



The Dusty Trails

Marilyn and Len Bloom, Editors marlenbloom2@gmail.com www.traildusters.com Dec. 2023

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mgoldberg@glassgoldberg.com

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Lynn & Joel Ovadia

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Marilyn & Len Bloom

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Jeri Sobel

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Joni & Mark Simon

Special Services - Wilkinson

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Cindy Kestenbaum

Briefs From the Board

WHAT ARE THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF SPECIAL SERVICES BAY LAUREL

Wednesday night square dancing class is great and so much fun. We all love dancing and visiting with friends. Are you aware that dancing at Bay Laurel School is not free? That's where our job comes into play.

We are the board members in charge of securing our Wednesday nights at Bay Laurel Multipurpose Room. We start every August and February working with Las Virgenes School District to request our class dates. This requires us to look at every Wednesday night date to make sure there are no conflicts in the calendar with Bay Laurel School, Las Virgenes School District, or the Trail Dusters. One example is that we cannot use the Multipurpose Room when Bay Laurel School is closed, such as winter and spring break. We adjust the Trail Duster calendar accordingly.

Our job also includes making sure the insurance for Trail Dusters is up-to-date and then applied to our reservation. All these details are completed and forwarded to the school district.

As board members for many years, including Club Presidents for two years, we want to encourage everyone to give something back to our wonderful dance club. One way of doing this is to volunteer to be a board member.

We are all very fortunate to belong to the Trail Duster Family.



Joni and Mark Simon.

From Your Membership Chairs

You should all have received your new Trail Dusters Roster dated November 2023 in an e-mail. If you have not received it, please let me know. The roster includes all current members, an officer's list, and the photos and contact information about our new Trail Dusters.

The following correction has been received:

Leslie Ruiz's e-mail is
mms4lr@yahoo.com

We now have 153 members! Thanks to all of you for continuing to support our great club.

Ilene and Mark Abramson
Membership & Statistics



markabe@aol.com
818-501-3109

Thanksgiving Came to Bay Laurel

One conclusion for the spectacular snack selection served up on November's Rail Dusters' Class table: Thanksgiving will never be the same. Jill and Avi and their team of cookie and snack makers did another stellar job of setting the holiday theme with a bountiful table of delicious treats, replete with a variety of outstanding breads by Paul. The decorations were so festive that you really felt the excitement of the coming holidays. The holiday mood was unmistakably set in the room and the intent was to lift our dancer's spirits. Well done!

The Snack Committee surely put us all in the mood for Thanksgiving, but wait! There's more! They even arranged to have a real live turkey come to our dance who happily passed out sweet candies. A wonderful time was had by all. – see pages 10-12.

And to all our Trail and Rail Dusters family and friends, I hope your Thanksgiving holiday was bountiful and delicious.

Your reporter
Maureen Fried



NEXT BOARD MEETING

DECEMBER 12,
2023

7:00 PM



NOW IT IS TIME FOR OUR
HOLIDAY SNACK-A-THON
AND SQUARE DANCING
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 13

**SAME PLACE...
SAME BAT TIME!**

It's that time of year again,
With the holidays so great...
Let's all join together,
Let's all celebrate!

Wear your ugly sweaters,
Or dress like St Nick...
Or come as a dreidel,
And spin around so quick!

Wear something festive,
And surprise us all...
Be funny, be creative,
And listen to the call.

It's Christmas for 12,
And Hanukkah for 8...
Let's all dance & nosh,
Please don't be late!

See flier page 13.

Snack Queen Jill



Snack King
Avilicious



December Birthdays



Simcha Saul	4
Art Hirsh	7
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

December Anniversaries



Paula & Jerry Seliga	4
Jacquelyn & Royce Walker	9
Joni & Mark Simon	19
Kathy & Howard Wien	21
Sandy & Ron Lynn	22
Nikki & Steve Rosentsweig	28

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



Coordinators Corner

We are thrilled to announce that all 27 of our Rail Dusters are still thriving thanks to all of your patience and help. Angels, you make it possible for our Rail Dusters to learn the calls.

