

The Dusty Trails

Marilyn and Len Bloom, Editors marlenbloom2@gmail.com www.traildusters.com May 2024

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mgoldberg@glassgoldberg.com

Vice Presidents/Refreshments

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Wendy Goldzband

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Jeri Sobel

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Maureen & Shelly Fried

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A Square D Delegate

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Joni & Mark Simon

Special Services - Wilkinson

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Facilitators

Sandra & Robert Sobel

Fundraiser

Denise Kurtzer

Parliamentarian

Cindy Kestenbaum

Briefs From the Board

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE RECORDING SECRETARY

Steve Katz and I joined the club in 2016. We both love dancing and all of the people we have met along the way. Currently, I serve on the Board as Recording Secretary.

Every organization must have a secretary, someone who takes the official record during Board Meetings. The Secretary for the Trail Dusters is no different. The Secretary is required to take notes during the monthly board meetings and prepare them for distribution before the next meeting. The Secretary keeps a binder of all the minutes from meetings as well as agendas and financial reports.

Most people hate the idea of being the Secretary. Just the idea of trying to take down what everyone says and communicate it correctly seems an onerous one. But I have found that being a secretary for the Trail Dusters is quite fun! The Secretary has the power to halt a meeting and ask for something to be better explained or repeated. Envision this—you are in a meeting with seniors who are used to chatting and arguing and interrupting each other. As Secretary, you have the power to stop the commotion, and ask calmly, “what is the motion on the

floor” or “wait, what do you want the notes to reflect?”

Being the Secretary is a great job for someone who is interested in getting involved with Trail Dusters and serving on the Board. I have served as Secretary for the last two years. As Recording Secretary and board member, it allows you to get to know all the people who help run the club and plan the events. For Trail Dusters and new Trail Dusters who are interested in helping your club, the position of Secretary is a great way to get involved.

Sincerely,

Wendy Goldzband
Recording Secretary



NEXT BOARD MEETING

MAY 14, 2024

7:00 PM



ZOOM MEETING

Birthdays & Anniversaries

May Birthdays



Jeri Sobel	3
Bob Zoren	5
Ron Lynn	8
Denise Kurtzer	11
Rick Kessler	12
Jane Lief	12
Sandy Cohen	15
Terry Karsh	15
Otis Rogers	16
Gayle Cantrock	17
Nancy Wallach	17
Stan Zwicker	17
Sandra Sabatino	18
Leonard Bloom	20
Wendy Goldzband	23
Joyce Smith	23
Mark Cutter	23
Lana Collier	24
Kay Mann	24
Jerry Seliga	24
Marlena Zeavy	30

May Anniversaries



Diane Jubelier Light & Les Light	15
Ellen & Mike Sternfeld	28
Mindy & Joe Dill	29

Ilene and Mark Abramson



Membership & Statistics
markabe@aol.com
 818-501-3109

**Last Months
 SPRING FLING, PASSOVER
 & EASTER
 SNACK -A-THON
 was so much fun
 see pictures on pages 10-12**

May 29th Snack-a-thon, theme is

SALUTE TO OUR MILITARY!

Let's celebrate Memorial Day by honoring, paying tribute to, and recognizing those that have served in our armed forces and give formal recognition to those individual members of our very own square dancing club.



This includes the veterans of ANY nation's armed forces that have served with and/or have fought together, either in principle or in combat, as allies of the U.S., and furthermore, believe in, and live by the same principles of democracy.

We want to continue our Club's commitment in recognizing and honoring our veterans at this upcoming Snack-A-Thon.

Come dressed in uniform or red, white, and blue, and/or any variation thereof.



Snack Queen Jill



Snack King Avilidorable

Coordinators Corner

Our class could be nicknamed "The Dream Team." They are still going strong thanks to all your help. We still have our 27 Rail Dusters and many of them are coming to our Spring Weekend. Paul has started calling faster and the calls are getting more complicated, but we are holding on knowing that dancing can only get easier with more practice.

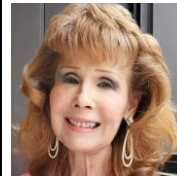
We are still trying to move couples around to even out the squares so bear with us. Thank you for all your understanding, help, and patience with our Rail Dusters. They are the future of our club.

The Rail Dusters are busy writing & practicing their play to entertain us at graduation, which is on Wednesday, June 12. Please put this date on your calendar. More information about graduation will be forthcoming.

