



**Hosted by DC Lambda Squares
Omni Shoreham Hotel
June 30 – July 3**

Thank You DC Lambda Squares!

**For helping our club
to get started in 1986
and
for all the hard work
you have done
to make this 1994
convention the great
success that it is!**



**Chesapeake Squares would very much like to host
the I.A.G.S.D.C. Convention in Baltimore, Maryland,
on the July 4th weekend in the year 2000.**

In Memory of Maury Blum

Stars and Squares Forever, Inc.
Proudly Presents



**The Eleventh Annual Convention of
The International Association of Gay Square Dance Clubs
A Lesbian and Gay Organization**

**The Omni Shoreham Hotel
Washington, DC
June 30 - July 3, 1994**

Staff Callers

Saundra Bryant • Mike DeSisto • Ed Foote • Dayle Hodge • Mike Jacobs •
Chris Phillips • Anne Uebelacker

Featured Callers

Doug Barnett • Pete Diven • Bill Eyler • Betsy Gotta • Ett McAtee • Howard Richman

Dancing and Workshops — Basic through C-4

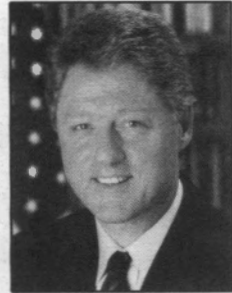
Welcome, Square Dancers!

From The White House . . .

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

May 18, 1994



Greetings to everyone gathered in Washington, D.C., for the eleventh annual convention of the International Association of Gay Square Dance Clubs.

Square dancing is a time-honored American tradition. Once limited to rural communities, square dancing's popularity has exploded in recent years, thriving in big cities and small towns across the country. Dancers and audiences of many different backgrounds and experiences today enjoy the colorful costumes, the lively music, and the intricate steps of square dancing.

I am pleased that the International Association of Gay Square Dance Clubs has organized this wonderful event. By bringing people together in our nation's capital to enjoy the old-fashioned fun of square dancing, the IAGSDC embodies the best attributes of a thriving community association. I am pleased to commend all who have worked to advance this form of dance and to honor this proud aspect of our cultural history.

Best wishes for a wonderful festival.

Bill Clinton

From The Office Of The Mayor, District of Columbia . . .



SHARON PRATT KELLY
Mayor

THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20001



GREETINGS

STARS & SQUARES FOREVER, INCORPORATED

ELEVENTH ANNUAL

**INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF GAY SQUARE DANCE CLUBS
CONVENTION**

JUNE 30 - JULY 3, 1994

As Mayor of the District of Columbia, I am pleased to extend warm greetings to Stars and Squares Forever, Incorporated on the occasion of your Eleventh Annual International Association of Gay Square Dance Clubs Convention.

Thank you for choosing Washington, D.C. as the host site for your convention. Washington, D.C. is a diverse, multi-cultural, multi-ethnic city, with a long history of hospitality. Our city serves as the Nation's Capital, the home of more than 500,000 residents and the city of choice for a thriving lesbian and gay community. I hope that during this event you will take the opportunity to visit our famous historical monuments, museums, theaters and many diverse and thriving residential neighborhoods, all of which make this city unique.

On behalf of the residents of the District of Columbia, welcome to Washington and best wishes for a pleasant stay in our city.



SHARON PRATT KELLY
MAYOR
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

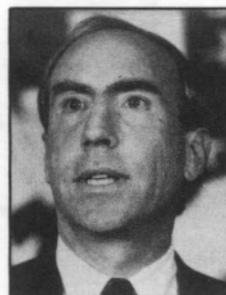
Welcome, Square Dancers!

From The U.S. Congress . . .



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20515

GERRY E. STUDDS
TENTH DISTRICT
MASSACHUSETTS



June 30, 1994

Dear Friends:

It is a pleasure to welcome you to Stars and Squares Forever: the Eleventh Annual Convention of the International Association of Gay Square Dance Clubs.

I know that last year's IAGSDC convention was a spectacular success, and I am delighted that you have chosen to mark the start of your second decade by bringing this extraordinary event to Washington, D.C.

I salute you for the contribution you have made to the vitality and diversity of our community, and wish you every success.

With kind regards.

Sincerely,

Gerry E. Studds

From The International Association of Gay Square Dance Clubs . . .

International Association of Gay Square Dance Clubs, Inc. A Lesbian and Gay Organization

1993/94 Board of Directors

Bob Young
Chairperson

J.W. Paulson
Vice Chairperson

John Faulds
Secretary

Darrell Ertzberger
Treasurer



Welcome to Washington DC and the 11th Annual Convention of the International Association of Gay Square Dance Clubs, Inc., *Stars and Squares Forever*.

How appropriate that this years' name should include the word 'forever.' The Association is in such terrific health and is growing so much every year, that it seems that we will, indeed, be going on *forever*.

At our convention this year, we are expecting to welcome our first club from outside of North America, the Lismore Scooters from New South Wales, Australia. Located approximately 10 hours north of Sydney and 2 hours south of Brisbane, they prove that we are, indeed, everywhere!

This past year has also brought us word that a new club, The Bell Squares, should be starting in London this fall. So, as we grow towards other continents, it seems that our future is secure and gay and lesbian square dancing will see 'Stars and Squares FOREVER'!

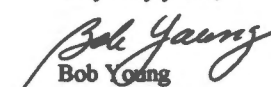
It is also appropriate that we converge on America's capital just one year and a month after our historic March on Washington, and twenty-five years, nearly to the day, after the historic Stonewall riots. Without those riots, there would be no gay and lesbian square dancing. Politics were not the only area of change to come from the actions of those bold and noble brothers and sisters in New York's Greenwich Village in 1969. Our entire social structure changed, literally whooshing us out of the closets and onto volleyball courts, softball fields, ski slopes, bowling alleys and square dance halls everywhere. Never again could it be said that queers were all about sex. We became a part of America's everyday fabric, and there we will stay.

So, be a part of your club. Get active. Dance in your local communities. Let square dancers everywhere know that we dance with pride and honor. Enjoy this weekend and attend fly-ins all during the year. Make friends and play safe!

And remember to join us next year as we Track II to Chicago Memorial day weekend!

As ever, I am

Very truly yours,


Bob Young
1993/94 Chairperson

P.O. BOX 15428 CRYSTAL CITY, VA 22215 (800) 835-6462

Welcome, Square Dancers!

From Stars and Squares Forever, Inc. . . .



Stars and Squares Forever, Inc.



July 1994

Fellow Square Dancers and Friends,

Welcome to Washington, DC and STARS AND SQUARES FOREVER! On behalf of the S&SF Board of Directors and volunteers, I wish you a weekend full of wonderful dancing, warm reunions, and new friends.

Early on we decided that our main goal during this Independence Day weekend would be to provide you with the most square dancing we could possibly schedule. So get your dancing shoes ready! Counting the Trail-In Dance, we've have scheduled more than 30 hours of square dancing, including two workshops — one to refresh your skills at your current dancing level and one to give you a small taste of the next level up.

Another goal we kept in mind was showcasing the increasing talents of our gay, lesbian, and gay-friendly callers. We're sure you'll appreciate the special sessions we have scheduled to spotlight their calling skills.

And speaking of talent, dedication, and hard work, I can't forget to mention the volunteers who put this convention together. But for them, we wouldn't be here.

We all want you to consider this 11th annual IAGSDC™ as a big "family reunion" — a time to renew old relationships, welcome new family members, and remember the loved ones who are no longer with us.

So, come be the "stars in our squares" as the second decade of gay and lesbian square dancing begins.

Let's dance!

Tom Pearson, Chairperson
Stars and Squares Forever

And From Your Hosts, The D.C. Lambda Squares . . .



DC LAMBDA SQUARES



Dear Fellow Square Dancers,

On behalf of the board of DC Lambda Squares, it is my pleasure to welcome you to Stars and Squares Forever, the 11th annual convention of the International Association of Gay Square Dance Clubs — a lesbian and gay organization. We are delighted to have all of you here in our nation's capitol to share a wonderful dancing experience on this 4th of July weekend.

This convention would not have been possible were it not for incredible amounts of time and effort by the Stars and Squares Forever board and the many committee chairs and committee members. We are particularly indebted to Tom Pearson, Stars and Squares Forever chair, for giving unselfishly of his time and organizing skills over the past several years, and to his partner Warren Jaquith who, besides being one of our club callers and teachers, has worked along side Tom to organize this convention.

A special acknowledgement is due Maury Blum, a DC Lambda Squares member whom we lost to cancer several years ago. Maury was the driving force behind DC's bid to host a convention. At a time when the club was much smaller, Maury's confidence and desire to have a convention in DC convinced other more hesitant members. Without Maury's efforts we would not be here this weekend. Maury, we thank you and know you are here with us in spirit.

The Stars and Squares Forever board and committees have put together a wonderful line-up of callers and a great schedule for our enjoyment. The Omni Shoreham provides us with many lovely ballrooms — each with its own unique decor — in which to dance. And if you have time and energy left over after all that dancing (and clothing changes to coordinate with each different ballroom), the National Zoo is just a few blocks north on Connecticut Avenue and the Metro (DC's award-winning subway system) is just a block away and can take you to the Smithsonian, Dupont Circle, and many other locations around the city.

Once again, thank you to everyone who helped make this convention a reality including all the dancers here this weekend. See you on the dance floor!

Yellow Rocks,

Nancy Crowell, President
DC Lambda Squares

Presenting Your Staff Callers



Sandra Bryant

Sandie is currently associate member of the National Advanced and Challenge Convention, a member of Callerlab, and has been on several TV shows including The Phil Donahue Show.



Ed Foote

Ed Foote is well-known throughout the country to dancers at all programs. He has called for 28 years, full-time for the past 20 years. Ed travels over 50,000 miles a year calling over 330 dances in 25 states coast to coast, Canada and Europe. In his career he has called in 45 states, 6 Canadian provinces, 10 European countries, and has been on the staff of numerous festivals and conventions. Ed is also the regular caller for three square dance clubs in the Pittsburgh area.

A former member of Callerlab's Board of Governors, Ed has been an active member of a number of committees in that organization for almost 20 years. He is accredited by Callerlab as a Caller Coach, and has conducted many caller clinics and colleges throughout the U.S., Canada and Europe. He also runs his own caller school at home every year.

