



The Dusty Trails

Marilyn and Len Bloom, Editors marlenbloom2@gmail.com www.traildusters.com Jan. 2026

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From the Presidents' Desk

Dear Trail Dusters & Rail Dusters,

We hope everyone enjoyed a joyful and relaxing holiday season with family and friends. As we turn the page to January, we want to take a moment to thank everyone who helped make our events such a wonderful success.

A huge thank you to Debbie Borden and her amazing team—Robbie Jacobs and Mary Mullen—for coordinating such incredible Snack-a-Thons. The decorations are festive, the food delicious, and the atmosphere always warm and welcoming. We are also so grateful to everyone who brings snacks and contribute to making the snack-a-thons so special. It truly reflected the spirit of Trail Dusters!

Looking ahead, we have an exciting year full of great classes, fun dances and many memorable events.

★ Student Stomp – January 25

We are really looking forward to our Student Stomp on January 25, and can't wait to welcome our Rail Dusters and Trail Dusters to dance together, along with other clubs. These events are always energizing and fun—please come out and support our students! See flier on page 8.

Heart Sweetheart Ball – February 15

Our Sweetheart Ball will be held on February 15, and we are thrilled to announce that Patti & Marshall Goldberg will be our 2026 Sweethearts. They truly are the perfect pair and have given so much time, energy, and heart to Trail Dusters over the years. This is our chance to celebrate and honor them.

Please purchase your Sweetheart ribbon from Bill Dickter for \$13 in advance—ribbons will be \$15 at the door, so don't wait! Let's show up in force and give our Sweethearts the turnout they deserve. See article on page 3- flier on page 9.

A reminder that this dance is for Trail Dusters only, as the program will include more advanced dancing. As one of the largest square-dance clubs in Southern California, let's show our strength, spirit, and support by filling the floor and honoring our sweethearts!

We are so excited about what lies ahead and look forward to dancing our way through 2026 with all of you. Let's make it a year to remember!



Jill Sanders & Avi Nudell
Co- Presidents, Trail Dusters



January Birthdays

Kathy Cirillo	1
Sandy Kaufman	2
Mike Sternfeld	3
Maxine Tuckman	8
Hal Rothberg	9
Judy Comroe	11
Robert Cirillo	13
Linda Cole	16
Jaci Feldman	16
Lois Michaelson	18
Jack Levy	21
Lorraine Levin	25
Dean Kibbler	26
Rusty Kaman	30
Maureen Fried	31

Jan. Anniversaries

Marilyn & Stan Zwicker	18
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Ilene and
Mark
Abramson



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

Snack-a-Thon

LAST MONTH

MERRY EVERYTHING



Our
Merry

Everything Snack-A-Thon was absolutely fantastic! Every single person who contributed snacks went

above and beyond anything I could have imagined. The chocolate-covered strawberries were not only stunning to look at — they were delicious too. The marshmallow dreidels were so creative and such a delight to eat. Our veggies and hummus trays were a huge hit and disappeared in no time.

And of course, the fruit plates continue to be everyone's all-time favorite. The tower of fruit was especially clever — beautiful, tasty, and fun! And let's not forget the cookies, cakes, and brownies galore. Each and every treat was deeply appreciated.

Thank you all so much. I sincerely appreciate your generosity, creativity and enthusiasm. Let's keep the momentum going and make our January Snack-A-Thon — BABY IT'S COLD OUTSIDE— our best one yet!

Snack-a-Thon

THIS MONTH - January 14

BR

BABY IT'S COLD OUTSIDE

See flyer on Page 7.

Sweaters, scarves, hats galore,
Funny socks we all adore!
Earmuffs too — come join the
crowd,
Let's stay warm and feel so proud!

But don't forget our tasty snacks.
Please stop by the second table
to sign up. The sheets are right
there waiting for your name and
phone number.

Your fellow dancers truly
appreciate every contribution!

