



# Swinging Stars

## Square and Round Dance Club

*Newsletter for January 5, 2014*

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It is unfortunate that we all have difficulties in our lives but it is good to recognize our priorities in life. I have always been taught - put God first, family second and job third and everything else will take care of itself. I lose sight of that and if you read the bible you will find where Great Leaders sometimes lost sight of it as well. We must sit back and take stock of our lives and our time constraints and limitations and readjust to follow our life priorities.

This afternoon I received a phone call and an email from Bob and Terri Pitts indicating that they will not be able to serve as president due to personal reasons. Note the following excerpts from their email:

.....please note that we no longer plan to become presidents of the Swinging Stars starting Feb 2014 as was planned - we are sorry for decommitting but it is in the best interest of the Swinging Stars and Terri and I.

.....we want to share some of our thoughts. There are several recent items that have caused us to reconsider: 1) a significant change in Bob's job which is much more consuming than was expected, 2) family related issues which require more attention going forward..... and 3) our inexperience with the entire square dance scene and how to navigate through the related issues....

We may have jumped too early at the chance to lead the club and we are very disappointed we did not see that this role was too much for us when we were asked. But we know the Swinging Stars need a knowledgeable, dedicated, and tenured couple to run the club and we just aren't that couple at this time and we have decided to step away before assuming the role.

We will certainly finish out our term as 2nd VPs.

We contacted Dave & Lorraine Burson, as they were the Nominating Committee Chairpersons this year, and asked that they meet with us this to discuss a replacement nominee. We reviewed a number of names and the top of our list was Ralph and Lucy Hamm. Lorraine called them and discussed the issue with them and they agreed to the nomination.

So, this brings us to needing a club vote to make it official. This Friday following our dance we will have a club meeting in the cafeteria – next to the gym where we dance – to discuss their nomination, open the floor for opposing nominations and vote. Your precepts would be greatly appreciated.

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## PRESIDENTIAL RAMBLINGS

We had a great dance in Waco. Note Bob & Terri's report in the 2<sup>nd</sup> VP's report following in this newsletter. Jan and I had a great time, as I believe all of the dancers did, but part of what makes dancing at weekend dances is that we get to dance with great dancers – most of whom are from Swinging Stars. Also, we get to dance to a different set of great callers – other than great club caller and the great callers in the Dallas/Fort Worth Area. Those with Rhythm Records – Wade Driver, Gary Shoemake, Ken Bower, Marshall Flippo, Dee Dee Dougherty and Mike Seastrom. They also had an hour for other callers and we got to dance pretty much non-stop as the Rounds were in a separate room. We danced to KO Jeans, Scott Bennett, Mike Bramlett and Paul Cotes.

Next year they are opening up another room for mainstream dancers. I have said this before; I hope that each of you makes an effort to make one of these out-of-town trips as it gives us a chance to get to know everyone better. It also helps improve everyone's dancing as you get to hear a lot of good callers in a very short period of time.

Richard and Jan

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Thank you to all that have already signed up and to those that are already very busy working to make our anniversary dance a success. We could use 2 more couples to bring salads plus we still need 2 more couples to work the beverage service. Sondra could use a few more good hands to help with decorating. There are still a few members that have not had a chance to get signed-up to help. If you have not, please give me (Lorraine) a call @ 972-396-0941. If not, I will take time and call you.

The week before the dance I will send out reminders of what you have signed-up to bring and what you have signed-up to do. In the mean time be sure to "talk up" our **"Dancing With the Stars Anniversary Dance."** The dance is on Jan 31, a 5th Friday. At the All Saints Catholic Church, 5231 Meadowcreek Dr. @ Arapaho, Dallas. Early Rounds at 7:00 and Grand March at 8:00.

With our Caller Wayne Baldwin, Guest Caller Brad Caldwell and Cuer Walter Brewer, this is bound to be one of the finest dances in all of North Texas.

I am attaching the anniversary dance flyer. PLEASE print a few and take them with you to dances that you will be attending and ask the caller or cuer to announce our dance for you. They usually will do this for us.

