

The Dusty Trails

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

Club Officers 2020-2021

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Nikki & Steve Rosentsweig
rosentsweig@hotmail.com

Vice Presidents/AsqD Representative

Jane Lief

Treasurers

Jeri Sobel

Financial Treasurer

Victor Wolfe

Membership/Statistics

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Sunshine & Showers

Rusty Kaman

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Lynn & Joel Ovadia

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Ways & Means

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Mark Cutter

Caller Coordinator/Contracts

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Dance Reporter

Caren Blumfield

Maintenance

Sandra & Robert Sobel

From the Presidents' Desk

We are often asked, when do you think we will start dancing again? We have given it a lot of thought and our answer is, we have no idea! We guess a better answer is, we will start up as soon as enough people have been vaccinated and our membership feels comfortable to meet safely in a large group and that we can dance without fear. September 2021? January 2022? September 2022? We just don't know. We do know that Trail Dusters in general have been very resourceful in getting themselves vaccinated.

Researching holidays, we found that March 20th is International Day of Happiness. We hope that the holiday's name is a sign for the future. We continue to be impressed with how Trail Dusters is more than just a Square Dance club. It is dedicated members who show up every month to our board meetings. It is a caller who donates his time every Wednesday to write an email for the club and helps us put on our Virtual Dances (along with Caren's line dances). Trail Dusters is a community of people who care about and support each other.

P. S. If you haven't already been doing it, even if you can't dance,

show up to our monthly Virtual Dances and help keep the club together by sharing what is happening in your life.

Stay safe, stay healthy.

Nikki and Steve Rosentsweig



Presidents

Virtual Club Dance
First Ever St Patrick's Day Dance
Wednesday, March 17th
7:00PM

We all have a little of the Irish in us and this is the night we are going to let it show. Celebrated for its relentless charm and enchanting mysticism, Ireland is known here for its rich culture, traditions and music. So let's proudly wear green and dance with abandon. I am sure that Steve and Nikki have taken a trip to the Blarney Stone so they will entertain all of us with their jokes!



Put the date and time on your calendar – paper or digital – and be sure to join in the fun on March 17th. Paul will call the squares (with an Irish tune or two) and Caren will have another

line dance to learn. *“Teacht Agus Damhsa”* – Come and Dance. See you at the Zoom!!! I end this article with a traditional Irish Blessing.

*May your troubles be less,
your blessings be more,
and nothing but happiness
come through your door*



From Your roving
reporter from
Canada,

Shirley Brown



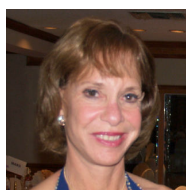
LAST MONTH'S PSYCHEDELIC 60'S ZOOM DANCE

It wasn't easy to see all of our bell bottoms pants, but we did see a lot of tie dyed shirts on our zoom screens. Remember when we had to hide our joints because they were illegal in the 60's? Now we have legal "fast food" cannabis stores in most of our neighborhoods.

We probably should have done the twist in honor of Chubby Checkers but instead we did the Cha Cha Slide and the "infamous" Hand Jive (my most requested line dance). Sherwin even finally got all his hand moves correct! Paul Waters was in his "hippie best" frontier vest and called two great squares for us. See pictures on page 5.

Next month I plan to get more of you involved in some dance moves so rest up. stay limber and be sure to attend our Virtual dance on St. Patrick's Day.

Caren Blumfield
Dance Reporter



March Birthdays

Joel Ovadia	9
Steve Besem	11
Richard Lewis	13
Ellen Sternfeld	15
Randee Samsky	18
Diane Jubelier-Light	20
Marc Schwartz	23
Madeline Johnson	25
Arline Simon	26
Betty Jo Weinstein	27
Paula Seliga	29
Shelly Fried	31

March Anniversaries

Arline & David Simon	1
Lorraine & Sheldon Levin	21

**Ilene & Mark
Abramson**

**Membership
Chairs**

Markabe@aol.com



Know Your Board Member



O.K. I admit it, I'm a newbie to Trail Dusters compared to so many members of our Trail Dusters family that have been active for 15-20 years or more. I joined in 2016 and was a member of the Dancing Scene class. Currently I have the honor of serving as Vice President. In past years I also served on the board in the capacity of Ways and Means arranging for our fundraising dinners prior to the Wednesday classes. I was chair of the food and beverage service at our Wednesday classes which gave

everyone the energy to dance and prance. I had the pleasure of co-chairing one of our weekend getaways with Caren.

