

# Big Sky News Monthly Newsletter

Live Lively -



Square Dance !

Volume 18 | Issue 11 | Big Sky News

## *Announcement*

Hey we are back. Big Sky News is going strong. In this issue we add Miles City as another dedicated editor has contacted me! Yea! We are growing.

Recently I was at the USA West Convention visiting with a Caller, Andy Garboden, and he was telling me about the Alzheimer's Benefit Dance that he and Joe Dehn do. It's been done in Washington for the last 11 or 12 years and they are promoting this to see if we can get it working in all 50 states. If you or your club are interested, please contact me for details. If you have any questions/comments/suggestions for the Big Sky News please contact me at: [David.Hinds@MontanaSquareDancing.com](mailto:David.Hinds@MontanaSquareDancing.com) Thanks,  
Dave

## *Inside This Issue*

### **Editor Commentary**

Dave shares some thoughts

### **State Festival**

### **Club reports**

Billings  
Great Falls  
Hamilton  
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Kalispell  
Libby  
Lolo  
Plains

## *A note from the Editor*

Wow, another month has gone by! Time is flying by quickly. I thought as you get older time would slow down, apparently that is not true. Oh well...

I want to thank all those that have sent in article/info from your areas. Keep them coming. I have found that either a clean text document or word document works best. Also I would like to solicit pictures you may have of your dances or area that others would like to see in the newsletter.

How do you promote your dance? Big Sky News surely is one way but how else can we do it? Call dancers? Send out flyers in the mail? Send emails? Simply hope someone shows up? There are many ways to promote your dance – send me ideas or ways you do it and I will share that with everyone that reads BSN!

As a reminder, the Big Sky News will NOT be emailed out. Please visit Montana Square Dancing to download or read online.

David Hinds

# “Square Dancing! Friendship to Music”



## *This space is reserved!*

Hey, I thought I'd make some space for the President of the State Board to comment. So here it is.

Didn't get an input this month but I think next month for sure...

# Montana State Festival

We will continually have a space here for the Montana State Festival. Look for breaking news or any other great tidbits that the chair would like to share.



*When did this happen?*

Here is a picture of our State Festival that I found online. Who can tell me the location and the year of the dance?

No one guessed last month...running it again this month. Let me know when you think.

*Check out the Festival Registration Form on the next page!*



**48TH MONTANA STATE SQUARE AND ROUND DANCE FESTIVAL**

MISSOULA, MT  
MAY 24-27, 2019



**Onsite Camping Information**

Free dry camping will be available in the school parking lot

Please help us leave the area in even better shape than we found it.



**Alternative Lodging**

**Super 8 Brooks St**  
406-251-2255

**FairBridge Inn & Suites**  
406-251-2665

**Brooks Street Motor Inn**  
800-538-3260


**Sleep Inn**  
406 543-5883

**KOA Campground**  
406-549-0881

**Jim and Mary's RV Park**  
406 549-4416

**Square Dance Center & Campground,**  
406-273-0141  
Lolo, MT 59847

**Map**



**Directions**

From Interstate 90  
Take Exit 101 - Reserve Street  
South to Brooks St  
Northeast on Brooks St to South Ave  
East on South Ave past high school  
South on Bancroft to the parking lot.

From Highway 93 South  
Highway 93 becomes Brooks Street  
Northeast on Brooks St to South Ave  
East on South Ave past high school  
South on Bancroft to parking lot.

**Contact Information**

Ray & Laurie Dunbar  
406-961-4528  
sewsqr@yahoo.com

Tim & Dee Casey  
406-529-8633  
dimandtee@msn.com

Barry & Bobbie & Bartlette  
406-273-0141  
sqrdance@bresnan.net

**2019 Montana State Square & Round Dance Festival**

**"STARS and STRIPES"**



**WE WANT YOU!! To Join Us**

**May 24-27, 2019**


Sentinel High School  
901 South Ave W.  
Missoula, MT

**Featuring**

**Caller:**  
**Scot Byars**  
Sacramento, CA

**Cuer:**  
**Barry & Bobbie Bartlette**  
Lolo, MT


**Biographies:**  
**Caller: Scot Byars**



Scot began dancing at the early age of 6, and was calling by his early teens in the San Francisco Bay Area. He was club caller for a teen club, a pre teen club, and an adult club with 25 squares.

