



Swinging Stars

Square and Round Dance Club

Newsletter for February 7, 2016

From Kathy and Bob Estep, Swinging Stars Presidents:

Thank you for the opportunity to serve Swinging Stars as Presidents for 2016. We look forward to dancing in a square with each of you this year. We have two major items we ask for your help on this year:

1. Visitations: Swinging Stars is the NORTEX Club with the most Club visits. There are a couple of other Clubs trying very hard to catch or pass the mark Swinging Stars has set. The only way we can prevent that from happening is to CONTINUE to be the best visiting Club in NORTEX and we cannot do that without your participation. Please join your friends on the next Club visit.
2. Lessons: New dancers are the life blood of Square Dancing and any Club. Our last two classes have not been successful in getting several new members into the Club. This spring we have 18 students and we need your help at lessons as Angels. Please join us on Tuesday's! Also, if all goes well, we hope to have another set of lessons in the Fall so start looking for potential dancers now.

If we can do these two items well all else will fall into place.

Kathy and Bob

Happening This Week

Tuesday, Feb. 9 – Round Dance Lessons - 7:15PM to 9:15PM - Carpenter Rec. Center - Plano.

Tuesday, Feb. 9 – Square Dance Lessons - 7:15PM to 9:15PM - Carpenter Rec. Center - Plano.

Wednesday, Feb. 10 – A1 Lesson – 7:00 PM – 9:00 PM - Quisenberry

Friday, Feb. 12 – Swinging Stars Dance – 7:00 PM Sq. Dance Workshop – 7:45 Plus Tip – 8:00 Grand March – The second Tip will be Plus – Rest of dance will be Mainstream

Saturday, Feb. 13 – Dixie Chainers – Valentines Dance – Early Rounds: 7:00PM. Grand March: 7:30PM at the Farmers Branch Senior Center.

Announcements

Dance Format:

At the last Quarterly Meeting the Club requested a Format Committee be formed to review the format with the following guidelines:

1. Create more dance time for new dancers.
2. Maintain the current level of Plus dancing.
3. Look at Line Dancing (keep or not keep).
4. Maintain workshops.

The Committee, under the leadership of Ralph Hamm, met and developed recommendations which were presented to the outgoing Board at their last Board Meeting. The Board voted to accept the recommendations of the Committee.

Effective immediately our Dance Format will be as follows:

2nd Friday: Square Dance Workshop from 7 - 7:44 pm – at 7:45 the first Plus Tip – 8:00 PM will be the Grand March and first Mainstream Tip – The Second Tip will be Plus – the remainder of the dance will be Mainstream

4th Friday: Round Dance Workshop from 7 - 7:44 pm – at 7:45 the first Plus Tip – 8:00 PM will be the Grand March and first Mainstream Tip – The Second Tip will be Plus – the remainder of the dance will be Mainstream

The Hot Hash which follows the last regular Tip will be maintained as long as there is sufficient dancers wishing to participate.

Lessons Update: -- Mark and Karen Hawkins

We are very pleased with the progress our 18 students are making. It is a friendly group and we are all enjoying the lessons. We want to thank the following members for volunteering their time to be angels at our last lessons class: Dave Burson, Bob Estep, Ralph & Lucy Hamm, Mark & Karen Hawkins, Russ & Anne NejdI, Bill Perrott, Merry Trujillo and Doug & Donna Williams. Several couples have volunteered to be mentors for our students during lessons and during their early months as club members. The most important part of this job is to make them feel at home at our dances and to take them visiting other clubs so that they get more floor time so that they feel confident as dancers. If anyone is interested in being mentors please let us know as we need another four couples. **We do need Angles this Tuesday, please see if you are able to help!**

Anniversary Dance Update:

It is over for this year. All that participated did a Super job. We could not have been more pleased. Please thank Nina and her Team Leads when you see them – they all deserve a “Job Well Done” from each of us. Please see the note below from the Anniversary Chairperson:

Dear Swinging Stars,

I would like to thank everyone who helped make our Anniversary Dance a success.

Special thanks to Lorraine Burson, my Advisor, all our wonderful Committee Members and especially all our Committee Chairmen, and of course our wonderful club members.

You made my life as Anniversary Dance Committee Chairman much easier.

Again I thank you all for helping set our best foot forward as we hosted our 41st Anniversary.

Kindest regards,

Nina

Demonstration Opportunity: Richard Covington (richard.covington@sbcglobal.net)

February 21 is the official Sunday birthday party for the City of Frisco. We are hoping to have square dancing demos in the depot from 2 - 4 p.m., chamber music in the chapel from 2:30 -3:30, and animals on display in the muse house from 1:30 -3:30. I also have a senior from Legacy Christian who is going to play the fiddle from 1- 2 p.m. in the Depot. Please contact me if you are interested. It's going to be at the Frisco Heritage Museum located at 6455 Page Street, Frisco, TX. The best part is the dance is FREE. Yours Truly will be calling.

Missing Fan:

Did you happen to pick up a fan and take it home for protection when it was left behind at the Anniversary Dance? If so, please contact the 1st VP (Russ or Anne NejdI) and they will take it off your hands.