Ed is a well-known square dance author. He has written and edited several instructional books on square dancing, has had hundreds of articles published in the U.S. and other countries, and for 11 years wrote a monthly newsletter for callers. He currently writes a monthly column for American Square Dance Magazine, and is also a staff writer for The Northeast Square Dancer Magazine and the Canadian Dancers News.

Ed has been producing square dance audio and video teaching and dancing tapes for many years. His tapes have taught many people to improve their dancing, and are currently being used by thousands of dancers throughout the U.S., Canada, Europe, the Middle East and Japan. He also has two instructional videos for callers.



Mike Jacobs

Mike started square dancing at age 10 in 1962, and calling in 1971. His collegiate background in debate and drama was of great help in his calling career.

In 1979, Mike started calling full-time. He relocated to the Washington, DC area in 1987 to be near his daughter, and he currently calls for five local groups. Mike spends approximately 50 weekends a year calling Mainstream through C-4 in 38 states, Canada, Sweden, and Germany. He is on the staff of several campgrounds and resorts around the country, as well as the National Advanced and Challenge Convention, National Convention, and the American Advanced and Challenge Convention.

Mike has been an active member of CallerLab since 1976, having served in several committee posts. His calling is noted for its distinctive musical approach, smooth flowing choreography and, as one caller put it, "positioning with taste."



Mike DeSisto

Mike has been calling square dances for about 35 years and this is his 8th IAGSDC™ Convention. He calls throughout the USA and Europe. Mike has an enthusiastic nature on-stage which makes for an interesting and entertaining dancing experience. He is known for his "what-you-see-is-what-you-get" attitude on stage and off stage. Mike has a reputation for his fun style of calling and his consistent and genuine personality.

Presenting Your Staff Callers



Dayle Hodge

Dayle began dancing in 1982 after being taken to a 3/4 dance and being thrust on the floor with no experience. He began calling 6 months later under the tutelage of a Plus caller in the Pittsburgh, PA area. He eventually moved up to calling the Advanced level twice a month at an area club. After college, he moved to the Washington DC area and began dancing at local "straight" clubs. After 5 months, he became the club caller for one of the singles clubs in the area. Dick Warren heard Dayle and asked him if he'd be interested in calling for DC Lambda Squares (DCLS). Ever open-minded, he said yes. He's been the DCLS club caller for the last 8 years.

After moving to the Washington, DC area, Dayle learned to dance and call the C-1, C-2, and C-3 levels. Of all the clubs Dayle calls for, he says the IAGSDC™ groups provide the most fun, excitement, and enthusiasm. Dayle was one of the staff callers for the 6th IAGSDC™ festival "Peel-The-Apple" — a highlight of his calling career.

Dayle has called for DC's Lambda Squares, Baltimore's Chesapeake Squares, Philadelphia's Independence Squares, and New York's Times Squares.

Dayle lives in Columbia, MD with his wife Tammy, and their 2 beautiful daughters, Erin (Hinge) and Callie (Allemanda).

Dayle has been looking forward to this convention for over a year. He would like to thank the organizers and workers for their devotion, time and energy. He hopes everyone has a fantastic time and wishes you God's will for your life.



Anne Uebelacker

Anne resides in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada with her son Todd and life-partner J. Gail Stewart. Anne started calling in 1977 for a children's group and has progressed to call for all dancing levels from Basic to C-4.

A strong "home" program for Squares Across the Border, Monday-Thursday, complements an equally busy travelling schedule on the weekends that may find her anywhere from Vancouver to Florida, Boston to San Francisco, and across the miles to Japan and Sweden.

Some of the calling highlights she is really proud of are her calling assignments at the IAGSDC™ Conventions, the Canadian Challenge Convention, the National Challenge Convention, and the American Advanced and Challenge Convention.

Anne's relaxed style and easy listening voice has won her many square dance friends at *all* dancing levels.

It is an honour to be calling on staff at the 11th IAGSDC™ Convention, "Stars and Squares Forever" 1994.



Chris Phillips

Chris Phillips has been actively calling for twelve years. He got his start in 1977 as a dancer in Miami with the Double-R Squares, the nation's first gay square dance group. When the group began to splinter, Chris formed the South Florida Mustangs as an effort to unify the dancers. The Mustangs became the nation's first gay square dance club.

As an instructor for the Mustangs, Chris began to shift the format of dancing from memorized routines to live calling. In 1983 he opened the Crossfire, a Country and Western bar in Hollywood Florida, host to the first Fly-In where the IAGSDC™ was formed.

While calling for the Mustangs, Chris began to dance with other clubs in an effort to learn higher levels. His big break came in 1985 when he was recommended for a summer calling position by Jack Lasry for a club in South Miami. This opportunity established Chris as a caller in the area and enabled him to expand his calling pursuits.

Currently Chris calls for six different clubs in the South Florida area. In 1991, he opened the Round-Up Circle-C, a dance hall in Hollywood, which is home to four of those clubs including the South Florida Mustangs.

Presenting Your Featured Callers



Douglas E. Barnett

Doug lives in the Washington, D.C. area which has been his home for the past 18 years. He is a native Arkansan and started calling there during his college years. After being away from the activity to attend graduate school, Doug returned to calling professionally to call for the DC Lambda Squares and later the Chesapeake Squares. He started one club (The Promenaders) and assisted with the initiation of several others. Doug has called in many states, Europe, the Middle East, and for a number of clubs in the Washington area.

Teaching is Doug's forte. He enthusiastically welcomes each new class and makes it an enjoyable event for the dancers. Doug is active in CallerLab, the National Capitol Area Square Dance Leaders Association, and the Gay Callers Association. He has assisted in teaching callers at the Washington Callers Institute and earlier taught square dance at Arkansas State University. Several articles in various square dance publication bear Doug's by-line.

When not involved in calling, Doug likes to spend time with his computer. It's an affair of many years, and he truly enjoys the company. In the other spare 8-9 hours, he works as a manager in the Federal Government.



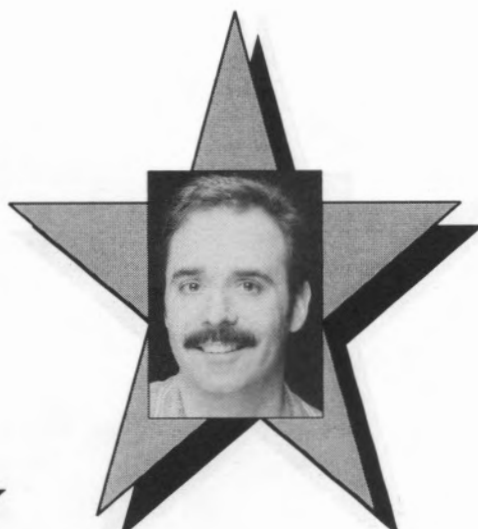
Pete Diven

Originally from south-central Pennsylvania, Pete was introduced to square dancing by his parents who always took his sister and him with them to the dances. This was the "visiting couple" style of Traditional Square Dancing. He took his first classes when he was about seven years old.

While stationed in Japan with the U.S. Air Force, he took his fiancée to a Modern Western Square dance on the base and immediately enrolled them in the class that was just starting. Pete began calling at an amateur callers night. In 1971 the regular club caller was reassigned and Pete was selected to be the replacement. He also helped a young Japanese caller to start a Japanese square dance club about 45 minutes north of the base.

Upon returning to the United States, he called in central California for about a year. Still with the Air Force, he was reassigned to Okinawa in 1973 and called for two clubs there. He also got involved with teaching and cueing round dancing. For the last time in his Air Force career, he returned to the United States in 1976 and was stationed at Dover, Delaware. After retiring from the Air Force, he moved to Edgewood, Maryland.

He calls all programs though A-2 and is presently studying C-1. He also cues phases I through IV.



Bill Eyler

Bill got the square dance bug back in 1983 and reluctantly started to teach class for The Wilde Bunch in 1984 when the founder of the club moved away. He loves to spread the infectious/addictive aspects of our activity and truly enjoys the bonds created by gay men and women. He is fascinated by the diversity of gay culture within square dance.

He has been calling/teaching over 220 nights a year. His home program includes Basic through C-1 with The Wilde Bunch. He is also club caller for the "Swingin' Singles."

He recently purchased a new home which has his dream room — a dance hall that can easily accommodate three squares.

He has called for over 40 conventions, fly-ins and festivals. He will be staff caller for the '96 convention in San Francisco.

Bill lives in Albuquerque with his family of two mini-schnauzers, Sophie and Gunther.

Presenting Your Featured Callers



Betsy Gotta

Betsy Gotta of North Brunswick, New Jersey has been square dancing for 41 years and calling for 32 years. She learned to dance as a youth, took up the microphone as a teenager, and continues an active life as a leader in the square dancing activity.

Betsy currently calls regularly for 5 square dance clubs (Basic through C-1). She also teaches Plus DBD workshop, beginner lessons, Advanced lessons, a C-1 class, and works with new callers on a regular basis. Betsy creates practice choreography for her C-3 workshop highlighting specific calls and/or concepts as requested. She calls all programs for contra through C-3 and is an accredited CallerLab Caller Coach.

Averaging approximately 240 calling engagements per year, she has also attended the last 33 consecutive National Square Dance conventions, and called at the last 31 of them! Betsy has called for the two previous non-staff dances at the National Challenge Convention.

In addition to her regular home calling program, Betsy travels in a 5-state area from upstate New York to Virginia for guest calling engagements, weekends, and festivals. Her festivals have included the Richmond Festival, the Border Booster Festival in Montreal, Peel the Apple in New York, and the 1995 Star Spangled Festival in MD.

Betsy is the featured caller for instructional videos being produced by Square Dance Videos. In addition to her calling schedule, Betsy is currently on the Board of Governors of CallerLab, the Executive Committee of Legacy, was the General Chairman of the 1992 New Jersey State Square Dance Convention, and helps her husband Roy teach round dancing.



Ett McAtee

Affectionately known as "Just Ett, Hon!" to her fellow Chesapeake Squares clubmates, and as "Ettila the Hon!" to her new graduating Plus and Advanced students, Ett McAtee comes to the '94 convention proud to be a part of the calling staff.

