

The Dusty Trails

Marilyn and Len Bloom, Editors marlenbloom2@gmail.com www.traildusters.com Jan. 2025

Club Officers 2024-2025

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mgoldberg@glassgoldberg.com

Vice Presidents/Refreshments

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Sandra & Robert Sobel

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Shirley Brown

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Briefs From the Board

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE SUNSHINE & SHOWER CHAIR

Hello, fellow Trail Dusters! I am Rusty Kaman, and I've had the pleasure of holding this Board position since 2010! My late husband, Norm Kaman, and I joined the club in the Fall of 1993. We were known as "the Earthquake Class," and enjoyed dancing for 27 years before Norm's health issues prevented us from continuing. However, I have remained on the Board because staying involved with this wonderful group of people whom I like to refer to as our "Trail Duster Family" has been tremendously rewarding.

As Sunshine & Showers Chair, it is my responsibility to keep abreast of all worthy news that concerns our Rail Dusters and Trail Dusters members. Sometimes it has to do with illness, accidents, hospitalization, a death in the family, or the passing of one of our members. These categories all fall under "Showers." On the brighter side, known as "Sunshine," the news may be of the marriage of one of our children or grandchildren, the birth of a new grandchild, the graduation of one of our children or grandchildren. When any such news comes to me, I first call the members involved for details of the event AND for

permission to publish their news in our monthly newsletter, the Dusty Trails. Nothing is printed without your expressed permission! Then an appropriate card with a personal note is sent out (cards and postage stamps are purchased ahead of time and on hand whenever needed). I present a bill periodically to the Club Treasurer. On numerous occasions, these contacts have enabled me to make new friends in the club with people I previously did not know.

Once a month, I write an article for the Dusty Trails reporting on the various happenings, both Sunshine and Showers. A special tribute article is written upon the death of any member of our Trail Duster family. These are then submitted to our Editor for approval and publication. Once a month, I attend Board meetings and give a report on all the Sunshine and Showers news. I also ask if there is additional news to be reported before the final writing of my article is completed and published. This Board position definitely keeps me "in the know" with our membership!

Rusty Kaman



Birthdays & Anniversaries

Jan. Birthdays

Kathy Cirillo
 Sandy Kaufman
 Mike Sternfeld
 Maxine Tuckman
 Hal Rothberg
 Bren Levy
 Judy Comroe
 Marilyn Katlein
 Robert Cirillo
 Linda Cole
 Jaci Feldman
 Lois Michaelson
 Jack Levy
 Lorraine Levin
 Rusty Kaman
 Maureen Fried

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Jan. Anniversaries



Mariyn & Stan Zwicker
 Barbara & Will Turk

18
30

From Your Membership Chairs

Check your in-boxes for the newest roster. It includes all 174 Trail Dusters, a list of club officers, and our 23 new Rail Dusters.

We had a very successful membership drive! At the end of last school year, we had 153 Trail Dusters and 27 Rail Dusters.

146 members rejoined, two old members came back, and 26 Rail Dusters joined giving us a total of 174 members!

A big **THANK YOU** to all for continuing to support our great club.

I have received one correction on the new rosters:

Steve Kalan's cell phone is (818) 312-6441

If you have any more corrections, please let me know.

Ilene and Mark Abramson Membership & Statistics



markabe@aol.com
 818-501-3109

OUR NEXT SNACK-A-THON IS ON JANUARY 15

We had a great time at the December holiday snack-a-thon with wonderful square dancing and of course, the amazing Snack-A-Thon. Thank you once again to those who brought the scrumptious snacks.

Now join us for a **WONDERLAND SACK-A-THON** On **JANUARY 15TH**
See flier on page 6

So, what's a Winter Wonderland, you must be asking yourselves. Just be creative, use your imagination, come dressed in a Winter Wonderland outfit **STILL CONFUSED?? YES, IT IS A COMMON OCCURRENCE AT OUR AGE.**

Okay all you Trail Dusters Troopers...here are some suggestions: wear a beanie, earmuffs, a scarf, ski boots, skis, a moose head with antlers, or even a warm and fuzzy scarf. Just dress for

Winter Wonderland. It's entirely up to you! Be creative! Oh my.