Your coordinators have been busy filling in squares and we need your help to even out the number of new dancers in your square. Please don't hesitate to change places with some of our new dancers if you notice that some squares have too many Rail Dusters and others none. We can use all the eyes on the floor that we can get.

Continue to introduce yourselves to our Rail Dusters and visit during breaks. We have started introducing them to you in this issue, "Meet your Rail Dusters." Many of our Rail Dusters have signed up to come to our New Year's Eve Gala so we hope you will join us.

Next in their futures will be the Student Stomp dance in January (see flier page 15), a few small workshops, plus a brunch. Keep up the good work and save Wednesday nights for our class.

Caren & Sherwin



Jeri Sobel

Class Coordinators



Meet The Rail Dusters

Jerianne and Joe Keaney



Jerianne was born in Los Angeles and went to college in San Diego. A true native. She has worked in television her entire career for about 40 years. Jerianne is currently working on the daytime talk show called "The Talk" for CBS where she does their legal clearances. She also worked at Disneyland for several years operating the Matterhorn ride. This is probably why she can stand all our talking and socializing at class...she is used to screaming.

Jerianne and Joe have two daughters, Emily and Clare, who both live in Brooklyn, New York.

She loves movies and enjoys "Noir Night" (dark films), cooking, wine tasting and travel. Jerianne is also into Ancestry Research and recently visited her ancestral castle in Scotland.

Joe was born in Philadelphia but moved from Philadelphia to Queens, New York, when he was ten years old. He then moved to Los Angeles in 1982 to pursue his television career in TV production. He ran the production facilities for KCET and has provided production management services for 25 years.

Joe and Jerianne met while they were working for Dick Clark Productions in Burbank.

Joe enjoys visiting baseball parks and is a member of SABR, (Society of America Baseball Research), where people investigate all aspects of baseball. Google this society. It is very interesting or just ask Joe.

We have Renee and Dean Kibbler to thank for bringing them into our club.

Renee & Dean Kibbler



Renee was born in Santa Monica, California. She has worked in the entertainment field doing legal copyright and talent permission. She mainly worked for Dick Clark Productions since the 1980's, but has done freelance work for many other television shows throughout the years.

Renee says she retired in February of 2022, but she is still doing some freelance work. So did she really retire? Most of us who retired are busier than when we worked.

Dean and Renee have been married for 31 years. They have two children, Brandon, 29, and Nicole, 28. Nicole is engaged and Brandon is married and has provided Renee and Dean with two grandchildren, 2 year old Levi, and 4 year old Ivy.

Renee heard about our Club from Paula Nudell whom she met in Junior High School. Also, Renee's nephew is married to Cheri and Fred Warner's daughter. Our Trail Duster, Jerry Seliga, was her junior high school science teacher! Renee likes to do art and is learning to play her guitar and ukulele.

Dean was born in England in Bognor Regis in 1959. Dean had three aunts who lived in the Valley so in 1965 his family moved to Reseda. Dean is now retired but was a stage technician in Local #33. He built the Main Street Electrical Parade for Disneyland. He also worked on multiple Super Bowls, Sports Arenas and many TV shows. Maybe he will build the set for their graduation play!

Dean and Renee also like to travel with their RV, and Dean loves to fish. If we traveled with an RV, we would park it at night in the hotel parking lot and check in!

We welcome them with open arms and feel so lucky to have them with us.

Susan and David Britton



Say hello to our Newlyweds, Susan and David.

Susan Bobrow-Britton was born in Jersey City, N.Y. but moved to Los Angeles with her family in 1956 when she was five. They wanted to be closer to her mother's family and her father who got a better job here.

In 1973 Susan received her teaching credential from CSUN but only substituted for 6 months. She then worked for Cedars, The Gap and later for Chico's. Think of her discounts! Today she is retired but has a small jewelry business. She has three children with her deceased husband, one daughter and two sons. She loves to paint, make jewelry, garden, go to movies, travel and bowl. Caren Blumfield has hounded her for years to square dance and she finally gave in and has made all of us so happy.

