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# North Texas Camping Squares Newsletter

[www.northtexascampingsquares.org](http://www.northtexascampingsquares.org)

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## WHAT'S UP...FROM THE PRES!

Greetings!! I want to begin this newsletter with THANKS-giving. As I type this, I am most apprehensive...what in the world have I agreed to do??? Kathie caught me in a vulnerable moment and I, most assuredly, didn't think this whole thing through! SO... We THANK YOU!! ...for your trust and for your grace as we (I) (he's not nearly as nervous as I am) wander through this next year. We have big shoes to fill as Bob & Carley were so good at this and made it look effortless. I assure you, I have found it to be just the opposite!

Our June campout took us back to Athens to Texan RV Park. It was a fun weekend of dancing with Ray and Evelyn Stenger calling squares and providing rounds & line dances between tips. Friday night just happened to be their 50th anniversary and we all helped them celebrate. That same day just happened to be Toby & Judy's 50th and while they weren't with us, we were thinking of them. We wish y'all 50 more!

We had 10 rigs in attendance but lost 1 on Saturday afternoon. Ralph & Pam had an air conditioning issue and headed home after potluck. With the heat and humidity, we had, they lasted a day and a half longer than I would have!

As you might have gathered, a new board of officers were installed at Friday evening's dance. President – Charles & Laura Wright, 1st VP – Terry & Sandy Alderson, 2nd VP – Jack Isdale & Deretha Starnes, Treasurer – Joey & Nikki Barrett, Secretary – Tommy & JoAn Meyer. We welcome each of you to the board meetings and appreciate your thoughts & ideas.

This month, we scheduled our dance on July 16-18 to allow NTCS to follow Toby & Judy to Red River, NM. It will be a great trip and I bet the weather will be much more tolerable than it is here in Texas. For those going, have a wonderful time and safe travels!

In August we dance at Choctaw RV Park, Durant, OK. We will be having an Ice Cream Social on Saturday afternoon so make plans to bring a freezer of your favorite homemade ice cream or toppings to make your favorite sundae. Brush up on your Corn Hole skills too as we will be having a tournament for those wanting to toss a bean bag. The park also has a great pool so don't forget your swimsuit.

Blessings!

Charles & Laura



## The History of America's Independence Day

"Taxation without representation!" was the battle cry in America's 13 Colonies, which were forced to pay taxes to England's King George III despite having no representation in the British Parliament. As dissatisfaction grew, British troops were sent in to quell the early movement toward rebellion. Repeated attempts by the Colonists to resolve the crisis without military conflict proved fruitless.

On June 11, 1776, the Colonies' Second Continental Congress met in Philadelphia and formed a committee whose express purpose was drafting a document that would formally sever their ties with Great Britain. The committee included Thomas Jefferson, Benjamin Franklin, John Adams, Roger Sherman and Robert R. Livingston. Jefferson, who was considered the strongest and most eloquent writer, crafted the original draft document (as seen above). A total of 86 changes were made to his draft and the Continental Congress officially adopted the final version on July 4, 1776.

The following day, copies of the Declaration of Independence were distributed, and on July 6, The Pennsylvania Evening Post became the first newspaper to print the extraordinary document. The Declaration of Independence has since become our nation's most cherished symbol of liberty.

### Bonfires and Illuminations

On July 8, 1776, the first public readings of the Declaration were held in Philadelphia's Independence Square to the ringing of bells and band music. One year later, on July 4, 1777, Philadelphia marked Independence Day by adjourning Congress and celebrating with bonfires, bells and fireworks.

The custom eventually spread to other towns, both large and small, where the day was marked with processions, oratory, picnics, contests, games, military displays and fireworks. Observations throughout the nation became even more common at the end of the War of 1812 with Great Britain.

In June of 1826, Thomas Jefferson sent a letter to Roger C. Weightman, declining an invitation to come to Washington, D.C. to help celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence. It was the last letter that Jefferson, who was gravely ill, ever wrote. In it, Jefferson says of the document:

"May it be to the world, what I believe it will be ... the signal of arousing men to burst the chains ... and to assume the blessings and security of self-government. That form, which we have substituted, restores the free right to the unbounded exercise of reason and freedom of opinion. All eyes are opened, or opening, to the rights of man. ...For ourselves, let the annual return of this day forever refresh our recollections of these rights, and an undiminished devotion to them."

- Thomas Jefferson - June 24, 1826 Monticello

Congress established Independence Day as a holiday in 1870, and in 1938 Congress reaffirmed it as a paid holiday for federal employees. Today, communities across the nation mark this major midsummer holiday with parades, firework displays, picnics and performances of "The Star-Spangled Banner" and marches by John Philip Sousa.

