

May 2009

## Heart of America Singles Square Dance Association



### HASSDA Officers 2009 – 2010

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

What a wonderful time in Excelsior Springs! I hope all of you who attended enjoyed it as much as I did! The biggest blessing to me of the Festival is in seeing old friends, making new ones, and getting to know those that have attended in the past a little better this time! I really missed those of you who didn't make it this year! In addition to the wonderful callers and cuer this year, the after-parties were fun; and many, like me, stayed until Jay and Linda shut down the music. Many

thanks go to the Swingin' Singles in Shawnee, Kansas, for hosting this year's HASSDA Festival and to Sandy and Don Norris, Festival contact persons, for making it a memorable experience. Thanks go also to our HASSDA Festival contact person, Vice President Maye Wegner, for her work in ironing out the details. Thanks to Lee Williams, our Historian, for toting all those HASSDA photo albums around – I saw many of you reminiscing about Festivals-Past. Of course, all the officers and members of both organizations complete the picture of efforts made. Again, thanks to everyone who attended for supporting HASSDA again this year – it truly was a great Festival! You might want to check out the photos of the Festival on the HASSDA web site.

Also on the web site are the HASSDA officers for next year. And no, there are no new faces among us. We all agreed to stay another year, and each of us wants to thank you for allowing us this opportunity. However, we are in need of a new Nebraska Area Coordinator, as mentioned elsewhere in this newsletter. We want to recognize Julie Lemke, Charlie Parker, and Roger Brazda for serving as Area Coordinators for Missouri, Iowa, and Nebraska, respectively, for several years in the past. If you were in Excelsior Springs, you know that Roger is very ill. Many of you signed the card at the Festival for Roger – please keep him in your prayers. I'm sure he would love to hear from his other square dancing friends. His address is 2903 North X Road, Hordville, NE 68846 – 402-757-3274.

As we look to the future of HASSDA, we need your input! We will have the HASSDA General Meeting in Grove, OK, at a time when there is no dancing scheduled so that everyone can attend and not miss a minute of dancing! We had a good discussion at this year's meeting about the future of HASSDA and where it's headed – or not; but we need ALL HASSDA members to participate. HASSDA will be celebrating its 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary next year! Come to the General Meeting and share your opinions! In order for HASSDA to survive, it will be necessary for single dancers to come forth and offer to be officers and coordinators to continue to make it a successful organization. In the meantime, happy square dancing and put April 23-24, 2010, in Grove, OK, on your calendar!

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**ONE LAST TIME (NEVER SAY NEVER) WE ARE ASKING YOU TO MARK DIFFERENT DATES ON YOUR CALENDAR FOR THE 2010 HASSDA FESTIVAL IN GROVE, OKLAHOMA. DUE TO A CONFLICT WITH THE NORTHEAST OKLAHOMA FESTIVAL IN TULSA THE SECOND WEEKEND IN APRIL, WE HAVE ASKED OUR FEATURED CALLERS TO CHANGE THEIR COMMITMENTS ONE MORE TIME - SO IT'S APRIL 23-24, 2010, GROVE – MORE DETAILS IN NEXT NEWSLETTER!!!**

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## **HASSDA Festival 2009 – A Great Time Had By All**

by Maye Wegner

It was a beautiful venue with great friends and terrific callers. The Swingin' Singles from Shawnee, KS, put it all together for the HASSDA Festival at the Elms Spa and Resort in Excelsior Springs, MO, with local caller Greg Edison calling the Trail-In dance on Thursday night to greet all the early arrivals. Old acquaintances were renewed and new acquaintances were made as we danced the night away.

Throughout the Festival many of the dancers found their way down the street to one of the best little BBQ places around. The Wabash BBQ was in an old railroad depot that had been

refurbished. The appetizers alone would make a meal....but you couldn't resist the main course of BBQ! The aroma filled the air as they smoked the meats right on-site.

Friday opened with some great high-energy calling by both Nasser Shukayr and Dean Dederman. Nasser did a couple of memorable Mainstream tips that evening; the first one was an imitation of a Japanese patter with the "l" sounds all changed to "r" sounds. The second was a "dance by number" sequence in which each number represented a call. Both these tips made you think about what you needed to do and pay attention.

