

The Dusty Trails

Marilyn and Len Bloom, Editors marlenbloom2@gmail.com www.traildusters.com Dec. 2020

Club Officers 2020-2021

Presidents

Nikki & Steve Rosentsweig
rosentsweig@hotmail.com

Vice Presidents/AsqD Representative

Jane Lief

Treasurers

Jeri & Ron Sobel

Financial Treasurer

Victor Wolfe

Membership/Statistics

Ilene & Mark Abramson

Sunshine & Showers

Rusty Kaman

Class Coordinators

Helene & Hendon Harris
Lynn & Joel Ovadia
Roy Okada

Refreshments

Denise Kurtzer & Richard Rose
Lorraine & Sheldon Levin
Cindy Kestenbaum & Alex Strouzer

Editors

Marilyn & Len Bloom

Secretary

Wendy Goldzband

Publicity/Webmaster

Shirley Brown

Ways & Means

Paula & Al Masters
Flo & Bill Tapp

Special Services

Joni & Mark Simon

Parliamentarians

Mark Cutter

Caller Coordinator/Contracts

Pat Kessler and Farryl Dickter

Dance Reporter

Caren Blumfield

Maintenance

Sandra & Robert Sobel

From the Presidents' Desk

It's November, the month of Thanksgiving. In these crazy Covid times, we need to remember that good times will eventually return. We all have things to be thankful for. We are thankful for our families and the wonderful friends we have made through Trail Dusters. We look forward to the day when it will be safe to dance again.

Square dance callers and clubs are using this time to consider program changes for when we do eventually start up again. Some proposals are floating around the local and national clubs. Our Board has been made aware of one proposal circulating around that would teach fewer calls and make sure that they are well understood by all. Every proposal has pluses and minuses. If any of these proposals gain acceptance in the area we will be sure to make you aware of them.

Remember to show up to our virtual zoom dance and social hour on the third Wednesday of each month.

Nikki and Steve Rosentsweig

Presidents



New Year's Eve Gala COVID FORMAT

No doubt this has been a challenging and worrisome year with so many of our social events cancelled and we are all looking forward to 2021 with a return to a life filled with family, friends, love and laughter.

Our December Virtual Dance to be held on Wednesday, December 16, will be an opportunity for all members to gather on Zoom, whether you dance or not, to celebrate New Year's festivities.

Obviously, it will not be like previous years but it will keep us connected. **Wear your best Zoom Gala attire, whether it is a tuxedo jacket, a dress, a T-Shirt and bow tie or a string of pearls – be creative.** Bring your own noise maker and champagne - we will toast to the New Year and hope for the end of COVID and the return of Wednesday night REAL dancing.



We continue to thank **Paul Waters** for calling a fun two couple dance and **Caren Blumfield** for teaching and leading us in line dancing each month.

There is socializing between tips. You can also "chat" by posting a text to everyone – or privately to an individual. Check the "chat" icon at the bottom of your screen regularly!

If you have a second couple (or partner) who is in your social bubble, gather at one house for this dance/party. Let's make this the best virtual dance for our Club.

Zoom opens at 6:30 for 30 minutes of socializing and the dance will start promptly at 7:00 pm.

See you there!

From Your roving reporter from Canada,

Shirley Brown





NEXT BOARD MEETING

DECEMBER 8,

2020

ZOOM MEETING

7:30 P.M.

"THANKSZOOMING" OUR PREVIOUS DANCE

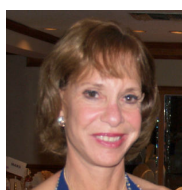
I made up this word because all of us who zoomed in to our monthly dance on Wednesday, gave thanks by holding up cards and/or papers stating what we were thankful for – see page 5. Thank you Shirley for your creative suggestion.

We had a huge turnout this month without any distractions from political speeches or sporting events. It is so wonderful to have that feeling of togetherness again if only for a brief hour on our screens. The old expression, "You don't appreciate what you have until it's gone" certainly applies to most of us. Personally, I have vowed to never complain about having to rush off and dance, bring a snack, or organize the Spring Weekends and New Year's Galas. I miss them terribly because it is such a wonderful way to get to know each other when we laugh, relax and reminisce together.

This month we didn't do a "turkey trot" but we squared up to Paul's calls and to Caren's line dancing. It is always fun to review (since we only do it once a month) but watch out for December's zoom...you will be learning two new line dances!

Many of us will be alone at Thanksgiving this year or with a very limited number of family members. Please do not despair but rather rejoice in your attempts to stay safe. Please know that you are not alone. Every Trail Duster is thinking about you and giving thanks for the fun and friendships we have made through our club.