Before Trail Dusters, I retired from banking in 2015 after many years with Home Savings of America which became Chase. After taking a year off, I later joined First Bank where I served for 15 years as a Senior Vice President and Regional Manager of Southern California. The region spread from Santa Maria to San Diego so obviously much of my time was spent in the car. I know Southern California like the back of my hand, especially since I'm one of the few Trail Dusters who was born and raised in Southern California. My dad was born here too, but that was in 1911 when L.A. was mostly farmland.

I graduated from Hamilton High School and then went on to U.C.L.A. I thought I would be headed to Berkeley but my parents said no with the reason being there were too many hippies at Cal. I got married while in college and then on to work. I moved to Tarzana in 1972 to raise my two children who are the most wonderful and thoughtful adults. Needless to say, I couldn't be prouder. I've lived in Tarzana for 49 years this April and was joined in the same home with my current hubby Jerry. We've been married for 31 years after a five- year courtship.

Jerry is a Brooklyn kid who joined the U.S. Navy at 18 to see the world and when his four years was over, he was off to pharmacy school, moved to Los Angeles and raised his first family. Between Jerry and I we have four children but only one grandchild. We do have five grand puppies we get to cuddle from time to time. I'm still hoping there are more grandchildren in our future.

Jerry and I have seen a large part of the world traveling on his favorite mode of transportation which happens to be cruise ships. We've been very fortunate to have logged over 32 cruises, but this past year has kept us vacationing in our home. It has been a challenging time for everyone, and I can't imagine what life would be without my amazing family and the wonderful friends I've made through Trail Dusters. I feel that I am truly blessed. My hope is that we can be back dancing sooner than later and that we'll be able to see one another in person rather than just on Zoom. Let's all hope we remember how to dance.

Sunshine & Showers

Inasmuch as I have not received any news to report this month from any of you, I'm going to take the liberty of sharing with you here a portion of what was imparted at the Zoom funeral for my husband,

Norman Jay Kaman, who passed away on January 26th ~ just 17 days after celebrating his 85th birthday. Norm was born in Shanghai, China, where he experienced the Japanese occupation during the Second Sino-Japanese War. His family lived in the French Quarter, and Norm attended school where classes were all taught in French. When Nationalists and Communists fought for control of the Chinese Republic, Norm's family fled on two-day's notice, and boarded a Victory boat on which they spent 78 days at sea before arriving in Israel-just at the time when Israel was gaining its statehood (1948-1949). Food was rationed and life was difficult, and his dad was unable to find employment. Thus, after 8 months, the family was on the move again, this time heading to the Panama Canal Zone where Norm attended

and graduated from high school. When immigration quotas relaxed, the Kaman family made their way to the United States, ultimately settling in San Francisco, and Norm was admitted into U.C. Berkeley's School of Engineering. Following his graduation, Norm was hired by Hughes Aircraft Company's Aerospace Group and transferred to Los Angeles where, on July 8th, 1961, a fraternity brother arranged a blind date with a UCLA senior named **Rusty**. Eight weeks later, **Norm** and **Rusty** became engaged and wedding preparations for the following summer were in the making.

Among **Norm's** many accomplishments professionally, his biggest project was his assignment to work on the launch of Surveyor 5, an unmanned spacecraft to the moon. A 3-month journey to Cape Kennedy ensued in 1967 where we witnessed that successful launch. It was indeed an exciting time for both of us! **Norm** remained with Hughes for a total of 40 years – which included being called back after his initial retirement to serve as a consultant. While **Norm** put in long hours, often leaving for work at 1:00 AM. He LOVED his work and found it fascinating, often remarking that 'no two days were ever alike!'

Norm was, above all, a family man and was devoted to his wife and children. He was always interested and supportive of all our efforts. There was nothing he wouldn't do for any of us. He was a superb handyman at home and could repair just about anything! During our 29-year residence in Northridge, we never called anyone to fix anything. . . until the January '94 earthquake!

Norm loved history and travel, and together, we were blessed with a

great many memorable trips. The most outstanding journey of these was to China once **Norm** was fully retired in 2000. We were able to find the apartment building where he was born and spent his first 14 years as well as the school he attended. For me, it was very exciting to finally see the places that were his childhood haunts about which I had only heard for so many years. Suddenly they took on new meaning!

One of the greatest accomplishments of all in our life together has been learning to square dance! Joining Trail Dusters in September 1993 was truly one of the best decisions we ever made (and I didn't even have to coax **Norm**. He joined willingly!) In addition to the physical and mental exercise that square dancing afforded, we gained an entire new SECOND FAMILY! While I started out being less than a strong dancer, having other worries on my mind like, "who is going to fix all the earthquake damage on our house?" And "where are we going to live in the meantime?" it was **Norm** who encouraged me to persevere and not give up! Ultimately, we became strong dancers and even advanced to higher levels! **Norm** was an excellent angel and partner and I sure am going to miss him!

