

Metro Atlanta Square Dance Association

Volume 70 Issue 5

FOOTNOTES

May 2025



MEMORIAL DAY

REMEMBER AND HONOR

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

President's Note

MASDA has a wonderful opportunity to show off our favorite pastime – **square dancing**, of course. We have been invited to perform a demo session at the **Blue Jeans, BBQ, and Blueprints Festival (the BBB Festival)** which supports the **Habitat for Humanity Dekalb**, in Tucker, Georgia, on **April 26, 2025**, from **12:45 – 1:30**. Our square dance demonstration will be about 20-30 minutes with **Randy Ramsey** calling for us.

Please consider donating a couple of hours of your time, including your travel time, to square dance with dancers from other parts of the metro Atlanta area. A group of homeschool square dancers, and others are coming from the Gainesville area, at least a square of dancers from Hotlanta Squares, and some dancers from KSD and Paulding Squares are all coming together to dance. But we need more of you to come as well. You are welcome to **wear casual or square dance attire**. The area where you will dance is on pavement in front of the stage. There is plenty of parking at the **Main Street Church, located at 2380 4th Street**, in Tucker. See the flyer below.

Square dancing clubs are always looking to promote and teach new dancers. It is important that we continue to do such demos and share our craft with others to keep this great activity going strong. I have been promoting this opportunity to share our passion since February, and I am really hoping our MASDA dancers and other Georgia dancers will show up to square dance, letting the promoter, David Mitchell, see the “one hundred dancers” he wanted to be there. Thank you for all you do for square dancing. Julie Jarrett, Co-President, MASDA

And from Bill: Glad you were able to join us at the March 23rd MASDA Dance despite the weather. Charlie, Shawn, and Aneesa provided all the fun, as we knew would be the case. Our next **MASDA Dance** is **May 18th** with **Alan Hall** and **Sandra Hirschler**. See the flyer below. Also see the flyer for **Shawn Butler's Dancer Appreciation Night** on **May 2nd**.

Hope to see you in a Square!

Bill & Julie

May

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

UPCOMING MASDA DANCES

All Dances are Sunday 2:00-5:00pm

May 18th Alan Hall

July 23rd Dan Mitchell & Randy Ramsey

FOOTNOTES ads are due by the 15th of every month. Delivered by email, Independents and Non-Dancers may receive a copy by sending an email address to Karen Mann at kjmann1@att.net.

June

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					



JAZZ WCLK
Clark Atlanta University
91.9



JAZZ WCLK
Clark Atlanta University
91.9



BLUE JEANS, BBQ, AND BLUEPRINTS FESTIVAL

PRESENTED BY



2380 4th Street Tucker, Ga

Saturday, April 26, 2025
12PM-5PM

**Bring your lawn
chairs, family
and friends!**



Join us as we honor volunteers, connect with the community,
showcase talent, explore vendors, and build playhouses at
this **FREE** event.

Area High School Drumline Competition

Lou Walker Dance Troupe

FEATURED PERFORMERS

Metro Atlanta Square Dance Association

South Gwinnett All-Stars Jazz Band

Al Smith Jam Session



DFMI | DeKalb County Human Services Department
D2GM | Palace Restoration & Gutters | MVP Walk-In
Marshall Jones | ATI Restoration | Kelley Contractors
Shallowford Presbyterian Church

www.dekalbhabitat.org



Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority-Lambda Epsilon
Omega Chapter | Main Street Church in Tucker |
Children's Hospital of Atlanta |
New Bethel AME Church Lithonia

MASDA Proudly Presents



The Amazing *ALAN HALL*

Come dance to one of the world's
most entertaining and fun callers.



Sunday, May 18

2 – 2:45 p.m. – Advanced

3 – 5 p.m. – Mainstream, Plus, and Rounds

Admission: Free for MASDA members; \$10 for visitors



**And on rounds ... the sensational
*SANDRA HIRSCHLER***

**Mountain View Community Center
3400 Sandy Plains Road
Marietta, Georgia**

Editor's Note

Three years ago, **Pete Risse**, MASDA Historian and former Footnotes Editor, agreed that the time had come to transition Footnotes from paper to digital format. Pete has a copy of every paper issue ever published over the 34 years that he was Footnotes Editor. As Historian, Pete still prints a copy of Footnotes and stores it with the huge library.