Ett started square dancing on January 13, 1987 with the Chesapeake Squares of Baltimore, and first picked up the microphone to call in the summer of 1989. Since then, Ett has called the Chesapeake Squares club night on a semi-regular basis, and has taught several classes for the club. From 1992 to 1993, she also helped organize and facilitate the Gay Caller's Association (GCA) Caller's School, and served as president of the GCA during that time. In addition to her involvement with Chesapeake Squares and the GCA, Ett calls for her own C-1 club, the Ettseteras, and guest calls at Mike Jacobs' C-2 and C-3 clubs in Maryland. She is also a part of the non-staff calling roster at the National Advanced and Challenge Convention in Virginia Beach, VA.

Ett's love of square dancing shows from either side of the microphone, sharing a common language of square dancing with both dancers and other callers. When Ett says, "square up!," she means it!

Photo by: Glen Baumgardner



Howard Richman

Howard began dancing with the Times Squares in 1986 and started calling in 1988. After two summer workshops at Superschool, East and West, and a lot of practice time, he was invited to teach for the Times Squares. Because of Times Squares' participation at "straight" square dances, he now calls for over 20 New York-Tri State area clubs. These clubs welcome him and his fellow gay square dancers for their expertise and high energy level.

Howard teaches Western dance and choreographs for the New York Silver Spurs. In his spare time, he raises tropical plants and birds. Theo, a channel billed toucan, is his latest addition.

He is a member of CallerLab, Caller's Council of New Jersey, New York Bromeliad Society, and the Gay Callers' Association.

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An Abbreviated History of the IAGSDC™

The following account attempts to summarize the early years of the gay square dancing phenomenon with information culled from the excellent 10th anniversary volume compiled by Luis Torres in Ten Years IAGSDC™: A Collection of Pages From Our Memory Book. Readers are urged to refer to that publication for a much more detailed and colorful account of our national organization's development. As with any history, some of our facts may be open to dispute. We apologize in advance for any inaccuracies and omissions.

The roots of organized gay square dancing began in Miami, Florida in January 1977, when the Double-R Bar sought to increase its business by hosting Sunday afternoon square dances. No live callers were available, so records were used. Instead of learning individual calls, the dancers learned the choreography to each record. Dancers were paired in couples, who stayed in set squares with their regular partners. A Square Dance Encyclopedia was used to look up calls. By 1980 interest had grown to the point that the "Miami Mustangs" became the first formally organized gay square dance club. Membership was limited to men, with the club's stated purpose being to "perpetuate the unique art form of Arky (of the same sex) Square Dancing."

Also in the early 1980s, a group called Foggy City Dancers was formed in San Francisco under the leadership of Skip Barrett. Large numbers of people gathered at the Trocadero Transfer disco for "square dancing," again using memorized routines with set squares and partners. Many visitors from other cities were exposed to this group, both at their San Francisco home and at the early Reno Gay Rodeo. One of these visitors, Luis Torres, then a resident of Washington, DC, was so inspired by what he saw in Reno and San Francisco, that upon his return home he founded the DC Lambda Squares in 1982.

Capital City Squares was formed in Sacramento in 1981. Meanwhile in Denver, in late 1981 and early 1982, the Mile High Squares took shape, largely as an exhibition group to promote the Colorado Gay Rodeo Association. In 1984, the desire for greater openness to women and a focus on Callerlab in-

struction led a group to split-off from the Mile High Squares and form the Rocky Mountain Rainbeaus. Karl Jaeckel played an instrumental role in forming this group.

Dancers from several of these gay clubs that had developed independently in the early '80s converged at the 1982 Reno Rodeo, including dancers from the Mile High Squares, Foggy City Dancers, Western Star Dancers, Capi-

tal City Squares, and South Florida Mustangs. This was the first large-scale interaction of gay square dancers from different cities. Something else of significance took place in Reno: In a small area apart from the main dance floor a caller from San Diego, Dave "Happy" New Year, introduced several dancers to the Callerlab format that defines modern western square dancing. Sud-

(Continued on page 32)

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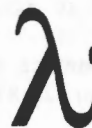
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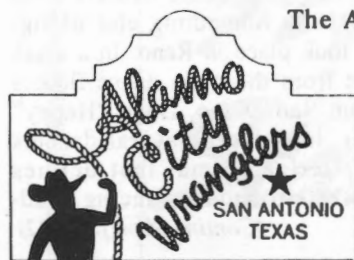
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IAGSDC™ Club Roll Call

Alamo City Wranglers



The Alamo City Wranglers from San Antonio is the first, and, thus far, the only gay square dance club in Texas. The club was founded as a result of a weekend in June 1990, when dancers from IAGSDC™ clubs in Baltimore, Albuquerque,

Portland, Seattle, and Denver joined a few San Antonio dancers in doing bar demonstrations and holding an open house. Caller for the weekend was Bill Eyler, who donated his services. In the months following that weekend, Cricket Matheson, Harland Jylha, and Dave Vanderhoof became founders of the new club. Our badge and banner design was the work of Russ Cashdollar from Chesapeake Squares. Our club shirt, which uses the colors and the Lone Star of Texas, was designed by Luis Torres, then also of Chesapeake Squares.

ACW has graduated Mainstream and Plus classes. The club was represented at the Miami and Albuquerque conventions. Because of our geographical isolation, our nearest neighbor club is Albuquerque's The Wilde Bunch, a 12- to 15-hour drive away. The highlight of our year is our Pass The Alamo fly-in, which always takes place on the last weekend of March, and gives us a chance to meet and dance with members of other clubs.

For more information, write to: P.O. Box 4866, San Antonio, TX 78280-4866.

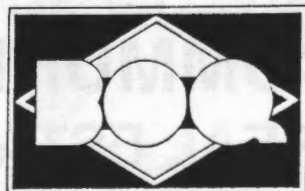
BOQ

Dancing Challenge in Seattle is a state of mind. Whether you are dedicated enough to take lessons as a Dining Room Dancer to get through C-2 in a club member's home; fanatic enough to need liberal

Champagne Squares to get you through those last few C-3-B calls; or just find your self hopelessly hooked on C-1, then BOQ is the place for you.

BOQ first squared up in January 1985 and began a long tradition of self-taught classes which have taken us from intro class to hosts for the first lesbian/gay Advance/Challenge fly-in. Next year we come full circle by hosting Run Wild in Seattle '95, our sixth A/C fly-in, as part of our tenth year celebrating lesbian/gay Challenge dancing in the Northwest.

For additional information, please contact: Bob Moritz, 923 15th Ave. #2, Seattle, WA 98122. (206) 324-8786; internet: polack@aol.com.



Cadillac Squares



Cadillac Squares were assembled one deep, dark, and dingy night out of the feverish mind of Will Austin who had run out of rodeos to attend and had decided to move back to Michigan to buy a new pink cadillac. He made the mistake of "soliciting" Gail Oliver's help in this endeavor and on June 11, 1992 history was made.

We have struggled to keep the original nucleus group together, and on May 6, 1993, we graduated our first Beginner/Mainstream class of eight, including one transient from Grand Rapids (Patrick Aymar). The founding members of the club and participants in the first class include Will Austin (President), Gail Oliver (Secretary), Mark Perry (Treasurer), Victor Chrostowski (caller for our new beginner class), Dennis Hull (teddy bear enthusiast), Jay Steffka (energizer and showman), and last, but most assuredly not least, John Thomason (barman extraordinaire).

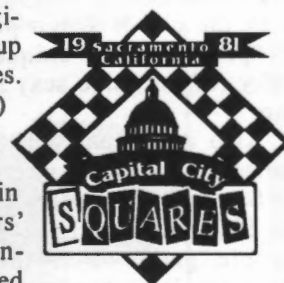
For more information, write to: P.O. Box 40051, Redford, MI 48240-0051.

Capital City Squares

Capital City Squares was originally organized in 1981 by a group wishing to learn a few set dances.

Capital City Squares (CCS) quickly evolved into a club teaching Basic and Mainstream level square dancing. By 1986 in order to keep up with members' needs, the club expanded to include Plus level. CCS has appeared many times at the annual Lambda Freedom Fair and the Rainbow Festivals in Sacramento. In 1993, several members carried our banner in the National March in Washington, DC, making this convention weekend our second official visit to the nation's capital.

Capital City Squares has greatly increased its activities over the past 13 years. The most popular event for members is the annual retreat, with a getaway weekend of dancing and fun somewhere outside Sacramento. April 1994 marked our fifth year at Fifes on the Russian River. Besides retreats, CCS sponsors monthly dances, occasional guest callers on class night, workshops, and non-dancing socials. Members of the club also participate in the local straight square dance community; this is often reciprocated at our events by curious folks, who, once they see our enthusiasm, return for more. In addition, CCS enjoys the support of members from the five gay clubs in the greater San Francisco Bay Area, immeasurably enlarging our circle of friends.



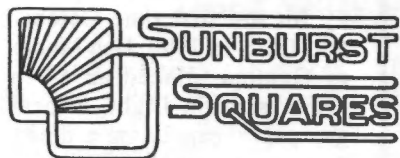
Fifty-some dancers keep the excitement high and the dancing fast and furious. Diversity within the club has given us talent and drive; ever expanding activities have given us plenty to do. Club members also regularly attend events sponsored by other clubs in California and across the United States and Canada, and we have been well represented at every IAGSDC™ Convention. Capital City Squares is represented on the '96 IAGSDC™ Convention Committee, Stars, Thars and Cable Cars. We are busy. Exposure is something we do enjoy!

Capital City Squares welcomes any and all to dance with us. Our next class for new dancers will begin in September. Our regular dance night is Tuesday. Please give us a call at (916) 929-8697 when you're in the area. Ozanich 4112194 cc.-hit-94 doc

Carnival Twirlers

For information, write: Jill Marci, P.O. Box 2519, Santa Clara, CA 95055.

Charlie's Sunburst Squares



Charlie's Sunburst Squares came into existence on a warm February evening in 1987. It was essen-

tially just the remainder of an Arizona Gay Rodeo-sponsored square dance exhibition group wanting to control their own destiny. We still have many members heavy into the Gay Rodeo business, and have continued to dance at many rodeo-related events across the country.

In February 1993, we added Charlie's to the beginning of our name to give credit to the owner, management and staff of the bar that has assisted us in so many more ways than just a place to dance.