David was born in Austin, Texas and moved to Los Angeles in 1975 to attend grad school at Pepperdine in clinical psychology. He is retired now but has been a marriage and family therapist for over 42 years. His practices were in Hermosa Beach and Redondo Beach.

David has two daughters and one 3 year old granddaughter. David's love, besides Susan, is a 1966 Mustang which he has restored. He

also loves to fly Gliders out in Palmdale. He used to be a member of the Civil Air Patrol which is a civilian air force which does search and rescue and other services. David's unit taught Cadets and teenagers how to fly. Maybe it is easier than teaching them how to drive?

This delightful couple met online, dated for a few years and decided to tie the knot last year. David had no choice but to follow Susan to Bay Laurel. What a great addition they have been.

NEW YEARS EVE



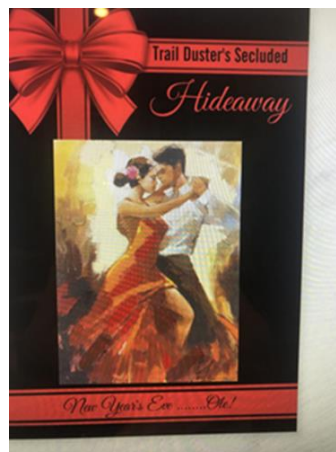
Trail Dusters' Hideaway

We know a dark, secluded place
A place where no one knows your face!
A glass of wine, a fast embrace
It's called Trail Dusters' Hideaway, olé!

All you see are silhouettes
And all you hear are castanets
And no one cares how late it gets
Not at Trail Dusters' hideaway, olé!

Our New Year's extravaganza is almost here and we are almost sold out. We only have seats for three more couples so if you plan on attending send your check and food choices ASAP to:

Marilyn Bloom
11868 Moorpark Ave Unit H
Studio City, CA 91605



See rest of invitation on page 14



Your New Years Eve Committee
Caren Blumfield, Maureen Fried, Jill Sanders, Marilyn Bloom, Jeri Sobel

November 12th Dance

WOW, What a success! We had our first of the season dance, A Fall Festival, Sunday, November 12th, at Wilkenson Senior Center in Northridge. Can you believe that we had 110 attendees! Surely, we set a record for our club!

I know that having 3 callers clearly appealed to many dancers. We had the beautiful and energetic calling of Mike Seastrom, our own Paul Waters, and Janienne Alexander. And, to our surprise, Mike Kellog showed up and called a dance, too! The dance was at the SSD level with 2 plus tips and line dancing. Each caller brought members of their own clubs, so we had terrific representation by many different clubs. Forty-one Trail Dusters showed up to enjoy the fun dance and we hope to have even more in the future – see pages 8-10.

It always takes a village to put on a dance like that, and we are so grateful to all who participated. **Caren Blumfield & Sherwin Silver** set up the most beautiful fall display of yellows, oranges, reds, and greens with, of course, some pumpkins. We always know we can count on Caren to make the space look amazing! **Sandra & Bob Sobel** and **Lynn & Joel Ovadia** came

early and manned the door and registration in their usual friendly style. Also coming early were **Nikki & Steve Rosentsweig** and **Marilyn & Len Bloom** to set up the tables and put on the tablecloths for the food, beverages, and sign-in sheets.

Of course, since Trail Dusters love to eat, there was an abundance of yummy food! **Nikki and Steve Rosentsweig** brought chips and dip. **Jeri Sobel** made a beautiful veggie platter. **Joni & Mark Simon** brought a huge cheese platter, and **Farryl & Bill Dickter** brought the requisite Pumpkin and Apple Pies, which **Phyllis Saul** and others skillfully cut up. We also had some amazing bakers, including **Geraldine Rothenberg, Grace Mitnik, Maxine Tuckman, and Lynn Ovadia** who provided us with yummy home-made delights! All who brought something came early to help set up the food. To add to the helpful crew, **Jennifer Mantell and Bob Zoren, Terry Karsh and Renny Taub, Jane Lief, Phyllis and Simcha Saul, and Ilene and Mark Abramson** also helped with the set up and clean up.

