



Swinging Stars

Square and Round Dance Club

Newsletter for April 6, 2014

We apologize for an error in last week's newsletter which spoke about the Swinging Stars being presented a patch commemorating our 400th visitation as a club. We gave ourselves an extra 100 visits. The patch is for 300 visits as a club. This is still the highest level achieved by any NORTEX club, and the 300 visits patch will be displayed just as proudly on our club banner.

If you didn't do it last week, please mark **Sunday, May 18, 3:00PM** on your calendar for a **club general membership meeting**. We expect the meeting to be at our usual place at Spring Creek Barbeque on Central/US 75 in Richardson, but arrangements are still pending.

Here's another date to mark on your calendar: Friday, December 5, 2014. The fun highlight of the Swinging Stars year, the annual holiday party, will be at the Haggard Party Barn on that night. This party is not to be missed!

Our club dance this Friday will feature Wayne's one-hour square dance workshop beginning at 7:00PM. This is our third month with a this format for the second Friday dance. The previous two one-hour workshops have proved quite popular, with each drawing eight squares or more. Wayne makes the workshops fun and beneficial. If you missed the February and March workshops, you should try this one – you'll like it.

JL Pelton will be cueing for us this Friday, and we really appreciate his filling in on short notice. We suspect there will be some dances of interest to our recent Bolero graduates and one or two for current Two Step students.

Our official visitation for Saturday is to the Dixie Chainers Annual Luau. This is always one of the most fun dances of the year in all of NORTEX. Our own Wayne Baldwin will be teaming up with Vernon Jones for what could not possibly fail to be GREAT square dancing! Not only that, the Dixie Chainers' salad supper is always wonderful. But wait, there's more – you can wear your Bermuda shorts and Hawaiian shirts or any other favorite beachwear you may have (no bikinis or speedos please). No way to beat this, so be there! By the way, remember that the Dixie Chainers grand march is at 7:30PM (early rounds at 7:00PM) because they need to clear the facility before the 10:00PM closing.

Ralph and Lucy

Happening This Week

Tuesday, April 8 – Two step lesson.

Friday, April 11 – Swinging Stars club dance with square dance workshop at 7:00PM.

Saturday, April 12– Official visit to Dixie Chainers Annual Luau; see details in Coming Events below.

Announcements

Dues for the second quarter are ...errr... due. Most of you pay semiannually or annually, but if you haven't paid your second quarter dues, please bring your check payable to the Swinging Stars (\$35 per couple per quarter) to the dance Friday or mail it to our Treasurer:

Dan Lassiter
1701 Gateway Blvd, Suite 403
Richardson, TX 75081
Email: Treasurer@swingingstars.org

A note from JL and Linda Pelton: Beginning **Two Step lessons** are going great. With the addition of Bob and Terri Pitts (so glad they are back to dancing) we have a total of 29 students taking Two Step class. The one odd number is lady is not really single as her husband is in China taking care of an aging parent. Thanks to Bill Perrott for angeling her for lessons. Originally we thought it would only be a few weeks, but it looks like at least another month. Also a very big thank you to Peggy and Gary Amy and Mary Hardin who have been angeling various Swinging Stars taking lessons who, for one reason or another, don't have a partner for one night. Coming up is Week 4 of lessons, so we're still at the "basic" level. However, the class has learned enough figures to be able to dance San Francisco. Stay tuned for more progress updates.

Ladies, don't forget to contact Peggy Amy not later than Saturday if you want to go to the **Ladies Luncheon on April 15**. Details are in Coming Events below.

* * * From Your 2nd VPs * * *

For those plus dancers looking for a great time and extra challenge, Thursday, April 10, Double Plus will have Joey Duhamel calling squares at Swingtime Center (7:00 pm plus workshop, 7:30 pm dance).

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
Buttons and Bows	1-Feb-14
Cotton Pickin' Squares	23-Mar-13
Decatur 8'ers	5-Oct-13
Diamond Jubileers	8-Mar-14
Dixie Chainers	22-Mar-14
Kissin' Kuzzins	21-Feb-14
Log Cabin Swingers	4-May-13
North Star 8	09-Feb-13
Rebel Rousers	15-Feb-14
Solitaires	04-Jan-14
Texas Reelers	04-Apr-14
Texoma Squares	01-Jun-13
Tri-City Promenaders	26-Jan-13

Swinging Stars Banners Out

Club	Date Captured
Lone Star Solos	28-Feb-14

* * * EVENTS FROM THE PAST WEEK * * *

Plus 4s, Wednesday, April 2nd

Seventeen Swinging Stars visited Plus 4s in Farmers Branch on Wednesday. Veteran club caller Charles Quizenberry (often called "Quiz") was both "feisty" and "fatherly" this evening. His feistiness was exhibited by challenging dancers with some serious new surprises, especially his creation and manipulation of the "hour glass" formation. This is a combination of a large, square-sized 4-person diamond, usually all of one sex, with a 4-person square of the other sex slipped over the diamond rather like 4 posts. Envision a diamond placed inside a square box. Once dancers visualized these two pieces, it wasn't hard to circulate the pieces independently or even flip/cut the diamond piece. However, dancers needed the special guidance of Quiz's fatherly side to learn how to circulate the structure as an hour glass, i.e., "hour glass circulate." This involves dancers moving from one piece to the other rather than staying in their original piece. Bottom line: we survived and we grew a little as square dancers. All attending had a terrific time. Swinging Stars present included Bergesens, J. Bondi, Bursons, Evantos, Hamms, Hawkins, Kilejians, Lewises, and Shermans. Thanks to Jim Bondi for the report.