Between growing up and moves up and down the state of California, Scot has continued teaching new dancers as well as calling for dances, festivals and intro nights. He has been a full time caller since 2003 and estimates he has taught over 3000 people to square dance. Scott continues to call for 5 active clubs in the Sacramento area still finding time to call for dances and festivals in California and nearby states.

**Cuer: Barry & Bobbie Bartlette**



Barry began square dancing in 1979, started calling in 1980, and cueing in 1982. He was a club caller in Colorado, Wyoming, and Montana as he transferred with his hydro-electric career. Bobbie began dancing in the late 50s as her dad, Ray Granger learned to call. She took a few years off to chase children to activities returning to dancing in 1990. Barry and Bobbie met in 1996 at the State Festival in Billings, MT and became a team, dancing and teaching soon after. In 1998, when Ray passed away, they began co-managing the Square Dance Center & Campground in Lolo, MT. Barry is the staff caller at Lolo. They teach square and round dancing and choreograph rounds.

**Lunch & Snacks available at school or on your own**

**Program Schedule**

**Friday Evening**

**All Caller - All Cuer Mainstream with Rounds**  
7:00 - 10:00 pm

**Saturday Morning**

**Phase 2+ Workshop & Teach with Barry & Bobbie**  
9:00 - 10:30 am

**Mainstream Workshop with Scot**  
10:30 am - 12:00 pm

**Lunch Catered or On Your Own**  
12:00 - 1:00 pm

**Saturday Afternoon**

**Surprise Badge Dance with Barry**  
1:00 - 2:00 pm

**Plus Workshop with Scot**  
2:30 - 4:00 pm

**Advanced at floor level with Scot**  
4:00 pm - 5:00 pm

**Saturday Evening**

**Pre-Rounds with Barry**  
7:00 - 7:30 pm

**Grand March**  
7:45 pm

**Mainstream & Plus tips with Scot**  
8:00 - 10:00 pm

**After Party With Last Chance Squares**  
10:00 pm

**Rest well! There will be lots more fun Sunday and Monday!**

**Program Schedule**

**Sunday Morning**

**Phase 3+ Workshop and Teach with Barry & Bobbie**  
9:00 - 10:30 am

**Plus Workshop with Scot**  
10:30 am - 12:00 pm

**Lunch Catered or On Your Own**  
12:00 - 1:30 pm

**Sunday Afternoon**

**Mainstream Dance with Scot**  
1:30 - 3:00 pm

**Plus Dance with Scot**  
3:00 - 4:30 pm

**State Meeting**  
4:45 - 5:45 pm


**Sunday Evening**

**Pre-Rounds with Barry**  
7:30 - 8:00 pm

**Mainstream & Plus tips with Scot**  
8:00 - 10:00 pm

**Monday Morning**

**All Caller - All Cuer Trails Out Dance - Mainstream**  
9:30 - 11:00 am



**Thanks for joining us!**

**Registration Form**

Includes festival bar if received on or before April 15, 2019

PLEASE PRINT

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

# of adult dancers \$30 each \_\_\_\_\_  
Family (2 adults, 2+ youth) \$75 \_\_\_\_\_

Total Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

**If postmarked after April 15, 2019 \$40 per adult, \$85 per family**

Camping available **after** 4:00 pm on school grounds. Dry camping. No charge. First Come, First Served. Wagon Master will assist you.

Planning on camping onsite? \_\_\_\_\_  
Size and type of RV \_\_\_\_\_

Caller? \_\_\_\_\_  
Cuer? \_\_\_\_\_

**Please send registration to:**  
MASRD  
PO Box 1463  
Lolo, MT 59847

**Make checks payable to:**  
MASRD

# Club Report

## Yellowstone Square Dance Council – Billings

by Ann Hindley

Leaves are being raked and gardens cleared; it must be fall!

