

February 2009

## 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@mchsi.com](mailto:MarilynGraham@mchsi.com)



**Treasurer** Kathy Mears  
2604 West 27th Terrace  
Lawrence, Kansas 66047-3006



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



**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)



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



**Editor** Jim Faurote  
1819 First Street  
Platte City, Missouri 64079-7500  
[jfaur526@hotmail.com](mailto:jfaur526@hotmail.com)



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



### From the President – Marilyn's Notes:

After your current HASSDA officers were installed last year, one of the first things we did was to brainstorm about the future of HASSDA. Those of you who have been in the organization much longer than I have know that at one time, there were many singles' clubs that were members of HASSDA. That is not the case in

recent years. One advantage to joining in the past was to have access to information of where singles were dancing in the six-state area. With the internet explosion, that information is now available to all. Also, singles' square dancing is taking the same route as square dancing in general – we're losing members and, therefore, clubs. Some singles either do not join a club at all or there is not a singles' club in their area, so they join a couples' club. This may not be true in the large, metropolitan areas but seems to be so in the rural areas; and our six states are largely rural. We have also noted in the last few years that more and more married couples are coming to our Festival (and I don't blame them – we have great festivals – and the cost is right!) Of course, we feel HASSDA is still a vibrant organization – networking and friendship is valued above all else!

As a result of our brainstorming, we tackled the current club By-Laws to reflect our thoughts about the above situation. Basically, we are proposing to eliminate club memberships and just allow Individual and Associate Memberships. Associate Membership has always been available to a HASSDA member who marries while a member of HASSDA and wishes to remain a member of the organization. So we have married members of HASSDA currently as well as in the past. We've just never opened it up to the public to offer membership to non-single dancers. As stated above, married couples have been attending our Festivals for several years and have asked how they could support our organization and/or how they could receive our newsletters. We are proposing to open our membership to allow all married persons as Associate Members. You will note this will not give them voting rights in the club, but will allow them to receive our newsletter. One other effect of this proposal is that our By-Laws have stated that only member clubs could host the Spring Festival. We are proposing our Festival By-Laws note only "host club" and not "member club" to be host. We realize this opens it up to the possibility of a couples' club being the host. We could have stated in the Festival By-Laws that we will accept bids for hosting only from singles' clubs. If you wish that to be the case, please let us hear from you.

The other changes are only minor, cleaning up a document's wording after eleven years of not being amended. However, we invite your comments on all changes. We will discuss and vote on these changes at the HASSDA General Meeting in Excelsior Springs in April; and we definitely want your input. If you have opinions before the April meeting, please address them to me in writing before the Spring Festival. However, we hope you will be at the Spring meeting to express any and all concerns and/or opinions – and to vote, as the vote will determine the outcome.

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### Directions to Elms Hotel

For those of you who need directions to our Spring Festival in Excelsior Springs, we hope the following is helpful! The Elms Hotel is just 30 minutes from downtown Kansas City. From I-70 in Kansas City, take I-35 North to Exit 20 (Excelsior Springs) via 69 Highway for 10 miles to Route 10 following this route to

**Kansas City Avenue. The hotel is on the left.**

**From KCI Airport, exit on I-435 east toward St. Louis to Exit 45 (291 Highway) toward Liberty to I-35 North. Then follow directions from Kansas City as listed above.**

**From Omaha follow I-29 south to Highway 92 (Exit 18). Follow Highway 92 until it ends then make a right onto 69 Highway to the first traffic light (Jesse James Road). Take Jesse James Road for 3 miles until it ends at Route 10. Go east on Route 10 past the first traffic light and turn right on Elms Boulevard.**

**From Des Moines take I-35 south to 69 Highway to Excelsior Springs. Make a left at first traffic light on Jesse James Road for 3 miles to Route 10. Follow Route 10 past first traffic light, then turn right on Elms Boulevard.**

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## **Caller Dean Dederman**

**By Linda Curran**

**Dean has been a caller for at least 15 years now. If you've never danced to Dean, be prepared for someone who likes to sneak one in on you to see if you're awake.**

**Dean was born and raised in Nebraska, a native Cornhusker, and still farms there when he's home. He took some time off from calling when his twins were born and resumed it the last time Kansas City sponsored HASSDA. I guess it got into his blood wanting to get out on the road again.**

**They call Dean the taller caller and if you've never seen him, you will find out why – he's about 6' 5" which for anyone who knows me, that's just great: someone I can actually look up to.**

**He's tall, lean and lots of fun, so don't miss it when he comes the first weekend in April to call for us at the HASSDA Spring Festival.**

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## **Cuer Pam Young**

**By Maye Wegner**

**The HASSDA Spring Festival will feature one of the renowned round-dance cuers in the Midwest, Pam Young. Pam began square dancing in 1980 in Topeka, KS. In 1985 she started round dance classes. She caught on very quickly as in the fall that year began cueing and teaching round dance lessons.**

