



Swinging Stars

Square and Round Dance Club

Newsletter for December 8, 2013

PRESIDENTIAL RAMBLINGS

We hope that you all stayed inside and kept safe and warm. I am sure that December 6 2013 will be known as the weekend of the “ice-storm cancellations” as all of the square dance activities that I know of have been postponed or cancelled entirely.

Friday, December 6, 2013

Swinging Stars Holiday Party (postponed – date TBD)
Texas Reelers Dance (cancelled)
Kissin’ Kuzzins Dance (cancelled)
T Square Gadabouts Dance (cancelled)
Roadrunners Dance (cancelled)
Triangle Squares Dance (cancelled)

Saturday, December 7, 2013

Decatur 8ers (cancelled)
Texoma Squares (cancelled)
Log Cabin Swingers (cancelled)
Solitaires Dance (cancelled)

Sunday, December 8, 2013

Harvest Holiday Dance (cancelled)
NORTEX/NTCA Toys of Tots Dance (postponed till December 15th)

We are excited that the GRaM committee was able to reschedule the Toys for Tots Marine dance for next Sunday, December 15th. As previously scheduled, it will be at the Richardson Civic Center located at 411 W. Arapaho Road, Richardson, TX. The Toy Drop Host will be Chip Waggoner of Fox 4 News. The dance times and program remain unchanged as follows: 2:30 – 4:00pm Formula 51/New Dancers Dance; 4:30 – 5:30pm Early Rounds & Plus Dancing; 5:30 – 8:00pm Square & Round Dancing – Cash (preferred) and/or Unwrapped Toys. So, while you are out shopping this week, don’t forget to pick up a toy to bring. Also, pick up a second gift for first December dance on the 13th, Toys & Books for Kids Holiday Ball.

Vote, vote and vote again for your favorite Caller& Cuer song. The annual Singing Call of the Year dance and the Round Dance Cuer Dance of the year at Swingtime on January 26, 2014, so mark your calendars. The dance itself is free. Voting cost \$1 per ballot and three votes on each ballot. You can use the ballet out of the Promenade and make as many copies as you want.

The Assisted Listening Device has been a success. If you want a receiver, Charlie Harris ordered six more and you can purchase one for \$90 each, or you can order your own direct for \$99.88. This is for the digital Williams Receiver.

Thanks so much!
Richard and Jan

DANCE LESSONS

Wayne has finished teaching all of the mainstream calls and lessons are now more like a workshop. Since it is very important that these new dancers not become discouraged, we greatly appreciate all of the angels who are assisting us each week. We've learned a few new things too! We want to thank the following members who assisted our students last week: Dave & Lorraine Burson; Kenneth Henneberger; Dan & Kathy Mosher; Barry & Helen Feldman; Dave & Mary Colter; Harry & Zari Kilejian; Ron & Donita See and Mark & Karen Hawkins.

Our lessons only have two weeks left – it depends on how you count it. We have December 10th and graduation on December 17th – we expect 30 students to graduate.

Here is a list of students and their home city: Maybe you'll see a neighbor or acquaintance.

Jerry & Kay Barnett - Sachse; Mary Bonkiewicz - Plano; Mike & Melanie Burchfiel - Frisco; Lon Bushell - McKinney; Mary Ann Cagle - Carrollton; Louise Duncan - Allen; Delores Dvorak - Plano; Bob & Kathy Estep - Plano; David & Marguerite Evans - Plano; Jim & Linda Flack - Plano; Linda Floyd - Plano; Willis & Pat Friesen - Frisco; Dennis & Valerie Gelbaum - Plano; Sharon Goddard - Sachse; Jim & Katie Halvorson - McKinney; Ivan & Margertree Holmes - Wylie; David & Cher Jacobs - Dallas; Dominique Kennedy - Dallas; Joel & Marilyn Kern - Plano; Walt & Jan Knochenmus - Allen; Ann Koenig - McKinney; Jeff & Martha Lloyd - Sachse; Mark & Roxana Mars - Plano; Steve & Debbie Sherrell - Plano; Van Thoreson - Plano.

Mark & Karen Hawkins, 1ST VP



Anniversary Dance Report

Thank you to everyone that has signed up to help with the anniversary dance, "Dancing with the Stars Season II". We have had an excellent response to our request that everyone sign up to help and to bring food.

We need more help with the decorations committee and more salads. Please if you have not gotten signed up, either call me at 972-396-0941 OR Email me at Lorraine@Bursons.us.

