

The Dusty Trails

Marilyn and Len Bloom, Editors marlenbloom@sbcglobal.net www.traildusters.com Oct. 2019

Club Officers 2019-2020

Presidents

Joni & Mark Simon
marksimon43@gmail.com

Vice Presidents

Nikki & Steve Rosentsweig

Treasurers

Jeri & Ron Sobel

Financial Treasurer

Dale Kaufman

Membership/Statistics

Ilene & Mark Abramson

Sunshine & Showers

Rusty Kaman

Class Coordinators

Randee Samsky & Mark Cutter
 Lynn & Joel Ovadia
 Roy Okada

Kitchen Chairs – Saturday Dances

Sandra & Robert Sobel

Refreshments

Denise Kurtzer & Richard Rose
 Paula & Al Masters
 Cindy Kestenbaum & Alex Strouzer

Editors

Marilyn & Len Bloom

Secretary

Wendy Goldzband

Publicity/Webmaster

Shirley & Collin Brown

Ways & Means

Jane Lief and Flo Tap

A Square D Delegate

Bill Dickter

Special Services

Anita & Gary Higer

Parliamentarians

Judy Comroe

Caller Coordinator/Contracts

Pat Kessler and Farryl Dickter

Dance Reporter

Caren Blumfield

From the Presidents' Desk



Wow! Amazing! Just Fantastic!

That's what we have to say about our Hoedown/Fundraiser for the Ronald McDonald House Charities. Together, we put on an event that was successful beyond our wildest expectations. We raised over **\$10,000.00** for this wonderful charity, and we had over 200 people attend our Hoedown. We are so proud of all the Trail Dusters for a job well done!

The Hoedown took a lot of work, planning, and help to achieve these results. There are so many people that helped bring this off that we don't have the space to thank everyone by name. But, thanks to the Hoedown committee, **Marilyn & Len Bloom, Jane Lief, Paula & Al Masters, Nikki & Steve Rosentsweig, Jeri & Ron Sobel, Sandy & Bob Sobel and Paul Waters**, for their time and effort organizing everything from the very beginning. Thank you to everyone who bought tickets and sold tickets. Thanks to everyone who helped on the night of the Hoedown signing people in, collecting money, greeting guests, setting up chairs and tables, by bringing so much refreshments, and all the other things you all did.

A special thanks to a few people who were especially important to our success. First, thanks to **Paul Waters** for being the inspiration for the Hoedown and helping with the plans that made it a huge success. Thanks to **Caren Blumfield** for all her work and the decorations she set up that made the room look great. A big thanks to **Denise Kurtzer** for obtaining all the restaurant gift certificates for the silent auction. We raised over \$1,500.00 from the silent auction alone. Finally, a huge thank you to **Sandy and Bob Sobel!** Thank you for collecting all the donations and forwarding them to the RMH, for keeping such meticulous records that allowed us to have information that helped plan and organize the Hoedown, and for putting in untold hours into the planning of the Hoedown. Thank you to everyone. And congratulations to **Jeri Sobel** for winning the grand prize

The Hoedown reminded us that the Trail Dusters have a lot to be proud of. I know that we all love the club and everything it offers us. I am talking about friendships, dancing, social activities, and so much more. See Hoedown pictures on pages 5 & 6.

IMPOTANT INFORMATION WHY WE ARE INCREASING OUR INCOME

It takes an enormous amount of time, and a lot of money to run this club. Trail Dusters is, in many ways, like a business. Of course, we all participate in our own way to make this happen. For example, we all pay our annual dues to help in the clubs financial needs. But, the dues do not cover all the expenses required to run the club.

Costs continue to increase across the board every year. Yet we continue to operate on the same income we've generated for decades, with no consideration toward keeping up with inflation and rising costs. After all the income we raised from all sources, and, after all our expenses were paid, we lost \$2,000.00.

For this reason the Trail Dusters Board has unanimously approved the following action. Starting in October, Club dues will be increased from \$25.00 per person to \$35.00 per person. Starting on January 8, 2020 there will be a \$2.00 donation, to be paid at the door, for all Trail Dusters, at every Wednesday night class.

To put this in perspective, this amounts to a total cost of \$3.03 per person, per week for 34 weeks. Where can you get everything our club offers for \$3.03? NOWHERE!

We all love our club, and we want it to continue to grow and be financially healthy. The actions we are taking will allow us to enjoy everything that the Trail Dusters offers all of us for many more years to come.

