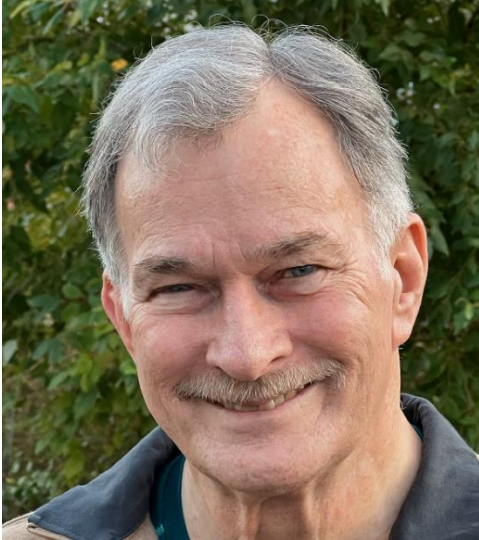


## RICK HAWES



Rick Hawes is the longest attending member of Rosetown Ramblers as well as Heads to the Center. Rick has been dancing for 40 years, all but 6 months of the Ramblers' existence. Rick has served in many roles for both clubs and has recently taken on the task of learning to call as well as teaching lessons.

Rick's skill set is largely organizational and has been active in the International Association of Gay Square Dance Clubs (IAGSDC). Rick served as Chair of the IAGSDC early on. In 2003 he was awarded the Golden Boot, a national version of Oregon's Randall award. He was co-chair of the 1998 IAGSDC Convention in Portland that had over 1,000 attendees and has run two other Conventions in two other states, in Houston and Minneapolis (Houston was cancelled by the pandemic). His skill set has allowed clubs to host conventions in their town with him handling the details. In addition, he ran the Medallion Project for the IAGSDC for many years- giving medallions to dancers attending 10, 20, 25 and 30 years of conventions. To save money, he had the ribbons hand made by various people, giving it a personal touch as well.

At the local level, he is almost always at Heads to the Center and Rambler dances and at Rambler lessons as an angel every year. He has served as president, Caller scheduler, Scares & Squares Dance organizer and many other positions. In 2020 he took on the task of teaching lessons. He was one of the 8 people in 1990 who started Heads to the Center, an Advanced and Challenge level club. To provide quality calling for a local club, he has made it his practice to record sets at square dance events where national callers are calling then put tracks on the recordings to make backtracking easy. Heads to the Center has had the benefits of dancing to national callers on Thursday evenings.

The reason why his fellow dancers are nominating Rick is because although he is very well known for his contributions to Square Dance with IAGSDC, he is largely unknown in his home state. His dedication to this dance form has been instrumental in the continuance of his home club.

## Darrell & Erin Kalmbach



Darrell started Square Dancing in 1965 with the Buzzin' Bees square dance family in Vancouver. He also competitively danced with the Outlaws teen club.

Darrell loved to sing. He saw that the callers he danced to would sing too. He thought "Interesting". That started his calling career calling for the Noble Eights, Hillsboro Hoedowners, Barn Owls, and the Silver Stars.

Erin moved to Oregon in the early 80's. One of her friends at work convinced her to try Square Dancing. She liked it and took up square dancing shortly after.

In 1987 while Darrell was guest calling for Mix and Mingles, he met Erin. That encounter turned out to be a good thing as they married in 1988 and as a result, they have 3 fine boys. During their children's formative years, he formed the "Garage Kids" so that he could teach square dance to his children and their friends. That way he was able to have a dancing family.

Currently, Darrell has a very busy schedule as a caller. With a regular commitment to four local clubs and guest calling throughout the state. In addition to that he hosts the Diamond Cutters plus club and provides lessons for the various clubs. Darrell continues to call and teach young and old enjoying the activity he loves.

Erin has always been the help behind the scenes. With her ever-watchful eye, she will step in to do a job, fix a problem or make sure a single dancer has a partner; all of this without being prompted. Even though she has a quiet demeanor, Erin is one of the first to be welcoming & ensure that the dancers are having a good time.

