

GRAPEVINE

Volume 137

Yellowstone Square Dance Council

April 2026



70th Annual
Knothead Jamboree
Square & Round Dance Festival
featuring Andy Allemao
September 4-7, 2026

Union Pacific Dining Lodge
220 Yellowstone Ave, West Yellowstone, MT



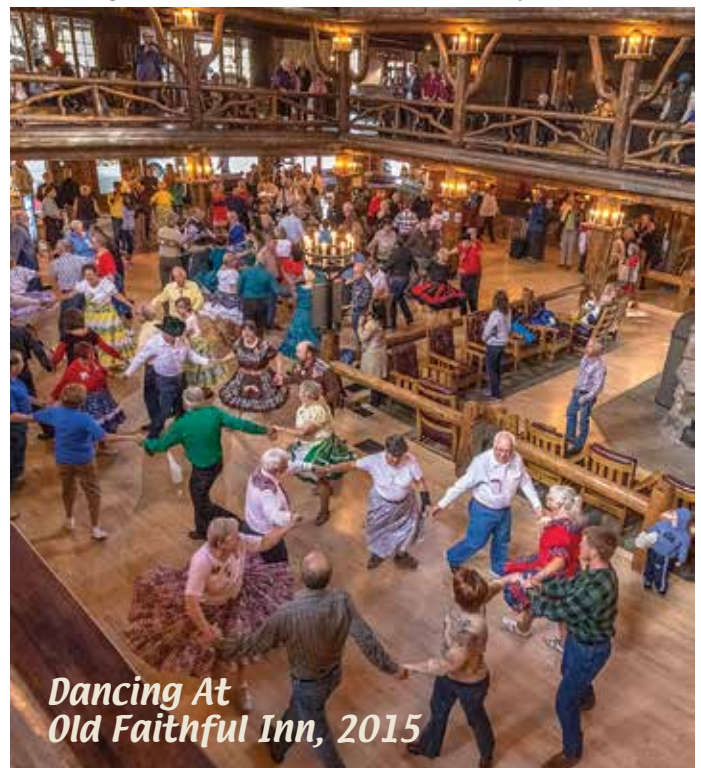
Years ago, anyone who traveled over 100 miles to attend a square dance was considered a “Knothead.” A number of areas throughout the country hosted special dances to celebrate said Knotheads and to give more dancers a chance to join their ranks. Our own version began in 1955 and was sponsored at that time by four states: Idaho, Montana, Utah and Wyoming. It is now the last existing Knothead Jamboree in the U.S.

In the beginning, the Knothead Jamboree was held at Old Faithful Inn. Due to challenging logistics, the dance was eventually moved to the Union Pacific Dining Lodge. It’s an impressive location with soaring ceilings, light streaming through expansive windows and the callers and cuers doing their thing from inside (yes, inside) the huge stone fireplace.

To honor the 60th Anniversary of the Knothead Jamboree in 2015, we were invited to return to Old Faithful Inn for an afternoon dance. What an experience that was! The dance floor area was a bit “snug” for dancers and tourists at the same time; sometimes we had to keep our squares pretty small! Interacting with the tourists and answering questions offered a fun opportunity to practice some “outreach.”

Interaction with the public happens quite often at the Knothead. Folks see the banner over the front door of the Dining Lodge, or hear the music, and then wander in to watch and ask questions. Talking to spectators from all over the country and the world is almost as much fun as the dancing!

So, as you plan your summer, see if you can end it on a high note on Labor Day Weekend, meeting new dancers or dancing with those you only get to enjoy once or twice a year. Newer dancers and old hands alike are welcome. Make yourself a part of history by dancing at the only surviving Knothead Jamboree in the country!



LOOK!

Yellowstone Square Dance Council
COUNCIL MEETING

Saturday, April • 5 p.m.
First Presbyterian Church

These meetings are open to all dancers and we’d sure like to have you join us. This is your organization and we need to hear your thoughts, your ideas and what you’d like to see in the future. Please join us!



Checkerboard Squares

Bob Hogemark, Caller
Thursday evenings Mainstream
7:00-9:00 First Presbyterian Church

It's hard to believe we're coming to the end of another dance season. Time does fly when you're having fun!

Speaking of fun, it was good to see some of our newer members at the Spring Dance. They survived Lynn's afternoon workshop and were back for more on Saturday night. Good job, folks!

Looking ahead, Checkerboards are the only ones with club dances in May, with our last regular dance on May 7 and our Beginner Hoedown on May 14. Our two surviving beginners missing in action due to pesky ranch work getting in the way of dancing. We hope they'll be able to sneak away on the 14th! If not, remember, we were all beginners at one point and now we're just beginners with a little more experience, so the Beginner's Hoedown is for all of us. So, see you there!