For those who have not read the email that was sent to the entire Trail Dusters club on 9/21/19 and you would like a more detailed explanation of why the club is increasing its income – see pages 8 & 9.

See you soon,

Best Wishes,



**Joni & Mark
Simon
Presidents**

Join us for our next dance on
Saturday October 12 at Wilkinson



**Center for our
annual
Scarecrow Ball.**

Scarecrows from all over the valley will leave the fields to join the Witches, Goblins and others to gather here for the gala ball celebrating fall's arrival.

Scarecrows near and far will gather for their annual gala ball to celebrate summer's end and fall's arrival! Come in costume, or not, march in the Grand Parade, or not, just come – this is a dance not to be missed. Our caller, Tim Pepper, has been a caller and Instructor since 1982. Although he calls mainly in the southern California area, he also does occasional travel throughout the Western states, for festivals and special dances. He currently teaches beginners classes for the Shirts & Skirts of Anaheim. His easy and friendly style of calling and his wide and varied choice of music will make for a fun and entertaining evening – see flier page 13.

Milo will also contribute to your enjoyment as you rest between tips and listen to his cuing for our round dancers and watch the couples glide around the dance floor.

The volunteers, **Maxine & Irwin Tuckman**, under the supervision of our Kitchen Chairs for Saturday Dances, **Sandra & Robert Sobel** will be serving up delicious treats and you need not worry about the calories as you will be dancing them off! Drop by and thank the Trail Dusters in the kitchen for their hard work. Let them know how much you appreciate the treats that are served each month at our dances.

As the second dance of the new season, consider mentoring a newer dance couple from last year, encourage them to come and then make sure you pull them into a tip and support them so that they are comfortable and enjoy themselves. We are known for our friendly and welcoming style and our club will continue to be strong and vibrant when we continue to encourage our newer dancers to attend and see how much fun a dance can be!

Your roving reporters from Canada,

**Shirley &
Collin Brown**

Publicity
Chairs



NEXT BOARD MEETING

OCTOBER 1, 2019

FIRST TUESDAY - 7:30 P.M.

**PAULA & AL MASTER'S
HOUSE**



Our Last Month's Dance



Was this our New Year's Eve gala in the middle of September? Absolutely not but it was just as much fun! Many dancers arrived in



black attire and pearls to the theme



of the night, "Pearls and Black Tie." One could see tuxedos and plenty of bow ties.

The evening opened with the Wilkenson Dance Floor overflowing with Round Dancers being cued by our own Milo Molitoris. Then the infamous Buddy Weaver and Mike Kellogg teamed up to entertain us with wonderful solo calling and duets. Or was it the other way around, did we entertain them with our full

house of squares madly trying to catch up to their speedy tempo.

We really worked hard for our breaks and were rewarded with delicious snacks of veggies, fruit, ice cream and cookies prepared



by **Caren Blumfield and Sherwin Silver**. Of course, they wouldn't have been able to present it without the always hard work of **Sandy and Ron Sobel** in the kitchen. The evening concluded with a friendship circle, so fitting for a fabulous evening of dancing, laughter and friendship. We thank all the clubs who helped support our dance.

Caren Blumfield

Dance Reporter



**List of callers - 2019 -2020
page 10**

Oct. Birthdays

Rosalie Rifkin	1
Steve Bordofsky	4
Sandy Lynn	5
Leon Stabinsky	8
Ron Sobel	15
Pat Kessler	16
Jeff Hausman	18
Richard Rose	23
Geraldine Rothenberg	23
Bill Tapp	28
Renny Traub	30

Oct. Anniversaries



Leslie & Richard Ruiz	4
Shirley & Collin Brown	15
Kathy & Robert Cirillo	17
Helene & Hendon Harris	18
Rhonda & Bill Shapiro	30

Membership

This is what our club bank balance calls "the most wonderful time of the year!" Yes, it's time for all of us to renew our annual membership. Current memberships expire at the end of December 2019. Renew now to keep your membership through 2020.

All membership dues need to be postmarked by November 30, 2019, so that our insurance covers all members.

The best way to renew is:

Print the renewal form on page 12 and fill out the required information. Please print legibly!

Make out a check to **Trail Dusters** for **\$35 for single membership,**
\$70 for couple.

Mail the form and the check to:
Ilene and Mark Abramson
4425 Estrondo Drive
Encino, CA 91436

Please note the increase for 2020 dues as voted on by the Board and explained in our President's Message and its recent e-mail to all members.