See y'all on **JANUARY 15th**
Snack- A-Thon Night

**COME HUNGRY!
 COME TO DANCE!
 COME IN COSTUME!**



Snack Queen Jillicious and



Snack King Avilicious

NEXT BOARD MEETING

JANUARY 14, 2025

7:00 PM



ZOOM MEETING

Sunshine & Showers

There is no Sunshine or Showers to report for this issue of the Dusty Trails. I look forward to hearing from you next month. Just send me an email (Rusty_k@Verizon.net) and I will contact you for further details so we can share with the rest of our Trail Dusters' family.

Rusty Kaman

Sunshine & Showers Chair



(Rusty_k@Verizon.net)

Coordinators Corner

Another week, another Do - Si - Do.

The Rail Dusters want to wish everyone a wonderful Holiday Season and a Happy New Year. We'll be seeing some of you at our annual New Year's celebration and look forward to bringing in the new year with all our friends.

Not to get too far ahead of ourselves, but be sure to mark the date of Sunday, February 9th, for our exclusive Rail Duster's Brunch. It's so legendary, that in the past, some of our Trail Dusters have tried to sneak in just to be a part of the event. NO! NO! NO! This is for Rail Dusters only.

Starting in January, using the time which we have previously met in the back room, our coordinators will be available and will be meeting with the Rail Dusters to review any and all calls that you feel need brushing up on. So if you need help, or clarification on any calls, this is your time to learn and/or review anything.

Another interesting fact:

Finally, square dancing is just plain fun and good for you! In a fast-paced world where you're more likely to text than swing your partner, a square dance is a perfect way to connect with other humans without the technological filter. Square dances were originally intended as social gatherings. Even before the Civil War, people of various social and economic positions were intermingling and sharing in their experience at square dances across the country. They serve the same social function today. Square dancing can remind us that when we work hand-in-hand, we can create a harmonious world.

Meet your Rail Dusters

Every month we will feature some of our new Rail Dusters. Be sure to welcome them into our Square Dancing Community.

This month, let's get to know **Susan & Steve Perry, Wesley Witherspoon, Bruce Reisenfeld**

Susan and Steve Perry



Steven was born and raised in Tarzana. I bet he saw a lot of movies at the Tarzana

Movie Theater before it was torn down. Steven is a chiropractor (he could set up a clinic for our club) and he loves what he does because he helps people feel better and controls or eliminates their pain.

Susan was born in Baltimore, Maryland, and moved to Los Angeles in 1988 at 27 years old. She went to school in Connecticut. She works with her husband and they have been married since 1994. They met through "Great Expectations." They have two grown children, both getting married in 2025.

Susan and Steven love playing pickleball, cooking, bike riding, Maj, rummy, and other games. They also love to travel. Maybe their children will have "destination weddings?" As soon as we saw that they love pickleball, we knew that Randee Samsky brought them into our club and we have expectations that they will become wonderful square dancers.



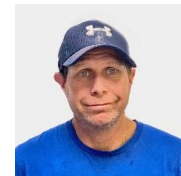
Wesley Witherspoon

Wesley Witherspoon was born in Inglewood, California at Centinela Hospital. He still lives near there and has a driver who brings him back and forth. Sometimes he waits for almost 45 minutes after we all leave for his ride to arrive. Talk about dedication!

Wesley's parents settled in LA from the South and Midwest to seek better weather and opportunities. He went to Redondo High School and El Camino College and Cal Poly San Luis Obispo. Wesley works for a hospital. He has been a cashier, file clerk, bell ringer, campus dining worker, and public speaker. He still works but plans to retire when he is 67 years old. He was married for 9 years but is currently going through a divorce. They met at work and she asked him out to Las Vegas for their first date. He does not have any children. This is Wesley's first attempt at dancing. There was a woman he liked in college who talked about taking him square dancing but it never happened. Wesley says not to look for him on "Dancing with the Stars" anytime soon.

