



Swinging Stars

Square and Round Dance Club

Newsletter for July 28, 2013

PRESIDENTIAL RAMBLINGS

We are half way through our year as Presidents and it has been such a pleasure to serve the club in this capacity. It has gone fast and everyone has been so nice and helpful to us along the way. Thanks to those who came before us and built such a fantastic club. We are truly one of the best clubs in the Metroplex. Thanks to the board members Gene & Phyllis Deluke and John & Ann Barber. These four individuals work quietly and tirelessly on jobs are so vital to the ongoing operations of the club. Mark and Karen Hawkins have been great to work with and they are diligently getting ready for Mainstream Lessons. Bob & Terri Pitts – their ongoing work on the activities inside and outside the club are very much appreciated. You have seen their writings in the newsletter of past activities and future plans. These have been a great help to the club as well as Terri coordinating the ladies luncheon. A special thanks to Dave and Lorraine Burson, who serve as our mentors. Dave has been great to email the newsletters, he keeps the web-site up-to-date, they review calendar and sends them to members, Loraine prepares all of the club flyers, excellent flyers I might add. They volunteer to be our Anniversary Chairpersons and to Chair the nominations committee. You have been invaluable! We appreciate our NORTEX delegates and our NORTEX officers and the NORTEX committee members. We would be remiss in not offering our appreciate for the work done by Ann Stuart coordinating the refreshment schedule and Charlie and Linda Harris for working on the contract negotiations with PISD and serving as the Holiday Party Chairs. Thanks to Gary Amy for his work on our annual Chili Cook off. We received a letter thanking us all for serving as a host club for the installation of officers recently in NORTEX. A special thanks to everyone who came and brought cookie's and sandwiches. Thanks to Dave & Lorraine for putting together the chair back labels. I am sure that I have not done justice recognizing all of those deserving of recognition and praise – we all have our senior moments. All of the work done by everyone in the club has been vital to the on-going growth and improvement of the club. From the bottom of our hearts - a BIG YELLOW ROCK and thanks to you all!!!

As we get close to the fall we are excited about our theme dances and our new mainstream class which is starting in August. It's not just about numbers but it is all about people and the great relationships that exist among fellow dancers.

I know many of you travel and dance and have covered much of the United States and even abroad. We were in Maine this week and we missed dancing with you. If we had time we would have located a Square & Round Dance Club and danced. I hope that where ever you go, you dance, dance, dance...

God Bless and have a great week!

Richard and Jan

DANCE LESSONS

Week Seven – Plus students have been taught all thirty Plus Calls. The next four lessons will be practice and more practice.

We appreciate the help that we have received from the Angels. This is a list of angels for the last two lessons.

7/16/13 - Dan & Kathy Mosher, Tommy & JoAn Meyer, Dave & Lorraine Burson & Peggy Amy

7/23/13 - Mark & Karen Hawkins, Tommy & JoAn Meyer, Eddie & Marilyn Gifford, Lorraine & Dave Burson, Gary & Peggy Amy and Kathy & Dan Mosher

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. We have had packets on the table by the entry door and will have them for the next dance.

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 is a testimonial from Joyce Sellers (don't tell her that I used it as I stole it from an email that copied me on). She is writing to friends encouraging them to come to an open house.

....Just so you know it took almost 2 years for my friends to get me into square dancing, but that was 2 years I could have been enjoying it. It only took that one night of seeing it for me wanting to do it. I've now been dancing since 1974 and love every minute of it. It can be a social group, a support group or exercise group, whatever you want to make of it. You can dance all over the world....I've danced in nearly all of the states, Canada and Europe.

IMPROVE YOUR SQUARE DANCING:

The following is the reader Digest Version of the full article. Over the next few weeks we will focus on the expanded article section-by-section. We can all, well most of us anyway, can improve our dancing by working on these simple techniques.

TIPS FOR BETTER DANCING - *By Ed Foote*

The purpose of this article is to enhance your dancing pleasure. Dancers who follow these rules find they dance more, stand less, and in general have a more enjoyable dancing experience.

1. **Take Hands with those standing beside you.**

2. How to Avoid Breaking Down

- A. **Believe the caller.**
- B. **If the caller gives a call you have never heard, do not give up and quit.**
- C. **If you want to help someone who is lost, use hand signal.**
- D. **If you are positive you have done a call correctly, do not let someone who is unsure of the call make you change your position.** This will keep the square going.
- E. **Keep your head raised.** This lets you see what is going on. Many people dance looking down at the floor, and thus are out of touch with the set as a whole.
- F. **Experienced couples should be across from each other when square up, never adjacent,**
- G. **Keep the set small.** Touching hands immediately after each call is one way to accomplish this. Large sets break down much more often than small ones.
- H. **Always have your set line up with the wall.**

3. If you Become Completely Lost

- A. **Do not turn around.** This will make it difficult for someone behind you to help you recover. It is much easier to guide someone into place by guiding them from the back.
- B. **Turn your head in all directions to see where you should go.** If someone says to turn around or you see that you should turn around, then do it. Otherwise, retain your facing direction and let someone guide you into place.
- C. **Do not wander around.** Stay put until someone either guides you into place or directs you to a certain position. Do not be surprised to get this help—expect that you will get it and be ready to respond to it quickly.

