

NSDCA



TIMES

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THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE
NATIONAL SQUARE DANCE CAMPERS ASSOCIATION, INC.
NSDCA, INC., P.O. Box 241, Butler, WI 53007-9998

Ridin' High & Headin' West



Coushatta
Recreation
Ranch
68 NSDCA
International
Texas

Square Dance Camporee



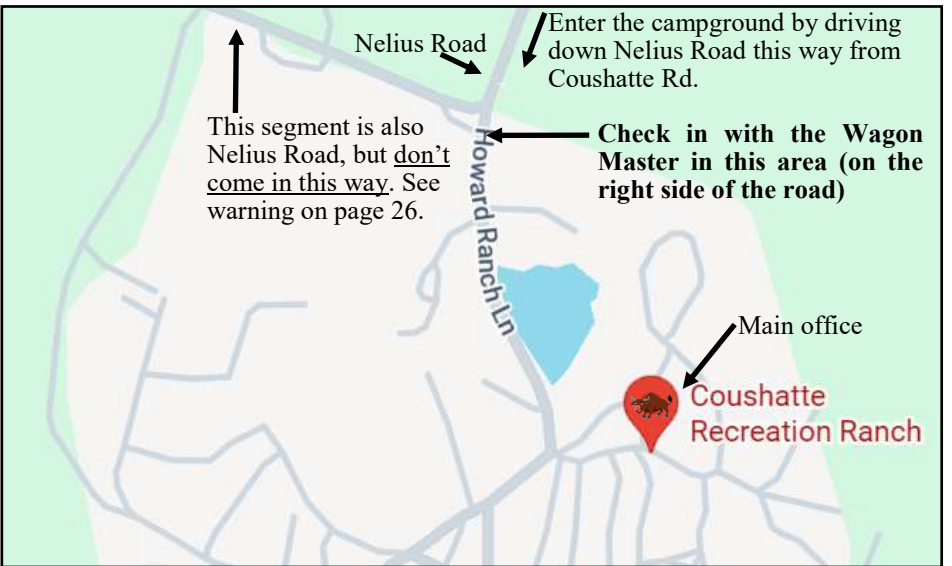
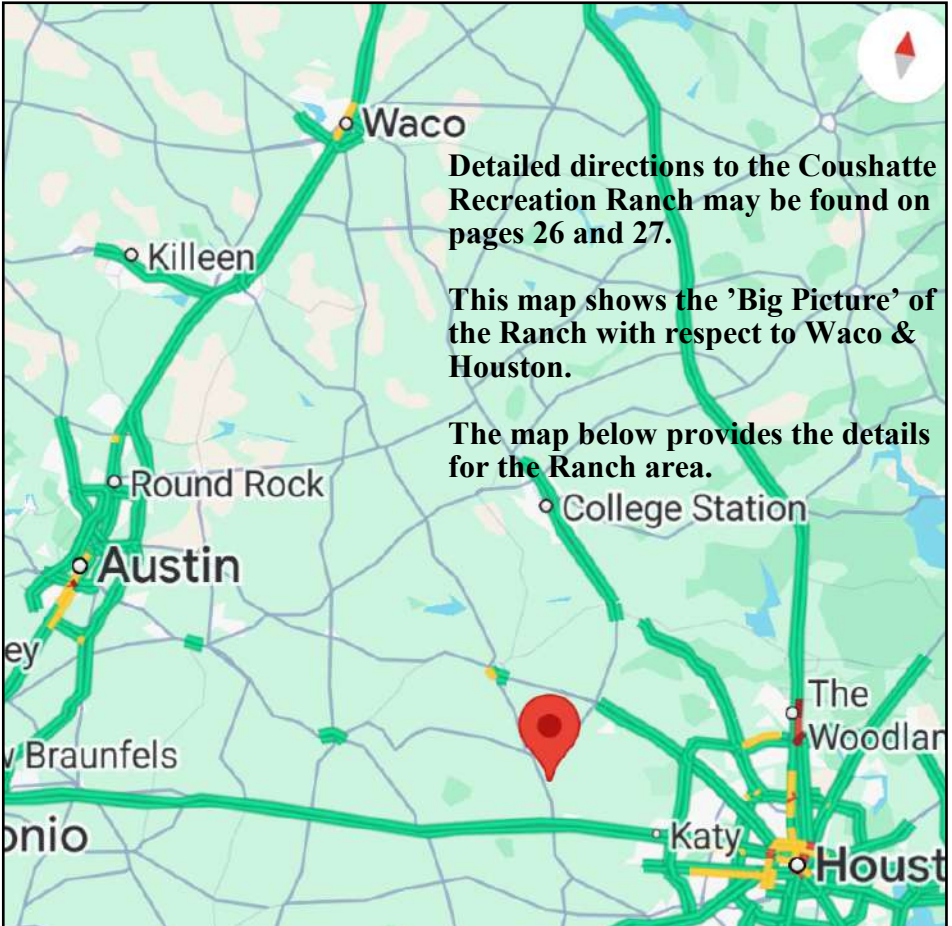


Table of Contents

| Columns | Page |
|--|-------------|
| Forethoughts: Notes from Your Editor | 4 |
| Letters From the Board & Staff | 5 |
| State & Area Representatives' Reports | 10 |
| Chats Around the Campfire | 12 |
| Search for the Missing Bull | 30 |
| Let's Get Cooking! | 33 |
| Helpful Hints: Your RV's (gas) generator | 34 |
| Chapter Campout Schedule | 38 |
| On the Lighter Side | 48 |
| Afterthoughts | 53 |
| 2026 NSDC Related | |
| 75 th NSDC 250 th USA Birthday Celebration | 36 |
| 2026 NSDCA International Camporee Related | |
| 68 th Camporee roadmap/directions | 2, 26, 27 |
| Wanted: Help with Camporee skits | 9 |
| Notes from the NSDCA Camporee Team | 24 |
| Revised Tentative 68 th Camporee Schedule | 25 |
| Directions to the Camporee | 26 |
| 68 th Camporee Registration Form | centerfold |
| 68 th Camporee Informational Flyers | 37, 55 |
| The Texas Challenge | 53 |
| New Member/1 st Time Attendee Discount | 55 |
| Miscellaneous NSDCA Information | |
| Board of Directors Candidates needed | 7 |
| Prior Camporee/Chapter badge bars available | 23 |
| <i>TIMES</i> Editor position soon to be available | 45 |
| <i>TIMES</i> Ad Information, Rates & Deadlines | 46 |
| NSDCA Officers & Staff Contact Information | 47 |
| NSDCA Area & State Reps Contact Information | 48 |
| Illinois State 2026 Square Dance Camporee | 49 |
| Chapter Representatives Listing | 50 |
| NSDCA Blanket Liability Insurance | 52 |
| NSDCA Chapter Listing | 54 |
| Use of the NSDCA Logo | 54 |



FORETHOUGHTS



As I write this column the last day of April, we – like much of the continental United States – are experiencing severe drought conditions, and because of that we are on a water use schedule (for gardening, car cleaning, etc.) and an outdoor fire ban. In my last column I was wishing for a hard cold snap, and boy, was I rewarded with record-low temperatures in late January and early February (as noted last issue)! I was hoping that was an indication (as it has been historically) we would have more moderate weather in the Spring and Summer, but of course Mother Nature is going to have her way regardless of what we desire, and our temperatures have been lately hovering in the upper 80s to low 90s, and (theoretically) it is still Spring.

Some of you may have noted that our wayward bovine in the printed copy of the Spring newsletter seems to have miraculously relocated when viewed in the online version. Don't ask me how that happened. Maybe our bull thinks it is a quantum-entangled particle. Regardless, both locations are accepted for being the correct location.

There has been a 'changing of the guard' for several Chapters, not only in leadership but in those that report the on-goings of that Chapter. If those newly-installed 'Chapter Chat' reporters would send me a photo I could use at the top of their column when they make their first submission, that would be greatly appreciated. Also, those that are responsible for reporting the Chapter's campouts should use the NSDCA website's automated routine (<https://nsdca.org/campoutListingForm.php>) developed by our webmaster, Bob Summers. You can certainly send me a copy of your planned events, but if you want them included in the *TIMES* or on the NSDCA website, please use the website routine. Thank you.

This issue contains new information on the upcoming NSDCA 68th International Camporee, Chapter occurrences over the past few months, and other interesting tidbits.

As sure as June precedes July, once again nefarious actors are attempting to impersonate NSDCA officers and staff. Please recognize that you will never receive an email from one of the officers or staff requesting you to send gift cards or money to another organization, or money (in any form) directly to a person. Solicitations like this are fraudulent. Check the email from which it was sent and compare it to the email addresses listed later in this issue. Look carefully, and if it's different, the email is definitely a fake. If there's any doubt about who sent the solicitation email, send a separate email using one of the officers' addresses in this issue. **DO NOT** click on the 'return to sender' button in your email client as that may not send your email to the correct person you think sent the email.

Thank you.



John & Dolly Ide



I'm not a baseball fan, but I know the quip that New York Yankees' catcher Yogi Berra made famous, "When you come to a fork in the road, take it." I could consider our journey as Presidents of the NSDCA coming to an end because our eight years in that office are ending in Texas at this year's Camporee, but I prefer to consider it a fork in the road instead. We're not going away, just changing our involvement with the NSDCA; we're looking forward to more years of dancing at the club, state, and national levels. Reflecting over our past involvement with the NSDCA, we joined NSDCA chapter 093, the Florida Driftarounds, in 2001; we went to our first Florida State Camporee in 2002, and our first NSDCA International Camporee in 2009. I can't number the many lifelong friends we've made through the NSDCA in those 25 years, and the wonderful times we've had at all those events and the various parts country we've seen. How about you?

We've seen so many of you give up on the NSDCA, and even stop not only camping but also square dancing. For some, it becomes necessary, but for many it's an option. How about you? Are you facing the same decisions? If so, I'm asking you to do a review of the Camporees and festivals you've attended and consider the blessings and value that the NSDCA has brought to your life. I know that most of your experiences have been positive, and even when once in a rare while you run into a problem, I would guess that one or more other NSDCA members helped you out of a tight spot. Consider the close friends that you have made since you joined the NSDCA. I bet many, if not most of them are square dance campers. Now, how about this summer?

Are you signed up to attend the 2026 International Camporee at the Coushatta Recreation Ranch in Bellville, Texas? If not, there's still time to register. George Ferguson and Sandy McIntire from Ohio, this year's Camporee Chairs, with their co-chairs, Nikki & Joey Barrett from Texas, have prepared another great Camporee for your enjoyment. There's a catch however: you have to be there. If you're already signed up and coming, that's great and we will see you there. If not, take another hard look at what you'll be missing out on. The dancing, socializing with your friends and the friendships, afterparties, campfires (s'mores), crafts, local attractions, scenic America on the way there and back, one-on-one

(‘President’ continued on page 6)



Roy Huddleston & Priscilla Newton



Hello from Priscilla and me. We hope everybody is getting ready for the Camporee this year. We are trying to recruit new members to the NSDCA, our wonderful camping and dancing organization. We're actively helping other clubs in the Alabama/Georgia area recruit new members and show them how much fun square dancing is when it's combined with camping, like our Alabama Campers and Dancers campouts, and the International Camporee in Texas in June. We hope that everybody brings their dancing shoes for the Camporee.

We're challenging all club members of all NSDCA Chapters to recruit one new member couple for the NSDCA. We are on a recruiting campaign to bring back all the enjoyment and camaraderie that camping and dancing gave us in the past. You, all our current members, are the only ones that can keep the outdoor enjoyment going on in the next generations.

Please contact Priscilla or me if we can help you in any way to get this done, and please let's celebrate a huge 250th Anniversary of the United States and look forward to many more; God Bless America and our square dancers.

See you at the Camporee. Hoping that everybody has fun and a safe trip.

Happy Trails from *Priscilla and Roy*, 205-761-3701

(‘President’ continued from page 5)

time with your husband, wife, or dance partner, and much more.

Now considering all the blessings, fun and joy you'll receive, you might consider what you can give to your square-dance friends. The NSDCA is looking for a new Board member, a new editor for the *TIMES*, and several other key positions. If you see a skill and aptitude fit for yourself or someone you know to any of the possibilities, please let a Board member know.

We will also be announcing the 2027 International NSDCA Camporee in June with registration sales and ribbons. We're going back to a favorite location for many of you, so come join us in Texas while the fun continues.

Dolly and John



Tricia & Neal Chartier



Neal & I are getting excited about camping season! In fact, Neal is getting ready to pull our motorhome out of storage and de-winterize it so we'll be ready to head down to Texas for the Camporee!!!

After the year we've had so far, we can't even begin to tell you how excited we are for this year's Camporee. We LOVE Texas! Last year, I met Nikki & Joey Barrett at the Camporee in Shreveport, LA, and they are now co-chairing this year's event. I had a work trip to Dallas this past February, and I went early and stayed a little longer so I could visit with them, spend time at their home, and soak up the local flavor. I even picked up some new cowboy boots and hats!

If you're still on the fence about joining us, get off that fence and send in your reservations! It's not just about the dancing—it's about meeting new friends and enjoying life to the fullest.

After walking out of a house fire, I'm incredibly thankful to still be here, and I don't want to miss out on any of the fun life has to offer. This is a very emotional year for Neal & me. Our two words for the year are: change & gratitude.

