

GRAPEVINE

Volume 122

Yellowstone Square Dance Council

September 2024

WELCOME BACK!



We've seen a lot of you at various dances in various places over the summer but it will sure be nice to see everybody together in one place again.

This season brings a major change as we settle into our new home at First Presbyterian Church. It's a beautiful facility and a bit more centrally located, so it may help in our recruitment. It was so hard to leave the iconic Cedar Hall, the home of square dance in Billings since the '80s. Many dancers, past and present, gave their time and effort to make it a space where we felt comfortable, welcome and free to let our hair down.

Still, the heart of our dance community isn't in the venue, it's in each other. As long as we remember that, there's no stopping us! So welcome back, glad to see you, let's get dancing! And thank you, Pastor Dave, and the First Presbyterian Church, for our new home.

2024 Montana State Square and Round Dance Festival

It's coming, it's here, it's gone. that's how it felt to everyone involved in hosting the Festival this year. And that means everybody; our dancers' response to our requests for help was incredible. Thanks for the setup, cleanup, parking assistance, check-in table, bookkeeping, cookie baking, everything!

And so was the Festival. We'd hoped for 10 squares so we could break even. We got 17 squares. Between our much appreciated visitors and Peggy and Brian's auctions, our bottom line was healthy.

We also have to thank the 4-H for providing breakfast and lunch options for our dancers. We didn't have to sacrifice space for a rest area and they raised funds for their very deserving organization. And it was sure easier than trying to get out of the parking lot and back on graduation day.



First Presbyterian Church

Thanks to our callers. So many of our guests said it was the best Festival they'd attended in a while. This dancer had never seen an entire evening dance geared toward beginner dancers. And nobody knew...a testament to their skill. One brand new dancer I know was still beaming two days later. Thanks for a great weekend everyone!





Silhouettes

Larry & Susan Sperry, Hunter Keller, Cuers
Mondays 7-9 p.m., Casa Village Rec Center
<http://www.larrysperry.com>

Silhouette summer dancing on Mondays started off with a bang. We had 7 couple plus Paul and Gogi Clark up until Boulder Plus weekend. Bob and Margaret Timm also visited a couple of times. We had 7 couples of beginners on Tuesday nights.

The last 3 or 4 weeks we have been missing Smiths, Dranges, Davises and Fletchers due to health related issues. We canceled Monday nights twice because we did not have enough people.

We are still getting 6 couples on Tuesday and those new dancers can dance a few phase 2 waltzes and phase 3 rumbas. These nights will continue until 3rd week in Oct as we become snow birds to Arizona. We bid a get well wish to our missing dancers.

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

We're sad to see summer end, but the silver lining in that cloud is that it's time to begin a new dance season! The new season is especially exciting this year as we have a number of dancers who are ready to move into Plus level dancing.

Let's give them a rousing welcome with the **Plus Dancing/Lessons Kickoff** happening on **Saturday, October 5**. Lynn and Judy will be here to introduce our new folks to what they'll be dancing with us on Saturday nights. It's designed for dancers who are comfortable with Mainstream and want to go on to Plus. **Of course, current Plus dancers are encouraged to attend both sessions, too.**

Kickoff sessions are from 3-5 p.m. where we'll review Mainstream and introduce Plus Dancing/Lessons. Then from 7-9 p.m. there will be more of the same. Plus lessons and dancing will then continue each Saturday night according to the Plus dance schedule (check the Grapevine calendar each month).

It's all happening at the First Presbyterian Church, 2420 13th St. W (corner of 13th St. W. and Poly Drive).

Kickoff cost is **\$10 per person per session or \$15 per person for both sessions**. For more information you can contact Lynn and Judy at 406-951-1088 or 234-7384.



Checkerboard Squares

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

The bathroom situation, or should I say the lack-of-bathroom situation, discouraged some beginners, but we still celebrated five new dancers at our Beginner Hoedown on May 9. They've been dancing at the summer dances, too, so we know they'll be back for the regular season. Our first dance is September 19; and once the summer cobwebs are swept out of our brains, Bob will pick up where he left off and it won't be long before everyone is dancing full mainstream.

Soon after that, they'll become our newest "angels," helping ease our new bunch of beginner dancers. At least we hope it will be a bunch! Introductory sessions will be on October 17 and 24. These will be registration nights and the program will be the same both nights, to accommodate those who aren't able to attend one or the other.

After that, registration will be closed so lessons can progress. By starting in October this time, Bob will have time to get everyone comfortably dancing full Mainstream by May 2025.

