

The combined Director and General Membership Annual meeting was called to order by President Bernadette McNeil at 9:00 Saturday April 27, 2024 at St Michael's Catholic School Gym, in Grand Forks, ND. After reciting the Pledge of Allegiance, roll call was taken.

Officers:

President-Bernadette McNeil

Vice President-Pat & Nan Connelly

Secretary-Aileen Stallman

Treasurer-LeAnn Carr

Past President-Mike Carr (Absent)

Club representatives:

Belle's and Beaux-Tim & Doretta Bornemann

Minot Magic Squares-Gene & Nikki Paulsen

FMSDA-Donna Alby (Absent)

Valley Stars-Alana Gerszewski

Webmaster-Rosie Vanek (Absent)

License coordinator-Greg & MaryAnn Morford

Insurance coordinator-Gene & Nikki Paulsen

North Dakota voting delegate to USDA-Greg & MaryAnn Morford

Present at the meeting were:

Belle's & Beaux-Tim & Doretta Bornemann, Mark & Bina Krebsbach, Greg & MaryAnn Morford

FMSDA-Alana Gerszewski, Mark & Hella Helfter, Bernadette McNeil, Denny Resendahl

Minot Magic Squares-Duane & Gayla Haberlack, Gene & Nikki Paulsen

Valley Stars-LeAnn Carr, Pat & Nan Connelly, Ed & Aileen Stallman

Aileen read the minutes from the 2023 annual meeting. Mark Krebsbach had a correction to the minutes. Greg and MaryAnn are the USDA ND voting delegate not USDA representative. Bina made a motion to accept the minutes with the correction, Greg second, motion passed.

LeAnn gave the treasurer's report. Doretta made a motion to accept the treasurer's report, Tim second, motion passed.

Bernadette called for a motion to suspend Robert's Rules of Order, Pat made the motion, Greg second, motion passed.

Bernadette announced that Greg and MaryAnn are the delegates to the National Square Dance Convention in Milwaukee this year and will be the USDA North Dakota voting delegate.

Club reports were read:

Belle's and Beaux-read by Doretta. Bernadette clarified that, per new by-laws, there no longer are district reports, just club reports.

Minot Magic Squares-read by Nikki

Valley Stars-read by Alana

FMSDA-read by Aileen for Donna

Webmaster-read by Aileen for Rosie

License Coordinator-read by MaryAnn

Insurance Coordinator-read by Nikki

USDA Delegate - read by Greg

Callers & Cuers-Bernadette stated that nothing has been done since Covid in 2019. The association consist of Bernadette, Charley, and Mark Helfter.

Bina asked if a caller's seminar was required at a festival. Bernadette said it is up to the caller.

Mark Krebsbach shared some information about USDA. There is a lot of information available to dancers at USDA.org. Having insurance is very important because, yes, there are claims.

Bernadette stated that Mark & Bina are currently Plains Region VP; they are running for VP of USDA. She wrote a letter of recommendation for the position of USDA VP.

Old Business:

Bernadette stated she tried repeatedly to contact Tammi Hughes (Historian) to retrieve the historical records, but did not get any response. At this time the historical records and archives are not in our possession.

Bernadette stated that currently Rosie (Webmaster) is given a \$300 stipend to pay for website fees and maintenance, leaving her with \$41.75. Bina brought up the point of the domain protection for \$19.99 (mentioned in the Webmaster report) she said we should probably get the protection. Nikki stated if we do get domain protection, we should increase the amount paid to the Webmaster from \$300 to \$350. Greg made a motion to get the domain protection, Bina second, passed. Nikki made a motion to increase the amount paid to the Webmaster to \$350 annually, Ed second, passed

Mark commented that some of the information on the website is old. Bernadette said every club has a representative who should review and update the information as needed. Bina suggested it be checked every year.

New business:

2024 Festival recap-read by Ed

Bina shared information about the 2025 Festival, it will be hosted by Belle's and Beaux and held at Holy Spirit Catholic Church in Fargo, April 25 & 26,2025. Larry Pfennig will be the featured caller and Bernadette will be the featured cuer and line dance prompter. There will be a drawing for a free registration at 9:00 tonight.

Bernadette asked if there were any bids for the 2026 festival, there was no response.

Bina introduced the officers for the 2025 festival and state officers:

President/Chairpersons-Mark & Bina

Vice President/Secretary-Tim & Doretta

Treasurer-Greg & MaryAnn

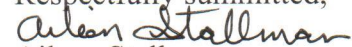
Contact person-Vern & Rose Laning

Bernadette informed us that we had received a thank you from Rita Lizakowski and it would be available for all to read.

With no further business, Bernadette adjourned the meeting at 9:30.

