



The Dusty Trails

Marilyn and Len Bloom, Editors marlenbloom2@gmail.com www.traildusters.com Dec. 2022

Club Officers 2022-2023

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From the Presidents' Desk

It's that time of the year when we once again give our thanks and recognize how grateful we should be for our families, friends and hopefully health. When I was searching for thoughts for the upcoming holidays I could share, I came across a list in several different publications that all wrote about the same thing and the positive aspects which they contributed to our lives. The key word is "gratefulness" that comes along with a positive attitude. I have a friend that when I ask him how he is, the answer is always "grateful."

Some of the benefits of being grateful are both social and physical and lucky for us can be achieved through our Trail Dusters/Rail Dusters friendships and our dancing and kicking up our heels.

Make New Friends: Showing appreciation and gratitude to others can lead to new friends. A 2014 study found that thanking a new acquaintance makes them more likely to want to seek an ongoing relationship. (We are so fortunate in Trail Dusters to continually meet new people and have the opportunity to grow new friendships).

Better Friendships: Those who communicate their gratitude to their

friends are more likely to work through problems and concerns with those friends to build stronger relationships.

Improved Self-Esteem: Gratitude can help us feel better about ourselves and our circumstances, reducing social comparisons which allows grateful people to appreciate the accomplishments of others.

Those who are grateful for the people in their lives are less self-centered and more likely to share with others.

Casting aside negative feelings brings more joy and pleasure into our lives which is not always easy, but it gives us a chance for more joy and pleasure in our lives.

I am so grateful to all my friends in Trail Dusters who work so hard to make our Club successful and provide us with wonderful times and memories.

Happy Holidays to everyone and be sure you mark your calendars for December 14, when we will be sharing the dance floor with the Tinseltown Squares and celebrating Chanukkah and Christmas - see flyer page 11.

Jane Lief

President



Birthdays & Anniversaries

Dec. Birthdays



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

Dec. Anniversaries

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

From Your Membership and Statistics Chairs

You should have all received your new Trail Duster Roster dated November 2022 in e-Mail. If you have not received it, please let me know.

The following corrections have been received:

Lana Collier no longer uses her land line.

Jennifer Mantell's phone is
(310) 403-0958

Earl Metter's address is
23777 Mulholland Hwy, #164
Calabasas, CA 93012

Mike & Ellen Sternfeld's address is
1325 Village 1
Camarillo, CA 93012

We now have 144 members! Thanks to all of you for continuing to support our great club.

Ilene & Mark
Abramson



Membership
Chairs
Markabe@aol.com

Ring in the Holidays with Oct & Nov

On Oct 26, we walked into Bay Laurel and blinked a few times because we couldn't believe our eyes! Every table was adorned with fabulous Halloween decorations and lights. The food, the food...we trick-or-treated like we had never eaten before (well you know the Trail Dusters). Candy and cookies and cheese and crackers and veggies. You name it, we ate it! A huge thanks to the group of dancers who took it upon themselves to do everything. Thank you, Jill Sanders, Patti & Marshall Goldberg, Avi & Paula Nudell, Grace & Ron Mitnick & Joni & Mark Simon. -see page 6.

That's not all folks. The costumes were incredible this year. Mike Kellogg, filling in for Paul Waters, led us in a costume parade around the room and the judges had a difficult choice to make. We had four winners (see page 7). Alan Shotsky won for his clown, doctor first responder outfit. Randee Samsky won for her Hippie get-up. Paula and Avi Nudell were our bagel and lox winners for most creative. Caren and Sherwin took away a prize for their Little Red Riding Hood and Grandma Wolf fairy tale costuming. A giant candy bar and Starbucks gift card was awarded to all our winners.

November 16th was also amazing when our volunteer refreshment committee brought us "College Sports Nite." UCLA and USC alumnae definitely overshadowed other colleges and universities. The refreshment table was once again an exciting site to visit but this writer was aghast to see that USC decorations dominated. (They actually won the game this year). We were thrilled when the UCLA basketball hoop arrived, rising high above all the other decorations. The room was filled with at least 8 squares. At the end of the evening the crowd had to take sides. The left side of the stage wore maroon and gold and the right side loyal supporters were adorned with blue and gold apparel. Opposing fight songs were shouted back and forth and we left the room laughing and smiling as usual – see page 9.