I will also be available before class to accept membership forms and payments.

All current members must renew to maintain membership. This includes our newest Trail Dusters who graduated in June and paid half-year dues that cover the period from July through December 2019.

We are looking forward to receiving your membership renewals. If you have any further questions, please email Mark Abramson.

Ilene & Mark Abramson
Membership Chairs



markabe@aol.com

Refreshments

Hello Trail Dusters,

Our year is off to a good start. Thank you for the refreshments that you brought to our fabulous hoedown and the weeks since then.

As a reminder, you will receive an email to let you know that you are responsible to bring a treat for the following Wednesday class. In addition, a monthly schedule is posted in the Dusty Trails. on page 11. If you are not available on the date that you are assigned, please take the initiative to exchange with someone else and let us know about the arrangements that you have made.

On your scheduled date, please arrive by 6:45 to help us set-up and plan to stay a few minutes after class to clean up. Please bring your snack ready to serve, cut up and plated.

If you are planning to bring a birthday cake, please let us know in advance. Cupcakes might be an alternative, but it is your celebration. Please be available to help serve this item and receive good wishes

Your Refreshment Chairs



Denise Kurtzer & Richard Rose



Paula & Al Masters



Cindy Kestenbaum &
Alex Strouzer

Ways & Means

A great big welcome back to our Trail Dusters and of course to our new 2019-20 class of Rail Dusters. We have completed our September classes and are off to a great start, both dancing, and of course socializing and **eating**.

What goes better with square dancing than eating? so there is our theme. We meet each week at **5:30 for our pre-class dinner**, varying restaurants each week and it is always a "fine dining" place. Not only do we enjoy the food and the socializing, but each restaurant gives us a percentage of the total money spent. So, this is such a win-win!!! We get to become better

friends, we fill up our tummies with great food, and our club makes some money every single Wednesday evening.

Our first restaurant, for our pre-class dinner, on October 2nd is Corner Bakery in Calabasas. Remember 5:30 is the time so we can get up to Bay Laurel in time to start dancing at 7:00 PM. We hope you can join us - - we always have a large crowd of very hungry people and we always have lots of fun.

The schedule for October is as follows:

October 2nd Corner Bakery
October 9th **NO CLASS**
October 16th Hook Burger
October 23rd California Pita
October 30th **NO CLASS**

Your hostesses,



Jane Lief



Flo Tapp

TRAVELING WITH THE TRAIL DUSTERS



Paula & Jerry Seliga read the Dusty Trails in front of the Oregon Trail Interpretive Center when visiting Baker City, Oregon

Hoedown September 4, 2016



Jeri Sobel wins the Grand Prize



Hoedown September 4, 2019 Continued



SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS CELEBRATED AT BAY LAUREL



Front row: Miriam Brauner, Ronna Banks, Avi Nudell, Beverly Rutkin
Back row: Reuven Zeavy, Joey Zepkin, Adriane Fox-Kreisberg, Debbie Rose

DRESSED UP FOR OUR BLACK TIE & PEARLS SEPTEMBER DANCE



IMPORTANT INFORMATION!! ALL TRAIL DUSTERS PLEASE READ THIS LETTER WHICH EXPLAINS THE REASON THAT THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO MAKE NEEDED CHANGES TO INCREASE OUR CLUB'S INCOME:

The Trail Dusters Square Dance Club. What does this club mean to us? I think it means a lot of different things.

First, it is a dance club. We're so fortunate to have the opportunity to learn how to square dance. Second, it's a place where we meet dozens of new friends, many of whom will be life long friends. Third, it's a club that provides wonderful social events, such as club dinners together, the Hoedown, New Year's Eve, the theater fund raiser, the May weekend, and class graduation, just to name a few. Also, don't forget that many of us participate in social events outside the club, such as mahjong, poker, mystery groups, movie nights, and book clubs. Without our club we would not have any of this. I would wager that many of us would agree that belonging to Trail Dusters has been life changing. It has been for Joni and me.

But, we also have to remember that Trail Dusters is also like a business. It takes a lot of money, as well as time and effort, to run the club and offer all the events and activities mentioned above. You may say, "We pay dues each year to pay for the club's financial needs." And, you would be correct. Except, our individual dues do not cover the total cost of running the club.

Please, stop reading further for a moment. Think to yourself what you imagine it costs our club to put on a Wednesday night square dance class at Bay Laurel Elementary School. Come up with a guess.

