

The GREATER MEMPHIS  
SQUARE & ROUND DANCE

Association, Inc.

Organized December 4th, 1955

"Our Sixtieth-first year"

Serving the Mid-South  
Dance Community

Volume 57, Number 2, February, 2018



Listen to

The CALLER

**Reprints from The CALLER, February 2008:**

DUNGAREES & PETTICOATS schedule popular Sadie Hawkins theme dance at their regular hall,

Dancers are invited to wear traditional Dogpatch attire.

From the Li'l Abner comic strip:

"Sadie Hawkins was the daughter of one of Dogpatch's earliest settlers, Hekzebiah Hawkins. When she reached the age of 35, still a spinster, her father in desperation called together the eligible bachelors of



Dogpatch and declared that day to be Sadie Hawkins Day and that "when ah fires [my gun] all o' yo' start a-runnin! When ah fires agin - after givin' yo' a fair start - Sadie starts a runnin'. Th' one she ketches'll be her husband." The town spinsters decided that this was such a good idea, they made Sadie Hawkins Day an annual event, much to the chagrin of Dogpatch bachelors everywhere."

In her February, 2008 Yesteryear column GMS&RDA Historian Sally

(Eddie) Ramsey wrote: The 29th (1980) National Square Dance Convention (held in Memphis) raffled off a "previously owned" Buick as a fund raiser for our event. The picture at right shows Eddie Ramsey, Business Chairman of the 29th, presenting the Buick keys to the raffle winner whose name is unknown.

Looking on is the auto dealer whose name is also unknown and square dancer Johnny Smith who spearheaded the raffle for us.

By the way, our archives contain very few photographs. so I'm soliciting donations. If you have any interesting photos which you'd like preserved, please contact me. We may even publish yours in The CALLER.

Squarely, —Sally Ramsey



Clubs listed in the February, 2008, "Mid-south area club dance schedules" that are no longer dancing: Regan's Ranchands, River City Wranglers, Spurs 'N Saddles, Dandy Promenaders, Dixie Dudes & Dolls, Riverboat Cloggers, Dungarees & Petticoats, Memphis Rainbow Rounds, Teacup Chains

**GREATER MEMPHIS SQUARE & ROUND DANCE Assn., Inc.** P O Box 38081, Germantown, TN 38183, 901-628-4356 —www.memphisrd.com  
**GMS&RDA Membership:** Couples, \$20.00 year; Singles, \$15.00 year. (Membership includes a FREE dance each year, a subscription to the *Listen to The CALLER*, and liability insurance). Subscription only is \$15.00 per year. Make Checks payable to GMS&RDA. All mail, including report of late or other irregularities in delivery and address changes should be directed to *Listen to The CALLER, The GREATER MEMPHIS SQUARE & ROUND DANCE ASSOC., INC., PO Box 38081 Germantown, TN 38183-0081*

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**PUBLICATION DEADLINE:** All news copy and advertisements must be in the hands of the Editor ([thecalleditor@yahoo.com](mailto:thecalleditor@yahoo.com)) no later than Saturday before the third Tuesday of the month in which the material is to be published. The CALLER Staff retains all editorial discretions. Any copy not considered in the best interest of the Dance Community will not be printed. Postal regulations prevent any reference to raffles or drawings

**GMS&RDA ELECTED OFFICERS-Thru Dec. 2017**

**Pres:** Bob (Mary Ann) Moats, 5741 North St. Bartlett, TN 901-264-7100 [moatsr@gmail.com](mailto:moatsr@gmail.com)

**Vice President:** Dana Stine, 6079 Elk Grove Rd., Memphis, TN 38115, 901-388-2841 [stine.dana@gmail.com](mailto:stine.dana@gmail.com)

**Treas:** Betty Jo (Jay) Fortune, 899 Moss Rd., Moscow, TN 38057 901-491-6524 [bettyjoruss2@yahoo.com](mailto:bettyjoruss2@yahoo.com)

**Sec.** Sharon (Joe) White, 8532 Woodcock Cv., Cordova, TN 38018-4338 901-356-3506 [jswhite100@earthlink.net](mailto:jswhite100@earthlink.net)