**Pam has traveled to many weekend round dance events for both her own learning/dancing pleasure and as the featured instructor/cuer. She has cued at several National and State Square Dance Conventions.**

**Pam has held numerous offices in square and round dance organizations; including being on the Board of Directors for ROUNDALAB, president of Mid-America Round Dance Teacher's Association, secretary and president of both the Kansas State Square Dance Callers Association and Kansas Round Dance Association, and along with her husband Tom are currently serving as vice presidents of KRDA.**

**Tom and Pam began dancing together in 1995. They try to teach a beginning round dance class each year and provide instruction to other cuers and dancers when requested.**

**When Pam and Tom have "free" time, they can usually be found doing something for Mother Teresa Catholic Church, traveling in their motor home on a camping outing. Tom also likes to partake in fishing and golfing while Pam likes sewing and quilting. Both Pam and Tom are the Past Vice Chairmen of the 57<sup>th</sup> National Square Dance Convention Sew & Save.**

**Some of the Youngs' choreography includes: "A White Christmas", "If Everyone Had Someone Like You", "Sweet Lips'98", "Let Me Be There", "Together In Love", "Love Is You Rumba", "Wonderful Rain", "I Want to Stroll Over Heaven With You"**

**The Swinging Singles and HASSDA are happy to have Pam and Tom Young for our Festival.**

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## **HASSDA BY-LAW CHANGES**

**By Jim Faurote**

**There are several proposed changes on tap to the HASSDA By-Laws that need to be voted on at the Annual Meeting during the upcoming Festival in Excelsior Springs, MO. However, there are two changes that truly affect the future of the organization. The first proposed change is the elimination of Club memberships. This is under Article IV, Section I. Currently, a single's square dance club may become a HASSDA Member Club by paying dues to HASSDA and be granted one voting delegate for every fifty members in that club. However, the number of Singles square dance clubs has been on the decline. Per the SSDUSA website, there are only eight listed for our six-state area, and the majority of those clubs have not taken out Club Membership in HASSDA in recent years.**

The second change involves Associate Memberships. This is under Article IV, Section I.B. Currently, if one marries while they are a HASSDA member they can continue on as an Associate Member provided he/she pays the stipulated renewal dues within one year of changing their marital status; but if the dues are delinquent or that newly-married person decides not to renew for a year, then there is no way membership can be reinstated. The proposed change would allow any married, or non-single person, to take out Associate Membership in HASSDA. They would not have had to have been a single person with Individual Membership first. Associate membership entitles the member to receiving the newsletter but not to voting rights.

Other minor changes include establishing the HASSDA membership year from April 1-March 31 to stabilize the timing of membership dues. Another change is allowing one-party signing of HASSDA checks, either the President or Treasurer may sign checks, but does not require two signatures. This makes paying bills easier when the two officers are in different states. However, there is an approval by the President/Board before any bills are paid. Another is eliminating the HASSDA Directory. We have not had a Directory in years, but this has not been removed from the By-laws. Other minor changes revolve around the above proposed changes.

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## HASSDA FESTIVAL BY-LAW CHANGES

By Jim Faurote

We also have some HASSDA Festival By-Law changes being proposed. Similar to the organization by-laws, one of the changes in Article IV.A would drop the term “club members” for those being eligible for attendance. If club membership is being eliminated as a HASSDA membership class, as written in article above, than there would be no reason to have club members included with individual and associate members under festival attendance eligibility. Thus, the new wording for Article IV.A would state under Eligibility for Attendance “all HASSDA members, including individual and associate members.” Also under attendance eligibility, the festival by-law Article IV.B currently states “any single square dancer 18 years of age or older”. The word “single” would be eliminated. Finally, as any married person can become an associate member, and thus eligible to attend the festival, the by-law Article IV.D “married persons who are guests of host club, HASSDA member clubs, or of the Board” would be eliminated.

Another set of changes involves the category of advance loans that HASSDA makes to the host club. Article V.2.A states an amount not to exceed fifty percent of previous festival profits can be loaned to host club upon request. This amount

would be changed to a maximum of \$500. Article V.2.B eliminates the second sentence and adds “except for HASSDA program advertising” to the first sentence. Article V.2.C would state that all proceeds from sale of Festival items: food, decorations, coupon books, income from vendors, rent, etc.; are considered to be HASSDA Festival monies.

Another change would involve the bid for upcoming festivals. The by-law under Article VI.B currently states “any member club may submit a bid to host an upcoming festival.” As we are proposing to no longer having member clubs that would be changed to “any club” which would allow the possibility of non-singles clubs, much more numerous, to host a HASSDA festival.

The final change, under Article VI.E.6 would mandate that the host club submit a written evaluation and financial recap of the festival within 30 days of the end of the festival, instead of 60 days as it is currently stated.