Tricia & Neal Chartier



A little birdie told me

YOUR HELP IS NEEDED

**We need to fill the opening
on the NSDCA BOD.**

**Please consider serving on
the Board or volunteering for
other opportunities.**





Susan & Don Wolford



The snowbird season is quickly winding down here in Florida. We have a mainstream class that is continuing into May but most clubs finished their season the end of March. Quite a few of our friends have already gone back to their northern homes. We are staying in Florida till close to the end of May as I'm cueing at The Villages on May 24th. We will leave Florida and head to Alabama to drop off our Brinkley fifth wheel RV and then hit the road for Ft. Morgan, Alabama for a stay at the Alabama beach.

It was a great time to be had at the Florida State Convention this past January. It was wonderful to meet up with so many friends we had not seen in some time. The dance was held at *The Center at Deltona* in Deltona, FL. The 2027 Florida State Convention will be at this same location; however, due to booking conflicts, the date has changed to February 25th thru the 27th.

Prior to this past December, we had been members of Strawberry Travelers #153 in Florida. Unfortunately, at our December campout the decision was made to fold Chapter #153. It was a sad campout. Fortunately, some Strawberry Traveler members have decided to join another Chapter in Florida or they became a member-at-large. Don & I, along with a few others, have decided to join The Florida RoadRunners #193.

I hope you have sent in your registration for the *Ridin' High – Head-in' West* International Camporee being held in Bellville, Texas. As I am writing this at the end of April, we have 30 rigs registered. Bellville, Texas is about 150 miles from Waco, Texas, where the National Square Dance Convention is being held. No worries! You will have plenty of time to meander up through Texas to Waco long before the start of the NSDC.

Our Chairs for the NSDCA Camporee, Sandy McIntire & George Ferguson along with Co-Chairs Nikki & Joey Barrett, are working hard to put on the best ever Camporee. They need you there to help accomplish this. There's something for everyone: squares, advanced, rounds, lines, games, crafts and, most of all, fellowship!

Hope to see you in June in Bellville.

Don & Susan



Kathy Nickel

Membership Secretary



Hi everyone! I am excited as summer is almost here, which to us in Wisconsin means camping season again. We are busy getting our camper out of storage and camping sites are booked to go. We have such a short camping season that we have to schedule our weekends early. We are currently planning our trip to Bellville, TX for the NSDCA Camporee in June. I am looking forward to seeing everyone at the Camporee. It is nice to be able to put a face to a name. Don't forget to register soon so planning can be done. You will find registration forms on the website <https://www.nsdca.org> and in the centerfold of this newsletter. Camporees are always such fun times, and it is so nice to see campers that we haven't seen for a while. Remember it takes a lot of time and effort to put on a Camporee, so let's show our appreciation for all the work the Camporee committee does and have a great attendance this year.

Thank You for getting your renewals in, it is much appreciated. If you need a new Membership listing for your Chapter, just let me know. Also please let me know if you are moving or will have winter addresses and the dates you will be there so I can update my records and you continue to get your *TIMES* newsletter.

Happy Camping, and Dancing!
See you in Bellville! Safe Travels!

Kathy Nickel, Membership Secretary



Carolyn Dees, Linda Michel and Mike Gormley



← 2025 →



Tricia & Neal Chartier and Debbie & Wayne Miller

Don't we all LOVE those SKITS ?

If you got one, want to help or be a part of a short funny SKIT. Contact: Mike Gormley (419) 376-0557

State & Area Representatives' Reports

Illinois State Representative

Illinois camper dancers have returned from their winter snowbird adventures or ended their winter-at-home hibernation and are in the full swing of camping season, as well as looking forward to a summer of enjoyment including some Square Dancing. Are you ready to join in?

At the most recent Illinois State Board of Directors meeting, a member of the June 5 - 7, 2026 State Camporee gave an up-to-date report on the plans for the upcoming event. The registration Chairman said be sure to indicate your intention to purchase the Friday evening dinner so the cooks will be sure to have enough food. By the way, that dinner will be pulled pork and trimmings. There will also be a potluck on Saturday night and a Sunday breakfast (for a donation).

The camporee will be at the Marshall-Putnam Fairgrounds, 915 Henry University Ave., Henry, IL and hosted by NSDCA Chapter #123 and associate chapters members from #075 and #066. Besides the meals listed, games and crafts are planned. The annual meeting will be held where there will be some By-Law changes presented, and some new Board members elected. Details in the next issue of the *TIMES*.

Next year's Illinois State camporee will be June 1 - 3, 2027 at the Park County 4H Park (campground), Rockville, IN, hosted by NSDCA Chapter #196.

The Illinois Square Dance association State Council announced the dates and location of the 2026 and 40th Illinois State Square, Round, & Line Dance Convention with Jack Pladdys of Ohio being the featured caller. The Trail-In Dance will be July 23, 2026 at the Holiday Inn Rock Island, 226 17th Street, Rock Island, IL. On Friday afternoon there will be River Boat Cruise (sight seeing cruise, lunch, and dancing). Check the website (www.ilsdc.dance) for complete details, or register for the week-end of dancing at IL-Square-Dance-Convention-2026.site.

Ruthann Sanders; RSRN4@aol.com



Florida State Representative

Greetings from sunny Florida! Although the weather has rewarded us with beautiful Spring temperatures, Florida is experiencing a drought;

(Representatives' continued on page 11)

(‘Representative’ continued from page 10)

we are praying for rain — a lot of rain. Winter and Spring are wonderful times to camp in Florida. It is fun to spend time outside when the climate is moderate. We, the Florida RoadRunners and Square Wheels, have taken full advantage of our blessings. As sorry as we were to lose our Strawberry Travelers group when they folded in December, many of them have joined the RoadRunners which has strengthened their numbers. When camping, we enjoy the workshops offered since Callerlab has switched things up, especially at the Plus level. We have really benefitted from the more intensive instruction, proving that square dance campers have a leg up on our non-camping square dance friends that may not have this privilege. Another distinct advantage we have in Florida is that John and Dolly Ide, our fearless National NSDCA leaders, are readily available to help us.

One thing that the Florida Association had to do recently was to revise our By-Laws due to the loss of the Strawberry Travelers chapter. In this process it was discovered that we had spelled ‘camporee’ three different ways in the same document! We will vote on the proposed changes at our annual Florida State Camporee in October.

After our May campouts the Florida Chapters will have a summer break, skipping June and July because of the heat. After attending the International Camporee in Texas, the Florida State Camporee is our biggest upcoming event, occurring October 22 - 24. It is our GOLDEN JUBILEE, celebrating 50 years of camping and dancing together at the state level. The location is Southern Oaks RV Resort at 1 Avocado Lane in Eustis, FL. Their phone number is 352-357-8882. There will be three days of round and square dancing, including workshops, crafts and games, an Italian dinner on Friday, afterparties, etc. The very reasonable price is \$50 for FANSDC members and \$70 for non-members through October first. The camping rate is \$40 per night. We are extending a special invitation to our Senior dancers, former campers and non-campers, after all this is a Golden Anniversary. I sure would enjoy seeing the Robeys among many others. For further information you can contact Marilyn Scott, Pat Herscha (904-673-2896), or Laura Ramsey (904-463-7004). For non-campers, check out the Eustis area motels. Eustis is a very cute town with nice shopping. The “Golden Girls” have plenty of entertainment to share. Thank you!

Laura Ramsey; ramseydp@comcast.net; 904-463-7004





002 Pine Tree; Wisconsin

We're getting excited for another summer of camping here in Wisconsin! If you're in the area, come join us—we usually camp within about an hour of the Milwaukee area.

We're looking forward to potlucks, relaxing around the campfire, and making great memories with friends. We also try to camp near wherever a square dance is happening so we can get some dancing in too!



Hope to see some familiar (and new!) faces this summer! 🏕️ 🔥 🪺

Tricia Chartier; TriciaMooLady@gmail.com; 414-807-4083

014 Blackhawk Crosstrailers; Illinois

We had our first meeting of 2026 on April 29 at the Piz-za Ranch in Roscoe, IL. It was wonderful to have 14 “regulars” and 5 “newbies” in attendance as we planned our new camping season! See the “Campouts” section of this newsletter or look at the NSDCA website for details.



We are looking forward to seeing everyone around the squares AND the campfires!!

Martha Schapals; wmpabilywm@gmail.com

031 Badger Rovers; Wisconsin

Badger Rovers, Chapter #031, met for our Winter meeting and Social get-together at our (Tom & Kathy Nickel's) home. Fourteen Badger Rover members joined us for a potluck dinner/meeting. February is definitely not camping weather – just a typical winter evening in Wisconsin with Snow and Ice – but our members still trudged their way through. Some of our members winter in Texas, so they were enjoying the sun while the rest of us were ‘just a little’ cold. Even with the harsh weather, the evening was a success as we enjoyed the great food everyone brought. We had a wonderful time talking about new campers, setting themes and re-



lated food menus for our campouts, e.g., ‘Take Me Out to the Ball Game,’ ‘Red, White, & Blue’ (for the USA 250th year celebration), and ‘Camper Bowl’. We also started planning a Raffle Basket for our State Convention; members donate camping related items for the basket and then one of the members puts it all together. It has been one of the more popular baskets at the conventions. We also talked about where the campouts were going to be and who was going to be the Corn Hole winner this year. Corn Hole is quite the competition at the campouts, and it is always a question of who is going to beat Sharon. We also have a lot of fun pointing out who is leaving the campfire early by singing our ‘Party Pooper’ song to them. The first ones to retire on Saturday night even get a prize, a ‘Party Pooper’ dangle. We have decided that almost everyone has earned the dangle! To get into the camping spirit, we sang the ‘Party Pooper’ song to the members as they left the meeting that night. It has become quite a tradition but a fun time.

Please see our schedule for 2026 at the NSDCA website and in the back of this issue.

Kathy Nickel; kathynickelnsdca@gmail.com

044 Illiana Square Wheelers; Illinois/Indiana

Sad to say our membership is down to one - ME - and I’m about to give up too. Some 044 former members still get together for dinner and an afternoon of games but that’s about it - just a little socialization a few times a year. Most all of our members have passed on or are beyond the camping/dancing age, and their kids who were raised in NSDCA have other interests. However, we do have at least one of those youngsters who until recently made a career of square dance calling.



Some of you may remember Caller Chuck Witt. Chuck is the son of a formerly very active (now deceased) 044 member, Alice Witt. When we joined 044, Chuck was five years old; as a young adult he became a caller and was quite good. Unfortunately, health issues forced Chuck into early retirement and now those health issues limit his mobility nearly completely. I am sure he would enjoy a word of encouragement from any of you who remember him. Sorry, without his permission I cannot publish his address here, but if you want to send him greetings through me I will gladly forward them to him. Either send to me via email (see below) or US mail to Chuck Witt C/O Ruthann Sanders, PO Box 681, Beecher, IL 60401-0681.

Ruthann Sanders; RSRN4@aol.com

106 Square Up Campers; Pennsylvania

Square Up Campers will soon begin their 2026 camping season with a weekend in Quarryville, Pennsylvania at White Oaks Campground. Although it will be the beginning of May with the early spring flowers a bloom, the cool early air combined with some watery sprinkles from





Chats

(‘Chats’ continued from page 13)

the sky, the group may be bundled up in their warm coats! Do we square dancers care about the chilly winds and drizzly sky? Absolutely not! We just want to gather into our comfy positions as heads or sides and start shuffling our feet to the beat of the music. We may be a little out of step, but who cares? We are back camping and dancing and most of all being with our friends! Please join the Square Up Campers some weekend!

Kathy Engel; kathye@kuhncom.net

116 Camping Squares; Kansas

We’ve had a good winter with all our monthly get-togethers at various Wichita restaurants. In March, some members visited an 80th Anniversary dance for our local Circle 8 club. Then in April we had our Wichita Spring Square Dance Festival; it is always a good time.



Now we are looking forward to May 1st when we will host our May Day Full Moon Dance with callers Mike Huddleson & Sheldon Lawrence, which also includes a sandwich supper. It should be a fun time. In mid-May we will have a campout and gathering with no dance at El Dorado State Lake, El Dorado, KS, camping below the dam.

June always brings all the conventions starting June 5th with the Kansas State Square Dance Convention held at West Heights UMC Family Center, 745 N. Westlink Ave., Wichita, KS with camping at Air Capital Camping, 609 E. 47th St., Wichita, KS. This is of course followed by the NSDCA International Camporee and National Square Dance Convention.

In July we are camping at Cheney Reservoir, Cheney, KS in the Smarschcreek area. We have various activities planned but no dance available. Our August and activities are at Kanopolis Lake, Kanopolis, KS camping in the Vanango Park area/Corp of Engineers campground. Details are in the “Campouts” section of this newsletter and online at the NSDCA website.

Anyone in the area is always welcome to join us! Be sure to check and be sure we haven’t cancelled the event! For more information, contact Marty & Frank Golden at fmgolden9515@sbcglobal.net or 316-943-4137.

Cheryl Ferris; marshfur@att.net; 316-640-4273

119 Wander Yonders; Wyoming

Our club has not blown away, but Mother Nature continues to give it her best shot. We are also in a severe drought with little moisture forecasted in the future, however, that has not prevented the club from dancing. On the afternoon of April 11, we gathered at the historical Woods Landing Dance Hall (307-745-9638) that is on the National Register of

Historic Places. The dance hall was built in 1927 but had previously been the Woods Landing Saloon. The dance floor is unique as it floats on 24 box car springs to optimize it for square dancing.