**APPOINTED OFFICERS: Serving thru Dec. 2017**

**Membership Chairman:** Mary Ann Walker, 901-628-4356 [Walker5252@aol.com](mailto:Walker5252@aol.com)

**Historian:** Sally (Eddie) Ramsey 901-683-0834

**Publicity Chairman:** Vivian Arendall & Glinda Torvik

**Sunshine Chairman:** Peggy Vanlandingham, Kennington Pointe, 6301 Village Grove Dr. Rm 114, Memphis, TN 38115—Phone: 901-488-3479

**Advertising Chairman:**

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE—

**Robert (Mary Ann) Moats**

Let me first thank Dan Torvik for an outstanding job these past two years. I can't fill his shoes, but will only follow in his footsteps. Dan has always worked hard to promote square dancing here in the Mid-South and is now on to bigger and better things. I wish him luck. I would also like to thank those individuals who will stay on to continue the work as executive committee members, namely Betty Jo Fortune, treasurer, and Sharon White, secretary. Last, but not least I would like to thank Dana Stine, whose most timely acceptance of the Vice Presidents position saved me from having to sit up there all alone (almost) in front of those delegates who so graciously give up their time and talent.

Every New Year is a time of joy and celebration, but also a time of sadness and reflection. We are still relishing the holiday memories, the parties and get-togethers. At the same time we are starting to question our resolutions and regret our over consumption during these events. We are saddened as visiting family (mostly) return home, but also look forward to making new friends and renewing our square dance friendships as we usher in the coming year.

I look forward to seeing and dancing with each and every one of you and will ask only that you remain open to any new (or old) ideas and thoughts as to how we can promote this fun hobby of ours to others in our community. I would also like to remind everyone of the importance of membership in the GMS&RDA, for it is through this organization that ALL of our clubs are insured, without which we could not dance. Don't forget to mention this fact to those non-members who will not see this newsletter.

## From the DEMO Coordinator:

If you can participate in any Demo,  
please contact

**Mary Ann Walker, 901-628-4356**

**[Walker5252@aol.com](mailto:Walker5252@aol.com)**

**BACHELORS 'n BACHELORETTES**  
Colonial Park United Methodist Church  
5330 Park Ave. Memphis, TN

Friday, 7:30 -9:30 p.m.

Robert Townsend, Caller

Gloria (Tom)

McMullin.Lines/Rounds

Pres. Mary Ann Walker 901-628-4356

[walker5252@aol.com](mailto:walker5252@aol.com)

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Square Dancel



**USSDUSA Single Square Dancers USA**  
Arbell Thompson, President  
email: [info@ssdusa.org](mailto:info@ssdusa.org) website: [ww.ssdusa.org](http://ww.ssdusa.org)

**CLUB SPECIALS—Deadline for listing Specials is Saturday before 3rd Tuesday each month**

**Specials Coordinator:** Bob (Mary Ann) Moats, Vice President, 5741 North St. Bartlett, TN  
901-264-7100 [moatsr@gmail.com](mailto:moatsr@gmail.com)

**FEBRUARY**

- 2nd B&B Souper Bowl Party  
9th B&B Beginner class starts  
10th P&P Mardi Gras Ball  
22nd TS 10th Annual Food Drive

**MARCH**

- 16th B&B guest Caller  
17th P&P St. Paddy's Dance  
20th GMS&RDA Meeting  
23rd B&B March Madness

**APRIL**

- 7th P&P Amateur Caller's Night/Gordon's B'day  
20th B&B After-Tax Dance

**MAY**

- 9th Darrell Lipscomb at Eades, TN  
10th TS Beach Ball Blast  
15th GMS&RDA Meeting

**JUNE**

- 2nd P&P Hawaiian Luau Dance  
8th B&B Summer Cookout

**JULY**

- 7th P&P Homemade Ice Cream  
17th GMS&RDA Meeting  
20th B&B Christmas in July

**AUGUST**

- 2nd TS Closed TN State Convention  
3rd B&B Closed TN State Convention  
4th P&P Closed TN State Convention  
17th B&B Anniversary Dance  
30th TS 38th Anniversary/Ice Cream

**SEPTEMBER**

- 18th GMS&RDA Meeting

**OCTOBER**

- 13th P&P Sock Hop/Root Beer Floats  
19th 56th Mid-South Festival  
19th BnB closed

