



Swinging Stars

Square and Round Dance Club

Newsletter for November 3, 2013

PRESIDENTIAL RAMBLINGS

The NTCA Cavalcade night was a great precursor for the ROUND UP 2013 Celebrating Texas' Heritage - The Yellow Rose of Texas. Prior to Cavalcade, yours truly, started the one hour prelude of Future NTCA Stars at 6:00PM with continuous non-stop dancing with only brief pauses for quick equipment changes and the passing of the microphone. The dancers were generous with their applause expressing their appreciation of the hard work and preparation that each of the caller trainees put into their tip... "trust me, it ain't easy." Without the help of the dancers and without encouragement and support, would we ever have new callers come into the profession...

Following the one hour of Early Rounds, the NTCA Callers and Cuers put on a show to remember. A couple of the notables were Jon and Vernon Jones with their creative choreography. They were a real crowd pleaser. The harmony and presentation of Rick Smith and our Wayne Baldwin brought the loudest round of applause. Mike Bramlett and Toby Thomason ended the dance with a couple of the best tunes ever presented. I am sure that there were others that should be mentioned but I missed a number of callers. The cuers were equally fantastic including Jack Von der Heide, Christine Hixon and Walter Brewer to name a few. There were eighteen callers and cuers in all. We appreciate them all sharing their time and talents for our enjoyment. Best \$5.00 donation I have ever made.

The GRaM committee had a booth for the weekend to introduce the Assisted Listening Devices to the NORTEX dancers – what, did he say Assisted “Living” Devices? Hmmm, maybe I should check out those Assisted “Listening” Devices. (See following links for more information <http://www.swingingstars.org/HearingAssistanceUnits.pdf> and <http://www.swingingstars.org/3-ChannelStarter.pdf>). Mike Bramlett and Jack Von der Heide lead a study of the way to better meet the needs of our dancers that have hearing difficulties. It seems that too many dancers are lost due to not being able to understand the caller due to poor hearing which is something that we all face as we get older. Mike primarily manned the booth Friday evening only taking time to sing with Toby Thomason in the ending tip. I was on call to answer questions on Saturday.

Thank you to Peggy and Deckard Pharr for their continued tradition of hosting the Friday night party following Cavalcade in their hotel room...how many Swinging Stars can you fit in a hotel room? We had a crowd (did anyone get a head count) and we all feasted on snacks and an assortment of candies, nuts, chips, popcorn, meats, sausages and drinks. Thanks you Peggy and Deckard.

Round Up was a fun filled day that started with line dancing in one room and mainstream in the other; then Plus in one and New Dancers in the other; Phase II/III Rounds and Square Dance Styling and following lunch High Energy Squares; Mainstream and Phase III/IV Rounds; Plus and Old Time Square – all of this before dinner and the main event was yet to come.

By this time our Feature Caller Noah Siegmann and his family had won our admiration, appreciate and love for him and Anna, his wife, and his two beautiful girls (ages two years and the younger was ten months). Following early Rounds, the brief presentation and introductions of dignitaries from the Houston Area Square Dance Association and the State Association representative, past NORTEX presidents and this year's NORTEX members that worked so hard putting everything together, they resumed early Rounds as we had about 35 – 40 minutes till the Grand March. Noah Siegmann and Vernon Jones kicked the dance into high gear as we enjoyed the next two and a half hours square and round dancing to the cueing of JL Pelton.

After the second tip the big moment finally arrived and the drawing for three weekends which included the January 2014, Rhythm Records weekend in Waco which included dance tickets, two nights at the Waco Hilton, breakfast and \$300 cash; tickets for a 2014 Jerry Story and Tony Oxedine weekend, including dance tickets, hotel and \$300 cash or 2014 Cavalcade tickets, Friday night stay at the Comfort Inn in Grapevine and \$200. These prizes required that you be present to win. And then, the big moment, the Cruise drawing!!!! Aw, you didn't win. The winning ticket was a sold to a non-square dancer. A square dance cruise and a non-square dancer... hahaha, it was great and we wish them a safe trip. Maybe they will learn to square dance on the cruise.

About the time we thought that everything was coming to a close it was announced that Noah would treat us to his guitar playing during the after party. Noah shared with us how he and Anna had met and how he had grown up in a musical family. Then Anna, ill with a cold and all, showed us that she also could sing and they presented us a couple of songs till her voice gave out. Noah showed us his fantastic guitar playing and announced that he has fallen in love with Texas and that he had received a honorary "Texan" button.

If you missed Noah, he will be back to the Dallas/Fort Worth area in December of 2014. I am already looking forward to it.

A big thanks to Chris & Merry Truijilo and all of the work they did on the facilities. Thanks to all of the Swinging Stars that were involved and thanks to all of NTCA Caller & Cuers and NORTEX members that worked so hard to make Round Up 2013 one of the best.

Check out this You-Tube link from the news crew that was at the Trails End Dance last Sunday - <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DHPIMNv8zeA&sns=em>

Do you still have Raffle Tickets Stubs sold or unsold? We have to account for all of the tickets that we took, so please turn them in. If you lost them, we need to know that too, as we do not have to pay for lost tickets.

Club meeting – officer election – will be November 10th at 3:00 at Spring Creek BBQ on Hwy 75 in Richardson, TX.

Nominations of the Executive Committee for the 6 month period February to July of 2014 are:

President	Bob and Terri Pitts
1st Vice President	George and Mary Loxsom
2nd Vice President	Ron and Donita See
Secretary	Tom and Vicki Evanto
Treasurer	Dan and Nina Lassiter

Thank you for accepting the nomination to serve our club in this vital role as a club officer and serve as our executive board.