Thanks to everyone who came to dance with us at the Big Sky Roundup on September 28 and 29. As usual, Ken Bower and Gary Shoemake were amazing. Also amazing were Larry and Susan for not only the cueing but also organizing the whole shebang. They and all the Silhouettes put on a great weekend.

We had a great turnout for Alice's farewell party with 42 current and former dancers in attendance. It was a treat to see some faces we hadn't seen for a while, and some said they even may try to come back. Great party or not, we were still sorry to see Alice go. We wish her the best in Florida and we hope all the hurricanes go the other way.

We're partying again on October 28 to celebrate Larry and Susan's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Congratulations to them both!

Yes, we're also dancing amid all the partying, and enjoying every minute with the snowbirds before they fly south. The Silhouettes dance twice in November, on the 4<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> before Larry and Susan head the same direction. The Monday A-Level workshops are on the 12<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> of November. If you're an A dancer and are in town either of those days, you're definitely welcome to join us. If the first sessions are any indication, Hunter's Tuesday dance/workshops promise to be challenging, informative and just plain fun. In November they take place on the 12<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>.



The Checkerboards on Thursday night are getting all the rusty spots danced off before they invite new dancers in January. Checkerboards dance every Thursday in November except Thanksgiving. Friday is Contradance night and there are three of those in November, the 2<sup>nd</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>. The Saturday Plus dances are well underway and we're hoping for fewer cancellations due to the road conditions than we experienced last winter. Plus dances are every Saturday in November except for Thanksgiving weekend. If you're in town, come join us any evening we're dancing.

Have a wonderful Thanksgiving everyone, with safe travels to you and your families.

# Club Report Great Falls

by Linda Wallace

November brings our club together with 4 more beginner classes (2 left), Plus Dance on November 3rd, 7-9pm at Missouri River Manor, casual attire with David Hinds calling. Club Dance on November 10th starting at 6:30 and ending at 9:30. David Hinds will be calling and cueing this dance at the Missouri River Manor.

November 24th will be our Thanksgiving Dance and pot luck. Missouri River Manor will be the place and it will start at 6:00 with a potluck, 6:45 will be rounds and 7:00 will start dancing with plus tip announced. David Hinds is our caller and cuer. Will have lots of good eats and companionship.

We would love to have anyone join us for these and any future event when in the area or coming to Great Falls. If you have any questions regarding the club or our activities, please contact David Hinds at 406-799-1715 or by email at [david.hinds@montanasquaredancing.com](mailto:david.hinds@montanasquaredancing.com).



Wishing everyone and their families a Happy Thanksgiving and enjoy all the festivities.

# Club Report Hamilton

by Dee Terrill Moenich

Boots & Calico Square Dance Club did not have much to report this month. Hopefully next month we will catch up. Meanwhile if you need to contact somebody please call Ray Dunbar at 370-4414.



# Club Report Helena

by Bonnie Hamilton

Helena Last Chance Squares continue with beginner lessons each Monday night from 6:15 to 9 p.m. We are trying a “fast track” to complete the beginner lessons by mid December.

In October we had two regular club dances. The October 20th dance was our Harvest Dance.

Our Halloween Dance is including our beginning dancers on Monday night. Dancers are coming in costume and showing off their talents in a carved pumpkin contest.

Our schedule:

Monday nights	6:15 - 9 pm. Lessons
Saturday nights (1st & 3rd)	7 - 7:30 pm. Prerounds
	7:30 – 9:30 pm. Mainstream with plus tips

Location: Broadwater School  
900 Hollins Ave, Helena

Caller /cuer: Glen Tusler

Visit our Facebook page at Helena Last Chance Square Dance.

It is with sadness that we announce our friend Arlene Eickmeyer’s retirement from square dancing. She was always in the “Best Square.” We will miss her greatly.