They both are active in leadership roles with Darrell being a caller advisor for several clubs and Erin being a go-between rep for the PAC & TVC councils keeping both up to date for each other's activities. Darrell & Erin have given their time to the Mid-Winter and Summer Festivals programming the Callers for all the dancing that happens there. They also did this for the 2005 National Square Dance Convention, Washington State festivals, and the Penticton festival in Canada.

In 2008 the Square & Folkdance Federation of Washington awarded Darrell & Erin the Parker Award. In 2022 The Tualatin Valley Council awarded Darrell & Erin their Appreciation Award. Both awards for outstanding contributions to Square Dancing.

Darrell & Erin's long-term commitment to Square Dancing qualifies them as deserving of the Randall Award. Please consider them as the next Randall Award winner.

## LINDA NEUSCHWANDER



Linda Neuschwander has been square dancing for over 72 years, nearly all of them in Oregon. She began dancing with her family at age 4 in the Eugene area. She said, “Back then, there were no lessons, you just jumped in a square and learned on the go!”

Linda attended one of the first Mid-Winter Festivals in 1963 and has not missed a Mid-Winter since! That may very well be a record for most Mid-Winter attendances! In 1964, Linda participated with the Emerald Teens who demonstrated at the Mid-Winter Festival.

In the late 60’s, Linda was dancing with the OSU Promenaders. This is where she met Ralph Lambert, the club caller. In 1967, Linda & Ralph married, moving to Bellevue, WA. They moved back to Oregon around ’72. Throughout the years, Linda has been a member of many clubs and Caller/Cuer organizations in the Oregon Federation.

Linda has held many leadership roles. Her involvement with the Oregon Federation of Square and Round Dance Clubs, included being Membership Chair, Financial Advisor, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President and President (2001-2002).

On a National Level, Linda and Ralph held the Education Chair position for the 1994 National Convention in Portland and the Special Events and Tours committee for the 2005 Convention also in Portland. For many years, Linda represented Oregon for United Square Dance Association (USDA).

Linda assisted Ralph teaching square and round dance lessons from the 60’s through the early 2000’s.

In 2004 Linda received the Scout Award from the independence Wagon Wheelers for her continued service to the club (25 years). She has donated her time and energy to various fundraisers related to square dancing throughout her 70 plus years of dancing.

Linda has been Secretary for the Mid-Winter Festival Committee for over 10 years. Doing so has ensured a continuity with the festival that has been well appreciated.

Currently, Linda regularly attends IWW dances and lessons even though medical problems prohibit her from dancing. She is always willing to lend a helping hand to her fellow dancers; she will often drive dancers to dances who are otherwise unable to attend. She has spent time with fellow dancers at home or in the hospital to keep them company.

Square and round dancing is a permanent part of Linda. And Linda is a permanent part of square and round dancing in the state of Oregon. She loves this community with her whole heart. She has been in front of the scenes, behind the scenes, and everywhere in between.

The square and round dancers of Oregon have benefited from the hard work and passion that Linda Neuschwander has given to our community. It is time that we pay that back by recognizing her with the 2025 Randall Award.

**Clubs:** Independence Wagon Wheelers, Emerald Teens, Friendly Squares, CCCA (Capitol), CCCA (Cascades), Footloose and Fancy, OSU Promenaders, NW Callers Association, ORDTA. Washington: Maltby Teens and the Circle M Squares.

**State Offices:** Membership Chair, Financial Advisor, 2nd Vice President, 1st Vice President, President

**Area Offices:** Emerald Empire Secretary, Treasurer, Delegate

**Club Offices:** Current president to IWW, second time serving in this role, volunteered for nearly all clubs associated with throughout years for various offices.

**Special Committees:** Mid-Winter Festival Secretary,  
1994 National Convention Education Chair  
2005 National Convention Special Events and Tours Committee  
Oregon Representative to the USDA National Square Dance Convention.