microwave-safe dish, instead of on the bottom (or turntable) surface of the oven. I use a Corningware plate as the bottom of the popcorn bag becomes extremely hot. Cook the popcorn as you normally would, listening for when the popping slows way down so you can stop the oven and remove the bag.

I normally leave the plate in the oven until it cools down; if you do attempt to handle it, I suggest you use oven mitts or similar so you don't get burned.





States and Provinces listed have an NSDCA Chapter, have Members associated with a Chapter outside their political jurisdiction, or Members-at-Large.



Chapter Representatives

- 001 GARDEN STATE SQUARE DANCE CAMPERS; NJ/PA**
Ron & Pauline Vande Vrede; (973) 343-3152; vandevrede@optonline.net
Geographic Center: Parsippany, New Jersey
- 002 PINE TREE; WI**
Tricia Chartier; (414) 807-4083; TriciaMooLady@gmail.com
Geographic Center: Milwaukee
- 010 PIONEER; WI**
Ken & Harriet Roberts; (920) 878-0860; ewesforme@gmail.com
Geographic Center: Oshkosh/Green Bay
- 014 BLACKHAWK CROSSTRAILERS; IL**
Bob & Cinda Asp; (815) 262-9080; sgbobasp@aol.com
Geographic Center: Rockford
- 018 SUNSHINE STATE PIONEERS; FL [-]**
George Ferguson or Sandy McIntyre; s(734) 735-1342; andymc481@yahoo.com
Geographic Center: Tampa
- 021 ROVIN' SQUARES; PA**
Park & Kathy Bierbower; (717) 300-5111; scoutguyone@gmail.com
Geographic Center: Central PA
- C028 SWING 'N' CANADIANS; ON**
George & Jane Lung; (519) 625-9840; georgelung@hotmail.com
Geographic Center: Windsor, ON, CA
- 031 BADGER ROVERS; WI**
Tom & Kathy Nickel; (608) 843-6941; tenickel@chorus.net
Geographic Center: Madison, WI
- 044 ILLIANA SQUARE WHEELERS; IL/IN**
Ruthann Sanders; (708) 946-6102; RSRN4@@aol.com
Geographic Center: Chicago, IL
- 045 PENN DIXIE SQUARE CAMPERS; PA/MD**
Jim Mongiovi & Anita Rayburn; (717) 349-2298; jmongiovi@pa.net
Geographic Center: Chambersburg, PA
- 055 FIRELITERS; IA**
Gene Boelsen; (641) 749-2416
Geographic Center: Garner
- 061 DAKOTA WHEELERS; SD**
Keith & Kari Pillatzke; (605) 886-7915; kpillatzke@hotmail.com
Geographic Center: State of SD
- 063 DIAMOND LACE-A-WAYS; DE/MD**
Bill & Pat Thompson; (302) 875-2812; chicken35@comcast.net
Geographic Center: Milford
- 066 TRADE-BY-TRAVELERS; IL**
Barbara Perkins; (815) 423-6463; bpentn@aol.com
Geographic Center: Aurora
- 075 TRAIL 'N' SQUARES; IL**
Ed & Margie Nightingale; (309) 781-1324
Geographic Center: Moline, IL

- 076 RIVER CITIES TRAVELIN SQUARES; IA**
Linda Russell; (563) 320-1694 ; l_russell@netins.net
Geographic Center: Davenport
- 082 HITCH-N-GO SQUARES; FL**
Sharon Cormier; (407) 492-6961; sharon@thecormiers.net
Geographic Center: Kissimmee
- 085 MOBILE SQUARES; CO/NE**
Ron Skaley; (970) 381-5642; rskaley@msn.com
Geographic Center: Greeley, CO
- 095 HOBO SQUARES; IA**
Donna Carlson; (515) 838-2564; dcrlns@hotmail.com
Geographic Center: Des Moines
- 106 SQUARE-UP CAMPERS; PA/MD**
Dave & Kim Black; 717-367-8950
Geographic Center: Mechanicsburg, PA
- 107 HOOSIER SWINGING SQUARES; IN**
Scott & Kay Reinhold; (574) 309-3492; historian@nsdca.org
Geographic Center: LaPaz
- 116 CAMPING SQUARES OF KANSAS; KS**
Frank & Marty Golden; (316) 943-4137; fmgolden9515@sbcglobal.net
Geographic Center: Wichita
- 119 WANDER YONDERS; WY**
Leo & Diana Fergel; (307) 635-7312; lfergel@bresnan.net
Geographic Center: Cheyenne
- 123 SWING-N-TRAVELERS; IL**
David & Mary Bruun; (217) 381-4041; sewwood69@gmail.com
Geographic Center: Pontiac
- 128 SQUARE WHEELS; FL**
Angela Brown & Tim Hill ; hlangela17@gmail.com
Geographic Center: Gainesville
- C130 LAKESHORE ROLLING SQUARES; ON**
Wayne and Donna Cruwys (613) 962-8816; w_cruwys@yahoo.ca
Geographic Center: Frankford, ON, CA
- 148 ROLLING SQUARES; NE/IA**
Ryan & Kristi Hruska; (402) 690-4772; rkhruska@cox.net
Geographic Center: Omaha
- 152 CAMPERS & DANCERS; AL**
Hank (Henry) Sweetman ; 615-406-6917; hanksweetman@gmail.com
Geographic Center: Birmingham
- 153 STRAWBERRY TRAVELERS; FL**
Bill & Carolyn Dees, billdees3@msn.com, 813-610-7573
Geographic Center: Plant City
- C175 RIVERSIDE GYPSY SQUARES; ON/NY**
Helen MacCallum; (613) 330-4873; helenmaccallum@sympatico.ca
Geographic Center: Delta, ON, CA
- 181 MONTSHIRE CAMPIN' SQUARES; NH/VT**
Arlo & Norma Burns; (603) 927-4454; njburns40@gmail.com
Geographic Center: Lower Waterford, VT
- C187 NORTHERN LIGHTS SQUARE; ON**
Dennis & Debbie Bertrand; (705) 522-4529; tandelaya@hotmail.com
Geographic Center: Eliot Lake