The season's almost over but dancing is not! Hunter's Summer Mainstream Dances will keep the cobwebs away. Pick up a schedule and join us as often as you can.

NEW LOCATION!

68th Annual
Magic City
Hoedown



A WHOLE DAY OF DANCING:

Round Dance Workshop!
Mainstream Square Dance Workshop!
Plus & Mainstream Square Dancing!
Round Dancing!

Saturday, May 2

Trinity Lutheran School gym
802 Belvedere Dr (south of Grand)

Calling by Butch Suttley
Rounds by Larry & Susan Sperry

Details at squaredancemontana.com



Silhouettes

Larry & Susan Sperry, Hunter Keller, Cuers
Sundays: see website for times
<http://www.larrysperry.com>

We arrived back in Billings April 3 after a good winter teaching and cueing in Arizona. We held our first class in Billings on Monday April 6 and dancers reported that Hunter did a wonderful job keeping them up to speed. THANKS, HUNTER. Bob Hogemark also kept our Round dancers engaged at Checkerboard, THANKS, BOB.

We started a new class of Two Step on Tuesday night, April 7. Most of last year's beginner dancers are returning for the new class and a new couple joining us is Jay Roan and JingXin. The beginners are taking well to Two Step and we learned a lot the first night. We will be repeating all of it next week since a few people were missing due to travel. Bob Hindley is recording the sessions and will share them with class via email link. THANKS, BOB.

We are happy to be home and working with our clubs. We look forward to Paul & Gogi Clark joining us again in early May. We also are expecting some AZ dancers to visit Silhouettes Club this summer. Larry will be cueing at the remaining Checkerboard and Plus Club sessions. We look forward to seeing you all again!

Larry and Susan Sperry

Billings Plus Group

Lynn Strobel, Bob Hogemark, Hunter Keller, callers
7:00-9:00 p.m., First Presbyterian Church
Saturdays, see website or calendar for dates

Our final two dances of the season are April 11 with Lynn and the 18th with Hunter. Hunter has put out his schedule of Summer Dances; be sure to pick one up. They'll also be listed in the May *Grapevine*.

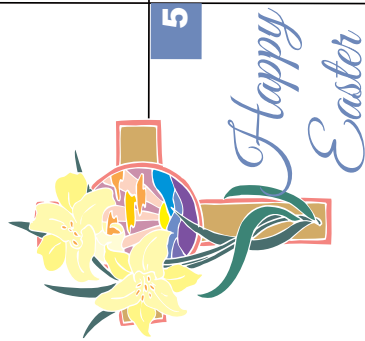
It wasn't a Plus dance, but it was on a Saturday, so we'll give a big **Thank You** to all who came to the Spring Dance on March 28. Three squares in the afternoon and four squares in the evening were kept moving by Lynn's always enjoyable calling. At the workshop in the afternoon Lynn introduced some of the calls that have recently been moved from Advance to Plus level. So those in attendance got a sneak preview of the Plus lessons Lynn will be offering in the fall.

Oh, and don't forget, Hunter will be offering Summer Plus dances over the coming months. Pick up a schedule and be ready to go! Let's show Hunter our appreciation by attending as often as we can.

Nothing but smiles at the Spring Dance on March 28! Thanks Lynn for keeping our feet dancing and our brains learning. What a great way to spend a Saturday!

APRIL

2026



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
29	30	31	1	2	3	4
	Silhouettes 7-9 pm Casa Village Rec Hall (Larry)	Round Dance Two-Step Lessons 7:15-8:45 pm Casa Village Rec Hall	Happy April Fool's Day!	Checkerboard Squares Beginners/ Mainstream 7-9 pm First Presbyterian		YSDC COUNCIL MEETING 5 p.m. First Presbyterian Plus Dancing (Lynn) 7-9 p.m. First Presbyterian
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
	Silhouettes 7-9 pm Casa Village Rec Hall (Larry)	Round Dance Two-Step Lessons 7:15-8:45 pm Casa Village Rec Hall		Checkerboard Squares Beginners/ Mainstream 7-9 pm First Presbyterian		
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
	Silhouettes 7-9 pm Casa Village Rec Hall (Larry)	Round Dance Two-Step Lessons 7:15-8:45 pm Casa Village Rec Hall		Checkerboard Squares Beginners/ Mainstream 7-9 pm First Presbyterian		Plus Dancing (Hunter) 7-9 p.m. First Presbyterian
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
	Silhouettes 7-9 pm Casa Village Rec Hall (Larry)	Round Dance Two-Step Lessons 7:15-8:45 pm Casa Village Rec Hall		Checkerboard Squares Beginners/ Mainstream 7-9 pm First Presbyterian		4th Annual Saturday Frolic MAINSTREAM (Hunter) 7-9 p.m. First Presbyterian
26	27	28	29	30	1	2
	Silhouettes 7-9 pm Casa Village Rec Hall (Larry)	Round Dance Two-Step Lessons 7:15-8:45 pm Casa Village Rec Hall		Checkerboard Squares Beginners/ Mainstream 7-9 pm First Presbyterian		

