

Mountain Dew-ers News November 2023



There's a lot to be grateful for in the Mountain Dew-ers square dance community – weekly opportunity for physical and mental exercise; good friends and tasty treats at every activity. Garden produce and ever-bearing plant starts for next year's strawberry patch have also been shared at lessons and regular club dances.



The 6-square turnout for our April Spring Fling Plus and Mainstream dances, plus the income from the birdhouse auction and raffle, made it possible to hold **several free dances this year**– no donations were collected at the June or July dances at the Kooskia Park. Admission to the October 14th dance was a gift from a former Area 2 square dance club, and the October 28th dance was free for dancers who paid their Mountain Dew-ers' membership dues that evening.

Keeping a square dance club and its individual dancers insured is **important**; it can also be cumbersome, complicated, and occasionally more than a little bit confusing. Square dance clubs in Idaho buy insurance through United Square Dancers of America. Insurance coverage runs from Jan 1st - Dec 31st. Mountain Dew-ers' membership dues are \$10, which includes \$5.50 for individual dancer insurance. Here's how it works:

- * Club Membership dues are collected in October and November.
- * A club representative enters the insured names and dance locations into the USDA insurance portal.
- * The club treasurer sends a check for insurance to the State Insurance Chairman.
- * The State Insurance Chairman compiles information for all of Idaho and sends a check to the National Insurance Coordinator. *Latest word from Elizabeth, our National Insurance Coordinator. "Let's do our best to be timely." "Timely" means that the Mountain Dew-ers' check for 2024 insurance gets to the State Insurance Chairman by Dec 1st and the check from the State Federation reaches the USDA before Jan 1st.*



Thank you for paying your Mountain Dew-ers membership dues by November 11th.

In addition to insurance coverage, Mountain Dew-ers members also receive a discount on the advertised suggested donation for regular club dances.

A canned food drive is planned for the Gratitude Dance on November 11th. Suggested donation is \$7 per person or 7 cans of food or any combination thereof. Food collected at this event will be donated to the Food Bank preparing Thanksgiving take out meals and distributing Christmas food baskets in the local community.

The 2024 Idaho State Square and Round Dance Festival is June 13, 14, and 15 in Kamiah. The least expensive State Festival you will ever attend is the one in your own backyard. Registration forms are available at <http://www.idahosquaredancing.com/state-festival.html> or at any Mountain Dew-ers' dance activity. The "Official" State Festival flyer is printed in color!!

Current schedules for lessons and dances are available at <https://mountaindewers.weebly.com>. We appreciate those of you who are "Dancing with the Dew-ers" on a regular basis. If you have not attended a dance activity this fall, we hope you will join us soon.

Happy Thanksgiving ----