## 2018 Calendar of Events

July 16-18

Community Center  
Red River, NM

August 10-11

Choctaw Casino RV Park  
Durant, OK

September 21-22 – TSCS (HOT)

American RV  
Corsicana

October 12-13

American RV  
Corsicana

November 9-10 – 49<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dance

Destiny RV Resort  
Denton

December 9 – NO DANCE

Christmas Party

## 2019 Calendar of Events

January 11-12

American RV  
Corsicana

February 8-9

Bedrock RV Park  
Grand Saline

March 15-16 – TSCS

Oakdale RV  
Glen Rose

April 12-13

NT Airstream  
Hillsboro

May 10-11

Coffee Creek  
Santo

## Happy Birthday

Kathie Malone – 6<sup>th</sup>

Ralph Seeley – 13<sup>th</sup>

Sue Brown – 14<sup>th</sup>

Lavon Means – 22<sup>nd</sup>

Sue Prather – 31<sup>st</sup>



## Happy Anniversary

Bob & Carly Tassan - 4<sup>th</sup>

Lonnie & Butch Lonidier - 10<sup>th</sup>

Ralph & Pam Seeley - 26<sup>th</sup>

Joey & Nikki Barrett - 30<sup>th</sup>

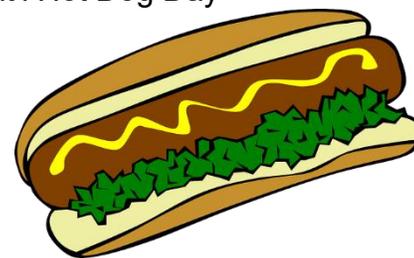


Important Dates to Remember in  
July

4<sup>th</sup> – Independence Day

15<sup>th</sup> – Nat'l Ice Cream Day

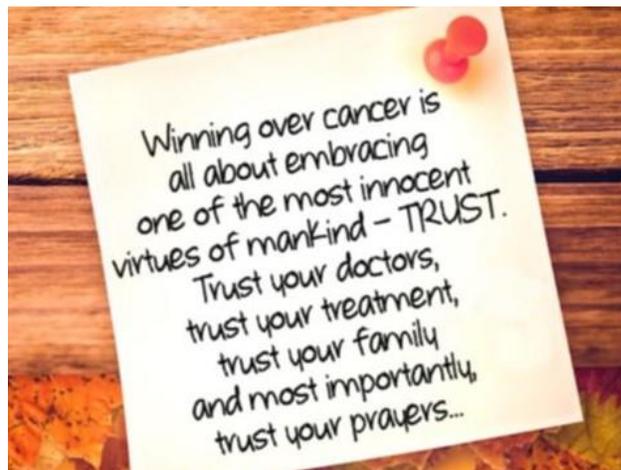
18<sup>th</sup> – Nat'l Hot Dog Day



Don't know about you, but these  
are two of my favorite foods!!

# Sunshine Corner

- I have talked with Paul Roderick and he has informed me that Sandra's cancer is back. Sandra has chosen not to take chemo or radiation. Sandra and Paul moved into a retirement community several years ago and retired from square dancing at the same time. They have lots of friends in the community to help them through this trying time plus their sons live close by also. Sandra, you are so loved. Don't ever forget that. You do not have to go through anything alone. We are praying for you in many ways - praying for healing, peace, comfort, and encouragement.



- Bill McDonell and Cheryl got a "new truck". It is a 4X4, so he had to have his trailer raised 4" so the back of the trailer wouldn't drag on the ground when he was hooked up!! Looks good!!