Norm loved the good feeling that comes with helping others, and volunteer work became a frequent and favorite pastime for both of us. We worked at the Thousand Oaks Civic Arts Gift Shop together for 6 years. Norm spent many years volunteering at the Thousand Oaks Library, and for the past 14 years, we have spent our Saturday mornings in Simi Valley packing care packages for our Troops in Afghanistan. Perhaps our most rewarding experience has been leading the Trail Dusters' efforts in

support of the L.A. Ronald McDonald House. While it was my job to encourage donations and find out the specific needs of the House, **Norm** did all the research for the requested items and found the best possible prices in order to maximize your donations. He never left a stone unturned!

Nothing in life gave **Norm** greater happiness than being a Grandfather! As many of you know, since Kaitlin, known as "KK," entered our lives 5 ½ years ago, there hasn't been a more proud or happier Grandpa on earth than **Norm Kaman**! We have helped to raise her since her birth, and his dream was to live to watch his precious granddaughter grow up. Sadly, however, that was not meant to be. While KK's presence brought **Norm** immeasurable joy and likely extended his life here on earth, a weakened heart and failing kidneys finally took their toll.

I am so grateful to have spent three-fourths of my life with this very special man. I am also extremely indebted to each and every one of you who has reached out to me at this most difficult time with calls, notes, food, flowers, love and friendship. You truly are my second family!

With my heartfelt appreciation and love,

Rusty Kaman,

Sunshine &
Showers Chair

Rusty_k@verizon.net




NEXT BOARD MEETING

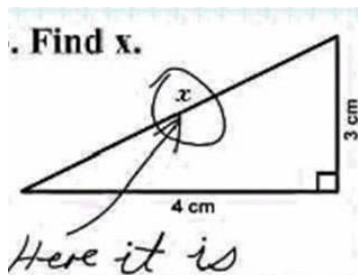
MARCH 9 2021

ZOOM MEETING

7:30 P.M.



WHY TEACHER'S DRINK



What is the meaning of the word 'varicose'?

Close by

What is a fibula?

A little lie



Where was the American Declaration of Independence signed?

At the bottom.

On The Lighter Side



You Know You're Getting Old When "Friends With Benefits", Means Having Someone Who Can Drive At Night.

It's been a great blessing to be at home with the wife these last few months. We've caught up on everything I've done wrong in the last 20 years.

I LOVE WAVING AT RANDOM PEOPLE, BECAUSE YOU KNOW FOR THE REST OF THE DAY, THEY'RE TRYING TO FIGURE OUT WHO YOU WERE.

OUR AMAZING PSYCHEDELIC ZOOM PARTY

Caren Sherwin



Lorraine Sheldon

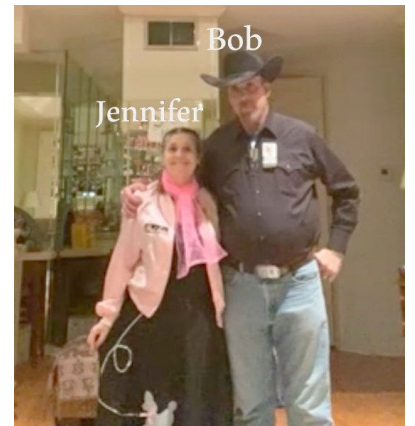


Leslie

Robert

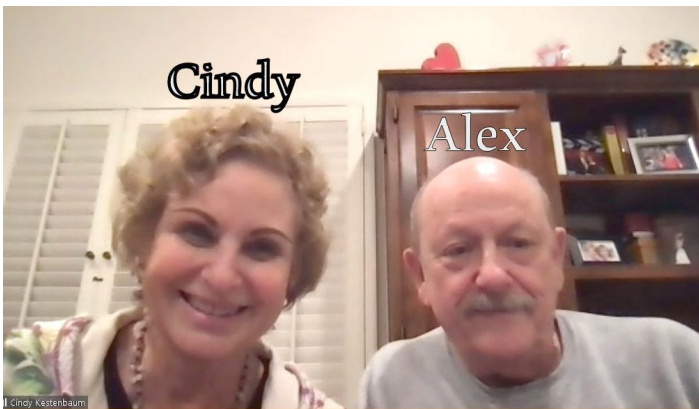


Bob Jennifer



Cindy

Alex



Steve

Nikki





Paul Waters



OUR

CALLER

March 2021 Trail Dusters Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9 Zoom Board Meeting 7:30 pm	10	11	12	13
14 Set Your Clocks Back 	15	16	17 Zoom Virtual Square Dancing 7:00 pm 	18	19	20 1st Day of Spring 
21	22	23	24	25	26	27 Happy Passover 
28 APRIL 5 PALM SUNDAY 	29	30	31			