Official, Texas Reelers, Friday, April 4th

On Friday night, thirty Swinging Stars enjoyed a great night of dancing with the Texas Reelers. Vernon Jones called the squares, and Jack von der Heide cued the rounds. Jack cued a fun and challenging program of rounds, and he accepted a huge round of applause for his wife, Ann, when it was announced that doctors believe she is cancer free following pancreatic cancer surgery. Vernon did his usual skilled job of calling, including a tip to the song "This Old Riverboat" which was popular in the 1960s and turned out to be a good workshop on do paso. The visiting Swinging Stars, who recaptured our banner and captured the Texas Reelers banner, included J. Bondi, the Bursons, Covingtons, Delukes, Esteps, Evantos, Fousts, Hamms, Harrises, Jimisons, Kilejians, Lloyds, Pharrs, Rows, Trujillos, and C. Wolfe. Thanks to Ralph Hamm for the report.

Solitaires, Saturday, April 5th

Nine Swinging Stars visited the Solitaires on Saturday for a "formula 51" dance. Rounds were cued by JL & Linda Pelton while most squares, save one extended workshop tip handled by Ray Savell, were called by excellent and entertaining club caller, Bobby Willis. By design, both callers limited their calls to the first 51 which form the subset Caller Lab refers to as "basic." Despite this, their utilized choreography kept things interesting for new and experienced dancers alike. For example, at one point, Bobby warned and then challenged dancers to do right-and-left-through with the sexes sashayed/reversed. This glazed over more than a few pairs of eyes across the floor, even for some veteran dancers. During his workshop, targeted especially at new dancers, Ray carefully stepped dancers through several "basic" calls. To complete the workshop, Ray's wife joined him on stage for a terrific singing duet that put smiles on all faces. All present enjoyed a great evening. Swinging Stars present were J. Bondi, Bursons, J. Duncan, Esteps, T. Evanto, and Kerns. Thanks to Jim Bondi for the report.

* * * COMING EVENTS * * *

Swinging Stars, Friday, April 11th

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

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

Time: Workshop – 7:00PM / square up – 8:00PM

Caller: Wayne Baldwin

Cuer: JL Pelton

Notes: club dance

Official, Dixie Chainers, Saturday, April 12th

Location: Farmers Branch Senior Center (14055 Dennis Lane, Farmers Branch, TX)
Time: Early rounds – 7:00PM / grand march – 7:30PM
Callers: Vernon Jones, Wayne Baldwin
Cuer: Jack von der Heide
Theme: Annual Luau
Notes: Island dress

Ladies Luncheon, Tuesday, April 15th

Location: Kathy's Choice (7989 Beltline Rd, Suite #138, Dallas, TX)
Website: <http://kathyschoice.com/>
Time: 11:30am
Hostess: Peggy Amy (amybpeggy@verizon.net or 972-612-4934)
Notes: Let Peggy know by April 12th if you plan to go

Refreshments Duty and Information

April 11, 2014	Barber, Maier, Ryder, Sobotka
April 25, 2014	Kendrick, Lewis, Piziali, Pitts
May 9, 2014	Foust, Branden, Bullock, Sherman
May 23, 2014	Meyer, Bergesen, Dennison, Loxsom
June 13, 2014	McGuire, Henneberger, Perrott, Ramirez
June 27, 2014	Row, Amy, Smith/Harden, Whitaker

If you need to change your scheduled date, please contact someone on the refreshment list to trade with you. Notify Jeff and Anne Stuart at 972-699-1317 or email jwstuart@flash.net of the names/dates to change.

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 at 6:45 pm. As per our contract with PISD, we cannot enter the gym before 6:45 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 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 George and Mary Loxsom at 972-312-8513 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!

Upcoming Advertised Swinging Stars Theme Dances

Swinging Stars

SPRING FLING

Formula 51

Honey Pot **April 25, 2014** *BANNERS*
Fun Dancing *Refreshments*

Caller: Wayne Baldwin
Cuer: Walter Brewer

Early Rounds: 7:00
Square Up: 8:00



SWINGING STARS

Salute The Troops

Friday, May 23, 2014



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

Sunday, May 18, 3:00PM – Swinging Stars general membership meeting

Sunday, June 8 – Annual Fish Fry at the Baldwins

Tuesday, June 10 – Plus lessons begin

June 12 – 15, 2014 – 52nd Texas State Square and Round Dance Festival, Tyler, TX – preregistration form:

www.squaredancetx.com/fest_reg_order.html

June 25 - 28, 2014 – 63rd National Square Dance Convention, Little Rock, AR – see www.63nsdc.com for info

Friday, September 26 – Chili Cook-Off/Double Deal Dance

October 17 – 19, 2014 – NORTEX Round Up

Friday, October 31, 2014 – Halloween Dance (Fifth Friday)

Friday, December 5, 2014 – Swinging Stars annual holiday party

Friday, January 23, 2015 – Swinging Stars 40th Anniversary Dance

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

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

Ralph and Lucy Hamm
Swinging Stars President

Email: president@swingingstars.org

Phone: 214-872-7219
