



Swinging Stars

Square and Round Dance Club

Newsletter for January 25, 2015

We hope everyone there enjoyed the Swinging Stars 40th Anniversary Dance as much as we did. We heard the words “Great dance!” from guests and members alike all night long, and indeed it was. Rick Smith and Wayne were fantastic together, just as they have been on numerous occasions over the years, and Walter entertained the round dancers with a number of lively disco era cha chas.

In spite of the ailment that has been going around the past week or so keeping a number of our members and potential guests away, the house was pretty well full. We had 138 guests and 101 members for a total of 239.

We all owe a **tremendous debt of gratitude to Anne and Russ NejdI** for making this event the great success it was. They put a huge amount of work into planning, coordinating, scheduling, and supervising all aspects of the event, and their work made sure everything came off without a hitch. And thank you, Russ, for donating the beautiful stained glass artwork for the grand prize. You have a great talent!

We also give a **big thanks to all the other Swinging Stars** who worked hard to make Friday such an enjoyable night for our guests. **Read the paragraph from Anne and Russ in Announcements below** and count the gratitude for a job well done twice – once for Anne and Russ and once for us

Today was a great day of dancing at Swingtime Center. In the afternoon, the Harrises, the Perrots, and the two of us enjoyed some terrific round dancing led by most of the cuers in NORTEX at the Harvest Holiday fun rounds. Then tonight, the NORTEX Callers Association held its **Singing Call and Round Dance of the Year Dance**, and those of us there – P. Amy, the Bursons, Covingtons, Esteps, Harrises, Pittses, Smith/Hardin, and the two of us – were treated to a fabulous evening of singing squares and more excellent rounds from most of the NORTEX callers and cuers. You’ll be happy to know that Walter was the last cuer on the program, and Wayne called the final tip of the night. That means that **Walter got the most votes of any cuer** for his round dance, “Adagio III”, and **Wayne got the most votes of any caller** for his singing call, “Home”. Congratulations to our fabulous caller and cuer, Wayne and Walter! We give a **big thanks to Bob and Terri Pitts** for coordinating our voting effort and to all of you who voted to get our caller and cuer this much deserved recognition.

We have a great visitation coming up this Friday to the Triangle Squares 40th Anniversary Dance, so get your carpools organized, and let’s go to Denton and help them celebrate. They always put out a great spread of food, so there’s no need to eat before you go, and you know that Rick Smith and Toby Thomason will make it a very fun night. See you there!

Ralph and Lucy

Happening This Week

Tuesday, January 27 – Jive Round Dance lesson; 7:15PM, Carpenter Rec Center

Friday, January 30 – Official visit to Triangle Squares 40th Anniversary Dance; wear **royal blue** if you have it; see details in Coming Events below.

Saturday, January 31 – You know. We'll see you there!

Announcements

From Anne and Russ Nejd, Anniversary Dance Chairman:

Russ and I want to thank the entire club for the support and hard work given by all club members. We really appreciate it. You all made the dance the success it was. And thank you to the committee chairs who stepped up and really did the hard part. Thank you Linda and Charlie for coordinating with the school and taking on the beverage committee one last time. The Lassiters' graciously opened up their home for the after party. There are too many members to list here, but we want to acknowledge everyone's hard work.

First quarter dues are payable now. You can mail your check payable to Swinging Stars to our club Treasurer, Dan Lassiter at:

1701 Gateway Blvd
Suite 403
Richardson, TX 75080

Can you help with a square dance demonstration? Richard Covington will be calling a demonstration for the Heritage Association of Frisco on Sunday, February 15 at 2:00PM (dancers would need to be there at 1:30PM) at the Frisco Heritage Museum train depot, 6455 Page Street, Frisco. Two squares are needed. You may wear square dance or street clothing. **Your attendance will be appreciated and will help spread good will and attract dancers into the activity we love so much. If you can help, email janlaree@sbcglobal.net or call 214-675-6523.** Richard can answer any questions you may have.

We, the Swinging Stars, have been invited by the Rebel Rousers to join them for a bus trip. The information is as follows:

Date: February 14, 2015 Where: Fairfield, TX Club: Barnstompers Square Dancers
Cost: \$34 per person (\$68 per couple) Time: gather @ 4:00 PM (the bus will not wait)
Note the following:

Bus will leave at 4:30 from parking lot of Richardson Senior Citizen Center

The cost includes bus ride, bus driver's tip, dinner and dance

Entertainment – Mike Bramlett's Trivia & Games for the trip down (prizes!!!)

Contact: Gina Nichols at RebelRousers89@gmail.com or Mike Bramlett.

If you would prefer to caravan, come on. Your cost is the price of the dance and the loss of the GOOD TIMES BUS RIDE!!!!

* * * From Your 2nd VPs * * *

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 | 13-Dec-14 |
| Decatur 8ers | 4-Oct-14 |
| Rebel Rousers | 20-Dec-14 |
| Tri-City Promenaders | 24-Jan-15 |

Swinging Stars Banners Out

| Club | Date Captured |
|-------------------|---------------|
| Diamond Jubileers | 23-Jan-15 |
| Lone Star Solos | 23-Jan-15 |
| Roadrunners | 23-Jan-15 |
| Texas Reelers | 23-Jan-15 |
| Triangle Squares | 23-Jan-15 |

* * * EVENTS FROM THE PAST WEEK * * *

Plus 4s, Wednesday, January 21st

16 Swinging Stars visited Plus 4s in Farmers Branch on Wednesday. The evening's all-plus tips were called by veteran club caller Charles Quisenberry, aka "Quiz." On this particular evening, Quiz spent a lot of time "teaching" rather than just barking complex calls. Yes, he did still engineer some of his "patented" intricacies such as moves involving a diamond of ladies within an outer big box of men. However, Quiz spent much more time than usual painstakingly teaching and repeating a few variants of some specific calls. For example, he drilled us on the "centers' part" of Load the Boat, often from two parallel in-facing lines with the 4-person boxes on each end of the lines doing the "centers' part" simultaneously. Many dancers struggled with this unusual directive for some time, but Quiz patiently repeated the essential definition of "couples pass through, each dancer then turns back on partner, all dancers then trade with new partner, and couples finally pass through again." Eventually, all dancers learned how important it is to know and keep track of who your partner is at every instant. Similarly, Quiz drilled dancers repeatedly on "Left Relay the Deucey" and "Left Spin Change and Double Exchange the Gears." All attendees had a great time and came away better and/or more confident dancers. Visiting Swinging Stars included Bondis, Bergesens, Bursons, Colters, Esteps, Hawkins, Kerns, and Kilejians. Thanks to Jim Bondi for this report.

Of Interest, Tri-City Promenaders, Saturday, January 24th

Fifteen (15) Swinging Stars attended the Tri-City Promenaders' 40th Anniversary Dance Saturday evening in Hurst, TX. We captured their banner, which we had just given back Friday night. Rounds were cued by Chris Farabaugh while squares were called by the talented tandem of hall-of-fame club caller, Paul Kinsey, and guest caller, Bobby Willis. Chris cued a nice variety of songs covering many different rhythms and difficulties, allowing all round dancers to participate and enjoy themselves. Paul and Bobby, not to be outdone, offered square dancers a top-notch evening of tips that were fun, fast paced, and sometimes challenging. Beyond the calling itself, Paul and Bobby also delighted the audience with their now expected periodic sarcastic verbal jabs targeted at each other -- all in good fun, of course. All attendees had a terrific time. Swinging Stars in attendance were P. Amy, Bondis, Brewers, Bursons, Duncans, Esteps, Kilejians, and Pittses. Thanks to Jim Bondi and Dave Burson for this report.

* * * COMING EVENTS * * *

Official, Triangle Squares, Friday, January 30th

Location: Civic Center (321 East McKinney Street, Denton, TX)
Time: Workshop – 7:30PM / grand march – 8:00PM
Callers: Toby Thomason, Rick Smith
Theme: 40th (Ruby) Anniversary Dance
Notes: wear **Royal Blue**, if you have it

Dave and Lorraine Burson's Anniversary Dance, Saturday, January 31st

Location: All Saints Catholic Church (5231 Meadowcreek, Dallas, TX)
Time: Square up – 8:00PM
Caller: Wayne Baldwin
Cuer: Walter Brewer
Theme: 50th Wedding Anniversary Square Dance Party
Notes: Free

Refreshments Duty and Information

| | |
|-------------|---|
| February 13 | Estep , Dennison, Sobotka, Feldman |
| February 27 | Harris , Lassiter, Reid, Row |
| March 13 | Loven , Gifford, Jimison, Hardin/Smith |
| March 27 | Trujillo , Lewis, Loxsom, Hamm |

Thank you all for serving on our Refreshment Team!

Upcoming Advertised Swinging Stars Theme Dances

LOVE IS STILL IN THE AIR

AT THE

Swinging Stars

February 27TH

Caller: Wayne Baldwin

Early Rounds: 7:00

Cuer: Walter Brewer

Grand March: 8:00



Swinging Stars



Happy St. Patrick's Day



*Celebrating
All Things Irish*



March 13, 2015



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

Saturday, January 31, 2015 – Dave and Lorraine Burson's 50th Anniversary Dance – everyone is invited

June 4 – 7, 2015 – 53rd Annual Texas State Federation Square and Round Dance Festival, Waco, TX

June 24 – 27, 2015 – 64th National Square Dance Convention, Springfield, MA

October 30 – November 1, 2015 – NORTEX Callers Cavalcade and Round-Up

Check out and Like our Facebook page at: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Swinging-Stars-Square-Round-Dance-Club/278689705592854>

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@swingingsstars.org

Phone: 214-872-7219