Ok, let's look at the cost of a Wednesday night class. Let's examine the 2018-2019 class year that just ended. After you take all the money contributed by the Rail Dusters at the door each week, plus the money contributed to the brandy glass, and then, subtract the rent we pay to Bay Laurel Elementary School, Paul Waters' salary, and kitchen costs attributed to the refreshments each week, it still costs an additional **\$259.00** every Wednesday night over and above what we take in. .

Costs continue to increase across the board year after year. We always have unexpected loss of income from events beyond our control. We have continued to operate on the same income we've generated for many years, with no consideration toward keeping up with inflation and rising costs. In fact, it seems that nobody can accurately remember when we last increased the club dues. Even members who have been with the club 10, 15 or 20 years can't remember the last increase in dues. Who among us could maintain their life style on the same income they earned 20 years ago? Nobody!

(Continued) IMPORTANT INFORMATION!! ALL TRAIL DUSTERS PLEASE READ THIS LETTER WHICH EXPLAINS THE REASON THAT THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO MAKE NEEDED CHANGES TO INCREASE OUR CLUB'S INCOME:

In fact **the Total Club Income** for the year, collected from dues, the money we collect from the Rail Dusters, brandy glass contributions, and money raised through fundraisers (New Years, Simi Theater, Restaurants, May Weekend, etc.), all goes to cover the cost of our Wednesday night classes. This means that last year, the club was left without enough income to cover the Saturday Club dance losses, advertising, insurance, office supplies, dues, etc. Our **loss for the 2018-2019 year** was just short of **\$2,000.00**.

For this coming dance year, 2019-2020 our expenses are going to continue to rise. The combined planned increase in next year's rent for Bay Laurel Elementary and Wilkinson Senior Center alone will add another \$1,000.00 a year to our overhead. And these are just the costs increases we know about.

So, the Trail Dusters Board has unanimously approved the following action. Club dues will be increased from \$25.00 per person to \$35.00 per person. Starting on January 8, 2020 there will be a **\$2.00 donation, to be paid at the door, for all Trail Dusters, at every Wednesday night class.**

To put this in perspective, if an individual Trail Duster pays their dues, and attends every Wednesday night class for 34 weeks, the cost to that Trail Duster will amount to only **\$3.03 a week!** You can't even buy a cup of coffee for this amount. Where can you get everything we talked about above for \$3.03? **NOWHERE!**

We are not the only club going through this. All the other clubs are experiencing the same things we are. Some may not survive. But we are going to survive and prosper. We all love this club, and we want it to continue to grow and be healthy. It is imperative that we initiate this action to ensure the long term health of Trail Dusters. In this way we will be able to enjoy everything that Trail Dusters offers all of us for many more years to come.



Joni & Mark Simon,
Presidents



Trail Dusters Square Dance Club

Dance Schedule – 2019 - 2020

2ND Saturday of Month

Rounds @ 7:00 PM – First Tip @ 8:00 PM

Alternating Rounds & Tips with 1 A-1 Tip

Wilkinson Senior Center – 8956 Vanalden – Northridge

DATE	CALLER	THEME
September 14, 2019	<i>Buddy Weaver & Mike Kellogg</i>	Pearls & Black Tie Parade
October 12, 2019	<i>Tim Pepper</i>	Scarecrow Ball
November 9, 2019	<i>Dark</i>	
December	<i>Dark</i>	
Sunday 2:00 - 4:30 pm January 12, 2020	<i>Mike Seastrom & Paul Waters Class Level Dance</i>	Tailgate Party- Get Ready for the Super Bowl
February 8, 2020	<i>Rod Shuping</i>	Love Is In The Air
March 14, 2020	<i>Dick Hodnefield Class Level Dance</i>	Shamrock Sashay It's St. Patty's Day
April 11, 2020	<i>TBD</i>	Hobo Hoedown Taxes Paid
May 9, 2020	<i>TBD</i>	No Siesta - Let's Fiesta
June 13, 2020	<i>Mike Seastom</i>	Crazy Socks - Crazy Shoes
July 11, 2020	<i>Ken Bower</i>	* Summer Camp Days
August 8, 2020	<i>Pat Carnathan</i>	* Mad Hatter's Tea Party

** Summer Casual Attire**

ROUND DANCE CUERS Milo & Cinda Molitoris

For additional information call: Joni & Mark Simon 323-333-4947 marksimon43@gmail.com