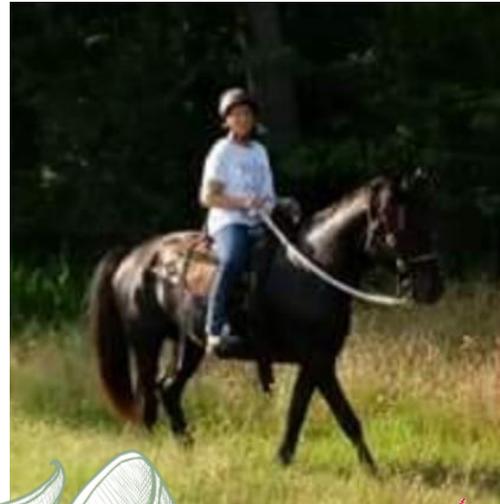


- We were at Lake Texoma with my brother and sister-in-law the week after Memorial Day and here is a picture of the only fish that was caught (caught by my brother, but we made him throw it back in to grow a little). We had a great time zooming around the lake in our new pontoon boat. The lake water temperature was about 78° - just right for cooling off in!! There are a couple of Corps parks - Juniper East and West off Hwy 377 that are near our cabin up there, so bring your camper up and we'll take you for a spin on the lake!!
- Sandy and Terry Alderson have a "tale" about going home from the Athens campout. "The members of this club have become "Family" to Sandy and me. One great example happened on our way home from Athens last week. We were driving along Hwy 175 when the tread on a trailer tire came loose and tore up some of the underside of the RV. We called roadside assistance and were parked on the side of the road pretty comfortably with the truck AC on. After a short while, Joey and Nikki Barrett passed us on their way home. A few minutes

