



### WASCA 2026 Post Festival Article

Wow, what a great WASCA disco party!

As the WASCA 2026 Festival Director, my sincerest thanks to the Festival Committee and all volunteers who helped to make the Festival a big success.

I heard directly from many that you enjoyed all the dance and entertainment options including

- Traditional squares
- Clogging
- Hex Squares
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Hand Rose
- Line dancing
- Polyester Tip
- C2 sessions
- Puzzle Tables
- Sewing Panel
- Progressive Squares
- Vendors
- Patriotic Music Hour
- Solo Dangle Dance



*Whoops, did I forget the Black Light Party*

The opening ceremony performance by Grant Moser and Charlie's Angels was quite a treat. It was great to see the future of square dancing in action.

For the 2026 Festival, the Committee focused on ways to ease the overcrowding on the dance floor, and the comments from the 2025 Festival survey. That was the key reason for the community spaces with tables near the Plus and Mainstream halls. We also added lots of chairs along the hall. They were always in use, including during the lunch and dinner breaks. The additional dance spaces in the basement were added to provide a little relief for the larger dance floors.

Thank you to those who completed the 2026 survey. It helps WASCA plan for upcoming festivals. Most of you just wanted more of everything, and of course larger dance spaces. Next year's Festival Committee will be working on your requests.

Some of the initial comments expressed concern about the 2x2 hours, and the use of local callers. Local callers were used for the specialty tips that took place in the smaller rooms, and to replace callers who dropped off the schedule at the last minute. WASCA always has this system in place in case of emergencies. Additionally, many of you signed the card for Mike Sikorsky of Arizona. We hope to see him back on the East Coast soon. Lastly, 2x2's are always on the schedule to support those who want sessions where they can dance both rounds and squares.

### WASCA 2026 By The Numbers

- # of Registrations = 811
  - a. # of Registrations Online = 366
  - b. # of Registrations Mailed = 445
  - c. # of Registration Walk-ins = 33
- Solos = 175
- Youth = 28
- States Represented = 29

Top 10 States	# of attendees
VA	198
MD	179
PA	87
NJ	58
NY	32
MA	29
NC	27
TN	22
OH	21
FL	18

Highest Level of Round Dance	
Ph - 2	23
Ph - 3	48
Ph - 4	90
Ph - 5	25
Ph - 6	58

Highest Level of Square Dance	
M.S.	42
Plus	341
DBD	92
A-2	149
C-1	93

## A huge thank you to all our callers and cuers who entertained us:

### *Our featured callers were:*

Ken Burke, Tennessee  
Jeremy Butler, Virginia  
Bill Harrison, Maryland  
Dayle Hodge, Maryland  
Steve Kopman, Tennessee  
Ken Ritucci, Massachusetts  
Mike Seastrom, California  
Buddy Weaver, California

### *Specialty Tips Callers*

David Hartman, Maryland  
Chris Schlitter, North Carolina  
Janine Smith, Maryland  
Chris Stacy, Virginia

### *Our featured cuers were:*

Sherry & Rey Garza, California  
Randy Lewis & Kathy Baumhardt, Connecticut  
Tammy & Curt Worlock, Florida

### *Line Dance Cueing*

Jennifer Lins, Maryland

### *Clogging*

Jeff Hill & Kerri Musico,  
FoxFire Clogging Dance Team, Virginia

### *Additional Cuers*

Christina Eum, Virginia  
Amy Shotting, Maryland

If you couldn't attend the Festival, or want to venture into some of the dance halls you didn't see, check out this page on the WASCA website:

<https://www.wascaclubs.org/festival/spring-festival-history.php>

For those who took great video and photos, please post your media to the WASCA FaceBook page.

<https://www.facebook.com/wascaclubs/>

Finally, I look forward to working with Maggie Ciotti, the 2027 Festival Director and her Committee. Get your motors running for WASCA's "Revvin' in 2027"!

### WASCA SAVE THE DATE

WASCA 2027 - March 18-20, 2027, DoubleTree Washington Dulles Airport

WASCA 2028 - March 16-18, 2028, DoubleTree Washington Dulles Airport

WASCA 2029 - March 15-17, 2029, DoubleTree Washington Dulles Airport (tentative)

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## *WASCA 2027 "Get Revvin' in 2027"*

Dancing fans start your engines, it's time to get Revving for WASCA 2027. We are at the same hotel, Double Tree by Hilton at Dulles, for the 3rd year and they have warm cookies at check-in! We plan a racing hot time dancing to your favorite callers, cuers, and more.

Callers: Ken Burke  
Bill Harrison  
Eric Henerlau  
Dayle Hodge  
Ted Lizotte  
Ken Ritucci  
Mike Seastrom  
Buddy Weaver

Cuers: Rey and Sherry Garza  
Randy and Marie Preskitt  
Curt and Tammy Worlock

Other Dance Specialists:  
Jennifer Lins (line dancing)  
Jeff Hill (clogging)  
Kerri Musico (clogging)

The 2027 WASCA Festival Committee wants to say a huge THANK YOU to Lisa Alfred, Maggie Ciotti, Steve Cunnion, and the entire 2026 festival committee for a DISCO-tastic "'65 and Staying Alive" festival in 2026. Their innovative specialty tips will long be remembered and difficult to top, but we are going to try.



We are looking at survey results from WASCA 2026 for inspiration and improvements for the 2027 festival. Here are some of the top issues.

1. Room space continues to be an issue at times. We can move some of the specialty tips, but we are making the best use of ALL the space the hotel has to offer. If you see something you really want to participate in, arrive early and get on the dance floor. Always have an alternative dance location in mind - it's all FUN!
2. We see you would like more introductory workshop tips and not just in the morning.
3. Cold dance rooms were a frequent concern. The hotel heating/cooling does not work like your system at home - it takes much longer to adjust. The dance rooms were hot on Wednesday, so we had the hotel make adjustments, then the weather changed and the rooms were too cool. As always, the smart dancer packs some layers to make adjustments for their own comfort.
4. There were many requests for more high energy dancing - we will see what we can do. We know the callers can make it happen!
5. There were requests about specific callers. The calling, cueing, and other dance staff is already approved by the WASCA board for 2027. We will keep your suggestions in mind as we work on the 2028 dance staff.
6. There were many requests related to our younger (but no longer children) dancers. We will be working with the WASCA board with the hope of making some changes.
7. Finally, a big hug for all of you who offered your thanks for the hard work the 2026 festival staff and volunteers did to make this year a pleasure for you!

It's a race to the finish; get your registration and hotel reservation in early to take the checkered flag. WASCA 2025 and 2026 sold out, 800 dancers, and the hotel was fully booked in 2026. Registration and hotel links are already available online

<https://www.wascaclubs.org/index.php>

Check your engines, pick up some speed, race you to the Double Tree by Hilton on March 18 - 20, 2027 for WASCA's "Revvin in 2027" Festival.