**20th 56th Mid-South Festival**

- 20th P&P closed

- 25th TS Haunted Halloween Costume Party

**NOVEMBER**

- 10th P&P 51st Anniversary/Wild, Wild, West  
20th GMS&RDA Meeting  
22nd TS Closed Thanksgiving  
23rd B&B Closed  
30th B&B Birthday Celebration for Robert Townsend

**DECEMBER**

- 6th TS Home for the Holidays  
22nd P&P Closed  
27th TS Closed

**SAVE the DATE**

For all of the information you need about the 67th National Square Dance Convention Kansas City, Missouri - June 27 - 30, 2018, go to <http://nsdcnec.com/flipdocs/NatSqOnline/Natsq0118/index.html#1> for a copy of the National Squares magazine.

**SOUTHERN ROUNDS**

Graceland Christian Church  
2126 Stateline Rd.  
Southaven, MS

Tuesdays

Class 6:00 - 7:00

Line Dance 7:00 - 8:00

Club Dance 8:00 - 9:30

Cuer: Gloria & Tom McMullin  
662-429-1701 or 901-849-1701





## GMS&RDA Member Club News

Club Reporters: Deadline for next club news is Monday February 19, 2018

Send club news to: Jim Bobo, 9260 Laurel Hill South, Olive Branch, MS 38654—[thecalleditor@yahoo.com](mailto:thecalleditor@yahoo.com)

**PISTOLS & PETTICOATS** want to wish you all a Happy New Year. We started off the new year very well with 2 squares thanks to our visitors and members as well. Since we were dark 3 weeks prior to the new year we don't have much news this time. December 16 we met at Al & Merrie jo Portvliet's for our annual Christmas party with some great food, visiting and even dirty Santa. Thanks to Rob Baird for filling in for Justin in January. Of course we were closed on the 13th because of the weather. I hope you all stayed safe and

warm during this time. Merri Jo has a birthday on Jan 20 and Ken & Jeanette Dixon had an anniversary (9), Jeanette Dixon (10) and Paulette Delk (14). Happy Birthday to you all. February 10 will be our Mardi Gras Dance so come on out, wear your green, purple and gold. It will be a great time with wonderful food and dancing. Then March 17th will be our St Paddy's Dance so come on out and celebrate the luck of the Irish. Stay safe and warm until next we meet somewhere across the square. PW



Top Spinners celebrated birthdays on January 4th at the Log Cabin. Pictured are Kathy Clifton, Jimmie McCulley, Annette Jordan and Merrie Jo Poortvliet.

**TOP SPINNERS** was excited to host our 5th Annual Chili & Cornbread Cook-off even if it was postponed a week for winter weather. We appreciate everyone who came out to judge and dance at the Log Cabin. Our next special will be our 10th Annual Food Drive for Fayette Cares, Inc. Back in 2008, the club members thought it would be a great idea to give back to the local community. We didn't have to look far to find this great organization. "Since 1986 Fayette Cares, a community-supported non-profit organization located in Fayette County, TN, has served the community by empowering those in need with hope, independence and lasting solutions." And for a decade now Top Spinners (and square dancers throughout the Mid-South) have helped stock their shelves at the food panty with some of their most needed items including: peanut butter, toothbrushes, beef stew, paper plates, etc. Please check out

the flyer for a full list of items or feel free to make a donation at the door on Thursday, February 22nd. If you bring donations for the food bank, you can dance for \$1.00. The dancing never stops though and our club members have been spotted at BnB's St. Jude Fundraiser as well as the Belles and Buoys Mardi Gras Ball in Biloxi, MS and down in Atlanta for the Promenade Down Peachtree Festival. Back by popular demand, Top Spinners will be hosting our 3rd Biggest Loser Competition beginning February 1st. This premise is simple. You

will weigh in on February 1st and have 8 weeks to shed those pounds. On March 29th, the person who loses the highest percentage of weight will be crowned the Biggest Loser and join the ranks alongside former losers Merrie Jo Poortvliet and Kathy Williams. The cost to join is \$10.00. Whether you win or not, we hope everyone walks away feeling a little healthier. Our only birthday for February is Ridley Clifton (13th). Hope to see you across the square real soon. -JR

**Don't take life too serious  
LIFE IS SIMPLE  
EAT  
SLEEP  
AND  
SQUARE  
DANCE**



**The Area I V.P.** and delegates of the Tennessee State Association of Square and Round Dance Clubs, invites everyone to attend our upcoming

meeting the week-end of February 17, in Murfreesboro, Tennessee. The officer's dance, on Saturday, will be held at the Tennessee Walkers club with pre-rounds at 6:30 and squares at 7 p.m. Ken Diesburg will be calling the squares and Robbie and James Carrington cuing the rounds and line dances.

