



# Big Sky News Monthly Newsletter



Volume 19 | Issue 02 | Big Sky News

## *Announcement*

No breaking news/announcements this month. As always if you have any questions please contact me.

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

Thanks,  
Dave

## *Inside This Issue*

### **Editor Commentary**

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## *A note from the Editor*

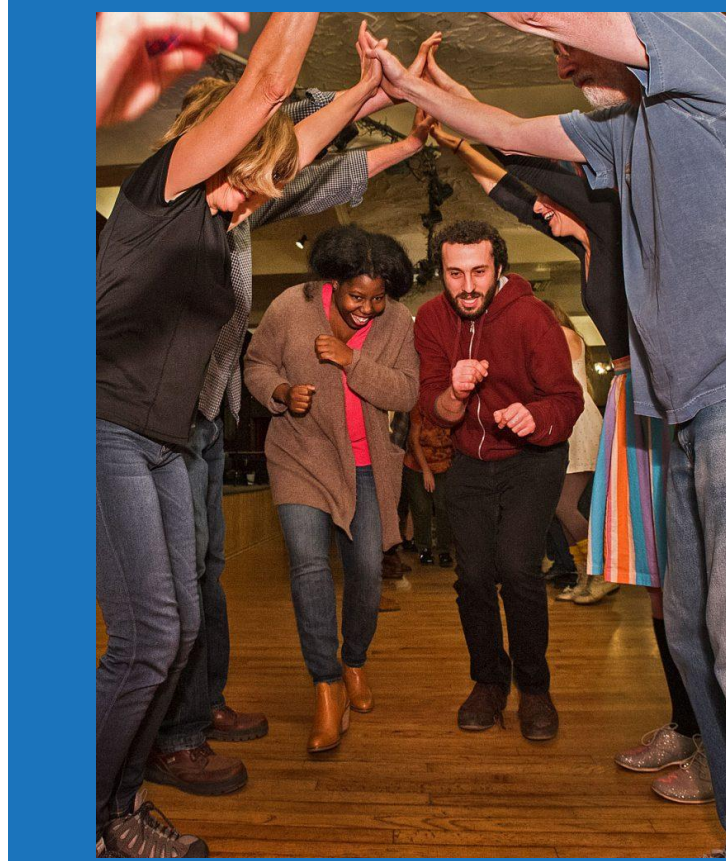
Intro into Square Dancing? What does that mean to you? We struggle with getting new members all the time. Today when I look at the demographics of the average dancer we are a more senior group. So how do we appeal to the younger crowd? Do we want to?

Last week I went to a “fun dance” in Montgomery AL and it was geared to inviting those that have never danced before. The Caller led us off with Circle dance followed by a first figure of a Quadrille. We also did a variation of a Cotton Eyed Joe and of course a Virginia Reel. We did do one tip of a mainstream dance as a demo. Fun night? You bet. But I have to query are dances from the 1700’s the ones we want to use as an introduction to modern square dancing? Let the conversation begin. Send me your thoughts, what should a “fun dance” consist of to entice new people to square dancing.

Send your comments to

[BSN@MontanaSquareDancing.com](mailto:BSN@MontanaSquareDancing.com)

David Hinds



*This space is reserved!*

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

Didn't get an input this month still hoping...

# Montana State Festival

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



## *Never been?*

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

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




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

MISSOULA, MT  
MAY 24-27, 2019



**Onsite Camping Information**  
Free dry camping will be available in the school parking lot  
Please help us leave the area in even better shape than we found it.



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

FairBridge Inn & Suites  
406-251-2665

Brooks Street Motor Inn  
800-538-3260


Sleep Inn  
406 543-5883

KOA Campground  
406-549-0881

Jim and Mary's RV Park  
406 549-4416

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

**Map**



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

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

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

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

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

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

**"STARS and STRIPES"**



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

**May 24-27, 2019**

Sentinel High School  
901 South Ave W.  
Missoula, MT

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Program Schedule**

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

**Saturday Morning**  
Phase 2+ Workshop & Teach with Barry & Bobbie  
9:00 - 10:30 am  
Mainstream Workshop with Scot  
10:30 am - 12:00 pm  
**Lunch Catered or On Your Own**  
12:00 - 1:00 pm

**Saturday Afternoon**  
Surprise Badge Dance with Barry  
1:00 - 2:00 pm  
Plus Workshop with Scot  
2:30 - 4:00 pm  
Advanced at floor level with Scot  
4:00 pm - 5:00 pm