As it turns out, being Footnotes Editor is not the only thing that Pete has done with extreme tenure in his life. Oh, yes, 45 years of square and round dancing are hugely important. But the most important thing in Pete's life has clearly been his work at Georgia Power. Please see the article below from the *front page* of the AJC on March 28, 2025. How amazing is this?!

Please congratulate Pete on his upcoming retirement and his 90th birthday!

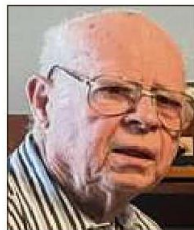
The Atlanta Journal-Constitution

The Substance and Soul of the South • Friday, March 28, 2025 • Atlanta, GA • AJC.com • \$2.00

Georgia Power's 'Mr. Network' to retire after 70 years as engineer

Company to name Atlanta building after longtime employee.

By **Jeremy Redmon**
jredmon@ajc.com



Pete Risse says of retirement, "I still feel like I want to do some more stuff down there."

When Pete Risse began working for Georgia Power, Dwight D. Eisenhower was in the White House. Elvis Presley was on his way to international fame. And the Civil Rights Movement was underway.

The Beatles had not yet formed. The United States had not yet launched an astronaut into space.

Spider-Man's comic book debut was still years away.

Since starting his job in 1955, Risse has helped keep the lights on for millions of people across Georgia. An electrical engineer, he made many of his contributions underground, out of public sight, where he helped plan,

design and maintain Georgia Power's networks.

Seventy years later, "Mr. Network" is retiring as a principal engineer for the utility. Most people don't hold the same job that long. Many don't live that long. Today, Georgia Power will honor the Georgia Tech grad by naming one of its buildings in Atlanta after him.

The secret to his longevity at work and in life? Pursuing his passion. Eating healthily. And square dancing for 45 years.

A widower with two children, two grandchildren and three great-grandchildren, Risse will turn 90 next month. Mentally, he said, he is ready for more work, but his body is sending him a different signal. He quit square dancing two years ago when he could not keep up with the tempo.

This is the front-page portion of the article, with just a bit of editing. Please see the very last page of Footnotes to see the second page with Pete's wonderful story!

FREE FRIDAY with SHAWN

*****Dancer Appreciation Night*****

May 2, 2025 (7 – 9 p.m.)



Get ready for two hours of non-stop square dancing with a variety of infectious music and a little something for all.

- **Mainstream**
- **Plus**
- **Regular paced**
- **Slower paced**
- **🔥 Hot hash 🔥**
- **Progressive squares**

I want to thank YOU!



Admission: Nothing *except* ... your energy and enthusiasm

**Mountain View Community Center
3400 Sandy Plains Road
Marietta, Georgia**

PAULDING PIONEERS

April 8



**Easter Bunny Dance
SPRING HAM RAFFLE**



**Date
Change:
April 29!**



**National Baseball Dance
50/50 HONEY POT**

Food table opens
after the first tip

7:30-9:30 PM--dance

**CALLER: JOHN NORRIS
LINES: MELBA TRAPP**

**The Events Place
855 Hiram Douglasville Hwy (Hwy 92)
Hiram, GA**

pauldingpioneers@gmail.com



Spring Sashay

**GA State Square
Dance Assoc.**

Admission: \$10.00 pp
Youth 18 yrs & younger - Free



Saturday, May 31, 2025

**Saturday Workshops and Dancing
Rounds 10AM – 11:30AM**

Lunch 11:30AM-1PM

Workshops 1P-5PM

Dinner 5PM-7PM

Dance 7PM-10PM



Tony Oxendine
Guest Caller



Diane Martin-Hamilton
Guest Cues / Lines



Square Dancing 2nd & 4th Saturdays 7:00 – 9:00 PM

Mainstream w/Announced Plus – Lines (See Line Dance Dates)

