

Swinging Stars

Square and Round Dance Club

Newsletter for February 10, 2013

We had a great dance Friday night though it was small in comparison to our anniversary. Seventy of our members and eleven visitors were in attendance. Two of our current students, James and Kendra Branden and their daughter Michelle came to watch. Michelle was kind enough to read the winning honey pot ticket and though he was slow to respond, the winner - Joe Whitaker, finally came forward - just kidding Joe, congratulations. We also were glad to have a visitor from Maryland, Fleming; she was visiting Richard & Peggy Jung. Roger and Janelle brought their daughter Rebecca. In addition, we had two Rebel Rousers, two Texas Reelers and all the way from Calabasas, CA we had two Trail Dusters, Stan & Mary Carol Kelly. If you haven't met them, please introduce yourself. They are fun dancers who recently moved here so be sure to show them our Texas hospitality.

Wayne introduced three new singing calls Hit The Road Jack, Everyday is Going to be Sunday and Two Dozen Roses. What a treat. As usual, he and Walter did their normal fabulist jobs that we have all come to appreciate. Thanks guys and thanks to Jodi and Eula for putting up with you two taking time to plan and prepare, it is very much appreciated.

Mama's pizza following our dance is always a really fun time. We laughed, told stories and critiqued our first news letter – note the following corrections:

The March Madness dance is in “2013”, not 2913. JL Pelton is the “cuer” note the cure..... LOL.

It was all in great fun.

“Formula 51”

"Formula 51" as proposed by NORTEX is a program to integrate new students into the club dance environment as early as possible. These dances will be called using only the basic list - the first 51 calls from the mainstream list. The intent is to offer fun and creative choreography for all dancers over the material covered during the first three-fourths of mainstream lessons.



Swinging Stars will offer Formula 51 dances during the month of April on the 12th and 26th. These dances will be great for our current students. The dance on the 26th will be "Out of this World."

NORTEX NEWS

You may have heard that our Roundup Theme for 2013 - "Celebrating Texas' Heritage - The Yellow Rose of Texas" but have you heard that four of our very own Swinging Stars will serve on the NORTEX 2013 Roundup Committee.

Tom & Vicki Evanto - Trail Boss
Chris & Merry Trujillo - Facilities
Dave & Lorraine Burson – New Dancer Dance
Larry Giaudrone & Rosemary Benedetto - Promenade & Publishing

We are proud to have such good representation on the committee and we know you will do a superb job and we look forward to hearing more about your work on the Roundup Committee.

The feature caller will be Noah Sigman and the staff caller will be Vernon Jones (Wayne had previously booked a dance for the same weekend). The cuer will be JL Pelton. 2013 RoundUp will be held at the Grapevine Convention Center. Mark your calendars NOW for November 2 with the caller's cavalcade being held on November 1st. This will be a great week-end.

EVENTS FROM THE PAST WEEK

Roadrunners – Thursday, Feb 7th

Thanks to the Swinging Stars who trekked to Ft. Worth to visit the Roadrunners at Swingtime Center Feb 7th. We were rewarded with cueing by Charles Crockett and calling by Joey Duhamel. Joey worked the call "crossfire" from many starting positions during his plus workshop. The fourth tip was called by Masaru Wada, a national caller from Japan, who entertained the dancers with his enthusiastic calling. And Wada-san joined Joey for the final singing call of the night. The 7 Swinging Stars who attended were awarded the Roadrunner's banner: Bursons, T. Evanto, Pitts, and Sees. See link: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MwSJ9n1F7Nc> to hear Wada-san calling.

Dixie Chainers – Saturday, Feb 9th

Several Swinging Stars, including many of our newest dancers, visited the Dixie Chainers in Farmers Branch Feb 9th. Cueing was provided by Jack von der Heide and the tips were called by Vernon Jones. Jon Jones came as a backup for Vernon since he has been ill and called an enjoyable tip. The Swinging Stars enjoyed dancing with the Stone Steppers, including their new dancers. We don't get to see them very often since our clubs dance on the same nights. The Dixie Chainer's banner was captured by the following Swinging Stars: Archys, Bondis, Colters, T. Evanto, Hawkins, and Smith / Hardin. Thanks to Mark and Karen Hawkins for the details.