Wesley loves to travel and has been to 17 different states so far. He is working on getting his US Passport. His second home is Wal-Mart and Costco (me too). Wesley wanted to serve in the military but was disqualified because of his flat feet and no arch. He lost his best friend and his uncle during COVID. His uncle was one of the first casualties of COVID in Mississippi and his friend was afraid to go to the doctor to treat his cancer because of COVID. Let's give Wesley a big welcome and help him towards a dancing spot on Dancing With The Stars.

Thank you Jennifer Mantel and Bob Zoren for bringing Wesley Witherspoon into our square dance club.



Bruce Reisenfeld

Jennifer and Bob also encouraged Bruce Reisenfeld to dance with us. Bruce says his nickname is "Runaholic" because he loves to run. He has done several marathons including the Boston Marathon which he has done twice. He loves sports

and loves to spend time with his family and friends.

He was born in Panorama City and went to University High School. He is one of the crew members at Trader Joes. If you happen to visit the store in West Los Angeles be sure to look for him and say hello.

Caren Blumfield & Sherwin Silver



Jeri Sobel



Gayle Cantrock



Alan Shotsky

Class Coordinators

Ways & Means

Hi Trail Dusters and Rail Dusters,

We hope all of you had a Merry Christmas or a Happy Chanukah and a Happy New Year holiday season. With every New Year comes new year resolutions such as I will learn or sharpen my square dance skills by attending every Trail Duster class. I will eat more healthy food. I will try to meet more Trail Dusters and Rail Dusters.

Attending our pre-class dinners before our Trail Duster classes will help you achieve these goals. The restaurants we chose offer healthy food at reasonable prices (as reasonable as can be found nowadays). We Trail Dusters are a friendly, welcoming group who are especially friendly when we are eating! It is enjoyable to socialize during dinner. So, make a New Year's resolution to join us for our pre-class dinners. If you know a Rail Duster or a Rail Duster couple, ask them to join us.

Also remember when you eat at our pre-class dinners, you are helping our club because these are fundraisers for our club.

Whenever you attend one of our pre-class dinners, always tell the person taking your order that you are from the Trail Dusters.

The following is the calendar for our January 2025 restaurants:

January	8	The Stand
January	15	Baja Fresh
January	22	The Habit
January	29	Sharkey's

We look forward to seeing you. Dinner is at 5:30 pm. Class starts at 7:00 pm.

All the best,

**Joel and Lynn
Ovadia
Ways & Means**



Student Stomp

We Get to Stomp

Yes, it's that time of year when we have much more square-dancing fun at the Student Stomp.

There are seven terrific callers who are providing the fun. We all know Paul Waters of course from our Wednesday night classes. We were lucky to have Mike Kellogg and Mike Seastrom stand in for Paul when he was gallivanting somewhere. What about the other names on the flyer - Dale Hoppers, Dick Hodnefield, Rod Shuping, Janienne Alexander. These callers are well known throughout the community of our local area clubs and they have superlative reviews. I guarantee that you will have a wonderful time dancing to these guys. See flier on page 7.

So c'mon out to the Stomp. All Trail Dusters are invited of course, and we especially would like it if Trail Dusters graduates of the last couple of years came. It's a great chance to polish your square dance skills and participate in an actual dance. Let's be there at the Wilkinson Senior Center at 2:00 pm - 4:30 pm time on the 26th of January.

Bring \$10.00 with you and have the best square dance of 2025.