Remember: Life is better when you Dance!! If you are in the Helena area come join us!!





# Club Report Kalispell

by Roger Jones

Arrg---I didn't get an input from Kalispell for the Nov.  
issue of the Big Sky News

Next Month..



# Club Report

## Libby

by Jo Wilson

We will start beginning square dance classes on Sunday, October 21 from 6 – 8 p.m. Classes will be held at Libby Elementary School, Brown Pod, at the corner of Education Way and Ski Road in Libby. Marvin Speck from Troy, MT is our teacher for the class.

Our dance in November will be on November 24 with Adam Christmas, calling and Priscilla Higdon, cuing. Our theme is Thanksgiving and we will be collecting food for the Libby Food Bank. Plus begins at 7 p.m. with Mainstream from 8 – 10 p.m. Our dances are held at Asa Wood School gym, 700 N. Idaho Ave., Libby, MT.



### Libby Spinning Squares 2018-2019 Dance Schedule



<u>Date</u>	<u>Caller/Cuer</u>	<u>Theme</u>
*Sunday, Oct. 14, 2018	Than Peake Priscilla Higdon	Ken's Birthday Party
October 27, 2018	Rick & Kathy Utter Kathy Utter	Halloween
November 24 2018	Adam Christman Priscilla Higdon	Thanksgiving
*Sunday, Dec. 9, 2018	Marvin Speck Sharon McNair	Christmas Dance (Party Level)
*Sunday, Jan. 13, 2019	Marvin Speck	Winter Carnival (Party Level)
January 26, 2019	Marvin Speck Lorrie Lane	Chinese New Year
February 23, 2019	Adam Christman Priscilla Higdon	Western
March 23, 2019	Ed Schiffner Ed Schiffner	50's Dance
* Sunday, April 14, 2019	Than Peake Lorrie Lane	Lorrie's Birthday Party
April 27, 2019	Bob Amsbury Claudia Amsbury	Crazy T-Shirt Dance
*Sunday, May 19, 2019	Rick & Kathy Utter Kathy Utter	Luau
<b>August 2, 3, 4, 2019</b>	<b>Logger Festival &amp; Libby Dam Dance</b> Rod Shuping from Lancaster, CA & Justine Litzko from Rathdrum, ID	

**Saturday Night Dances** - Plus at 7 p.m.; Mainstream from 8 - 10 p.m.

**\*Sunday Afternoon Dances** - Plus at 3 p.m.; Mainstream from 4 - 6 p.m.

All times are Mountain Standard time

Admission: **\$6.00 per person, under 15, \$3.00**

Dances Held at: **Asa Wood School, 700 Idaho Ave., Libby, MT**

**\*Dance on a Wood Floor\***

Info: **Ted Jewell:** 406-293-1165 or

**Jo Wilson:** 406-293-3265; email: jrussell43@frontiernet.net

**Find us on Facebook ([www.facebook.com/LibbySpinningSquares](http://www.facebook.com/LibbySpinningSquares))**

A Williams Listening Transmitter will be available at dances.



# Club Report Miles City

by Lynn Strobel

## Prairie Stars, Miles City

The Prairie Stars began the 2018-2019 season on September 20<sup>th</sup> and dance on Thursday nights at the Senior Center in Miles City. With the exception of November 1<sup>st</sup> and November 22<sup>nd</sup>, the club will dance each week through December 13<sup>th</sup>. Dances are from 7:00 to 9:00, dancing the mainstream program. Attendance so far has been wonderful with 2 squares dancing and a few additional dancers so a little rest can be had by those that don't wish to dance every tip. Visitors are always welcome. For any additional information, please call Lynn Strobel at 406-951-1088. Until next time,



# Club Report Lolo

by Debby Ernst



## **SOLO STARS NOVEMBER 2018**

**Mark your calendar** for the dates below and come join us at the **Lolo Dance Center!**

We had great fun at the **FEDERATION FALL DANCE** on Oct 6 with Hunter Keller and Barry Bartlette! Thanks to everyone who helped make up the 5 squares!

