

# Heart of America Singles Square Dance Association



## HASSDA Officers 2008 - 2009

### President

Marilyn Graham  
1703 Thompson  
Street  
Jefferson City,  
Missouri 65109-  
2423  
573.634.7918  
[MarilynGraham@chsi.com](mailto:MarilynGraham@chsi.com)



### Vice President

Maye Wegner  
685 Newman  
Havensville,  
Kansas 66432-9567  
785.948.3600  
[MayeWegner@yahoo.com](mailto:MayeWegner@yahoo.com)



### Secretary & Newsletter Editor

Linda Curran  
8302A North  
Everton  
Kansas City,  
Missouri 64152-  
4102  
816.746.0680;  
Cell: 816.914.6076  
[LCurran@sonnenschein.com](mailto:LCurran@sonnenschein.com)



### Treasurer

Karen First  
807 South Hall Avenue  
Wagoner, Oklahoma 74467-6759  
918.704.2220  
[KFirst@wagoners.org](mailto:KFirst@wagoners.org)



### Historian/ Festival Advisor

Lee Williams  
911 West 90th Terrace  
Kansas City, Missouri 64114-3518  
816.361.6881  
[Lee.Williams@gsa.gov](mailto:Lee.Williams@gsa.gov)



### Past President

David Hitchcock  
6232 Marjorie Laned  
Wichita, Kansas 67208-3626  
316.684.4053  
[Varch1@aol.com](mailto:Varch1@aol.com)



### FROM THE PRESIDENT – MARILYN'S NOTES:

This is the first newsletter since the new officers took office at the HASSDA Board Meeting held during the National Square Dance Convention in Wichita in June. As veteran HASSDA members will know, the Newsletter in the past was published four times a year: March, June, September, and December. Whether you count this the June publication or the September publication, we wanted to get it out; and we will try our best to get back on schedule after this one. So please bear with us! **In the meantime, we are looking for a Newsletter Editor for our organization. If you are interested in helping us out by doing our newsletter (we all contribute our part), we certainly would appreciate it – just let me know!!**

We hope all who attended the Nationals so close to home this year in Wichita enjoyed the after-parties three nights in a row sponsored by HASSDA, on Thursday night, and HASSDA, SSDUSA, Single Wheelers, and Duke City Spring Fling's on Friday and Saturday nights. We are so appreciative of the callers who shared the microphone at these after-parties! Our heartfelt thanks to them, and to all of you who came and danced with us!

The next HASSDA Board Meeting will be held on Sunday, August 3, at Croco Hall, 6115 SE Hwy 40, Tecumseh, KS, at 5:00 p.m. Besides the Board Meeting, this is the Sunshine Special dance, hosted by the Shawnee Swingers, the Topeka singles square dance club, with Mike Hogan, caller, and Pam Young, cuer. Rounds are at 1:30 and 6:30; plus dance at 2:30; evening dance at 7:00. So if anyone is in the area, this is a great dance to attend!!

In the meantime, we hope you will consider joining – or rejoining – our HASSDA organization. We're providing a dangle of the HASSDA logo for all new members to wear on any club badge you may have, and/or you can still purchase a HASSDA badge if you wish. Please see our website at [www.WeSquareDance.com](http://www.WeSquareDance.com) for the membership application and further information.

We're excited about the HASSDA Spring Festival for 2009 in Excelsior Springs, Missouri (see related article herein)!! Until then, happy dancing!!!

Marilyn Graham, President

---

### **MEET YOUR NEW HASSDA OFFICERS!**

As a way to introduce ourselves as your new officers for the coming year, we thought we'd share our square dancing experience in this first newsletter since taking office in Wichita.

#### Maye Wegner, Vice President

My sister talked me into taking lessons in 1982 in Manhattan, Kansas. Mike Salerno was the caller. I hated lessons and didn't think I would ever continue dancing, but my sister encouraged me to stick with it as it was something my sons and I could do together, so I did. I went to dances and saw how much fun everyone was having, and I was hooked. I was number ten in miles traveled to square dances my first year. I joined the Twilight Twirlers of St. Marys, KS, and served as their Kansas Square Dance Association representative until they folded. In 1992, I moved to Pennsylvania and was incredibly homesick. Square dancing in Allentown saved me, as I felt at home with the dancers. They made me feel welcome and soon became my new friends. I moved back to Kansas in 1998 and joined HASSDA in 2000 when the festival was in Kansas City. Square dancing has brought many wonderful people into my life. Some have become my closest friends. We are like family now, and my world would not be complete without them. I am proud to serve as your Vice President and hope that this coming year will be one of change and growth for HASSDA. I will be looking for you in my square!