So it seems that half of the people who came to the dance from our club, also participated in making the event the success that it was. We sure have a great village! Looking forward to the next dance, (not yet scheduled), so we can have as much fun again!

Farryl Dickter

Caller Coordinator



Sunshine & Showers

HAPPY HOLIDAYS, EVERYONE!

I hope you enjoyed your Thanksgiving no matter how you celebrated. Now it appears you are already busy with preparations for Chanukkah and Christmas. Otherwise, I know you would have emailed news of your Sunshine and Showers to me by now! I hope that life will be bringing lots of happy events to you and to your families this coming month so that you will have loads of news to share with me and with your Trail Duster family for our January issue of the *Dusty Trails!* This applies to you who are RAIL DUSTERS as well! Again, my address is: Rusty_k@verizon.net.

Meanwhile, last month, I wrote to you of the passing of Trail Duster member **Rosalie Rifkin**, graduate of the Class of 2012. However, at that time, I was not able to reach anyone who could provide information on her situation. Since then, I received a call from **Rosalie's** son who told me a little about his mom. **Rosalie** passed away on August 31st from heart and kidney failure after having spent 3 weeks in the hospital. Her son spoke of his mother as one who was always active and truly loved life. **Rosalie** has left behind a son and a daughter. May she rest in peace.

Again, to all of you, may you enjoy a wonderful Holiday. Wherever you celebrate, be well and stay safe, and REMEMBER TO CONTACT ME with your news!

Warm regards,
Rusty Kaman,
Rusty_k@verizon.net

**Sunshine & Showers
Chair**



Ways & Means

Thank you so much everyone who attended our wonderful dance on November 12 and then joined the crowd for a delicious dinner at Sharkey's in Northridge. Thirty-four Trail Dusters enjoyed the evening and this tremendous turnout and our large appetites netted Trail Dusters \$120.00 which is just awesome. Thank each and every one of you who made the dance a huge success and joined us for dinner afterwards. Your support of the club is greatly appreciated.

As we head into the month of December, we'll only have two scheduled dinners because we only dance for two weeks and then there is a holiday break. Watch for the bulletins sent out by our wonderful **Shirley Brown** which will arrive a few days before to remind you where we will be eating. See schedule below.

Bon Appetit one and all.

The following is the schedule of restaurants for the month of Dec.

December 6	Sharkey's
December 13	The Habit
December 20	No Class
November 27	No Class

Flo & Bill Tapp 818-422-6784

Jane Lief



818-881-8300

Ways & Means

ASquared

WHAT IS SSD (SOCIAL SQUARE DANCING)?

The Student Stomp is back at the SSD Class Level. This dance is specifically for Rail Dusters and students from other clubs to have the experience of a fun square dance and to dance to different callers. The dance is supported by Trail Dusters and all the other clubs in our ASquared area. All the callers from the various clubs will be calling the calls taught up to the time of the dance and will include line dancing. Note: there is a Rotation Board which gets unaccompanied dancers into a square. So if you don't have a partner, we'll get you one. So C'MON OUT for the Student Stomp! That means all you Rail Dusters and all Trail Dusters who can come out as angels to support our students. (The details of the 2024 dance are in the flyer on page15).

This used to be called a "Half-Way" Dance. "Half-Way" to where? And how does SSD fit in? Well, way back in the previous 50 years or so, most of the square dance clubs in Southern California taught 105 or so square dance calls in a period of 35 weeks. The students learned all calls from the beginning level, "Basic," through the next level, "Mainstream" and on to "Plus."

When the students had learned half of these calls, Trail Dusters and the other area clubs jointly held a dance for the students that became known as the Halfway Dance. After this dance, the students learned the other half of the calls. The problem was that there just wasn't enough time to practice all of the complex "plus" calls crammed into the last few weeks, and most Rail Dusters (and students at other clubs, too) looked like survivors of some epic train wreck.

After graduation, many of us went to square dances at the Plus level with some anxiety and lots of frustration, which caused many to quit.