North Star 8 – Saturday, Feb 9th

It was a long haul over and back to visit North Star 8 in Paris on Saturday, Feb 9th, but well worth the travel. Their guest caller from Monroe, Louisiana, Lottie Ainsworth, entertained us with a vibrant plus workshop and demanding tips including some that approached hot hash speed. We were kept on our toes the entire night as she had us doing calls from some of the lesser used starting positions. Many times it was difficult to hear the calls because we were laughing so loudly at our inability to execute flawlessly. In their cozy dance hall with an old fashioned gas heater country and western tunes for two steps, waltzes, and a fun Charleston line dance were played between tips. Lottie gave each of the dancers her own special dangle for their collection. The club prepared a superb dinner that included casseroles, Mexican lasagna, enchiladas, and scrumptious desserts. And, yes, another banner was captured by the following Swinging Stars dancers: Bursons, Harris, Pitts, and Trujillos.

*** * * SPECIAL CLUB OPPORTUNITIES * * ***

Weekend Plus Dance – 30th Annual Texas Stampede Feb 22nd-24th

The 30th Annual Texas Stampede with headline callers Tony Oxendine and Jerry Storey and cuer Christine Hixson will be at the Sterling Hotel in Dallas (1055 Regal Row, Dallas). See the Swinging Stars weekend website page for more details.

Swinging Stars Bus Trip to Mineola Saturday, Mar 23rd

Reserve your seats early to ensure the trip doesn't get canceled – plan is to make seats available to other area clubs toward the end of February if we have enough Swinging Stars committed (already paid).

We are visiting the East Texas Square and Round Dance Association “**It’s GOLDen East Texas – 50 Years of Square Dancing**” Festival in Mineola. We will leave Walmart at Spring Creek and I-75 in Plano at 8:00AM in a luxury coach for the 2 hour drive to Mineola and start the return trip about 10:30PM. An exciting day of dancing and fun is planned, including round and square dancing with hot hash and plus and an after party. Dave and Michelle Viera are the headline caller and cuer. Transportation is \$30 per person. Each dancer will be responsible for their lunch and dinner and the \$7 dance fee – that’s right, only \$7. Our coach will drive us to historic downtown Mineola for lunch and shopping after the morning dancing. Dinner is planned near or at the civic center. Send Bob and Terri Pitts \$30 per person, first come first served, to secure your seats on the bus. Contact Bob or Terri at bobp8211@gmail.com if you have questions.

COMING EVENTS FOR FEBRUARY 2013

Dance of Interest – Friday, Feb 15th

Dance: [T-Square Gadabouts – Miss Match Dance](#)
Location: Swingtime Center (5100 SE Loop 820 Ft. Worth)
Times: Early rounds – 7:00PM / Workshop – 7:30PM / Grand march – 8:00PM
Caller: Rick Smith
Cuer: Charles Crockett
Notes: Dress mismatched

Official Visitation – Saturday, Feb 16th

Dance: [Rebel Rousers – Black & White Ball](#)
Location: Richardson Senior Center (820 W. Arapaho Richardson)
Times: Early rounds – 7:30PM Grand march – 8:00PM
Caller: Mike Bramlett
Cuer: Christine Hixson
Notes: Double signature dance and official banner raid

Ladies Luncheon – Tuesday, Feb 19th

Location: Chocolate Angel Café and Tearoom (635 W. Campbell Richardson)
Website: www.chocolateangel.com
Time: 11:30AM
Host: Terri Pitts (972-392-4325 / tjtpitts@sbcglobal.net)
Notes: Let Terri know by Feb 15th if you plan to attend

Swinging Stars Club Dance – Friday, Feb 22nd

Location: Shepard Hill Elementary School
Times: Early rounds – 7:30PM / Dance – 8:00PM
Caller: Wayne Baldwin
Cuer: Walter Brewer
Notes: Mid Winter Dance

Dance of Interest – Saturday, Feb 23rd

Dance: [Tri-City Promenaders – President's Day Dance](#)
Location: Brookside Center (1244 Brookside Dr. Hurst)
Times: Early rounds – 7:00PM / Workshop – 7:30PM / Grand march – 8:00PM
Caller: Paul Kinsey
Cuer: Chris Farabaugh

Dance Opportunity – Sunday, Feb 24th

Dance: [Dance celebrating the 50th Anniversary of Dean and Cheryl Albrecht](#)
Location: Swingtime Center (5100 SE Loop 820 Ft. Worth)
Times: Early rounds – 2:30PM / Dance 3:00PM
Caller: Rick Smith
Cuer: Charles Crockett
Notes: Free admission, guests requested not to bring gifts

FRIENDSHIP DANCE

Friendship Dance with the Rockwall Squares is planned for 5/10/2013 at Shepard Elementary. We are making plans and will be sharing information soon.

MAINSTREAM LESSONS

The Swinging Stars have 3 or 4 couples that are taking lessons at the Richardson Senior Center. We are asking the Swinging Stars to volunteer to help angel these new students. Lessons are on Tuesdays at 7:00 and last till 9:00. Please contact Richard and Jan at president@swingingstars.org or 972-325-1144 to let them know if you would like to help angel.

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

February 11th Happy Birthday to Dennis Weigel
February 14th Happy Anniversary to Dave & Lorraine Burson
February 14th Happy Anniversary to Dave & Catherine Humphrey
February 17th Happy Birthday to Judy Ross

ROUND DANCE LESSONS

The Swinging Stars will be sponsoring beginner round dance lessons with instructors JL and Linda Pelton at Carpenter Recreation Center. JL and Linda have instructed round dancing for several years and have a successful intermediate round dance club on Thursday nights at the Plano Senior Center. Lessons will begin Tuesday, March 19 at 7:00PM and continue each Tuesday night for eleven weeks. Our hope is to continue lessons through the year, teaching students all the rhythms commonly danced at square dances – cha, rumba, two step, waltz, foxtrot, and jive. The first class will teach cha and rumba. This will be a great opportunity for interested couples to enter the tremendously enjoyable activity of round dancing.

We need to get an idea of how many students to expect for the round dance lessons beginning on March 19. Please let Ralph and Lucy Hamm know that you plan to take lessons as soon as possible. Email: rehamm45@gmail.com; Phone: (214) 872-7219. Registration begins March 2 online at www.planoparks.org; in person at Carpenter Recreation Center, 6701 Coit Road; or by phone at (972) 208-8087. Course number is # 140236 CAR. For additional information, see the flyer on the Swinging Stars website: http://swingingstars.org/ChoreographedBallroom_LessonFlyer.pdf

REFRESHMENTS DUTY AND INFORMATION

Refreshment Schedule – February through March 2013

Lead couple is first name on the list.

February 22 Piziali, Ryder, Foust*, McGuire

March 8 Maier, Morse, Evanto, Kilejian*

March 22 Whipple, Humphrey, Row, Bivins

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.
- 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 Fluorescent 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 to pick up the three 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@swingingstars.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.

Schedule of advertised Swinging Stars Theme Dances thru Feb 2013



February 22, 2013

Mid Winter Dance



March 22, 2013

March Madness

Swinging Stars 39th Anniversary Dance is in the planning.
The date is set for 01/31/2014 at All Saints Catholic Church in Richardson, TX
(pending approval of the club)
Please mark your calendar – more news to follow....



Tuesday, March 19 Swinging Star Round Dance Lessons

Tuesday, June 11 Plus Lessons

Tuesday, August 27 Mainstream Lessons

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

RICHARD & JAN COVINGTON

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