Our next dance is scheduled for the Memorial Day Weekend at the Quadra Dangle Club (3905 E Grays Gable Road, Laramie, WY.) The callers will be Dave Guille and Lynn Strobel, with Cuer Steve Kline. There are camping sites with electricity that you can reserve by calling Laurie Hill at 307-751-8419 at a cost of \$25/day while attending the event.

Our Chapter contacts are Leo & Diana Fergel; they may be reached at 307-635-7312.

Dorothy Ailes, Historian; Dlailes@yahoo.com

123 Swing ‘n’ Traveler’s; Illinois

Hello from this roving reporter. It is time again to think about summertime camping for the Swing ‘n’ Travelers. First of all, the weather was interesting as Yuma, Arizona broke records for the highest temperature this past winter, while Lake Placid, Florida found themselves breaking the low temperatures and Texas, along with Illinois, enjoyed seeing different storms and crazy weather for their state.



Enough about the weather, as we are now in the (sometimes) warmer temperatures. As I give my report, most of the traveling group is back home safe and ready to camp and dance the night away. Our first chance together was a potluck at Bill & Kathy Baker’s house, where 21 enjoyed some delicious chicken and pulled pork along with what each brought to share with everyone. After a camp meeting, many checked out Bill & Kathy’s new home and the backyard. Of course, some stayed to play a game of 7s before they all decided to head back to their respective homes.

From what I understand, our next campout is Memorial weekend, where we are promised to be able to reserve the Marshall-Putnam Fairgrounds for several years ahead of schedule. This always seem to be the club’s favorite spot, and there is usually a good turnout. This will also be where the State Camporee will be held on June 5th to the 7th. If you get this newsletter before that date, they will welcome you to come as there is always plenty of room. There will be fun time there with a nice busy schedule.

Well, this roving reporter is going off the air now, so have a great time dancing and see you again soon.

Chet & Janet Bowman; cabjcb2@gmail.com

128 Square Wheels; Florida

Our wonderful February Square Wheels campout was held at (new to us) Breezy Oaks in Bushnell, Florida. We had a total of 15 rigs arrive on

(‘Chats’ continued on page 16)



Chats



(‘Chats’ continued from page 15)

Friday afternoon. We started off Friday night by ordering pizza from the snack shack by the office. Unfortunately, we overwhelmed the poor pizza guy with our orders; he wasn’t prepared to have the pizza and sandwiches ready for the 5 p.m. pick-up. Some of us got our orders on time, while others received theirs after everyone was done eating. I doubt that we will do that again! It’ll be back to our usual Friday night dinner with a box lunch.

Susan started the dance off with rounds at 7 p.m. and Bill followed with squares at 7:30. We had two to three squares most of the evening. Susan had many round dancers that could easily maneuver around the structural posts in the hall. Even so, it was a challenge at times; I think she called us pole dancers!

After the dance we all gathered at Ron’s campsite for a non-campfire; we were not allowed to have a campfire due to drought conditions. Even without the campfire we still enjoyed the company of our friends.

Many showed up for the campground-provided Saturday morning breakfast and said it was good. Donna led the games on Saturday but had only four showing up. I guess everyone enjoyed the good weather on Saturday to do whatever pleased him or her; some were sitting around and visiting with friends while others rode their bike. We went to the famous Coney Island Hot Dog stand in Bushnell with Susan & Mark.

Susan started the workshop on Saturday afternoon with a review of Strolling Vine. I believe she had at least eight round dancers doing their best to please. Bill had two squares for the workshop reviewing the new calls that Callerlab moved to the Plus level from the advanced level program.

For dinner we had hamburgers and macaroni salad provided by the campground for \$5 a person. It was well attended and was very good.

Saturday night’s dance started with rounds by Susan; Bill once again handled the squares. We had a good turnout, and visitors from New Circle Squares; I do believe they had a good time as they weren’t sitting much of the time. After the dance we met at Ron’s campsite, but once again there was no campfire.

Our March campout in Silver Springs was a busy weekend, beginning with the early arrivals who went to the nearby town of Anthony to dance with caller Rod Barngrover. It was fun and many ladies took advantage of the most excellent square dance clothes closet.

On Friday evening we had a guest from High Springs. We had two squares and a nice group of round dancers.

On Saturday most of us went to the Top of the World (an enormous retirement community, something like The Villages) to participate in a fundraiser dance for the 2028 NSDC dance (which will be held in Daytona Beach, FL); there were over 100 dancers in attendance. We got to see some former Chapter members (who no longer camp) at the dance. The callers were Nick Hartley and Dave Viera, with Earl Collins as the cuer. Lots of laughter ensued when nine flamingos joined in the festivities; how they managed to dance in a fast square, costumes and all, with one of the flamingos acting as an obstacle in the middle of the square, is beyond me.

Saturday night saw us enjoy two and three squares on the floor and many round dance couples. Susan cued “I could have danced all night” from “My Fair Lady.” Bill made us laugh when he commented that it could have been “I should have danced all night,” which made me think of prom night.

Our April campout was held at Stephen Foster Folk Culture State Park in White Springs, FL. There was an awesome turnout of 36 rigs. The park has large campsites, most well-shaded by old, large trees. And despite the drought, we were allowed to have our fire pit campfires each night (thanks to Ron, Bill, and I’m not sure who else deserves credit) held at Ron’s campsite.

Our caller, Bill Chesnut and cuer Susan Snider, led us through workshops on Saturday afternoon, Bill emphasizing the new calls that have been incorporated by Callerlab this year. Susan stated there were no major changes for round dancers.

We held our usual pot luck dinner on Saturday afternoon, and it was a big hit, as always.

Saturday evening, Bill and Susan were joined by Mark Fetzer, Bill Cassidy, and our Chapter’s former cuer, Ann Hadsall and her daughter, Brenda, who is also a cuer; we danced our hearts out!

A BIG REMINDER: It is time to make your reservations for October’s Florida State Camporee; it will be our Golden Anniversary. We have three nights of dancing, a catered Italian dinner, games, trivia, workshops, photo booth opportunities, and more to offer.

Marilyn Scott, filling in for our vacationing Chapter secretary and Laura Ramsey, Secretary; lauraramseyslp@gmail.com

152 Campers & Dancers; Alabama

We are in the midst of high camping season here in Alabama, with two Alabama campouts and one Georgia campout already completed this year and additional camping and dancing events scheduled every month all the way through November, 2026. All our monthly club camping events for 2026 are listed in this issue of the NSDCA *TIMES* and on the





Chats

(‘Chats’ continued from page 17)

NSDCA website. And we love having visitors!

Our February outing was held at Little Mountain Marina on the shore of Lake Guntersville, Alabama; social activities (in addition to dancing) included eagle watching, pontoon boat rides, and of course, eating at some of the area’s best restaurants. Thanks to Kevin Cozad, one of our club members, for being our caller.

In March we traveled to Roaring Pines Campground in Somerville, Alabama where we meet twice yearly (March and November) in a private setting – with the campground all to ourselves. As is our usual custom while in this area, we enjoyed visiting and dancing with the 8’ers from Decatur on Friday evening. On Saturday evening, we held our club dance with Skip Cleland calling.

The month of April is a beautiful time of year in the southeastern U.S. We had spectacular weather while camping at Coosa River Campground at Lock and Dam Park in Rome, GA. We were busy all weekend sight-seeing, dining, dancing, and saluting our veterans in a special ceremony. We toured the Chieftains Museum and home of Major Ridge, one of the prominent Cherokee traders in the early 1800s. In addition to our club dance with caller Skip Cleland, we visited and danced with the Cherokee Promenaders in Calhoun, GA and the Western Promenaders in Rome. We also appreciated the opportunity to use the Western Promenaders’ square dance barn for our luncheon and tribute to veterans as well as our club dance. That was a lot of dancing packed into one weekend! This was our first time camping and dancing in this area, and we are looking forward to returning in the future.

By the time this issue of NSDCA *TIMES* is published, we will have held our 40th Anniversary Dance and Campout at Oak Mountain State in Pelham, AL. Some of our club members will be attending the International Camporee in Texas, June 17th to the 19th; we plan to have a table at the Camporee with printed materials and information about our Chapter, Campers and Dancers #152, to inform potential new members about our club. Those who will be in Bellville, TX at the Camporee are invited to stop by and take a look.

For those stalwart souls who feel the need for more convention dancing this summer after our NSDCA International Camporee and the NSDC in Waco, consider joining some of our members of Campers and Dancers #152 at the Tennessee State Square Dance Convention in Gatlinburg on August 6-8 and for our August campout, held in conjunction with the Alabama State Square Dance Convention in Oxford, AL on Au-

gust 27-29. See the listing in this issue of NSDCA *TIMES* for details of our August campout. Anyone who is interested in learning more about Campers and Dancers, visiting one of our campouts or joining our local Chapter #152, should contact Ken Waites by telephone at 205-601-2485 or email at waiteskb@yahoo.com.

Ken Waites; waiteskb@yahoo.com; 205-601-2485

C-175 Riverside Gypsy Squares; Ontario, Canada

The Riverside Gypsy Squares are happy to report we had a very successful Mid-Winter Dance on February 22; we had three squares dancing to basic, mainstream and plus tips. As part of our planning, we invited several of new callers to call for us, and as a result we had four guest callers and our two in-house callers for the afternoon. It was a great day!

We are looking forward to our summer of dancing with campouts planned for May through September. We have callers lined up for all five months and I am sure each of the monthly committees will have all kinds of interesting activities planned to entertain us on the weekends.

We are looking forward to seeing our friends from the last few years and catching up on their news from over the winter, and meeting new members who might be joining us to camp and dance this summer.

Helen MacCallum; hmaccallum49@gmail.com; 613-330-4873

193 Florida RoadRunner Squares; Florida

Hello there, Friends!

It's getting exciting right about now; we are down to the last few days to get our 'chats' into the *TIMES*. I have submitted all our fall campouts to the NSDCA website and it's only a few weeks till we will be seeing you all (I hope 😊) in Texas for the 68th International Camporee. Texas has to be the most authentic place to have a western square dance Camporee. I have started my pile of things to put into the camper for the trip, and I really hope y'all are excited about going to Texas too.

February's Valentine weekend took us back to the Russell Stover Chocolate outlet. You can guess who suggested that, and it did not disappoint us. Great buys were everywhere that were very hard to resist, but who wants to resist chocolate anyway? Our Saturday dance, which was actually on Valentine's Day, was awesome. Bonnie, our craft lady, had gotten an old frame, decorated it with flowers, hearts and twinkling lights for a photo op. As you can see by the pictures on the next page, lots of us got 'framed.' We also welcomed Mike & Nancy Holzhausen (#196, IL/IN/OH). We all look forward to their visit with us every year during their annual visit to Florida.





Chats

(‘Chats’ continued from page 19)

We headed to Bowling Green, FL in March to camp at the ‘new to us’ campground in central Florida named Pioneer Creek RV Park. The people there were very excited to come out and watch the dancing and on Saturday evening we had four squares on the floor



What a great friendly group of people. Our callers, Mike and John, did several duets that not only were fun to dance to but had us all singing the music right along with them with such great tunes like “Take Me Out to Ball Game.” Our ‘super’ cuer, Susan, got most of the people there up and dancing to the lines and rounds. What a great weekend!

Moving on to April, we were back at Wekiva Falls RV Park, near Orlando. The campground staff offer a hamburger dinner on Friday and then a great breakfast on Saturday morning. (I know I heard someone in our group say that the sausage, egg, and cheese biscuit was as good as Chick-fil-A’s) I don’t know about you, but I just love someone else doing the cooking and cleaning up once and awhile. But our Chapter 193 guys have us completely spoiled, cooking us the very best breakfasts ever, and we all are looking forward to May’s campout breakfast. We will be camping

at Bonnet Lake RV Park in Avon Park (near Sebring, FL) so if you are in the area, please come by for the weekend or come out to our dances. Oh ... just another head’s up regarding Sebring, their DINER has the most wonderful banana splits ever! See the picture (→) and see if that makes you hungry!



Here’s an important question for you: Have you made your plans to

attend the NSDCA 68th International Camporee in Bellville, Texas? We have a great Camporee team again this year who are working very hard to make it one of the best. THE MAIN INGREDIENT TO A SUCCESSFUL CAMPOREE is the CAMPERs & DANCERS! Without you, the CAMPOREE will fade away due to lack of participation, and how very sad would that be? We will all have missed an opportunity to strengthen our friendships, make new friends, and pass on our love of square dancing. Yes, sadly, time does march on, and it takes its toll on a lot of us. We are hoping you will do your very best to get to the Texas Camporee so we can hug you and get to visit with you again. Also, if you remember, NSDCA Secretaries Tricia & Neal Chartier house burned in January (in Wisconsin), and lost everything, including their beloved dog, but have continued to work very hard with this year's Camporee Chairs, Sandy & George as their Board of Directors Camporee liaisons. They truly deserve lots of your hugs and praise for carrying on despite their circumstances.

If you are in Florida anytime, be sure to check online for our schedule and consider spending your weekend with us. Our schedule is always on the NSDCA.org website, the NSDCA "traveling map" and at our site link: <https://floodrunnerssquares193.org>.

Enjoy your travels and as always, "We hope to see you all in a square somewhere!"