All reports are attached.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Aileen Stallman

Secretary



SW District Report for the 2025 State Square and Round Dance Festival, St. Michaels Catholic School Gym, Grand Forks ND, April 26 & 27

The Belle's and Beaux Square Dance Club in Bismarck continues to be the only active club in the Southwestern Region. We have two main stream dance a month from September to May. At this time the winter month dances depend on the weather and if there are enough dancers available for each dance. They are held the second and fourth Mondays of the month.

Our Dance Venue is currently held at the Bismarck Eagles Club.

On Dance nights we have round dancing is implemented between square dance calls. Plus dances are implemented if there are enough Plus dancers available.

Jerry Junck made his annual visit and called for us in August.

Current officers: President: Tim and Doretta Bornemann

Vice President/Secretary: Mark and Lynette Dagley

Treasurer: Greg and Maryann Morford

Respectfully Submitted

Tim and Doretta Bornemann

3017 Hillside RD NW

Mandan, ND 58554

MMS report for inclusion into minutes

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From: Nikki Paulsen (epaulsen@srt.com)

To: erstallman@yahoo.com; mcneil195421@gmail.com

Date: Saturday, April 6, 2024 at 01:42 PM CDT

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## Minot Magic Squares Report for 2023

In 2023 the Minot Magic Squares held eight ABC dances, and there is interest from the beginners in having the square dancing program continue in Minot.

We had the new officers take over at the end of the 2023 calendar year and will be meeting soon to plan out the 2024 – 2025 dance season.

Gene & Nikki Paulsen

Gayla & Duane Haberlack

## VALLEY STARS ANNUAL REPORT

Valley Stars meets on the first and third Thursdays of the month at St Michael's school gym in Grand Forks, North Dakota. They also hold plus dances on the first Tuesday of the month in Hillsboro. The club held 34 dances in 2023. This included the good fortune of two Christmas dances, one in January celebrating Christmas 2022, and one in December for Christmas 2023! The average attendance was approximately 13 per dance. The officers include Pat Connelly, President; Ed Stallman, Vice President; Alana Gerszewski, Secretary; and Aileen Stallman, treasurer. The club is fortunate to have Charley Huhtala as a caller, but also was able to secure three other callers throughout the year to give dancers a varied experience. These callers included Tom Allen, Phil Miller, and Jerry Junck. A mainstream blast was held on September 30 and October 7, 2023, also at St Michael's school gym in Grand Forks. To the delight of many, a demonstration dance entertained both staff and residents in Park River at the Good Samaritan Home in September. Plans are underway for Valley Stars to host the ND Square and Round Dance Festival on April 26-27 in Grand Forks, and the club is expecting another successful and fun festival!

Respectfully submitted,  
Alana Gerszewski, Secretary

The F-M Square Dancers Association changed its focus on January 1, 2023, to become the sole square dance club in Fargo-Moorhead. Saturday Fun Nite and L&M Squares dissolved and the members transferred to FMSDA. We have 36 members in the organization with some members also belonging to clubs in Grand Forks, ND, and elsewhere. The club continued the previous schedules of the two clubs, i.e., meeting the second and fourth Tuesdays and the second and fourth Saturdays of each month. The Saturday dances were not held during the summer. Thirty dances were held during the year with an average of 23 dancers per event.

The club hosted the 2023 North Dakota Festival held at St. Anthony of Padua Catholic Church on April 28 and 29. The two-day event drew 103 dancers from both the US and Canada. Doug, Don and Natalie Prostoy were the featured callers and cuer. Overall, it was very successful.

The annual Breast Cancer Awareness dance in October was amazing. Proceeds from the gate and the fund-raising activity provided \$1219 to the Friends of Breast Cancer Survivors group. This was, by far, the largest amount raised by our club to date.

Lessons were offered in both spring and fall. While the number of new dancers was small, they were enthusiastic and we hope they will continue dancing with us.



# WEBMASTER REPORT

ROSELLA VANEK ([NODAKROSE2008@GMAIL.COM](mailto:NODAKROSE2008@GMAIL.COM)) 701-261-4396

The website squaredancenorthdakota.com was created in August 2017. It is a website powered by Go Daddy and appears to be working well. By the number of visitors to the site, it appears to be used well. April 9, 2023, to April 9, 2024 there were 1807 visitors to the site. The last 30 days March 9 – April 9 had 222 visitors.

The domain name (squaredancenorthdakota.com) is set to auto renew July 29, 2024 (cost in 2023 was \$21.99/year). The go daddy website is set to renew August 28, 2024. The 2024 annual cost is going to be \$237.26. Go Daddy is suggesting adding domain protection for \$19.99 addition to protect the domain from being (Hi-jacked). I am not sure how likely this would be. If the board is satisfied with the current website, these renewals will take place. Otherwise let me know so I can cancel the domain and delete the website.

