



Where Would We Be Without... Johnny Jones

For the past 14 months, we've been blessed to have Johnny as our caller. Without a doubt, he is a master in the art of square dancing, whose patience is limitless and talent is without peer. He can take a group of newbies and turn them into square dancers in record breaking time. Johnny recently donated his



time & talent for our *All Join Hands* benefit, helping us raise over \$2,400.00.

Thanks, Johnny!

IMPORTANT SCHEDULE CHANGE

GRADUATION WILL BE HELD ON

MONDAY, JUNE 18TH

IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE LESSON.

CAST OFF THREE QUARTERS...OR MORE
Benefit Dance for All Join Hands Foundation, Ltd.



SATURDAY, MAY 12TH, 2012

Mark Wade 7 pm—8 pm Introductory 2-Step Lessons

Johnny Jones 8 pm—10 pm, Alternating Mainstream, Plus and Advanced tips
Tickets \$6 Members / \$8 Non-members



JOHNNY JONES

First Metropolitan Community Church of Atlanta
1379 Tullie Road
Atlanta, Georgia 30329



Elections will be held for four board positions at the Annual Meeting on Monday June 18.

Nominations are open for Vice-President, Secretary, Marketing & Promotions Coordinator, and Webmaster and must be officially registered by Monday, June 11. All current members can nominate any other current member (including yourself) for a position by sending an email to

hotlanta.squares@gmail.com or by putting your nomination in the Suggestion box during a Class night.

Please include your name and specify both the name of the person you are nominating as well as the position for which you are nominating them. Please, first check with the person whom you want to nominate and confirm that they are willing to accept the nomination before submitting their name. The list of duties for each of the open board positions is on page 2.



NOTE: You must be present on June 18th to vote.

Below is a list of duties for each of the relevant offices:

The Vice-President shall:

- Act in the absence of the President;
 - Assist the President in Club oversight and coordination of the Board of Directors;
 - Assist the President in coordination of the annual class schedule;
 - Collect suggestions from the general membership either through a Suggestion Box or equivalent mechanism and present those suggestions to the Board for discussion at Board meetings;
 - Review and compare the monthly financial statement with the monthly bank statement;
 - Assist the Events Coordinator with caller scheduling for special events and dances;
- The office of Vice-President shall be a one-year term elected annually by the general membership. The Vice-President will be promoted to the President following the completion of the one-year term.

The Secretary shall:

- Maintain up-to-date written minutes of Club and Board meetings and distribute each new set of minutes to the Board of Directors within five (5) business days after each Board of Directors meeting;
 - Maintain a roster of Members, which shall be made available to Club members as reasonably determined by the Board of Directors;
 - Handle all regular Club correspondence, except as otherwise governed by these bylaws;
 - After getting the authorization of at least one other Board member, distribute regular Club notices by email (or other equivalent services) to all Members who provide email addresses;
 - Maintain all Club records except as otherwise governed by these bylaws;
 - Serve as a procedural expert in all matters relating to running meetings, along with the President; and
 - Keep and maintain an up-to-date copy of the bylaws and standing club policies.
- The office of Secretary shall be a two-year term elected during even-numbered years.

The Marketing and Promotions Coordinator shall:

- Coordinate marketing and promotions;
 - Provide graphic design and printing;
 - Provide flyers, posters and business cards for club dances, open houses and special events;
- and
- Publish a monthly club newsletter.

The office of Marketing and Promotions Coordinator shall be a two-year term elected during even-numbered years.

The Webmaster shall:

- Provide development and management of web pages, web content and links;
- Provide oversight of online social media pages, online communities, sites and equivalents in the name of the Club, along with the President and Vice President; and
- Obtain list of calls covered each week from the Club caller and then publish such list regularly to facilitate learning by current students.

The office of Webmaster shall be a two-year term elected during even-numbered years.

HOT FLASH

On Tuesday, June 12th, Hotlanta Squares will be hosting a group international square dancers currently touring the southeast. (see info below).


Our visitors will be arriving by bus (from Chattanooga) between 5:30 and 6 pm. If you are able to, please join us for dinner at Picadilly.

Dancing starts at 7pm.