Also, you can also sign up at the next club dance. Thank you and we hope you all had Happy Thanksgiving!

Lorraine & Dave Burson

ANNOUNCEMENTS

We want to encourage everyone to tip generously at our bi-monthly Mama's pizza party as these folks provide us really good service and they stay late two Friday night a month for us. We get there after their normal closing. Also, we hope to put together a Holiday Season tip for them again this year.



**Swinging Stars Ladies Holiday
Luncheon
Wednesday, December 18th
Noon**

**Anne Nejdil House
4105 Cassandra Lane
Plano, TX 75093
972-954-5979
Yo_Red@verizon.net**

I will provide ham, turkey breast and drinks. Please bring a dish or dessert to share.

Games and prizes

**Optional white elephant gift exchange
Bring wrapped trinket you wish to
"Re-gift"**

RSVP by December 15th



*** * * From Your 2nd VPs * * ***

The North Texas weather certainly put the kibosh on nearly everything in the area including our much anticipated Holiday Party and most, if not all, of the planned dances over the weekend. Some of the events have been rescheduled. The Swinging Stars Holiday Party has been pushed to January 24th to allow for availability of a Friday night, the dance hall, and our caller and cuer. The Toys for Tots dance that was planned at the Richardson Civic Center with Santa's Village has been moved to next Sunday, December 15th. Please make every effort to go to this GRAM-sponsored dance – make sure to bring a toy or cash donation (both are requested).

We have locked our hotel reservation for the 3rd annual Rhythm Records Winter Festival in Waco, the first weekend after our Happy New Year. This was a very fun dance last year. There will be 6 world class callers and a great cuer entertaining us. See details and a link to the flyer in the Special Dances section below. We hope to see you there.

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

Banners Captured by the Swinging Stars

Club	Date Captured
Cotton Pickin' Squares	23-Mar-13
Decatur 8'ers	5-Oct-13
Dixie Chainers	28-Sep-13
Log Cabin Swingers	4-May-13
Lone Star Solos	28-Mar-13
North Star 8	09-Feb-13
Roadrunners	07-Nov-13
Texas Reelers	15-Nov-13
Texoma Squares	01-Jun-13
Tri-City Promenaders	26-Jan-13
T-Square Gadabouts	15-Feb-13
Yellow Rockers	18-Apr-13

Swinging Stars Banners Out

Club	Date Captured
Rebel Rousers	25-Oct-13

* * * EVENTS FROM THE PAST WEEK * * *

Plus 4's, December 4th

One shy of a dozen Swinging Stars visited Plus 4's in Farmers Branch on Wednesday. As expected, veteran club caller, Charles Quizenberry (AKA "Quiz"), called two hours of top notch plus squares with occasional surprises to keep dancers alert. Educational "surprises" this time focused on "Reverse Dixie Style" (guys initiate with a left pull by and ladies finish in center of formed right-hand wave) and "Remake (the Wave)" (from 2 parallel waves, those who can turn 1/4 by right, next those who can turn 1/2 by left, and finally those who can turn 3/4 by right ... to end in two new waves). All dancers finished the evening smiling and a bit smarter. Visiting Swinging Stars included: the Amys, Bondis, Bursons, T. Evanto, Hawkins, and the Lewises. The dance details were provided by Swinging Stars on site reporter, Jim Bondi.

* * * COMING EVENTS * * *

Swinging Stars, Friday, December 13

Location: Shepard Elementary School (1000 Wilson Dr., Plano, TX)

Website: <http://www.swingingstars.org>

Time: Workshop – 7:30PM / dance – 8:00PM

Caller: Wayne Baldwin

Cuer: Walter Brewer

Theme: Books and Toys for Kids Holiday Ball

Note: Bring an unwrapped book or toy to donate

Official, Toys for Tots Dance, Sunday, December 15th

Location: Richardson Civic Center
Time: Formula 51 Squares- 2:30PM
Early Rounds and Plus Dancing- 4:30PM
Square and Round Dancing – 5:30PM
Callers: Area callers
Cuers: Area cuers
Host: Chip Waggoner (and Marine Toys for Tots Foundation)
Notes: Admission – cash (preferred) and/or unwrapped toys

Swinging Stars Mainstream Lessons Graduation, Tuesday, December 17

Location: Carpenter Recreation Center
Time: 7:15-9:15PM
Caller: Wayne Baldwin
Theme: All are invited to come dance with our new mainstream graduates

Ladies Luncheon, Wednesday, December 18th

Location: The Nejd's home (4105 Cassandra Lane, Plano, Tx 75093)
Time: Lunch – 12:00PM
Hostess: Anne Nejd – RSVP if you can attend to (972) 964-5979 or email Yo_Red@verizon.net and let her know what dish you are bringing
Notes: Anne is supplying ham, turkey, and drinks. Everyone is asked to bring a dish to share. We will be playing games with prizes and have the dreaded white elephant gift exchange (optional).
Please let the student ladies in class know they are invited too.