A big thank you to all our Trail and Rail Dusters who continue to enhance our Wednesday nights with their themed food table and friendship.

On both nights, the room was filled with fun dancing, great noshes, and laughter with friends. After all, aren't we just all kids at heart? We are all anxious to see what "the committee" will surprise us with next!

Caren Blumfield

Dance Reporter



NEXT BOARD MEETING

DECEMBER 13, 2022

7:00 PM

ZOOM MEETING



Coordinators Corner

Joel and I are pleased to report that we have a Rail Dusters' Class who are having a great time in class. They continue to keep smiling and laughing too. We have 13 enthusiastic Rail Dusters, six couples plus our standout guy, Mark Ax. Our goal all along is to help the Rail Dusters become competent dancers who are comfortable with any of the 72 SSD calls. 72 calls? Are you kidding? Yep, 72 calls. Paul says that he will have completed teaching all the SSD calls sometime in February.

Our class of Rail Dusters made a historic first for the Trail Dusters. They went to a dance before they graduated! Okay, two brave couples, the Brooks and the Mitnicks, came to the Sierra Hillbillies dance on November 6, but this still counts as a visitation of sorts. A big Thank You to the Trail Dusters who came out and supported the students. That would include the Dickters and Ovadias of course, plus Mindy & Joe Dill, Caren Blumfield and Jeri Sobel. Our two Rail Dusters couples did very well and they had a fun time too. They participated in our time honored Trail Duster tradition and went to a post-dance dinner with the Dickters.

Before we tell you about two fabulous dances coming up, we want to thank all you Trail Dusters who come to class each Wednesday and support our Rail Dusters. Well done and Thank "Youuu."

January gives us a twofer for dances. First, on January 8, the Sierra Hillbillies are holding an Old Fashioned Barn Dance with Mike Seastrom calling SSD tips & Lisa Seastrom calling Contra Dancing. What the heck is contra dancing? Well, c'mon out to the dance and

support our Rail Dusters and find out what contra dancing is all about. Joel and I will do our best to get more Rail Dusters to join in the fun and we need your support too.

And then there is the Student Stomp on January 29. As most of you remember, this is the opportunity for all students from square dance clubs in our area to get out and dance. Flyer for this dance is on page 12. We've got five terrific callers and the energy level is guaranteed to be high. So come out on January 29 and support our Rail Dusters.

Your Coordinators



Bill Dickter



Lynn & Joel Ovadia

TRAIL DUSTERS RETURN TO THE ROARING 2020'S ON NEW YEAR'S EVE



by Maureen Fried

Calling all Trail Dusters & Rail Dusters. Put on your dancing shoes and don your best "Glad Rags" and be the first to reserve your place at our **Return to the Roaring 2020's New Year's Eve Shindig** on Saturday, December 31- see invite page 10.

This event will be spectacular as we all Put on the Ritz in our 1920 or 2020 Duds to celebrate the new year and once again come together on our long awaited annual **Trail Dusters New Year's Eve**

celebration. It will be "the Berries" we guarantee.

Our super speakeasy will again be the Hilton Hotel in Woodland Hills where prohibition will not be tolerated as we break out the booze. The sky's the limit to how much fun will be had as we bid farewell to 2022 and properly welcome in 2023!

Please respond to your invite as soon as you get it to assure your place. Invites will be given out at class on Nov 30 or mailed on Dec 1.

"Get a Wiggle" on and save the date. We're going to have a Blast!

Your New Year's Eve Planners



Maureen, Marilyn, Caren, Jeri

Sunshine & Showers

Starting out with some "Sunshine" this month, one of our own Trail Dusters members. **Paula Nudell**, has been selected to be an "Everyday Hero" at Kaiser Permanente from over 1,000 nominations! Fifteen people were selected, and **Paula's** nomination, (by an employee who works with her) was one of those fifteen! **Dr. Paula Nudell** has been hailed as a tough, dedicated and exacting doctor who treats her patients with love and understanding, one who takes her patients and colleagues under her wing and treats them like family members. She was referred to as "Queen of Mammo." **Paula**, the world definitely needs more doctors like you! Your Trail Duster

family extends warm and sincere CONGRATULATIONS on this honor!