Hotlanta Squares Presents


International Square Dance Night

Tuesday, June 12th 7pm - 10pm



Hotlanta Squares is honored to be one of the stops on an International square dancing tour of the Southeast and would love for you to join us in welcoming our guests. Dancers are from Germany, Switzerland and New Zealand. The evening will be mostly Mainstream with a few Plus tips thrown in. So whether you *Dance, Danse, Tanz, Dança, Danza, Kanikani* or *Valle* - join us on June 12th. Tickets are \$5 for members & \$7 for non-members.

First MCC Church - 1379 Tullie Road - Atlanta, GA 30329



EVER THOUGHT ABOUT BECOMING A SQUARE DANCE CALLER?

Like to rock the mic with a fiddle in the background? Are you really good at patterns in diamonds and squares? Do you secretly want to be just like Johnny Jones?

Part of the Hotlanta Squares' mission is to "ensure availability of square dancing for all persons without regard to gender, race, ethnicity, creed, religion, age, sexual orientation, disability, gender identity or expression."

Part of ensuring that square dancing is available for LGBT people and our friends means ensuring that there are callers available. We're not going to lie – the caller is the most important ingredient to any square dance. If you have 100 people show up and there's no caller, there's no dance!

The Hotlanta Squares is interested in encouraging our members to pursue the training to become excellent square dance callers. So, where do you learn to be a caller anyway?

The Gay Callers Association – Back in the bad old days, gay and lesbian couples were frequently excluded from straight clubs, it was almost impossible to find a straight caller willing to call for a gay group, and LGBT callers were excluded from joining mainstream callers' associations. Enter The Gay Callers Association, an international organization created to promote the development of LGBT callers and to further the participation of members in the art of square dance without prejudice to gender, sexual orientation, ethnic background, age, race, or belief.

The Gay Callers Association hosts a Caller School each year at the International Association of Gay Square Dance Clubs (IAGSDC). This year's Caller School will be held on June 26-28, 2012 at the Hyatt Regency in Vancouver, BC, Canada, immediately preceding the convention. More information is available here:

<http://www.gaycallers.org/callerschool/>

CALLERLAB –The International Association of Square Dance Callers was formed in the mid-1960s to standardize square dancing calls, to promote square dancing, and recruit others to dancing. Importantly, CALLERLAB provides caller training. Next year's CALLERLAB Convention will be held in Raleigh, North Carolina on Monday, May 25, 2013 at the Embassy Suites. For more information, go here: www.callerlab.org

It takes years of training to become an excellent square dance caller – but the road begins with this first step. If you think you might be interested in becoming a caller, let a board member know. We're happy to help support our members in their efforts to become callers in any way we can. After all, the more callers there are, the more dances there can be!

Christie A.

Hotlanta Squares
P.O. Box 15533
Atlanta, GA 30333

hotlanta.squares@gmail.com

WWW.HOTLANTASQUARES.ORG

HOTLANTA SQUARES CONTACT INFORMATION

THE PLEASURE PRINCIPLE

F. WILLIAM CHICKERING'S GUIDE TO EXCRUCIATINGLY CORRECT SQUARE DANCE BEHAVIOUR

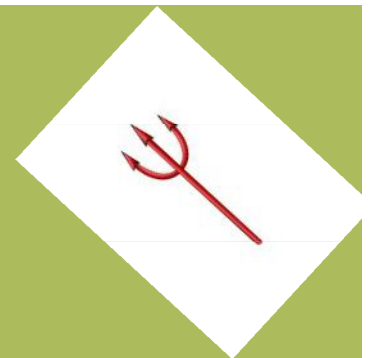
What is square dancing all about? Square dancing is all about pleasure: the pleasure of calls well executed, the pleasure of a good laugh if your square does break down, the pleasure of a social activity in a friendly atmosphere of mutual respect and cooperation. To keep square dancing pleasurable, we must all observe a few guideline. After all, square dancing is a group activity.

