



Swinging Stars

Square and Round Dance Club

Newsletter for June 30, 2013

PRESIDENTIAL RAMBLINGS

We want to welcome home all of our folks who went to Nationals in Oklahoma City this week-end! We wish we could have been there with you. I understand that each club parades in as a group and wouldn't that be impressive to watch. I hope we are able to attend next year.

As I ponder over the part that square dancing has played in our lives I wonder if I have inadvertently failed to offer this opportunity to anyone that I know. I don't fail to share my favorite restaurants, movies, and TV shows with others but I don't always think about sharing our favorite activity. Little has changed in the 36 years since we first took square dance lessons. The 25 years that we were out of if we were of course busy raising our girls and participating in their many activities. We want to thank you for the past 2 years that we have been back dancing. What other group anywhere in the country – or world – can you be a part of and when you walk into the door as strangers you depart as friends? This isn't just about having one of the biggest clubs in the metroplex but it is about continuing the legacy of this activity. We are privileged to have some of the most talented callers in the country available for us to dance to and a dance somewhere in the area to dance every Friday and Saturday night as well as opportunities during the week. In addition, Texas has some of the best week-end mainstream, plus and advanced week-ends of any state in the Union. We started travel dancing back in the 70's and loved it then as we do now. Consider making a week-end trip before the end of the year or within the next year. Pick a dance from our web site, newsletter and/or calendar. Dave does a great job of listing all of the week-end dances and the flyers on our website. Bob and Terri do a great job of putting out a calendar and the dance schedule in our newsletter. Start talking about the dance you want to go to and people will naturally want to join you. In fact, if you let us know you which dance plan to attend, we will most likely plan to go with you.

Be brainstorming about who you know that you could offer the opportunity for fun, exercise, and fellowship with by inviting them to join our lessons. We plan to have an "open-house" dance on August 9th. A number of folks have asked, what is an "open-house?" It is simply an opportunity for you to invite your friends and family to one of our club dances, no charge for non-dancing guests, to see the square dance activity without committing to taking lessons. At some point, around the third tip, instead of having a plus-tip, we will ask them to participate in some introductory lessons to show them how much fun it is. Timing is perfect for this as Mainstream enrollment at Carpenter Recreation Center in Plano, starts August 11th. Wayne Baldwin will be teaching and he is definitely the instructor that you want your friends to learn from.

Square Dancing is great for people of all ages!!! We want to encourage people of all ages to take lessons. So, as we prepare for mainstream lessons this fall don't forget to talk to your kids and their friends about coming and enjoying this awesome activity. At this week's home court dance we had ten visitors including two Plus Fours, two Dixie Chainers, two Kissin Cousins, one Rebel Rouser and one Stone Stepper. We had sixty-three Swinging Stars.

Prayers Appreciated

From Christine Hixson – Eula Brewer was taken to the hospital from the Convention by paramedics following an incident of some kind, heart and shortness of breath. Report is that she is better and may be released today. Walter and Eula were scheduled to teach his new waltz, but someone else took over and taught it for them.

Vickie Evanto writes the following regarding her mom: She is in rehab for her fractured pelvic bone and will be for quite a while, maybe 4 to 6 weeks. What I worry about is you hear about elderly breaking something and going downhill after that. She's had Alzheimer's a while but was still living with my Dad and having a normal life just without much of a memory. But with all the change and being 88 and cooped up I'm afraid we might lose her mind even more than it is. You can already tell she is more confused. She is very unhappy not being able to walk and go places because they used to go places every day and walk and sit outside on the porch. My Dad and I are there every day and we have someone stay with her at night. We take her out in the courtyard and watch the trees and birds and wind and the cars go by which makes her happy.

DANCE LESSONS

Three weeks – the students have been taught Acey Ducey, Teacup Chain, Ping Pong Circulate, Load the Boat, Extend, Peel Off, Linear Cycle, Coordinate, (Anything) & Spread, Spin Chain the Gear, Track II, (Anything) and Roll and Follow your Neighbor. If Wayne chooses to continue in order, this week they will learn, Fan the Top, Explode the Wave, Explode and Anything (Waves only) and maybe Relay the Ducey.

Angels we love that you are there so, **please do not be offended**, but please note, thirty-two students make exactly four squares. You may not get to dance every tip, if at all. So, we need at least a square and a half of angle to be sure everyone is dancing. There are usually one of two couples of students missing for one reason or another. If you want to be sure that you are dancing, get three or four other Angel couples to come so that we can for sure have an extra square.

Mainstream lessons are scheduled to start on August 27th also at Carpenter Recreation Center in Plano. Wayne Baldwin will be teaching and he is definitely the instructor that you want your friends to learn from. Registration starts August 11th.

If you need details, you can print the lessons flyer from the web-site. If you want a three-fold flyer on the heavier paper, we will bring a supply for you to pick up at our next club dance. In the mean time, if you need flyers, please contact Dave Burson and he will print some for you. Or, you can follow this link (or type it into your internet browser) http://www.swingingstars.org/Mainstream_square_dance_lessons_2013.pdf and print your own.