**Saturday Evening**  
Pre-Rounds with Barry  
7:00 - 7:30 pm  
Grand March  
7:45 pm  
Mainstream & Plus tips with Scot  
8:00 - 10:00 pm  
After Party  
With Last Chance Squares  
10:00 pm

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

**Program Schedule**


**Sunday Morning**  
Phase 3+ Workshop and Teach with Barry & Bobbie  
9:00 - 10:30 am  
Plus Workshop with Scot  
10:30 am - 12:00 pm  
**Lunch Catered or On Your Own**  
12:00 - 1:30 pm

**Sunday Afternoon**  
Mainstream Dance with Scot  
1:30 - 3:00 pm  
Plus Dance with Scot  
3:00 - 4:30 pm

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

**Sunday Evening**  
Pre-Rounds with Barry  
7:30 - 8:00 pm  
Mainstream & Plus tips with Scot  
8:00 - 10:00 pm

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



**Thanks for joining us!**

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

PLEASE PRINT

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Make checks payable to:**  
MASRD

# Club Report

## Yellowstone Square Dance Council – Billings

by Ann Hindley

What, February already?! It's still hard to remember to write the date as 2019.

It looked like winter had finally arrived in the Billings area, with dangerous travel conditions prompting the cancellation of our New Year's Eve dance. Since then things have warmed considerably again and only a few remnants of drifts remain.

The mild weather has been good for dance numbers. There were a lot of new faces at the first contradance of the year. Our most recent Saturday plus dance boasted 3 squares, which is quite an accomplishment considering how many snowbirds we're missing. Most exciting of all, we had 19 new folks at the first intro dance for the Checkerboard Squares' beginner program. The hall was full of smiles and many new folks took cards to hand out as invitations to friends. The second intro dance has not yet happened as of this writing, so we're all hoping to see even more then. The Silhouettes are going strong as well. Larry ventures north a couple times a month; and a huge thanks to Hunter for taking over cueing duties in Larry's absence.



Quite a few of our dancers are planning to hit the road for the Plus workshop and dance in Forsyth on January 26. After that we'll have the Checkerboard Squares' Spring Dance on March 16 and the Kut N Kapers Spring Dance in Cody April 26-27.

Happy Valentine's Day everyone. Hope you all see lots of squares at your Valentine dances!

# Club Report Great Falls

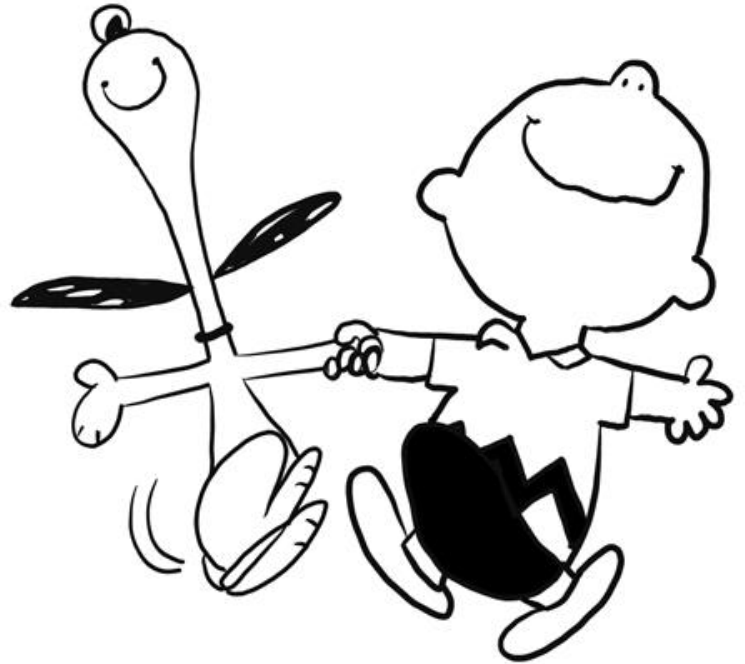
by Linda Wallace

We have graduated our 7 new students and conducting mainstream workshop lessons which the club members and graduates are all enjoying. It is a lively time with lots of learning and laughing which is always good.

Our Sweetheart Dance and Bake Sale will be held February 9th with Adam Christman from Washington calling and cueing. The A dance goes from 1-2, Plus dance from 2-4, Pot luck at 6:00 and pre-rounds starts the evening off at 6:45. Mainstream dancing starts at 7pm and goes until 9:00. We would love to see you there if possible.

