



Swinging Stars

Square and Round Dance Club

Newsletter for May 19, 2013

PRESIDENTIAL RAMBLINGS

Last night a while a group of us were dancing a **PLUS** tip at the 43 Anniversary Dance of the Trail Blazers, I looked around the room and noticed out of twelve squares we had ten square on the floor. Wow, that is about 90% of the dancers. I am totally impressed. Do you dance **PLUS**? I would love to see 100% of our club members on the dance floor during the **PLUS** tips. Wayne Baldwin can help you get there.... He is the one of the best instructors in the square dance world and he will be teaching our **PLUS** lessons that start June 11th at Carpenter Recreation Center on Coit Road in Plano Texas. Have you signed up? Why not, registrations are open? Don't put it off, call them today.

There are lots of reasons to dance **PLUS** – it makes you a better dancer overall, you get to dance all of the tips during the night, you get more of what you pay for, you are recognized by the other dancers as one of the better dancers, you get the opportunity to go away and dance the **PLUS** weekends. We would love to see you at a **PLUS** weekend, they are the best fun you can have.

The NTCA met today and discussed several NORTEX dances coming up – August 25th is a Pre-Roundup Kickoff & Food Drive. It is from 4:30 – 6:30 at the Plymouth Park United Methodist Church in Irving. There will be two halls running simultaneously both with Mainstream and Rounds with callers and cuers rotating between rooms.

The Cavalcade at Roundup will run from 7:00 – 10:00 on November 1st with early rounds from 7:00 – 7:45 and Grand March at 8:00 with a \$5.00 pre-dance purchase and \$7.00 at the door. Before Cavalcade, caller trainees will call from 6:00 – 7:00 (no additional charge for attending this portion).

Toys for Tots dance will be Sunday, December 8th at the Richardson Civic Center - it will be decorated with Santa Booths for the Christmas season. Chip Wagner for the local TV station will be on hand and there will be possible TV coverage. The Hall rents for \$2,000 and hopefully we will be able to offset the cost with sponsors at \$100 each. It was noted that this is an excellent opportunity for clubs to hand out their lessons brochures as there will be a lot of people walking through the area.

Be sure these dances are on your calendar.

Speaking of dances, we are looking forward to our regularly scheduled dance this Friday...same place, same time. Wayne and Walter are preparing a exciting dance. Come ready to dance, dance, dance....

DANCE LESSONS

Round Dance lessons continue to roll as we continue to practice the dance moves we have learned. We have a few more moves to learn to complete the lessons with only **TWO** more lessons remaining. Have you been practicing? It has proven to be fun.

Square Dance lessons with the Rebel Rousers also only have TWO more weeks. Don and Jeanne Denzin & James and Kendra Branden have applied to be Swinging Stars. Have you met them? If not, introduce yourself and get to know them, they are very good people and they are going to be a good addition to our club. We will introduce them to the club and present them with their Swinging Stars badges as soon as they complete lessons.

HAVE I TOLD YOU? Plus lessons start just around the corner, June 11th at Carpenter Recreation Center in Plano. They are taking enrollment so please do not hesitate to sign up as the class might fill up.

Mainstream lessons are scheduled to start on August 27th also at Carpenter Recreation Center in Plano. Our very own Texas State Hall-of-Fame Square Dance Caller, Wayne Baldwin will be teaching. He is definitely the instructor that you want your friends to learn from. Be sure to tell someone today how much you enjoy square dancing. Your lessons committee is thinking that window/bumper stickers might be in order. I have seen some window stickers in a few windows but don't we all need one on each of our vehicles? Do you have yours?



BALDWIN'S Annual Fish Fry – Sunday, June 2nd

Mark your calendar and save the date for this exciting annual Swinging Stars event hosted by our club caller and his spouse - Wayne and Jodie Baldwin. They invite all of the Swinging Stars to come to their home to eat all the fried fish we want. In fact they indicate they have enough fish for two fish fries, so please plan to attend. Jodie says they need to make room in the freezer for the fish that "The Fishing Crew" is catching. They catch more fish every week. Call Jodie (972-562-2174) or send her an email (jodie.baldwin@flash.net) and find out what you can bring. Or, Jodie will have the signup sheet at the dance this Friday.