Again, we are encouraging your response to the above changes prior to the Festival by sending your comments to our President and attending our General Meeting at the Festival to voice your opinion on these changes.

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## HASSDA AREA COORDINATORS

AR - Bud Cude, 223 Highway 370, Mena, AR 71953, 479-384-2816  
IA - Charlie Parker, 1631 Robeson Avenue, Bettendorf, IA 52722, 563-508-5409  
KS - Diana Wagner, 3717 SW Cambridge, Topeka, KS 66610, 785-266-9442  
MO - Julie Lemke, 1014 NE 80<sup>th</sup> Terrace, Kansas City, MO 64118, 816-436-6191  
MO - Louise Coleman, 10000 NW 86<sup>th</sup> St, Kansas City, MO 64153, 816-880-0713  
NE - Roger Brazda, 2903 North X Road, Hordville, NE 68846, 402-757-3274  
OK - Delores Chambers, 1051 SW 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Jones, OK 73049

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## UPCOMING SQUARE DANCE EVENTS OF INTEREST

KS – February 7, 2009 – NEKSDCA Festival. Held at Croco Hall, 6115 S.E. US Hwy 40, Tecumseh, KS. Square dancing 11a-12noon, 1:30-3:30pm, 8:00-10:30pm. Rounds 3:30-5:00pm, 7:00-7:45pm.

IA – March 20-1, 2009 – 47<sup>th</sup> Iowa State Square and Round Dance Convention – “A Joyful Time in 2009.” Hosted by Central Iowa Federation. Iowa State Memorial Union, Ames IA. Check the website [www.iowasquaredance.org](http://www.iowasquaredance.org) for downloadable registration form. Contact Carol Thompson at (515) 967-8416 or email [cj8416@aol.com](mailto:cj8416@aol.com) for more details. Square dance attire required.

TX – March 20-21, 2009 – 35th Annual TASSD Roundup – “Stampede to Waxahachie.” Waxahachie Civic Center, 2000 Civic Center Lane, Waxahachie TX. Host hotel is the Hampton Inn (972) 923-0666. Callers: Tim Tyl, TX; Jerry Dews, TX. Cuers: Mark & Pam Prow, TX. Cost \$39 after Jan 1st \$45. Contact Barbara Standley at (940) 855-5982 or email tob@wf.quik.com. Web site [WWW.TASSD.ORG](http://WWW.TASSD.ORG)

MO – March 27-28, 2009 – 57<sup>th</sup> Annual Federation Festival – “It’s Dance Time in 2009.” Hosted by Heart of America Federation of Square Dance Clubs. Hall McCarter Educational Center, 5000 NW Valleyview Road, Blue Springs, MO. Featuring National Caller Vernon Jones and local callers and cuers. Check website [www.FedDance.WeSquareDance.com](http://www.FedDance.WeSquareDance.com) or contact Kenny/Lois Zeller at (816) 779-0928 for more details.

KS – April 17-18, 2009 – South-Central Kansas District Spring Festival. Cessna Activity Center, 2744 S. George Washington Blvd, Wichita, KS. Featured caller Tim Tyl; cuers Jim and Georgeanne Couey. Square dancing begins 8pm on April 17 and 1pm on April 18. Rounds begin 7pm and 9am respectively.

NE – April 18, 2009 – 59<sup>th</sup> Annual Spring Square Dance Festival. Hosted by Omaha Area Square Dance Council. St. Martha Episcopal Church, 801 Magnolia Ave., Papillion, NE. Featuring Joe Saltel. From 1pm to 10:30pm. Check <http://squaredancene.org/flyers/2009EASTFestival.pdf> for more information.

IA -- September 3 to 6, 2009 - [The 39th Annual National Singles Dance-A-Rama](#), in Davenport Iowa! Callers: [Bill Harrison - MD](#), [Matt Worley - VA](#), [Mike Hogan-NE](#), Ken Burke-IN, Curt Braffet-IL, and [Don & Doug Sprosty-IA](#). Eat, Sleep, and Dance at the Davenport Clarion Hotel. Check the website, [dar2009.ssdusa.org](http://dar2009.ssdusa.org), for more information on the dance, the hotel, and the area!

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#### OFFICERS FOR 2009-1010

During the General Meeting in Excelsior Springs, we will be electing officers for the next year. If anyone has a desire to serve in any official capacity or knows of anyone who might wish to serve, please be thinking about it and come with your nominations to our General Meeting. We are also asking the Area Coordinators to reconfirm their desire to remain as their State Coordinator. If any of you do not wish to remain, would you please help us find someone from your state who would be willing to serve in that capacity. Thanks! See you in April!!

*Jim Faurote  
1819 First Street  
Platte City, MO 64079*

First Class  
ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

***Excelsior Springs  
April 3-5, 2009***