Caren Blumfield & Sherwin Silver



Jeri Sobel



Class Coordinators

Meet The Rail Dusters



Meryl & Michael Russo

Meryl & Michael Russo were born in Brooklyn, New York. Mike went to Emory University and Meryl went to Tulane. Meryl's close friend was

marrying Mike's little brother who was in his Emory fraternity. At the wedding in New Jersey, Meryl saw Mike "across a crowded room," stood up and stared at him. When their eyes met, she pointed her finger and invited him to the dance floor. That is the way to do it ladies...when you see something you want, you go for it!

In August 1990, these die-hard East Coasters packed up and left Greenwich Village to move to Los Angeles. It was one day short of their first anniversary, but Michael was offered a great work opportunity in the entertainment field so off to Brentwood they went.

Michael retired in 2020 after a 35 year career as a Distribution Executive in the film and television industry, including a 20 year career at Warner Brothers. If you've watched shows like Friends, The Big Bang Theory or Harry Potter on your T.V., chances are he sold it! He has traveled the entire US for business (every state except Montana!) and internationally as well. Michael also holds a CPA certificate.

Meryl is a Heart-Centered certified life coach. She has a private client practice and leads groups. She guides people to live life through the heart versus thought - a much nicer experience of life! She also facilitates grief groups for Our House Grief Support Centers. Meryl also works for an organization called Campowerment. Campowerment facilitates women and corporate retreats to reignite lives and is a blast. Meryl is their goodwill ambassador and leads sessions at camps.

Prior to all this, Meryl was in the advertising business for over 20 years as the West Coast Advertising Manager for the Walt Disney Co - Family Fun Magazine. They have three fabulous single sons, Zach 31, Griffin 29 (both in Manhattan) and Dylan 23 in Los Angeles.

Let's talk about retirement because these two do not know the meaning of the word. After retiring from Warner Brothers, Michael was so busy playing golf that he got to know the staff at the local public course that he took on a part time job there. He is now at the course 5 days a week, 2 days playing golf and 3 days working there. Mike scored an 82 a few weeks back. His best score to date (and he has only been really playing for 2 years!).

Meryl loves hiking and leads Wisdom Walks (small groups getting together to nurture in nature) in Fryman Park in Studio City. Meryl and Michael love concerts, live music, having people over and entertaining. Meryl loves being in Los Angeles but will always be a "Jersey Girl" at heart. We have Jill Sanders to thank for bringing them into our club.



Sherry and Michael Raber

Michael Raber was born in Medicine Hat, Alberta, which is 3 hours west of Calgary. Sherry was born in Denver, Colorado and moved to California when she was 15 years old. Michael's family moved to California to escape the cold when he was 13 years old. Michael is a property owner/manager and is still working with one of his sons.

Sherry and Michael have three sons, all married with six grandchildren ranging from 21 to one year. Their oldest son is a Fire Captain with LAFD working in the Granada Hills area. They just celebrated their 52 year anniversary on February 13.

Sherry graduated from CSUN in Recreation and Leisure Studies..She chose that major intentionally. Michael is a graduate from the Business School at CSUN (formerly San Fernando Valley State College).

Sherry's parents were deaf, who signed and were verbal. As a Coda (Child of Deaf Adults) Sherry reads lips and signs ASL (American Sign Language).

Michael and Sherry spent their first three years of marriage in Jerusalem, Israel. Presently, they love to hike, enjoy horseback riding, go to rodeos around the country and look for exotic travel adventures.

We have Jill and Bob Sanders (Sherry's cousin) and Paula and Stewart Brooks for bringing them to our club.

May Weekend Has Returned

We are thrilled to announce that we have already exceeded our room expectations for the weekend. Your Wagon masters are going to spend all day Wednesday finalizing plans with the hotel and visiting all the venues that are recommended for you to visit. It will be impossible for you to visit them all so you will have decisions to make. We will have sign up sheets at the hotel so you can car pool together to the venues and tours.

Our weekend events will start on Friday this year for those of you who can get away earlier and avoid traffic jams. Plan on joining us for lunch around noon and arriving at the Drum Company's tour at 1:00pm. We will finish in time to return to the hotel for check in.

Those of you who have signed up will be receiving lots of instructions and

schedules in the next couple of weeks that will explain everything.

For those who just gave a deposit, please send in the rest of your money by May 1. Make sure you write the check to Trail Dusters and mail it to:

**Marilyn Bloom
11868 Moorpark Street Unit H
Studio City, CA 91604**

We are looking forward to being together, learning more about each other and having lots of exciting adventures. May 31-June 2 is right around the corner.