Dolly Ide; dloutz9504@outlook.com; 352-598-7162

196 Wabash Valley Wheel-a-Rounds; Indiana/Illinois/Ohio

After a more-difficult winter than usual – weather-wise – the WWA gathered for their first campout of the 2026 camping season towards the end of April at the Enon Beach Campground near Springfield, Ohio. It was the first campout for new Chapter members John & Vickie Camden, Jerry & Margene Dwenger and Dennis & Mary Kay Carey; we happily welcomed them into our club. After arriving, we gathered by the campsites of our wagon masters, James & Diane Wahl and Don & Carol Grabers, just catching up on all the latest





Chats

(‘Chats’ continued from page 21)

news and how we spent our winters. That evening we enjoyed one of our delicious potluck dinners under the campground pavilion. We then continued to gather around a campfire, surrounded by a beautiful lake which is available for fishing and swimming. Some members did some fishing, but we all opted out on the swimming. We also solidified the names of our officers for this year.

The next day we split up to check out various places of interest in the area. Some went to the Hartman Rock Art Gardens and the Ohio Thrift Store. Others went to the Packard Car Museum, the Carallon Historical Park, or the River Gorge Park. In the evening we ate at Mindy’s Airport Café in Urbana, Ohio; the food was great, and our waitress became so



interested in our group that she and her mother came to watch us square dance to Tom Davis that evening after she got off work.

On Saturday, several members continued to explore the surrounding area. The group gathered in the evening to have dinner at the El Meson restaurant in Dayton, Ohio. We danced to Darrin Henry after the dinner. The club we visited was so happy we came that they gave each of our couples a cloverleaf dangle.

Our first campout of the year was a great success with eight campers, lots of dancing, good food, and many activities to keep us entertained.

As always, we invite everyone that might be in our area to come join us. Our wagon wheel will be on display to let people know we are in the park and you are welcome to stop in and share our good times!

Submitted by Marian Hatfield; marian4873@gmail.com



Prior Year Camporee Bars

The badge maker that we have been using for several years has recently retired. In cleaning out her inventory, she sent me all of the left-over Camporee Bars from prior Camporees. I now have Camporee bars from the following years:

| | | |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| 2025 Shreveport LA (34) | 2024 Fond Du Lac WI (31) | 2023 Lebanon TN (30) |
| 2022 Rockville IN (3) | 2021 Rayne LA (51) | 2019 Maggie Valley NC (52) |
| 2018 Sedalia MO (124) | 2017 Maggie Valley NC (71) | 2016 (0) |
| 2015 Sparta IL (84) | 2014 Maggie Valley NC (82) | 2013 Goshen IN (72) |
| 2012 Amana IA (31) | 2011 Huntingdon PA (4) | 2010 Orlando FL (25) |
| 2009 Rayne LA (74) | 2008 Coldwater MI (97) | 2007 Amana IA (33) |
| 2006 Crescent City IL (57) | | |

Chapter Bars:

| | | |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------|
| Montshire Campin Squares (5) | Dakota Wheelers 061 (2) | Square Wheels #128 (2) |
| Blackhawk Crosstrailers #014 (6) | Northwoods Stompers #121 (8) | |

The number in (parentheses) is the number of bars I have for that Camporee / Chapter.

I will bring these to the 68th Camporee in Bellville. If you would like any of them, you are welcome to them for a donation of your choosing. If you are not going to be able to attend the 68th Camporee in Bellville this June, you are welcome to send me a check for \$7.00 for cost of a mailer plus postage and, if you would like, you can add a donation of your choosing. Please send the request for which year bar you want, how many you want of each, along with your name and mailing address to:

(May 20th – October 1st): Susan Wolford, 79 Dogwood Rd., Albertville AL 35950

(October 2nd – May 20th): Susan Wolford, 1435 Razorbill Ln., Punta Gorda FL 33983

Don and I will be leaving Albertville, AL for the 68th Camporee on June 11th. I will respond to any requests received after that date when we return to Alabama after the 40th Illinois State Convention, July 23rd – 25th, in Rock Island, Illinois. If you are going to the 40th Illinois State Convention and you want any of these bars, I can give them to you there and save you the \$7.00!



A Message from the 68th NSDCA Camporee Chairman

As you read this we are busy loading up to head to Belleville Texas for YOUR Camporee. We are excited with the new things planned for this year. We have had a lot of support with organizing all the activities and believe you will enjoy them. Belleville is really a nice little town with friendly people. That sets a good atmosphere for fun in itself.

There are two halls at Coughatte (see photo below right) and that gives us the ability to use one hall for meetings and potlucks (leaving the tables set up all week) while the other hall is set up for dancing and games as needed. We are anticipating good weather which allows for some sports games to be outside and who knows what else.



Tuesday night will be a 250th Birthday Party for the USA with special events. We have invited local area dancers to join us for the evening. We hope to have a large number of dancers that night. Check the schedule on the next page for other daily events. This is one party you don't want to miss! We are fortunate to have a nice lineup of dance leaders this year, but there is always room for more.

As noted in the March -- May NSDCA *TIMES*, Wednesday's theme is 'Flowers,' Thursday is 'Patriotic' and Friday is 'Western.' Ladies (men also) may want to pack outfits to follow the themes (see page 38 of the Spring *TIMES* for details). We have two hours scheduled on Wednesday and Thursday with four different one-hour concurrently running dance workshops. Of course there is evening dancing (rounds, squares, and lines) every night.

Keep in mind the Grand March is on Wednesday. We suggest you wear your club colors, state colors or a flower print that night.

As of this writing we have dancers registered from the North, South, East and West. To the North we have Wisconsin; South is Texas; East we have Florida and Alabama; and West is California and Colorado. The Great Lakes area is represented by Illinois, Michigan and Ohio. Is your state on the list? Are you registered? It's not too late!!

As in the past, Tricia Chartier is having a book exchange. If you have a book you no longer need, bring it to the Camporee and trade it for another one. As we have done in the past, we will be collecting donations for the Shriners Children's Hospital; for the local charity we

will be donating to the Bellville Food Bank, either non-perishable food items or cash. Please be prepared to participate.

We thank our co-chairs, Nikki and Joey Barrett, and the NSDCA Board for their input and support. This has made our job much easier. Also, the Director of Couthatte Recreation Ranch has been very cooperative and helpful to us. All this has given us the opportunity to put together what we hope will be a super-duper wild western event.

Wahoo! See you in Belleville, Texas.

Yellow Rocks, y'all!

Sandy McIntire and George Ferguson, 2026 General Chairpersons



(No, this isn't the lost bull!→)

TENTATIVE 68th NSDCA Camporee Schedule
Couthatte Recreation Ranch, Bellville TX

Tuesday, June 16

9 - 5 am Camper Check-In
 1:30 - 2 pm NSDCA Board Mtg.
 2 - 2:30 pm Camporee Team Mtg.
 4:30 - 5:30 pm Pot Luck Dinner
 6:30 - 7 pm Early Rounds
 7 - 9 pm 250th Birthday Dance

Wednesday, June 17 - Theme: Flowers

8 - 9 am Meet-n-Greet - Donuts
 9 - ? am Camper Check-In
 9 - 10:30 am Sports Games
 10:30 - 12 am Crafts
 12 - 1 pm Lunch Break
 1 - 2 pm Staff/Rep Meeting
 1 - 2 pm Fun Games
 2 - 4 pm Dance Workshops
 4:30 - 5:30 pm Pot Luck Dinner
 6:30 - 7 pm Grand March/Opening Ceremonies
 7 - 9 pm Squares/Rounds/Lines
 9 ---- pm After Party

Thursday, June 18 - Theme: Patriotic

8 - 9 am Coffee w/Board - Donuts
 9 - 10:30 am Sports Games
 10:30 - 12 am Crafts
 12 - 1 pm Lunch Break
 1 - 2 pm Fun Games
 2 - 4 pm Dance Workshops
 4:30 - 5:30 pm Pot Luck Dinner
 6:30 - 7 pm Early Rounds
 7 - 9 pm Squares/Rounds/Lines
 9 ---- pm After Party - 69th Camporee

Friday, June 19 - Theme: Western

8 - 9 am Coffee w/Board - Donuts
 9 - 10:30 am Sports Games Finals
 10:30 - 12 am Crafts
 12 - 1 pm NSDCA Hosted Luncheon
 1 - 3 pm NSDCA General Mtg. & Awards
 4:30 - 5:30 pm Pot Luck Dinner
 6:30 - 7 pm Early Rounds
 7 - 9 pm Squares/Rounds/Lines
 9 ---- pm After Party, then clean-up.
 ---- Close pm Tear Down

This schedule is TENTATIVE and subject to be changed.

Special events are being planned for each of three **THEME** days, including recognition of veterans and a celebration for the 250th Anniversary of the United States. Weather permitting, we are also planning campfires and other outside events.

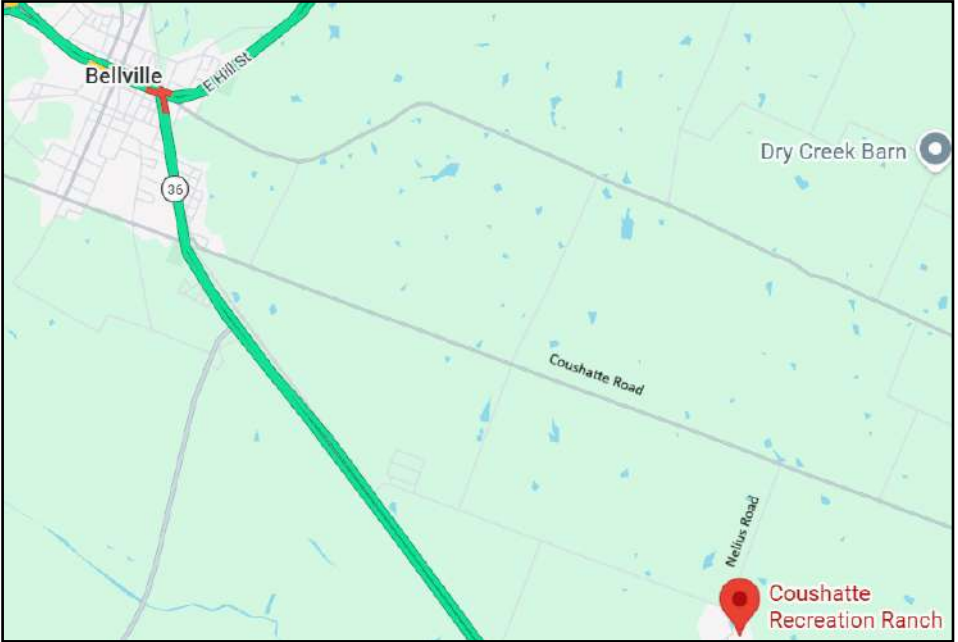
Activity Halls at the Couthatte Recreation Ranch



Directions to the Camporee

See the 'Big Picture' of Coughatte Recreation Ranch's location with respect to the NSDC venue (Waco), Houston and San Antonio on the inside cover (page 2).

The location of the Wagon Master for check-in and the main office are also on the inside cover.



Directions:

Coughatte Recreation Ranch is located in Austin County, Texas between the towns of Bellville and Sealy. Phone (9 a.m.—5 p.m.: 979-865-5897; after hours: 979-270-1778).

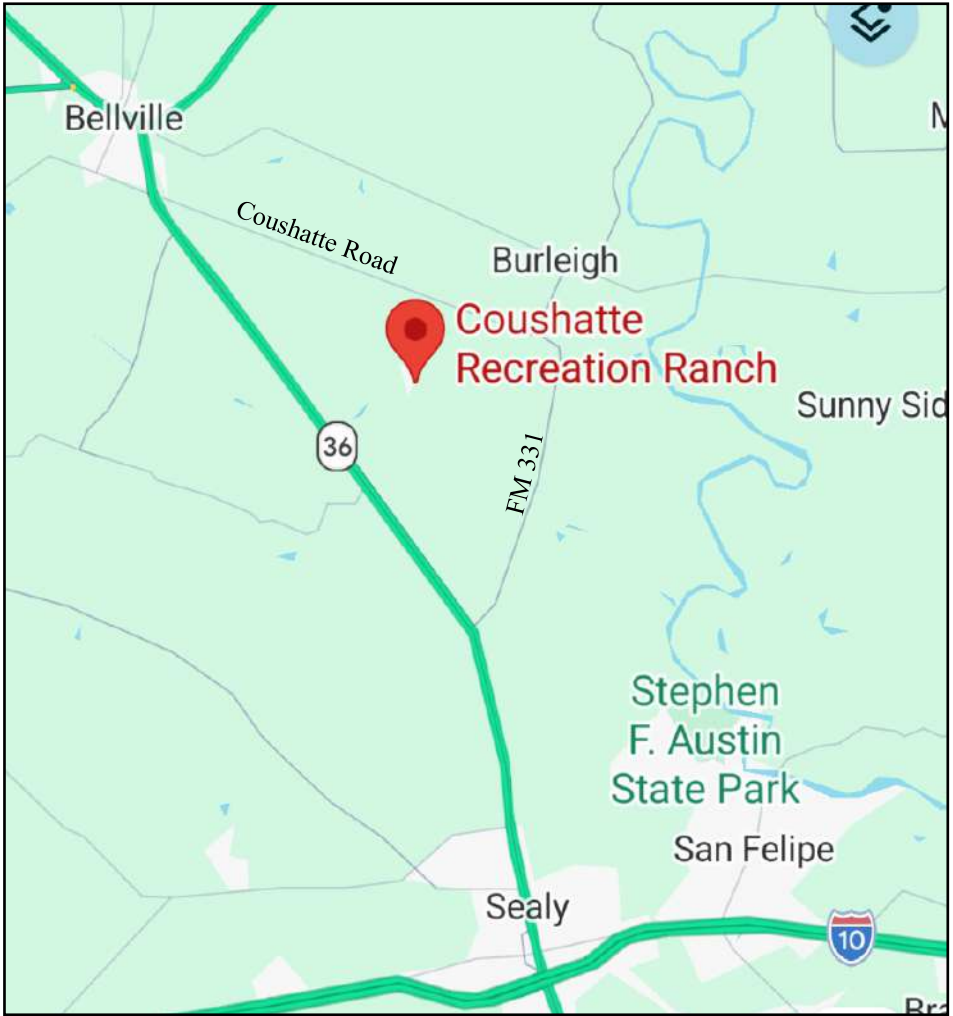
If you are coming from Bellville (see map above):

- Take TX 36 south (S Front St) to E Hacienda Street (at the light)
- Turn left onto E Hacienda Street
- Cross the railroad tracks and keep right
- As you cross Wendt Road (on the left) E Hacienda Street becomes Coughatte Road
- Drive about four (4) miles; look for Nelius Road on the right
- Turn right onto Nelius Road
- Drive about one (1) mile; look for the campground sign (see photo to the right)

WE DO NOT RECOMMEND taking TX 36 south to Gindorf Road/Nelius Road as your GPS or Google Maps may suggest; poor road conditions!