I have made changes and additions the past year as I have been asked. Usually within a day or so of the request. Recent addition to the website has been the information and flyer for the 2024 Festival. Requests can be made using my email: [nodakrose2008@gmail.com](mailto:nodakrose2008@gmail.com)

I could use help on updating the list of past and present callers. If you could look at that and let me know which callers have passed away since it was last updated I would appreciate it. Thanks.

This report has been prepared April 9, 2024

Rosella Vanek



## ND LICENSE COORDINATOR REPORT FOR ND STATE ANNUAL MEETING

April 1, 2024

The annual dues of \$25 to the USDA were paid in September.

The annual filing as a nonprofit with the IRS was completed in October.

In December I filed and paid the \$10 dues for the ND Square and Round Dance Clubs, Inc status as a nonprofit corporation for the ND Secretary of State. I also changed the Registered Agent from Gary Chepulis to myself so that I will continue to get the needed information which cost an additional \$10.

The state treasurer paid the USDA dues with a check and reimbursed me with a check for the ND Secretary of State fees of \$20.

Mary Ann Morford, ND License Coordinator

## 2024 North Dakota USDA Insurance Report

For the 2024 calendar year, we insured 27 members of the Bismarck Belles and Beaux.

Both member couples in the Minot Magic Squares are also members of the Bismarck club and are currently insured through the Belles and Beaux.

Respectfully submitted,

Nikki D Paulsen

## USDA DELEGATE REPORT FROM ANNUAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

The meeting was held on June 21, 2023 at the National Convention in Mobile, Alabama. It was called to order at 1pm by President Mark Krebsbach.

Some of the reports during the meeting included from the Regional vice presidents, secretary, treasurer, youth advisor, handicapable dancers, Traveler program, and more.

These reports and the minutes can be found on the [Squaredancenorthdakota.com](http://Squaredancenorthdakota.com) website.

Greg Morford  
ND Delegate



USDA Annual Meeting Agenda, June 21, 2023 / Page 1  
UNITED SQUARE DANCERS OF AMERICA  
ANNUAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
Renaissance Riverview Plaza Hotel, 64 S. Water Street, Mobile, AL  
2nd Floor, Bon Secour Ballroom

AGENDA

WEDNESDAY - JUNE 21, 2023 ..... 1:00 PM

1. Call to Order ..... Krebsbach
2. Invocation ..... Robey
3. Pledge of Allegiance ..... Reedy
4. Introduction of Guests and Visitors ..... Krebsbach

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 pm by president, Mark Krebsbach. After the invocation and reciting the Pledge of Allegiance guests were introduced. This included someone from Callerlab who told us that there are professionally done videos that are free to use by clubs for promotions/lessons/etc. That website is [Livelivelysquaredance.com](http://Livelivelysquaredance.com).

5. Roll Call of Affiliate Organizations ..... Weber  
It was determined that there is a quorum present.

6. Minutes of the 2022 Annual Meeting..... Weber  
Minutes of the 2022 Annual meeting were emailed out to delegates prior to this meeting. A correction was noted: North Dakota is in the Plains region not the Western region. South Carolina moved to dispense with reading of these minutes since everyone had them already, seconded by Illinois to accept these minutes with the correction noted. Motion passed.

7. Correspondence ..... All

8. Application for USDA Membership.....Krebsbach & Area VP's  
Ponderosa, Legacy, and Desert Squares have applied to be Associate Members of USDA. They would not have voting rights. Motion by South Carolina, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Arkansas/Louisiana to accept them. Motion passed. Heart of America Singles applied for Affiliate Membership of USDA. Motion by Missouri, 2<sup>nd</sup> by SC to accept. Motion passed.

9. Officers Reports:

Officer reports were in the delegate packet but the following had additional information since that was emailed.

- A. President ..... Krebsbach
- B. Vice President Eastern Region ..... Willis  
Need new person
- C. Vice President Central Region..... Ebright  
North Carolina not having convention this year. Hopefully next year.
- D. Vice President Plains Region ..... Gulbrand
- E. Vice President Western Region ..... Schmidt  
Ending their 3<sup>rd</sup> term but have a candidate to replace them.
- F. Secretary ..... Weber
- G. Treasurer ..... Taylor  
\$5000 was willed to USDA by a Texas dancer that died to be used for Youth Scholarships. Remember that you can do this in your will.
- H. Past President ..... Rock

10. Delegate Discussion: Questions for USDA Officers

11. Committee Reports:

- A. Parliamentarian ..... Maczko
- B. Information Officer ..... Schmidt
- C. Insurance Coordinator ..... Sanders  
As of June 17, 2023 there are 17,302 dancers insured
- D. Handicapable Dancers ..... Becker  
Square dancers went to a handicap group in Shreveport and did a little square dancing with them and they loved it. Want them to come again. Remember that anyone can teach some basic square dancing.
- E. Youth Advisor ..... Reedy

Tell students not to wait till the February deadline to submit scholarship applications. Start early and put some real thought into it and do a good, complete application. We did not present a youth scholarship this year. Last year it was increased to \$2,500 and one scholarship per year. But the one scholarship we received this year



was incomplete because it was done at the last minute and did not include the items that it needed to have with it. Hopefully next year. Seniors in high school and freshmen in college should apply.