Your wagon masters,

Caren Blumfield & Sherwin Silver
Phyllis & Simcha Saul



Sunshine & Showers

This past month has brought a mixture of news, both Sunshine and Showers. We begin with healing prayers and get well wishes for long-time Trail Duster **Les Light** who recently suffered a heart attack while visiting family in Boca Raton, Florida. **Les** and his wife Diane were preparing to board their plane for the flight home when he complained of stiffness in both arms and pain in his RIGHT arm and shoulder. When asked whether paramedics should be called, he replied, "Yes!" **Les** was immediately taken to the hospital where it was determined that he had suffered a heart attack and that two of his arteries were blocked. He underwent surgery and two stents were put in. Thankfully, **Les** is now out of the hospital and, with Diane at his side, he is slowly but surely recuperating there in Florida. It is

anticipated that they will be able to fly home sometime next week. **Les** and Diane are anxious for everyone to realize that not every person experiences the same symptoms when having a heart attack. Typically, an early warning sign is pain in the LEFT shoulder, but this was NOT the case for **Les**. Getting immediate medical attention is critical to a successful recovery, and fortunately, this was done for him. Now we look forward to the **Lights** returning home to L.A. where **Les** will continue his recuperation and ultimate resumption of the activities he most enjoys. Wishing you both a safe and pleasant journey home.

Continuing, GET WELL wishes are extended to **Joel Ovdia** who is recovering from recent surgery on his right knee. With the help of strong antibiotics and pain meds, **Joel** is finally on the mend. In fact, he has just resumed his morning walks with friends in preparation for an upcoming trip to Italy with Lynn. **Joel**, may you continue healing and enjoy your travels with no more pain!

Sending healing thoughts and best wishes to **Paula Seliga** who is still recovering from a knee replacement done on January 18th which she says was the most difficult of all her 5 previous surgeries. Further, only one month after her knee surgery, **Paula** needed eye surgery. This has clearly been a difficult time for you, **Paula**, and we hope that the weeks and months to come will bring a vast improvement with both issues for you!

Wishing a speedy recovery to **Ronda Kalan** who, 3 weeks ago (at this time of writing) underwent a total knee replacement. She is about to begin physical therapy but is, at the moment, still in a great deal of pain. **Ronda**, who normally coaches ice hockey to special needs children, is in competitions all over the USA as well as in neighboring countries. She

is, understandably, most anxious to get back on the ice. **Ronda**, this is what we wish for you. May you soon be pain-free and able to return to this very special activity that you love so much!

Both **Denise Kurtzer** and **Richard** are finally recovering from Covid. **Richard** was hospitalized for 6 days before being released, and now they are about 90% well, according to **Denise**. Hopefully, by the time you read this, both of you will be fully recovered and moving on to enjoy brighter days ahead!

Congratulations to **Caren Blumfield** who is thrilled to report the arrival of her 8th and newest grandchild! Caren's son, Drew Blumfield, and his wife Crystal, just became parents to a son, Yosef Lee Blumfield on April 8th. They already have three girls, ages 6 years, 5 years, and 20 months, and all were born on holidays: Christmas, 9/11, and the 4th of July. Yosef was born during the solar eclipse! All the family is delighted. **Caren**, may your little grandson always be a source of joy and happiness to you and your family.

Rita Karp is overjoyed to announce the engagement of her granddaughter, Rachael Karp, to Dr. Faraaz Tamjiei, an ER doctor in Riverside. Rachael will complete her studies in another year when she then graduates and becomes a Doctor of Psychology. Their wedding will take place after that. The young couple, both 29, have been going together for 8 years. Congratulations and best wishes to you, **Rita**, and to all your family. You have so much to look forward to!

Rita's other granddaughter and Rachael's twin sister and her husband have just purchased their first home in Simi Valley. Happiness is overflowing in the **Karp** family with so many joyful events to anticipate.

Rita, your Trail Duster "family" is happy for you!

In conclusion, here is a delightful message of "Sunshine" shared by **Judy Comroe**. In May, **Judy** will travel to Myrtle Beach, in South Carolina, to visit a dear friend whom she met in 1953, when both girls were just 14 years of age. They met at Van Nuys High School and have been "best friends" for now 70 years! They last saw each other 5 years ago though they have remained in touch. Not too many of us can say we've stayed close to someone for that amount of time. **Judy**, we wish you a wonderful reunion, a memorable visit and safe travels!

