

GRAPEVINE

Volume 140

Yellowstone Square Dance Council

October 2026

Welcome, New Dancers!

Congratulations on stepping outside your comfort zone to give us a try! We're happy you've decided to join us. We all made the same decision at some point and you can see how many are glad they did!

Right now you may feel like you're just dipping your toes in the water to see what this is all about. But just wait...very soon, as each Thursday rolls around, those same toes will be tapping and eager to hit the dance floor.

There's a saying in square dancing: "Join a square, make a circle of friends." We've been told that square dancers are the friendliest dancers in town. Well, we're dancing with everyone here, so we can't help it!

That's what makes square dancing a little different. You're not just interacting with your partner or your small group of friends. You're dancing as a team with the others in your square. You're coordinating with them and helping each other figure things out. In this kind of situation, strangers don't remain strangers for long!

You're dancing into a world where people love their activity, love to share it and are ready to do whatever is needed to nourish it. Square dancing is interaction with everyone in the square, which in turn leads to connection with other dancers even after the dancing's done. In turn, that trust jump-starts new friendships, and community grows naturally.

And what's better than a community centered on fun and friendship? It's a safe spot where the only "agenda" is sharing with each other the enjoyment we all find in dancing. We laugh when things fall apart and we celebrate when the whole square "clicks." Then the social time between tips gives us time to build the connections that we've begun on the floor.

You'll also notice that this is not a place where you just lay down your money, dance and go home. It's also not a commercial enterprise with establishment staff and a janitorial crew. We OWN this activity! We bring snacks when we feel like it, we help to leave the venue as we found it, we make sure people feel welcome. It's just another layer of community. We're all in this together...on all levels!

At the end of the evening, when we make our big circle, you'll see for yourself that you've joined a circle of friends. We're glad you're here; we hope you are, too!



COMING IN OCTOBER!!!

Plus Dancing/Lessons Kickoff

With
Lynn and Judy Strobel
Sponsored by Saturday Night Plus Group

First Presbyterian Church
2420 13th Street West (Corner of 13th Street West and Poly Drive)
>BILLINGS, MT<

Saturday, October 3, 2026

Casual Dress

Program designed for dancers that are comfortable with
Mainstream Level dancing and desire to add Plus Level
dancing; Along with those that already dance at the Plus Level

Since these sessions will include dance movements NEW to the
Plus List, everyone is encouraged to attend both sessions

3:00 to 5:00 p.m.

Plus Dancing/Plus Lessons

7:00 to 9:00 p.m.

Continue Plus Dancing/Plus Lessons

\$10 per Person per session

Or

\$ 15 per Person for both sessions

Plus Lessons/Dancing will continue per the Saturday Night Plus Schedule.

For information contact Lynn and Judy @ 406-951-1088

DANCE

TO YOUR HEART'S CONTENT



♥ **Regular social connection to
improve our mood, reduce stress
and make our hearts happy!**

♥ **Regular aerobic activity
that feels like fun, not exercise,
and makes our hearts strong!**



Treat your heart to INTRODUCTORY SQUARE DANCING

Thursdays ♥ 7-9 p.m.

First Presbyterian Church • 13th & Poly • Billings, MT

FREE **Registration Dances** **October 15 & 22**

Smoke & alcohol free • No experience necessary
No special attire, wear comfortable clothes and non-marking shoes
Singles, couples, groups welcome • Partners recommended but not required
Ages 12 & up • Under 15 must be accompanied by an adult
for more info go to squaredancemontana.com
or the Yellowstone Square Dance Council Facebook page
Or call **406-373-6959**

FOURTH SATURDAY FROLIC

All Mainstream dancers, this is for you!
You're all so patient in encouraging our new
dancers in their learning experience. This
is your reward and a time to relax and grow
your own skills. Lynn's calling on Saturday,
October 24, 7-9 p.m., will be a special treat
at First Presbyterian Church.



Silhouettes

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

Seems like I just wrote a news article. Monday group has been working on a phase 5 Rumba suggested by Terry Drange. We are on week 3 and taking it slowly. We will finish the teach during our next Monday session.