4. If your square breaks down, get to facing lines.

5. How to pass proper shoulders

Whenever you Pass thru with someone, always pass right shoulders, never pass left shoulders.

6. How to Learn Properly.

- A. **Try to understand the definition of the call rather than just memorizing a position.**
- B. **Please be quiet while the caller is explaining something.** You may not need the help but others may.

7. Two primary reasons for squares breaking down

- A. **Failure to take hands with adjacent dancers at the completion of every call to form lines or waves.**
- B. **Failure to listen to or believe the caller.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The following is an announcement from the president of Log Cabin Swingers.

REMEMBER WHEN YOU FIRST LEARNED TO DANCE???? EVERYBODY HAS TO START SOMEWHERE!!!!

The Log Cabin Swingers in Tool, TX are planning to support the new trainees and anyone wishing to experience calling or cueing with a special night of fun. The new trainees do not get to call for a full floor of dancers often so we would ask that you make plans to attend if possible. Anyone wishing to call or cue is asked to bring two couples with them. If you are interested in calling or cueing contact Ronnie Himes at 903-887-2691 for more information.

DATE: AUGUST 10TH

LOCATION: PROMENADE HALL, TOOL, TX (HWY 274-TWO MILES SOUTH OF RED LIGHT IN SEVEN POINTS-on right)

TIME: 7 P.M. UNTIL??? (TOO TIRED TO DANCE ANYMORE)

COST: \$4 PER PERSON

ATTIRE: CASUAL

REFRESHMENTS: COFFEE & COOKIES

Hope to see you there and help us get the word out please.

Cruise Raffle Tickets – NORTEX started us off with 250 raffle tickets. Dave Burson picked them up on Sunday and set up a sheet to keep track of the tickets in lots of ten. He delivered them to me at Plus Lessons Tuesday and that evening we had sold/dispersed to be sold about 120 of the tickets and by the end of the dance Friday all 250 were gone. If you did not get your share, never fear we have asked for another 250 tickets.

For those of you are thinking – Cruise, what cruise??? Raffle, what???

NORTEX has decided to help clubs raise capital with a fund raiser by sponsoring the raffling of a Cruise for Two. Each club will get back 50% of the sales that they make. The cruise is for March 30th – April 6th 2014 leaving from Galveston, TX and going to Cozumel, Grand Caymans and Jamaica. The cruise, for us square dancers, is a Square Dance cruise with Jerry Story and Joe Saltel. For your non-square family and friends, it is just a Cruise.

The cruise is a great one! Royal Carribbean's Navigator of the Seas. We have been on this cruise and it is really a fun one even without the square dancing but with dancing available each day—What a bargain! Several Swinging Stars have already booked the trip. We have had the flyers on the table at our dances but you can also see the flyer on Jerry Story's website.

Aug. 2nd Texas Reelers and Kissin' Kuzzin's are going to have a Friendship Dance. The Callers will be our very own Wayne Baldwin and Debroah Carol Jones and the Cuers will be JL Pelton and Jack von der Heide.

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

August 25th – NORTEX Pre-Roundup Kickoff & Food Drive, 4:30 – 6:30, Plymouth Park United Methodist Church in Irving - Peggy Amy advised that this is a double signature dance.

*** * * From Your 2nd VPs * * ***

July is coming to a close, but August has an exciting collection of fun dances. This Friday is a Friendship Dance with the Kissin' Kuzzins and Texas Reelers at the Garland Senior Center with callers Wayne Baldwin, Deborah Carroll-Jones, and cuers JL Pelton and Jack von der Heide. And this Saturday is a Solitaires' Pajama Party Dance with caller Tim Tyl and cuer JL Pelton at CHUMC (Chapel Hill United Methodist Church) in Farmers Branch.

There are many other fun dances in August. Here are some highlights, but please look over the August calendar and make your game plan. Make sure you attend the 2013 Round Up Kick Off and Food Drive Dance featuring the 'Yellow Rose of Texas' theme on Sunday August 25th. The fifth week of this month will also be one heck of a dancing weekend, including some exciting dances that have conflicting times, so look over that weekend especially. Thursday the 29th is the Lone Star Solos Flip over Flippo Dance featuring Marshall Flippo, Friday

is the Triangle Squares Schmidtz All Things Texas Dance, Saturday is the Rainbow Rounds Anniversary and Double Deal Dance, and there is also the Chaparral in Paris weekend. We hope the Swinging Stars will have great attendance at ALL of those dances, so get out and dance!

Are you going to CHAPARRAL EVENING IN PARIS August 30-31st? We are about to mail in the Swinging Stars registrations – it is too late to mail us more to send with the packet. If you have not already given it to us, you need to send it directly to the dance organizers. But you should still let us know you plan to go via email (bobp8211@gmail.com). 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. Last year we had lots of Swinging Stars in attendance and had a GREAT time at the dance and had an organized dinner Saturday evening and a Friday night after party. See the flyer at: http://swingingstars.org/19thEvening_In_Paris.pdf. We have 20 couples that have given us checks and registration forms.