The “Local Picture” - proximity to Bellville & Sealy



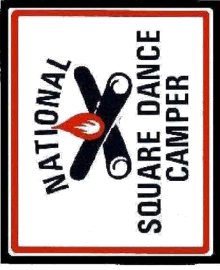
If you are traveling on Interstate 10 (see map above):

- Take exit 720 to Sealy, TX 36 north, about five (5) miles to FM 331
- Take a right onto FM 331
- Drive about five (5) miles; look for Coushate Road
- Turn left onto Coushate Road
- Drive about one (1) mile; look for Nelius Road
- Turn left onto Nelius Road
- Drive about one (1) mile; look for the campground sign (see page 26)



RIDIN' HIGH - HEADIN' WEST SQUARE DANCE 68th INTERNATIONAL NSDCA CAMPOREE

Coushatta Recreation Ranch
4029 Clay Ranch Ln., Bellville, Texas 77418
June 17, 18, 19, 2026: Camporee Events



2565 Version

Date: _____ NSDCA Membership # _____
**1st CAMPOREE - (*USE SPECIAL PRICING BELOW -
REQUIRES NSDCA MEMBERSHIP)
Information for PARKING by LOCATION & RV NEEDS
ARRIVAL 06/____/2026 DEPARTURE 06/____/2026
STATE _____ CHAPTER # _____ HANDICAP _____
ELECTRIC: 30 AMP _____ 50 AMP _____**

DANCE INTERESTS (✓ Interests)
Square Dance _____ Round Dance _____ Line Dance _____
_____ Mainstream _____ Phase II _____ Lines _____
_____ Plus _____ Phase III _____ Contra _____
_____ A-1/ A-2 _____ Phase IV/ V _____ Partner _____
_____ MS Workshop _____ Plus WS _____ A WS _____
_____ Youth/Teen Program _____ SSD Workshop _____

SPORTS/GAMES (✓ Interests)
Corn Hole M _____ F _____ Washer Toss M _____ F _____
Bocce Ball M _____ F _____ Other _____
Craft Interests M _____ F _____ Youth _____
Other _____
Are you a Veteran? _____ (Branch) _____

Adult Name #1 (Please Print) _____
Adult Name #2 (Please Print) _____

Caller / Cuer Participation (✓) **(Due by April 1)**
Square Dance _____ Round Dance _____
_____ Mainstream _____ Phase II _____
_____ Plus _____ Phase III _____
_____ A-1 _____ Phase IV _____

Mailing Address (Include Apt and/or Box number) _____
City _____ State/Province & Zip/ Postal _____

A-2 _____ Phase V
Youth/Teen Dance Program _____ Other _____

Phone Number (cell phone preferred--include area code) _____

Caller Name _____

Availability (✓) W _____ Th _____ F _____ S _____

Email address _____

Cuer Name _____

Availability (✓) W _____ Th _____ F _____ S _____

Emergency Contact Name _____

Phone # _____

Lines Instructor _____

Availability (✓) W _____ Th _____ F _____ S _____

Additional Persons per Unit (Base Fees are for two Adults per unit and unmarried children under age 21)

Youth Name _____ Age _____ M _____ F _____ Adult Name _____ M _____ F _____

NSDCA Camporee Fee: 3 Days...\$180 2 Days...\$150 1 Day...\$120 (ALL FEES IN US FUNDS ONLY)

***SPECIAL 1st CAMPOREE: NSDCA Camporee Fee: 3 Days...\$130 (RATE FOR 1 OR 2 PERSON)**

Please ✓ days planning to camp: (Extra Days Campsite Fees @ \$35 per day) NonCamper Fee: _____ \$90

Sun 14th _____ Mon 15th _____ Tues 16th _____ **Wed 17th** _____ **Thurs 18th** _____ **Fri 19th** _____ Sat 20th _____

Unit with only one person (check): _____ Deduct \$45; Extra adults # _____ \$45 each; Non NSDCA _____ Add \$20

| | | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Camporee Fee \$ _____ | Extra Fees \$ _____ | Add'l Days \$ _____ | Total Fees \$ _____ |
|-----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|

If you would like your ribbons sent with your confirmation, please include a self-addressed, stamped business (#10) envelope with your registration. Refunds are available with a written request.

Send check or money order payable in US Funds to **"68th NSDCA Camporee"** to:

(June 1st – October 1st): Susan Wolford, 79 Dogwood Rd., Albertville AL 35950

(October 2nd – May 31st) Susan Wolford, 1435 Razorbill Ln., Punta Gorda FL 33983

For more info, contact Susan Wolford: (256) 673-0170; 68th.nsdca@gmail.com



and the FUN continues...

There were a total of 17 entries this time providing thoughts on the location of our 2026 Camporee mascot, our lost male bovine, “Bully.” All of those entries identified the correct location; as mentioned on page 4, Bully was on page 14 in the photo provided by Chapter 123—however he switched places between the printed copy and the online version of the newsletter! The winning entry for the Spring issue contest belongs to Debi Odekirk of Badger Rovers (#031, WI), another first-time for the Chapter to have a winner (at least since I have been editor). Congratulations, Debi, your 2027 NSDCA membership fee will be waived. (It’s a long time off, so please remember to have the certificate you received via email sent to our NSDCA Treasurer when you renew in December.)

Some of the comments received about our wayward bull are as follows: From this contest’s winner, Debi Odekirk #031 (WI), “He surely was sneaky hiding on a hay bale. Probably felt like he was home in Texas already.” Our perennial punster Jim Sebesta #045 (PA) wrote, “I see Bully is surrounded by his most adoring fan club, the Swing ‘n’ Travelers, ... Since the S-N-Ts have been the most active in trying to steer him onto the right trail to the festival, he felt moo-ved to stop by and say thanks. I guess he said thanks ‘in-bovine’ since, being a bull, he really can’t say thanks ‘in-person’.”

These Chapter 123 (IL) members had the following to say: Mary Bruun stated, “Bully is sitting between Maya (John & Carol’s white lemongrass beagle) & Mindy (their black beagle mix) say to Bully, ‘Keep moving on or you’ll never make it to the 68th NSDCA Camporee in Bellville, TX. Times a-wasting away; it’s over 1,000 miles away. Better find a semi or a cattle train with a few cowboys for herding everyone there.’”

John & Carol Scher wrote, “This was an easy one for us! Bully is standing right between our dogs Maya and Mindy on top of the hay bales.” while Pat Edwards noted, “Bully was a welcome guest at the Swing ‘n’ Travelers October party. Bully has decided to become a temporary, but tiny, member of the Swing ‘n’ Travelers as he settles comfortably between Maya and Mindy, two of our member’s dogs on the bales of hay at this outing.” Charlene & Al Fahsbender opined, “I am surprised; the dogs are not usually so calm with strange animals around them. They usually give us plenty of warning.”

Carolyn Shacter #128 (FL) cautioned, “Look out Bully! There’s a ghost on your back! Maybe Bully could ask the ghost to fly him to Bellville.”

Lastly, these Chapter 193 (FL) members wrote the following: Steve House wondered, “Are you ever really lost when you’re with friends? Particularly when you’re sitting on a hay bale between two doggie friends. I’m sure he’ll plan to visit all his longhorn friends in Texas in June!” Tom Biehn made the following observation: “It appears he was very hungry, but didn’t know where to start eating. He was overwhelmed by the scary dog and all the people!” John and Beppy Sweeney mused, “Bully must be afraid of the ghost and is hoping those two dogs will protect him. What a scaredy cat! He’s still a long way from Texas and needs to get moving again soon.” Susan Wolford obviously checked both the printed issue and the online version, for she said, “I need the real bull to please rear up (as they are both already standing!) Well, Mr. Real Bull, are you hiding under the ghost’s flowing cape at the bottom hay bale in the printed issue or are you trying to separate the two dogs on the upper hay bale as shown in the online issue?”

Please remember, the contest for the Chapter with the most submissions is not won solely on the number of entries, for a large, motivated Chapter would easily swamp the numbers from a smaller Chapter. The year-end tally (based on the Summer through Spring issues, ending just before the International Camporee) is also based on the weighted percentage of total members of that Chapter (as membership can fluctuate over the two calendar years the information is taken from). So, if you are a member of one of our smaller Chapters, do not lose hope, for with suf-

(‘Contest’ continued on page 32)

| Chapter name | chapter # | Entrant |
|--------------------------------|-----------|---|
| Badger Rovers (WI) | 031 | Debi Odekirk |
| Penn-Dixie Square Campers (PA) | 045 | Jim Sebesta |
| Dakota Wheelers (SD) | 061 | Richard Wooten |
| Camping Squares of Kansas (KS) | 116 | Mike Huddleson Frank & Marty Golden Shirley McPhail |
| Swing ‘N’ Travelers (IL) | 123 | Mary & Dave Bruun John & Carol Scher Pat Edwards Barry & Joy Vlad Charlene & Al Fahsbender Janet & Chet Bowman |
| Square Wheels (FL) | 128 | Carolyn Shacter |
| Florida Road Runners (FL) | 193 | Steven House Tom & Rita Biehn Susan Wolford John & Beppy Sweeney |

Note: This is NOT the lost bull, but the wayward one looks similar to this one. Notice there are no riders on this bull.



(‘Contest’ continued from page 31)

ficient entries—your Chapter could win! But, you’ll not have that opportunity if you don’t make an entry. We have more than 600 individual members and only a couple of percent make a submission, typically from the same Chapters. You can’t win if you don’t enter. And please remember, in order to win you must be a member in good standing (current year dues are paid.)

I’ve stated this before, this is *your* newsletter! It is *your* contributions make it informative, educational and most of all, entertaining. Let me hear from *you* on the contest as well as other requests that have been made in the past (e.g., caller or cuer biographies, best practices, handy hints, etc.).

Our 2026 International Camporee is being held in Texas, thus our mascot is a bull, now dubbed ‘Bully.’ [I’m thinking Teddy Roosevelt!] I’m certain you noticed some siblings to our bull on page 25 as well as immediately beside the members of Chapter 123 that made contest submissions. They’re not the lost bull. Let’s get our bull back on the road—headed to Bellville—before he knocks over those bales of hay where he was situated in the prior issue of this newsletter.

Send your answer to the location of our lost bull (or article/idea contribution) *only* via email to **NSDCAtimes@gmail.com** (to arrive no later than July 30, 2026). Please send your submissions only by email for this issue’s contest (remember, my mail delivery deteriorates if the usual letter carrier gets diverted from our route, which seems to be a lot).

I sometimes make a mistake and omit a confirmed submission (which I expect to be alerted to by the unlucky entrant) but I cannot log your submission as received and enter it in the table shown on the previous page if I never get it. Remember, I will confirm receipt of your email within two days; if you don’t hear back from me, please double check the address where you sent your submission and then resubmit it. If worse comes to worse, call me (my phone number is on page 47) and ask if I got it.

For your contest entry, please provide the page number *and* where on the page our lost bull is located. Also be sure to provide your NSDCA Chapter number, even if you have submitted entries before. If you are part of a couple, include both names on your entry. Note that simply providing something like “on the bottom of page 2” is insufficient (even if it is at the bottom of page 2); be more specific (e.g., it is on the bottom of page 2 in the right-hand corner next to a flower in the ad). Note that if you also write something clever like the contributors listed earlier did, you may get your answer published! Please note any comments provided with your submission implies you are giving your permission to publish the comment. Lastly, as always, be sure to include your Chapter’s number and name whenever you communicate with any Association staff member or Board member. Thank you!