Debbie Borden



Refreshment Chair

Class Coordinators

Dear Rail Dusters,

Happy New Year to all! Another month has gone by! Almost halfway through the dance year. All the Rail Dusters are doing well and have shown great perseverance. Your dedication to learning new calls each week reflects your desire to become great square dancers! We hope you enjoyed our holiday snack-a-thon. It was fun to see all the clever holiday attire.

During the winter break, you may want to review the calls we have done so far online on **Taminations**. Copy the following links and put in your search bar

https://search.yahoo.com/search?fr2_=p%3ads%2cv%3aomn%2cm%3asa%2cbrws%3achrome%2cpos%3a1&r=mcafee&type=E210US1276G91903&p=taminations+square+dance+call

Saddlebrook Squares

https://search.yahoo.com/search?fr2_=p%3ads%2cv%3aomn%2cm%3asa%2cbrws%3achrome%2cpos%3a2&r=mcafee&type=E210US1276G91903&p=saddlebrook+squares

When you return to dance, you will be ready to move ahead. These calls include; grand square, ladies in, men sashay, wheel and deal, touch a quarter, U turn back & circulate.

Please don't forget to attend our Student Stomp dance at Wilkinson Center on January 25th 2-4:30 PM, as this is designed for new students. See flier on page 8.

As time moves on, it's been great getting to know all of you a little better and hope you have enjoyed making new Trail Dusters friends! We will see you all when classes begin again on January 7th back at Bay Laurel.

Meet your Rail Duster

Barbara Barishman

Barbara

Barishman was born in South Africa, where she spent all of her school years, except when she was 15 years old and attended school for 18 months in Israel. She is fluent in Hebrew. Barbara moved to Los Angeles in 2011 to be near her children. She is retired now but spends most of her life working for banks doing marketing.



Barbara has been married for 57 years but unfortunately, her husband is not able to dance at this time. Barbara is circling to the left for both of them. The couple met playing badminton. In today's world it would probably have been pickleball. They have 2 children, Leora 56, Michele 53 and 3 grandchildren, Josh, Shoshana and Aviva, all in their 20's.

Geraldine Rothenberg brought her into our club. Barbara enjoys playing bridge and maj. She sang in a choir in South Africa and also still sings with the Pierce College Encore program. We love her accent and her new friendship.

Your Coordinators

Maureen and Shelly Fried



Jeri Sobel



Gayle Cantrock

♥ SWEETHEART BALL

A Square D is an umbrella organization of square dance clubs in Southern California. It has a non-profit status and provides member clubs with liability insurance at a competitive rate, provides leadership and direction to member clubs, and works to promote the benefits of square dancing both social and physical. Each year they host the Sweetheart Ball giving all clubs the opportunity to recognize outstanding members who have contributed time and effort to the ongoing success and growth of their respective club.

We congratulate our sweethearts for 2026, Patti & Marshall Goldberg who graduated in 2019, and since joining the Club they have demonstrated a commitment not only to square dancing but to all Club activities. In the 5 years that they have been members. They have served 2 of those years as Presidents! Each year they work tirelessly to make sure that our new students feel welcome and support our new classes as angels. Patti & Marshall, despite busy career schedules, have steadfastly supported all social events. Their positive and encouraging attitude is definitely an asset. See flier page 9.

Patti & Marshall are definitely sweethearts of the Trail Dusters Club. Please join us February 15, 2026 at the dance to celebrate and honor them and thank them for the years of their caring and invaluable contributions. Let's have a large Trail Duster representation to cheer and support a couple that have given the Club so much of their time.

Tickets are \$13.00 pre-sale or \$15.00 at the door – to buy presale ticket/ribbons please see Bill Dickter or send email to bradsdad@gmail.com

Shirley Brown,
Publicity Chair



Save The Date
May Weekend



Sunshine & Showers

Happy Holidays to all, and a very Happy New Year! May 2026 be filled with sunshine for all of you!

Judy Comroe is thrilled to share news of her grandson, Russell Whitman's marriage to Catie Visco on Saturday, December 20th. The wedding took place at their home in the Hollywood Hills. It was an intimate and personal ceremony with immediate family and best friends in attendance. Catie and Russell met five years ago when they were students at the University of San Francisco Law School. Russell is presently an associate with Wilkie Farr and Gallagher LLP in Century City. Catie works in the LA County Public Defender's Office. To you, **Judy**, we extend warm congratulations on your grandson's marriage, and we hope that the young couple will go on to enjoy many years of happiness as they build their life together.

Ways & Means

Condolences go out to **Otis Rogers** on the recent passing of his sister, Lou Fielden, age 93, passed away at her home in Alaska. Services will take place on January 3rd in North Hollywood, and she will be buried in Texas. **Otis**, we hope that you will be comforted by the memories you have of your sister, by the love of your family and friends, and by the passing of time.

Please remember that if you have news to share with your fellow Rail and Trail Duster "family," be sure to mail me with the details (Rusty_k@verizon.net) and I will contact you. Whether it is illness, the passing of a family member, ("showers") or news of a happy occasion like the engagement or marriage of a family member, the birth of a grandchild, the graduation or promotion of a family member, we want to celebrate with you and share your "sunshine." I look forward to hearing from you!

Until soon,

Rusty Kaman
Sunshine &
Showers Chair



HELLO FROM YOUR A SQUARE D DELEGATE

What is A Square D? Who is a Delegate and why am I writing this column? Let's take A Square D first. A Square D stands for "Associated Square Dancers" and we shorten it to ASD when we are writing about it. ASD is a non-profit organization formed to support square dance clubs. ASD is local to southern California and consists of about 12 square Dance Clubs like Trail Dusters. Each club appoints an ASD delegate and I, Bradz Dad (aka Bill Dickter), am the Trail Dusters' delegate to ASD.

The club delegates meet once a month to hear about what is going on within the ASD organization and we discuss activities that pertain to the member clubs. The delegates share what is happening in their respective clubs, the good, the bad, and - there is no ugly - club status and issues. These meetings are a great opportunity to find out what is going on in the other clubs and submit ideas, recommendations and the like to ASD to consider.

ASD provides a recommended list of calls for clubs' callers to teach. Our Michael Kellogg is teaching from this list. In addition, ASD has organized a process in which all member clubs and their members have insurance (it's included in your membership) if the unlikely accident happens at a dance.

ASD sponsors dances for all the clubs. The upcoming dance on **January 25** is special for this club, **The Student Stomp** is the first opportunity for our Rail Dusters to experience a real square dance. A flier for the dance is included on page 8 of this Dusty Trails. We need our members, yes, that includes you, to come to the dance to support our newbies.

ASD has yet another dance scheduled, the **Sweetheart Ball** on **February 15**. Here is when clubs honor their Sweethearts. Each couple is announced at the Ball and walks through the hall where the attendees can get a look at our special sweethearts. Our Sweethearts are Patti and Marshal Goldberg who have worked hard to keep Trail Dusters going including supporting our Rail Dusters. See our Sweetheart flier on page 9 & the ASD flier on page 10.

Bill Dickter
A Square D Delegate



Hi Trail Dusters & Rail Dusters,

Best wishes to everyone for a happy and healthy new year. It has been fun meeting for dinner before our square dance classes. I'm in the process of finding new restaurants for our club pre-dinner classes on Wednesday nights. I'm looking forward to our getting together again. Hope you all had a nice holiday season.

The following is the calendar for our January restaurants.