*** * * From Your 2nd VP's, Jim and Knarik Bondi* * ***
2nd VP Report for February 7, 2016

RECENT ACTIVITY -- DANCING

All-Rounds Dance

Sunday 31 January -- Harvest Holiday – “Winter Fun Rounds”

Six Swinging Stars round dancers; our club cuer, Walter and Eula Brewer; and Swinging Stars members and round dance lessons instructors, JL and Linda Pelton participated in the Harvest Holiday Phase II – IV “fun dance” last Sunday afternoon. It was a great 3-hour event which gave us the opportunity to dance virtually all of the round dance rhythms to the cueing of seven area cuers. The dances cued included “Little by Little”, a jive choreographed by Walter and Eula, and “Dance with the Devil”, a cha-cha choreographed by JL and Linda. Also included were many dances requested from the floor. Each of the cuers led the dancers in five to six songs, a total of about 40 dances, so we had a good workout and a lot of fun. Participating cuers, in addition to Walter and JL, were Chris Farabaugh, Karen Gloodt, Christine Hixson, Jack Kenny, and Jack von der Heide. Swinging Stars attending included Bondis, Hamms, and Perrotts. Also attending were Ellen Chen and Joe Zhang, members of the Dance Arouns round dance club who are currently taking our square dance lessons.

A1 Lessons & Plus Dance

Wednesday 3 February – Plus 4s: Several Swinging Stars took their 5th weekly A1 lesson from Plus 4s’ great caller Charles Quisenberry (aka “Quiz”) at Chapel Hills United Methodist Church in Farmers Branch on Wednesday. The class includes 2 – 3 squares of students including some angels. Students (including Swinging Stars’ Bondis, Putnam/Heintz, & Sees) have now experienced about 30% of the A1 calls (including “Chain Reaction” & “Cast a Shadow”) but have a long way to go before meriting the title “A1 dancer.” Following the lesson, a total of 14 Swinging Stars enjoyed the Plus 4s regular all-plus dance. As always, Quiz kept dancers, 5+ squares total, on their toes with a few surprises. This night, a featured call was “Coordinate” ... but from rather atypical starting positions ... forcing each sex to execute a variant of the call commonly reserved for the other. Quiz supplied extra “step calling” to help dancers as needed. Many thanks to these participating Swinging Stars: P. Amy, Bondis, T. Evanto, Hamms, Hawkins, Putnam/Heintz, Lees, and Sees

Official Visit – Double Deal Dance

Friday 5 February – Texas Reelers – “Valentine Special” Dance:

26 Swinging Stars visited the Texas Reelers in Richardson, TX on Friday for their “Valentine Special” Dance, enabling us to capture the Texas Reelers’ banner. Rounds were delivered by guest cuer, Chris Farabaugh, while squares were called by beloved club caller, Deborah Carroll-Jones. Chris entertained round dancers with a great mix of rhythms and difficulties throughout the evening and, judging by the smiles of round dancers filling the floor, is becoming a “shoe in” to soon be named full-time Texas Reelers cuer. Not to be outdone, Deborah Carroll kept square dancers enthused and energized all evening long with her typical great mix of lively patter calls intermixed with some great singing calls. Especially memorable was her stirring rendition of “Till There was You,” first made famous by the Broadway musical “Music Man.” All attendees experienced a great evening of dancing and socializing. Many thanks to our club attendees: P. Amy, Bondis, Esteps, Feldmans, Hamms, Harrises, Putnam/Heintz, Kerns, Lees, Pitts, Rows, Sees, Smith/Hardin, and C. Wolfe.

Official Visit – Anniversary Dance

Saturday 6 February – Buttons & Bows – “Valentines” Dance:

15 Swinging Stars traveled to Irving, TX Saturday for the Buttons & Bows “Valentines” theme anniversary dance. Just before the dance actually began, Deborah-Carroll & Jon Jones presented Buttons & Bows veteran club caller, Barry Hendricks, with a special “Prestige Award” from the Texas State Caller Association. (Note: this is not just a NORTEX-level award but a state-wide award voted by callers all across Texas.) Upon receipt, Barry was literally speechless and overcome with gratitude for several seconds. Applause erupted as Barry finally uttered his heartfelt “Thank you.” Rounds this evening were cued by metroplex favorite, Charles Crockett, who engaged round dancers with a balanced mix of songs and rhythms that even included “West Texas Waltz,” proclaimed NORTEX “round dance of the year” just two weeks ago. On squares, Barry was joined by special, sought-after guest caller, Jerry Gilbreath, of Albuquerque, NM. Together, the two kept square dancers energized and hopping all evening long. A big thank you to Swinging Stars attendees P. Amy, Bondis, Covingtons, Esteps, Harrisers, Putnam/Heintz, Nejdls, and Sees, who allowed us to recapture our banner lost just one week prior at our anniversary dance. As the Buttons & Bows lady handed me our banner, she smiled and said “We didn’t have it long!”

Banner Report

We currently hold 4 banners captured from other clubs. On the flip side, other clubs currently hold 2 Swinging Stars banners captured from us. Overall banner status is detailed below. Remember, if you visit a club whose banner we already hold, please do not accept another of their banners.

