

currently includes 10 core routines plus multiple adaptations and variations dating from the Colonial period up through the 1950s.

The dance troupe is dedicated to preserving the historic dances which have contributed to the worldwide movement of square dancing. This dance as we know it today originated in the United States, and like the people who have contributed to its development, is a product of the cultural "melting pot" which makes our country great. The group is coming to the 74th NSDC primarily from Southern California, and all of them are members of regular square dance clubs in addition to the Heritage Dancers. For more information, visit: <http://www.heritage.sdsda.org>.



The California Heritage Dancers exhibition group performs at the USA West Convention in 2022. They will be presenting a special "Wild Side" dance for the 74th NSDC in Shreveport, LA.

RIVER CITY RIDERS

The River City Riders (RCR) have galloped their way into your hearts at 12 national conventions, nine USA West Conventions, local festivals and many other events. According to lead riders, Jolene and Ed Cummings, the Oregon-based group originally formed in 2000 but were "corralled" for awhile before re-organizing in 2006. "Our club at that time was the River City Dancers. They put the idea together from what they saw at a county fair in Washington. Some guys with "horses" strapped on them were circulating among the crowd. They went home and decided they could do this and perform with square dance moves!"

The caller for the River City Dancers in Milwaukie, OR, at that time was Les Seely, and he and wife, Paula, who now reside in Arizona, helped in the creation of the River City Riders. Five years ago, the reins of the organization were picked up by a new sponsor, the Country Cut-Ups located at the "Barn" the Country in Boring, OR.

The late Jim Hattrick served as a long-time group caller and created several programs over the course of 12 years, including a six-couple "Hex" routine, a four-couple dance sequence with A-1 moves called "Long Tall Texan," and the group's three-couple "Triride" that features six different music patterns.

"Each program has moves that fit together like a glove," Jolene Cummings noted. "Jim was a genius that shared his knowledge. We're so sad that he passed away in 2023, he is greatly missed, but the group continues to celebrate his life with each performance."



River City Riders
@ Spring Sashay
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