We hope you'll be able to help us get the word out. If we don't get new dancers, eventually none of us will be able to dance. So invite friends, neighbors, co-workers, exercise buddies, offspring...anybody! You never know when you'll make a connection. We'll have flyers and lesson date cards available at the Thursday and Saturday dances, or just let us know and we'll get materials to you somehow. If they want to know more, please refer them to our website, **squaredancemontana.com**. We'll also be on social media. That's another way you can spread the word, too. Feel free to use anything on our website to share on your media. Thanks for your help!



**Beginner Hoedown
May, 2024**

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9 Silhouettes 7-9 pm Casa Village Rec Hall (Larry)	10 Round Dance Beginner Class 7:15-8:45 pm Casa Village Rec Hall	11	12	13	14
15	16 Silhouettes 7-9 pm Casa Village Rec Hall (Larry)	17 Round Dance Beginner Class 7:15-8:45 pm Casa Village Rec Hall	18	19 Checkerboard Squares 7:00-9:00 pm First Presbyterian	20 September Spectacular Hunter Keller, Adam Christman, Callers Rounds by Larry & Susan Sperry See the flyer on squaredancemontana.com	21
22	23 Silhouettes 7-9 pm Casa Village Rec Hall (Larry)	24 Round Dance Beginner Class 7:15-8:45 pm Casa Village Rec Hall	25	26 Checkerboard Squares 7:00-9:00 pm First Presbyterian	27	28
29	30 Silhouettes 7-9 pm Casa Village Rec Hall (Larry)	1 Round Dance Beginner Class 7:15-8:45 pm Casa Village Rec Hall	2	3 Checkerboard Squares 7:00-9:00 pm First Presbyterian	4	5 PLUS DANCING/ LESSONS KICKOFF Lynn Strobel 3-5, 7-9 p.m. First Presbyterian

Yellowstone Square Dance Council Grapevine

YSDC Executive Committee 2014-2015

September 2024

Office	Name	Phone	Email Address
President	Dave Nelson	652-5849	dnels@bresnan.net
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Secretary	Pat Hastings		pathast@live.com

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Cuer Larry & Susan Sperry	406-656-1093	sperrycue@earthlink.net	larrysperry.com
Caller Lynn & Judy Strobel	406-234-7384h, 406-951-1088c	strobell@midrivers.co	lynnstrobel.tripod.com

Club Dance Locations

Square Dance: First Presbyterian Church, 13th Street South 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 and payments to **Ann Hindley, Editor YSDC Grapevine, 3143 Cline Rd., Billings, MT 59105.**

Address all articles, ads, correspondence and related payments 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.

Subscription price for the Grapevine is \$8.00 per year and is published monthly October through May. Multiple copies mailed to the same address are \$5.00 each copy per year. The Grapevine is furnished at no charge to member clubs of the YSDC. The Grapevine exchanges with other square dance organizations.

YSDC CLUBS WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Day	Time	Club	Location
Monday	7-9 p.m.	Silhouettes 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
October 5	3-5 & 7-9 p.m.	Plus Dancing Lessons Kickoff	Lynn Strobel	First Presbyterian, Billings
October 26	7-9 p.m.	4th Saturday Frolic*	Hunter Keller	First Presbyterian, Billings
November 23	7-9 p.m.	4th Saturday Frolic*	Hunter Keller	First Presbyterian, Billings
December 7	7-9 .m.	Christmas Dance	Local callers and cuers	First Presbyterian, Billings
Mar. 22, 2025	2-4, 6:30-9 pm	Spring Dance	Lynn Strobel	First Presbyterian, Billings

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

STATE, REGIONAL & NATIONAL DANCES

Date	Event	Featured Caller/Cuer	Location
September 20-21	September Spectacular Plus	Caller A. Christman, H. Keller, Cuer L&S Sperry	Billings, MT
May 24-27	2025 Montana State Festival	Caller: A. Christman, H. Keller, Cuer: L.Lane	Ronan, MT
June 14	Plus Workshop & Dance	Lynn & Judy Strobel	Forsyth, MT
June 25-28	Nat'l Square Dance Convention	All Callers/Cuers	Shreveport, LA
July 11-13	Plus on the Boulder	Lynn & Judy Strobel, Larry & Susan Sperry	Big Timber, MT
August 7-9	Lolo Stomp Plus Weekend	Lynn & Judy Strobel, Jerry Junck	Lolo, MT
Aug. 29-Sept. 1	Knothead Jamboree	All Callers & Cuers	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.