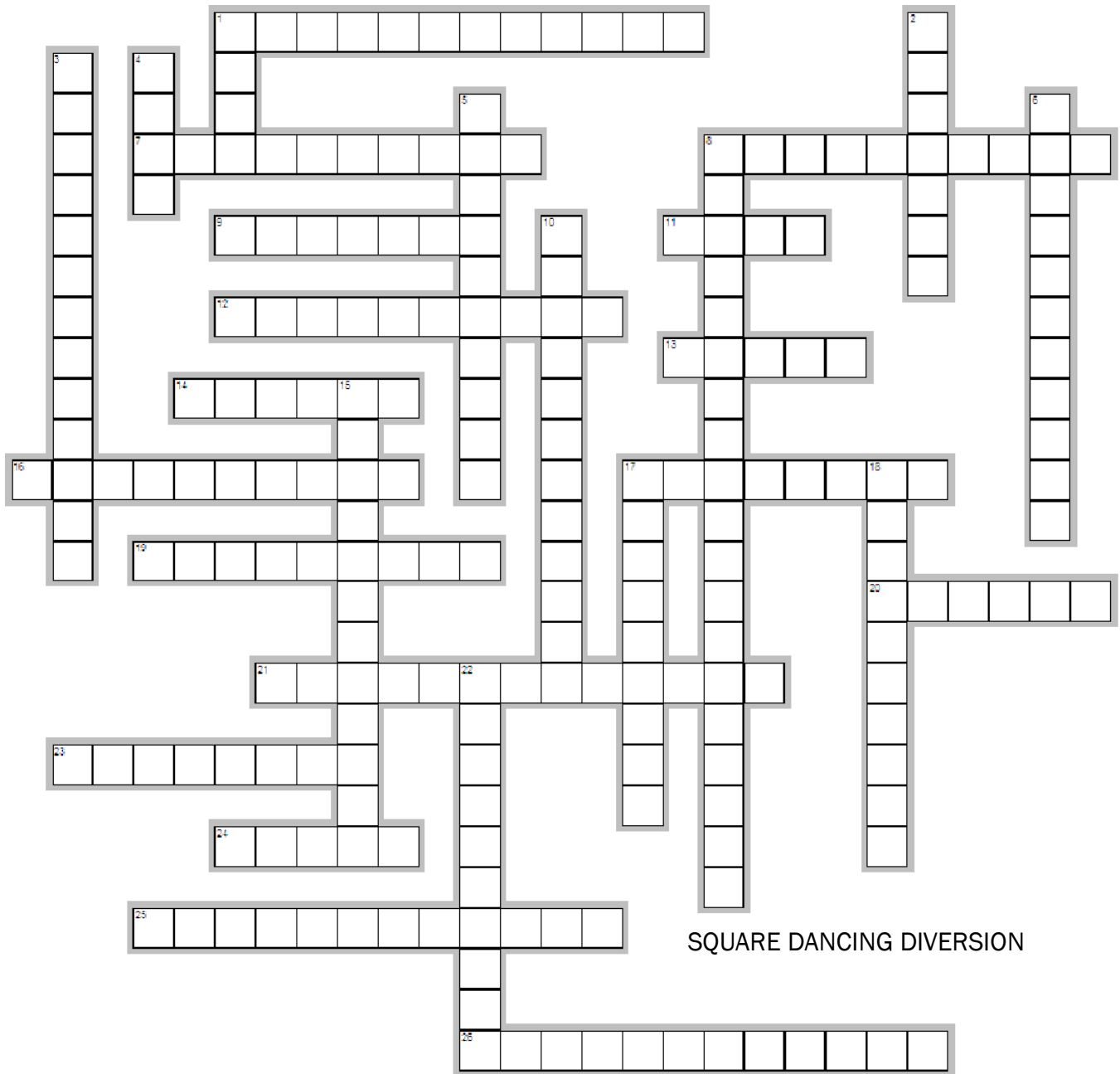
1. Avoid drinking and drugs that may affect your reaction time and cause you to break down a square (or even cause serious injuries). Most clubs discourage drinking both before and during dancing, as the smell of alcohol on the breath can be unpleasant to others.
2. Start out Fresh. Shower, use deodorant, and brush your teeth. Avoid eating strong smelling foods like garlic right before dancing. This may sound corny, but it can make a big difference to your fellow dancers.
3. In most clubs, for each new tip dancers form new sets by squaring up randomly. It is considered unfriendly and discourteous to pass by a forming square to look for another.
4. At the beginning of a new tip, introduce yourself to dancers you don't know. Friendliness is one of the best aspects of square dance activities.
5. Rule: once in a square, under no circumstances abandon it. Exception: in a medical emergency or if someone is injured, of course you should use common sense. There is an accepted "emergency call for medical assistance": members in a square should surround the ill or injured person with uplifted arms to notify the caller or other persons in charge.
6. Help your set dance its best. Be friendly about it. If you see a need to direct a fellow dancer be sure that you are correct, and be gentle in your assistance. Think of the best interest of the group and take care not to hurt other dancers' feelings. Do not be too critical of others. This can ruin everyone's fun if it results in bickering or a condescending attitude. Remember, we all make mistakes and the next one might be yours. Be especially supportive of new dancers; without them our pleasurable pastime would die out.
7. Listen to the caller. Do not talk when the caller is talking or calling. Not only is it rude, but all dancers may need the information offered.