Then something positive happened. Snow birds in Texas were interested in learning square dancing. With a limited amount of time, there was no way they could learn all 105 Plus level calls, so callers in the Rio Grande Callers Association came up with a program to instruct dancers in 12 weeks by including nearly all Basic calls and part of the "Mainstream" calls. And so, Social Square Dancing, or SSD, was born and has become a national movement which our ASquared district and Trail Dusters have adopted. We think the SSD approach is working well for Trail Dusters with so many of last years' students returning and bringing their friends to join our newest class.

So "pleeze", members and Rail Dusters keep coming to classes and the Student Stomp in January.

Bill Dickter

ASquared Delegate



SPRING WEEKEND HOTEL

We are looking for a hotel for the spring weekend. We need 2 nights for 30+ rooms and a hospitality room for 2 days and nights. We also need 2 breakfasts, and 2 banquet dinners. The drive should not be more than 2 hours. Palm Springs is OK.

Any suggestions would be appreciated. Please contact Caren Blumfield -818-216-2990 caren1224@hotmail.com



December 13
Holiday Party Snack-A-thon

December 20
Holiday Break — No Class

December 27
Holiday Break — No Class

December 31
New Year's Eve Gala

January 3
Holiday Break — No Class

January 10
Yahoo - Classes Return

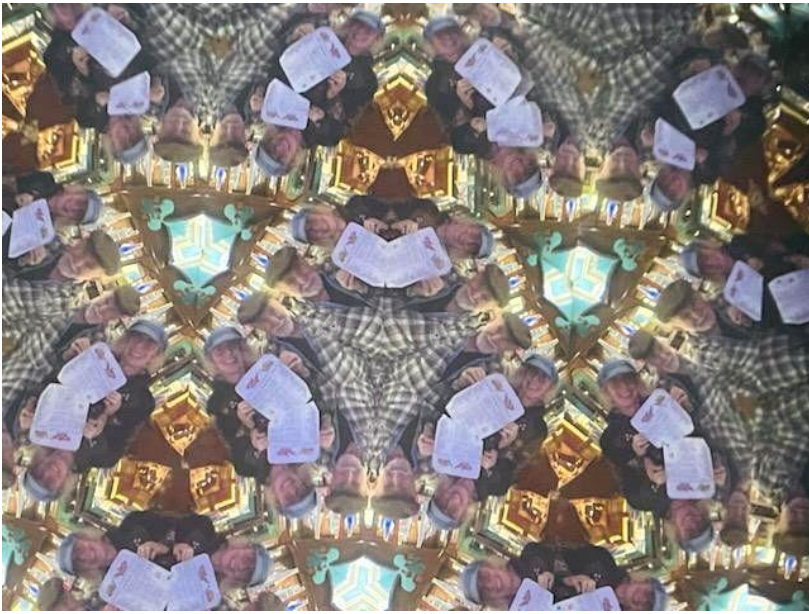
January 28
Student Stomp — SSD

On The Lighter Side

The irony for mankind
is that a computer
program asks a human
to prove that they're
not a robot.