The after-party with Jay was well attended as dancers found new energy to dance the two-step, waltzes, polkas and line dances that Jay lined up. One polka-dancing couple from Iowa looked like they could have gone professional. He also had dancers racing to the stage to give answers to trivia questions where the winner would get a lottery ticket. Were there any big winners in those scratch-off tickets?

Saturday was a beautiful day - great for dancing, enjoying the spa, or touring the local area. Dean and Nasser kept the crowd of dancers going with lots of intricate calls that made the dancers think and laugh with their antics. They even pulled the local callers into the act on Saturday afternoon!

Pam Young had a full floor for her rounds as even the callers joined in.

Saturday night after the Grand March the American Legion in Excelsior Springs honor guard posted the colors and Marilyn Graham, HASSDA President, welcomed everyone and introduced the HASSDA and Swingin' Singles Officers. The fun continued as both halls had full floors enjoying friendship set to music.

After the square dance Jay spun the oldies to the delight of all. We danced till our feet hurt and then danced some more! There was even a conga line that snaked through the dance floor!

Sunday found the "die hard" dancers filling the floor for one last time at the festival and dancing to the blended voices of Dean and Jay. The weather outside had turned nasty, but we were warm and toasty dancing to these great callers. Thanks to the Swingin' Singles for hosting and to all that attended the 2009 HASSDA Spring Festival. Hope you all had a safe trip home and we look forward to seeing you in Grove, OK on April 23-24, 2010, for the next HASSDA Festival!

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## HASSDA FESTIVAL PHOTOS



The Elms



Nasser and Dean



Dancing around the columns



Jay Krebs introducing Dean & Nasser



Lila and Bob doing rounds w/Pam



Happy Times w/Nasser



HASSDA is about Friends



## HASSDA BY-LAW CHANGES

By Jim Faurote

There were two major and a few smaller proposed changes to the HASSDA By-Laws that were voted on at the Annual Meeting during the HASSDA Festival. They were approved unanimously by the members present.

The first change was the elimination of Club memberships. This was under Article IV, Section I. A singles square dance club became a HASSDA Member Club by paying dues to HASSDA and was thereby granted one voting delegate for every fifty members. However, the number of official singles clubs have declined, as has square dancing in general; and most singles' clubs accept married couples as members. Conversely, most "traditional" clubs will allow single dancers today though they may have to come with a partner in order to guarantee dance time. Purely singles clubs are no longer that prevalent in our rural states.

The second change involved Associate Memberships. This was under Article IV, Section I.C. If a person married while a HASSDA member, he/she could remain in HASSDA as an Associate Member if the membership remained continuous. The membership has now approved allowing any non-single person 18 years of age or older to join as an Associate Member. As an Associate Member, he/she can receive the newsletter but, as before, has no voting rights. We have found many married couples support our organization and have asked for this change in order to join to show that support.

Other minor changes were made to the By-Laws including allowing the President to sign checks in absence of the Treasurer, eliminating the HASSDA Directory (which we haven't had in years), making the Secretary next in line after the Vice President to become President, and adding a duty to the Secretary's position.

Festival By-Law changes were also approved. Because of eliminating club memberships in the General By-Laws, the term "club members" for those being eligible for attendance was eliminated. Thus, the new wording for Article IV.A states under Eligibility for Attendance "all HASSDA members, including individual and associate members." Also under attendance eligibility, the festival by-law Article IV.B eliminated the word "single" from "any single square dancer 18 years of age or older" as any married/partnered person can now become an associate member, and thus eligible to attend the Festival. Due to this fact, the by-law Article IV.D "married persons who are guests of host club, HASSDA member clubs, or of the Board" has also been eliminated.

Another set of changes involved the category of advance loans that HASSDA makes to the host club. One by-law, Article V.2.A, will now state an amount not to exceed \$500 can be loaned to host club upon request. Another by-law, Article V.2.C, will 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 involved the bid for upcoming festivals. The by-law under Article VI.B was changed to "any club may submit a bid to host an upcoming festival" which allows the possibility of non-singles clubs to host a HASSDA festival.

