

## Calling All Dancers to the 2025 ILSDC

By LYNNE SHELDON

If you are new to square dancing it might seem a little intimidating to go to the Illinois Square Dance Convention, But guess what - you are ready to go and you'll have a great time. Just ask me! This time last year, I was a new dancer at the ILSDC. Keep reading to see what I learned.

✓ You will get to know some of your fellow square dancers better and might even learn something interesting about them that you never knew.

✓ **SO MANY CALLERS!** You are probably used to one or two callers from your lessons, but there are many others out there, each with a unique style. Conventions bring many callers together so you can experience some of the different voices.

✓ There is no pressure to dance. Choose how often you want to get in a square and dance. Floor time will help you become a better square dancer, but watching can be helpful too.

### Riddle Me This

*I speak and I sing,  
I lead with no hand,  
My voice makes you move,  
yet I just stand.  
Without me, the dance  
would stumble and stall,  
Though I never once join the circle at all.*

*What am I?*



*New and experienced dancers filled the SSD hall as they danced to Caller Bobby Poyner at the MCASD Spring Fling, held Sunday, March 30, in Medinah, Illinois.*

✓ Workshops will give you a chance to sample different levels dancing to calls you haven't learned yet.

Register NOW to join in the fun at the 2025 Illinois Square Dance Convention for a long weekend of *Game On!* square dancing with friends old AND new.

### Dance Leaders Galore

More than 30 dance leaders – callers, cuers and line dance leaders – will be leading the dances at the 2025 ILSDC. Check out ILSDC dance leaders, starting with featured caller Patty Greene, at our website:

[ilsdc.dance/dance-leaders](https://ilsdc.dance/dance-leaders)



### Saturday Night Special

In keeping with a “Game On” theme, we’ll kick off Saturday evening with a bonus challenge to dress up as your favorite gaming character. Get creative! Saturday evening will begin with Opening Ceremonies at 6:30 pm, followed by a Grand March that will get everyone squared up to dance. The first 30 minutes will feature dancing at the SSD level. At 7:30 pm, dance halls will open for a full evening of dancing at all levels.



### - The - BONUS POINTS

#### Cinco de Mayo:

Support the ILSDC clothing resale fundraiser taking place on Sunday, May 4 at the New Dancer Dance in Palatine.

#### Wellwishers:

Even if you are not attending the convention, you can still donate and become a Wellwisher. Ask at area club dances for details.

#### Selfie Station:

Get ready for Pac-Man backdrop selfie time. Solo or group, strike a pose and share the “Game On” fun.

#### Special Guests:

The ILSDC welcomes the **2026 National Square Dance Convention team** from Waco, TX, as a featured exhibitor. Stop by, learn, and register to attend.

### Sheraton Suites Chicago O'Hare Amenities

**Flight Restaurant** - Enjoy food, drink, and ice cream novelties at the bar or sit-down tables. Take advantage of discounted breakfast buffet vouchers provided to all hotel guests.

**Starbucks** (in the lobby) - Enjoy coffee, light breakfast items, and other tasty snacks. Open 24/7. Perfect for early risers or late-night cravings!

**Atrium** - Relax in comfort while you catch up with friends or take a break from dancing in the light-filled Atrium seating area, with plenty of seating and nearby restrooms.

**Complimentary Parking** - Both hotel guests and those coming for the day will enjoy free parking in the Sheraton lot and the overflow garage located down the block.

Rooms are going fast. Book your room now via the ILSDC website to take advantage of the Convention rate.

[ILSDC.dance/hotel](https://ilsdc.dance/hotel)