Click on the following link for the flyer:

[http://www.swingingstars.org/2014\\_Dancing\\_with\\_the\\_Stars\\_the\\_second\\_season.pdf](http://www.swingingstars.org/2014_Dancing_with_the_Stars_the_second_season.pdf)

Again thank you,  
Dave and Lorraine Burson  
Anniversary Dance Chairman  
Email: [Lorraine@Bursons.us](mailto:Lorraine@Bursons.us)

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# DANCE LESSONS

Note the following from JL and Linda Pelton:

After consultation and with full agreement with Dixie Chainers, the decision was made to cancel the Intermediate Waltz class previously scheduled. JL and Linda Pelton will be teaching the Beginning Bolero starting January 21 at Carpenter. This will give Swinging Stars time to properly advertise the Bolero class.

Class Details: [Bolero Class](#) -- **Tuesday, January 21 through March 11** -- 7:15 to 9:15 p.m.  
Carpenter Recreation Center, 6701 Coit Road, Plano 75023  
Register online at [www.planoparks.org](http://www.planoparks.org) to go to the Leisure Catalog  
or call Plano at 972-208-8087 and register for Class #152381  
This class is sponsored by Swinging Stars and Plano Parks & Recreation Center

Bolero is a slow Latin rhythm very similar to Rumba. You do not need to have any round dance experience to take this class, although it is helpful.

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thomas Rogers, President of Triangle Squares passed away this last week at Denton Regional Hospital. Please keep Janice and their entire family in your thoughts and prayers.

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11th Annual  
**Singing Call & Round Dance of the Year**  
(and it's free)  
Swingtime Center  
7:00 PM 7:00 PM  
January 26, 2014

Vote for your favorite Song or Round Dance of the Year  
Performed by your Favorite Caller, Cuer, Duet, or Group.  
Ballots must be received by January 1 of 2014 to be eligible.  
Download a Ballot: [www.nortexcallers.com](http://www.nortexcallers.com)

**All proceeds from the balloting will go to MDA-Dallas North District (for ALS research)**

On December 19, 2013, the members of the Yellow Rockers Square and Round Dance Club of Dallas Texas, gathered together to have a club business meeting before the Christmas Dance at the Chapel Hill United Methodist Church. The members realized that we do not have enough dancers to continue to sponsor dances as the Yellow Rockers Square Dance Club. After a discussion of many ideas of how can we continue, the members decided to vote. They voted to close the Yellow Rockers Square and Round Dance Club of Dallas Texas.

Correction from two weeks ago – the Holiday party is scheduled for Saturday, January 18<sup>th</sup> and not Friday.

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**\* \* \* From Your 2<sup>nd</sup> VPs \* \* \***

It was a busy New Year's Eve and first week of the year for visiting Swinging Stars. You can read about the visitations including a large showing in Waco for a weekend of plus dancing below.

This coming week is very light on the visitation front with no dances on the club calendar. But note that we are having a Swinging Stars club dance Friday, January 10<sup>th</sup>. And see the details below for more dances planned during the month of January.

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
Cotton Pickin' Squares	23-Mar-13
Decatur 8'ers	5-Oct-13
Dixie Chainers	28-Sep-13
Log Cabin Swingers	4-May-13
Lone Star Solos	28-Mar-13
North Star 8	09-Feb-13
Rebel Rousers	21-Dec-13
Texas Reelers	15-Nov-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 \* \* \***

**Dance of Interest, Rebel Rousers, December 31<sup>st</sup>**

Almost 5 squares, 39 Swinging Stars, visited the Rebel Rousers' special New Year's Eve Dance in Richardson on Tuesday. Rounds were cued by Jack von der Heide while squares were called by Texas Hall of Fame caller Mike Bramlett. Dressed for the occasion in black tux and red cummerbund, Mike guided square dancers through 3 hours of adventuresome square dancing as the evening progressed. In between dances, attendees sampled many variations on corn bread and black-eyed peas and at midnight toasted each other and "baby new year" with faux champagne. All attendees had a terrific time. The visiting Swinging Stars were: the Barbers, Bondis, Brandens, Bursons, Covingtons, J. Duncan, Esteps, Evantos, Feldmans, Heintzes, Jacobs, Kilejians, Lassiters, Perrotts, Pizialis, Rickerts, Sees, Smith/Hardin, Starretts, and the Underwoods. Thanks to Jim Bondi for the dance details.