We have grown in numbers and still dance every Tuesday and Friday from 7 to 9 pm at Charlie's Phoenix.

We wish everyone a safe and fun convention in '94.

For more information, contact: Jack Addington, P.O. Box 32041, Phoenix, AZ 85064-2041. (602) 864-6065.

Chesapeake Squares

In 1986, Maury Blum, then the president of the DC Lambda Squares, set two goals for his club: First was to help sponsor a club in Baltimore and second, to have Washington, DC host an IAGSDC™ convention.

Under Maury's shepherding (along with the generous support of the Lambda Squares), the "crabs" emerged from



the Chesapeake Bay to square up. Today, we dance Mainstream through Advanced on our club nights.

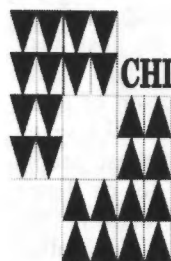
Two squares from the first graduating class were the foundation on which we built a club of approximately sixty enthusiastic members. As a member from that very first class in 1987, Ett McAtee has gone on to become our very own — and, we think, first-rate — Plus and Advanced instructor, and occasionally calls for our club night.

Doug Barnett, who called our first dance back in 1986, continues the tradition of excellent instruction by teaching our Basic and Mainstream classes. Our club caller, Pete Diven, is known for his stimulating and fun calling style. Pass The Ocean, Hon!, our annual spring fly-in held in Rehoboth, DE, has become a popular event.

Now we are seeing the fulfillment of Maury's other vision, by being here in Washington, DC at the 1994 annual IAGSDC™ convention. We know that Maury would be proud.

For more information, write: P.O. Box 1633, Baltimore, MD 21203-1633.

Chi-Town Squares



Chi-Town Squares celebrates its seventh year since forming in the summer of 1987. Founders Ron Goodman and Jerry Cohen had no idea that their desire to form a gay and lesbian square dance club would be so successful. Since the first class on October 27, 1987 through 1992, Chi-Town's membership roster ballooned to over 100

members. Though the current member count has fallen to around 80 full members, the club continues to be active in the Midwest square dance world since Chi-Town members dance with many of the local straight clubs on a regular basis.

The Great Chicago Crossfire, Chi-Town's very own fly-in, has been a success year after year. And this Labor Day weekend promises to be even better. All this fly-in practice has also prepared the Chicago club to serve as host city for the 1995 IAGSDC™ International Convention over Memorial Day weekend. Track 2 Chicago planning is well underway and early registrations are on sale here in Washington.

All the Chi-Town Squares' members would like to thank the Stars and Squares Forever committee and the DC Lambda Squares for what we know will be a fabulous convention. See you in Chicago in 1995.

For more information, write: Chi-Town Squares, P.O. Box 14897, Chicago, IL 60614-0897. (312) 357-3100.

Chinook City Dancers

Chinook City Dancers started in February 1991. It began with a very successful workshop weekend where we had Anne Uebelacker calling. That year we were lucky enough to have five squares of beginners. Although our numbers

(Continued on next page)

Chinook City Dancers *(Continued from previous page)*
have unfortunately dwindled, we are beginning to grow again.

We dance weekly at Trax, a local bar, as this helps us to keep the cost down. We have had the same straight couple (Jerry and Joan) calling for us since we started.

Membership is about 26. We do have several straight ladies who come out to angel for us. The regular square dance community isn't sure how to take us but we persist and continue to take part in the jamborees.

For more information, write: Gaylines, 223 12th Ave., SW, Calgary, AB T2R 0G9 Canada.

Cleveland City Country Dancers

CLEVELAND CITY COUNTRY DANCERS

Early in the summer of 1987, Ed Schellhaus, who had returned to his native Cleveland after spending

several years in Denver dancing with the Rocky Mountain Rainbeaus, wanted to dance so badly that he decided to try getting a few people together to teach them square dancing. His hope was to get them far enough along to dance at the Plus level while having some fun himself.

For the next three years Ed and a small group of dancers tried valiantly to get out of Basic. (Not an easy task when the same eight dancers never showed up two weeks in a row.) Many a night some unsuspecting person of questionable sobriety got hauled in off the street to make seven in the square and Ed would be eight. (A few of those people even stuck around for a while.) A local bar let us dance there for free and even provided pizza for the dancers. We were having a great time, but just couldn't convince other Clevelanders to give it a try. "Try Something New" became our motto. We danced everywhere we could get invited, hoping the exposure would eventually pay off in more members and by the fourth year, it did. In October 1990 we held our first fly-in, Load the Boat, and even had a few dancers who had finished Plus.

The club has survived a broken nose, several noses out of joint, a four month hiatus while one of our early members got taken to court for harassing one of our other members, and all of the politics that come with growing pains and a club on the move.

By convention time we will have graduated our second Advanced class, and have about 45 dues-paid members. We also have as part of our club the Rainbow Wranglers, a C/W and line dance group that is very active in the community, offering free lessons and dancing at least one night a week. We have a reputation for being a very friendly bunch. Please come visit us in October for Load the Boat, or any other time you're in the area. We dance Basic through Plus on Wednesdays, and Advanced on Mondays. Contact Lynn Dilworth (216) 226-9219 for time and location. **YELLOW ROCKS!!**

Cotton Pickin' Squares

Cotton Pickin' Squares were formed in September of 1991. Our senior-most founding member and former club

president is an old square dance fart, Bill Scott. Bill had been dancing for many years when fate and AT&T brought him to Memphis. After he had invited a few of us to attend the Miami convention in '91 and that taste of square dance atmosphere, we were on a mission. Memphis needed square dancing! Yes, the river city needed it bad! Because of Bill's strong commitment to bring square dance to our fair city (and the fact that he can be quite bullheaded), we now have a well established and flourishing club.

Since our inception, we have graduated classes, performed at fundraising events, elevated the local awareness of alternative social activities (people thought we were crazy at first), and we have had one hell of a good time.

For more information, contact: Ron Thomas, 3956 Blue Spruce Bend, Lakeland, TN 38002-9350. (901) 387-1567.



Cream City Squares



Cream City Squares of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, squared up for the first time October 6th, 1992. In 1990, Bob Moore of Gamma, placed an ad in the Wisconsin Light, a local gay paper, expressing a desire to form a gay square dance club in Milwaukee.

Although that attempt failed, in September 1991 Joe Frazier, a former instructor with Foggy City Dancers in San Francisco, met with Bob Moore and together organized the group that became Cream City Squares. We currently dance at a Mainstream level, but are pushing ourselves to the Plus level. Joe continues to be the driving force and inspiration of Cream City Squares today.

Membership currently stands at 14. Our club dances are held every Sunday from 2 to 5 pm at the 3 B's Bar, located at 1753 S. Kinnickinnic Ave., in Milwaukee. Our classes are held at the same location on Wednesdays from 7:30 to 9:30 pm. If you find yourself in our beautiful city, stop by and square up with us!

For more information, contact: Tregg Schwarz, 1915 Cardinal Dr., Waukesha, WI 53186-2608. (414) 521-1259.

D.C. Lambda Squares

The members of D.C. Lambda Squares welcome you to this beautiful city and to Stars and Squares Forever, the 1994 IAGSDC™ Convention.

Celebrating its 12th anniversary, D.C. Lambda Squares (DCLS) was founded in 1982 with the help of IAGSDC™ historian Lou Torres. This spring's Mainstream graduates bring the club's membership to 140 dancers. A busy 1993-



94 season has included organizing and fundraising for Stars and Squares Forever, co-hosting a Square-Dance Rodeo Fly-in with the Atlantic States Gay Rodeo Association, and planning weekend socials with our friendly Baltimore neighbor, the Chesapeake Squares.

This year, DCLS graduated Mainstream, Plus, Advanced, and C-1 dancers. In addition, DCLS began holding club nights on two evenings per week (Mondays & Wednesdays). Dance levels for each club night are scheduled on a rotating basis: Mainstream/Plus; A-2/C-1; and All-Level dancing. This system provides dancers with more floor time at their level and has maintained valuable social contacts between dancers of all levels.

Members of DCLS deeply appreciate the club's talented callers and instructors: Tom Halloran, Warren Jaquith, Doug Barnett, and Dayle Hodge. (You'll be dancing to Doug and Dayle during the convention.)

Dancers from other cities are always welcome at DCLS club nights. Call 202-396-0144 for upcoming events and schedules. And be sure to attend DC's next Fly-in, March 24-26, 1995 in Harpers Ferry, West Virginia!

Desert Valley Squares

Desert Valley Squares (DVS), Arizona's Premier Gay and Lesbian Social Square Dance Club, was founded in August 1983 by Ted Oakes who currently teaches the Basic classes. Ted had previously danced with Foggy City Dancers in San Francisco and organized eight people at Bronco's Bar in Phoenix. Some of the founding members who are still active in DVS are Don Wilson and Charlie Reinke, as well as Larry Gunter and Randy Sellars who later formed a group called Midnight Ramblers (which is no longer in existence). DVS is a founding member of the Maricopa County Square Dance Association and a representative from our board of directors attends the monthly meetings.



The club logo was designed by the fantastic and creative Larry Gunter. The banner was designed by the maaahvelous Ron Erikson and was later remade by Leland Toy. A faaaabulous group of our dancers formed a committee and designed the shirt and badge.

We currently have members dancing from Basic to C-1. About 30 percent of our members are women. We have one gay caller, Seth Levine.

In addition to weekly classes at Augustana Lutheran Church and "fun night" at the C Ash Inn, we have quarterly "hoedowns" with guest callers. Our yearly main event is the ever popular and fantastic Swing Thru Arizona fly-in which is held in January on the same weekend as the AGRA Rodeo. The extremely successful IAGSDC™ Convention, Crosstrails in the Desert, was held in Phoenix in 1988.

For more information, write: P.O. Box 34615, Phoenix, AZ 85067-4615.

Diablo Dancers

For information, write: P.O. Box 4423, Walnut Creek, CA 94596-0423.

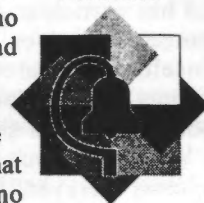
Doppler Dancers

For information, contact: Jill Sunde, 3047 22nd Ave. W, Seattle, WA 98199. (206) 284-5887.