#### Linda Curran, Secretary

I started dancing at the tender age of 39. A guy in a singles group I was in had been a square dancer at one time and wanted to get back into it since he was single again. He was the one who was responsible for my starting square dancing. I held most offices in Plaza Singles of Kansas City, including President, for several years. For me, square dancing has been the most wonderful opportunity to meet and keep in contact with numerous new friends. I love to mix it up; and as anyone who knows me will tell you, I am a habitual hugger.

#### Karen First, Treasurer

Karen is President of Recycles in Tulsa, Oklahoma. As of this date, we do not have information on her square dance history, but will include in a future newsletter. She's been extremely busy since Nationals!

Lee Williams, Historian

I have been dancing 24 years with the Swingin' Singles in Mission, Kansas. I had danced previously in a couple's club and enjoyed it so much I wanted to continue after my divorce. So I joined the single's club, which I have enjoyed even more. Square dancing keeps me "in shape," both physically and mentally. I can't think of an exercise where there is more fun and all at such an inexpensive price. [Editor's Note: Swingin' Singles will be our host for the 2009 HASSDA Spring Festival in Excelsior Springs, Missouri.]

Marilyn Graham, President

I began dancing in 2000 in Topeka, Kansas, through the encouragement of a gentleman I worked with, Don Hildebrand. He and his wife, Punky, were presidents of the Wheatheart Squares in Topeka at that time. If Don hadn't kept after me to stay with it, I possibly would not have remained in the square dancing world. How glad I am that he didn't give up! Once I started, I haven't stopped; and square dancing has meant the world to me ever since. I attended my first HASSDA convention in Topeka in 2001, and I will never forget sitting in the hallway downstairs while the tornado sirens were going off. I have served as President, plus other offices, in Wheatheart Squares and the Northeast Kansas District. I moved to Jefferson City, Missouri, in 2005 and presently dance with the Capitol City Squares. I am secretary of the Northeast Missouri District and a State Delegate from my District. I am also currently trying my best to become a round dance cuer. Wish me luck!

---

**HASSDA 2008 – GROVE, OKLAHOMA**

**HASSDA's 2008 Spring Festival was a great success, and our heartfelt thanks goes to the Recycles Club, Tulsa, Oklahoma, for hosting the Festival in Grove! For all who attended, you know what I am talking about. The facilities at the Grove Community Center were ideal for the Festival – much room, large parking area, fun after-parties, just great all around! The Trail-In Dance on Thursday night at the Grove Community Center began the Festival in a great mood for the weekend. It only got better from there. The Recycles did a tremendous job of hosting. It didn't hurt that Tony Oxendine and Marshall Flippo were there to conduct workshops and call the dancing, either. The attendance was up this year – 315 attendees. Again, our thanks to the Recycles Club for a wonderful time, a well-run Festival, and an over-all success!!**

---

**OUR THANKS TO THOSE WHO HAVE AGREED TO JOIN US – OR REMAIN – AS OUR AREA COORDINATORS FOR THE COMING YEAR:**

**Arkansas: Bud Cude, 223 Highway 370, Mena, AR 71953, 479-384-2816**

**Kansas: Diana Wagner, 3717 SW Cambridge, Topeka, KS 66610, 785-266-9442**

**Nebraska: Roger Brazda, 2903 North X Road, Hordville, NE 68846, 402-757-3274**

**Iowa: Charlie Parker, 1631 Robeson Avenue, Bettendorf, IA 52722, 563-508-5409**

**Missouri: Julie Lemke, 1014 NE 80<sup>th</sup> Terrace, Kansas City, MO 64118, 816-436-6191**

**Louise Coleman, 10000 NW 86<sup>th</sup> Street, Kansas City, MO 64153, 816-880-0713**

**Oklahoma: Delores Chambers**

---

**DANCE-A-RAMA, SSDUSA, August 28-31-2008** – The dancing begins on Wednesday night, at an Association Appreciation Dance called by Tom Miller, PA; continues Thursday night at the Trail In Dance, also called by Tom Miller; and THEN the three "Tim's" take over! All this is in Nashville, Tennessee, this year, hosted by the Tennessee Singles Square Dance Association. It sounds like a wonderful weekend – and who wouldn't enjoy dancing to Crawford, Marriner, and Tyl!?? Registration goes up \$5 on August 1, so if any of you have not registered, delay no longer. Laurie Steward is the Roommate Locator this year,

and her number is 507-685-4476, if you need her help. Check out the website at [www.ssdusa.org](http://www.ssdusa.org) for all needed information. Hope to see you there!!