Always check our Web Site for Dance Status before Visiting

May 10th – Sock Hop Dance

Caller: Troy Grooms

Lines: Randy Bradberry



May 24th – DARK – No Dance – Happy Memorial Day

June 14th – Flag Day Dance

Caller: Troy Grooms

Lines: Randy Bradberry



Caller:
Troy Grooms

Lines:
Randy & Debbie Bradberry

Visitors: \$7 Per Person

Square Dance Lessons

CLUB	LESSONS	CONTACT	PHONE	START
Silver Stars	Beginner	Jon Martin	770-736-0810	Call

Contacts: Troy and Annette Grooms
770 271-1771

Bethesda Park Senior Center
225 Bethesda Church Rd SW
Next to Ronald Reagan Pkwy
Lawrenceville, GA

www.SilverStarsSquareDance.com





Woodstock Squares

Auction Dance

Dinner 1

Crowd Pleasing
Tasty Lasagna
Salad
Garlic Bread
Cherry Pie
Banana Pudding

Friday, May 9th

Dance 7-9

Caller – Shawn Butler

More dinner details at Auction

Dinner 2

Smoked Brisket
Loaded creamed
Potatoes
Grilled
Broccolini
Coconut Cake
Chocolate
Meringue Pie

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church
2922 Sandy Plains Road
Marietta, GA 30066

FREE DANCE

May-25

♠ Kennesaw Square Dealers



Square Dance Club
www.squaredealers.com



May 2nd:

Dance cancelled

May 16th:

Regular Dance

May 30th:

Memorial Day Dance



KSD June Preview:

June 2nd:

Regular Dance

June 20th: KSD 51st

Anniversary Dance

with Dave and

Michele Vieira!



♠ Mainstream/Plus/Rounds 1, 3, 5 Fridays 7:00-9:00pm



Caller: Shawn Butler Cuer: Aneesa Barge

Ben Robertson Community Center at 2753 Watts Drive, Kennesaw, GA

Please verify dances on www.facebook.com/KSDclub



Square dance attire optional
Presidents Bill & Julie Jarrett 770-354-5968



Join Hotlanta Squares for a fun late -spring evening with a perennial favorite caller of dancers who attend state conventions.



Guest Caller Alan Hall

From Ringgold, GA

Calling levels through A2

HOTLANTA
SQUARES

Saturday, May 17

7-9:30

\$8 for HS members,
\$10 for guests

Mason Mill
Rec Center

formerly the Life Enrichment Center

1340- B McConnell Drive
Decatur

[Visit hotlantasquares.org/events](http://hotlantasquares.org/events)

PAULDING PIONEERS

May 13

**Mother's Day Dance
PLANT RAFFLE**



May 27

**Memorial Day Dance
50/50 HONEY POT**



Food table opens
after the first tip

7:30-9:30 PM--dance

**CALLER: JOHN NORRIS
LINES: MELBA TRAPP**

The Events Place

855 Hiram Douglasville Hwy (Hwy 92)

Hiram, GA

pauldingpioneers@gmail.com



WHEEL AROUNDS

Mountain View Community Center
3400 Sandy Plains Road
Marietta, GA 30066

**ALTERNATING
MAINSTREAM, PLUS, and
ROUNDS!
1st & 3rd Saturdays
7:30 to 9:30 P.M.**



Dan Mitchell, Caller

Aneesa Barge, Cuer



May 3rd Cinco de Mayo Dance

May 17th Regular Dance

Sneak Peek....

June 7th Summer Fun Dance



Roll with the Wheels @ www.wheelarounds.com

Guy Lee - 770-693-1336 Pat Goldston - 770-565-2203

"I enjoyed the location, the people, everything out there," the Atlanta-area resident said of his engineering work. "It kind of gets into your blood, more or less, and you just can't let go. It's like a hobby you do. And you get so involved in it that you just can't quit it."

None of this would have been possible had it not been for his mother's courage and some twists of fate at the end of World War II, when they were separated in Germany and their fate was uncertain.