Gnocchi w/Chicken

Ingredients:

- 4 cups, fresh spinach
- 1/2 tbsp, pure canola oil
- 1 tsp, minced garlic in water
- 1/3 cup, heavy whipping cream
- 1/2 cup, unsalted chicken stock
- 16 oz (~453 g), traditional potato gnocchi
- 2 oz (~57 g), crumbled feta cheese
- 1.4 oz (~40 g), raw celery
- 2.9 oz (~82 g), carrots
- 2.4 oz (~68 g), sweet onion
- 5.5 oz (~156 g), boneless skinless chicken breast



Courtesy of
Carolyn Shacter #128

Steps:

- 1) Add oil to a large, rimmed non-stick skillet.
- 2) Using a medium-high heat, add gnocchi and fry for a few minutes. Remove the gnocchi and set aside.
- 3) Add chicken to the skillet; season as desired. Sauté until the internal temperature is 165°F or the chicken is no longer pink. Remove the chicken and set aside.
- 4) Add vegetables and garlic. Sauté over medium heat using a little water to keep the food from sticking to the pan and cook until they reach the desired crispness.
- 5) Add cream, broth and feta cheese to the skillet. Using a medium-high heat, whisk until the mixture starts to thicken.
- 6) Add the chicken and gnocchi back to the skillet; mix a couple of minutes until heated.
- 7) Add spinach and let simmer until the spinach starts to wilt.
- 8) Serve.

Nutritional information is provided below.

Makes 4 servings; each serving is ~350 calories.

| | | | | | |
|---------------------|----|-------------------|-----|-------------|-----|
| Total fat (g) | 11 | Cholesterol (g) | 62 | Sugars (g) | 2 |
| Saturated fat (g) | 6 | Sodium (mg) | 501 | Protein (g) | 17 |
| Poly unsat. fat (g) | 1 | Potassium (mg) | 586 | Vitamin C | 0% |
| Mono usat. fat (g) | 1 | Total carbs (g) | 45 | Calcium | 10% |
| Trans fat (g) | 0 | Dietary fiber (g) | 3 | Iron | 6% |

Helpful Hints: Your RV's (gas) Generator

One thing I don't understand is why RV manufacturers include an expensive, noisy, high-maintenance and often temperamental generator with their units. Do I sound exasperated with my generator? You bet!

We have a gas-powered Onan QG4000 4,000 watt (or 4 kW) unit, which is slightly oversized for our 30-amp RV (30 amps of current can supply 3.6 kW of electric power). Being oversized is a good thing, for you don't want to strain the generator; it's better to trip the circuit breaker if you exceed it's load limit.

Our generator is not an inverter-generator (I-G) model; I-G models have an advantage over generators like mine as they first produce direct current (DC) versus alternating current (AC) that we use for our appliances; they then use an inverter to change the DC to AC. I-Gs are variable-speed units (versus fixed-speed like mine) and typically run quieter and are more fuel efficient than those generators that produce AC directly (like mine). Inverters are a common feature in many fifth wheel and Class A RVs and those that use photovoltaic (PV) panels to convert 12 volts (either from the house battery or the PVs) to 110 volts AC. Do not confuse an inverter with a converter, however; the former convert DC to AC, while the latter convert AC to DC. It's confusing terminology, but they didn't consult me when choosing the names!

There are commercially available I-Gs made for RVs, Next-Gen NPS being one brand I am familiar with. My RV was supposed to come with an NPS 5500 I-G, but the RV was built during COVID and we remember the shortage of everything at that time (and there's always the fine print in the descriptive brochures that state the manufacturer can substitute equipment as necessary) and thus I don't have one.

I often wonder why RV manufacturers don't install portable units, like those made by Honda, in lieu of the big, heavy and expensive units they use (e.g., Onan QG4000i, current MSRP is \$5,000 and NPS 4500, current MSRP is \$5,121). Honda makes a 3 kW unit (such as the EU3000IS1AN, current MSRP is \$2,400) that can be connected to another of the same model (to produce a sustained 5.6 kW) that is much quieter than either the Onan or NPS, the disadvantage being it doesn't have the convenience of being able to be started (or stopped) with the push of a button from within the RV. To start, you'd have to go outside, manipulate the choke, and then pull the starter cord (like found on many gas-powered lawn mowers); stopping the generator is simpler—simply move the engine switch to the 'off' position, but you still must go outside to do that. These portable units could be mounted on a slide-out rack for easy maintenance, which is something the current crop of RV generators either do not seem to support or the manufacturers like to make things more difficult for the owner. Of course, one advantage for the portable unit would be the fact you wouldn't have to take your RV into a dealership to have the genera-

tor serviced; any small engine repair shop could do that, at a much lower price.

The instructions for my generator state it should be exercised (meaning operated) monthly for two hours with a minimum load of 50%. Why? Onan states, “Lack of exercise can cause moisture build-up and fuel system degradation that will make it run poorly. In fact, in as little as 30 days, the fuel in gasoline-powered generators can begin to gum and varnish the fuel system. Fuel varnishing results in hard starting and surging (a surging generator never settles at a stable operating speed). To prevent such problems, it is recommended to run gasoline generators at a minimum of 50 percent capacity (2,000 watts, or one air conditioner for a 4,000-watt set) for two hours once every four weeks. This is necessary to help keep moving parts lubricated, expel moisture and control fuel varnishing in the carburetor. A long two-hour exercise period is preferable to several short periods. Remember to exercise, not just start and run your generator.” The last sentence means you must load the generator—run some heavy duty appliances. I run the air conditioner and water heater when exercising my generator.

However, when I was ill for an extended period of time, this regular generator exercising did not happen. And, as predicted by Onan, when I recovered sufficiently to perform the monthly startup exercise, the generator was extremely difficult to start, if it would at all. Before I decided to take the RV into the local dealership’s service department (only to have it probably ‘disappear’ for months) I opted to see if I could remedy this issue on my own. As the carburetor and/or jets were more-than-likely varnished up, I could either disassemble the carburetor and clean them (a challenging task to be sure) or figure out some other way to clean them without having to take anything apart. I settled on using *Sta-Bil In-Season Protection Fuel Treatment*, as it is stated to “strip away carbon build-up, gum, and varnish from the engine’s combustion chamber and injectors.” It is also stated to “protect the engine’s fuel system against moisture and condensation, which can become more prominent with ethanol-blended fuels.” I have had good success with *Sta-Bil’s Storage Fuel Stabilizer* when we winterize our car in Maine and head back to Florida, so I thought this approach might work. Sure enough, it did! Now I exercise the generator twice a month for one hour at a time (in lieu of the two hour run once a month). I have found that waiting 30 days between exercise periods does not always yield a quick start, whereas I have had no issues with a quick start since I began exercising the generator every two weeks. I use only top-tier gas in my cars and RV (see <https://www.toptiergas.com/>); I do not know if I would have to modify this approach if I used non-top-tier gas, but I suspect I would.

Some of the information above was obtained from the following:
<https://primetimerv.com/files/component-manuals/Cummins%20Onan%20RV%20Generator%20Handbook.pdf> and <https://www.goldeagle.com/product/sta-bil-in-season-protection/>

★ YOU'RE INVITED!

You are formally invited to a 250th Birthday Celebration for the U.S.A. to be held during the 75th National Square Dance Convention® in the Waco Convention Center.

This special semiquincentennial event will be held Friday, June 26, at 6 p.m. in Chisholm Hall and will include an inspiring patriotic performance by the Central Texas Choral Society. Make sure to wear your red, white and blue!

A tentative schedule for this unique program is as follows:

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

- 5:45 p.m. Doors Open – first 250 attendees get special dangles
- 6 p.m. Program Begins – Welcome
- 6:03 p.m. *National Anthem* – Central Texas Choral Society
- 6:05 p.m. Prayer
- 6:07 p.m. Brief Remarks about America's 250th Birthday
- 6:12 p.m. *America the Beautiful* – Central Texas Choral Society
- 6:16 p.m. *Tribute to the Armed Forces* – Central Texas Choral Society
- 6:22 p.m. *God Bless America* Sing-Along – Led by Charles Thornburg
- 6:25 p.m. Closing Remarks
- 6:30 p.m. Program Concludes
- 7 p.m. Mainstream Dancing begins with Ghost Riders Band

CENTRAL TEXAS CHORAL SOCIETY

The Central Texas Choral Society is based in Waco and draws its members from communities throughout Central Texas. With over 160 voices, the group regularly performs inspiring programs throughout the region, often collaborating with the Waco Symphony Orchestra and Waco Community Band. The group is under the leadership of Conductor Dr. David Guess, who has served on the music faculties at Baylor University, McClennan University College, and University of Mary Hardin-Baylor. For information on the CTCS, visit: <https://centraltexaschoralsociety.org>.

To register for the 75th National Square Dance Convention® to be held June 24-27, 2026 in Waco, Texas, go to: <https://75nsdctx.com/long-form-registration/>.



Things to Do & See in Bellville



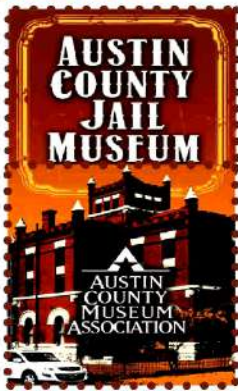
Newman's Castle

A medieval castle deep in the heart of Texas



The castle, complete with a moat and drawbridge, was built by local baker

Mike Newman. It's a whimsical destination that transports you back in time. Newmans Bakery is a nearby must do.



Nothing quite like a good old Texas Jail!

A Meat Market with a BarBQue counter

Don't leave without a taste of award-winning pecan smoked barbecue and their sinfully good Back Porch Pecan Pie.

Bellville General Store A real step back in time.

Dry Creek Stables

horseback riding lessons tailored to beginners and experienced riders alike

The Bellville Perk

A small-town version of American TV show Friends a classic coffee shop with a modern twist. Order the regular hot or cold java or specialties Frappes, Smoothies and more all made to order.

that's to name just a few...



Settled in 1822 by 2 brothers who immigrated from Florida, The Courthouse Square remains as it was laid out in 1846, many of the historic buildings have now been transformed into a collection of unusual and unique shops and businesses.

Chapter Campouts

The following listings were last updated on May 1, 2026. The start day for events is Friday unless otherwise noted. Due to the local disruptions of group activities because of occasional COVID-19 outbreaks, campouts or other listed events may have been cancelled due to local conditions. Please check with the campout contact(s) to confirm the status of the event before making your plans to attend. Thank you.

Thursday June 4 → June 6

152 Campers & Dancers: Alabama

Oak Mountain State Park

200 Terrace Drive; Pelham, AL; 205-620-2527

- RV sites \$42-\$60 full hookup. Cabins also available. 15% discount for seniors, active military and veterans, persons with disabilities, and State of Alabama employees.
- Our 40th Anniversary Campout
- Contact Ken Waites if you plan to come: 205-601-2485; waiteskb@yahoo.com
- Make reservations by calling the campground or online at: <https://www.alapark.com/parks/oak-mountain-state-park>

June 5 → June 7

116 Camping Squares of Kansas: Kansas

Air Capital Camping

609 E. 47th St; Wichita, KS

- We will be attending the Kansas State Square Dance Convention on Friday evening and all day Saturday at West Heights UMC Family Center, 745 N. Westlink Ave, Wichita, KS .
- Marty & Frank Golden; 316-943-4137; fmgolden9515@sbcglobal.net

181 MontShire Campin' Squares: New Hampshire / Vermont

Horseshoe Acres Campground

1978 Weston-Andover Rd, Andover, VT; 802-875-2960

- Caller: Don Bachelder
- Cuer: Mary Lou Gagliardi
- Registrar: Barbara Connelly; PO Box 18, Lower Waterford, VT; 802-745-7621

♥♥♥ Illinois State Camporee ♥♥♥

Marshall-Putnam Fairgrounds

915 University Ave, Henry, IL; 309-364-2814

- Friday evening meal provided for \$10/person (bring your own drink).
- Saturday evening potluck - all campers welcome
- Sunday morning breakfast - free-will donation
- Charlene Fahsbender; 1616 4H Park Rd., Pontiac, IL; 956-532-4503

June 12 → June 14

001 Garden State Square Dance Campers: New Jersey/Pennsylvania

Appalachian RV Campground

60 Motel Dr., Shartlesville, PA; 877-570-2267 or 610-488-6319

- Get form at www.gssdca.wixsite.com/gssdca and submit to Susan Schwarz at 23 Fir Rd., Manahawkin, NJ 08050
- Pauline/Ron VandeVrede; 873-343-3152

031 Badger Rovers: Wisconsin

Buffalo Lake Camping Resort

555 Lake Avenue, Montello, WI; 608-297-2915; 608-289-7582

Wednesday June 17 → June 19

♥♥♥ 68th NSDCA International Camporee ♥♥♥

Coushatta Ranch

4029 Clay Ranch Lane, Bellville, TX; 979-865-5897

- See the registration form at <https://www.nsdca.org/camporees.php> or in the centerfold of this issue
- If you have any questions please contact our Registrar, Susan Wolford at 68thnsdca@gmail.com
- Camporee begins with a Trail-In 250th Birthday Celebration Dance on June 16

128 Square Wheels: Florida

193 Roadrunner Squares: Florida

Coushatta Ranch

4029 Clay Ranch Lane, Bellville, TX; 979-865-5897

- Participating in the 68th NSDCA International Camporee
- 128 contacts:
- Mary Chesnut; 352-475-2550, cell 352-214-5880; marynut4@gmail.com OR Ron Imus; rlius46@aol.com
- 193 contact:
- Dolly Ide; 352-598-7162

Wednesday June 24 → June 27

128 Square Wheels: Florida

Participating in the 75th National Square Dance Convention.