---

**COMING EVENTS:** We hope in the future HASSDA newsletters to receive notices from all of you about special dances in your area for the quarter covered in that newsletter. Right now, we are planning our newsletter dates as November 1, February 1, May 1, and August 1. If you have any dance notices to share, we would appreciate receiving them approximately two weeks prior to the publication date. Please send to me at [marilyngraham@mchsi.com](mailto:marilyngraham@mchsi.com). In the meantime, thanks to Julie Lemke, Missouri, for reminding us of the KAMO Callers Festival, Delta Woods Middle School, 4401 NE Lakewood Way, Lee's Summit, KAMO callers, on August 23, rounds at 6:00, squares at 7:00-10:00 p.m. Also, the Missouri Federation Square and Round Dance Festival will be in Jefferson City this year, October 17-19, Helias High School, 1305 Swifts Highway. The featured caller is Bob Rollins, and the cuers are Patti and Ray Wheelington. Check out information on [www.SquareDanceMissouri.com](http://www.SquareDanceMissouri.com).

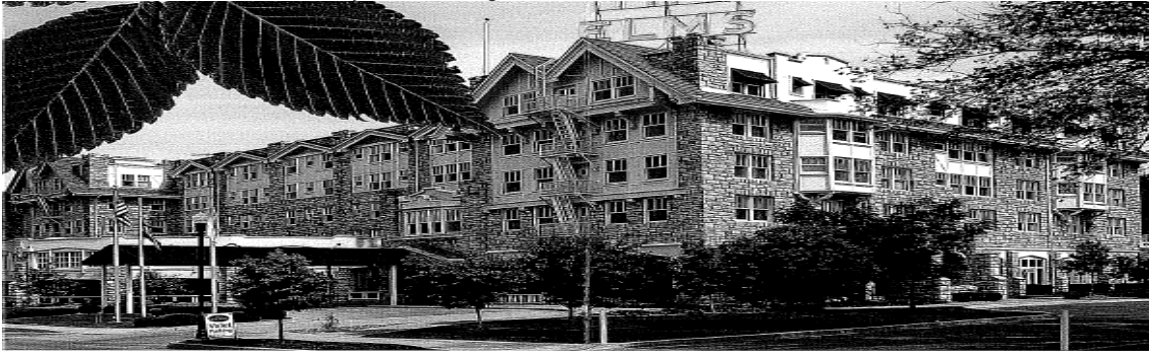
---

### **HASSDA SPRING FESTIVAL, 2009, EXCELSIOR SPRINGS, MISSOURI**

♪Kansas City –. Kansas City, Here I come.♪ This is the song we will be singing on our way to the 2009 HASSDA Festival next Spring. The Festival is scheduled for April 3-5 (trail-out dance on the 5<sup>th</sup>). Come expecting a great dance! The Elms Hotel located in Excelsior Springs is our host hotel. It is a historical hotel dating back to the 1800's just 30 minutes from downtown KC. Today the restored Elms offers a nostalgic journey back to an era of elegance and sophistication with classic guest rooms, hot tubs, steam room, sauna, and a European indoor lap pool to mention only a few of the amenities.

We have a couple of great callers lined up for our dancing pleasure - Dean Dederman and Nasser Shukayr – along with a couple of local callers to complete the bill. And, don't forget the after-parties! Make your reservations early and avoid a last-minute rush. ♪♪ Gonna take a train; Gonna take a plane - Kansas City, here I come.♪

Check HASSDA website for flyers and registration forms. More details in future newsletters.



**Marilyn Graham  
1703 Thompson Street  
Jefferson City, MO 65109**

**First Class  
ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED**

***See you in Nashville!***