WHY SQUARE DANCE???

The following was from the November, 1997 issue of [The Modern Square](#), Arkansas' square and round dance publication of the ASSDF. The original author is unknown...but this was reprinted from **USDA News**, the newsletter of the [United Square Dancers Of America](#). It is entitled simply "Square Dance".

Gather up four couples...face them in a square.

Listen to the caller...who will move you here to there.

Four hands around and Grand Square...Make a Right Hand Star.

Yellowrock, Promenade...What's an Allemande Thar??

What's it mean to Wheel and Deal...Or do a Do-Si-Do;
Bend The Line, or Load The Boat...Which way am I to go??

Flutterwheel, Ferris Wheel, Do the Tea Cup Chain;
Spin The Top, Box The Gnat, These all sound insane!!

I'm just a humble beginner...These terms are all brand new.
Will I ever get to know, How to do a Spin Chain Through??

They say it will get easier...On that I must depend;
Meanwhile, I'll keep trying...And enjoy my new found friends

Are you poetic? I would entertain any Square Dance/Round Dance Poetry you have written or have from other sources for the news letter. Send it to me by email.

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

June has been a month filled with some extraordinary visitation opportunities starting with the 51st Annual Texas State Federation Square and Round Dance Festival in San Marcos and ending with the 62nd National Square and Round Dance Convention and Festival in Oklahoma City. Both of these festivals offered great opportunities for all levels of square and round dancing and the chance to meet dancers from all over the state, country, and world. Next year the national convention is in Little Rock, AR, another relatively close venue to the Metroplex!

We are looking forward to some rest and relaxation as we celebrate the independence of our great nation this coming week. There was not an advertised Fourth of July dance ON the fourth of July, however the Roadrunners said they will be dancing Thursday. July is a relatively quiet visitation month with only one anniversary dance on Sunday, July 21st, the Roadrunners at Swingtime Center in Ft. Worth. Given that the Roadrunners have braved the Friday afternoon traffic to visit our club, we hope our club will take this opportunity to visit them for their anniversary. This is not one of their typical Thursday evening dances and driving should be easier on a Sunday afternoon. In addition, there are a handful of 'Of Interest' visitations you can go to also. And if you are feeling bold, there is a DBD (Dance By Definition) Plus weekend in Salado, TX that promises to be both challenging and fun.

On a side note – Maria Farabaugh's mother will be visiting from Columbia on Thursday, July 11th at Lone Star Solos. Maria would like to see some Swinging Stars attend if available to come meet her mom and dance with the Lone Star Solos that evening.

Are you going to CHAPARRAL EVENING IN PARIS August 30-31st? If so, email Bob & Terri (bobp8211@gmail.com) to let us know. There will be three dance halls to accommodate both mainstream and plus dancers with a fantastic group of callers and a cuer. New dancers: don't hesitate to make this your first weekend dance. **Important:** our club gets a \$100 rebate if three squares register early and \$50 if two squares register early. **To get the rebate for our club, all of the reservations must be sent in together. The Pitts will be collecting the registration forms and checks to send in as a group – please get them to us by July 31st.** Last year we had lots of Swinging Stars in attendance and had a GREAT time at the dance and had an organized dinner and Friday night after party. See the flyer at: http://swingingstars.org/19thEvening_In_Paris.pdf. We have heard from 7 Swinging Stars couples who are planning to attend.

The current Swinging Star banner inventory is as follows:

Banners Captured by the Swinging Stars

Club	Date Captured
Cotton Pickin' Squares	23-Mar-13
Dixie Chainers	25-May-13
Dublin Cloverleafs	02-Jul-05
Kissin' Kuzzins	17-May-13
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
Rebel Rousers	15-Jun-13
Roadrunners	07-Feb-13
Solitaires	03-Mar-12
Solitaires	03-Nov-12
Texas Reelers	05-Apr-13
Texas Reelers	21-Jun-13
Texoma Squares	01-Jun-13
Tri City Promenaders	26-Jan-13
T-Square Gadabouts	15-Feb-13
Yellow Rockers	18-Apr-13

Swinging Stars Banners Out

Club	Date Captured

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

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

WOW, it was quite an experience attending the national convention. We danced with couples from: Australia, France, Michigan, Nevada, Kansas, Missouri, Iowa, Indiana, New Hampshire, New Mexico, Alabama, Georgia, Oklahoma, Florida, the Carolinas, California, Idaho, Washington, Arkansas, and of course, here from the great state of Texas. There were also a few dancers from Japan whom we didn't get a chance to dance with, but we did dance to a caller from Japan, as well as callers from MANY states. Dancing to callers accompanied by a live band, the Ghost Riders, in the main convention center arena Friday and Saturday nights was an amazing. The arena sound system made it feel like a combination concert, square dance, and party because it was so lively. One great caller after another came on stage. We kept saying to ourselves that we would dance to 'just one more song' so many times that, by the time we stopped, our feet were hurting. A couple of dance groups from California and Colorado performed old time exhibition dancing with the ladies working their long prairie skirts. Saturday night there was a parade of states in which Texas was VERY well represented. Red, white and blue, lone star Texas attire, or just plain being from the state of Texas qualified you to be part of the parade. We had several Swinging Stars couples at the convention: the Amys, Brewers, Bursons, Hawkins, Jungs, Morses, Pitts, and Sees.