OUCH...

Some of us (including some of us on the board) often wear pointy rings. When we are careless, we can accidentally injure our fellow dancers by slapping hands when we start dancing really fast and get excited. So, if you are a dancer who wears rings (pointy or not), please take care when dancing a grand right and left to make sure that you're not drawing blood. And, please keep those fingernails short.

Thanks!





SQUARE DANCING DIVERSION

- 1. Don't turn around!
- 7. Quack!
- 8. All Eight _____
- 9. Touch this.
- 11. Box this
- 12. Dancing By _____
- 13. Dancer in the right-hand position
- 14. Gary _____ (PDP 10 caller)
- 16. _____ to an Ocean Wave
- 17. He taught two-step
- 19. MASDA publication
- 20. Website recently crashed
- 21. August Allemande caller
- 23. September Slither caller
- 24. _____ Right
- 25. 5..6..7..8
- 26. Member currently on the IAGSDC board

ACROSS

- 1. Trade the _____
- 2. Calling without pauses (3 wds)
- 3. Advanced call
- 4. Dancer in the left-hand position
- 5. Summer Sashay caller
- 6. Where *would* we be without him?
- 8. La La La La
- 10. Start from Thar then _____
- 15. Benefit dance for this organization
- 17. Ladies in, _____
- 18. GSSDA quarterly publication
- 22. A friendly hug

DOWN

GSSDA Leadership/Caller Seminar

On April 21, 2012 Sherry Mask and I attended the Leadership / Caller Seminar sponsored by the GSSDA and the host club Tar Tappers in Baxley, GA. There were approximately 40 members representative from several Square Dance Clubs located throughout Georgia along with Tim Marriner.



The topics covered during the seminar were:

- Club Problems
- Club Membership
- Caller / Club Relations
- Leadership Qualities

The attendees were split up into four discussion groups upon their arrival. With that each group was required to meet for a 45 minute discussion based on the seminar topics led by a Facilitator. Each group was required to elect a recorder from each session. At mid-day a delicious box lunch was provided (paid by each attendee at a cost of \$5) with the afternoon session following right after our lunch break. At the end of the seminar each of group Scribes met to get a consensus and then we were asked to share our findings with the group.

I found the Leadership/Caller seminar to be very informative and enlightening. It was great to have the opportunity for open discussions with other Clubs to share their concerns and exchange ideas to help each other to keep our Clubs afloat. The general consensus came down to we must be more accepting of non-traditional Clubs, and, how we must put FUN back into square dancing to attract new dancers to increase the membership levels in our Clubs throughout Georgia.

Some of the ideas were unanimous among all attendees to have the Callers bring “new” music into our dancing to help attract younger dancers. While our traditional square dance dress attire has a heritage of its own, there was mention and recommendation to relax the traditional dress code among the Clubs thinking this may/could increase Club membership and get more dancers at our dances. It was also strongly suggested for each Club to have a Caller Contract with their Callers so there is a defined relationship with each Club and their Caller. Last, certainly not least, for each Club to be successful and financially stable it is imperative all Clubs support each other by doing Club visitations and attending other Club dances.