The rest of the month is busy with Mainstream lessons on Feb 10th, Feb 17th and Feb 24th. They are held at Missouri River Manor from 4-6pm. Anyone is welcome to join.

Our Plus dance on Feb 2nd had to be cancelled but we will have our Club dance on Feb 23rd from 6:30-9:00 at the Missouri River Manor with David Hinds calling and cueing.



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

# Club Report Hamilton

by Dee Terrill Moenich

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

Our March dances are:

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

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

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

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

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

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



# Club Report Helena

by Cathy Kaiser



Also, please add " Helena Last Chance Squares had a fun January with 13 members joining Steve Sullivan's square dance cruise on the Caribbean. There are also several fun dances coming up the next 3 months so we hope you can join us! February and Marches flyers below!



## February 16, 2019 "Box Social" Lunch

Every woman brings a lunch to share

Mark the date and join us at 12:00 pm (noon) for a "good old fashion" Box Social for lunch. We are having an afternoon dance to encourage everyone to join us and be able to get home early.

 We will also have a Valentine Box, so   
everyone bring a Valentine to put in the box. 

Who: Last Chance Squares, Helena, Montana

Where: Broadwater School, Playground Entrance

We will start at 12:00 (Noon) Sharp

with the bidding so "Don't be late please".

Dancing will start at 1:30 with MS/Plus tips. We will end at 4:00

Why: To have a fun time for all

## Last Chance Squares is sponsoring a "Donkey Party"

For all you dancers who are not "Donkey Club" members, now is your chance to become one.



March 16, 2019

Bob Hogemark will be calling

Glen Tusler doing the cueing



Where: Broadwater School, playground entrance.

Admittance: \$7.00 per person for evening only

\$10:00 per person afternoon & evening

When: 2:30 - 4:00 pm Plus

4:00 pm , with Cornbeef & cabbage cooked by Bill Bandy

5:00 Pre-rounds

5:30 MS/with Plus tips

7:30 We close up the school and travel to the BHB at the fairgrounds for the "Donkey Party". Come and join us and get your Donkey Badge



Donkey Club members wear your badge





# Club Report Kalispell

by Roger Jones

Nope

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

Next Month??



# Club Report

## Libby

by Jo Wilson

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

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



### Libby Spinning Squares 2018-2019 Dance Schedule



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

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

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

All times are Mountain Standard time

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

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

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

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

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

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

A Williams Listening Transmitter will be available at dances.



# Club Report Miles City

by Lynn Strobel

Prairie Stars, Miles City

Nothing new for the month of February!



# Club Report Lolo

by Debby Ernst



**SOLO STARS in LOLO**

**FEBRUARY 2019**

Happy February, Dancers! We would LOVE to have you join us!

There will be NO dancing at the Lolo Dance Center Jan-Mar. BUT, we're still dancing!

**JAN-MAR 2019** – Come join us at the **LOLO COMMUNITY CENTER**  
for **square and round dancing!**

**7-9:00 pm, every 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Fri; \$5**

We're dancing to CDs, but it's still great fun! Dress casual if you'd like.  
Dancers are also covered by insurance.

Keep Barry and Bobbie in your thoughts as they winter in AZ for a few months.

We look forward to their return in April.

Until next time, Debby E reporting.

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

# Club Report Plains

by Darlene Jolly

The “**MONTANA MAVERICKS**” January dance was held at the bank with Adam Christman & Lorrie Lane. We had 18 in attendance including 4 guests from Kalispell. Roads were great, but sickness abounds in the area, so we were missing some regular dancers. Hope they get well soon. Adam & Lorrie always do a fun dance for us. Lots of laughter & camaraderie. We are very proud of them both & thank them for taking such good care of us.

Our class this year shrunk to 1 – she is doing great – so great in fact that we will finish the season with an hour each Friday to teach her & then an hour to teach plus to our own dancers. A rare opportunity for us. We get Lorrie one night a week, so whatever we do has to be done in that one night. She drives nearly 100 miles each way every week for us. She has done that since we started here in Plains in 2003. That is above & beyond dedication & we certainly do appreciate it. I’m sure she cherishes her summers off from the trip weekly.



Adam will be calling our February & March dances also, so hope you can join us.

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

Any questions call Darlene at 826-8951.