Thank you to all our Trail Duster members who have taken the time to share both "Sunshine" and "Showers" this month. My column is definitely more interesting with your contributions, so I hope you will keep the news coming! Remember to email me at Rusty_k@verizon.net with your news and I will contact you for details!

Wishing those of you who celebrate Passover a wonderful holiday. And to all of you, please STAY WELL and stay safe!

Warm regards,

Rusty Kaman,
Rusty_k@verizon.net
Sunshine & Showers Chair



**DINNER AND DANCE WITH
TINSEL TOWN SQUARES**

On April 2, Trail Dusters were invited by the **Tinseltown Square Dance Club** as their special guests to visit the **Los Angeles LGBTQ Center**. Facility tours, a delicious dinner, and lively square dancing called by our own **Paul Waters** made up an event that awed and entertained a room

bursting with supportive **Trail Dusters** - see picture on pages 7-9.

More than 50 years ago a small group of activists banded together to create **Liberation House** to shelter and provide a safe space for LGBTQ people. Decades later, this tiny home has grown to become the largest LGBTQ+ organization in the world. The Los Angeles Center's 800 employees provide services spanning four broad categories: Health, Social Services and Housing, Culture and Education, and Leadership and Advocacy. As we toured the various buildings, it was clear to all that this center was an impressive state of the art facility accomplishing a great deal for the Los Angeles community.

Many thanks go to the **Tinseltown Square Dance Club** for providing us with a wonderful dinner, dance, and tour of the **LGBTQ Center**. A very special thaaaank you goes to Paul for organizing this outstanding event. His dedication and desire for our club to enjoy fun and enriching experiences is very much appreciated.



Maureen & Shelly Fried

Event Reporters

Ways & Means

As May is now upon us and with the passing of April, spring has finally sprung and if we're lucky, the weather will reflect this wonderful change. You know what they say..."April showers bring May flowers." Here's hoping the sky will be bright and clear and the grass beneath our feet will be a beautiful green with flowers blooming everywhere.

For those of you who are not joining us for dinner before our Wednesday classes, all we can say is that you're missing out on the opportunity to share good times, make new friends and get to know everyone just a little bit better.

May is the last full month of pre-class dinners so don't miss out. Look at the calendar at the end of Dusty Trails to see where we will be partaking in delicious meals.

Hope all the mothers in our group have a wonderful Mother's Day.

It's wonderful to see friends again and we hope you will join us soon.

- May 1 Sharkey's
- May 8 California Pita
- May 15 The Habit
- May 22 Baja Fresh
- May 29 The Stand



So...see you at dinner and then in a square.

JaneLief

lief.jane@gmail.com

818-881-8300



- May 29 - Snack-A-Thon
Salute to Our Military
- May 31 - June 2 - May Weekend
Sock Hop/ Senior Prom
- June 12 - Graduation

MARCH APRIL BIRTHDAYS



Front Row: Jennifer Mantell, Paula Brooks, Grace Mitnik, Madeline Johnson. Marshall Goldberg, Jerianne Keane, Paula Seliga
2nd row: Stewart Brooks, Joel Ovidia, Alan Shotsky, Richard Lewis, David Britton, Joe Keane, Michael Raber

Two people in the above birthday picture turned another decade. Look on page 13 to see who they are.

TRAVELING WITH THE TRAIL DUSTERS



Dusty Trails went with Nikki & Steve Rosentsweig to the Museum of Making Music in Carlsbad and then to Chula Vista Elite Athletic Training Center – US Olympic and Paralympic Training Center

