



Big Sky News Monthly Newsletter

Live Lively -



Square Dance!

Volume 19 | Issue 03 | Big Sky News

Announcement

Another quite month. People must be out there dancing. As always if you have any questions please contact me.

Questions/comments/suggestions for the Big Sky News contact me at: David.Hinds@MontanaSquareDancing.com

Thanks,
Dave

Inside This Issue

Editor Commentary

Dave shares some thoughts

State Festival

Club reports

Billings

Great Falls

Hamilton

Helena

Kalispell

Libby

Lolo

Miles City

Plains

A note from the Editor

Last month I queried, what should be a “fun dance” consist of to invite new people to square dancing and solicited for input.

I did get one response. That is cool, at least somebody reads this. The basic gist of the email was start with contra. This is where you get people in. When you attend any open contra dance as a total newcomer, they always offer a quick 15 min lesson, all dances are quickly walked/taught, and by the end of one evening of Contra you feel like you know what you're doing. After a few contra dances, you are exposed to a good chunk of the mainstream list.

So what do you think? Should every square dance caller learn contra figures and use/teach them as the intro dances? Should we send dancers away to a contra group and tell them learn contra before trying square dancing?

As always I am listening to your inputs.

Send your comments to
BSN@MontanaSquareDancing.com

David Hinds





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 still hoping...

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.



Never been?

The state festivals are probably one of the best dances you'll ever attend. Meet up with old friends and make new friends. Dance till your feet are numb and still go back for another day of dancing. Take advantage of the guest callers and cuers for the event and if your lucky be the Best Square on the floor! Do some unique dancing from outside, on a glacier, or maybe a downtown event and you might even earn that special badge letting everyone know that you survived"

*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

Hard to believe how quickly 2019 is marching along. Still looking a little wintry here, but the snowstorms have been falling between the dances so we can all get there! We all even made it to Forsyth and back without any weather events and we were sure happy for that. It's always a fun day and we'd hate to miss it. Our biggest obstacle at the moment is the M.A.T.E. show and related trucks and trailers that create an obstacle course for us to navigate as we head for Cedar Hall. If we're lucky, they leave us a little room to park.

Between snowbirds, viruses, procedures and accidents, we've been missing quite a few dancers, but the dancing goes on! The Saturday plus dances have been interesting. We're sometimes just shy of 2 squares for the first half hour that we've reserved for DBD. So we've been dancing 6-couple squares (rectangles)? Plus calls can get very interesting under those conditions but we sure have fun.

Also having fun are all our new dancers. We have more couples than singles this year and we're especially excited about all the young people who came once and then kept coming back to keep things lively. We're seeing 5 squares on Thursday nights and all our beginners are learning very quickly. They're quite a sociable bunch, too; they became part of the family right away. Since Valentine's Day fell on a Thursday, they all celebrated with a pizza party along with the dancing.



It's been certainly nice to have Hunter back in town. He's been filling in for Larry with the Silhouettes on a number of Sundays and will also grace the stage at least once each for the Thursday beginners and Saturday plus folks. Thanks Hunter!

Coming up in March is the Checkerboard Squares' Spring Dance on March 16 and then next month Kut N Kapers Spring Dance in Cody April 26-27. And now's the time to mark your calendars, too, for the Magic City Hoedown with Bill Henke and Larry and Susan Sperry, May 3-4. Contradances this month are March 8 and 22.

Stay warm and travel safely to your dances. If your travel brings you this way, come dance with us!

Club Report Great Falls

by Linda Wallace

We had 2 great dances in February with one having Adam Christmas as our caller. We also had 4 mainstream workshops which is well attended. If you are ever in the area on a Sunday afternoon from 4-6 we would love to have you join us. Our dances are from 6:45-9 unless a pot luck is specified on the 2nd and 4th Saturdays of the month. Our Plus level dance is held on the 1st Saturdays of every month from 7-9. We dance at the Missouri River Manor.

March we will be having 5 mainstream workshops on Sunday and 3 club dances on Saturdays. March 2nd will be our Plus Level dance, March 9th will be our club level dance with a meeting prior to dancing and March 23rd will be our Roaring 20's Dance. Should be fun to see people dressed up and dancing.



If you have any questions regarding the club, please contact David at 406-799-1715 or by email at david.hinds@montanasquaredancing.com. We would love to have you join our dances anytime.

Club Report Hamilton

by Dee Terrill Moenich

Quiet this month, March dates below.