**Texas Reelers, January 3<sup>rd</sup>**

Four Swinging Stars visited the Texas Reelers for their "Keep Coming Back" dance Friday night. Rounds were cued by Jack von der Heide and, with club caller Deborah Carroll-Jones out of town; squares were called by her husband, veteran caller, Jon Jones. To no one's surprise, Jon programmed a terrific evening of square dancing tips that somehow included something for all levels of dancers present, whether they be just graduated dancers

needing a tutorial on "Walk and Dodge" or highly seasoned dancers. Because Jon was recording the evening's calling for inclusion in a New England based square dancing archive / museum, he asked dancers to be "vocal" as they danced. Dancers responded throughout the evening with enthusiastic hooping and hollering that, at times, almost shook the walls. All attending had a great time. Visiting Swinging Stars were Bondis and Sees. Thanks to Jim Bondi for providing the dance details.

### **Dance of Interest, Solitaires, January 4<sup>th</sup>**

A dozen Swinging Stars visited the Solitaires "Ragin Cajun Explosion" dance in Farmers Branch on Saturday. Rounds were cued by JL Pelton while squares were called by beloved Louisiana caller, Joey Duhamel. Joey did not disappoint his fans, choreographing an evening of square dancing that was energetic and exciting for dancers of all levels. A special highlight of the evening was Joey's terrific yodeling during one tip. At that point, even dancers previously unfamiliar with Joey were hooked on this impressive Cajun talent. All attendees had an exhilarating time. The visiting Swinging Stars were: the Bondis, Esteps, HARRISES, Kilejians, Sees, and the Sherrells. Thanks to Jim Bondi for sharing the dance info.

### **Rhythm Records Winter Festival, January 4-5**

Over two dozen Swinging Stars traveled to Waco for the Rhythm Records Winter Festival Friday and Saturday to the calling and cueing of some of the finest. The headline callers were Ken Bower, Dee Dee Dougherty, Wade Driver, Marshall Flippo, Mike Seastrom, and Gary Shoemake and the cuer was Mark Prow. There were also several other area callers who made an appearance at the event. The Prows workshopped a two step, a waltz, and a rumba, all of which were enjoyed by the students. Both plus and advanced squares were called by the assortment of top notch callers in two different halls (note: next year the event will include a mainstream hall). The Swinging Stars at the festival included: the Amys, Bergesons, Bivins, Bursons, Covingtons, Evantos, Heintzes, Perrotts, Pharrs, Pitts, Hardin / Smith, Starretts, and the Trujillos.

## **\* \* \* COMING EVENTS \* \* \***

### **Swinging Stars, Friday, January 10<sup>th</sup>**

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

### **Of Interest, Kissin' Kuzzins, Friday, January 17<sup>th</sup>**

Location: Garland Senior Center (600 Avenue "A", Garland, TX)  
Website: <http://www.kissinkuzzins.org/>  
Time: Workshop – 7:30PM / grand march – 9:00PM  
Caller: Wayne Baldwin  
Cuer: JL Pelton  
Theme: Baby It's Cold Outside  
Notes: New dancer dance

### **Swinging Stars Holiday Party, Saturday, January 18<sup>th</sup>**

Location: Rutledge Party Barn (Plano, TX)  
Website: <http://www.swingingstars.org>  
Time: Party – 6:00PM

### **NORTEX Business Meeting, Sunday, January 19<sup>th</sup>**

Location: Swingtime Center (5100 SE Loop 820, Ft. Worth, TX)  
Website: [www.nortex.org](http://www.nortex.org)  
Time: Meeting – 2:00PM

### **Ladies Luncheon, Thursday, January 23<sup>rd</sup>**

Location: Chocolate Angel (High Street Antique Mall, 800 N.C. Expressway, Plano, TX)  
Website: <http://www.chocolateangel.com/>  
Time: High tea – 2:30pm  
Cost: \$18.99 (tax and gratuity included)  
Hostess: Terri Pitts – RSVP required if you can attend at (972) 392-4325 by Tuesday, January 21<sup>st</sup>

### **Of Interest, Stone Steppers, Friday, January 24<sup>th</sup>**

Location: Goodbar Recreation Center, 3000 Concord Dr., Mesquite, TX)  
Website: <http://www.stonesteppers.com/>  
Time: Workshop – 7:30PM / grand march – 8:00PM  
Caller: Charles Quisenberry  
Cuer: Guest cuer  
Theme: Wonderful Winter Squares  
Notes: Rare opportunity to visit (don't get a banner – they dance the same nights we do)