El Camino Reelers

El Camino Reelers was founded in 1985 by Marilyn Martinyak and Pat Dixon. The club name refers to El Camino Real ("The Royal Highway"), the road leading south from San Francisco, which originated with the early Spanish missionaries and which became the "Main Street" of the towns and cities that flourished along its length. "El Camino Reelers" is therefore an appropriate name for a club that, as legend has it, was founded by two women who wanted a local alternative to the square dance clubs an hour away in San Francisco.

El Camino Reelers



The mission bell which is the club's symbol was inspired by the commemorative bells that were placed at various locations to mark the route of El Camino Real from the Bay Area to the border with Mexico. The current club badges, designed by Katy Carrell, feature a beautifully hand-painted rainbow of squares promenading around the bell.

For more information, write: P.O. Box 391373, Mountain View, CA 94039-1373.

Finest City Squares



Finest City Squares, host club of Pass the Sea fly-in, its annual fly-in, has been an IAGSDC™ member since 1989. The only lesbian and gay square dance club in San Diego, the club has been represented at all previous IAGSDC™ international conventions and is happy to be participating in Stars and Squares Forever.

In the spring of 1989, as a business enhancement ploy, the Sundance Saloon hired a local caller, who had never called for a gay group, to provide their customers with a night of square dancing. Present Finest City Squares' members Dean Hofmann, Gary Karsten and Ralph Smith, who had danced with other lesbian and gay square dance clubs and had attended IAGSDC™ conventions, were some of the weekly regulars. While it wasn't long before the square dance events grew large enough to be held twice a week, after several weeks the Sundance Saloon closed and the square dancers were homeless. The caller then invited the

(Continued on next page)

Finest City Squares *(Continued from previous page)*

members to dance in her garage and after six weeks in this temporary "meeting hall," the club members found a new meeting place which until this day remains one of the club's square dancing halls. Today, over half of the founding members still participate in our club activities.

Our present club logo, designed by Keith Lasley, has always appeared on our badge and on our first purple and gay grey club shirts. Our newsletter, "Fine Lines," was named by Bill Houghton (aka the infamous and delightful Honky Tonk Queen Wella Balsam and leatherman Northwind).

Finest City Squares holds classes through the A-2 level and a monthly club night dance. The club hosts an annual fly-in, Pass the Sea; sends a delegation to the annual San Diego Square Dance Convention, "Fiesta de la Cuadrilla"; and has participated either with our members and performance group, or with members from Los Angeles' Tinseltown Squares and Orange County's Golden State Squares in all major Southern California lesbian- and gay-sponsored events such as Pride festivals and rodeos.

We express our thanks and gratitude to the Stars and Squares Forever, Inc. Committee and the DC Lambda Squares for their efforts in hosting our beginning second-decade international convention. Additionally, we are looking forward to convention attendees' participation in Pass the Sea '95. We invite you, when in our area, to stop by and join us in a tip. Club Address: P.O. Box 87203, San Diego, CA 92138-7203. Club Contact: Hal Anker, 619-229-1746.

Foggy City Dancers



San Francisco, California

Organized in 1983, Foggy City Dancers is a founding member of the IAGSDC™ and continues to provide high spirited, high energy square dancing as the largest club in the San Francisco Bay Area. Our focus on

creating a diverse membership has brought many more San Francisco women into the wonderful world of square dancing over the past two years. Two Basic/Mainstream classes are taught each year, one begins just after San Francisco's Lesbian and Gay Pride celebration in July and another one begins in January. Foggy City is extremely pleased to have caller, Andy Shore, as the instructor for these classes. Plus classes are also regularly scheduled with our very own Ron Hirsch teaching the most recently graduated crew.

Weekly club nights are held each Thursday from 7:30-9:30 pm at Live Oak School, located in San Francisco's Castro district. Our members and guests enjoy dancing to many fine Bay Area callers including our own club callers, Ron Hirsch, John Magee, Chuck Yeo, Andy Shore, and Ed Conley. Our spring retreat weekend on the Russian River, early summer picnic in Golden Gate Park, early fall Barn Dance and Barbecue, late fall Anniversary Dance, and Christmas season "Squaroling" keep club members happily "squaring up" year 'round.

Special dances with nationally and regionally known callers are scheduled throughout the year. Our 3rd Annual

Barn Dance and Barbecue with caller Andy Shore will be held on September 17 and our 11th Anniversary Dance with caller Mike DeSisto will be held on November 5th. When visiting San Francisco call the Foggy City Dancers Events HOTLINE for current square dance information at (415) 905-4546.

Foggy City Dancers are thrilled to be here in the nation's capital celebrating Stars & Squares Forever and give a big heartfelt "THANK YOU" to this year's organizing committee. We are also proud to be part of the organizing committee for "Stars, Thars, and Cable Cars," the 1996 IAGSDC™ Convention in San Francisco.

Gold Rush

For information, write: 484 Castro Street #653, San Francisco, CA 94114.

Golden State Squares



The Golden State Squares had its origins with a group of people dancing to one of the earliest recipients of The Golden Boot Award, Dave "Happy" New Year. After attending the Denver convention, the club was formed in 1986. Of the founders, only Bill Hartley is still active in the club, though Mark Halley joined shortly thereafter.

Over the years, we have been represented at all the conventions, except the first. We have participated in all of the area Pride festivals as well as the Los Angeles Rodeo, given bar exhibitions, and hosted beer bust fundraisers.

For more information, contact: Laura Green, 2109 Via Viejo, Can Clemente, CA 92673-3725. (714) 366-9787.

Grand River Squares

Founded on February 9, 1988, the Grand River Squares began with seven dancers and danced for two years with less than one square. Our current membership is 16.

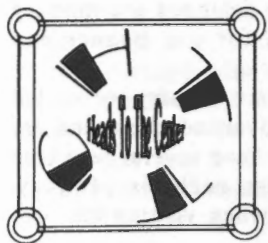
Founder Chuck Novak is still instructing with several members helping with the teaching. Our club nights include Basic and Mainstream square dancing as well as country/western line and couple dancing.

Our club activities include our annual fly-in, "Ropin' the River"; "After Christmas Potluck"; "Dinner and Dancing at the Country"; and supporting lesbian and gay country/western dancing in our area.

For more information, contact: Chuck Novak, 8261 Bush Dr., NE, Rockford, MI 49341-9348. (616) 874-8565.

Stars and Squares Forever

Heads To The Center



Heads To The Center was founded in 1990 to coordinate the Advanced and Challenge programs for Gay and Lesbian square dancers in Portland. The name was recycled from a defunct Rosetown Ramblers' performance group that loved rhinestones and wanted an excuse to reuse their

old jewelry. Our founding principle thus became: "Any rhinestones are OK, but more rhinestones are better."

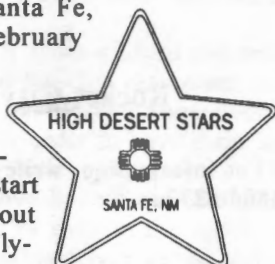
In 1993, we hosted Change Lanes, the 4th Annual Gay and Lesbian A & C weekend.

Club night is every Thursday at the Milwaukie Grange in South East Portland. Lately, we've been getting a very good turnout of Challenge dancers from the straight community, so everyone is welcome, anytime.

For more information, contact: Scott Philips, 8229 SW 42nd Ave., Portland, OR 97219-3516. (503) 246-7133.

High Desert Stars

The High Desert Stars of Santa Fe, New Mexico was founded in February 1991 by Peli Lee and Rebecca Henderson, who had been commuting 65 miles to dance with The Wilde Bunch in Albuquerque. Friends asked them to start a Santa Fe club after hearing about an Albuquerque Balloon Fiesta Fly-In they had attended.



The High Desert Stars were lucky to have Bill Eyler commute from Albuquerque to be our club instructor and caller for our first two years. He was followed by Kris Jensen, our current caller (and also from Albuquerque), who was a student caller mentored by Bill during our first two years.

Our membership has remained steady at around 20-30, not bad, we believe, for a town of 40,000 (not counting tourists). Since the beginning, we have danced in the nursery of St. Bede's Episcopal Church. We dance and teach Basic, Mainstream, and Plus on Tuesday nights, and also teach some line dances and do some two-stepping. Our first fly-in, "Sashay to Santa Fe, Olé," a modest one-day affair, was held in May of this year.

We are proud that our club has always had plenty of lesbian dancers, and along with The Wilde Bunch, we make New Mexico the state with the highest percentage of women dancers in the gay and lesbian square dance world.

For more information, contact: Peli Lee, P.O. Box 707, Tesuque, NM 87574-0707. (505) 989-8627.

Independence Squares

Independence Squares was founded in 1988 by Alan Laufer. As a renegade from New York's Times Squares, he

June 30 - July 3, 1994

INDEPENDENCE SQUARES PHILADELPHIA



decided it was time that gay and lesbian square dancing made its debut in Philadelphia. Via newspaper ads, word-of-mouth, and the assistance of misplaced angels from the Chesapeake Squares, Alan launched Philly's first gay and lesbian square dance class. Meeting in a converted parish

house, square dancers soon became a regular part of the Monday night crowd. By January 1989, a second beginners' class had begun. In July, brand new Mainstream dancers descended on NYC to Peel the Apple and on the IAGSDC™ family as the Independence Squares! Yet our first graduation celebration wasn't held until January 1990, but it was *with* Ann Uebelacker calling! (So, just how long do you think Betsy Ross took to plan *her* parties??!)

Our first Board of Directors was elected in September 1989; we incorporated in May 1991. Although our very first board began planning a fly-in in 1989, it finally arrived on Easter weekend 1993. (Okay, if Betsy had *really* taken as long as we do, George would never have gotten his flag and Prince Edward might now be our club caller. Hmmm) Considering the trio of callers present for the first-ever Philadelphia Freedom fly-in, it was well worth the wait. (No, we're not going to tell you who was there; if you were one of the 200+ dancers present, you already know. And if you missed it, you might roll over and die from disappointment.)

Since our humble beginning, we've graduated Plus classes, Advanced classes, and innumerable — but always memorable — Mainstream classes. So, next time you are in the City of Brotherly/Sisterly Love, drop in on the Independence Squares. (But please don't plan as far in advance, as we do.)

