



Newsletter for October 4, 2020

Message from Presidents

Doug and Jan Bergesen

A funny thing happened on the way to Kroger the other day. I was wearing one of my funny square dance shirts (the one that says, "I'm here because I was told there would be square dancing") and an even funnier mask (actually a sock turned into a mask). As I passed an older gentleman, I saw he was looking strangely at me. I figured it was the mask, so I waved. He said, "Nice shirt." That opened the door. Long story short, he said he is interested in taking square dance lessons in January! So I got his name and number. Now, I wear one of my funny square dance shirts every chance I get! (Well, not to church.) How about you? Do you have a conversation starter shirt you could use for recruiting?

Keep safe!
Jan and Doug Bergesen

2nd VP Report

From Ralph and Lucy Hamm

The current Swinging Star Banner inventory is shown below. If you visit a club whose banner we have, please don't bring home one more.

Banners Captured by the Swinging Stars

| Club | Date Captured |
|------------------------|---------------|
| T Square Gadabouts | 4/19/2019 |
| Log Cabin Swingers | 5/04/2019 |
| Cotton Pickin' Squares | 5/25/2019 |
| Dixie Chainers | 12/14/2019 |
| Texas Reelers | 1/17/2020 |
| Rebel Rousers | 1/18/2020 |
| Kissin Kuzzins | 2/29/2020 |

Swinging Stars Banners Out

| Club | Date Captured |
|-----------------|---------------|
| Lone Star Solos | 1/24/2020 |
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We suggest that before you decide to attend a dance advertised in the Promenade you reach out to the club advertising the dance and make sure that they will be having the dance.

Most NORTEX clubs have closed because of loss of venue and/or the virus. We have contacted several NORTEX club presidents to update the status of their clubs. The following list is current. We will correct it when any club's status changes.

Swingtime Center closed to all dances until January 2021. The clubs normally dancing there are:

| | | |
|--------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| Circle 8 | Diamond Jubileers | Double Plus |
| Fort Worth Squares | Harvest Holiday | Pioneer Squares |
| Rainbow Rounds | Roadrunners | T Square Gadabouts |
| Trailblazers | | |

Other clubs who have cancelled until January 2021:

| | | |
|-----------------|----------------------|----------------|
| Circle I | Cliff Dwellers | Dixie Chainers |
| Pegasus Squares | Tri-City Promenaders | |

The following clubs have closed until further notice:

| | | |
|------------------------|----------------|-----------------------|
| Cotton Pickin' Squares | Dance Arounds | Kissin' Kuzzins |
| Model A's | Plus 4s | Ramblin' Rounds (Wed) |
| Rebel Rousers | Stone Steppers | Texas Reelers |
| Triangle Squares | | |

There are a few dance opportunities coming up. The following information is provided in case you wish to take advantage of these opportunities. These are NOT Swinging Stars visitations.

ADD+ Dancing Mike Bramlett has announced that ADD+ started dancing Monday, September 28 at Elks Lodge, 3825 Duck Creek Drive, in Garland. Additional scheduled dance nights are Oct 5 and 19; Nov 2, 16, and 30; and Dec 7 and 21.

Dance times: Advanced 6 to 7PM; Plus 7 to 9PM

Guidance: No refreshments provided. Bring your own water and snack if you wish; do not share with others. Hand sanitizer will be available for everyone to use after each tip. Mike's email says "Masks and gloves are not required, but can certainly be worn by those who feel they would like to wear them."

Log Cabin Swingers has announced that Jerry Story has decided to postpone his Story Time 2020 dance scheduled for Nov 13 – 15. They have scheduled the following dance to replace it.

Friday, November 13 – Sunday, November 15: Fall Fest @ Tool, TX (Plus weekend)

Promenade Hall, 1210 Tool Dr, Tool, Tx

Caller: Darryl Lipscomb

Cuer: Lucy & Jerry Pate

Schedule: Various plus square and round (mostly advanced) workshops and dances are scheduled beginning at 3:00PM Friday and beginning at 10:00AM Saturday, and a farewell dance is scheduled for 9:00AM Sunday.

If you would like a flyer for this weekend, let us know (rehamm45@gmail.com) and we will send you one.

T Square Gadabouts has announced that they are planning a New Years Eve dance Dec 31 at Swingtime IF the COVID conditions and Forest Hill regulations allow reopening.

Callers: Vernon Jones and Bobby Willis

Cuer: Karen Gloodt

Early Rounds: 7 – 8PM

Square Dance: 8 – 10PM

Temperatures will be taken at the door, masks are required, bring water and snacks if you wish.

*** * * EVENTS FROM THE PAST WEEK * * ***

Stay Home - Stay Safe

*** * * COMING EVENTS * * ***

All Swinging Stars dances are cancelled for the remainder of 2020

*** * * OTHER EVENTS * * ***

Virtual Square Dance

Tom Evanto

The VSD activity continues to grow with more opportunities being added in recent weeks. Many VSD's are two couples (with one phantom couple). Some full square VSD's are also available. Basic (social club level), Mainstream, Plus, Advanced, and Challenge level can be found. Many are scheduled to avoid conflicts with other VSD's at the same level. There are also some "special events" planned. One recent 3-hour special event featured 11 different callers and 2 cuers.