The current Swinging Star banner inventory is as 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
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	28-Mar-13
North Star 8	09-Feb-13
Rebel Rousers	15-Jun-13
Roadrunners	04-Jul-13
Solitaires	03-Nov-12
Texas Reelers	19-Jul-13
Texoma Squares	01-Jun-13
Trailblazers	20-Jul-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 * * *

25th Annual Stagecoach Roundup Plus Weekend, Fri-Sun, July 26-28th

The Swinging Stars were represented by 4 couples at the Stagecoach Roundup at the historic Stagecoach Inn in Salado this weekend. In all, there were 7 squares, mostly from Texas and one couple from Kansas, and we were all nicely challenged by the calling antics of Brad Caldwell and Scott Bennett. These guys worked well together and knew how to push the squares to their limits. And Brad and Scott spent a good part of the weekend dances trying to one up each other with their calling acumen putting squares through odd formations and sequences, and then reorganizing them back to the home positions. Everyone had a great time at the

dances, the after party, and we all enjoyed the homey atmosphere of the inn and the town of Salado. The four Swinging Stars couples who attended this weekend were: the Amys, Bursons, Pitts, and Smith / Hardin.

Dance of Interest – Dixie Chainers, Saturday, July 27th

Four Swinging Stars attended the Dixie Chainers' dance of interest on Saturday, July 27th, in Farmers Branch. Squares were called by Vernon Jones and rounds were cued by Jack von der Heide. All in attendance had a great time as Vernon introduced us to some old time calls like "women to the center, back to the bar", "triple allemand", and "throw the clutch in low". These calls made for plenty of laughs during the tips. Word on the street is that the Dixie Chainers are going to have another "Olde Tyme" dance this year and will plan two every year moving forward. If you haven't been to one of these dances, you should. They are so much fun and different. The Swinging Stars in attendance were the Evantos and the Sees. Thanks to Ron See and Vicki Evanto for the dance details.

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

Dance of Interest – Kissin' Kuzzins and Texas Reelers, Friday, August 2nd

Location: Garland Senior Center (600 Avenue A, Garland, Tx.)
Website: <http://www.kissinkuzzins.org/> and <http://www.texasreelers.org/>
Time: Early rounds – 7:00PM / grand march – 8:00PM
Callers: Wayne Baldwin and Deborah Carroll-Jones
Cuer: JP Pelton and Jack von der Heide
Theme: Dog Days of Summer
Notes: Friendship dance

Dance of Interest – Solitaires, Saturday, August 3rd

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: Tim Tyl
Cuer: JL Pelton
Theme: Pajama party

Swinging Stars Club Dance, Friday, August 9th

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
Notes: This is an open house dance – bring friends who may be interested in square dancing

Dance of Interest – Log Cabin Swingers, August 10th

Location: Promenade Hall (1210 N. Tool Dr., Hwy 274, Tool, TX)
Website: <http://www.logcabinsquaredanceclub.com/>
Time: Dance – 7:00PM
Caller: Local aspiring callers
Cuer: Local aspiring cuers
Theme: "Greenie-Newby-Wannabe" Night

Dance of Interest – Rebel Rousers, August 17th

Location: Richardson Senior Center (820 W. Arapaho, Richardson, TX)
Website: <http://www.rebelrousersdallas.com/>
Time: Early rounds – 7:30PM / grand march – 8:00PM
Caller: Mike Bramlett
Cuer: Christine Hixson
Theme: Summer Sundaes
Notes: Casual attire if desired

Ladies Luncheon, Tuesday, August 20th

Location: A Taste of Home (302 N. Ballard Ave, Wylie, TX)
Website: <http://www.tasteofhomewylie.com/>
Time: 12:00PM
Hostess: Peggy Pharr

Swinging Stars Club Dance, Friday, August 23rd

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
Theme: Take Me Out to the Ballgame
Notes: Wear your favorite team colors

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

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)

MEMBERSHIP DUES

If you have not already done so, the dues for the first quarter of 2013 are due. Swinging Stars dues are due the first dance of each quarter - January, April, July and October. If you are not sure whether your dues have been paid, please contact the John and Ann.

You may bring your payment to our next dance or send you payment to the following:

John and Anne Barber
4905 Hackberry Lane
Parker, Texas 75002-5627

Treasurer@swingingstars.org

Dues are: \$35.00 per quarter per couple
\$70.00 per half year per couple (preferred)
\$140.00 per year per couple

Please make your check payable to Swinging Stars

REFRESHMENTS DUTY AND INFORMATION

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:

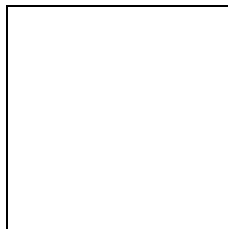
If you have a conflict with the Refreshment Schedule

- 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 lstVP@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

August 23, 2013



Take Me Out to the Ballgame

September 27, 2013



Burnin' Big Tex Chili Cookoff



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 – this is a double signature dance

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:

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@swingingsstars.org

Phones: (972) 325-1144