



# Big Sky News Monthly Newsletter

Volume 19 | Issue 05 | Big Sky News



## *Announcement*

Wow spring is upon us. This is the last Big Sky News of the season. We take a break from Jun to Aug with a startup in September.

Questions/comments/suggestions for the Big Sky News contact me at:[David.Hinds@MontanaSquareDancing.com](mailto:David.Hinds@MontanaSquareDancing.com)

Thanks,  
Dave

## *Inside This Issue*

### **Editor Commentary**

**Dave shares some thoughts**

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## *A note from the Editor*

Thanks everyone for the support for my first year as editor of the Big Sky News. This is a task that has taken on new meaning for me that is for sure. I look forward to supporting you for a long time to come. And as always I can't do it without the editors out there and the editors cannot do this without you, the dancer, caller, or cuer. Your input makes it possible for the Big Sky News to be published.

Again, a Great Big THANKS to you all! Hope to see you at the Montana State Festival in Missoula!

Send your comments to  
[BSN@MontanaSquareDancing.com](mailto:BSN@MontanaSquareDancing.com)

David Hinds



# 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 you 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 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 cuing 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

What a beautiful spring we're finally having! We're getting ready to wind up the regular dance season here in Billings but we're not done yet! Our new dancers never cease to amaze us with their enthusiasm and commitment to square dancing, not to mention their rapid progression. We're so proud of them! We've been seeing 5 and even 6 squares on the floor on Thursday nights. We're looking forward to honoring them at the Checkerboard Squares-hosted Beginner Hoedown on April 25. Immediately after that, we'll travel to Cody for the Kut 'n' Kapers spring dance on April 26 and 27. Lynn will be calling, Larry will be cueing and the Kut 'n' Kapers will, as usual, be showing us a fine time and feeding us almost more than we can dance off.

Then, the following weekend, May 3 and 4, comes our Magic City Hoedown with Bill Henke and Larry Sperry. Our beginners spied the Hoedown Flyers on the front table and wondered if they'd be able to participate. Told you they were enthusiastic! So, if you weren't able to meet them at the Beginner Hoedown in April, come dance with them on the first evening of the Magic City Hoedown, May 3. Bill was happy to hear that they wanted to take part, so he'll be calling a few tips geared toward the level they've achieved thus far.

Speaking of enthusiasm, several of our mainstream dancers have professed an interest in learning the Plus program. So on May 11 and 12 Hunter is planning a Blast Class Plus weekend. Whether or not this happens depends on the number registered, so Hunter is asking that you register by May 3. You can find complete information on our website, [www.squaredancemontana.com](http://www.squaredancemontana.com) under "Coming Events" on the home page.



The contradancers are also winding down for the season. Final dances are April 26 and May 10.

On May 13 there will be a work party to "tear down" Cedar Hall before turning it over to MetraPark for the summer. But that won't be the end of dancing in Billings. Hunter has scheduled twice-monthly dances throughout the summer to be held at the Casa Village Rec Center from 7 to 9 p.m. Dates scheduled (all Thursdays) are May 9 and 23, June 6 and 20, July 18 and 25, August 15 and 29, and September 12 and 19. A big thanks to Hunter for providing a way to keep the new dancers (and the rest of us!) from getting rusty and best of all, a chance to keep in contact with all our dance friends. Come join us when you can!

Finally, have a safe and adventurous summer. One of the best things about summer is the variety of chances to dance with those we don't see too often. So we sure hope to see you across a square somewhere soon!

# Club Report

## Great Falls

by Linda Wallace

Great Falls will be having a couple of special dances in May. First we will have our **Cinco de Mayo Pot Luck Dance** on **May 4th** with David Hinds calling and cueing. It will be held at the Missouri River Manor from 6-9:00 and we would love to have anyone stop by and dance with us.

Our other special dance is our annual **Spring Fling** held on **May 10th** with a Plus Dance from 6:30-9:00 with **Dan Preedy** calling the dance. It again will be held at the Missouri River Manor. The second part of the Spring Fling will be held on Saturday **May 11th** with a Pot Luck and Dance at the Missouri River Manor. Dancing will start at 1:00 with A, Plus will be from 2-4 and Mainstream with a Plus tip and Pot Luck will be from 6:00-9:00. Would love to have you come join in the fun.