I'm happy to report that **Janice Reiss** is doing well after receiving an Aorta Transplant. She is recovering at a retirement facility in their independent living section and is doing well. If you would like to send a card or note to **Janice**, she can be found at: Watermark, 947 Tiverton Avenue, #1201, Los Angeles, CA 90029. **Janice**, we're so grateful that you have come through this very major surgery so successfully, and we hope that each and every day will bring you closer to being fully recovered.

Rosalie Rifkin is finally well on her way to recovering from a bad fall at the end of September when she broke her hip and additional bones. Following surgery, **Rosalie** spent several weeks recuperating at Topanga Terrace Rehab. Unfortunately, she won't be able to continue dancing this year but does expect to return next fall. In spite of her painful recovery, **Rosalie** remains full of energy and enthusiasm and calls herself "unstoppable!" With such a great attitude, **Rosalie**, you will clearly be back on the dance floor in short order!

Back on the "almost well" list is **Judie Hirsh**. Approximately one month ago, **Judie** fell and broke her pelvis. After spending time in a rehabilitation facility, she is very happy to be at home again with hubby Art where she is walking, able to cook, and can do almost all of her usual activities. She will be able to drive In another week, something she is anticipating with excitement. Square dancing may take awhile longer. **Judi**, it is wonderful to know that you are making such great

progress, and we wish you continued healing!

On the morning of Veteran's Day, Nov. 11th, **Steve Levy** was walking his little dog Bailey in his Woodland Hills neighborhood when he was confronted by a coyote who was snarling and baring his teeth. **Steve** remembers picking up Bailey & tucking him under his coat while yelling at the coyote, but then – he recalls nothing else until he awoke in an ambulance on his way to the Northridge Hospital Trauma Center where he spent the next 3 days. Thankfully, **Steve** was not bitten by the coyote, although he sustained a broken nose and severe bruising, and neck pain when he "face planted." Bailey was rescued by the paramedics but sadly received grievous injuries and had to be put to sleep. **Steve** is grateful that his injuries are not any worse and is currently undergoing numerous tests to try and determine why he passed out. Meanwhile, **Judy** is by his side and is taking him to his many medical appointments. He said he enjoys talking to people and would welcome phone calls. **Steve**, we hope to hear that you are feeling better each day and wish you a rapid recovery from this most unfortunate experience.

I am delighted to conclude this month's article with a message of "Sunshine." **Stan Zwicker** reports that, after having battled bladder cancer for more than 2 years, the latest test results show that the tumors are now GONE! He will continue to undergo additional treatments, but these results are a great sign that he is now CANCER-FREE! He asks that we continue sending prayers that his good test results will continue! **Stan**, this is cause for celebration, and we hope that all your future test results are

this encouraging! And yes, we will continue to keep you in our prayers!

Looking forward to hearing YOUR news . . . be it "sunshine" or "showers." Please keep me informed about the events in your life so that I can, first, contact you for the details, and then share your news with our Trail Duster family. **This goes for all Rail Dusters as well as Trail Dusters! You can email me at**

Rusty_k@verizon.net.

May each of you enjoy a most Happy Thanksgiving. I hope there are many reasons for you to give thanks this season!

Warmly,

Rusty Kaman,

Sunshine & Showers Chair



Ways & Means

Hi Trail Dusters & Rail Dusters,

Here we are entering December and the final month of the wonderful year 2022. That means it's almost time to celebrate and party into 2023 with our great New Year's Eve party.

But first we get to meet together three more times in December before our weekly Wednesday evening classes. We love being your planners for our dinners and appreciate all of you who attend regularly, where you not only eat but socialize and laugh your way through dinner with your fellow dancers and friends. The

other very important advantage - we raise money for our club.

This month's line up for pre-class dinners are:

Dec. 7 Sharkey's
Dec. 14 Calif Pita
Dec. 21 The Stand
Dec. 28 NO CLASS

Check your emails for any last minute changes

See you at dinner.

Ways & Means Chairs



Flo & Bill Tapp

Denise Kurtzer
& Richard Rose



Traveling With the Trail Dusters



Mike & Ellen Sternfeld bring the Dusty Trails to Spouting Horn in Kauai

On The Lighter Side

DID YOU OBSERVE

As I've grown older, I've learned that pleasing everyone is impossible, but pissing everyone off is a piece of cake.