"The Fishing Crew" members are Wayne Baldwin, Charlie Harris, Chuck Morse and other guest from time-to-time such as Bob Pitts. How would you like to be a fly on that boat? Sounds like the producers of "The Deadliest Catch" have missed the boat on what could be the best show on TV.

Come ready to get your Ducky Dangle and the new Asphalt Dangle. The dress is casual/pool attire.

It is held at the Baldwin home, 981 Timber Lane., Fairview 75069. We look forward to seeing you there.

*** * * Note from Your 2nd VPs * * ***

Hello Swinging Stars. We discovered not all our dancers are aware of how the Friendship Fun visitation awards activity operates. Signing the guest book list at other club dances does NOT work towards automatically earning the Friendship gold and silver dangles. The dancers need to obtain gold and / or silver signature cards and secure 25 signatures that meet the respective requirements for each to get a dangle (every multiple of 25 gets a new dangle). Silver dangles have easier requirements and are usually faster to achieve than the gold dangles. Click the link (http://www.nortex.org/forms/FriendshipFunRules_rev11-04-12.pdf) to see the Friendship Fun details on the NORTEX website. And click the link (http://www.nortex.org/forms/FriendshipFunSignatureCards_rev01-12.pdf) to get to the signature cards so you can print them out. We carry the gold card in our wallet and have it signed at each dance we visit. Remember anniversary and double deal dances count two times, and therefore cards should be signed twice by the club officers at the check in desk. We hope this information helps, and we will bring some of the signature cards to our next club dance – find us to get one, or you can print one off at the above link. When the cards are full, they are to be returned to Peggy Amy (Friendship Fun Chair). The dangles are presented to the recipients at our Swinging Star club dances.

The Swinging Stars ladies luncheon is THIS Tuesday... See details below.

The current Swinging Star banner inventory is shown below.

Banners Captured by the Swinging Stars

Club	Date Captured
Cotton Pickin' Squares	23-Mar-13
Dublin Cloverleaves	02-Jul-05
Log Cabin Swingers	4-May-13
Lone Star Solos	12-Jul-12
Lone Star Solos	30-Aug-12
Lone Star Solos	28-Mar-13
North Star 8	09-Feb-13
Roadrunners	07-Feb-13
Solitaires	03-Mar-12
Solitaires	03-Nov-12
Texas Reelers	05-Apr-13
Tri City Promenaders	26-Jan-13
T-Square Gadabouts	15-Feb-13
Yellow Rockers	18-Apr-13
Kissin' Kuzzins	17-May-13

Swinging Stars Banners Captured

Club	Date Captured
Rebel Rousers	26-Apr-13
Texas Reelers	10-May-13

*** * * EVENTS FROM THE PAST WEEK * * ***

Dance of Interest – Kissin' Kuzzins, Friday, May 17th

There were 19 Swinging Stars in attendance at the Kissin' Kuzzins' New Dancer Dance and the Garland Senior Activity Center Friday night. We danced and had fun with the new dancers from several area clubs in workshop and dance tips. Wayne Baldwin and JL Pelton, called and cued some great tunes for the new and veteran square and round dancers. Afterwards, a big group of Kissin' Kuzzins and Swinging Stars trekked to Dos Banderas for some fine Mexican food and fellowship. The Barbers, Bondis, Bullocks, R. Covington, Delukes, Hamms, Loxsoms, Pitts, Starretts, and Underwoods helped us bring home the Kissin' Kuzzins' banner.