For more information, contact: Kevin Gisi, 941 New Market St. #B, Philadelphia, PA 19123-2314. (215) 592-7675.

Midnight Squares

Midnight Squares was established in 1982 as an aid to square dancers who were having difficulty learning Basic calls. By mid-1983 the club was dancing four nights a week at the Plus, Advanced, and C-1 levels, often until late at night (hence the name).

Midnight Squares members meet in the Castro on Sunday afternoons for participation in Advanced and Challenge classes and/or dance sessions through C-2 with some members also dancing privately at C-3 and C-4. Noted for their devotion to learning and "bi-dansual" abilities, Midnight Squares members participate actively in the Pacific Association of Challenge Enthusiasts (PACE). Harlan Kerr, as resident caller, keeps them on their toes.

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Midnight Squares

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In addition to its devotion to the more complicated aspects of square dancing, the club is also noted for its zealous adherence to a minimalist approach to organization: It operates in accordance with a one-page list of guidelines, the only office established is that of Treasurer, and the various committees consist of those volunteers willing and interested enough to spend time at meetings or performing projects. The club is a Charter Member of the IAGSDC™ and we welcome all Advanced and Challenge level dancers to join us when visiting San Francisco.

For more information, write: P.O. Box 14483, San Francisco, CA 94114-0483.

Minnesota Wild Roses

Minnesota Wild Roses Square Dance Club was begun in early 1992 by Billy Stroemer and Lorenza Taylor who ventured westward. Marching and dancing in the Twin Cities Gay Pride Parade is an annual highlight and taking part in the festivities associated with the Gay Rodeo are also fun. Minnesota Wild Roses celebrated their first fly-in in January of 1994. It was a great success!! We are carrying on in "fabulous" style thanks to our two founders, who went back to Washington, DC after too many Minnesota winters.

We dance on Monday nights. If you travel up to the North Star state, please join us. For further information, call BJ at (612) 872-1601 or Mark at (612) 341-8064.

Mountain Laurel Squares

For information, write: P.O. Box 638, Watertown, CT 06795-0638.

Neon Squares

For information, write: P.O. Box 46161, Las Vegas, NV 89114-6161.

Prime 8's

Prime 8's was founded in October 1985 as an outlet for learning successive levels beyond those taught and danced by the Capital City Squares. Initially teaching Plus and later Advanced, the club remains an arm of Capital City Squares and participates in its functions as well as hosting our own A-level dances. The founders were long-time instructor Greg Loe, Stan Boyden, Bill St. John, and Art Katz, all of whom currently dance with the club; as well as Joy TeSelle,



Corky Bolin, Rick Wiles, Janelle, and Kim Brownlee. Bill St. John designed the monkey insignia for our banner and badges.

This past January we started a new Advanced class, and are delighted to have several new club members. Class night is Monday. Please join us when visiting the Sacramento Area.

This October 7-9, Prime 8's will be hosting this year's Fifth Annual International Gay Advanced and Challenge Square Dance Weekend, Tahoe Tally Ho! We look forward to being your host as our dance group takes over an entire conference center in the mountains near Lake Tahoe, California.

For more information, contact: Art Katz, 4225 Hill St., Fair Oaks, CA 95628-7617. (916) 966-1734.

Puddletown Squares

For information, write: P.O. Box 20671, Seattle, WA 98102-1671.

Rocket City Rainbow Squares

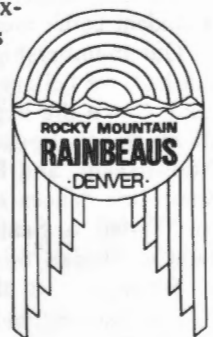
For information, write P.O. Box 18272, Huntsville, AL 35804-8272.

Rocky Mountain Rainbeaus

The Rocky Mountain Rainbeaus are excited to be in Washington, DC for Stars and Squares Forever. We are overwhelmed with the "officialness" of our nation's capital. How impressive are the large federal buildings and the monuments! Here at the Omni Shoreham we look forward to meeting old friends and greeting new ones!

The Rainbeaus are a founding member of the IAGSDC™, and our club has been represented at each of the eleven IAGSDC™ conventions. We salute the additional dancers who are honored this year for having attended ten conventions.

Rainbeaus schedule includes two/three weekly meetings, mostly at the Washington Park Community Center in south Denver. This year we graduated our fourteenth Mainstream class, the Dreamsicle class (orange). Our current Basics class is the Yellow Rock class, and the fall '94 class will be named a shade of green. Club callers are Don Rouze and "Bear" Miller, and membership is about seventy.



Stars and Squares Forever

Activities this year included a bicycle raffle fundraiser, a camping trip in the Rockies, and an annual New Year's Eve party at the home of club veterans Bill and Ralph. Not to be overlooked, Rainbeaus celebrated 10 years of dancing in February with the superb calling of Bill Eyler, our neighbor and friend from "down south." We look forward to an annual fly-in rotation with The Wilde Bunch. Our turn to play host will be in 1995.

For more information, write: P.O. Box 18814, Denver, CO 80218-0814.

Rosetown Ramblers

Rosetown Ramblers



Rosetown Ramblers from Portland, Oregon, started dancing just over eleven years ago. The club was started by a bunch of really pretty gay men and really strong lesbian women. A few of our original men and women are still around and over the past decade, they've been joined by some of the nicest new dancers you'd ever care to meet, including some wonderful, wonderful

straights.

You might consider us to be a sister-club to the much larger clubs in big-city Seattle and big-city Vancouver, B.C. We feel lucky to be so close to Seattle and Vancouver in order to join in their events and in order to have them join us for many of ours. We love our little, wet, green city. We love each other. And we really love having out-of-towners enjoy our hospitality. So, if you're ever in the mood for fun, for the beauty of the Columbia River gorge and its waterfalls, for enjoying a clean, green, and friendly city, or for some out-of-town square dancing, feel free to join us at any time. We're here to dance, and we're always in the mood for fun. In 1987, Rosetown Ramblers hosted Explode the Rose.

For more information, write: P.O. Box 5352, Portland, OR 97228-5352.

Sequoia Oceanwaves

The Sequoia Oceanwaves was started in 1989 by Lyn Platten and Mary Ann Murphy when they moved from their home clubs to the Eureka, California area. We dance on Monday nights on the Humboldt State University Campus in the Women's Center (House 55).

We are now dancing at the Mainstream/Plus levels both to records as well as to Lyn, our teacher and caller. If you happen to be in the Eureka area on a Monday night, please stop by and dance with us.

In 1989 we became official members of IAGSDC™.

For more information, write: P.O. Box 6748, Eureka, CA 95502-6748.

South Florida Mustangs

South Florida Mustangs

began in January of 1977.

Michael Straight and the staff of the Double-R Bar placed an ad in David Magazine that invited everyone to a square dance. Only enough for one set assembled that first night. By the following week there were two sets and a short time after, there were three. By Halloween of that same year we felt and thought we were really good, so we had our first Costume Square Dance Ball. About this time, each set had a sponsor: Set #1 — The Double-R; Set #2 — The Club Baths; and Set #3 — Uncle Charles. For the next three years we danced weekly at the Double-R. When the bar remodeled, it left us with no room for dancing, so for quite a while we danced in various bars, in members' homes, and in garages.

In 1980, we began dancing at The Villanova, a bar in Hollywood, Florida. This also was the year we voted on and accepted our present name. By the fall of 1981, we made our first big trip, travelling to Houston, Texas, and dancing at Miss Charlotte's, the Exile, as well as Brazo River Bottom. In the spring of 1982, we travelled to Denver, Colorado, to again dance with The Mile High Squares. Our reception in Denver will never be forgotten, many lasting friendships were made and never lost. Later in the year, we attended the Reno Gay Rodeo and danced for the first time with groups from San Francisco, Sacramento, and Denver. In February 1983, The Crossfire Bar opened, became our home and is where we sponsored the First Annual Square Dance Fly-In. At this event, the National Association of Gay Square Dancers Club was formed. Now in our 18th year, we dance annually at the Gay and Lesbian Pride Festival as well as at various exhibitions throughout the year.

In 1991 South Florida Mustangs were the proud organizers of the IAGSDC™ Cast A Shadow in the Sun convention.

For more information, write: P.O. Box 462, Hollywood, FL 33022.



Squares Across the Border



SQUARES ACROSS THE BORDER

Squares Across the Border was established in 1983 and began dancing in a local bar, John Barley's. Dancing started because of the dedication of Art Smith who commuted

from Seattle to teach, and of Carol Roberts for her undying, never ending support. We now boast an active club membership of over 150 dancers.

Classes/dances are held four nights a week with two levels on one night. We are very pleased to have Anne Uebelacker as our club caller. We start two Basic/Mainstream classes a year (one in September, one in January),

(Continued on next page)

Squares Across the Border *(Continued from previous page)*

Plus and Advanced class, and run a Challenge (C-1) class if enough interest warrants it. We hold two fly-ins a year, one in the fall and one in the spring. We hold monthly club dances for all levels, and in the summer when we all have so many other things to do (especially here in the beautiful Pacific Northwest), we have dances one or two nights a week. In April 1990 Vancouver had the pleasure and privilege of hosting the 7th Annual Convention of the IAGSDC™, The Northstar Promenade. In addition, we boast being the home to the 1993 convention hit demonstration group, the "Diner Dollies," as well as the 1993 Honky Tonk Queen, Moolina.

For more information, contact: Carol Roberts, President at (604) 873-9303.

T-Squares



T-Squares of Tucson was founded ten years ago after a visit to Tucson and a challenge from Desert Valley Squares in Phoenix. Our active membership is about 14 with several inactive members who drop in and out. Current membership is approximately 75 percent women.

We dance all levels through A-1 every Tuesday evening at

Club 2520. Our Basic level class, which begins every September, dances with us on that night. We sponsor an anniversary party in August and a spring fly-in.

For more information, contact: Maxine Smitherman, 5763 E. 19th St., Tucson, AZ 85711-5124. (602) 747-2875.