I'm responsible for what I say, not what you understand.

Common sense is like deodorant. The people who need it the most never use it.

It's not my age that bothers me; it's the side effects.

I'm not saying I'm old and worn out, but I make sure I'm nowhere near the curb on trash day.

As I watch this generation try and rewrite our history, I'm sure of one thing: It will be misspelled and have no punctuation.

As I've gotten older, people think I've become lazy. The truth is I'm just being more energy efficient.

I haven't gotten anything done today. I've been in the Produce Department trying to open this stupid plastic bag.

She says I keep pushing her buttons. If that were true, I would have found mute by now.

I want to be 18 again and ruin my life differently. I have new ideas.

I'm on two diets. I wasn't getting enough food on one.

I put my scale in the bathroom corner and that's where the little liar will stay until it apologizes.

Hard to believe I once had a phone attached to a wall, and when it rang, I picked it up without knowing who was calling.

Once upon a time,
there lived a king
who was only
12 inches tall.
He was a terrible
king, but he made
a great ruler.

What do we learn
from cows, buffalos
and elephants??

It's impossible to
reduce weight by
eating green grass
and salads and
walking.

At the bank, I told
the cashier, "I'd like
to open a joint
account please."
"OK, with whom?"
"Whoever has
lots of money."

ALCOHOL MAY NOT
SOLVE YOUR PROBLEMS.
BUT NEITHER WILL
WATER OR MILK

CELEBRATING HALLOWEEN WITH REFRESHMENTS AND COSTUMES AT BAY LAUREL



Our planners - Ron & Grace Mitnick, Paula & Avi Nudell, Jill Sanders, Patti & Marshall Goldberg, Joni & Mark Simon



HALLOWEEN (CONT'D)



Costume Winners



Avi & Paula Nudell (most creative - lox & bagels), Randy Samsky (hippiest), Alan Shotsky (funniest - clown, doctor, first responder)
Sherwin & Caren (fairy tale - Red Riding Hood & Grandma Wolf)

NOVEMBER'S SPORTS NIGHT AT BAY LAUREL



USC



Terry Karsh & Renny Traub, Wendy Goldzband, Earl Metter, Ron & Grace Mitnick, Victor Wolfe, Jeri Sobel, Paula Nudell, Joni & Mark Simon, Ellen Sternfeld

UCLA



Front row: Ronnie Cohn, Denise Kurtzer, Beverly Rutkin, Jennifer Mantell, Cheri Warner, Laura & Oz Burstein, Patti & Marshall Goldberg
 2nd row: Nikki Rosentsweig, Caren Blumfield, Carol & Richard Lewis, Kathy & Howard Wien, Jaci Feldman, Les Light
 Back row: Mark Ax, Steve Rosentsweig, Avi Nudell, Paul Waters, Fred Warner, Jon Feldman

New Year's Invitation & Response Card



The back of the card is white with a gold border and a partial sunburst graphic on the left. It contains response information in black text.

THE ROARING 2020s

NAME _____ 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

Kindly Respond by
December 16, 2022



TRAIL DUSTERS

TINSELTOWN SQUARES



HOLIDAY **EXTRAVAGANZA**



We're celebrating the holidays with a special class on December 14 with both clubs so put this on your calendar to be sure to attend. This will be a party with holiday decorations and tasty treats for everyone's indulgence.

This is going to be a GREAT event so be sure to be there and then be in a square. We'll all kick up our heels for a fun filled night.

SEE YOU ON DECEMBER 14.



SSD CLASS LEVEL DANCE

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

**Some
Line
Dancing**



**Rotation
Board**

STUDENT STOMP

**Callers:
Dale
Hoppers**

**Dick
Hodnefield**

**Don
Schadt**



**Callers:
Mike
Seastrom**

**Paul
Waters**

Sunday, January 29, 2023

2 – 4:30 pm

Donation \$10.00

Wilkinson Center

8956 Vanalden Ave. Northridge, CA 91324

PROOF OF VACCINATION REQUIRED

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

Information: Linda Kaplan 805-231-6171

December 2022 Trail Dusters Calendar

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