Boots & Calico Square Dance Club dances are held at the Golden Age Center, 5th and Baker Streets in Hamilton. We have a nice wooden floor and a good sound system. Come join us Saturday evenings for Mainstream Square and Round dancing. More info, call Ray at 370-4414

Our March dances are:

Sat the 2nd 7:00 - 7:30 Plus level dancing 7:30 -
9:30 Mainstream **Ray Dunbar calling**

Sat the 9th 7:00 - 7:30 Pre Rounds 7:30 - 9:30
Mainstream **Kathy Racine calling**

Sat 16th **St Patrick's dance & Pie auction!**

7:00 - 7:30 Pre Rounds 7:30 -
9:30 Mainstream **Eddie Fields calling**

Sat 23rd 7:00 - 7:30 Plus level dancing 7:30 - 9:30
Mainstream **Ray Dunbar calling**

Sat 30th 7:00 - 7:30 Plus level dancing 7:30 -
9:30 Mainstream **Ray Dunbar calling**



Club Report Helena

by Bonnie Hamilton

Helena Last Chance Squares beat the winter cold with dancing in February.

On February 16, we had a box social lunch followed by a club dance. Our ladies prepared interesting lunches placed in decorative wrappings for auction. After lunch we had fun dance with Glen calling and cuing.

Our March schedule:

Saturday night March 2

Mainstream with plus tips & rounds 7 pm

Monday nights March 4 & 11

Mainstream with plus tips & rounds 7-9 pm.

Location: Broadwater School

[900 Hollins Ave](#), Helena

Caller /cuer: Glen Tusler

On March 16th is our St. Patrick's dance including dinner and a Donkey Party. Please save the date and join us for a super fun day. Activities begin at 2:30 pm.

Visit our Facebook page at Helena Last Chance Square



Last Chance Squares
is sponsoring a
"Donkey Party"
For all you dancers who are not "Donkey Club" members, now is your chance to become one.

March 16, 2019

Bob Hogemark will be calling
Glen Tusler doing the cueing

Where: Broadwater School, playground entrance.
Admittance: \$7.00 per person for evening only
\$10:00 per person afternoon & evening

When: 2:30 - 4:00 pm Plus
4:00 pm , with Cornbeef & cabbage cooked by Bill Bandy
5:00 Pre-rounds
5:30 MS/with Plus tips
7:30 We close up the school and travel to the BHB at the fairgrounds for the "Donkey Party". Come and join us and get your Donkey Badge

Donkey Club members wear your badge

Club Report Kalispell

by Roger Jones

Nope

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

Does anyone have contacts in Kalispell? I've exhausted mine. Maybe they have closed their doors.

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
August 2, 3, 4, 2019	Logger Festival & Libby Dam Dance 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)

A Williams Listening Transmitter will be available at dances.



Club Report Miles City

by Lynn Strobel

Prairie Stars, Miles City

Nothing new for the month of March!

Another very quite area? Is anyone out there reading this??



Club Report Lolo

by Debby Ernst



Happy March, Square Dancers! We would LOVE to have you join us for the fun this month!

FRI, MAR 9 & 22 – LOLO COMMUNITY CENTER, 7-9:00 pm, \$5.

Kathy Racine Beans will be calling for us on March 9!
We'll be dancing to CDs on the 22nd.

~

UPCOMING EVENTS FOR YOUR CALENDAR!

Barry and Bobbie will be back soon, so we'll be back in *full swing* at **Lolo Dance Center!**

APR 1, MON – SOLO STARS BEGINS again!

Lessons 6:30-8:00pm each Monday.

MAINSTREAM DANCE follows at 8:00pm each Monday.

EACH TUES – Lolo Rounds ROUND DANCE

LESSONS; begins 4/2

6:30-7:30pm Basics

7:30-8:30pm Dance

8:30pm Phase 3-4+ Workshop

EACH THURS – BEGINNING ROUND LESSONS,
7:00pm, **begins 4/4**

EACH FRI – **Swingola PLUS DANCE** at Lolo,
7:00pm; **begins 4/5** (no dance the 12th)
(Call Barry Fri afternoons at 273-0141
so he knows if there will be enough dancers.
Thank you.)

APR 13, SAT – Solo Stars SPRING FLING, Barry
Bartlette, Caller & Cuer

7:00-7:30pm Pre-rounds

7:30-9:30pm **MAINSTREAM SQUARE DANCE**

~

We look forward to Barry & Bobbie's return in April!
Until next time, Debby E reporting.

Questions: Call Tim & Dee Casey 406-529-8633

*Check out the Lolo Dance Center website at
<http://lolocampndance.com/> for coming events

Club Report Plains

by Darlene Jolly

The “**MONTANA MAVERICKS**” February dance was held at the bank with Adam Christman & Lorrie Lane. We had 22 in attendance including 4 guests from Kalispell & two from the Lolo/Missoula area. Roads were great - Adam & Lorrie always do a fun dance for us. 2 squares on the floor nearly all night had a great time.

Adam will be calling our March dance which also features a potluck prior to the dance at 6pm & a silent auction. Club members bring things they no longer want to sell to the rest of us, so bring your money to buy them. Helps keep our club on a fairly even keel financially, so hope you can join us.

Our April dance will feature Gary Baker & Lorrie – May will be called by Ed Evans of Oak Harbor, WA – and June (2nd Sat) will feature Than Peake. Lorrie will cue both of them also.



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

Any questions call Darlene at 826-8951.