### **COMING UP**

**EACH MONDAY** – **Solo Stars BEGINNER LESSONS** with Barry Bartlette

**6:30-8:00pm each Monday night.**

**MAINSTREAM DANCE follows at 8pm.**

**NOV 10, SAT** – **HARVEST BALL** with Caller **Kathy Racine & Cuer Barry Bartlette**

**7:00pm Pre-Rounds; 7:30-9:30pm MAINSTREAM with PLUS Tips**

**NOV 12, MON** – **VETERANS DANCE**, 8-9:30pm; Red, White & Blue Theme

**NOV 19, MON** – **THANKSGIVING DANCE**, 8-9:30pm

### **LOOKING AHEAD for SOLO STARS**

**DEC 17, MON** – **CHRISTMAS DANCE**, 8-9:30pm

**(Final dance of the season at Lolo Dance Center until April, so let's all come out!)**

# Club Report

## Lolo – continued



### LOLO DANCE CENTER EVENTS

#### EACH TUESDAY – Top Hats ROUND DANCE LESSONS EVERY TUESDAY

6:30-7:30pm Basics  
7:30-8:30pm Dance  
8:30pm Phase 3-4+ Workshop

#### EACH FRIDAY – Swingola PLUS DANCE EVERY FRIDAY at Lolo, 7:00pm

(Call Barry Fri afternoon so he knows if there will be enough dancers.)  
(NO dance Nov 9 or 23.)

\*~\*

- \*Many thanks to Dave Hinds for doing such a great job with the Big Sky News!
- \*Glad to see Tim Casey out even with the arm contraction! We wish him a speedy recovery.
- \*Check the **Dance Center website** at <http://lolocampndance.com/> for up-to-date calendar events.
- \*Looking forward to seeing you in a square! Until next month—Debbly E reporting

# Club Report Plains

by Darlene Jolly

The “MONTANA MAVERICKS” 14<sup>th</sup> Anniversary dance was held October 6, 2018 at the bank with Adam Christman & Lorrie Lane. It was our Elvis dance, so all singing calls were Elvis hits or songs connected to Elvis. Both Adam & Lorrie did their usual great jobs. It was a fun dance with 4 guests from Kalispell joining the Mavericks. We started at 6pm with a potluck which was as usual great! Lots of good cooks. Unfortunately the Missoula Federation dance at Lolo was the same evening, so they could not attend our dance or we theirs.

October thru May we dance the first Saturday at the First Security Bank in Plains. 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday during the summer months.

If anybody is interested in attending the **National Convention in Spokane in 2020**, I have registration forms I could send if you need them. If you sign up prior to February 2019 you can register for \$50.00 per person & may attend the pre-convention dance on February 9<sup>th</sup> for free. Also, since the National Executive Committee is sponsoring this convention themselves any person who volunteers to work at the Convention – your club will receive funds for that. I have not heard how much – if it is a percentage or what, but hey – whatever would always be welcome I’m sure.

Any questions call Darlene at 826-8951



**First Security Bank Basement  
510 W. Railroad  
Plains, MT**

**Plus @7-MS 7:30-9:30 pm – FF**

**1<sup>st</sup> Saturday October thru May**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Sat June thru September**

**(call 406-826-8951 to be sure of summer schedule)**

**November 3, 2018 – Adam & Lorrie**

**December 1, 2018 – Gary Baker & Lorrie**

**January 5, 2019 – Adam & Lorrie**

**February 2, 2019 – Adam & Lorrie**

**March 2, 2019 – Adam & Lorrie**

**April 6, 2019 – Marvin Speck & Lorrie**

**May 4, 2019 – Ed Evans/Pt Orchard, WA & Lorrie**

**June 8, 2019 – Than Peake/Spokane caller**

**July 13, 2019 – No Dance this year**

**Aug 9-10-11, 2019 Campout**

**w/Adam & Lorrie at Diamond S in Ronan**

**Call 406-826-8951 for info**

**PLEASE JOIN US**