We would love to have you join in the fun with the Dudes N Dolls whenever possible. We are always open to having new dancers join us.



If you have any questions regarding our club and dancing, please contact David at 406-799-1715 or by email at [david.hinds@montanasquaredancing.com](mailto:david.hinds@montanasquaredancing.com).

We would love to have you join our dances or workshops anytime.

# Club Report

## Hamilton

by Dee Terrill Moenich

Quiet this month – Oh Oh.....



# Club Report

## Helena

by Cathy Kaiser

Quiet this month....see ya in September.



# Club Report

## Kalispell

by Roger Jones

Nope no change.

I did hear that Adam Christman out of WA may have a contact but I haven't got that from him...yet.

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

Still looking for contacts in Kalispell? I've exhausted mine. Maybe they have closed their doors

I am looking at removing Kalispell from our newsletter.

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

Date	Caller/Cuer	Theme
*Sunday, Oct. 14, 2018	Than Peake Priscilla Higdon	Ken's Birthday Party
October 27, 2018	Rick & Kathy Utter	Halloween
November 24 2018	Kathy Utter 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 Montana

The Prairie Stars are approaching the end of another good dancing season. We did not have beginner lessons this year. Our existing dancers have been very dedicated with two squares at most of the dances (two squares is good in our area). In spite of their dedication, we have had a fair amount of medical issues with two or three surgeries that sidelined some of our dancers for a few weeks. Hopefully they are on the mend.

Our summer schedule looks like this. We will dance May 2 and June 6, both Thursdays, at the Senior Citizens Drop In Center in Miles City. This is a mainstream program from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. On August 6, a Tuesday, we have the pleasure of hosting Jerry Junck. He and Lynn will call together in Forsyth at the Senior Citizens Center. The evening will start with ice cream at 6:30 p.m. with a mainstream dance starting at 7:00. If you are in the area, or can come to our area, please join us at these dances.

That will finish up the summer dancing. We will fire up again with a new season sometime around mid-September. We hope everyone has a great summer and takes advantage of the square dancing opportunities around the state, and in other states, during the summer months. If you are in our area or wish to have information about dancing in our area, please contact us.



Lynn and Judy Strobel

Prairie Stars

406-234-7384 406-951-1088

[strobell@midrivers.com](mailto:strobell@midrivers.com)

<http://lynnstrobel.tripod.com>

# Club Report

## Lolo

by Debby Ernst



### **SOLO STARS in LOLO** MAY 2019

Hi, Dancing Friends! We know April showers brings May flowers...so what does May SNOW bring?? Hmm...  
**Mark your Calendars for a Fun & Busy MAY!**

**EACH MON – SOLO STARS MAINSTREAM DANCE**, \*7:00-9:00pm\* (new time)

**EACH TUES – Lolo Rounds ROUND DANCE LESSONS**

6:30-7:30pm Basics

7:30-8:30pm Dance

8:30pm Phase 3-4+ Workshop

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

**EACH FRI** – Friday Swingola Plus dances are done for the season.

**MAY 6, MON – AMATEUR CALLER NIGHT!** Come join us for this fun night!

MAINSTREAM DANCE 7:00-9:00pm



**MAY 11, SAT – MISSOULA FEDERATION DANCE** in Hamilton

Featuring The Good Ol' Boys! (Barry, Ray, Eddie)

Potluck 6:00pm

Pre-rounds at 7:00pm

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

**MAY 24-27 – MONTANA ST SQUARE & ROUND DANCE FESTIVAL!!** (in Missoula)

Caller: Scot Byars, CA; Cuer: Barry & Bobbie Bartlette, MT

Pick up your flyer for the full schedule, or visit Lolo Dance Center website

**JUNE 7 & 8, FRI-SAT – SOLO STARS ANNUAL MOUNTAIN MIXER at LOLO!**

Caller: Lynn Strobel; Cuer: Gene Krueger

FRI – Pre-rounds 7:00-7:30pm

FRI – MAINSTREAM & Rounds Dance 7:30-9:30pm; \$7.00

SAT – Round Workshop 10:00am-12:00pm; \$6.00

SAT – Lunch 12:00-1:30pm; \$6.00

SAT – PLUS DANCE 1:30-3:30pm; \$6.00

SAT – POTLUCK DINNER 5:30-6:30pm

SAT – MAINSTREAM DANCE (with Plus tip) 7:30-9:30pm

SAT – Dinner & Dance \$12.00; Dance only \$7.00

**TOTAL PACKAGE \$30.00 EACH**

\*~\*

Welcome Back Bobbie!