Of Interest, Kissin' Kuzzins, Friday, December 20th

Location: Garland Senior Center (600 Avenue A, Garland, TX)
Website: <http://www.kissinkuzzins.org/>
Time: Workshop 7:30PM / grand march 8:00PM
Caller: Wayne Baldwin
Cuer: JL Pelton
Theme: Jingle Bell Rock

OR

Of Interest, Rockwall Squares, Friday, December 20th

Location: The Center (105 E. Washington @ Goliad, Rockwall, TX)
Website: <http://www.rockwallsquares.com/>
Time: Workshop - 7:30 / grand march – 8:00PM
Caller: Wayne Shoemaker
Cuer: Christine Hixson
Theme: New Dancer Dance

Of Interest, Rebel Rousers, Saturday, December 21st

Location: Richardson Senior Center (820 W. Arapaho Road, Richardson, TX)
Website: <http://www.rebelrousersdallas.com/>
Time: Early rounds – 7:30PM / grand march 8:00PM
Caller: Mike Bramlett
Cuer: Christine Hixson
Theme: Old Mother Hubbard Food Drive Dance and “Make it with Bacon” contest
Note: They will be collecting donations of canned and packaged foods

Of Interest, Dixie Chainers, Saturday, December 28th

Location: Farmers Branch Senior Center (14055 Dennis Lane, Farmers Branch, TX)
Website: <http://www.dixiechainers.com/>
Time: Early rounds – 7:00PM / grand march – 7:30PM
Caller: Vernon Jones
Cuer: Jack von der Heide
Theme: Holiday Dance – double deal

ADD Plus, Monday, December 30th

Location: Richardson Senior Center (820 W. Arapaho Road, Richardson, TX)
Website: n/a
Time: Dance – 7:00PM
Caller: Mike Bramlett
Theme: Anniversary double deal dance

Of Interest, Rebel Rousers, Tuesday, December 31st

Location: Richardson Senior Center (820 W. Arapaho Road, Richardson, TX)
Website: <http://www.rebelrousersdallas.com/>
Time: Early rounds – 8:00PM / grand march – 9:00PM
Caller: Mike Bramlett
Cuer: Christine Hixson
Theme: New Year's Eve dance
Note: Black-eyed peas at midnight

OR

Of Interest, T-Square Gadabouts, Tuesday, December 31st

Location: Swingtime Center (SE Loop 820 @ Anglin, Fort Worth, TX)
Time: Early rounds – 8:00PM / dance – 9:00PM
Callers: Wayne Baldwin and Rick Smith
Cuer: Charles Crockett
Theme: New Year's Eve dance
Note: Refreshments all evening and black-eyed peas at midnight - \$15 per person in advance, or \$20 per person at the door

Swinging Stars Holiday Party, Friday, January 24th

Location: Rutledge Party Barn (Plano, TX)
Website: <http://www.swingingstars.org>
Time: Party – 6:00PM

*** * * SPECIAL WEEKEND DANCE OPPORTUNITIES * * ***

Rhythm Winter Festival, January 3-4

Location: Waco Convention Center (Hilton Waco, 113 S. University Parks Dr., Waco, TX)
Website: http://swingingsstars.org/Winter_Festival_Flyer_2014.pdf
Callers: Dee Dee Dougherty, Mike Seastrom, Ken Bower, Gary Shoemake, Wade Driver, Marshall Flippo
Cuer: Mark Prow

A GRAM Committee MINUTE...

*It's Christmas Time and
time for shopping and giving!!*

Ways to *give away* those
business/coupon cards:

- Put them in your Christmas Cards
- Use them as Stocking Stuffers
- Leave them on service counters
- Place them on church bulletin boards

Don't have any? Go to the following.....

www.lifesjustadance.com
[then click on GRaM Pub](#)

MEMBERSHIP DUES

If you have not already done so, the dues for the Fourth quarter of 2013 are due. Swinging Stars dues are due the first dance of each quarter - January, April, July and October. If you are not sure whether your dues have been paid, please contact the John and Ann.

