

# Novelty & Theme Dances

Moderator Deborah Carroll-Jones and Panelist Bear Miller

This session will provide insight into interesting “Novelties” and “Themes” to add a little more intrigue and fun to your dances. Learn some new ideas to “spice up” interest in your dances. The panel will present various Novelty and Theme ideas and explain how to best use without becoming a distraction to the square dance.

## Sample Themes



### ***"Start Your Engines" - NASCAR decorations & suit***

**Music:** Little Deuce Coupe, Pink Cadillac, Hot Rod Lincoln, All My Life's a Circle.

**More fun:** Remind Boys that when doing a R&L Grand or Weave the Ring or Promenade that they are making all Left Turns and of course we will try to avoid Wrong Way Grand or Wrong Way Promenade.



### ***"My Favorite Color" - Color Streamer Decorations & brightly colored costumes***

**Music:** Colors of the Wind, Rainbow Rider, Song Sung Blue, Yellow Rose of Texas, Blue Skies, Don't it Make My Brown Eyes Blue, My Brown Eyed Girl, Redneck Girl, Green Green Grass of Home, Tie a Yellow Ribbon, Rainbow Connection, Pink Cadillac.

### ***"Parrot Head Dance" - Jimmy Buffet Island-Type Decorations***

Tropical Island dress, flower leis, grass skirts

**Music:** Margaritaville, Come Monday, Cheeseburger in Paradise, Volcano, Pencil Thin Mustache, Changes in Latitude



### ***"NO" Theme Dance (Mike Olivieri)***

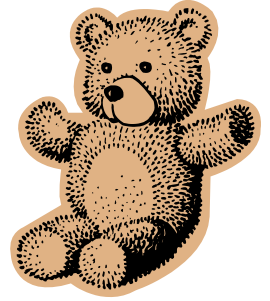
no decorations

**Music:** No Bad News, He Ain't Heavy He's My Brother, It Ain't Gonna Be Your Day, Don't Think Twice, Don't Pull Your Love, No Shirt No Shoes No Problem, Nothing on but the Radio, PiaNO Man, This Ain't No Thinking Thing, Why Don't We Just Dance, She Don't Know She's Beautiful.

## ***"Lions and Tigers and Bears, Oh My!"***

### **Stuffed Animals**

**Music:** Bear Necessities, House on Pooh Corner, Lion Sleeps Tonight, Bear Tracks, Disney Medley, Three Little Fishies, Mickey Mouse, I Wanna Be Like You, Billy Does Your Bulldog Bite, Tiger by the Tail



## ***"Fly the USA"***

### **Airline Decorations**

**Music:** Come Fly With Me, Silver Wings, I'll Fly Away, Cities or States California Dreamin, Chicago, San Antonio Stroll, Come Monday (San Francisco), New York New York, Ace in the Hole (Vegas), Climb that Mountain High (Denver), Dream On (Red Eye Flight)

## ***"Family Night"***

### **picture decorations (real or not)**

**Music:** Daddy Sang Bass, Butterfly Kisses, He Ain't Heavy He's My Brother, Papa Was A Rolling Stone, Baby Face, Beautiful Baby, When I'm 64, Good Hearted Woman, Grandma's Feather Bed, Grandpa, Old Time Preacher Man, Only Daddy That Will Walk the Line, Thank Heaven for Little Girls.

**More fun:** Have everyone bring their baby pictures & have a game/contest to try and match the photos to the person as they are now. Nude photos are encouraged!!



## ***"USO Night"***

### **Military type Decorations**

**Music:** (Andrews Sisters) Boogie Woogie Bugle Boy, Beir Mir Bist Du Schon, (Bing Crosby) It's Been a Long, Long Time, Swing on a Star, Pennies from Heaven

Before the dance, do a little research about any performer from any era that has been on the USO tour did their biggest numbers, from Sammy Davis Jr. to Toby Keith to Shania Twain to Loretta Lynn, the options are enormous!

