



Swinging Stars

Square and Round Dance Club

Newsletter for March 24, 2013

If you missed Friday's March Madness dance you missed a lot of good clean fun with most people donning their school or pro-team colors. We had the Big 12 well represented with University of Oklahoma, Texas A&M, Texas Tech, University of Texas, TCU, Kansas State as well as a number of other schools including Maryland, University of Montreal, Arkansas University, University of Texas at Dallas, University of North Texas, Southern Methodist University, Syracuse, Boston University and others (sorry if I missed your school no way I could remember them all). We also had professional teams including Mavericks, Cowboys and Texas Rangers. We thank you for showing off your spirit.

Another very good dance thanks to Wayne Baldwin and Walter Brewer. They are so smooth and polished it seemed like no effort at all. Don't let that fool you, both men have put in hours of preparation time and years becoming great at their profession. Thanks guy! We also had three very good caller trainees calling including Joe Rose crooning his rendition of Good Luck Charm, Dorinda Maier showing her patriotic spirit sang Independence Day and Richard Maier hit a home run with his upbeat fast pace song, Tennessee River. The Swinging Stars are very fortunate to have such budding talent and thanks to Wayne Baldwin sharing his microphone, we get to exhibit our talents. Thanks to our dancers for giving us the opportunity to practice.

We had a total of 107 in attendance, 79 Swinging Stars and 28 visitors including Stone Steppers, Rebel Rousers, Dixie Chainers, Kissin' Kuzzins, Model "A's", Texas Reelers and all the way from Oklahoma City we had two Spirit of '76's. The Texas Reelers showed up in mass with two full squares to reclaim their banner. We have them listed as a dance of interest for this coming Friday night. So, if you are thinking like I am thinking, we should go retrieve their banner. I like having a wall full of other club banners so that we live up to the name, "the club that visits." Finally, we awarded our Oklahoma guess with Swinging Stars dangles – the dangles are red, in the shape of Texas and they state "I danced with the Swinging Stars of Plano."

Following the dance we had a Club meeting and approved the expenditures for hiring Brad Caldwell to be guest caller for our January 31, 2014 Anniversary Dance and the cost to rent All Saints Catholic Church fellowship hall and gym for the dance. Our theme is going to be "Dancing with the Stars Season Two." Dave and Lorraine Burson have volunteered to be our Anniversary Dance Chair.

Brad Caldwell
Sun City Sundancers Club Caller

Brad is a national caller and has called square dancing throughout the country. Brad was born and raised in Texas and prefers to live and work here in his home state. He has been a caller since 1988 and has been the club caller since the Sundancers were organized in 1997. Brad has a beautiful singing voice and can do impersonations of Elvis Presley, Ray Charles, and many more.



I am so excited; I can hardly wait for our 2014 Anniversary Dance. It is going to be a great time.

Round Dance Lessons

Have your heard???? We had a very good turnout for our Round Dance Lessons – JL and Linda had set a maximum for lessons of 30 and we had 29 total – five couples of swinging stars. We learned the Wall, Center of the Hall, Line of Dance and Reverse Line of Dance as well as the Basic, the Half Basic, the Back Basic, the Crab Walk and the Cucaracha. For those of us taking round lessons for the first time it was challenging and rewarding. We are looking forward to the next ten weeks.



“Formula 51”



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"Formula 51" is finally here...our two April dances, 12th & 26nd are Formula 51 dances. This NORTEX program is intended to integrate new students into the club dance environment as early as possible. Current students have completed the "basic list" - the first 51 calls from the mainstream list. You have probably already experienced basic tips without knowing it as the callers have been practicing their choreography getting ready for the Formula 51 initiative. The intent is to offer fun and creative choreography for dancers of all levels.



Keys for making our Formula 51 dances a success – invite student dancers into your square. Remember when you were a new dancer coming to your first club dance – you were probably somewhat timid and maybe a little bit shy. They will have the tendency to want to dance with other students as they do not want to breakdown other squares. So, before we start squaring up, find a new couple and ask them to dance with you. Try to only have one, not more than two, student couples in a square. If you see a student square forming, it might be too late, but “gently” try to split the square. When your square breaks down form lines and, just like he always does, Wayne will get you started as soon as he can.

Other things to remember, have a good time but remember the students learned to dance dosido “no tochie, back-to-back.” We will have plenty of time later to teach them the proper way (just kidding). Let’s be sure to show them our Swinging Stars hospitality and make them feel as a welcome guest.

SWINGING STARS JACKETS



Ralph Hamm modeling our Swinging Stars Jackets
(Sorry girls Ralph belongs to Lucy)

Note the following details & pricing:

Satin jacket - kasha lined (as before) with (2) slash pockets
 Color - solid royal blue shell, knit collar & cuffs
 Embroidery - left chest with small logo and first name personalization

Pricing: (includes sales tax - f.o.b. swinging stars)

| | <u>15 units</u> | <u>20 units</u> | <u>25 units</u> |
|---------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Sm – XL | \$59.34 unit | \$58.89 unit | \$56.35 unit |
| 2XL | \$62.32 unit | \$61.86 unit | \$61.35 unit |

Please contact Mark & Karen Hawkins, First VP's, 972-436-4868 or 1stVP@swingingstars.org to place your order – the size can be confirmed when they come out with samples – as soon as we have 15 units committed, we will arrange for the vendor to come to a club dance for sizing. We have twelve committed and need three more. However, as I mentioned Friday night, we may have another vendor and twelve exceeds their minimum. The price has yet to be firmed up as they want to look at the stitching before giving us a final estimate.

* * * EVENTS FROM THE PAST WEEK * * *

Ladies Luncheon – Wednesday, Mar 20th

Twelve Swinging Stars ladies attended the Ladies Luncheon Wednesday, Mar 20th, at Breadwinners Café on Preston Road in Plano. All enjoyed great food and fellowship and visited with some of our Stars still on the mend and some that live and work in west Plano. Next month's luncheon location will be in Old Plano on Thursday, April 25th, so join us if you can.

ETSRDA “It's GOLDen East Texas – 50 Years of Square Dancing” Festival – Saturday, Mar 23rd

We (the Pittses) had a wonderful time at the morning and afternoon dances and getting to see beautiful Mineola. Fun morning squares and hot hash dances sessions were called by Dave Viera (dancing with fun East Texas dancers and some spry fun teen dancers too). Clever plus dancing formations were called by Ron Mineau (and his wife Linda in a duet) and Sonny and Charlotte Ezelle taught a nice Cha, “Black Velvet”. We were told there were 15 squares at the Friday night dance and the hall was beginning to buzz Saturday afternoon as dancers were coming in for the big Saturday night festivities and dance. We learned the best options to participate in this festival are by: 1) going to one or more days of the festival staying nearby as couples, 2) carpooling with small groups for the afternoon and evening dances with dinner in between, or 3) traveling by bus for larger groups for just the Saturday evening dance (can include the afternoon activities if the group desires).

Official – Cotton Pickin' Squares, Saturday, Mar 23rd

On the road again – 12 Swinging Stars made our first planned club visit in quite a while to the Cotton Pickin' Squares in Greenville to attend their 19th anniversary Picnic in the Park dance. And I can say this is the first time I have had to go through a guard station to get to a dance location (maybe we need a guard station for our April 26th “Entering Area 51” dance☺). The rounds were cued by Christine Hixson. Her early rounds included some really tough but exciting numbers targeted toward the tenured dancers which were inspiring for the up and coming. Mike Bramlett was the vivacious caller and provided plenty of entertainment for the evening, especially his nascent rendition of Gangnam Style that had many of the dancers bouncing like laughing horses. The Squares provided a nice dance atmosphere complemented with tables full of tasty vittles. The visiting Swinging Stars who brought home their banner were: Bursons, Covingtons, Hamms, HARRISES, Pittses, and Trujillos.

Dixie Chainers, Saturday, Mar 23rd

A couple of Swinging Stars couples visited the Dixie Chainers in Farmers Branch on Saturday. They enjoyed a lively evening of square dancing called by Vernon Jones. Vernon was entertaining, as always, with some unusual combinations to keep dancers on their toes. Rounds were cued by Jack von der Heide. Swinging Stars in attendance were the Bondis and Smith/Hardin. Thanks to Jim Bondi for the details.

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

13th Annual Swing into Spring Plus Weekend with the Log Cabin Swingers, Apr 5-7th

Location: Promenade Hall (1210 N. Tool Highway 274, Tool, TX)
Website: <http://www.logcabinsquaredanceclub.com/swingintospring2013.pdf>
Caller: Jerry Storey
Cuer: Walter Brewer
Notes: Breakfast Sunday morning

51st Annual Texas State Federation Square and Round Dance Festival, June 6-9th

Location: San Marcos, TX
Website: http://www.squaredancetx.com/st_festival.html
Notes: Fun for beginners and advanced square and round dancers

62nd National Square Dance Convention, June 26-29th

Location: Oklahoma City, OK
Website: <http://www.62nsdc.com>
Notes: For beginners and advanced square and round dancers, national conventions don't get much closer than this!

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

Student Hoedown – Lone Star Solos, Thursday, Mar 28th

Location: Knights of Columbus Hall (10110 Shoreview Road, Dallas, TX)
Website: <http://www.lonestarsolos.com/>
Time: Early rounds – 7:30PM / Grand march – 8:00PM
Caller: Dave Viera
Cuer: Christine Hixson
Notes: New dancer dance, calls 1-40, students FREE

Dance of Interest – Texas Reelers, Friday, Apr 5th

Location: Richardson Senior Center (820 W. Arapaho, Richardson, TX)
Website: <http://www.texasreelers.org/> (Note: website was down 24Mar)
Time: Early rounds – 7:30PM / Grand march – 8:00PM
Caller: Ray Savell
Cuer: Jack von der Heide
Theme: Take Me Out to the Ballgame

Dance of Interest – Solitaires, Saturday, Apr 6th

Location: Chapel Hill United Methodist Church (12411 Templeton Trail, Farmers Branch, TX)
Website: <http://www.solitaires1.com/>
Time: Early rounds – 7:00PM / Grand march – 7:45PM
Caller: Rick Smith (guest caller)
Cuer: JL Pelton
Theme: The Tax Man Cometh
Notes: New dancer dance

Swinging Stars Club Dance – Swinging Stars, Friday, Apr 12th

Location: Shepard Elementary School (1000 Wilson Dr., Plano, TX)
Website: <http://swingingstars.org/>
Time: Workshop – 7:30PM / Dance – 8:00PM
Caller: Wayne Baldwin
Cuer: Walter Brewer
Notes: This is a Formula 51 dance

Official – Dixie Chainers, Friday, Apr 13th

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 and Daryl Libscomb
Cuer: Jack von der Heide
Theme: Annual Luau Dance (double deal)

Ladies Luncheon – Thursday, Wednesday, Apr 25th

Location: Into My Garden Tearoom
Historic downtown Plano – 1017 East 15th Street
(Inside Nooks and Krannies)
Website: www.intomygarden.com
Time: 11:30AM
Hostess: Lorraine Burson (Lorraine@bursons.us / 972.396-0941)
Notes: Let Lorraine know by Tuesday, Apr 23rd if you plan to attend. This is a wonderful tearoom with delicious items on their menu. Menu, map and parking links are available on their website.

FRIENDSHIP DANCE

Friendship Dance with the Rockwall Squares is planned for May10, 2013 at Shepard Elementary. We are making plans and will be sharing information soon.

MAINSTREAM LESSONS

We have had a number of Swinging Stars volunteer to help angel these new students however, some of our regular angels are taking Round Dance Lessons. So if you have an opportunity, go by and introduce yourselves to James & Kendra Branden, Jeffrey & Terri Urban, Steve & Mary Beth Sunderhaus and Don & Jeanne Denzin. There may be others but these are the ones I know. Tell them how happy we are that they are going to be Swinging Stars. Lessons are on Tuesdays at 7:00 and last till 9:00.

SWINGING STARS MENDING

Some of you may have heard already, but Royce had a stroke late Wednesday/early Thursday. He is doing well. He was initially admitted to Lakepointe Hospital in Rowlett and after a couple of day was discharged to Baylor Rehab in Garland. He is in Room 340 at Baylor Garland, and is hopeful he will be there for only a week. He generally will be doing different kinds of therapy for a total of 3-4 hrs a day (today he started at 9:00 and will be through at 2:00, with an hour for lunch), so it would better to plan any visits to him for a time later in the day.

The address for Baylor Garland is: Room 340, 2300 Marie Curie Drive, Garland, TX 75042; Phone: 972.487.5000

Royce & Betty's address is: 6102 Lakeshore Drive, Rowlett, TX 75089; Phone: 972.475.1489.

Keep them in your prayers!

Roundup Theme for 2013 "Celebrating Texas' Heritage - The Yellow Rose of Texas"



REFRESHMENTS DUTY AND INFORMATION

| | |
|----------|------------------------------------|
| April 12 | Stuart, Feldman, Shinavar, Bivins |
| April 26 | Loven, Hursey, Hamm, Carter |
| May 10 | Hawkins, Harris, McClure, Whitaker |
| May 24 | Pitts, Feldman, DeLuke, Jung |

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 May 2013

April 26, 2013



Area 51

May 10, 2013



Fiesta Friendship

Swinging Stars 39th Anniversary Dance
January 31, 2014
Brad Caldwell & Wayne Baldwin Calling
Walter Brewer Cueing
Chairpersons Dave & Lorraine Burson
All Saints Catholic Church in Richardson, TX



Sunday, May 5 at 2:00 PM – Club Meeting at Spring Creek BBQ on Hwy 75

Tuesday, June 11 Plus Lessons at Carpenter Rec. Center in Plano

Tuesday, August 27 Mainstream Lessons at Carpenter Rec. Center in Plano

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

RICHARD & JAN COVINGTON

Swinging Stars, President

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