The State officer's meeting will be conducted Sunday, February 18, at the Clarion Inn & Suites.

Starting time is 9:00 a.m., local time. If you would like to know how the Association conducts the business of the State, join all of us for a most informative meeting. For more information about the weekend, contact area V.P. J J Johnson, sqdncnws@aol.com, or delegates Dan Torvik or Jimmy Wallace

We send our condolences to Jackie Ashworth, our State president, in the recent loss of her husband Ray.

Both Ray and Jackie have supported our Mid-South festival for many years. They have also been instrumental in making the Tennessee State Convention the outstanding state square dance convention in the Nation. Keep Jackie and her family in your prayers.

—J. J. Johnson, Area I V.P.

## 56th Mid-South Festival

Justin Russell, Chairman. [justinrus@gmail.com](mailto:justinrus@gmail.com)

The committee for the 56th Mid-South Festival has been working hard to make this year's Night Train to Memphis one for the history books. We worked hard recruiting the best staff and added little treats like a Friday Night Ice-Cream party.

We also want you to know about two opportunities to make a little money.

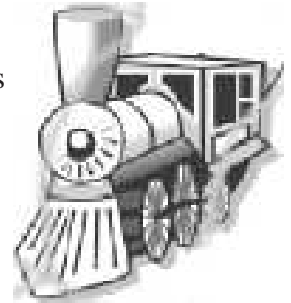
A huge part of funding for the Mid-South Festival are the ads found in the program book. Sharon Sharrow works hard to organize the program book every year. This year, the person who raises the most money through ad sales will receive \$100 cash. (Minimum to qualify is \$100 worth of ads). Ask your barber, your favorite local restaurant, or advertise that side business.

But the opportunities don't stop there. Everyone that sells at least one ad for the program book will have their name put in a drawing. On Saturday, October 20, 2018, we will announce the winner who will walk away with \$25.

Both of these deals are just a little extra incentive to help support local square dancing.

These weekends cost money. Talent like Mike Hogan and Mitchell Thompson cost money. Please help us offset those costs by buying or selling an ad for our program book.

Sharon Sharrow request these ads are turned in by August 15th. If you really want to see a smile; have that ad turned in by August 1st. Ed, Sharon Sharrow's husband, will really thank you!



**BACHELORS 'n BACHELORETTEs** .....Please come dance with us on February 2 for our Souper Bowl dinner/dance. We will have soup and crackers at 7:00 p.m. Dance at 8:00. Wear any team shirt you have. Then on Friday night, Feb. 9, we will start a new dancer class at 7:30-8:30. Please advise anyone you know that might like to dance on Friday nights to come dance with us. On March 16th we will have a guest caller and on March 23rd BnB's will celebrate March Madness. On April 20th we will have our After-Tax Dance. Check your e-mails for additional information on these dances. We love visitors...and we would love to have you come dance with us. —db

### Sunshine Chairman

Peggy Vanlandingham  
Kennington Pointe

6301 Village Grove Dr. Rm 114,

Memphis, TN 38115—Phone: 901-488-3479

**Get Well:** Alice Dieckhaus, Gordon Brower,  
Mary Brower

**Sympathy:** Jackie Ashworth in the death of her  
husband Ray.

## **SECRETARY'S CORNER — Sharon White**

Sharon being absent, Dorothy Bobo acted as secretary for this meeting.

The GMS&RDA meeting was called to order January 23, 2018, at 7:15 p.m. by Dan Torvik, outgoing President. In attendance were 5 officers, 8 club delegates, 1 state delegate and 2 visitors.

The November, 2017 minutes were approved as printed in the The Caller.

The Treasurer's report was read by Betty Jo Fortune, Treasurer, and approved.

Area Demos: No report

Historian: No report.

Membership: Carolyn Parent, the new membership chairman, announced that currently we have 21 couples and 19 singles renewing membership, with the exact number of lifetime memberships for dancers over 85 on or before Dec. 31, 2017 grandfathered-in being uncertain at this time.