Times Squares

Remembering a barn dance in Indiana that he once attended with his aunt and uncle, Mark Davis placed an article in the October 1983 Sundance newsletter soliciting others who might be interested in giving the activity a try in a gay and lesbian context. On November 12, 1983 New York's first gay and lesbian square dance was held, quickly followed on January 6, 1984 by a second event. Additional early facilitators were Edward Sherman, Ron Masker, and Ken Pollack. In the late winter or early spring, the late George Lanyi, a Western Star Dancer, visited New York with news of the greater world of gay square dancing, and the then-upcoming convention being planned in April for Seattle. On October 24, 1984, the first beginner class started, involving 19 people. By the class closing night of November 14, 34 people showed up. Virtually the whole club (32 people) attended the 1985 convention in Denver.



In the spring of 1987, the Times Squares began "invading the straight square dance world," attending the first New Jersey State Square and Round Dance Convention, a tradition the club continues up to the present time. In January 1989, three dancers timidly ventured out to the January Jubilee to dance as openly gay, same-sex couples (it was difficult with only 3), where they were overjoyed to team up with members of the DC Lambda Squares, the Chesapeake Squares, and the Independence Squares to show their stuff. Thus were the beginnings of the Ad Hoc Education and Outreach Committee, which paved the way for openly gay dancers to attend all of the major East coast and Midwest festivals, culminating last year in our first appearance at the National Square Dance Convention.

In 1989, as a culmination of over three years hard work, Peel the Apple, the 6th IAGSDC™ Convention was hosted by The Times Squares. Our pride in this achievement is enormous.

Times Squares is often heralded as the largest gay square dance club. With a membership hovering around 300, we certainly are big. In actuality, we probably alternate having the distinction of being the largest club with Squares Across the Border.

We have found that the Times Squares, who dance from Mainstream to C-1 as a club, and to C-3 as individuals, is a wonderful way to make friends, both within and beyond the gay and lesbian community. The club takes seriously its responsibility to encourage the development of talented young callers, and thus provides a scholarship fund to foster attendance at caller schools. Our classes, club nights, social dances, and the Halloween weekend fly-in, Peel the Pumpkin, provide a wealth of opportunities for New York area dancers and visitors to enjoy themselves.

For more information, write: P.O. Box 1229, Ansonia Stn., New York, NY 10023-1229.

Tinseltown Squares

Tinseltown Squares has been growing, dancing, and having fun in the past year. In an extensive outreach program to bring the joys of gay square dancing to Southern California, the club has performed square dance demonstrations wherever we could. At each event we had a live caller and when possible, invited the onlookers to dance with us and experience for themselves the joy and camaraderie of square dancing.

Tinseltown Squares and gay square dancing were the hot topic in a segment featured on L.M.R.U., a weekly, hour-long, Sunday night gay and lesbian radio program on KPFF-FM, the Pacifica radio station in L.A. The segment was broadcast in November 1992. Interviewed on the program were Paul Waters and members Steve Siporin and Craig Peterson, discussing the club, the history of gay square dancing, why each became involved and what pleasure they derive from the activity.

In 1992 and 1993, with our club banner flying and Paul marching along and calling, two squares of Tinseltowners



promenaded and square danced two and a half miles down West Hollywood's Santa Monica Boulevard to the applause of gays and straights lining the route. The special occasions were the 1992 and 1993 Christopher Street West Gay Pride Day Parade. Oh, happy day! Oh, weary feet!

We have classes two nights a week at the Highland Ebell Clubhouse in the Highland Park section of Los Angeles; Mainstream level on Tuesday; and Plus level on Thursday.

For more information, write: P.O. Box 691764, West Hollywood, CA 90069-9764.

Triangle Squares



**TRIANGLE SQUARES
TORONTO**

Triangle Squares holds weekly classes from September through June at the Mainstream, Plus and Advanced levels. Monthly club nights all year round combine all levels. Now into our seventh year of activity, we're still going strong and we welcome dancers and callers from other clubs, both straight and gay. Our next Annual Fly-In is being planned for June 30 - July 3, 1995. For more information, call (416) 960-545.

Western Star Dancers

Western Star Dancers, one of the founding members of the IAGSDC™, was organized in March 1982, and was the first gay club in San Francisco to use the Callerlab format. From the beginning, Western Star has actively promoted interaction with straight square



dance callers and dancers of our area, and in 1986, club member Bob Bellville was approved as the first openly gay member of the Northern California Callers Association.

Western Star is a Mainstream and Plus levels club, balancing a lively schedule of classes, social activities, and frequent weekend hoe-downs. We offer Basic through Plus level instruction on Mondays and club night most Wednesdays at the Eureka Valley Recreation Center in San Francisco's Castro neighborhood. If you're in the area, call (415) 621-6506 for more information, and drop on by!

The Wilde Bunch

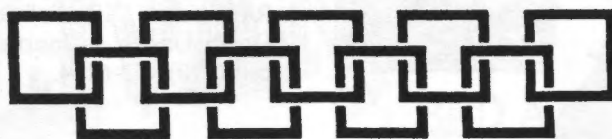
The Wilde Bunch has found that recovery has been a slow, painful process, but they've finally been released from the Betty Ford Clinic for "Those-Crazy-Enough-To-Host-An-IAGSDC™-Convention."

In examining our past during therapy, we discovered that we are charter members of the IAGSDC™, and have attended each and every convention, although we don't remember too much about Diamonds in the Desert.

As a reward for reliving our past, we threw ourselves a party last year, and called it our Tenth Anniversary Dinner and Dance. Over 100 people showed up, including family from our past. All old issues were resolved, and we vowed to meet again in the year 2003.

In our eleven years, we have grown from an all-male club to a 50/50 mix; from 10 dancers to approximately 120; and from remedial Basic to remedial C-1. We have hosted numerous fly-ins and one BIG one.

For more information, write: P.O. Box 40393, Albuquerque, NM 87196-0393.



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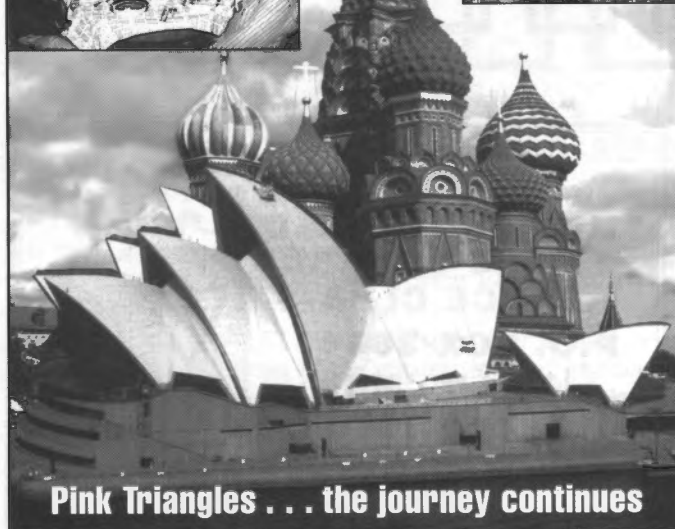
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Pink Triangles . . . the journey continues

Pink Triangles in Red Square

On August 17, 1993, 34 IAGSDC™ goodwill ambassador square dancers landed on Russian soil. It was the beginning of a remarkable two week odyssey into the rapidly changing culture and emerging gay/lesbian community of the former Soviet Union. In each city that we visited — St. Petersburg, Moscow, and Riga, Latvia — community organizers planned and promoted evenings where we hosted a team to square dance (to square dance raves!). Caller Andy Shore established a wonderful rapport with U.S.-trained contra dance caller Olga Yemelyanova, and therefore instructions for the dance events were almost simultaneously translated into Russian. Although the full effect of square dancing was difficult to convey in one short evening, teaching a country western circle dance — Wild, Wild, West (*Diki Diki Zapoot*) — was a big hit.

Highlights and memories from the trip include presenting rainbow flags to each organizer; dancing in the social hall of the former USSR blender factory and at Olympic Village; our homestays with gay Russians and their families in Moscow; touring the soon-to-be restored palaces built by the czars and the Russian Orthodox churches; shopping the Moscow flea market; leaving a rainbow flag at Tchaikovsky's tomb in St. Petersburg; our gay tours and delightful guides in each city; dancing a guerilla square in front of Lenin's tomb in Red Square; and especially meeting many new, warmhearted friends with whom we now exchange letters, faxes and e-mail, halfway across the globe.

With wishful thoughts of an IAGSDC™ chapter forming in Moscow and one big final *spaceba* (thank you), the weary but enthusiastic travelers returned home requesting that the organizers plan future adventures. For information on "Pink Triangles in White Nights, A Journey to Russia and Siberia" in June 1995, and "Pink Triangles Down Under, A Journey to Australia" in February 1996, call (510) 452-6114.



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Golden Boot Award

Over the years, a "Golden Boot Award" has been presented to individuals or organizations who have made substantial contributions to the gay square dance movement. The award was initiated in 1983 by Puddletown Squares, who awarded it to Art Smith for his work in founding the club. In 1985 Art received the permission of Puddletown Squares and the IAGSDC™ president to pass on the award at the 1985 Denver convention. He awarded it to the South Florida Mustangs, the first organized gay square dance club. Thus was established the tradition which charges each year's recipient with the selection of the next year's recipient. So far, the recipients have been:

- 1983 Art Smith, Seattle
- 1985 The South Florida Mustangs
- 1986 Dave "Happy" New Year,
Southern California
- 1987 Scott Carey, San Francisco
- 1988 Ken Pollock, New York
- 1989 Freeman Stamper, San Francisco
- 1990 Karl Jaeckel, Denver
- 1991 Harlan Kerr, San Francisco
- 1992 Keith Snowdon, Vancouver
- 1993 Anna Damiani, San Francisco/
Stan Boyden and Bill St. John, Sacramento

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Bob Fitterman, New York
David Giffler, New York

Ric Gonzalez, Albuquerque
Tom Halloran, Washington, DC
Linda Harry, Phoenix
Elgin Hodgins, Vancouver, BC
Dick Jacobsen, Indianapolis
Nelson Kuperberg, New York
Mac McCarthy, New York
Ted Oakes, Phoenix
James Ozanich, Sacramento
Chuck Reinke, Phoenix

Skip Rognlien, Portland
Bob Rosenthal, New York
Jim Rosevear, South Florida
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Mick Sheppard, San Francisco
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Ralph Smith, San Diego
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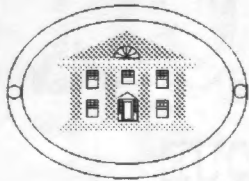
Have you ever thought about what it takes to prepare yourself to attend 10 conventions of the IAGSDC™? When you consider the fact that people who begin square dancing on average spend about four years involved in the activity, spending more than ten years is a commendable deed. These 30 dancers, together with the 27 who were presented the inaugural medallions last year, represent only 2 percent of all those who have ever attended a gay convention.