TRAVELING WITH THE TRAIL DUSTERS

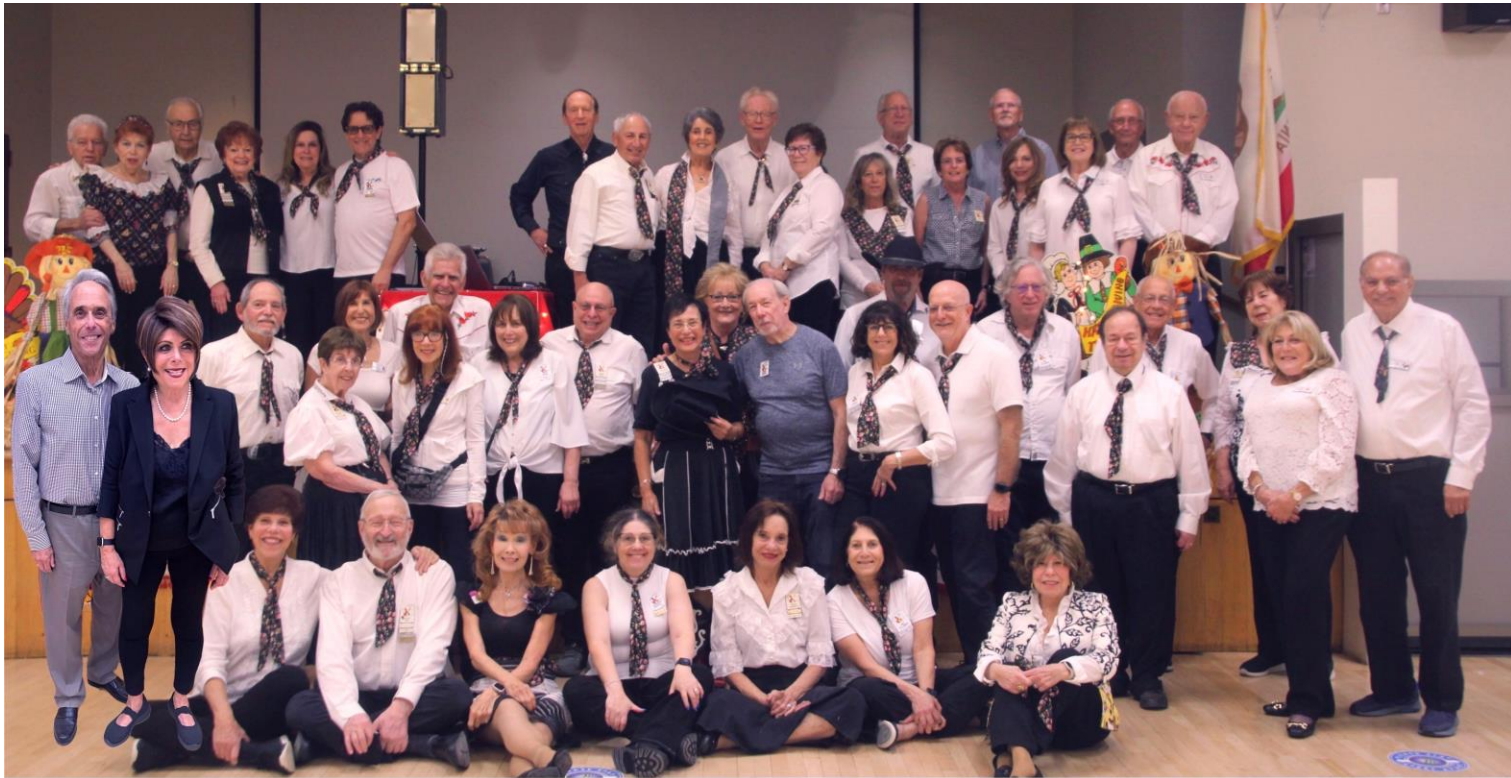


Look closely and you will see Paula & Jerry Seliga through a kaleidoscope while in Jerome, Az.
The Dusty Trails loved the experience.



Joel & Lynn Ovadia and Nikki & Steve Rosentsweig show the Dusty Trails the Wailua Falls in Kauai, Hawaii

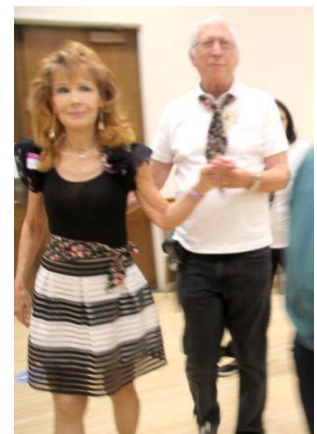
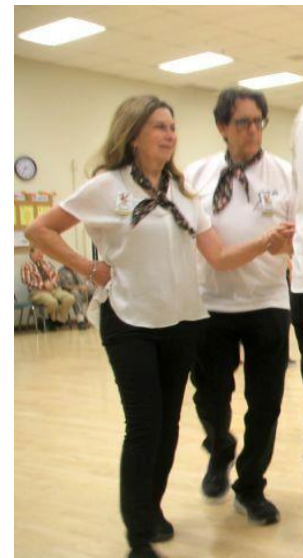
Look Who Came to the Nov 12th Dance