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

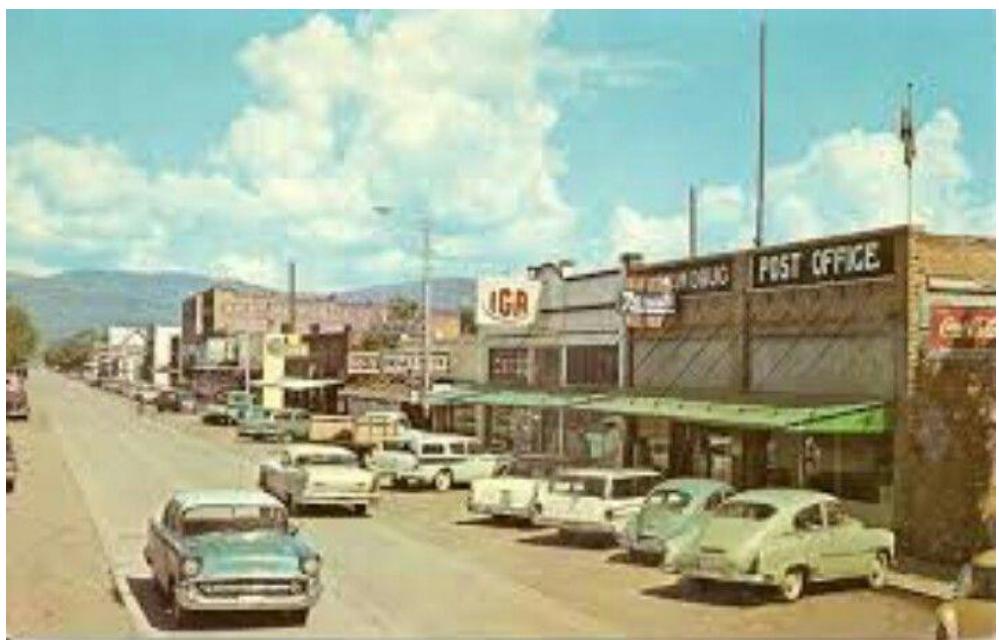
## Plains

by Darlene Jolly

The “**MONTANA MAVERICKS**” April dance enjoyed 2 squares with Gary Baker calling & Lorrie Lane cueing for a fun dance. We had 4 guests among those – 2 from Kalispell & 2 from Lolo area. Thank you folks for your attendance. We enjoy all of our callers – most come from Spokane these days as they are in short supply here in the area. We appreciate their dedication to the activity.

The “**MONTANA MAVERICKS**” May dance enjoyed 12 dancers for Ed Evans calling for a fun dance. We had 2 guests among those from Kalispell. Thank you folks for your attendance. We appreciate your support. Ed & wife Su came from Port Orchard, WA to call for us. There was lots of laughter & a fun time was had by everybody in attendance. Since we did not have a cuer, Ed brought a few recorded rounds & did a line dance. We appreciate his long drive & his dedication to the activity. He did a workshop for us on Friday night also.

Lorrie was unable to attend as she had ankle surgery on April 30<sup>th</sup>. Hopefully when that heals enuf she can get at least the worst knee done.



The Mavericks have some news to share with you all – In September (14<sup>th</sup>) of 2019 we will be moving from the First Security Bank to the Sr. Center in Plains. It features a covered wood floor (more details on that next time) & only 2 steps (or a ramp) into the building. We will bid a fond farewell to the First Security Bank who has been very good to us for 15 ½ years – but they need to make “our” room secure now.

The floor is a wood laminate over a wood floor. We will think we've died & gone to heaven - & no steps. Whoopee!! So since we will now be paying rent, we'll also have to raise our dance fee. We'll be a whopping \$6.00 starting in September. It is located behind the VFW which is readily visible from the main street

October thru May we dance the first Saturday in Plains. 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday June, & September & 2<sup>nd</sup> weekend of August.

Any questions call Darlene at 826-8951.