The final change, under Article VI.E.6, now mandates 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 was originally stated.

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## HASSDA AREA COORDINATORS

- ARKANSAS:** Bud Cude, 223 Highway 370, Mena, AR 71953, 479-384-2816
- KANSAS:** Diana Wagner, 3717 SW Cambridge, Topeka, KS 66610, 785-266-9442
- IOWA:** Jo Saffel, 3910 80<sup>th</sup> Street, Urbandale, IA 50322, 515-276-9034 (plus a possible co-coordinator currently being solicited)
- MISSOURI:** Louis Coleman, 10000 NW 86<sup>th</sup> St., Kansas City, MO 64153, 816-880-0713
- OKLAHOMA:** Delores Chambers, 1051 SW 4<sup>th</sup> St., Jones, OK 73049
- NEBRASKA:** It could be you, if you live in Nebraska. Contact Jim, newsletter editor, at [jfaur526@hotmail.com](mailto:jfaur526@hotmail.com) if you would agree to serve in this function. We need you to report events and promote HASSDA in your state!!
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### Meet the new Iowa Coordinator – Jo Saffel



Jo began square dancing in 1976 with a nudge from her mother, who was enjoying it at the time. Jo's husband wanted to dance, so after one lesson, they were hooked. They joined the Westerners Club in Des Moines, IA. The next year they began taking round dance lessons. Because of a couple in class having trouble with the round dancing, Jo started trying to help them. She bought the records and cue sheets, studied them, and basically began cueing. She began being asked to cue at square dances where her husband was calling. She has since become single but has continued through the years, learning and teaching round dancing. She goes to Miss Kitty's in Des Moines to learn line dances and does line dances at most square dances she attends. She teaches two nights a week and dances the rest. She says, "If I had time, I would take Hip Hop."

Jo cues for Merry Mixers Singles Club in Des Moines on a regular basis. She cues at Gilbert Triple G, Boone Squares and Dames, Central Iowa Round Dance Association, Iowa State Square and Round Dance Conventions, and the National Conventions, wherever they may be. She is on the program for the SSDUSA Convention in the Quad Cities. See you there, Jo - and thanks for helping HASSDA as Iowa Coordinator!!

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## UPCOMING SQUARE DANCE EVENTS OF INTEREST

**NE – May 23-24, 2009 – Single Wheelers Memorial Weekend Dance.** Sponsored by **Single Wheelers** at Norfolk Junior High, IOOF Hall, 510 Pasewalk Ave, Norfolk NE. Callers **Jerry Junck** and **John Orlofski**. Cuers **Jim and Carol Tucker**. Schedule and info at [www.WeSquareDance.com/JerryJunck/Flyers/Single](http://www.WeSquareDance.com/JerryJunck/Flyers/Single) or call Gerry Mansfield 402-565-4247.

**KS – 1<sup>st</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays – Mainstream and Plus Dance.** Sponsored by **Swinging Singles** at Town Hall, 11600 Johnson Dr, Shawnee KS. Casual attire. Line Dances between tips. 7:30pm – 9:45pm. Caller **Jay Krebs**. Website [www.Swingin-Singles.org](http://www.Swingin-Singles.org)

**MO – 1<sup>st</sup> Fridays – Mainstream and Plus Dance.** Sponsored by **Single Promenaders** at Ivanhoe United Church of Christ, 6512 Woodson Rd, KC (Raytown) MO. Line Dances between tips. 7:30pm – 10:30pm. Caller **Al Block**. Check [www.Promenaders.WeSquareDance.com](http://www.Promenaders.WeSquareDance.com) or call Ralph Morast 816-737-5185. No August Dance.