# Standards (easier)

## *"A Night At The Theatre"*

**Music:** Show/Broadway Tunes like Diamonds Are A Girl's Best Friend, All That Jazz, Consider Yourself, Don't Cry For Me Argentina, If I Were A Rich Man, Lion King, Singing in the Rain, Jesus Christ Superstar; Thank Heaven For Little Girls; 'Til There Was You;



## *"Cowboy Night" Western Tunes,*



**Music:** Back in the Saddle Again, Don't Call Him A Cowboy, Happy Trails, Home On The Range, My Heros Have Always Been Cowboys, Texas Plains, Whatcha Gonna Do With A Cowboy. Rainbow Rider

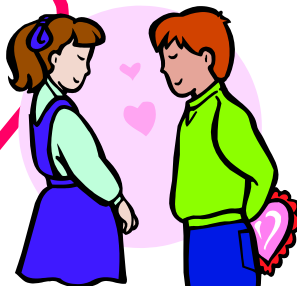
## *"Pirate Night- Jolly Roger"*

All Songs start with Rrrrr,



## *Sweethearts Dance*

All Love songs  
Mistletoe, candy hearts





### *"Psychadelic 60's"*

Dress in love beads, peace signs, long hair, headbands, bell bottoms, tie-dyed shirts, sandals

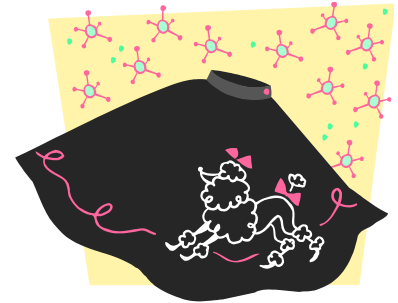
**Music:** Do You Believe In Magic, My Girl, Runaway, San Francisco, Sea of Heartbreak, Southern Nights, Sunny, The Wanderer, Tie A Yellow Ribbon

More fun: Dress as the Beatles & do all their songs!

### *"Fabulous 50's"*

Dress in Poodle Skirts, bobby socks, T-shirts & jeans, penny loafers

**Music:** A Fool Such As I, A White Sport Coat, Blue Suede Shoes, Love Letters in the Sand, Walkin' After Midnight, Dream Lover, Fraulein, Goody Goody, Hello Mary Lou, Honeycomb, Kansas City, Mockingbird Hill, Mr. Sandman, Music Music Music, Que Sera Sera, More fun: Have a 50's quiz & give prizes to those who score highest



### *"Roaring 20's"*

Dress in flapper dresses, zoot suits, fedoras, spats

**Music:** Ain't She Sweet, Am I Blue, April Showers, Baby Face, Best Things in Life Are Free, Five Foot Two; Let A Smile Be Your Umbrella, Me & My Shadow, Old Man River, Paddlin' Madelyn Home, Side By Side, You're The Cream In My Coffee

### *Cruise - "Midnight Buffet"*

Dress as Captin or Purser

**Music:** Takin' It Easy, Sea Cruise, The Banana Boat Song, Tiny Bubbles, Two Pina Coladas, When The Sun Goes Down, You're My Jamaica; On & On, Live Laugh Love, Key Largo, Caribbean, All Night Party





### ***“The Happiest Place on Earth!”***

Dress as your favorite Disney Character!

**Music:** A Friend Like Me, Bear Necessities, Hakuna Matata, Lion King, Small World, ZIP-A-DEE-DOO-DAH, Colors Of The Wind, Disney Medley, Electric Light Parade

### ***“M.A.S.H.”***

Dress as favorite M.A.S.H character - be comfortable!  
Set up a Mess Tent & use medical accoutrements, like gurneys.

**Music:** America the Beautiful, Battle Hymn of the Republic, Anchors Aweigh, God Bless America. God Bless America Again, God Bless the USA, Independence Day, Light the Candles Around the World, Patriotic Medley, This Land is Your Land. Also research music of that time frame (early fifties) for more song ideas.



Notes: