



The Dusty Trails

Marilyn and Len Bloom, Editors marlenbloom2@gmail.com www.traildusters.com Nov. 2021

Club Officers 2021-2022

Presidents

Jane Lief

lief.jane@gmail.com

Treasurers

Sandra & Robert Sobel

Financial Treasurer

Victor Wolfe

Membership/Statistics

Ilene & Mark Abramson

markabe@aol.com

Sunshine & Showers

Rusty Kaman

rusty_k@verizon.net

Class Coordinators

Lynn & Joel Ovadia

Cindy Kestenbaum & Alex Strouzer

Hostess

Jeri Sobel

Refreshments

Denise Kurtzer & Richard Rose

Lorraine & Sheldon Levin

Editors

Marilyn & Len Bloom

Secretary

Wendy Goldzband

Publicity/Webmaster

Shirley Brown

Ways & Means

Flo & Bill Tapp

Special Services

Joni & Mark Simon

Parliamentarians

Nikki & Steve Rosentsweig

Caller Coordinator

Farryl Dickter

Dance Reporter

Caren Blumfield

A Square D Delegate

Bill Dickter

From the Presidents' Desk

So here we are in the middle of October which is one of the best months of the year. It is glorious when leaves start turning into beautiful colors (although just a little in Southern California). If you've ever traveled back east to an area where fall foliage is in all its glory, you know how Mother Nature can be beautiful. Here it is beautiful as Mother Nature allows Trail Dusters to dance outside for the next couple of weeks.

As soon as we move into the "yellow" zone of covid in Los Angeles County and out of the "orange" zone, dancing inside with masks becomes feasible. This will get us off our couches from watching the World Series of Baseball and all those football games that take up most of our weekends, and don't forget golf from Thursday through Sunday.

This is a transition month that ends with Halloween festivities ushering in the holiday season. It's a time of the year to enjoy family and friends and look forward to easier times ahead. Let's celebrate one another and be grateful we can still spin and twirl with our "besties" under the watchful eye of our esteemed caller Paul Waters.

It truly has been a tough couple of years but at least troubles seem to fade away a little when Wednesday nights "come a-calling" and the smiles on the dance floor are evident to all.

Jane Lief

President



***** "Dancing With The Stars"

Our club is thriving once again and we are dancing outside under the stars. We are actually under the cover of Bay Laurel's lunch awning and the stars are the 65 dancers that have been showing up each Wednesday to dance with our caller, Paul Waters.

A huge thank you to our members who have been working behind the scenes to set up registration tables and moving lunch tables back and forth every evening.

Our before class dinners are back and the fun of once again being together dancing is exciting. Paul is initiating our new social dancing schedule and he is including Angel Tips and Line Dancing in his mix.

We will eventually dance inside as the weather declines. Meanwhile, it is amazing to see how Trail Dusters have adapted to the necessities of our times. So why don't the rest of you, who are skeptical about how things are progressing, come see for yourselves how much fun the rest of us are having?

We have a new class, we have a dedicated caller and we have a site. We can always use more help from our Angels. Our Trail Duster family is still the best, and we are still going strong. Come join in on the fun on Wednesday nights!

Caren Blumfield

Dance Reporter



Nov. Birthdays



Steven Rosentsweig	1
Alex Strouzer	1
Alan Shotsky	2
Steve Berman	3
Rita Karp	6
Phyllis Saul	6
Farryl Dickter	22
Marilyn Bloom	23
Jacquelyn Walker	24
Arlene Zoren	24
Myron Ross	30

Nov. Anniversaries



Judy & Stuart Levy	2
Francie & Steve Bordofsky	16

FROM YOUR MEMBERSHIP AND STATISTICS CHAIRS.

We want to thank all 142 of you who have renewed. Look for your updated rosters in early November.

Any of you who have not paid yet but still want to renew, please:

1. Print the renewal form on page 5. and fill out the required information. Please print legibly!
2. Make out a check to Trail Dusters for **\$40 for single membership, \$80 for a couple.**
3. Mail the form and the check to:

Ilene & Mark Abramson
4425 Estronda Drive
Encino, CA 91436

If you have any further questions, please call or email Mark Abramson.



Ilene & Mark Abramson

Membership Chairs

Markabe@aol.com

Know Your Board Member



Cindy Kestenbaum & Alex Strouzer

Cindy's Story:

I was born in Los Angeles, but grew up in North Hollywood from the time I was two years old and attended the local public schools. I consider myself an original "Valley Girl" before there was such a term. As a child, I took ballet from the age of four until I was twelve. One of the highlights was appearing with the New York City Ballet at the Greek

Theater in the "Nut Cracker." I also did extra work in movies and TV shows. As a teenager, my friends and I would head over to the Van Nuys Bob's Big Boy after a day at the beach. In high school I was on a drill team. In those days, the drill team and band would put on very elaborate routines during the football game's half time.

I didn't even travel very far when I went to college, UCLA being my alma mater. I graduated with a major in Sociology and minors in both Psychology and English. The following year, I received my Teaching Credential and I continued my education with graduate courses at UCLA, CSUN, and the University of Judaism (American Jewish University),

My first teaching job was in La Cañada where I taught fourth grade for six years. I also taught drama to second and third grade students during their summer school program. After my oldest son was born, I went to work at Adat Ari El Day School as a founding teacher when it opened in 1979. While working there, I taught third through fifth grades, ran Student Council, did pullout for students learning English as a second language as well as students who needed extra help in reading and math. Although I loved teaching, I decided to retire in 2015 after 36 years at AAE just in time to be able to spend time with my first grandchild, Gavin.

On a personal note, I am the proud mother of two grown sons, both living in the Bay Area. My older son, Michael, works as a Human Resources consultant for a bank whose clients are mostly tech companies. My younger son, David, is a litigation attorney working for a firm that has offices in major cities in the US as well as Europe. I have two adorable grandchildren who I try to spend as much time with as I can.

Alex's Story:

I would like to give you a brief background on my life. I was born in London, England. I moved to the US in 1953, and grew up in New York. After graduating High School, I went on to New York Institute of Photography where I studied commercial and portrait photography. After graduating, I got a job through a friend of my father's as a photographer for the Merchant Marine. I was fortunate to be able to travel all through the Mediterranean. Upon my return to New York, to my regret, my draft notice had arrived.

Although the Vietnam War was very unpopular, I felt very strongly that since I was drafted, I would serve my country. The other reason was to honor my dad who was a World War II veteran. He was in the British Army for six years, and for four of those years he was a Prisoner of War. It was out of my respect for him that I chose to serve my country. After arriving in Vietnam, I was assigned to the Fourth Infantry Division in Pleiku. I was then assigned to the First Brigade, C Company of the 124th Signal Battalion as a Combat Photographer. I returned from Vietnam in July of 1968. After six months of rest, I went to work for the U.S. Army Pictorial Center in Long Island City, New York, making training films on the workings of the Cobra helicopter. After a couple of years, I was offered a position with Yashica cameras as the West Coast Military Representative. Later, I returned to the film industry and went to work in the distribution of films and commercials.

It was in 1984, on a blind date (thank you Sandy Kaufman). I met my beautiful and love of my life, Cindy. As a family, we enjoy spending time with two wonderful sons, a beautiful daughter-in-law, and two fabulous grandkids.

In 1989, I made a career change when I joined the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, where I spent the next twenty-five years as a Crime Scene Investigator. I retired in 2014 and have never been happier.

Our Story

We are very happy that we are retired since it has allowed us to do many of the things we didn't have time for while working, especially time for family and friends. Since our grandchildren are up north, we are able to go there to spend time with them. We have also been able to take classes at the Calabasas Senior Center as well as Pierce College. Cindy finally had time to learn how to play Mahjong, and she enjoys playing regularly with her group. Cindy, now able to go on lunch dates with her friends, she joined a book group. Alex is spending time trying out new photography techniques as well as experimenting with putting together slide shows using different computer programs. We are especially happy to be part of Trail Dusters. Our good friends, the Kaufman's, had encouraged us to join telling us about the wonderful people who make up the club. We have made many friends, and we enjoy the outside activities that are also part of the club.

For the last four years, we have had several different jobs on the board. Cindy was the Board Secretary for two years dutifully taking notes of the discussions and final decisions made by the board. Alex took on the job of sound coordinator to assure the members could be heard at our getaway weekend and the Rail Dusters' graduation. Cindy was a cast member in the last three plays that our members presented during the getaway weekend. We have also been on the refreshment committee guaranteeing that no Trail Duster is malnourished between tips at our

class weekly dances. This year, we are helping out as class coordinators. The board members work very hard behind the scenes making sure our club is successful, and we we are proud to be part of that process.

Cindy & Alex

Ways & Means

We are BACK and what fun we are having !!! It's been way tooo long.

Starting at 5:30 - eating and shmoozing together. We are a group of around 30 and growing each week -- gathering to socialize and eat prior to dancing. **All are welcome** of course - - We are not only a hungry group, but a very social one as well. This is such a great way to start off your fun night of square dancing.

We try to vary our restaurants from week to week - - currently we have about 6 places we dine at. Lots of laughing and chatting go along with the very important eating part.

Also, did you know that our dinners are a great way to fundraise. Each time you purchase a dinner the club makes money - - we get from 15 to 20% of what we spend, so come on out and join us.

The schedule for November is below. Check your emails for any possible last minute changes.