Front row: Phyllis & Simcha Saul, Jeri Sobel, Jennifer Mantell, Caren Blumfield, Jaci Feldman, Ilene Abramson
 2nd row: Mark & Joni Simon, Sherwin Silver, Marlene Lovett, Farryl & Bill Dickter, Margie Hausman, Terry Karsh, Renny Traub, Geraldine Rothenberg, Jane Lief, Steve Bessem, Grace & Ron Mitnick, Jon Feldman, Mark Abramson, Stewart Brooks, Nikki Rosentsweig, Lynn & Joel Ovadia
 Back row: Bob & Sandra Sobel, Len & Marilyn Bloom, Patti & Marshall Goldberg, Jeff Hausman, Irwin Tuckman, Adriane & Mike Kreisberg, Maxine Tuckman, Charlene Klein, Steve Rosentsweig, Mindy & Joe Dill, Jill Sanders, Maureen Fried, Bob Sanders, Shelly Fried
 Not pictured: Linda Cole



And the Dancing Continues





Then to Sharkey's



Thanksgiving Comes to Bay Laurel



Thank you Jill Sanders & Avi Nudell, for organizing all the refreshments

The Rivalry Continues



Front row: Sandy & Dale Kaufman, Joel Ovadia, Diane & Les Light, Caren Blumfield, Maxine & Irwin Tuckman, Sandra Sobel, Jennifer Mantell, Fariba Tabibian, Jaci Feldman, Randy Samsky, Marilyn Bloom, Nikki Rosentsweig
Back row: Steve Rosentsweig, Bob Zoren, Paul Waters, Marshall & Patti Goldberg, Jill Sanders, Jon Feldman, Kathy Wien



Front row: Jay Mulein, Grace & Ron Mitnick, Lynn Ovadia, Joni Simon Terry Karsh
Back row: Les Light, Jeri Sobel, Mark Simon, Joel Ovadia, Renny Traub

Let's Dance



The Turkey comes to visit and throws candy to all.





*Holiday **Snack-A-Thon**!!*

Wednesday, December 13

It's that time of year again, With the holidays so great..

Let's all join together, Let's all celebrate!

*Wear your ugly sweaters - Or dress like St Nick...- Or
come as a dreidel - Wear something festive, Surprise us all!*

Come, dance, talk, laugh and of course snack! The spread is always varied, delicious and plentiful. The evening is guaranteed to be fun – the Snack-a-thons always are!

See you there

Snack Queen Jill & Snack King Avilicious



NEW YEAR'S EVE INVITATION



A Class of Wine, A Fast Embrace...

NAME (S) _____ will attend

Couple \$250 Single \$125

_____ amount enclosed

Please make checks payable to Trail Dusters

Please place the names of guests you would like to sit with on
the back of this card. We will make every effort to accommodate.

Choice of Entree

_____ Herb Chicken _____ Braised Shortribs _____ Grilled Salmon

Valet Parking or Self Parking \$10

RSVP by December 12, 2023

STUDENT STOMP

SSD CLASS LEVEL DANCE

**EVERYONE WELCOME – COME SUPPORT
THE STUDENTS**

CALLERS:
Janienne
Alexander

Dick
Hodnefield

Dale
Hoppers



CALLERS:
Don
Schadt

Mike
Seastrom

Rod
Shuping

Paul
Waters

Sunday, January 28, 2024

2 – 4:30 pm

Donation \$10.00

ROTATION BOARD

SOME LINE DANCING

**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 – Western Weavers**

Information: Linda Kaplan 805-231-6171

December 2023 Trail Dusters Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6 The Sharkey's 5:30 p m Bay Laurel 7:00 p.m.	7 1 st night 	8 1 st Day 	9
10 .	11	12 Board Meeting  7:00 pm	13 The Habit 5:30 p m Bay Laurel 7:00 p.m.	14	15	16
17	18	19	20 NO CLASS	21 	22	23
24 	25 	26	27 NO CLASS	28	29	30
31 New Years Eve 						

