



Mountain Dew-ers News December 2023

December in the Upper Clearwater Valley brings short days, snow, colder temperatures, and loads of fun activities. The days may be shorter, but the nights are lit up with festive decorations. Did you make time for a horse-drawn wagon ride with Steve and Janelle on Dec 2nd? Visit the craft show in Orofino with pottery maker Lynn Montgomery? Attend the play “The Princess Bride” (Dec 1st, 2nd, 3rd) starring Garrett Pogue? Enjoy Christmas music provided by Valley Singers and Ringers (Dec 3rd and Dec 10th) with Janessa Pogue? And don’t forget December dance activities.... waltz, mainstream, and plus lessons continue during the weeks of Dec 4th and 11th. The “Christmas Cookie” club dance is on Saturday Dec 9th at Kamiah Elementary School. You bring your favorite Christmas cookies, and we’ll bring the milk.

I hope each of you had a wonderful Thanksgiving. Our travels took us to Panama and back. Every night there was dancing with people from all over the world, but no square dancing. We missed the square dancing. There’s something unique and very special about the smiling faces and laughter that happens during a square dance tip.



Christmas is a time to give a special gift and be grateful for gifts received. Have you ever considered gifting a set of square dance lessons as a Christmas present? Square dancers have unique ways of gifting. They assist new dancers in their journey to master square dance calls; and they work hard to raise funds to keep square dance organizations going. Money sometimes gets gifted from one square dance organization to another. In Jan 2018 the Mountain Dew-ers received a \$766 gift from the Area 2 Callers and Cuers Association. In Feb 2021 the Mountain Dew-ers received a \$500 gift from the Palouse Promenaders. These gifts kept the cost to square dance with the Mountain Dew-ers below the cost to dance with other clubs.

The largest gift, \$2,713.88, came from former square dancers/clubs who belonged to the AREA II Lewis & Clark Square & Round Dance Association. This gift is similar to receiving money for a designated purpose from a “rich uncle”. This gift is being used to partially fund the **2024 Idaho State Square and Round Dance Festival June 13, 14, and 15 in Kamiah**. Because of this gift, local square dancers have the opportunity to dance to a national caller without having to travel. Registration forms are available at <http://www.idahosquaredancing.com/state-festival.html> or at any Mountain Dew-ers’ dance activity.

There are 31 Mountain Dew-ers signed up for insurance for the 2024 dance year. The cost of dues including insurance is \$10 and should be paid soon if you want to receive discounts on the advertised suggested donation for regular club dances and dancer insurance for 2024.



We appreciate those of you who are “Dancing with the Dew-ers” on a regular basis.

Current schedules for lessons and dances are available at <https://mountaindewers.weebly.com>.

Merry Christmas ----