Yellowstone Square Dance Council Grapevine YSDC Executive Committee 2025-2026

April 2026

Office	Name	Phone	Email Address
President	Dave Nelson	406-652-5849	dnels@bresnan.net
Vice President	Brent Littler	406-480-0076	bwlittler@gmail.com
Treasurer	Dee Littler	406-480-0978	goodtogomom@gmail.com
Secretary	Pat Hastings	406-696-0281	pathast@live.com

YSDC Standing Committee Chairpersons

Committee	Name	Phone	Email Address
Grapevine Editor	Ann Hindley	406-373-6959	achindley@gmail.com
Insurance	Dee Littler	406-480-0978	goodtogomom@gmail.com
Improvement Board	Hunter Keller	406-690-2640	Hunter@HunterKeller.com

Callers and Cuers

Name	Phone	Email Address	Website
Caller Bob & Wvette Hogemark	406-690-3363	bhogemark@pcsd5.org	
Caller Hunter Keller	406-690-2640	Hunter@HunterKeller.com	hunterkeller.com
Cuer Larry & Susan Sperry	406-670-3210	sperryscue@earthlink.net	larrysperry.com
Caller Lynn & Judy Strobel	406-234-7384h, 406-951-1088c	strobell@midrivers.com	lynnstrobel.com

Club Dance Locations

Square Dance: First Presbyterian Church, 13th Street West and Poly Drive, Billings

Round Dance: Casa Village Rec Hall, 110 Tracer Drive, Billings

Yellowstone Square Dance Council (YSDC) Grapevine Newsletter

YSDC is an educational, non-profit organization for the promotion of square, round, folk, clogging and related dance instruction in the eastern Montana-northern Wyoming areas. Please send Grapevine mail to **Ann Hindley, Editor YSDC Grapevine, 3143 Cline Rd., Billings, MT 59105.**

Address all articles and correspondence to the editor. You may also send editorial matter via email to **achindley@gmail.com**. Photos may be mailed or may be submitted in high resolution digital format via email. The deadline for all materials is the 20th of the month preceding publication.

YSDC CLUBS WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Day	Time	Club	Location
Monday	7-9 p.m.	Silhouettes Round Dancing	Casa Village Rec Hall
Tuesday	7:15-8:45 p.m.	Beginner Round Dancing	Casa Village Rec Hall
Thursday	7-9 p.m.	Checkerboard Squares beginners/mainstream	First Presbyterian Church
Saturday	7-9 p.m. p.m.	Plus Dancing (as scheduled, see calendar)	First Presbyterian Church

Visitors dancing at the appropriate level are always welcome at any club dance. No dress code. Please check the monthly calendar elsewhere in this newsletter and also our website for schedule updates and cancellations.

OPEN DANCE SCHEDULE

Date	Time	Event	Featured Caller/Cuer	Location
May 14	7-9 p.m.	Beginner Hoedown	Bob Hogemark	First Presbyterian, Billings
May 2	several	Magic City Hoedown	Butch Suttley, L&S Sperry	Trinity School, Billings
April 25	7-9 p.m.	Fourth Saturday Frolic*	Hunter Keller	First Presbyterian, Billings

* All 4th Saturday Frolic dances are mainstream dances by callers as listed above, with round dancing between tips.

STATE, REGIONAL & NATIONAL DANCES

Date	Event	Featured Caller/Cuer	Location
May 2	Magic City Hoedown	Caller: Butch Suttley Cuer: L&S Sperry	Billings, MT
May 22-25	2026 Montana State Festival	Caller: A. Allemao Cuer: L. & S Sperry	Helena, MT
June 24-27	Ph. 4 Round Dance Clinic	Larry & Susan Sperry	Lolo, MT
June 24-27	Nat'l Square Dance Convention	All Callers/Cuers	Waco, TX
July 10-12	Plus on the Boulder	Lynn & Judy Strobel, Larry & Susan Sperry	Big Timber, MT
July 31-Aug. 1	Mainstream at Lolo	Lynn & Judy Strobel, Larry & Susan Sperry	Lolo, MT
August 6-8	Lolo Stomp Plus Weekend	Lynn & Judy Strobel	Lolo, MT
August 6-8	USA West	All Callers/Cuers	Cedar City, Utah
September 4-7	Knothead Jamboree	Andy Allemao	West Yellowstone, MT
September 10-13	Buggy Stomp	L.Sperry, L. Strobel, D. Guille	Laramie, WY

**Flyers for many of these dances can be viewed at www.squaredancemontana.com and/or caller websites
We'll also have flyers at the club dances at First Presbyterian. Check them for more details.**