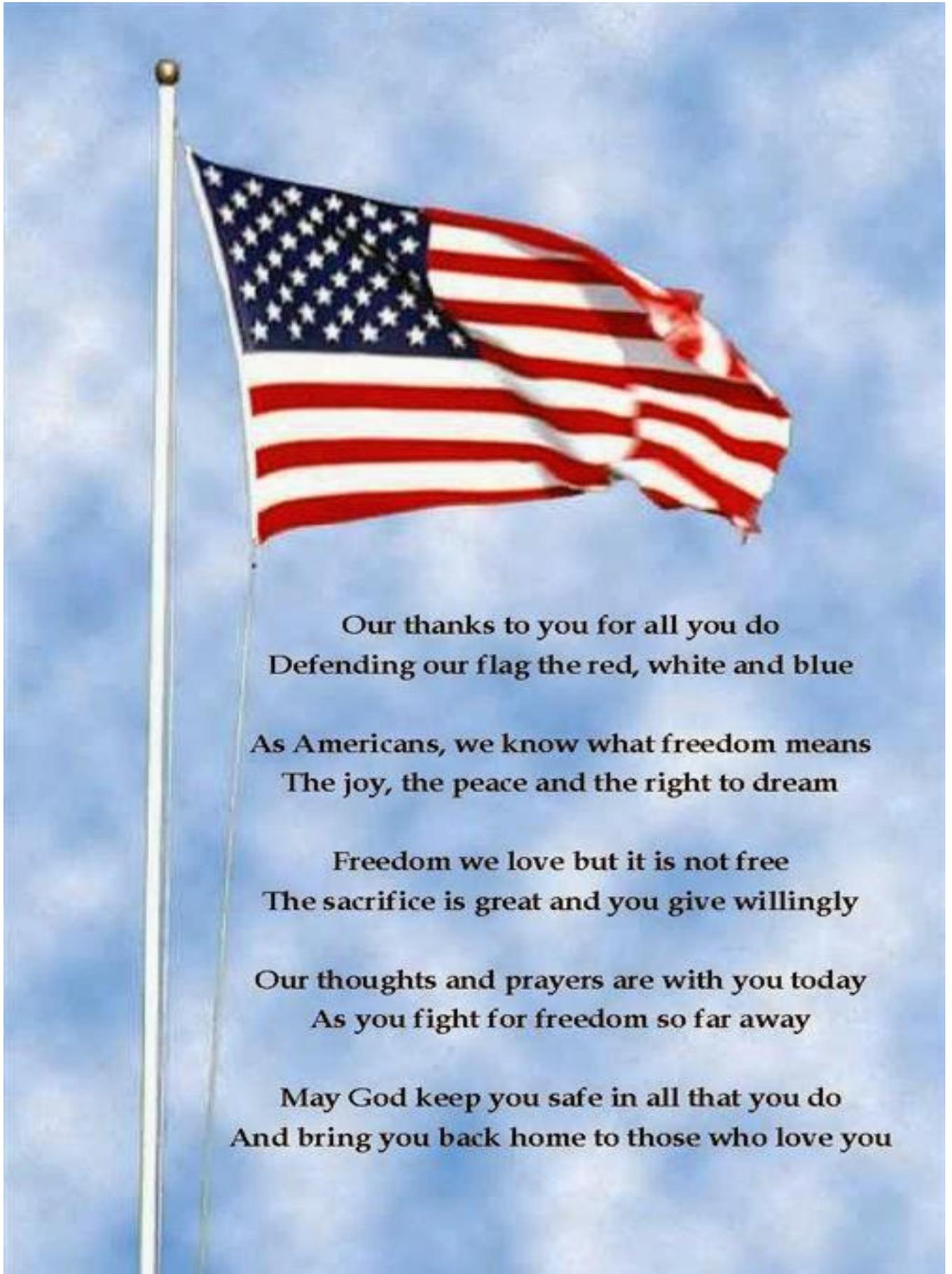


later, our phone rang and it was Nikki. She asked if that was us on the side of the road and we told her what happened. She asked if we needed help and we said all is good and we were waiting on the roadside assistance. She said OK and ended our conversation. A few minutes later she called back and said they were turning around in case we needed anything. We told them no go on home we will be fine, but she and Joey insisted and did turn around. We joined them in their truck and had a great visit, learning more about them and just enjoyed conversation and even some pictures on their phone. They stayed until the guy came to change the tire. THANK YOU, NIKKI AND JOEY AND TO OUR ENTIRE NORTH TEXAS CAMPING SQUARES FAMILY. WE LOVE YOU GUYS."

- Sandy Alderson went to a Bible study/horse clinic the first of June. Here's Sandy's account of the clinic. "The study was 'Faith over Fear' and I needed it for the horse part! It was great, but I had to get way out of my comfort zone."



Saturday, June 30, Bruce and I returned home around noon time to an A/C making a great deal of noise when the fan would try to run. We finally got someone to come out to look at it around 2:00 p.m. and ended up buying a whole new unit (inside and out). The crew showed up at 6:00 p.m. and left at 11:00 p.m. with our house cooling down nicely. (It only got up to 89 in the house!!) We were glad when we went to bed after midnight that the house was pretty much "back to normal" temperature.



Our thanks to you for all you do  
Defending our flag the red, white and blue

As Americans, we know what freedom means  
The joy, the peace and the right to dream

Freedom we love but it is not free  
The sacrifice is great and you give willingly

Our thoughts and prayers are with you today  
As you fight for freedom so far away

May God keep you safe in all that you do  
And bring you back home to those who love you



## RECIPES FROM ATHENS CAMPOUT

### Black Eyed Pea Salad

Debi Blagg

1 - 2 Cans Black Eyed Peas, Drained  
 1 Can Whole Kernel Corn, Drained  
 4 Fresh Roma Tomatoes, diced (Can use grape and cut in half)  
 Chopped Cilantro to your taste (I use about 1/2 cup)  
 1/2 Cup Finely Diced Purple Onion (or more to taste)  
 1 - 2 Mild Jalapeno Peppers Finely Diced  
 2 Dashes Red Wine Vinegar  
 2 Dashes Oil (Vegetable/Canola/Olive)  
 2 - 4 T Italian Dressing (I use Olive Garden but you can use Vidalia also)  
 1 - 2 Packets Sweetener (I use Truvia)  
 Salt/Pepper if you like  
 Mix all together and let set for a few hours before serving. Can also be used as a dip with Scoops or Large Fritos.  
 You can also add Diced Cucumber, Diced Green Pepper, Diced Sweet Peppers - whatever your taste buds call for.

### Tomato, Avocado and Mozzarella Salad

Pam Seeley

Tomatoes  
 Avocados  
 Mozzarella cheese  
 Vadalia Onion Salad Dressing  
 Cut first three ingredients in chunks. Pour dressing over. Enjoy!

### **NEWSLETTER EDITOR'S COMMENT REGARDING PAM SEELEY'S RECIPE.**

I didn't ask Pam for her recipe, but I went home and tried to make it. I used 2 'grown on the vine' regular size tomatoes - seeds and juice; two avocados; and about 6 ounces of Moz. Cheese. Poured the dressing on and we had it with dinner. We had a little left, so I put it in the fridge (waste not-want not). It was good the next day, but the avocados that were sticking out of the dressing, had turned a little brown (but didn't bother us). I added too much dressing the first time and the left overs were swimming in it! But it was good!!! So, experiment or call Pam!

## July 16-18 - Campout Information

JUST COME DANCE!

#getyourbootytotheredrivercommunityhousetosquaredance!

The Historic Red River Community House invites you to join

[Toby & Judy Thomason](#)

[Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, July 16, 17, 18](#)

at the Square Dance Festival.

Each day from 10 am - Noon, Toby will be "teaching" Beginner, Mainstream & Plus Lessons. You are encouraged to come and be Angels/learners.

Each evening from 7 pm - 9:00 pm, there is lots of Square Dancing, Line Dancing, Two-Steppin' and More!

There is an evening meal on the 2nd night of the week and an Ice-cream social after the last dance of the week. There is no charge for any event, but donations are valued and help the community house to "pay-it forward" for another generation of dancers.

Enjoy cool mountain air, great trout fishing, fine shopping/dining and superb Northern New Mexico hospitality! The Enchanted Circle awaits you!

[redrivercommunityhouse.org](http://redrivercommunityhouse.org)