Publicity: No report.

Sunshine: Yvonne Johnson gave Peggy Vanlandingham's report of get well cards and sympathy cards sent.

Insurance: If anyone has an accident, report it immediately to the state in case a medical problem arises later on. Dana Stine has paid our 2018 insurance costs.

TN State Association Report: JJ Johnson announced the quarterly Tennessee State Dance will be held Feb. 17, 2018 in Murfreesboro with the

meeting Sunday Feb. 18.

Liaison Callers/Cuers: Justin Russell, No report.

Publications - The Caller: The Caller will be printed and delivered to the post office by the current printer but this may change in the future.

Special Dances: Dana Stine, VP, announced the club specials and an updated listing is printed elsewhere in The Caller.

56th Mid-South Festival: Justin Russell, Chairman: Flyers are out and Justin has a square already registered.

Old Business: Directory - The directories are out. If your club does not have your directories, please contact Mary Ann Walker.

The proposed annual GMS&RDA budget was discussed and approved.

Outgoing President Torvik turned the meeting over to incoming President, Bob Moats.

New Business: President Moats discussed how we might move forward with demos and advertising square dancing. (1) If we are to have a picnic this year, we need a chairman. (2) We need a Chairman and Co-Chairman for the 57th Mid-South Festival (2019). (3) We also need a Chairman for the proposed 2018 Alzheimer Benefit Dance.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned about 8:00 p.m.

The January 23, 2018 minutes are submitted by Dorothy Bobo, Acting Secretary.

Next Meeting: March 20, 2018.

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## MID-SOUTH AREA CLUB DANCE SCHEDULES

Initials Indicate: (S) Squares (R) Choreographed ball room dancing (C/W) Country Western, [(S-R) indicates the club dances Square and Ball room.

### SUNDAY

**T-SQUARES** (Advance A2 & C1) 1:30 to 4:30 p.m.  
First Evangelical Church 735 Ridge Lake Blvd  
Memphis, TN. Caller Robert Townsend 901-634-8723  
[roberttownsend@netzero.net](mailto:roberttownsend@netzero.net)

### MONDAY

**COTTON PICKIN SQUARES** (S) Freedom's Chapel  
Christian Church, 961 Getwell Rd (just south of Park  
Ave) 7:00-8:30 Caller Justin Russell, 901-604-5751  
[justinrus@gmail.com](mailto:justinrus@gmail.com)

**MERRY-GO-ROUNDS** (R) Berclair Civic Club, 743  
Novarese. Dancing 8:00-10:00 p.m. Gordon & Mary  
Brower, Instr., 901-682-8276. Pres. Bob (Mary Ann)  
Moats, 5741 North St. Bartlett, TN 901-264-7100  
[moatsr@gmail.com](mailto:moatsr@gmail.com)

**PLEASANT HILL PROMENADERS** (S) Graceland  
Christian Church, 2126 Stateline Rd. E. (between  
Tchulahoma and Getwell) Southaven, MS, Dancing 7:30  
to 9:30, Mondays. Caller, Robert Townsend. R-C/W,  
Gloria (Tom) McMullin, Rounds. Pres. Mary Ann Walker  
901-628-4356 [Walker5252@aol.com](mailto:Walker5252@aol.com)

### TUESDAY

**Next Meeting of GMS&RDA** March 20, 2018, 7:15  
Germantown Regional History & Genealogy Ctr.,  
7779 Poplar Pike, Germantown  
Bob (Mary Ann) Moats President  
*All GMS&RDA members welcome.*

**T-SQUARES** (S-advance level) 7:00- 9:00 p.m.  
St Michael's Catholic Church, 3863 Summer Ave,  
Caller Robert Townsend, 901-867-8722,  
[roberttownsend@netzero.net](mailto:roberttownsend@netzero.net)

**SOUTHERN ROUNDS** (R-C/W) 2126 Stateline Rd.  
(Graceland Christian Church) Southaven, MS. Class 6:00  
Lines, 7:00. R-C/W Tom and Gloria McMullin 662-429-  
1701. Pres. Mary Smith 901-683-7812  
[hasselljr@att.net](mailto:hasselljr@att.net)

**From the DEMO Coordinator:** If you can participate  
in any Demo, please contact Mary Ann Walker, 901-  
628-4356 [walker5252@aol.com](mailto:walker5252@aol.com)