Please make your check payable to Swinging Stars

You may bring your payment to our next dance or send you payment to the following:

John and Anne Barber
4905 Hackberry Lane
Parker, Texas 75002-5627
Treasurer@swingingstars.org
Dues are: \$35.00 per quarter per couple
\$70.00 per half year per couple
(Preferred) \$140.00 per year per couple

REFRESHMENTS DUTY AND INFORMATION

December 13	Mosher, Stuart, Evanto, Harris
December 27	Holiday for Everyone
January 10	Reid, Lassiter, Rickert, Shinavar
January 31	Anniversary Dance - All Members
February 14	Covington, See, Ross, Schumacher
February 28	Starrett, Trujillo, Weckerly, Archey
March 14	Hawkins, Kilejian, Morse, Jung
March 28	Barber, Burson, Jimison, Branden*

*New Club Members - can be leaders after one year as club member

The lead couple should contact all members on the team to be sure they know the following:

- What they are going to bring for refreshments.
- Arrive at dance by 7:00 pm. As per our contract with PISD, we cannot enter the gym before 7:00 pm
- Enter thru the Gym door.
- Refreshments shut down at 9:30 pm (no earlier)
- If you take home a refreshment bag check that it has all the items listed on the Florescent Hang Tag on the bag.
- Be sure all items are clean
- Repack bags in a Tidy Manner

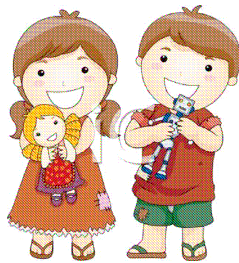
Refreshment Duty Reminders:

If you have a conflict with the Refreshment Schedule

- Please contact someone on the refreshment list to trade with you.
- Notify the refreshment schedulers: Jeff & Anne Stuart at 972-699-1317 or email: jwstuart@flash.net with the names of your schedule changes.
- Attend the dance prior to your turn for refreshments and pick up the Four Bags. If unable to do so be sure that someone picks them up for you.
- Check refreshment Bags for the info regarding “Refreshment Duty Tips” and “List of Items Supplied by the Club”.
- Contact **Mark & Karen Hawkins at 972-436-4868 or 1stVP@swinginstars.org** for supplies prior to purchasing by Monday prior to club dance. They may already have what you need.

Thank you all for serving on our Refreshment Team.

Upcoming Advertised Swinging Stars Theme Dances



December 13, 2013

Toys & Books for Kids

Holiday Ball



January 31, 2014

Dancing with the Star

Season II



Sunday, December 15th – NORTEX Toys for Tots dance will be at the Richardson Civic Center
Friday, January 31, 2014 – Swinging Stars 39th Anniversary Dance at All Saints Catholic Church

Themes:

December 13, 2013 - Toys & Books for Kids Holiday Ball

February 14, 2014 - Valentine's Day Dance

Future Dates Reserved with NORTEX:

Friday, October 31, 2014 – Double Deal Halloween Dance (Fifth Friday)*

Saturday, January 31, 2015 – 40th Anniversary Dance (Fifth Saturday)

Saturday, October 31, 2015 – Double Deal Halloween Dance (Fifth Saturday)*

Saturday, January 30, 2016 – 41st Anniversary Dance (Fifth Saturday)

Saturday, October 29, 2016 – Double Deal Halloween Dance (Fifth Saturday)*

*provided these dates do not conflict with the NORTEX Round Up Dance weekend

Mark the dates on your calendar right now.....



63rd National Square Dance Convention®

June 25 - 28, 2014

Little Rock, Arkansas

Website: www.63nsdc.com & Facebook under the 63rd National Square Dance Convention®.

For information about weekend dances go to our Web Page www.swingingstars.org and click on Weekends. Go to our Facebook Page <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Swinging-Stars-Square-Round-Dance-Club> - "like us," view picture, post pictures, comments about anything what you enjoy about square dancing or a specific dance.

Remember our Sunshine person is Debbie Piziali and you can email her at debbie@piziali.dv.org or her phone number is 214-552-9802. Please call her with anything that we need to be aware of in regards to sickness or other issues.

RICHARD & JAN COVINGTON

Swinging Stars, President

Email: president@swingingsstars.org

Phones: (972) 325-1144