REFRESHMENT ASSIGNMENTS - OCTOBER 2019

All food need to be plated and do not need cutting

October 2

Fruit
Fruit
Dessert
Dessert
Cheese & Crackers

Randee Samsky & Mark Cutter
Percy Calkins
June & Robert Grossman
Arthur Grossman & Joan Kallet
Helene & Hendon Harris



October 16

Fruit
Fruit
Dessert
Dessert
Cheese & Crackers

Margie & Jeff Hausman
Anita & Gary Higer
Farryl & Bill Dickter
Cindy Kestenbaum & Alex Strouzer
Tery Holtzman & Lori Hazan



October 23

Fruit
Fruit
Dessert
Dessert
Cheese & Crackers

Madeline Johnson
Terry Karsh & Renny Traub
Sandy & Dale Kaufman
Paul Kayne
Pat & Rick Kessler



For more information call Paula & Al Masters (818) 360-7857
Email al_masters@msn.com



TRAIL DUSTER ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM

DUES: \$70 COUPLES / \$35 SINGLES
MAKE CHECKS OUT TO "TRAIL DUSTERS"

RETURN COMPLETED FORM WITH DUES BY NOVEMBER 30 (EARLIER PREFERRED!)

PLEASE PRINT

DATE _____

LAST NAME _____ FIRST NAME(S) _____

☐ Information in the roster is correct – no changes

☐ PLEASE MAKE THE FOLLOWING ☐ CORRECTION ☐ ADDITION ☐ DELETION

Enter Only The Information To Be Changed, Added or Deleted (Since Last Published Roster)

Address _____

City _____ Zip Code _____

Home Phone _____

Cell Phone (hers) _____

Cell Phone (his) _____

E-Mail Address (hers) _____

(his) _____

☐ Everybody please fill out the info below

Birthday (Month & Day)

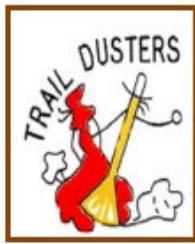
Hers _____ His _____

WEDDING ANNIVERSARY (MONTH & DAY) _____

PLEASE MAIL FORM AND DUES TO:

ILENE AND MARK ABRAMSON
4425 ESTRONDO DRIVE
ENCINO CA 91436

(make check payable to "Trail Dusters")



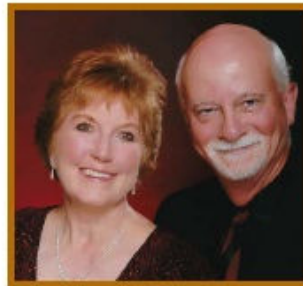
TRAIL DUSTERS

Saturday, October 12, 2019

SCARECROW BALL

**SCARECROWS FROM ALL OVER THE VALLEY WILL LEAVE THE FIELDS TO JOIN THE
WITCHES, GOBLINS AND OTHERS TO GATHER HERE FOR AN EVENING
CELEBRATING FALL'S ARRIVAL – JOIN US!!**

CALLER: TIM PEPPER



**EMCEES: MILO &
CINDA MOLITORIS**



**Rounds 7:00 – 8:00 pm & between tips
Squares 8:00 – 10:00 pm - Plus Level Dance, A-1 Tip
Wilkinson Senior Center, 8956 Vanalden, Northridge**

**COME IN COSTUME – THEN MARCH IN THE
GRAND PARADE AND POSSIBLY WIN A PRIZE!**

UPCOMING DANCES

NOVEMBER 9 - DARK & December 14 - DARK

**For More Information Call: Joni & Mark Simon 323 333-4947
Website: www.traildusters.com – Singles and Couples Welcome**



October Trail Dusters Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
		1 Board Meeting 7:30 pm Paula & Al Master's House	2 Corner Bakery 5:30 p m Bay Laurel 7:00 p.m	3	4	5
6	7	8 1 st Night of Yom Kipper	9 NO CLASS 	10	11	12 Dance at Wilkinson - caller: Tim Pepper- cuer Milo Molitoris see pages 2 & 13
13	14 Columbus Day 	15	16 Hook Burger 5:30 p m Bay Laurel 7:00 p.m.	17	18	19
20 71 st Anniversary Dance at the Hawthorne Memorial Center 1:30 – 4:30 pm	21	22	23 Calif. Pita 5:30 p m Bay Laurel 7:00 p.m.	24	25	.26
27	28	29	30 NO CLASS	31 Halloween 		

TRAIL DUSTERS

Anita & Gary Higer
14348 Riverside Drive #14
Sherman Oaks, CA 91423