Official Visitation – Trail Blazers, Saturday, May 18th

The Trailblazers' 43rd anniversary dance was held at Swingtime Center in Ft. Worth Saturday night. Dave Viera and Jack Kenny called and cued the squares and rounds, respectively. Dave worked two calls during his workshop, fan the top and star prowler which is also known as grand prowler. His choice of tunes during the regular dance was extraordinary and there was a great fast paced plus tip. Dave ended the evening with Come Sail Away by Styx. Jack cued a mix of both entry level and challenging songs during the early rounds and included several rumbas and chas that the students could do. We all had a Bloomin' Good Time at the likewise themed dance. The Trail Blazers had nice decorations and a wonderful feast prepared for their guests. Even though we didn't have enough present to bring home the Trail Blazers' banner, the following Swinging Stars had a really great time at their dance: Covingtons, Fousts, and Pitts.

Rebel Rousers, Saturday, May 18th

Several Swinging Stars visited the Rebel Rousers Saturday night. Rounds were cued by Christine Hixson and squares were called by Mike Bramlett. Mike challenged dancers with interesting, lively sequences and entertained them with a good mix of singing calls. All in attendance had a great time. Visiting Swinging Stars were the Bondis, Kilejians, and Smith / Hardin. Thanks to Jim Bondi for the report.

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

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!

25th Annual Stagecoach Roundup, July 26-28th

Location: Salado, TX

Website: <http://www.acsquaredance.com/StagecoachRoundup2013.pdf>

Callers: Brad Caldwell and Scott Bennett

Notes: All plus square dancing including dance by definition

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

Ladies Luncheon – Tuesday, May 21st

Location: Chili Gordos Mexican Café (1151 N. Jupiter, Richardson, TX)

Website: <http://www.chiligordos.com/>

Hostess: Janelle Row (flowerskid@sbcglobal.net)

Notes: Let Janelle know on or before Monday, May 20th, if you plan to attend. Hope to see you there.

Swinging Stars Club Dance – Friday, May 24th

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

Website: www.swingingstars.org

Time: Early rounds – 7:30PM / dance – 8:00PM

Caller: Wayne Baldwin

Cuer: Walter Brewer

Dance of Interest – Dixie Chainers, Friday, May 25th

Location: Farmers Branch Senior Center (14055 Dennis Lane, Farmers Branch, TX)
Website: www.dixiechainers.com
Time: Early rounds – 7:00PM / grand march – 7:30PM
Caller: Vernon Jones
Cuer: Jack von der Heide
Theme: Olde Tyme Squares
Notes: Don't miss this fun dance, and let's get their banner

Annual Memorial Day Dance, Monday, May 27th

Location: Swingtime Center (5100 SE Loop 820, Ft. Worth, TX)
Website: n/a
Time: Early rounds – 7:00PM / dance – 7:30PM
Caller: Rick Smith
Cuer: JL Pelton
Theme: Memorial Day
Notes: Hot dog meal

Official – Circle I, Friday, May 31st

Location: Senter Park East (228 Chamberlain, Irving, TX)
Website: <http://www.circlei.org/>
Time: Workshop – 7:30PM / grand march – 8:00PM
Callers: Ray Savell and Vernon Jones
Cuer: Chris Farabaugh
Theme: The Garden Party
Notes: Rare 5th Friday opportunity to dance with Circle I (they dance same nights as the Swinging Stars, so don't capture their banner), 61st anniversary dance, double deal

Official – Texoma Squares, June 1st

Location: Texoma Square Dancehall (929 DesVoignes Road, Denison, TX)
Website: n/a
Time: Early rounds – 7:30PM / grand march – 8:00PM
Caller: Wayne Baldwin
Cuer: Christine Hixson
Theme: Luau
Notes: 61st anniversary dance, double deal, carpool with fellow Swinging Stars

NORTEX Officer and Installation Dance

June 23, 2013

Swingtime Center in Fort Worth

Swinging Stars was asked to help host this year's NORTEX Officer and Installation Dance. We will be responsible for labeling the Chair Backs. The refreshment committee has asked that we provide 60 sandwiches and three dozen cookies. So, we are looking for help to make the Chair Backs and the snacks. Look for the signup sheet at the dance Friday night. This is going to be a fun dance and it is free.