F. Ways and Means ..... Rock  
Tony and Diane Rock are retiring from USDA after 10 years on the board. There are hats, fleece and shirts for sale at the table or online.

G. Centennial Award ..... Dunkel  
Awards were given to people who are 100 years old and still active with square dancing in Michigan, Georgia and Oregon since the last report and there will be another one in July. Honorary centennial award pin was given to Jim Maczko.

H. USDA NEWS ..... Dunkel  
Retiring after 11 years as editor

I. Education and Publications ..... Bradshaw  
New tri-folds that are available on the website

J. USA/USDA Traveler ..... Robey  
It's fun and easy....get signature from your home state, a few neighboring states, and of course Alabama today and you've got a good start. Forms are available on the website.

K. After Party..... McCall

L. Showcase of Ideas ..... Weber

M. ARTS ..... Willis

N. USDA 501 (c) 3 Group Exemption..... Maczko/Inglis  
Can do 501c3 for your club through USDA without dealing with the IRS directly. It helps to have this status when asking for donations from businesses for festivals, etc. If your club has been filing form 990N there should be no problem. But if you haven't then you might have been voided in 2010 and don't have an EIN anymore. Need to call IRS customer service phone number, choose option 2 then 4 for fixing it.

O. Webmaster ..... Wheeler  
Be sure to "like" the USDA facebook page. They check it 4 times a day

P. Social Media ..... McCall/Abramson

Q. Online Education & Webinars ..... Abramson  
There is a seminar the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of the each month. Check link on website for more info and to get email reminder

R. Proposed Budget 2024 ..... Taylor  
The proposed budget for 2024 was in the delegate packet. Oregon motioned and Illinois 2<sup>nd</sup> to accept the budget. Motion passed.

12. Delegate Discussion: 3-2-1  
} Three things you plan to share with your Affiliate  
} Two new things you learned today  
} One question you still have

13. Unfinished Business:

- A. Education Seminars – Mobile, Alabama  
i. Insurance ..... Sanders  
ii. Roundtable ..... Krebsbach  
iii. Tool Kit for Club Leaders ..... Rock  
iv. 501(C)3 ..... Maczko/Inglis  
B. CALLERLAB, April 24-26, 2023 – Sparks, NV Report. .... Abramson  
C. ROUNDALAB, June 15-19, 2023 – Springfield, MO ..... Taylor  
D. ARTS Meeting: Sunday, June 25, 2023 ..... Willis

14. New Business:

- A. Election of Officers ..... Maczko  
i. Voting Procedures / Ballots  
ii. Election Procedures  
Motion, seconded, and passed to accept slate of officers as presented.  
President...Ellery & Karen Gulbrand; Eastern Region VP... open position; Central Region VP...Scott :& Sandy Ebright; Plains Region VP...Mark & Bina Krebsbach; Western Region VP...Nina Grigsby; Secretary...Edythe Weber; Treasurer...Jim & Judy Taylor

B. Other New Business .....

15. Installation of 2023-2024 USDA Officers ..... Maczko  
16. USDA Service Awards ..... Maczko  
5, 10, & 30 years awards presented  
17. Recognition of 2022-2023 Executive Committee ..... Krebsbach  
Thank you certificates given to each board member for service of up to 30 years. Also to Jim Maczko for 42 years of service...founder of USDA organization  
18. Adjournment ..... Krebsbach  
2:45pm

Submitted by:  
Greg & (Mary Ann) Morford  
ND Delegate to USDA Annual Board of Directors Meeting



## 2024 Festival Report

The 70th ND State Square and Round Dance Festival is being held in Grand Forks on April 26th and 27th. The featured caller is Dan Sahlstrom, Bernadette McNeil is the featured cuer for round and line dancing. The festival is hosted by Valley Stars.

There were 59 pre-registered dancers; by the end of Friday night, there were 81 dancers.

Six states were represented by dancers along with 16 dancers from Canada.

Dan Sahlstrom is presenting a caller's workshop on Saturday morning. The workshop is open to anyone interested in calling.