With the upcoming 41st Annual GSSDA Convention scheduled for September 20-22, 2012 in Macon, GA I would like to see more of our Club members at the Georgia State Convention. We had approximately eight Club members attend last year - we had a great time! We also received a lot of positive recognition from other dancers at the Convention. This year, instead of coming in 2nd Place during the Last Square Standing event we will bring to Atlanta the 1st Place Trophy!

Yellow Rocks,

Danny

President Emeritus

 **AUGUST**  **ALLEMANDE**  **DANCE**

SATURDAY, AUGUST 11TH

CALLER: JOHNNY PRESTON From Fultondale, AL /
Temecula, CA

6:00 pm- 8:00 pm: C-1 and Advanced Levels

8:00 pm- 10:00 pm: Mainstream & Plus

Tickets \$6 Members / \$8 Non-members / \$4 Non-dancers



JOHNNY PRESTON

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SEPTEMBER SLITHER DANCE

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 8TH

CALLER: J.R. ST. JEAN From Orlando, FL

3:30 pm - 5:30 pm: C-1 and Advanced Levels

7:00 pm - 8:00 pm: Line Dancing

8:00 - 10:00 pm: Mainstream & Plus

Tickets \$6 Members / \$8 Non-members
\$4 Non-dancers

First Metropolitan Community Church of Atlanta

1379 Tullie Road
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J.R. ST JEAN
Founding caller of
Hotlanta Squares



JUNE BIRTHDAYS

Matt Z.	1-Jun
Jim H.	3-Jun
Cis H.	4-Jun
Joan C.	4-Jun
Dan M.	8-Jun
Charles S.	11-Jun
Tom I.	13-Jun
Juan C.	24-Jun
Mary D.	24-Jun

Hot Tips is proud to announce that we have procured the services of well-known syndicated Square Dancing Advice columnist Allie Mande.



Please submit your questions via e-mail or the Suggestion Box and Allie will be happy to respond in the next issue.

Thanks,

Eileen

SUMMER SASHAY A SMASH!

Dancers from Hotlanta Squares were joined by members of the Currahee Squares, Dudes-n-Darlings, Wheel Arounds, Suncoast Squares, T-Squares, Kennesaw Square Dealers and the Northeast GA A-Team for the Summer Sashay on Saturday, June 2nd. In addition to Mainstream, Plus, Advanced and C levels, Ken Ritucci called the fastest Hot Hash we've ever heard! Willis Crump, GSSDA president and both Mike and Marsha

TRIVIA

Most popular names among our membership:

Mark = 4 (Long, Oatman, Snider, Wade)

Mike = 3 (Massey, Shagina, Watkins)

Date & Place of the First Gay Square Dancing Fly-In:
Denver, 1982

Year of the First Convention for the IAGSDC: 1983

Massey (MASDA co-presidents) were also in attendance. Everyone was treated to great food, great music and tons of fun. Sherry continues to provide us with terrific events. Thanks to all who participated and special thanks to everyone that brought snacks.