BEHIND THE SCENES

The GRaM Committee finished their first round of testing the Transmitter & Receivers for the Hearing Enhancement systems the Swingtime Center this past week. The inexpensive receivers, \$3 units, proved to be inadequate. They plan to move up to a little more expensive unit to see if it improves the reception.

These ALD, Assisted Listening Devices, use FM signals generated by the transmitter and these units literally place the caller voice in your ear. Once they have completed their evaluation, we will let you know the outcome.

SWINGING STARS JACKETS

Due to the color and material used for making the most recent Swinging Stars jackets, we had to change to something different. It has been voted by those ordering jackets to go with black as it will complement all dress colors. The jackets will continue to have the Swinging Stars logo.

If you want to add your name to our order, call Mark Hawkins, First VP's, 972-436-4868 or 1stVP@swingingstars.org. The price has yet to be nailed down but they gave us the following: S-L @ approximately \$50, XL – XXL @ approximately \$55 (you may get back a little or have to pay a little more).

REFRESHMENTS DUTY AND INFORMATION

May 24	Pitts, Rose, Starrett, Jung
June 14	Giaudrone, Perrott, Lassiter, Piziali
June 28	Ross, Harris, Archey, DeLuke
July 12	Burson, See, Sobotka, Colter
July 26	Anthause, Weckerly*, Henneberger, Ryder
August 9	Reid, Rickert*, Kendrick, Trujillo
August 23	Bullock, Hardin/Smith, Jimison, Foust
September 13	Sherman, Schumacher*, Pharr, Ramirez
September 27	Dennison, Rickett*, Underwood, Maier

*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.
- 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 July 2013



June 12, 2013

Gilligan's Island



July 14, 2014

Celebrating Freedom

Swinging with the Stars and Stripes



May 28th – Students Graduate from Mike Bramlett's lessons

Sunday, June 2nd – Baldwin's Annual Fish Fry

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

Tuesday, June 11 – Plus Lessons at Carpenter Rec. Center in Plano Enrollment - May 4th, Class # 140245

Sunday, June 23rd NORTEX Officer and Installation Dance (Free & we are one of the Host Clubs)

Location - Swingtime Center in Fort Worth

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

Friday, August 9th – Open House Dance, Bring your prospective students

Sunday, August 25th – NORTEX Pre-Roundup Kickoff & Food Drive, 4:30 – 6:30, Plymouth Park United Methodist Church in Irving

Tuesday, August 27th – Mainstream Lessons at Carpenter Rec. Center in Plano, 7:00

Friday, November 1st – Cavalcade at Roundup will run from 6:00 – 10:00 on November 1st

Friday, December 6th - Stars Annual Holiday Party

Sunday, NORTEX Toys for Tots dance will be Sunday, December 8th at the Richardson Civic Center

Friday, January 31, 2014 – Swinging Stars 39th Anniversary Dance at All Saints Catholic Church

Themes:

June 14, 2013 - Gilligan's Island

July 12, 2013 - Swinging with the Stars and Stripes

August 23, 2013 - Take Me Out to the Ballgame

September 27, 2013 - Burnin' Big Tex Chili Cookoff

October 25, 2013 - Boot Scootin' Show Your Colors Ball – Double Deal Dance

November 22, 2013 – Shake Your Tail Feathers Dance (Thanksgiving falls on November 28, 2013)

December 13, 2013 - Toys & Books for Tots Fairytale 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

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

Finally, we are looking for volunteers to serve on the new Nominating Committee for this fall as a new slate of officers needs to be re-elected at our November Club meeting. If you are interested, please let me or Jan know.

RICHARD & JAN COVINGTON

Swinging Stars, President

Email: president@swingingsstars.org

Phones: (972) 325-1144