### **Official, Tri-City Promenaders, Friday, January 25<sup>th</sup>**

Location: Brookside Center (1244 Brookside, Hurst, TX)  
Website: <http://www.tricitypromenaders.com/>  
Time: Early rounds – 7:30PM / grand march – 8:00PM  
Callers: Paul Kinsey and Bobby Willis  
Cuer: Chris Farabaugh  
Notes: Double deal 54<sup>th</sup> anniversary dance, wear purple if you have it

### **Harvest Holiday, Sunday, January 26<sup>th</sup>**

Location: Swingtime Center (5100 SE Loop 820, Ft. Worth, TX)  
Website: [www.harvestholiday.com](http://www.harvestholiday.com)  
Time: Round dance – 2:00PM  
Cuers: Area cuers  
Theme: Winter Fun Rounds  
Notes: \$7 per dancer (proceeds to be donated to Swingtime Center)

### **Of Interest, NTCA Square and Round Dance Song of the Year, January 26<sup>th</sup>**

Location: Swingtime Center (5100 SE Loop 820, Ft. Worth, TX)  
Website: [www.nortex.org](http://www.nortex.org)  
Time: Dance – 7:00PM  
Callers: Area callers  
Cuers: Area cuers  
Notes: Free dance

## Swinging Stars, Friday, January 31<sup>st</sup>

Location: All Saints Catholic Church (5231 Meadowcreek Dr., Dallas, TX)  
Website: <http://www.swingingstars.org>  
Time: Early rounds – 7:30PM / grand march – 8:00PM  
Callers: Wayne Baldwin and Brad Caldwell  
Cuer: Walter Brewer  
Theme: Dancing with the Stars – Season II  
Notes: 39<sup>th</sup> anniversary dance, ballroom or square dance attire

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## MEMBERSHIP DUES

If you have not already done so, the dues for the First quarter of 2014 will be coming due on January 1<sup>st</sup>. Swinging Stars dues are due the first dance of each quarter - January, April, July and October

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

John and Ann Barber  
4905 Hackberry Lane  
Parker, Texas 75002-5627  
[Treasurer@swingingstars.org](mailto: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

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## REFRESHMENTS DUTY AND INFORMATION

January 10	Reid, Lassiter, Rickert, Burson
January 31	Anniversary Dance - All Members
February 14	Covington, See, Ross, Schumacher
February 28	Starrett, Trujillo, Weckerly, Archey
March 14	Hawkins, Kilejian, Morse, Jung
March 28, 2014	Barber, Shinavar, Jimison, Colter
April 11, 2014	Bondi, Maier, Lewis, Sobotka
April 25, 2014	Kendrick, Ryder, Piziali, Anthaume

\*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 pm
- Enter thru the Gym door.
- Refreshments shut down at 9:30 pm (no earlier)
- If you take home a refreshment bag checks 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](mailto:jwstuart@flash.net) with 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 **Mark & Karen Hawkins** at 972-436-4868 or [1stVP@swingingstars.org](mailto: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.

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## Upcoming Advertised Swinging Stars Theme Dances



January 31, 2014

Season II

Dancing with the Star



February 14, 2014

Let Me Call You Sweetheart Dance

Teen Scholarship

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Sunday, January 26, 2014 – 11th Annual Singing Call & Round Dance of the Year @ Swingtime Center  
Friday, January 31, 2014 – Swinging Stars 39<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dance at All Saints Catholic Church



**Themes:**

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 – 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dance (Fifth Saturday)

Saturday, October 31, 2015 – Double Deal Halloween Dance (Fifth Saturday)\*

Saturday, January 30, 2016 – 41<sup>st</sup> 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

Mark the dates on your calendar right now.....



**63rd National Square Dance Convention®**

June 25 - 28, 2014

Little Rock, Arkansas

Website: [www.63nsdc.com](http://www.63nsdc.com) & Facebook under the 63rd National Square Dance Convention®.

Round Up 2014 – October 17<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>.

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**For information about weekend dances go to our Web Page [www.swingingstars.org](http://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.**

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

**RICHARD & JAN COVINGTON**

**Swinging Stars, President**

**Email: [president@swingingsstars.org](mailto:president@swingingsstars.org)**

**Phones: (972) 325-1144**