Bill Dickter

A Square D
Delegate



Jan 1 **Holiday Break - No Class**

Jan 8 **First class of 2025**

Jan 15 *Winter Wonderland
Snack-a-thon*

Jan 26 **Student Stomp**

Feb 12 **Snack-A-Thon**

Mar 12 **Snack-A-Thon**

Mar 16 **Club SSD Dance**

NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

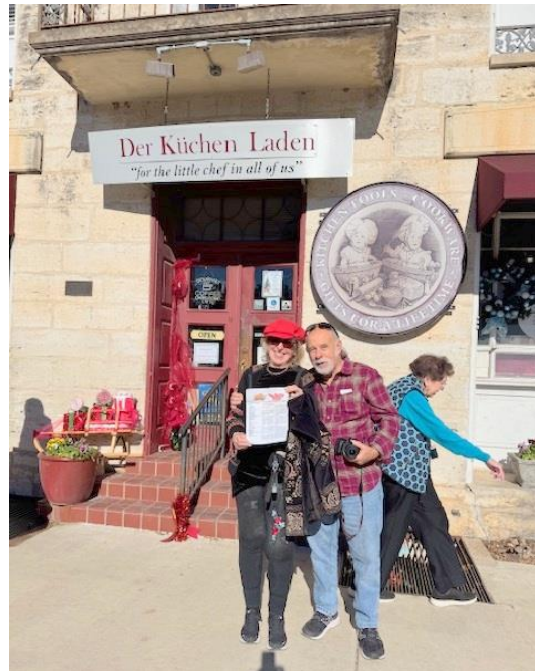


Front row: Leslie Ruiz, Steve Rosentsweig, Farryl Dickter, Marilyn Bloom, Caren Blumfield, Victor Wolfe, Leslie Bergman, Patti Goldberg
Back row: Jay Mulein, Alan Shotsky, Art Hirsh, Rene Maier, Paul Waters, Bruce Reisenfeld

TRAVELING WITH THE DUSTY TRAILS



Nikki & Steve Rosentsweig at Karpeles Manuscript Library in Santa Barbara



Paula & Jerry Seliga in Frederickberg, an early German settlement in Texas

Winter Wonderland



Snack-A-Thon!!

Wednesday, January 15, 2025



So, what's a Winter Wonderland, you might be asking yourselves. Use your imagination. Since you are all so creative - come dressed in a Winter Wonderland outfit. Not much opportunity to do so in sunny California!



Still confused??? Yes, is a common occurrence at our age

Okay all you Trail Duster Troopers...here are some suggestions.



WEAR a beanie, ear muffs, a scarf, ski boots, skis, a moose head hat (available on Amazon.com), or even a warm and fuzzy blanket.



Make some snowballs to throw at the Board members! This is an opportunity NOT to be missed.

COME HUNGRY. COME TO DANCE COME IN COSTUME

Snack Queen Jill & Snack King Avilicious

ASD STUDENT STOMP

Everyone is invited! Class Members, Angels, Couples & Singles

**Some
Line
Dancing**



**Singles
Rotation
Board**

SSD CLASS LEVEL DANCE



**CALLERS: Mike Seastrom - Michael Kellogg - Dick Hodnefield
Rod Shuping - Dale Hoppers - Janienne Alexander - Paul Waters**

**Sunday, January 26, 2025 2 – 4:30 pm
Donation \$10.00**

Wilkinson Center 8956 Vanalden Ave. Northridge, CA 91324

**Sponsored by Valley Trailers - Boots and Slippers - Buckles and Bows
Farmers and Charmers - Lads N' Lassies - Sierra Hillbillies
Trail Dusters**

Information: Linda Kaplan 805-231-6171

January 2025 Trail Dusters Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
			1 New Year's Day 	2	3	4
5	6	7	8 The Stand 5:30 pm Bay Laurel 7:00 pm	9	10	11
12	13	14 Board Meeting 7:00 pm 	15 Baja Fresh 5:30 pm Bay Laurel 7:00 pm	16	17	18
19	20	21	22 The Habit 5:30 pm Bay Laurel 7:00 pm	23	24	25
26 Student Stomp Wilkinson Center 2:00 pm – 4:30 pm See flier page 7	27	28	29 Sharkey's 5:30 pm Bay Laurel 7:00 pm	30	31	