St. Barbara

Barbara Roney told her harrowing story in *The Atlanta Journal and Constitution Magazine* in 1963 amid America's Cold War with the Soviet Union.

Roney's husband, a pharmacist who was drafted into the Germany artillery and deployed to Italy, died from peritonitis near the end of WWII. As the Soviets invaded East Germany, Roney was separated from their only child, Pete.

During the war, Roney worked as a nurse in a German military hospital near the Elbe River. That was about 10 miles from where Pete, then 9 years old, was living on a farm in the care of his grandmother.

"There had been rumors that the enemy was closing in, and we were told to have no fear of the Americans but to try to prevent capture by the Russians," Roney told the magazine. "I was on duty at the hospital when I heard the order at 4 a.m.: 'Evacuate! Enemy troops are coming in.'"

Roney hid in the woods until the sun rose. As she began the journey back to her son, she encountered a group of war refugees. One warned her to turn around, adding he had spotted Pete fleeing with his grandmother.

For five days, Roney traveled at night and slept in deserted barns. She inadvertently strayed into Czechoslovakia, where she

boarded a hospital train and tended to the wounded.

In May of 1945, the Soviets detained her. Roney lost 50 pounds during her monthslong captivity. She heard the Soviets were preparing to send her to work in a coal mine. Roney prayed to St. Barbara, a Christian martyr and the patron saint of artillerymen, like her late husband. Three days later, the Americans freed her. They employed her as a translator in a hospital before smuggling her out of Czechoslovakia inside some wine crates.

Roney appealed to the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency for help finding her son and obtained a pass to reenter Soviet-occupied territory. Finally, after more than two years, she reunited with her son.

Pete Risse still remembers his mother's bravery and their emotional reunion in a railway station.

"She was determined to get me out of East Germany," he said. "If she had not gotten me out, I would not be here today."

By then, his mother had fallen in love with a "sandy-haired, soft-spoken" American soldier. She married Sgt. Maj. Raymond Roney of Big Sandy, Tennessee. She took Roney's family name and later changed her first name, Gertrud, to Barbara in honor of the saint. Raymond Roney adopted Pete. In 1948, the trio started a new life together in the United States, eventually settling in the Atlanta area.

Raymond Roney passed away in 1968. Barbara Roney survived him by 21 years.

Keeping time

Risse started working in Georgia Power's transformer repair shop, while he was studying for his electrical engineering degree at Georgia Tech. Next, he created distribution maps for the utility. Finally, he went to work in the company's electrical network section, where he remained for the rest of his career.

"He has always been one of those dedicated engineers who was not afraid to go out and go into the manholes and go into

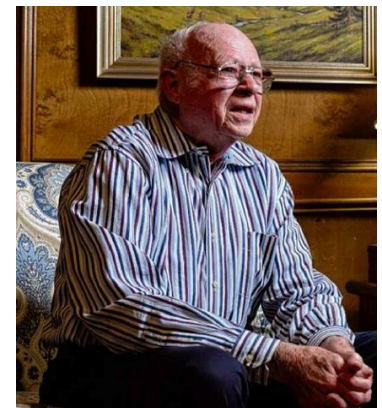
the vaults and render his assistance," said Willie Martin Jr., a technical training instructor for Georgia Power. "He has definitely left his mark on the underground network system."

A widower with two children, two grandchildren and three great-grandchildren, Risse will turn 90 next month. Mentally, he said, he is ready for more work, but his body is sending him a different signal. He quit square dancing two years ago when he could not keep up with the tempo.

"I still feel like I want to do some more stuff down there," he said of his job at Georgia Power. "But my body is telling me I need to quit."

A recent visit to his modest DeKalb County home revealed he will have plenty of things to keep him busy in retirement. One room features a display of radio receivers he built by hand. Occasionally, he listens for signals with them. A woodworker, he built the desk upon which he displays his handiwork. Across from that desk sits a station where he repairs watches.

And situated throughout his home are eight old-fashioned windup clocks he painstakingly maintains. His home hums with their ticktocks. Their rhythmic sound simultaneously ties him to the present and the past. He explained that he learned clock repair from an uncle in Stuttgart after his mother rescued him in the aftermath of WWII.