Tuesday group (no longer referred to as beginners) has completed learning the basic phase 3 Slow 2, aka "nightclub," figures and a couple of phase 4 figures. They are currently learning a popular phase 3 Slow 2 step named "Can't Help Falling." If all goes well they will be able to dance it at Checkerboard Squares in the near future. The Tuesday group will review Rumba, Cha, Waltz, Two Step and Jive in November and December.

Our final session for the year will be Tuesday, December 15, as a combined group party dance.

Susan and I will be gone October 3-10 as we travel to St George, Utah to staff the Huntsman World Senior games square and round dance division. We will miss a few square dances, but Larry will cue for most of the remaining dances this year, including the Caller's Christmas dance on Saturday Dec 5. We will home through Christmas and then head South. We return April 2, 2027 and will start Silhouette Club April 5 & 6.

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

*Don't forget the **Plus Lessons and Dance Season Kickoff Saturday, October 3!** Check the flyer on page 1 for more information. Here's a note from Lynn with a few more details:*

For those of you new to Plus dancing, we will introduce you to the plus movements beginning on the 3rd and continuing during the following weeks until you have had a chance to dance all of the plus movements.

For those of you that are already Plus dancers, from the 3rd and during the following weeks, we will introduce you to the plus movements that have been added to the plus list for 2026 as well as review the other movements. Even those these will be lessons, I will do my best to make each session feel as much like a regular dance as possible.

We look forward to another good year of Plus Dancing and hope to see you next Saturday, October 3.



Checkerboard Squares

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

We've got two dances under our belts already. The first night was small; sometimes it takes folks a while to switch from summer to autumn mode. Week two was better attended with just shy of three squares. The return of Leann and Shelby, Jennie and Greg, and Cyndi and Charlie have been happy surprises. We hope to see a whole lot more of all of them in the future.

We're also enjoying our snowbirds while they're still here. Don't go too soon!

Bob's been testing the new knee to make sure they gave him the dancing model. So far it looks like they did!

We've all been hanging posters and handing out cards to promote this season's beginner program. October 15 and 22 are our introductory/registration dances, and this year they're FREE. That means there's still a couple weeks left to steer potential dancers our way.

Even if you don't regularly dance with the Checkersboards, we'd be very grateful for your help in this effort. We'll have extra posters and cards at Lynn's **Plus Kickoff on October 3**. Please take some to share with potential dancers.

Ann recently spoke to an exercise group at a local church about the health benefits of square dancing. Judging by the questions afterward, there appeared to be quite a bit of interest in the beginner sessions. Let's hope they still feel that way in a couple weeks! Do you know a group which would be interested in the classes, but you're not comfortable with public speaking? No worries. You find the group, Ann will do the talking. Contact her at (406) 373-6959.

Our first regular club dance after the two free registration nights will be October 29. You know what that means... Halloween Party! We'll have treats, a costume contest and maybe some other shenanigans. Please help us welcome our new folks to their first regular dance with a little bit of spooky and a whole lot of fun!

Finally, don't forget the **Fourth Saturday Frolic on Oct. 24**, the last until Jan. 23 This one is special with **Lynn** as guest caller, so don't miss it!

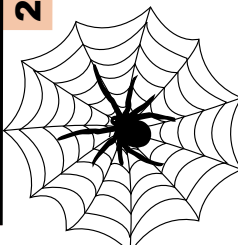
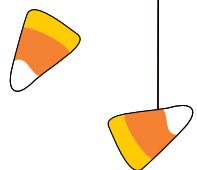
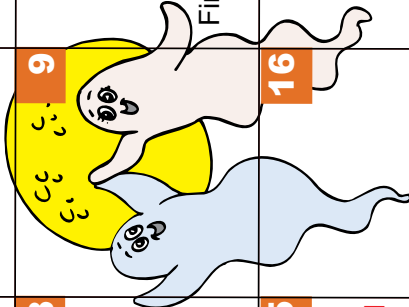
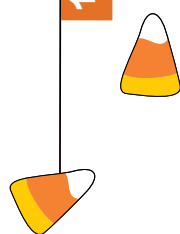
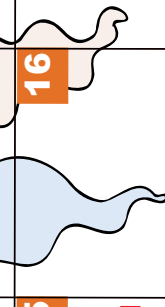
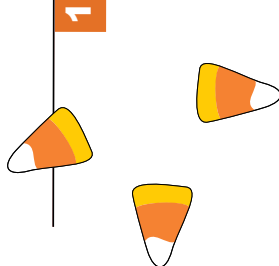
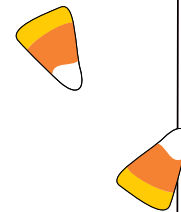
LOOK!