- Details at <https://75nsdctx.com/>
- Mary Chesnut; 352-475-2550, cell 352-214-5880; marynut4@gmail.com OR Ron Imus; rlius46@aol.com

Thursday July 9 → July 12

014 Blackhawk Crosstrailers: Illinois

Big Rock Campground, part of Big Rock Forest Preserve

46W499 Granart Road, Big Rock, IL

- Road trip to Medinah's dance to benefit the IL State Convention
- Cinda or Bob Asp; Cinda.asp@gmail.com

('Campouts' continued on page 40)

Chapter Campouts—continued

(‘Campouts’ continued from page 39)

116 Camping Squares of Kansas: Kansas

Cheney Reservoir, Smarsh Creek Campground

Pretty Prairie, KS; 316-542-3664

- Various activities but no dance available in the area.
- Marty & Frank Golden; 316-943-4137; fmgolden9515@sbcglobal.net

July 17 → July 19

001 Garden State Square Dance Campers: New Jersey / Pennsylvania

Appalachian RV Campground

60 Motel Dr., Shartlesville, PA; 877-570-2267 or 610-488-6319

- Get form at www.gssdca.wixsite.com/gssdca and submit to Susan Schwarz at 23 Fir Rd., Manahawkin, NJ 08050
- Pauline/Ron VandeVrede; 873-343-3152

Thursday July 30 → August 2

152 Campers & Dancers: Alabama

Rickwood Caverns State Park

370 Rickwood Park Road; Warrior, AL; 205-647-9692

- Camping \$35 per night. 15% discount for seniors, active military, veterans, disabled persons and State of Alabama employees.
- Contact Roy Huddleston (below) if you plan to come. Reservations can be made online at alapark.com.
- Dances will be at BSDA Hall in Fultondale, AL.
- Roy Huddleston; 205-761-3701

July 31 → August 2

181 MontShire Campin’ Squares: New Hampshire / Vermont

Horseshoe Acres Campground

1978 Weston-Andover Rd, Andover, VT; 802-875-2960

Caller: Peter Tobin

Cuer: Barbara Connelly

Registrar: Barbara Connelly; PO Box 18, Lower Waterford, VT

Barbara Connelly; 802-745-7621; bconnelly614@gmail.com

Thursday August 6 → August 9

116 Camping Squares of Kansas: Kansas

Kanopolis Lake - Venega Park - Corp of Engineers area

105 Riverside Dr, Marquette, KS; 785-546-2294

- Various activities but no dance available in the area.
- Marty & Frank Golden; fmgolden9515@sbcglobal.net; 316-943-4137

August 7 → August 9

001 Garden State Square Dance Campers: New Jersey/Pennsylvania

Appalachian RV Campground

60 Motel Dr., Shartlesville, PA; 877-570-2267 or 610-488-6319

- Get form at www.gssdca.wixsite.com/gssdca and submit to Susan Schwarz at 23 Fir Rd., Manahawkin, NJ 08050
- Pauline/Ron VandeVrede; 873-343-3152

Thursday August 13 → August 16

014 Blackhawk Crosstrailers: Illinois

Rustic Barn Campground & RV Park

3854 Dry Hollow Rd, Keiler, WI; 608-568-7797

- Cinda or Bob Asp; Cinda.asp@gmail.com

Saturday August 15 → August 17

196 Wabash Valley Wheel Arounds: Illinois / Indiana / Ohio

White River Campground

11299 E 234th St.; Cicero; IN; 317-770-4430

- Don/Lois Whitehead; 260-249-9132

August 21 → August 22

128 Square Wheels: Florida

Sweet Citrus Acres RV Resort

2680 N Turkey Oak Dr, Crystal River, FL; 352-565-4284

- *CHANGE IN VENUE* from Wekiva Falls RV Resort.
- Call campground directly to make your reservation; tell them you are part of the Square Wheels square dance group.
- Nightly rate \$48.29; OK for extra days before and after.
- Mary Chesnut; 352-475-2550, cell 352-214-5880; marynut4@gmail.com OR Ron Imus; rlius46@aol.com

Thursday August 27 → August 29

152 Campers & Dancers: Alabama

Camping World of Oxford Campground

20 Garrett Circle; Anniston, AL; 256-241-2295

- This campout is held in conjunction with the Alabama Square and Round Dance Convention.
- Call campground to make reservations. Rates from \$38 full hookup. Mention Campers and Dancers for 10% discount.
- Contact Ken Waites if you plan to come: 205-601-2485; waiteskb@yahoo.com

Thursday September 10 → September 13

119 Wander Yonders: Wyoming

Grays Gable (Wander Yonder Camping Club)

3905 Grays Gable Road, Laramie, WY; 307-635-7312

Chapter Campouts—continued

(‘Campouts’ continued from page 41)

Thursday September 10 → September 13

193 Roadrunner Squares: Florida

Wekiva Falls RV Resort

30700 River Road, Sorrento, FL; 352-268-9556 or 352-383-8055

- Call the campground and make your reservation, then call Tom Biehn and let him know you are attending. Our weekends begin with Early Bird Thursday and end with a Worship & Coffee on Sunday.
- Tom Biehn; 757-672-9978; rtb6273@gmail.com

September 11 → September 13

001 Garden State Square Dance Campers: New Jersey/Pennsylvania

Shady Oaks Family Campground

40 Round Barn Rd, Newmanstown, PA; 717-949-3177

- Call campground directly; tell them you are with Square Up Campers
- Pauline/Ron VandeVrede; 873-343-3152

031 Badger Rovers: Wisconsin

Token Creek Campground

6200 US Hwy 51, Deforest, WI; 608-224-3730; 608-289-7582

September 18 → September 19

128 Square Wheels: Florida

Southern Oaks RV Resort

14140 SE Hwy 441, Summerfield, FL; 352-347-2550

- Campground reservation not confirmed yet. Stay tuned; check back later.
- Mary Chesnut; 352-475-2550, cell 352-214-5880; marynut4@gmail.com OR Ron Imus; rlius46@aol.com

September 18 → September 20

001 Garden State Square Dance Campers: New Jersey/Pennsylvania

Cherry Ridge Campsites

147 Camp Rd, Honesdale, PA; 570-488-6654

- Call the campground directly
- Pauline/Ron VandeVrede; 873-343-3152



Thursday September 24 → September 26

152 Campers & Dancers: Alabama

Trackrock Campground and Cabins

141 Trackrock Camp Road; Blairsville GA; 706-745-2420

- RV sites \$45 full hookup. Cabins also available.
- Make reservations by calling campground or online at:
<https://www.campsite.com/1282/reservation/step1>
- Tell them you are with Campers and Dancers.
- Contact George Herndon 334-740-0649; gherndon49@yahoo.com if you plan to come.

Monday September 28 → October 1

014 Blackhawk Crosstrailers: Illinois

Carlock TBA

- Will be visiting Braffet Berry Farm & Orchard and Barn III for dinner & theatre performance
- Cinda or Bob Asp; Cinda.asp@gmail.com

October 2 → October 4

196 Wabash Valley Wheel Arouns: Illinois / Indiana / Ohio

Hancock County Fairgrounds;

620 Apple St.; Greenfield; IN; 317-462-1469

- Mike/Nancy Holzhausen; 317-989-4533

Thursday October 8 → October 11

193 Roadrunner Squares: Florida

Hammondell Campsites And RV Park

5601 Cypress Gardens Rd, Winter Haven, FL; 863-324-5775

- Call the campground and make your reservation, then call Tom Biehn and let him know you are attending.
- Our weekends begin with Early Bird Thursday and end with a Worship & Coffee on Sunday.
- Tom Biehn; 757-672-9978; rtb6273@gmail.com

Thursday October 22 → October 25

♥♥♥ Florida State Camporee ♥♥♥

Southern Palms RV Park

1 Avocado Lane, Eustis, FL; 352-357-8882

- Our Golden Jubilee! See <https://fansdc.net>

(‘Campouts’ continued on page 44)

Please remember to update your campout entries if there any changes to the venue, contact, date, or any other pertinent information. Thank you!



Chapter Campouts—continued

(‘Campouts’ continued from page 43)

Thursday October 22 → October 25

128 Square Wheels: Florida

193 Roadrunner Squares: Florida

Southern Palms RV Park

1 Avocado Lane, Eustis, FL; 352-357-8882

- FANSDC 50th Annual State Camporee.
- For more information and registration, see <https://fansdc.net/>
- Call the campground if you want extra days (three (3) are included in the Registration), then call one of the below to let them know you are attending.
- 128 contacts:
Mary Chesnut; 352-475-2550, cell 352-214-5880;
marynut4@gmail.com OR Ron Imus; rlius46@aol.com
- 193 contact: Tom Biehn; 757-672-9978; rtb6273@gmail.com

Thursday October 22 → October 24

152 Campers & Dancers: Alabama

Monte Sano State Park

5105 Nolen Ave, Huntsville, AL; 256-534-3757

- Make reservations by calling campground or online at:
<https://www.alapark.com/parks/monte-sano-state-park>
- RV sites \$42-\$52 full hookup. Cabins also available. 15% discount for seniors, active military and veterans, persons with disabilities, and State of Alabama employees.
- Contact Jan Bloodworth if you plan to come: 205-508-9331;
janb10756@yahoo.com

Thursday November 5 → November 7

152 Campers & Dancers: Alabama

Roaring Pines Campground

83 Roaring Pines Rd, Somerville, AL

- RV sites \$25 full hookup.
- Contact Jonna Denson if you plan to come at 205-807-2182;
jonnakaydenson@yahoo.com

Thursday November 12 → November 15

193 Roadrunner Squares: Florida

Lake Glenada RV Resort

2525 US Hwy 27, Avon Park, FL, 863-453-7007;

- Call the campground and make your reservation, then call Tom Biehn and let him know you are attending. Our weekends begin with Early Bird Thursday and end with a Worship & Coffee on Sunday.
- Tom Biehn; 757-672-9978; rtb6273@gmail.com

EXTRA! EXTRA! GREAT OPPORTUNITY

"Times Editor Needed"

The NSDCA needs an EDITOR for our TIMES publication.

What a great opportunity to improve your computer skills and get creative. Our editor, Ken Shacter has done an outstanding job and is willing to share his vast knowledge of publishing with you. Please consider taking advantage of this GREAT OPPORTUNITY. You'll get on the job training

Here's your chance to be a part of this great organization. With just 4 issues a year, a format already set and open to your ideas and creativity, you don't want to miss this great learning opportunity.

Please contact any board member or give Ken a call and get the scoop right from him. Thanks for considering this.

The NSDCA *TIMES*

...is published four times yearly for NSDCA members. The yearly subscription fee is included in the annual membership dues. The NSDCA *TIMES* is sent to all paid NSDCA members to provide: 1) general square dance camping information, 2) communications between Chapters and 3) information about NSDCA, Inc.

The Editor reserves the right to condense, omit, or edit articles in order to best use available space; submissions may be limited to 250 words and one photograph. Please note that opinions are not necessarily those of the Editorial Staff or the Association.

All material should be submitted for publication by email. US Post Office mail submissions will be accepted but must be typed or computer printed. All caps print will not be accepted. Hard copy (e.g., chat submissions, photos) will not be returned.

The Editors will not be responsible for material received after the deadline or material that is illegible or that violates the standards of the NSDCA.



The deadline for submission of articles, pictures and advertisements is the last day of January, April, July and October.



Unless identified as "Used with permission" or a reference is cited, items and articles used in this publication are not copyrighted and we encourage their use in the furtherance of Square Dancing. We only ask that if used, please give credit where due.

Advertising Information and & Rates

- RATES for MEMBER ads:

To encourage our NSDCA members, all NSDCA Chapters or NSDCA state, province or other member organizations may place one (1) ad (single page or smaller) once each year free of charge subject to available space. A second ad will be discounted 50% from the commercial rates. Subsequent ads for the same year will be receive a 25% discount from the commercial rate.

- RATES for COMMERCIAL and NON-MEMBER ads:

| | | | |
|-----------|---------|--------------------|---------|
| Full page | \$65.00 | Three-Quarter page | \$50.00 |
| Half page | \$35.00 | Quarter page | \$20.00 |

Contact the Editor today to place your ad at these fantastic prices! Questions concerning advertising in the NSDCA *TIMES* should be directed to the Editor.

EDITOR: Ken Shacter
EMAIL: NSDCAtimes@gmail.com

Please visit the NSDCA on the Internet at <https://www.nsdca.org>

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Butler, WI 53007-9998
(608) 228-3325
kathynickelnsdca@gmail.com

Publicity & Public Relations:

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grandekitbil@gmail.com

Historian:

Scott & Kay Reinhold
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(574) 309-3492
historian@nsdca.org

Communications Director:

Karin Callander
(336) 971-5656
kcallander989@gmail.com

Webmaster:

Bob Summers
Kemptville, Ontario, Canada
(613) 258-7511
summers_bob@yahoo.ca

NSDCA Registered Agent:

Tom Nickel
P.O. Box 241
Butler, WI 53007-9998
(608) 843-6941
tenickel@chorus.net

ARTS-Dance Representative:

Barbara Connelly
Lower Waterford, VT
(802) 745-7621
artsrep@nsdca.org

NSDCA AREA REPRESENTATIVES (2025-2026)

CANADA

The Board is seeking a volunteer to fill this position.