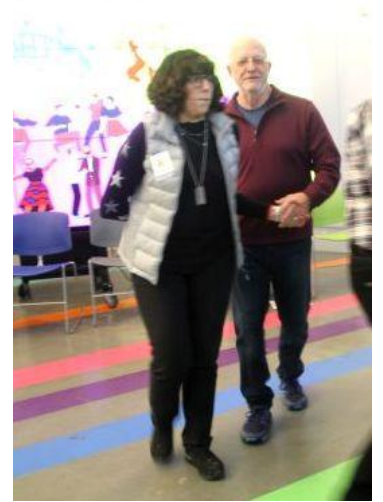


Trail Dusters Who Came to the Tinsel Town Dance



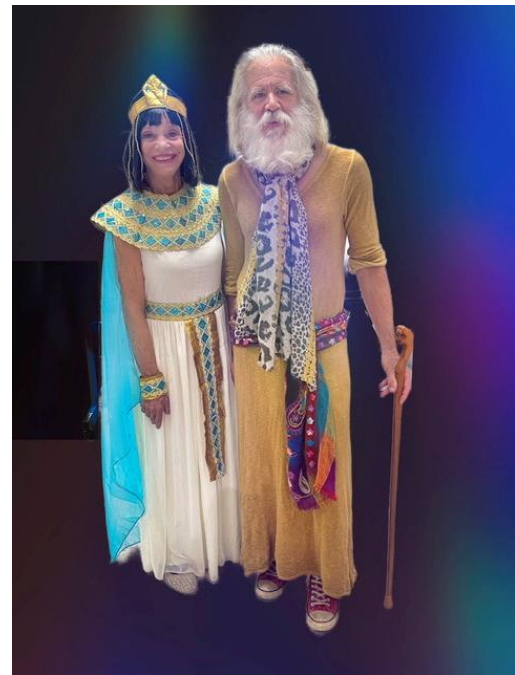
Seated: Joni Simon, Patti & Marshall Goldberg, Paul Waters, Simcha Saul, Marilyn & Len Bloom Phyllis Saul, Mak Simon, Nikki & Steve Rosentsweig, Jerianne & Joe Keaney, Stewart & Paula Brooks, Renny Traub, Terry Karsh, Carol & Richard Lewis, Sherwin Silver, Bill Dickter, Cookie Stiskin, Ron Mitnick, Wendy Goldzband, Steve Katz, Jeff & Margie Hausman, Jane Lief, Jill Sanders, Fariba & Amos Tabibian, Grace Mitnick, Farryl Dickter, Bob Sanders, Maureen Fried, Caren Blumfield, Shelly Fried, Merry & Jay Mulein

Dancing at Tinsel Town





Spring Fling, Passover & Easter Come to Bay Laurel

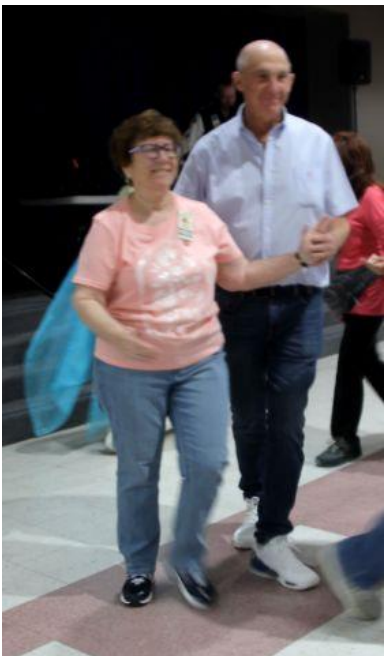
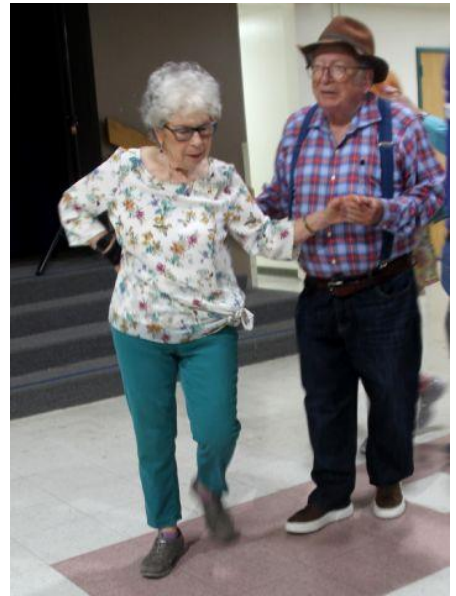


Jill Sanders & Avi Nudell can't believe that Cleopatra & Moses came to their Passover, Easter feast. Wait, even the Pharaoh attended








Can there be more than one Moses?





May 2024 Trail Dusters Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
			1 Sharkey's 5:30 pm Bay Laurel 7:00 pm	2	3	4
5 	6	7	8 Calif Pita 5:30 pm Bay Laurel 7:00 pm	9	10	11
12 	13	14 Board Meeting  7:00 pm	15 The Habit 5:30 pm Bay Laurel 7:00 pm	16	17	18 Armed Forces Day 
19	20	21	22 Baja Fresh 5:30 pm Bay Laurel 7:00 pm	35	24	25
26	27 	28	29 The Stand 5:30 pm Bay Laurel snack-a-thon page 2 7:00 pm	30	31 Annual Trail Dusters Spring Weekend See pages 3&4	



Stewart Brooks & Marshall Goldberg turned another decade older. What can that number be?