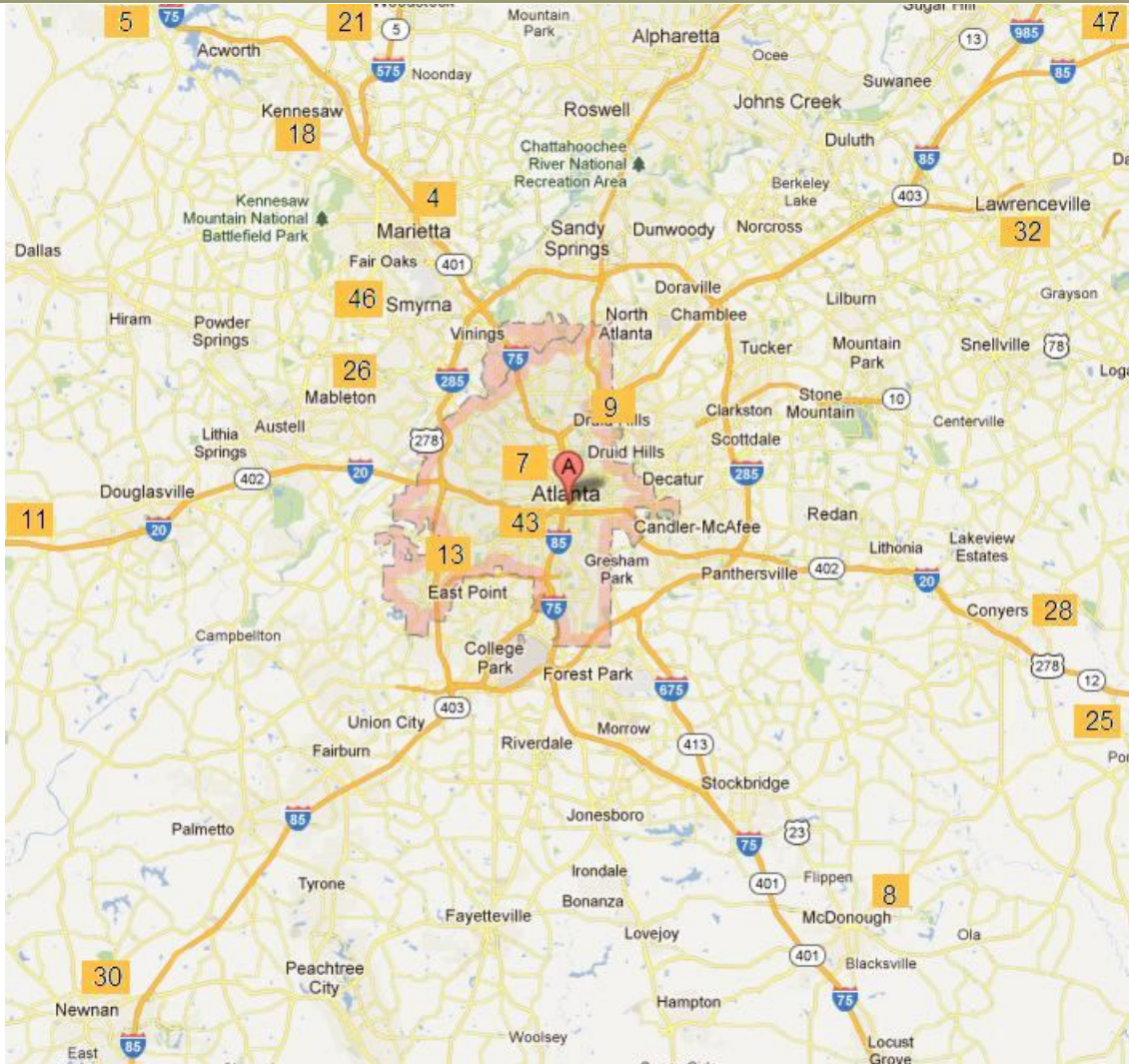
UPCOMING CONVENTION

June 29—July 2 Dance Up A Storm - The 29th Annual IAGSDC Convention

Callers: Anne Uebelacker, Vic Ceder, Todd Fellegly, Michael Kellogg, Barry Sjolin, Sandra Bryant, Barry Clasper, Bronc Wise, Mike Desisto



MASDA SQUARE DANCING CLUBS & LOCATIONS



3	Apple Country Squares - Elijah	9	Hotlanta Squares - Atlanta
26	American Squares - Mableton	18	Kennesaw Square Dealers - Kennesaw
4	B#s Plus - Marietta	8	Lads 'n Lassies - McDonough
	Diamond Turns - Marietta	43	Mahogany Spin Tips - Atlanta
	Dudes 'n Darlins - Marietta	13	Matrix South - Hapeville
	Wheel Arounds - Marietta	30	Merry Go Rounds - Newnan
21	Cherokee Squares - Woodstock		Rebel Reelers - Newnan
28	Crossfire Squares - Conyers	25	Newton Hayriders - Covington
	Rock-a-Round Dance - Conyers		
26	Danc 'n Singles - Mableton	7	Peachtree Squares - Atlanta
47	Habersham Squares - Cornelia	32	Silver Stars - Lawrenceville
11	Haymakers - Temple	5	Western Promenaders - Rome
		46	Windy Hill Squares - Smyrna

For additional club information, go to <http://masda.net/address.html>