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

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

19th Annual Evening in Paris, August 30-31st

Location: Love Civic Center, Paris, TX
Website: http://swingingstars.org/19thEvening_In_Paris.pdf
Callers: Gary Shoemake, Mike Bramlett, Ken Bower, Marshall Flippo
Cuer: Patti Wheelington
Notes: 3 dance halls: plus, advanced, and mainstream (singing calls)

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

Dance of Interest – Kissin’ Kuzzins, Friday, July 5th

Location: Garland Senior Center (600 Avenue “A”, Garland, TX)
Website: <http://www.kissinkuzzins.org/>
Time: Workshop – 7:30PM / Grand march – 8:00PM
Caller: Wayne Baldwin
Cuer: Jack Kenny
Theme: Red, White, and Blue

Dance of Interest – Buttons & Bows, Saturday, July 6th

Location: Senter Park East Rec Center (228 Chamberlain, Irving, TX)
Website: <http://www.buttonsandbowsirving.com/>
Time: Workshop – 7:00PM / Early rounds – 7:30PM / Grand march – 8:00PM
Caller: Barry Hendricks
Cuer: Charles Crockett
Theme: Meat Pies, Sweet Pies...

Swinging Stars Club Dance, Friday, July 12th

Location: Shepard Elementary School (1000 Wilson Dr., Plano, TX)
Website: www.swingingstars.org
Time: Workshop – 7:30PM / dance – 8:00PM
Caller: Wayne Baldwin
Cuer: Walter Brewer
Theme: Swinging with the Stars and Stripes
Notes: This is an ice cream social

Dance of Interest – Cotton Pickin’ Squares, Saturday, July 13th

Location: L-3 Recreation Center (10001 Jack Finney Blvd., Greenville, TX)
Website: <http://www.angelfire.com/in2/CottonPickinSquares/>
Time: Early rounds – 7:30PM / Grand march – 8:00PM
Caller: Mike Bramlett
Cuer: Christine Hixson
Theme: Double Deal – Double Dip
Notes: This is an ice cream social

Ladies Luncheon, Thursday, July 18th

Location: Bonnie Ruth’s (Watters Creek, 916 Garden Park Dr., Allen, TX)
Website: <http://www.bonnieruths.com/>
Time: 11:30AM
Hostess: Mary Hardin – RSVP if attending, by Tuesday, July 16th to myhn2@yahoo.com or (214) 632-4230
Notes: Have lunch and enjoy shopping at: Oil & Vinegar, Apricot Lane, Charming Charlies, etc.

Dance of Interest – Texas Reelers, Friday, July 19th

Location: Richardson Senior Center (820 W. Arapaho, Richardson, TX)
Website: <http://www.texasreelers.org/>
Time: Early rounds – 7:30PM / Grand march – 8:00PM
Caller: Deborah Carroll-Jones
Cuer: Jack von der Heide
Theme: Apollo Dance

Dance of Interest – Trail Blazers, Saturday, July 20th

Location: Swingtime Center (5100 SE Loop 820, Ft. Worth, TX)
Website: n/a
Time: Early rounds – 7:00PM / Workshop – 7:30PM / Grand march – 8:00PM
Caller: Joey Duhamel
Cuer: Jack Kenny
Theme: Red, White, and Blue

Swinging Stars Club Dance, Friday, July 26th

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, Saturday, July 27th

Location: Farmers Branch Senior Center (14055 Dennis Lane, Farmers Branch, TX)
Website: <http://www.dixiechainers.com/>
Time: Early rounds – 7:30PM / Grand march – 8:00PM
Caller: Vernon Jones
Cuer: Jack von der Heide

Your 2nd VPs,
Bob & Terri Pitts

ANNOUNCEMENTS

July 4th - Roadrunners will be having their regular 1st Thursday dance. They will NOT be cancelling because of the Independence Day Holiday.

Aug. 10th Log Cabin Swingers – Greeny Night - Starts at 7pm till all are tired or have no more callers. Dress will be casual. Cost per dancer will be \$4.

REFRESHMENTS DUTY AND INFORMATION

June 28	Harris, Rose, Archey*, DeLuke
July 12	Burson, See, Sobotka, Colter
July 26	Anthaume, 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.

Upcoming Advertised Swinging Stars Theme Dances thru Aug 2013

July 12, 2013  Celebrating Freedom
Swinging with the Stars and Stripes

August 23, 2013  Take Me Out to the Ballgame



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

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

Themes:

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. Go to our Facebook Page <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Swinging-Stars-Square-Round-Dance-Club> - "like us," view picture, post pictures, comments about anything what you enjoy about square dancing or a specific dance.

Dave and Lorraine have agreed to head the 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 the Bursons, Jan or me know.

RICHARD & JAN COVINGTON

Swinging Stars, President

Email: president@swingingstars.org

Phones: (972) 325-1144