The resources available to find the VSD's also continues to grow. Here are some places where you can find information about virtual dancing. Please do not post ZOOM links out there in social media or other online forums. Thank you.

** always check ahead to be sure about the time zone for the dance you've selected, so you don't miss it in "your" time zone.

<https://www.asrda.org/announcements>

This will mostly carry Mainstream and Plus VSD events.

look under - 'Announcements/News'

under item - 'Latest Virtual Square Dancing Info'

select PDF - the 'ASRDA VSD List'

Email TrailBlazers Editor for the TrailBlazers listing of Advanced and Challenge VSD events.

Email to get onto their distribution list for the Virtual Guide PDF listings.

IAGSDC online calendar of events, different levels.

Online event calendar where many VSD dances are now posted. Look at the left side of the home page on IAGSDC.org for the calendar link.

FACEBOOK group called "virtual square dances" for various levels and callers.

Join - the 'Virtual Square Dance' group. After you are added to the group list, look under:

Events - for a summarized list of some dances and

Discussion - for other dances and information. <http://callerlabknowledge.org/>

Look for the link that says "CALLERLAB COVID-19 Information Page" at the top.

Email other callers directly whom you wish to reach for their dance schedules and to be on their email list. Hope to see y'all in a VSD soon and everyone is staying healthy/safe.

Regards,
Tom Evanto

Round Dance Lessons Schedule

JL and Linda Pelton

Dance Arounds received notice from the City of Plano that all classes are canceled until further notice. This includes the dance night and Saturday lessons

Refreshment Duty Information

From Rick Pehrson (Rookie Refreshment Scheduler)

We want to thank these team members for your contribution to Swinging Stars. Your efforts make *Swinging Stars* the best club to visit in the metropolex.

Team leader should contact their team members the week before **the dance prior** to their scheduled dance so that each member can pick up a Refreshment Bag after that dance. Teams are responsible for food of their choice, ice and 5 tablecloths, which can be purchased at any Walmart or Dollar Tree. If you need supplies contact First Vice Presidents Alex & Vanessa Nestor. Please do not buy supplies without first checking with the Nestors (469.235.2971) or 1stvp@swingingstars.org. If you have additional questions, call or text Rick Pehrson (972-837-6999) or email Rick at patrick33081@verizon.net.

Team members are responsible for finding a replacement if they are unable to fulfill their scheduled obligation (refer to the schedule below for possible subs – see current roster for email address or phone number). Please email Rick at patrick33081@verizon.net of the change.

Until further notice the Refreshment Duty Schedule will not be published in the Newsletter. The schedule will resume when refreshments are added back to the agenda.

Sunshine information

From Lucy Hamm our Sunshine Reporter

We extend our thoughts and prayers to Maryann Starrett and her family for the loss of Frank. After an evening surrounded by family Frank passed away with Maryann by his side at 4:00am on Tuesday October 1st. Frank received the sacrament of last rites. Frank and Maryann were married 61 years. They contributed a lot to Swinging Stars by encouraging a large group of "empty nesters" from their church to take square dance lessons. This core group was known as "the church group" as they joined our club and participated in events and served as officers. Frank and Maryann were also members of Dance Arounds, the round dance club in Plano, led by Swinging Stars members JL and Linda Pelton.

We also ask for your prayers for our dear Rita Putnam Heintz as she fights cancer. We have enjoyed Rita's smile and her sense of humor. She and Tim have supported the club even as they became associate members. Her "bro" and I miss seeing her and Tim at our dances when they visited.

Special dates to put on your calendar

Sunday November 8, 2020, 3:00 PM – Swinging Stars General Meeting – Location Grace Church in Lucas

Listening Device Information

From Charlie and Linda Harris

At our dances, the Swinging Stars are pleased to loan, free of charge, a "listening device" to any requesting dancer. Current inventory is two devices, offered on a first-come first-served basis as each dance starts. Talk to Nevin Mulvin at the check in table. To answer questions about the listening device, email Charles Harris at harris0907@sbcglobal.net or phone 214-348-5361. Notice to anyone interested in purchasing a listening device receiver for square or round dancing, contact Charles Harris. He has one new William Sound PPA R-37. The new unit is priced at \$90.00 and includes the earphone. It is the 17 channel unit versus the 3 channel Listen Brand units and has a five-year warranty.

Web Master Dave Burson

Be sure to check out our web page: www.swingingstars.org

There is a lot of information about what is going on with the Swinging Stars.

For information about weekend dances, go to our Web Page and click on Weekends.

Message from Newsletter Editor

Thank you for making it this far down the newsletter.

As we streamlining the newsletter, if we remove something or change something that you liked the way it was, or have any suggestions, please send your comments and suggestions to:

newsletter_editor@swingingsstars.org Anything sent to that email address will go to the **President of the Swinging Stars** and to the **Newsletter Editor** (Dave Burson).

Dave Burson

Newsletter Editor

Swinging Stars

Email: newsletter_editor@swingingsstars.org

Phone: 972-396-0941