### THURSDAY

**TOP SPINNERS** (S-R-C/W) Eads Civic Center, 12365  
Washington Rd, Eads, TN. (Just 1/2 mile off of Hwy64,  
and only 8 miles from Wolfchase  
Mall). Club dances 7:30 to 9:30 p.m.  
Caller Justin Russell, 901-604-5751  
[justinrus@gmail.com](mailto:justinrus@gmail.com) R-C/W:  
Gin Weaver, 901-867-0056.  
President – Betty Jo Fortune



### FRIDAY

**BACHELORS 'n BACHELORETTES**  
(S-R) Colonial Park United Methodist Church, 5330  
Park Ave. (corner Park & Estate) Friday, 7:30 -9:30  
p.m. Caller Robert Townsend, 901-867-8722, Lines/  
Rounds Gloria (Tom) McMullin. Pres. Mary Ann  
Walker 901-628-4356 [walker5252@aol.com](mailto:walker5252@aol.com)

### SATURDAY

**PISTOLS & PETTICOATS** (S-R) Bartlett United  
Methodist Church, 5676 Stage Rd, Bartlett, Club dances  
8:00 —10:00p.m. Caller Justin Russell, Cuer Gordon  
(Mary) Brower, Pres. Bob (Mary Ann) Moats, 901-  
373-4497, [moatsr@gmail.com](mailto:moatsr@gmail.com)

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## Pistols & Petticoats



**SATURDAYS 8-10 PM**

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Bartlett, TN 38134

Caller: Justin Russell  
Cuer: Gordon Brower

President: Bob (Mary) Moats 901-373-4497 [moatsr@gmail.com](mailto:moatsr@gmail.com)



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FEBRUARY 2nd BACHELORS 'n BACHELORETTES Souper Bowl Party  
 FEBRUARY 9th BACHELORS 'n BACHELORETTES Beginner class starts  
 FEBRUARY 10th PISTOLS & PETTICOATS Mardi Gras Ball  
 FEBRUARY 22nd TOP SPINNERS 10th Annual Food Drive



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The CALLER "Our Sixtieth year"

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 Germantown, TN 38183-0081

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Have you renewed your GMS&RDA memberships for 2018?  
 If not, your GMS&RDA Delegate has renewal forms.

## DIXIE DANCING



May 18 & 19, 2018, 57th Derby City Festival, Paroquet Springs  
 Conference Centre, Shepherdsville, KY. Information: Kentuckiana Square  
 Dance Association, [kentuckianasquaredance.com](http://kentuckianasquaredance.com)

August 23-25, 2018, 40<sup>th</sup> Alabama Square and Round Dance Association's  
 State Convention. The Oxford Civic Center in Oxford, AL. Jim Purvis,  
 Chairman 251-653-5442  
[asardanews@gmail.com](mailto:asardanews@gmail.com)

October 19-20, 2018, 56<sup>th</sup> "Night Train to  
 Memphis" Mid-South Square & Round Dance  
 Festival. St. Paul United Methodist Ch., 2949  
 Davies Plantation Rd., Lakeland, TN. sqs. Mike  
 Hogan & Justin Russell, rds. Mitchell Thompson &  
 Chelsea Falk Registration Kathy Clifton 901-294-  
 2399 [rkccac@aol.com](mailto:rkccac@aol.com). Festival Chair: Betty Jo  
 Fortune 901-491-6524 [bettyjoruss2@yahoo.com](mailto:bettyjoruss2@yahoo.com),

**The National Executive Committee (NEC)**  
**NEC Area Advisors Cindy & Ron Schoen**  
**812-968-4979, [ronandcindys@juno.com](mailto:ronandcindys@juno.com)**  
**Future National Square Dance Conventions**  
 67<sup>th</sup> (2018) National Square Dance Convention  
 Kansas City, Missouri - June 27-30, 2018  
 68<sup>th</sup> (2019) National Square Dance Convention  
 Atlanta, Georgia - June 24-29, 2019  
 69<sup>th</sup> (2020) National Square Dance Convention  
 Spokane, Washington June 24-27, 2020  
 70<sup>th</sup> (2021) National Square Dance Convention  
 Jackson, Mississippi - June 23-26, 2021