- 11/3 Sharkey's
- 11/10 The Stand
- 11/17 Salad Farm

Flo & Bill Tapp

Ways & Means
Chair



flowille@sbcglobal.net
818 904 9944

Coordinators Corner

Lynn and I, as well as Cindy Kestenbaum & Alex Strouzer, are currently on the board as Class Coordinators. Lynn and I send emails to our Rail Dusters with the intent to guide and help them learn how to square dance.

Cindy & Alex's role is to pair those dancers who are looking for partners as well as watch the squares to make sure no one is having trouble.

Lynn and I wanted to give something back to our club, but what? We are giving back our time to sending emails to our students (Rail Dusters) guiding them to where to find the calls performed on the internet in an effort to help them learn the calls easier and faster. If a picture is worth a thousand words, a video of dancers performing square dance calls is worth ten thousand words.

We learn through repetition and recognition. Undoubtedly, the best way to learn square dancing is by attending classes and dancing the calls. The repetition of dancing the calls gives you muscle memory. However, when you are a new student of square dancing you need to remember the names of a good number of calls because dancing the calls is not automatic yet. You need a way to review the calls and see them performed. Fortunately, today we have the computer to help us with the recognition part of learning by watching how the calls are performed on websites. We will help locate the calls on the websites and guide the Rail Dusters there through my emails. My favorite website is saddlebrookesquares.com which has videos of dancers performing each call. The other useful website is tamtwirlers.org/taminations, which

uses diagrams to show you how the calls are performed.!

In 2015-16 and 2016-17, Lynn and I served as club coordinators. In an effort to help the new Rail Dusters and as an experiment, we sent weekly emails with the names of the calls, a description of the calls, and where to locate them on the computer. It also shows upcoming events and reminders. We found that most, if not all, of the Rail Dusters read my emails, appreciated them, were better prepared for the next class, and participated in club events. We also found that it helped class retention. I am happy to say our experiment was very successful.

We now have seven new students and five returning Rail Dusters who are currently receiving our emails. In addition to helping our new Rail Dusters, we hope these emails, as they have done in the past, will encourage and inspire our Rail Dusters to become members after they graduate to help strengthen our club.

Best regards to all,



Lynn & Joel Ovadia
Email Coordinators

Cindy Kestenbaum &
Alex Strouzer
Class Coordinators



DO YOU NEED TO REPLACE YOUR NAME BADGE?

If you need to purchase another badge. please see Jeri Sobel at class on Wednesday or email her at jerisobel@earthlink.net

All replacement badge orders need to be given to Jeri by Nov 3, 2021.

Sunshine & Showers

I'm delighted to report sunny skies reign over **Caren Blumfield's** family as Caren's daughter, Cara Blumfield, has been inducted into the 2021 Jewish Hall of Fame for Softball. Cara is also an inductee into the Hall of Fame at Boston College AND at LA City School Hall of Fame! Cara teaches physical education at El Camino Community Charter High School in addition to being a coach. Yet, with all these accomplishments under her belt, she is most proud of her achievements as a mother and teacher.

CONGRATULATIONS, Cara! You have clearly brought pride, not only to yourself but to all your family! We can only wish you continued success in all your future endeavors.

Hopefully, the rest of our Trail Duster and Rail Duster "family" are faring well and staying safe. If you have something special going on, please e-mail me at the address below, and I will contact you about sharing your news in the next *Dusty Trails*.

Let's enjoy each other's success stories. If, on the other hand, there are "showers" to report, I hope you will not hesitate to share that with me as well so that we can support each other through difficult times. That is what Trail Dusters do! Wish all of you sunshine each and every day.

Warmly,
Rusty Kaman

Sunshine &
Showers Chair

Rusty_k@verizon.net





TRAIL DUSTER ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM

DUES: \$80 COUPLES / \$40 SINGLES
MAKE CHECKS OUT TO "TRAIL DUSTERS"

RETURN COMPLETED FORM WITH DUES BY AUGUST 31 (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")

September and October Birthdays



Front row: Donna Banks, Rhonda Eisner, Geraldine Rothenberg, Adriane Fox-Kreisberg, Linda Rosenberg, Earl Metter
Back row: Jeff Hausman, Steve Bordofsky, Chris Shaheen, Renny Traub

Dancing Under The Stars – Photos by Leonard Bloom



And The Dancing Continues



Now We Line Dance



November 2021 Trail Dusters Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
1	1	2	3 Sharkeys 5:30 pm Bay Laurel 7:00 pm	4	5	6
7 Set Clocks Back  Daylight Saving Time Ends CHANGE YOUR CLOCKS	8	9 Board Meeting Nov. 9, 2021  7:30 pm	10 The Stand 5:30 pm Bay Laurel 7:00 pm	11 Veteran's Day 	12	13
14	15	16	17 Salad Farm 5:30 pm Bay Laurel 7:00 pm	18	19	20
21	22	23	24 No Class	25 Thanksgiving 	26	27
28	29	30				