Jan 7 The Stand

Jan 14 Baja Fresh

Jan 21 Sharkey's

Jan 28 To Be Determined

Linda Cole



**Ways & Means
Chair**



DEC 22 - JAN 5 - WINTER BREAK

JAN 7 FIRST CLASS OF 2026

**JAN 14 SNACK-A-THON
BABY IT'S COLD OUTSIDE!**

JAN 25 STUDENT STOMP

FEB 15 SWEETHEART BALL

DECEMBER BIRTHDAY CELEBRATED AT BAY LAUREL



Bruce Reisenfeld, Patti Goldberg, Greg Don, Caren Blumfield, Rene Maier, Simcha Saul, Les Light

THE DUSTY TRAIL WENT ON TWO DIFFERENT SHIPS



Paula & Jerry Seliga take a boat ride to celebrate their 48TH Anniversary



Richard & Carol Lewis take a Thanksgiving Cruise to Mexico

DECEMBER SNACK-A-THON COMES TO BAY LAUREL



Thank you Merry, Debbie & Robbie for organizing the snacks





Baby it's
COLD
outside

Snack-A-Thon
BRRR
January 14th



Sweaters, scarves, hats galore,



BRRR



Funny socks we all adore!

Earmuffs too — come join the crowd,

BRRR

Let's stay warm and feel so proud!

But don't forget our tasty snacks!

BRRR

Please stop by the second table to sign up to bring snacks. The sheets are right there waiting for your name and phone number. Your fellow dancers truly appreciate every contribution!

*Debbie Borden &
Snowman Helpers*





ASD Student Stomp



Sunday, January 25, 2026

*Dance Level:
SSD*

2-4:30 pm

*Fun Level:
MAX!*

Wilkinson Center, 8956 Vanalden Ave, Northridge

Callers:

Dick Hodnefield
Dale Hoppers
Rod Shuping
Mike Seastrom



Sponsored by:
Boots & Slippers
Buckles & Bows
Farmers & Charmers
Lads N' Lassies
Sierra Hillbillies
Trail Dusters
Valley Trailers

\$12 per person

Singles rotation

Questions? Contact Linda @ (805) 231-6171

SWEETHEART BALL

Sunday, February 15, 2026 2:00 – 4:30

Wilkinson Senior Center
8956 Vanalden Ave. Northridge 91324

Please join us as we go to the Annual Sweetheart Ball to celebrate and honor our Club Sweethearts.

PATTI & MARSHALL GOLDBERG



Patti and Marshall graduated in June 2019 and have been active and committed members. Since joining the Club, they have been steadfast and reliable in their support of the Club, the members and the events. They served two terms as Presidents and every year you will find them working tirelessly to make sure that our new students feel welcome and supporting our new classes as Angels. Their positive and encouraging attitude is definitely an asset. Patti & Marshall, despite busy career schedules, have steadfastly supported all social events. Without being asked, they step forward and get done whatever needs to be done. The title of Club Sweethearts 2026 is very well deserved!

Tickets \$13.00 pre-sale or \$15.00 at the door - to purchase presale ticket/ribbons please see Bill Dickter or email bradzdad@gmail.com



Associated Square Dancers

Invite you to the

Sweetheart Ball

**Sunday
February
15
2026**

SSD & PLUS (all tips)

PRE-ROUNDS 1:00-2:00 SQUARES WITH 1 ROUND 2:00-4:30



ANDY ALLEMAO & DON SCHADT
CALLERS



JUDY KELLER-SMITH
CUER

\$13 PRE-SALE RIBBONS \$15 AT THE DOOR



LOS ANGELES
SQUARE
DANCING
SCHOOL
Fun From Every Angle!

WILKINSON SENIOR CENTER

8956 VANALDEN AVE, NORTHRIDGE 91324

CALL STUART MOSHER FOR MORE INFORMATION:

310-679-1284





January 2026 Trail Dusters Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	
				1 New Years Day 	2		3
4	5	6 Board Meeting  7:00 pm	7 The Stand 5:30 p m Bay Laurel 6:45 p.m.	8	9	10	
11 F	12	13	14 Baja Fresh 5:30 p m Snack-a-thon Bay Laurel 6:45 p.m.	15	16	17	
181	19	20	21 Sharkey's 5:30 p m Bay Laurel 6:45 p.m.	22	23	24	
25 Student Stomp Wilkinson Center 2:00 pm – 4:30 pm See flier- page 8	26	27	28 TBD 5:30 p m Bay Laurel 6:45 p.m.	29	30	31	