**MO – 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesdays – Community Dance.** Sponsored by **Gateway Squares**, IAGSDC club, at Heman Park Community Center, 975 Pennsylvania Ave, University City MO. Casual attire. No rounds. 7:30pm – 9:30pm. Singles, same-sex and opposite-sex couples all welcome. Caller **Guest Callers (Stuart-June, Mangogna-July, Dunbar-August)**. Website [www.GatewaySquares.50megs.com](http://www.GatewaySquares.50megs.com)

**OK - 1st & 3rd Fridays - Mainstream and Plus Dance.** Sponsored by Singles Squares of OKC at Bohemian Hall: 3800 S. Portland Ave. - OKC, OK - WS 7:30 PM GM: 8:00 PM RD: WS 7 PM Caller Jeff Holley Cuer JC Johnson

**OK – 2<sup>nd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> Fridays – Mainstream and Plus Dance.** Sponsored by **Metro Singles of OKC** at Westside Lions Hall, 4135 NW 10<sup>th</sup> St, Oklahoma City OK. Pre-Rounds 7pm and square dancing starts 730pm. 3<sup>rd</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> tips are Plus and Advanced will be called after regular dancing ends. Caller **Danny Payne**. Cuer **JC Johnson**. Website [www.SquareDancing.com/metrokc](http://www.SquareDancing.com/metrokc)

**IA – June 5, 2009 – Mainstream and Plus Dance.** Sponsored by **Merry Mixers** at IOOF Hall , 29<sup>th</sup> and Kingman, Des Moines IA. Caller **Gene Wilson** Cuer **Jo Saffel**. 7:30 – 10:00pm. Website [www.iowasquaredance.org/central/merrym](http://www.iowasquaredance.org/central/merrym).

**MO – June 20, 2009 – Community Plus-level Dance.** Sponsored by **Singles and Doubles & Gateway Squares** at Heman Park Community Center, 975 Pennsylvania Ave, University City MO. Casual attire. 7:30pm – 9:30pm. Singles, same-sex and opposite-sex couples all welcome. Caller: **Kevin Onslager**. Rounds: The Tevlins. Website [www.StLouis.SquareDanceMissouri.com](http://www.StLouis.SquareDanceMissouri.com) & Click “St. Louis” under schedules.

**IA – July 10, 2009 – Mainstream and Plus Dance.** Sponsored by **Merry Mixers** at IOOF Hall , 29<sup>th</sup> and Kingman, Des Moines IA. Caller **Wiley Hutchinson**. Cuer **Jo Saffel**. 7:30 – 10:00pm. Website [www.IowaSquareDance.org/central/merrym](http://www.IowaSquareDance.org/central/merrym).

**IA – July 31 – August 2, 2009 – Illinois State Square and Round Dance Convention (but it's in Iowa!).** Clarion Hotel and Conference Center, 5202 Brady St, Davenport IA. Featured caller **Mike Hogan**. Dancing begins Friday 7:30pm and ends Sunday 2:00pm. Square dance attire preferred at night. Registration form is out on website [www.scisda.org/events/convention](http://www.scisda.org/events/convention).

**NE – August 1, 2009 – Summer Dance (Mainstream).** Sponsored by **Swinging Squares** at Rockbrook Methodist Church, 9855 West Center Rd, Omaha NE. Caller **Lanny Weaklend**. Cuer **Bob Raasch**. 8:00 - 10:00pm. Website [www.SquareDanceNE.org](http://www.SquareDanceNE.org) or call Bob Welshinger at 402-339-5405.

**IA – August 7, 2009 – Mainstream and Plus Dance.** Sponsored by **Merry Mixers** at IOOF Hall , 29<sup>th</sup> and Kingman, DesMoines IA. Caller **Chuck Veldhuizen**. Cuer **Jo Saffel**. 7:30 – 10:00pm. Website [www.iowaSquareDance.org/central/merrym](http://www.iowaSquareDance.org/central/merrym).

**MO – August 15, 2009 – Plus-Level Dance.** Sponsored by **Singles and Doubles** at Webster Groves Christian Church, 1320 Lockwood Ave, Webster Groves MO. 730pm – 1000pm. Caller: **Mike Kelly**. Cuer: The Tevlins. 7:30pm – 9:30pm. Check [www.StLouis.SquareDanceMissouri.com](http://www.StLouis.SquareDanceMissouri.com) & Click “St. Louis” under schedules or call Dan Kramme 636-225-5378.

**IA -- September 3 to 6, 2009 - [The 39th Annual National Singles Dance-A-Rama](#) in Davenport, IA!**  
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!

**Jim Faurote  
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**First Class  
ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED**

**April 23-24, 2010  
Grove, Oklahoma**

5/21/09