Other Club Banners Held by Us

Club	Date Captured
Texas Reelers	05-Feb-2016
Dixie Chainers	28-Mar-2015
Diamond Jubileers	14-Mar-2015
T Square Gadabouts	20-Feb-2015

Swinging Stars Banners Held at Other Clubs

Club	Date Captured
Rebel Rousers	30-Jan-2016
Kissin Kuzzins	12-Dec-2015

UPCOMING ACTIVITY -- CLUB-RECOMMENDED DANCING

Swinging Stars Dance:

Friday 12 February – Swinging Stars – “Valentine Special” Dance

Caller: Wayne Baldwin

Cuer: Walter Brewer

Square Workshop: 7:00, Grand March: 8:00

Shepard Elementary School

1000 Wilson Drive, Plano, TX

UPCOMING ACTIVITY -- DANCE OF INTEREST

Plus Dance

Thursday 11 February – Double Plus

Caller: Joey Duhamel

Cuer: none

Square Workshop: 7:00, Square Dance 7:30

Swingtime Center

5100 S.E. Loop 820 (take “Anglin” exit), Fort Worth, TX

Square + Round Dance

Saturday 13 February – Dixie Chainers – “Bring Your Valentine” Dance

Caller: Vernon Jones

Cuer: Jack von der Heide

Early Rounds: 7:00, Grand March: 7:30

Farmers Branch Senior Center

14055 Dennis Lane, Farmers Branch, TX

UPCOMING ACTIVITY -- OTHER

Swinging Stars “After Party”

Friday 12 February – BJ’s Restaurant & Brewhouse

NOTE: After our next Swinging Stars dance on Friday 12 February, we will “after party” at BJ’s. It’s immediately off the southbound outer road of Central Expressway (U.S. 75) just south of 15th Street in Plano. (See <http://www.bjsrestaurants.com/locations/tx/plano> .) Come try it out.

LADIES LUNCHEON:

Mary Hardin will host the ladies luncheon this month on Wednesday 17 February. She has chosen the Chocolate Angel Café & Tearoom inside the High Street Antiques Mall at 800 North Central Expressway, Plano, Texas 75074. This is one of our favorite places to meet for our monthly luncheons. We hope you will join us for a fun afternoon visiting with the ladies of the Swinging Stars.

Please reply to Mary Hardin at mrhardin39@gmail.com or phone 972-517-8691 by Feb. 15th, so she can tell the Chocolate Angle how many are coming.

You can check out Chocolate Angle’s menu and get directions at www.chocolateangel.com.

Refreshments Duty and Information

February 12 - **Pitts**, Lee, Jimison, See
February 26 - **Henneberger**, Row, Kern, Loxsom
March 11 - **Feldman**, Sobotka, Sherrell, Rose
March 25 - **Deluke**, Duncan, Harris, Bivins
April 8 - **Reid**, Mosher, Starrett, Trujillo
April 22 - **Nejdl**, Pharr, Sherman, Schweers

Please do not purchase any staple items (plates, cups, napkins, forks, etc, etc. without first checking with the 1st Vice Presidents to see if they are already in inventory.

Thank you all for serving on our Refreshment Team!

Upcoming Advertised Swinging Stars Theme Dances

Swinging Stars

Mid Winter Warm Your Heart Dance

February
26, 2016

Caller: Wayne Baldwin

Cuer: Walter Brewer



Early Rounds: 7:00

Grand March: 8:00

Hot Flash after the last tip

Shepard Elementary School 1000 Wilson Drive., Plano

Dancers Under 18 dance free when accompanied by paying adults

Banners Honey Pot Great Dancing Good Food

For info: 972-467-4973 or president@swingingstars.org



Visit our Website: www.swingingstars.org

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https://www.facebook.com/pages/*/174698729255581



Swinging Stars



Celebrate



MARCH MADNESS



Caller:



Wayne Baldwin

Friday, March 25, 2016

Cuer:



Walter Brewer

Square Dance Attire
OR
Show Your Team
Spirit By Wearing
Your Favorite
Team Shirt



Early Rounds 7:00
Square Dance 8:00
Hot Hash after last tip

Honey Pot



Shepard Elementary School 1000 Wilson Dr. Plano, Tx
For Info: 972-681-3640 or President@swingingstars.org

Visit our Web Site: www.swingingstars.org

Teens Dance Free When Accompanied By A Paying Adult



72.9 MHz

Important dates for the next year (you should have these on your calendar!):

June 16 – 19 – Texas State Square Dance Festival – Waco, TX

June 22 – 25, 2016 – National Square Dance Convention in Des Moines, Iowa

October, 2016 – NORTEX Oktoberfest (Round-UP) – More information coming soon

Check out and Like our Facebook page at: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Swinging-Stars-Square-Round-Dance-Club/278689705592854>

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

Remember our Sunshine person is Lucy Hamm, and you can email her at llhamm45@gmail.com or phone her at 214-872-7219. Please contact her with anything that we need to be aware of in regards to sickness or other issues.

Kathy & Bob Estep

Swinging Stars Presidents

Email: president@swingingstars.org

Phone: 972-618-3640