("Chapter Reps" continued from page 51)

193 FLORIDA ROADRUNNER SQUARES; FL

Dolly Ide; (352)-598-7162; dloutz9504@outlook.com

Geographic Center: Port St. Lucie

196 WABASH VALLEY WHEEL AROUNDS; IN/IL/OH

Daniel & Marian Hatfield; (618) 554-3929; danandmarian@hotmail.com

Geographic Center: Indianapolis, IN

[*] indicates a change in contact information from the previous issue.

Updates to the NSDCA Website

You may have recently noticed a subtle change in the URL you use to access our NSDCA website. What was a header of "http://", has an added letter and is now "https://". What is the "s" all about? The letter "s" in this instance stands for "**secure**," meaning the website encodes its transmissions to thwart any nefarious eavesdropper.

Our website's host company, GoDaddy, is transitioning all of their hosted sites to use secure communication protocols, and we are now in conformance with their corporate objectives. As far as we know, everything should continue to work and display as it has in the past. If you run across any issues, please take a screenshot of the error message and send it to our webmaster, Bob Summers (Summers_Bob@yahoo.ca) along with a short description of what you were trying to do.

Thank you.

Afterthoughts

I was somewhat surprised by the reduced number of submissions for the "Lost Gator" contest this time around, as well as contributions for the "Chapter Chat" section of the newsletter. I guess having the center-fold inserted backwards from normal (I don't know how or why that happened) where the gator was hiding threw some people off for contest entries, and the vast majority of our Chapters suspend camping activities during the winter months, so they feel they have nothing to report. However, I do know some Chapters meet up occasionally this time of year, either for a meal, a special brick-and-mortar dance, or some other occasion. Please let us know what you do to keep engaged when you are unable to camp.

I strongly suspect there are a large number of members who have modified their RVs in one fashion or another to suit their taste or to provide an amenity they felt was lacking in the original design. Please share these modification ideas with your fellow NSDCA members. A brief write-up is all that is required, and be sure to send a photo along.

Thank you.

Your NSDCA Editor

ARE NSDCA CAMPOREES "Dancing Into The Sunset"?

We Need
Your
Help



Will you
NOT let that happen?

2026
Does **NOT** have
a **Chairman**

Are You Willing
to Help or
standing by
and watching
it go away?

2023 Chairmen - Ruth & Ozzie Osborn

2024 Chairmen - Tricia & Neal Chartier

2025 Chairman - John & Dolly Ide

All BOD Officers

None of them did it by themselves,
but with the help of a bunch of
other great people!

Contact a BOD
Member today

NSDCA Chapters

AL	152
CO	[085]
DE	[063]
FL	018, 082, 128, 153, 193
IA	055, 076, 095, [148]
IL	014, [044], 066, 075, 123, [196]
IN	[044], 107, [196]
KS	116
MD	[045], [063], [106]
NE	[085], [148]
NH	[181]
NJ	[001]
NY	[175C]
OH	[196]
PA	[001], 021, [045], [106]
SD	061
VT	[181]
WI	002, 010, 031
WY	119
ON	028C, 130C, [175C], 187C

[...] Brackets indicates that the Chapter covers more than one state or province.

NSDCA Post Office Mailing Address

Please note, all completed forms and monetary submissions should be mailed to the following:

NSDCA
P.O. Box 241
Butler, WI 53007-9998

Thank you!

SQUARE DANCE CAMPING BONANZA

74th National Square Dance Convention

in Shreveport, Louisiana

June 25
thru
June 28

2025



Gabby Gator invites you to the TRAIL-Thru Event being held before the 74th Convention, at La. State Fairgrounds.

Nightly After Parties will be held there during the convention.

NSDCA has planned a unique
"TRAIL-THRU EVENT"

67th
NSDCA
INTERNATIONAL
CAMPOREE

June 19
thru
June 21

Visit us at
NSDCA.org



Camporee
Trail-In Dance
June 18

Square Dance Bash on the Bayou

Enjoy 4 days of camping fun with Square & Round Dancing, Line Dancing, Games, Campfires, Crafts, and some great Cajun Food at our Pot Lucks. Meet friendly fellow campers and enjoy some time between events to relax and visit area attractions.

Sign up for the Camporee and stay camped in the same site for both events.

HAVE YOU MOVED?
Notify: NSDCA
P.O. Box 241
Butler, WI 53007-9998

**ADDRESS SERVICE
REQUESTED**

**"Square Dance Bash on the Bayou"
2025 in Shreveport Louisiana**



Dance Your
Tail Off!

**67th NSDCA
International
Camporee
June 19, 20, & 21**