Caren Blumfield
Dance Reporter



Dec. Birthdays



Simcha Saul	4
Janice Reiss	5
Art Hirsh	7
Milo Molitoris	9
Patti Goldberg	13
Les Light	13
Bill Sarnoff	13
Harriet Berman	14
Lainy Parlen	15
Victor Wolfe	16
Joe Dill	17
Caren Blumfield	24
Leslie Ruiz	25
Anita Higer	26
Paul Kayne	27

Dec. Anniversaries



Paula & Jerry Seliga	4
Jacquelyn & Royce Walker	9
Joni & Mark Simon	19
Sandy & Ron Lynn	22
Nikki & Steven Rosentsweig	28

Congratulations to all of you who are celebrating a special occasion.

Ilene & Mark

**Membership
Chairs**



I hate it when
I'm singing a
song and the
artist gets the
words wrong.

Sunshine & Showers

What a pleasure it is to be able to share happy news with all of you this month! Let's hope there's more to come!

Rhonda and **Bill Shapiro** are thrilled to announce the engagement of their oldest daughter, **Jenny**, to **Greg Navarro**. The young couple met on the online app, JSwipe, 3 ½ years ago. Jenny is the Manager of Talent Relations for Disney Feature Films, as well as Marvel, and Greg is a screenwriter. Together, they have high aspirations for their future, hoping that Jenny will be in charge of all the main characters as well as them being the directors and producers of one of Greg's films. Meanwhile, they are making their home in North Hollywood as they wait until the time is safe to plan a wedding when friends and family can feel comfortable flying and being together in a large group, perhaps at the end of 2021 or the beginning of 2022. Jenny and Greg, you have so many plans for the future-both personally and professionally, and we wish you much success and happiness as you go forward. Warm CONGRATULATIONS to all the **Shapiro** family!

On a less than happy note, I have just learned that **Mark Cutter** is recovering slowly after having suffered a massive stroke on November 16th. **Mark**, your Trail Duster family is behind you and wishing you a rapid and complete recovery. To you and fiancée **Randee Samsky**, we're sending well wishes, love and prayers as we look forward to hearing encouraging news real soon!

Meanwhile, what about the rest of you? Although we are forced to stay close to home at present, what is happening within your family? Any engagements to report? Are there any new babies? What about special occasions being celebrated (on a small scale, of course!) Are there illnesses that we should know about? Remember that we are like a second family in Trail Dusters. We want to know what is taking place in each other's lives so that we can reach out to one another. Please share your news with me at the following e-mail address and I will contact you for further details.

To each of you, I send warm wishes for a most HAPPY THANKSGIVING. Our gatherings this year certainly won't be the same as in previous years, but whatever you do to celebrate, may it be a lovely occasion, and hopefully, next year will be a return to some kind of "normalcy." Please stay safe!

Fondly,
Rusty Kaman,

Sunshine &
Showers Chair

Rusty_k@verizon.net



.....



Know Your Board Member



**Pat & Rick
Kessler**

In the fall of 1993, Rick and I were invited to attend a SQUARE DANCE class by some long time friends of ours. After we managed to stop laughing, we decided we would give the class a try. After all, the first class was free, we might have a few laughs, we would see our old friends and we might make a few new friends too. We had a great evening and we were hooked.

Here we are in 2020 and we are one of two couples who joined that fateful night who are still actively involved. We have made dozens and dozens of new friends over the years and have danced so many hours at a time that we could barely walk to our cars when a long event was over.

We have traveled thousands of miles with people we met over the years, and played hundreds of hours of multiple games. Our kids have complained for years that we have much more active and interesting lives than they do since we began square dancing.

Now a brief word about us. We were high school sweethearts and got married in 1960. Our first son was born two years later. To keep the fun going we added two more boys and a girl.

So, there we were with four children in nine years and we loved every minute (except the minutes we didn't sleep). Fast forward and the children were all grown, had finished college

and were busy with their own lives.

We suddenly had the quietest, loneliest house. So what did we do. I went to college, receiving a degree in English and Psychology AND took up horse back riding (jumping). By the way, the same friend who got us into square dancing got me into riding. Rick, who had been in Thoroughbred Horse Breeding many years before, decided to go into the Racing end of the horse business.

We were muddling along just fine until that dear friend I mentioned earlier, called and got us into square dancing.