People who spend all these years doing something that requires interaction with others are not selfish people. Being involved for ten or more years requires being committed to the task, to the people, to the simple joy of doing it. If you consider that each person spends 16 hours a day awake, these people — at a minimum — have spent the equivalent of 365 waking-days living, breathing, eating, thinking, and doing square dancing. (This does not count travel time, general social activities, and just being friends.) It takes this type of dedication to provide the healthy activity of square dancing to all those who survive for about four years.

It becomes frightening to think that none of this can be done alone. Therefore, I ask, "Are these people to be commended or are they to be committed?" As a 10-year veteran myself, I can tell you that it is not insanity. Square dancing keeps me sane.

The medallion will be presented at the Association General Meeting.

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Mike Relac (Foggy City Dancers)

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Elwin Aspegren (D.C. Lambda Squares)

The Finest City Squares thank D.C. Lambda Squares and
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Her wigs have permanently reshaped her brain.

Stan and Bill (Prime 8's, Sacramento, CA)

She taught Freeman how to be a complete person.

Bill Prusak & Ed Pavelko (D.C. Lambda Squares)

In loving memory of Dewey Childs.

Richard Bearse & Dom Ponsades (Times Squares)

In loving memory of Ina Jo and Wynnona Jo Bradley;
 Oma and Opa, too.

Russell, congratulations on your first dancing convention.
 Love, James.

Freeman bought her everything she owns.

Congratulations Convention Committee — well done!

Freeman says, "Kill her! I hate being second fiddle!"

Thanks for a good time — The Johanssons: Sven, Olaf,
 Helga, Irmgaard, and the Twins (Gustav and Thor).

She's leaving her jewels to Mama Jo Bradley.

Happy Birthday, Mark! In my stars forever/Duke.

This one's for you, Maury! (Just Ett, Hon! Chesapeake Squares)

In memory of our friends who have entered the Grand Square.

She's attended 11 conventions. Cut! That's a wrap!

We two plus six form a multitude —

Hal Anker & Berr Watkins, Finest City Squares.

Just remember, "Beauty knows no pain."

Steffany, congratulations on your retirement. Love, James.

Multiple "YELLOW ROCKS" to

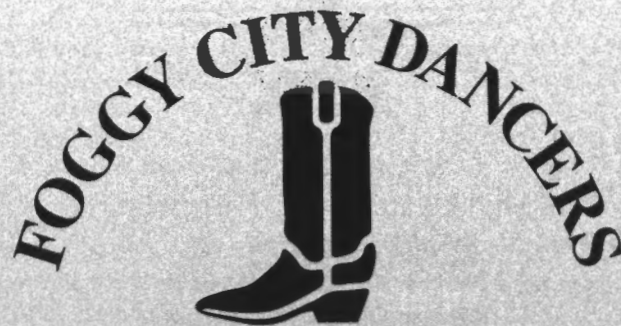
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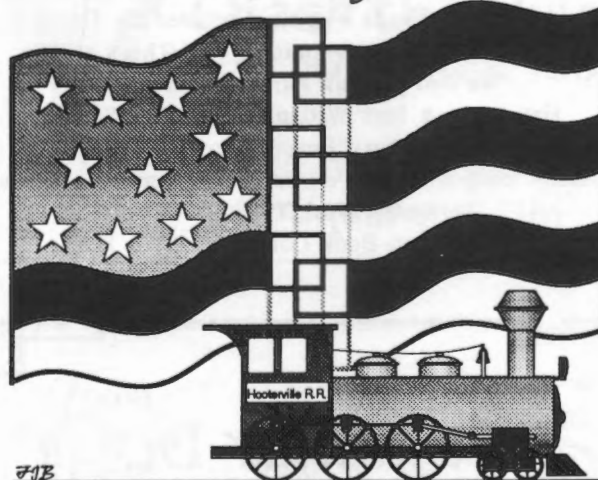
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Laying the Tracks for Track 2 Chicago

Tracks are being laid for Tip, the cow, to get the Track 2 Chicago locomotive to Stars and Squares Forever. Tip will be promoting the 1995 IAGSDC™ convention in Washington. As you can see from the official convention logo, Tip is working her tail off for next year's affair.

Stars and Squares Forever conventioners will be able to purchase boarding passes for the Track 2 train just before the price goes up. No one could be persuaded to handle credit card processing for Tip. So, only checks, cash or money orders will be accepted for the \$100 registration fee.

Carrying on the tradition that Remake the Circle started, seamstresses in Chicago have constructed a quilt to be raffled off as a fundraiser. The Track 2 Chicago quilt is quite a collector's item. The design incorporates the logos from each of the twelve conventions including Track 2 Chicago. At \$5 a chance, one lucky conventioner will go home with this beautiful work.

Tip, the cow, has lots more planned. Lesbian and gay square dancers will be assured the convention experience is to be continued Memorial Day weekend, 1995.

Personally, Tip can't wait for the fun to begin at Stars and Squares Forever. It will be utterly moooo-velous!!!

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IAGSDC History

(Continued from page 15)

denly, dancers from different clubs were dancing with each other! This came as a revelation to many; one that was not universally welcomed. In fact, Skip Barrett ordered his Foggy City Dancers off the dance floor and hurried them back to San Francisco.

In San Francisco, reaction to Skip Barrett's dictatorial style had led to the formation of Western Star Dancers in March 1982. Among its founders were Scott Carey and Agnes Smith, a straight woman. The new club adopted the Callerlab format. Later in 1982, Agnes moved to Seattle, where she became involved in Puddletown Squares.

The Seattle club had been founded by Art Smith. Art was not a square dancer, but he had been so impressed by what he observed at the 1982 Reno Rodeo that he went home to Seattle and started a club. The response from the Seattle gay community was phenomenal. So successful were his efforts that he was later asked by the budding national gay square dance organization to write a booklet giving pointers on how to start a gay square dance club.

By late 1982, there were seven gay clubs for Denver's Mile High Squares to invite to the first fly-in, which they called an "exhibition." The November event took place at Charlie's Country and Western bar and, unfortunately, attracted only five out-of-towners, all from San Francisco.

The first widely attended fly-in was hosted by the South Florida Mustangs (formerly the Miami Mustangs) at the Crossfire Bar in February 1983. The Mustangs were also the first to use that term to describe such a weekend event. Dancers from the Mile High Squares, Puddletown Squares, and Western Star Dancers attended. It was here that the need for a formal association was recognized. The National Association of Lesbian/Gay Square Dance Clubs was formed, and its membership requirements were set: Member clubs had to: 1) be gay-oriented; 2) use the Callerlab format in teaching and performing modern western square dancing; 3) be non-profit; and 4) be non-competitive.

Dancers at the 1982 Reno Rodeo had been disappointed that dancing activities did not receive more suitable atten-

tion and space. The rodeo organizers were lobbied, which resulted in a full schedule of dance activities at the summer 1983 event. At that rodeo, gay square dancers had much more opportunity to dance with each other. A meeting of the NALGSDC was held at which the first serious efforts for a 1984 convention were initiated. Seattle's Harlan Kerr was named the first National Chairperson, charged with coordinating communication between the member clubs.

In the meantime, Puddletown Squares had been so successful that Seattle quickly became the obvious choice for the first convention in 1984. Some on the convention committee viewed the convention as little more than a large-scale fly-in, with local callers, and imagined that out-of-towners could simply be housed with members of the local club. Others, particularly Agnes Smith and Doug McPherson, felt that the convention should be something special. Ultimately their vision prevailed, and they set the precedent of having the convention in a major hotel with nationally known callers. Unfortunately, these convention-planning pioneers are no longer with us: Agnes Smith drifted away from square dancing a few years after the first convention, and Doug McPherson died in 1991.

The 1984 Seattle convention, "All Join Hands," was a resounding success with close to 300 participants. At the 1984 Convention, the NALGSDC became the IAGSDC™.

By that time Art Smith had helped Carol Roberts of Vancouver found Squares Across the Border, so the "National" in the organization's name was changed to "International." "Lesbian" was dropped, reportedly at the urging of female members of the association, because "Gay" was viewed as being all-inclusive, while "Lesbian" was viewed by some as being separatist. (At the 1993 10th anniversary convention in Seattle, "Lesbian" was restored to the organization's name, which is now the "International Association of Gay Square Dance Clubs — A Lesbian and Gay Organization.") In the years since, gay clubs have blossomed throughout the United States and Canada, and approximately 1200 dancers attended 1993's "Remake the Circle" in Seattle!

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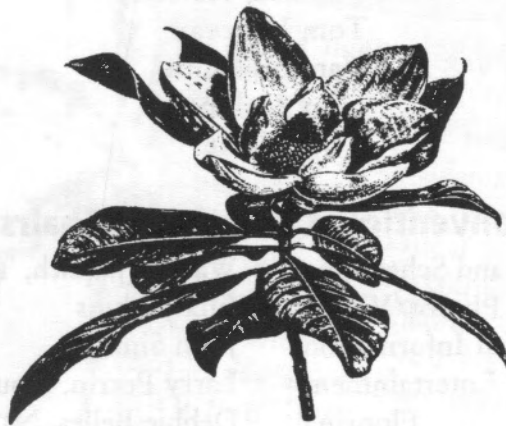
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A Dedication



We dedicate this page to those who have danced with us and before us, and who will continue to dance with us in our memories and in our hearts.

Please join us in remembering our life and dancing partners who have died from AIDS, as well as other causes, by inscribing their names in our memorial book located next to the AIDS Quilt display. The AIDS Quilt and representatives from The Names Project will be with the book on Friday and Saturday of the convention.

During the closing ceremonies, the first dance will be designated as a memorial tip. We hope that this tradition, started in 1993, will continue for each convention hereafter.



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and to the Board and all the volunteers from DC Lambda Squares and Baltimore's Chesapeake Squares.

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