Dance
As though no one
is
watching you!

MASDA MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL / CHANGE OF ADDRESS

MASDA Annual Membership is \$25.00 per person,
which includes all MASDA dances January – December and
annual insurance coverage with United Square Dance Association (USDA).

☐ New Member ☐ Renewal ☐ Change of Address ☐ Change of Email Address

PLEASE PRINT:

MEMBER(S): _____
LAST NAME FIRST NAME(S)

PRESENT ADDRESS: _____
STREET CITY ZIPCODE

OLD ADDRESS: _____
STREET CITY ZIPCODE

PRESENT EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

PRIMARY PHONE: _____

DANCE CLUB(S): _____

Mail this form and check payable to MASDA to:

Mike & Marcia Massey
1606 Brentwood Dr.
Marietta, GA 30062

\$25 Per Person



2025 MASDA OFFICERS

PRESIDENT:	Bill & Julie Jarrett - 1129 Fairwood Close NW, Acworth, GA 30301 770-361-3711 (Bill); 770-354-5968 (Julie) - Kennesaw Square Dealers
1ST VICE PRESIDENT:	Bob & Marilyn Mintz – 1297 Arden Drive, Marietta, GA 30008 770-428-8730 – Kennesaw Square Dealers
2ND VICE PRESIDENT AND HISTORIAN:	Pete Risse - 3726 Toxaway Court, Atlanta, GA 30341 770-491-0646 – Diamond Turns
SECRETARY & WEB MASTER:	Mike & Marcia Massey - 1606 Brentwood Drive, Marietta, GA 30062 770-361-3765 (Mike); 678-361-0867 (Marcia) - Kennesaw Square Dealers
TREASURER AND INSURANCE CHAIR:	Pat Inglis – 9133 Creekside Trail, Stone Mountain, GA 30087 404-932-5512 – Danc'n Singles
FOOTNOTES EDITOR:	Karen Mann – 3520 Valley Hill Rd NW, Kennesaw, GA 30152 770-655-0772 – Kennesaw Square Dealers
REPRESENTATIVES AT LARGE:	Darline Barge – 770-617-1211 – Danc'n Singles Pat Goldston – 770-565-2203 – Wheel Arounds Midge Johnson – 770-785-7845 – Lads & Lassies Linda Robinson – 404-273-5974 – Silver Stars



MASDA CLUB INDEX

CLUB	PHONE	LEVEL	DANCES
Bartow Dixie Grands	770-386-4437	M/P	M 135
Cherokee Promenaders	706-266-7284	M/P/L	Th E
Dance 'n' Squares *	770-714-4035	M/P	F E
Danc'n Singles	404-932-5512	M/P/R	S 2
Diamond Turns	770-265-5001	R 2-5	Th E
Hotlanta Squares	Hotlanta.Squares@gmail.com	M/P/A/C	Various
Kennesaw Square Dealers	770-354-5968	M/P/R	F 135
Lads 'n' Lassies	770-351-7755	M/P	S 13
MASDA	770-361-3711	M/P/R	Various
Matrix South	678-772-9047	A/C	Su E
Paulding Pioneers	214-729-2110	M/P	Tu 24
Silver Stars	678-682-8554	M/P/R	S 24
Western Promenaders	706-409-2311	M/P	S 2345
Wheel Arounds	770-693-1336	M/P/R	S 13
Woodstock Squares	404-408-3180	M/P	F 24

LEGEND

LEVEL		DANCES	
A	Advanced	E	Every
C	Challenge	13	1st & 3rd
M	Mainstream	135	1st, 3rd, 5th
P	Plus	24	2nd & 4th
R	Rounds	234	2nd, 3rd, 4th
*	Active Seniors 55+	2345	2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th

This month's cover was created by Edyie Hawthorne. Edyie and Wayne dance with Kennesaw Square Dealers and Bartow Dixie Grands. Thank you, Edyie, for continued support with these wonderful colorful covers!