Please contact a Board Member (page 47) if you wish to be considered.

NORTH CENTRAL

(Indiana, Iowa, Minnesota, Ohio and Wisconsin)

David Lust and Sharon Schmidt; 121 Fieldstone Dr.; Lodi, WI 53555

(608) 650-5743 ; davidlust@ymail.com

NORTH EAST

(Connecticut, Delaware, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New Hampshire, New York, Rhode Island and Vermont)

Barbara Connelly

Lower Waterford, VT

(802) 748-8538; artsrep@nsdca.org

NORTH WEST

(Colorado, N & S Dakota, Idaho, Montana, Nebraska, Oregon, Washington and Wyoming)

The Board is seeking a volunteer to fill this position.

Please contact a Board Member (page 47) if you wish to be considered.

SOUTH CENTRAL

(Arkansas, Kansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, Oklahoma and Texas)

The Board is seeking a volunteer to fill this position.

Please contact a Board Member (page 47) if you wish to be considered.

SOUTH EAST []

(Alabama, Georgia, Kentucky, N & S Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia and W Virginia)

The Board is seeking a volunteer to fill this position.

Please contact a Board Member (page 47) if you wish to be considered.

SOUTH WEST

(Arizona, California, Nevada, New Mexico and Utah)

The Board is seeking a volunteer to fill this position.

Please contact a Board Member (page 47) if you wish to be considered.

ILLINOIS

Ruthann Sanders

(708) 946-6102; RSRN4@aol.com

FLORIDA

Dennis & Laura Ramsey; Fleming Island, FL

(904) 269-4405; ramseydp@comcast.net

PENNSYLVANIA

Park & Kathy Bierbower, Shippensburg, PA

(717) 300-5111; scoutguyone@gmail.com





2026

Illinois State Square Dance Association

State Camporee

June 5 – 7, 2026

All Dancers and Callers/Cuers Invited

Squares and Rounds Friday & Saturday

Marshall-Putnam Fairgrounds

915 University Ave. Henry, IL. 61537

Make Check payable to: Swing-N-Travelers

Mail to: Charlene Fahsbender, 1616 4H Park Rd. Pontiac, IL. 61764-9189

Charlene – (956) 532-4503

Last Name: _____ First: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Chapter Name: _____ Chapter Number: _____

Type of Unit: _____ Length: _____

Camping includes water/electric Fee: \$90.00

Extra Nights Camping : \$30.00/night _____ = \$ _____

Total \$ _____

Friday Evening meal provided: \$10.00/person (Bring your own drink)

Saturday Evening Potluck – All Campers Welcome

Sunday Morning Breakfast – Free Will Donation

Chapter Representatives

- 001 GARDEN STATE SQUARE DANCE CAMPERS; NJ/PA**
Ron & Pauline VandeVrede; (973) 343-3152; vandevrede@optonline.net
Geographic Center: Parsippany, New Jersey
- 002 PINE TREE; WI**
Tricia Chartier; (414) 807-4083; TriciaMooLady@gmail.com
Geographic Center: Milwaukee
- 014 BLACKHAWK CROSSTRAILERS; IL**
Bob & Cinda Asp; (815) 262-9080; sgbobasp@aol.com
Geographic Center: Rockford
- 021 ROVIN' SQUARES; PA**
Park & Kathy Bierbower; (717) 300-5111; scoutguyone@gmail.com
Geographic Center: Central PA
- C028 SWING 'N' CANADIANS; ON**
Hugh & Willie Pillon; (519) 251-8453; sunvalley1940@hotmail.com
Geographic Center: Windsor, ON, CA
- 031 BADGER ROVERS; WI**
Tom & Kathy Nickel; (608) 843-6941; tenickel@chorus.net
Geographic Center: Madison, WI
- 044 ILLIANA SQUARE WHEELERS; IL/IN**
Ruthann Sanders; (708) 946-6102; RSRN4@@aol.com
Geographic Center: Chicago, IL
- 045 PENN DIXIE SQUARE CAMPERS; PA/MD**
Jim Mongiovi & Anita Rayburn; (717) 349-2298; jmongiovi@pa.net
Geographic Center: Chambersburg, PA
- 055 FIRELITERS; IA**
Gene Boelsen; (641) 749-2416
Geographic Center: Garner
- 061 DAKOTA WHEELERS; SD**
Keith & Kari Pillatzke; (605) 886-7915; kpillatzke@hotmail.com
Geographic Center: State of SD
- 063 DIAMOND LACE-A-WAYS; DE/MD**
Bill & Pat Thompson; (302) 875-2812; chicken35@comcast.net
Geographic Center: Milford
- 066 TRADE-BY-TRAVELERS; IL**
Shari Millard; (815) 405-8373; sharimillard@yahoo.com
Geographic Center: Aurora
- 075 TRAIL'N' SQUARES; IL**
Margie Nightingale; (309) 781-1324
Geographic Center: Moline, IL
- 076 RIVER CITIES TRAVELIN SQUARES; IA**
Linda Russell; (563) 320-1694 ; l_russell@netins.net
Geographic Center: Davenport
- 085 MOBILE SQUARES; CO/NE**
Ron Skaley; (970) 381-5642; rskaley@msn.com
Geographic Center: Greeley, CO

- 106 SQUARE-UP CAMPERS; PA/MD**
 Dave & Kim Black; 717-367-8950
 Geographic Center: Mechanicsburg, PA
- 107 HOOSIER SWINGING SQUARES; IN**
 Scott & Kay Reinhold; (574) 309-3492; historian@nsdca.org
 Geographic Center: LaPaz
- 116 CAMPING SQUARES OF KANSAS; KS**
 Frank & Marty Golden; (316) 943-4137; fmgolden9515@sbcglobal.net
 Geographic Center: Wichita
- 119 WANDER YONDERS; WY**
 Leo & Diana Fergel; (307) 635-7312; lfergel@bresnan.net
 Geographic Center: Cheyenne
- 123 SWING-N-TRAVELERS; IL**
 David & Mary Bruun; (217) 381-4041; sewwood69@gmail.com
 Geographic Center: Pontiac
- 128 SQUARE WHEELS; FL**
 Ron & Linda Imus; rlius46@aol.com
 Geographic Center: Gainesville
- 148 ROLLING SQUARES; NE/IA**
 Ryan & Kristi Hruska; (402) 690-4772; rkhruska@cox.net
 Geographic Center: Omaha
- 152 CAMPERS & DANCERS; AL**
 Ken Waites; 205-601-2485; waiteskb@yahoo.com
 Geographic Center: Birmingham
- C175 RIVERSIDE GYPSY SQUARES; ON/QC/NY**
 Helen MacCallum; (613) 330-4873; helenmaccallum@sympatico.ca
 Geographic Center: Delta, ON, CA
- 181 MONTSHIRE CAMPIN' SQUARES; NH/VT**
 Arlo & Norma Burns; (603) 927-4454; njburns40@gmail.com
 Geographic Center: Lower Waterford, VT
- 193 FLORIDA ROADRUNNER SQUARES; FL**
 John Ide; (352)-208-5980; john.d.ide@hotmail.com
 Geographic Center: Port St. Lucie
- 196 WABASH VALLEY WHEEL AROUNDS; IN/IL/OH**
 Daniel & Marian Hatfield; (618) 554-3929; danandmarian@hotmail.com
 Geographic Center: Indianapolis, IN

[.] indicates a change in contact information from the previous issue.



NSDCA BLANKET LIABILITY INSURANCE

The NSDCA has had blanket liability insurance coverage for all its activities since August 1, 1975. We are currently buying insurance through the Lawley Vivacqua LLC Agency and are insured with the Atlantic Casualty Insurance Company.

This insurance is issued in the name of the association, all its affiliated chapters, and includes all officers and directors, of either the association or any chapter while it engages in any activity on behalf of their group. The limit of the liability is \$1,000,000.00 per incident (\$2,000,000 aggregate) for either bodily injury or property damage or both when NSDCA is negligent.

This is however **NOT accident insurance**. It covers only injury or damage caused by **accident or negligence** of the NSDCA or its chapters in the course of their activity. It will not necessarily pay for any injury that might happen. It has to happen in such a way that NSDCA would be legally held responsible for the injury. The insurance company would investigate and defend a claim resulting from any accident, but the injured party will normally not receive a settlement unless it can be proven there was negligence or fault of the Chapters or Association.

The policy is issued on a comprehensive liability form that covers the activities of the NSDCA or its chapters. This includes campouts, meetings, social affairs or any other type of an event, all of which are automatically insured. Specific questions should be referred to the company agent through whom the insurance is written.

The application Forms for Insurance Certificates, are available from the NSDCA at www.nsdca.org. There is no charge for the 'Proof of Insurance' certificate and it may be obtained by contacting:

Justine Schaper, Account Manager
Lawley Vivacqua Scheff, LLC
504 John James Audubon Parkway, Suite 302
Amherst, NY 14228
Email: jschaper@lawleyinsurancer.com
Phone 716-636-5820; FAX 866-211-4683

If the entity (land or building owner, municipality etc.) requires their name to be explicitly listed as an ADDITIONAL insured, there is an additional charge for each name to be added which is to be paid by the requesting chapter. The request must be made thru the NSDCA Board.

THE TEXAS CHALLENGE

Texas is known for some of the most unusual, humorous and downright bizarre road signs reflecting the state's unique culture and sense of humor. With towns named Ding Dong, Cut & Shoot and Uncertain, you should have no problem bringing back some crazy finds of your own. We challenge you to keep alert while your traveling thru and visiting Texas and bring back some to share with us.



AFTERTHOUGHTS

In the spirit of the above, Karen Gerbers (#196) provided a photo of one of her favorite signs (she also provided the cartoon on page 48), and no, it's not from a campground. Recall that Jim Sebesta (#045) made the great suggestion that all kinds of interesting signs one sees on their travels is fair game. This one certainly fits Jim's criterion, and I can sympathize with the intent of its creator. After all, my short-term memory is shot and my long-term memory is questionable—so who knows how much longer I'll be able to travel, much less remember the movements to the various square dance calls? And another reason to find a new editor for the *TIMES!*

Send your photo of an interesting sign sighted on your travels to NSDCAtimes@gmail.com. Please be sure to identify the location (if you can remember!) and, if a campground, provide a brief write-up of the facility.

Thank you. *Your NSDCA Editor*



NSDCA Chapters

| | |
|----|--|
| AL | 152 |
| CO | 085 |
| DE | 063 |
| FL | 128, 193 |
| IA | 055, 076, [148] |
| IL | 014, 044 , 066, 075, 123, [196] |
| IN | [044], 107, 196 |
| KS | 116 |
| MD | [045], [063], [106] |
| NE | [085], 148 |
| NH | [181] |
| NJ | 001 |
| NY | [175C] |
| OH | [196] |
| PA | [001], 021, 045 , 106 |
| QC | [175C] |
| SD | 061 |
| VT | 181 |
| WI | 002, 031 |
| WY | 119 |
| ON | 028C, 175C |

[...] Brackets indicates that the Chapter covers more than one state or province.

Bold indicates that multi-state/province Chapter is home-based in that state/province

Use of the NSDCA Logo

When using one of the NSDCA logos (shown below) do not include the ® (Registration symbol for Trademark).

If you have questions about the use of the NSDCA logo, contact a Board member for further clarification.

Thank you.



NSDCA

68th International Camporee



Ridin' High & Headin' West

June 17, 18 & 19, 2026

for a Wild Western Square Dance Party

The Coughatte Recreation Ranch

4029 Clay Ranch Ln. Bellville, Texas 77418

Three Full Days of Camping and Dancin' Fun

(Three nights of camping included in the registration fee.)



"Squares, Rounds, & Lines + Games & Workshops"

Registration forms are online at...

NSDCA.ORG

2026 Camporee Hosts:

George Ferguson & Sandy McIntire

(734) 735-1342

Co-Hosts Joey & Nikki Barret

2026 Camporee Registrar:

Susan Wolford

NSDCA, Inc.

P.O. Box 241

Butler, WI 53007-9998

(256) 673-0170



With the 75th NSDC
being in Waco, Texas
June 25, 26 & 27.
Make your plans now to
enjoy our 'Wild West'
Camporee on your way.

Bar-B-Que's
'Boot Stompin'-Dancin'
on a Texas Ranch

yahoo!

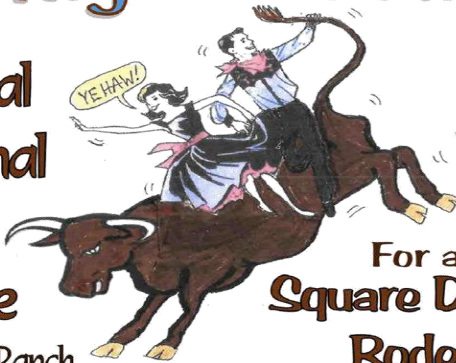
Remember registration discount for new members/1st-time attendees!

HAVE YOU MOVED?
Notify: NSDCA
P.O. Box 241
Butler, WI 53007-9998

**ADDRESS SERVICE
REQUESTED**

Ridin' High & Headin' West

**68th Annual
International
NSDCA
Camporee**
at the Coushatta Ranch



**June
17, 18 & 19
2026**

**For a
Square Dance
Rodeo in Texas**