Due to a rise in insurance rates, dues for the 2026-27 season will increase to \$12 per person, due by Dec. 1, 2026. Besides insurance, dues also go toward this Grapevine publication and YSDC expenses.

The computer in charge of the squaredancemontana.com website recently suffered a nervous breakdown. Our professional computer whiz son has agreed to provide therapy, so we should be able to update information on the website soon.

OCTOBER 2026



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
27 	28 Silhouettes 6:30-8:30 pm Casa Village Rec Hall (Larry)	29 Tuesday Round Dance 7:15-8:45 pm Casa Village Rec Hall	30 	1 Checkerboard Squares Mainstream 7-9 pm First Presbyterian	2	3 Plus Dancing & Lessons Kickoff 3-5, 7-9 First Presbyterian (Lynn)
4 	5 NO ROUND DANCING	6	7	8 Checkerboard Squares Mainstream 7-9 pm First Presbyterian	9 	10 Plus Dancing (Lynn) 7-9 p.m. First Presbyterian
11 	12 Silhouettes 6:30-8:30 pm Casa Village Rec Hall (Larry)	13 Tuesday Round Dance 7:15-8:45 pm Casa Village Rec Hall	14	15 Checkerboard Squares Beginner Mainstream REGISTRATION DANCE 7-9 pm First Presbyterian	16 	17 Plus Dancing (Lynn) 7-9 p.m. First Presbyterian
18 	19 Silhouettes 6:30-8:30 pm Casa Village Rec Hall (Larry)	20 Tuesday Round Dance 7:15-8:45 pm Casa Village Rec Hall	21	22 Checkerboard Squares Beginner Mainstream REGISTRATION DANCE 7-9 pm First Presbyterian	23	24 4th SATURDAY FROLIC Full Mainstream First Presbyterian 7-9 pm (Hunter)
25 	26 Silhouettes 6:30-8:30 pm Casa Village Rec Hall (Larry)	27 Tuesday Round Dance 7:15-8:45 pm Casa Village Rec Hall	28	29 Checkerboard Squares HALLOWEEN PARTY 7-9 pm First Presbyterian	30 	31 Plus Dancing (Lynn) 7-9 p.m. First Presbyterian

Yellowstone Square Dance Council Grapevine YSDC Executive Committee 2025-2026

October 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
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Insurance	Dee Littler	406-480-0978	goodtogomom@gmail.com

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Name	Phone	Email Address	Website
Caller Bob & Wyette 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	sperryescue@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.	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
October 3	3 & 7 p.m.	Plus Lessons Kickoff	Lynn Strobel	First Presbyterian, Billings
October 24	7-9 p.m.	Fourth Saturday Frolic*	Lynn Strobel	First Presbyterian, Billings
Jan. 23, 2027	7-9 p.m.	Fourth Saturday Frolic*	Hunter Keller	First Presbyterian, Billings
February 27	7-9 p.m.	Fourth Saturday Frolic*	Hunter Keller	First Presbyterian, Billings
April 24	7-9 p.m.	Fourth Saturday Frolic*	Hunter Keller	First Presbyterian, Billings
May 1	several	Magic City Hoedown	Caller: B. Suttey Cuer: L&S Sperry	Billings, MT
May 13	7-9 p.m.	Beginner Hoedown	Bob Hogemark	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 28-31	2027 Montana State Festival	Caller: Adam Christman Cuer: L. & S Sperry	Lolo, MT
June 12	Plus Workshop & Dance	Lynn & Judy Strobel	Forsyth, MT
June 23-26	Ph. 4 Round Dance Clinic	Larry & Susan Sperry	Lolo, MT
June 23-26	Nat'l Square Dance Convention	All Callers/Cuers	Loveland, CO
July 9-11	Plus on the Boulder	Lynn & Judy Strobel, Larry & Susan Sperry	Big Timber, MT
August 12-14	Lolo Stomp Plus Weekend	Lynn & Judy Strobel	Lolo, MT
September 3-6	Knothead Jamboree		West Yellowstone, MT

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.