So what did becoming active with square dancing involve. It meant lots of hours learning well over 100 calls, meeting lots of new people, having lots of fun, and supplying LOTS of food for everyone to eat during breaks. You need a Refreshment Coordinator for all that food and that was our first job. From there we became Editors of the Dusty Trails for a couple of years. We were Wagon Masters for two terms. That involved hosting three events during your term (including the Get Away Weekend).

Then we moved to the Big Time.

First we were Vice Presidents at the time Norman and Rusty Kaman (graduates of our class) were presidents. It was a great partnership, though we were back to bringing dessert again, and all went smoothly. Then we became Presidents. Just one little glitch. Somehow we didn't get a Vice President. Guess What!! We got to bring desserts again, as well as do the job of President. Oh well, the time flew and we had a lot of fun. The reward for all these fancy jobs was a turn at an easy job, attending A Square D meetings. Someone else can

explain about A Square D. There is one final job that I (not Rick) have. Marilyn, our dear editor and former President says to me frequently, "The job was, is and forever shall be MINE." (That's ME) I book the callers for all of our dances, usually three years in advance. If you want to meet some nice people, talk to our dance callers. They are terrific. So I'll happily keep my last job for life.

As a special tribute to all who participated, I want to mention two events that Rick and I chaired that brought us great pride. Because we were on the board of the Los Angeles Ronald McDonald House, and everyone knew of our strong involvement, it was suggested that the Trail Dusters sponsor a fund raising dance for the House. Thanks to the hard work of many of the Trail Dusters and the overwhelming support of the callers and the square dance community, two years and two dances later, we raised \$55,000.

The House provides a "home away from home" for the families of children who are being treated at L.A. Childrens' Hospital. A plaque honoring the Trail Dusters for their contribution is still prominently displayed in this newest wing of the Los Angeles Ronald McDonald House. As you see, by becoming a Trail Duster you will enjoy dancing, making new friends and supporting your community.



On The Lighter Side

1. If at first you don't succeed, skydiving is not for you.
2. I was going to wear my camouflage shirt today, but I couldn't find it.
3. Behind every great man is a woman rolling her eyes.
4. When I married Ms. Right, I had no idea her first name was Always.
5. If you can smile when things go wrong, you have someone in mind to blame.
6. I find it ironic that the colors red, white, and blue stand for freedom, until they're flashing behind you

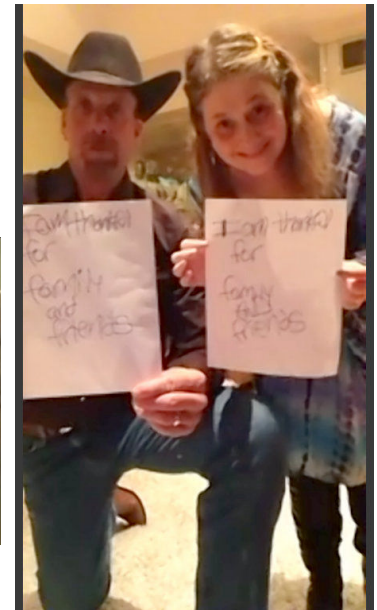
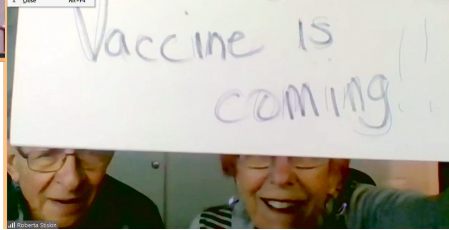
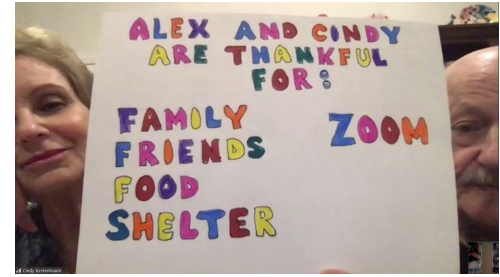
Did you know?



Line dancing was started by women waiting to use the bathroom.

Accidentally went grocery shopping on an empty stomach and now I'm the proud owner of aisle 4.

OUR VIRTUAL THANKSGIVING DANCE



WE ARE THANKFUL FOR OUR CALLERS



Paul Waters – Square Dancing



Caren Blumfield – Line Dancing

December 2020 Trail Dusters Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8 Zoom Board Meeting 7:30 pm	9	10	11 	12
13	14	15	16 Zoom Virtual Square Dancing 7:00 pm	17	18	19
20	21 	22	23	24	25 	26
27	28	29	30	31 New Years Eve 		

TRAIL DUSTERS