Richard and Jan

DANCE LESSONS

We were so happy that some of our students were able to make it to Grapevine Saturday morning for the New Dancer Dance. Mary Bonkiewicz, Jim and Linda Flack, Joel and Marilyn Kern, Ann Koenig, and Steve and Debbie Sherrell enjoyed an hour and a half of dancing with Vernon Jones. Vernon kept everyone moving using a limited number of calls. Then he taught everyone, students and angels, a couple of "Old Time" calls. Twenty-six Swinging Stars angels helped our students and a roomful of other students have a wonderful experience. They were Colters, Harris, Hardin/Smith, Pizialis, Hawkins, Pitts, Hamms, Pharrs, Parrotts, Bursons, Hennebergers, Stuarts, and Feldmans.

Remember that next Friday, Nov. 8, is our Swinging Stars New Dancer Dance. This will be a great opportunity to meet our students and show them how much fun we have square dancing! Keep your eyes out for them and invite them into a square.

Finally, thank you for the wonderful response to our plea for angels at lessons and Round-Up. We had 24 angels last week! They were Lorraine Burson, Rows, Hawkins, Covingtons, Skip Archey, Starretts, Sees, Hennebergers, Hamms, Feldmans, McClures, George Loxsom, Peggy Amy, and Moshers.

Here is a list of students and their home city: Maybe you'll see a neighbor or acquaintance.

Jerry & Kay Barnett - Sachse; Mary Bonkiewicz - Plano; Mike & Melanie Burchfiel - Frisco; Lon Bushell - McKinney; Mary Ann Cagle - Carrollton; Louise Duncan - Allen; Delores Dvorak - Plano; Bob & Kathy Estep - Plano; David & Marguerite Evans - Plano; Jim & Linda Flack - Plano; Linda Floyd - Plano; Willis & Pat Friesen - Frisco; Dennis & Valerie Gelbaum - Plano; Sharon Goddard - Sachse; Jim & Katie Halvorson - McKinney; Ivan & Margertree Holmes - Wylie; David & Cher Jacobs - Dallas; Dominique Kennedy - Dallas; Joel & Marilyn Kern - Plano; Walt & Jan Knochenmus - Allen; Ann Koenig - McKinney; Jeff & Martha Lloyd - Sachse; Mark & Roxana Mars - Plano; Steve & Debbie Sherrell - Plano; Van Thoreson - Plano.

Mark & Karen Hawkins, 1ST VP

A GRAM Committee MINUTE...

*It's Christmas Time and
time for **shopping and giving!!***

Ways to *give away* those
business/coupon cards:

- Put them in your Christmas Cards
 - Use them as Stocking Stuffers
 - Leave them on service counters
 - Place them on church bulletin boards

Don't have any? Go to the following.....

www.lifesjustadance.com
then click on GRaM Pub

MEMBERSHIP DUES

If you have not already done so, the dues for the Fourth 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.

Please make your check payable to Swinging Stars

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Our sympathy goes out to Lorraine Burson for the death of her brother. He passed away on Thursday and like the troopers they are they were at Round Up on Saturday carrying out the duties as members of the Round Up committee. They flew out early Sunday morning.

Also, our sympathy goes to John Barber as he had a cousin pass away. John indicated that he is the closest living relative and he and Ann have gone to help close out his affairs. John advised me of the following: "Andy and Debbie Piziali agreed to handle the treasurer duties on Fri Nov 8th for Ann and I while we are in Knoxville, TN for the week to handle issues pertaining to my cousin's death."

Club meeting – officer election – will be November 10th at 3:00 at Spring Creek BBQ on Hwy 75 in Richardson, TX.

November 8th – Swinging Stars New Dancer Dance

Sign-Up sheets for the 2014 anniversary dance in January will be at the sign up table this Friday night. Please make your selections early. For more information, see the following link:

http://www.swingingstars.org/Important_Information_about_Swinging_Stars_Anniversary_Dance.pdf

A BIG thank you! to all Swinging Star contributors who generously 'kicked in' to the cash bonus for Migel (our Shepard Custodian). We collected \$107.00 and presented it to him the night of our double deal dance. He was very appreciative. Since this dance, Boot Scootin' Show Your Colors Double Deal Dance, required setup and break down of both rooms, his extra effort and support of our activity is appreciated.

We want to encourage everyone to tip generously at our bi-monthly Mama's pizza party as these folks provide us really good service and they stay late two Friday night a month for us. We get there after their normal closing. Also, we hope to put together a Holiday Season tip for them again this year.

Sondra and Mel, A big thank you for picking and delivery the 'cheer' for the Stars holiday party!

SQUARE-L-ROUND 47TH ANNUAL THANKSGIVING DANCE (NEW LOCATION)

ADVANCE REGISTRATION ONLY

Mainstream with some Plus included in tips and Plus tips.

Nov 28-31, 2013 (informal dance evening of 27th for early arrivals)

Lake Murray, OK Ken Bower, Melton Luttrell, Jay King, John & Karen Herr.

\$35 per dancer, \$70 per couple

For more info contact Vicki Evanto 972.578.8527

(Flyer online is for 2012 and has not been updated)

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

Whew! What a fun Round Up weekend we had, and now we have all limped back home to recharge our batteries for this week. We were SO glad to see a big Swinging Stars turnout at Round Up (more than 65 Stars attending this weekend). We hope you all had a good time at Round Up 2013 and maybe won a door prize or got some new gear! See more Round Up details below.

This coming weekend includes our home New Dancer Dance on Friday night November 8th. There are no dances on the calendar for Saturday night on our side of the Metroplex (note that the Dixie Chainers' regularly scheduled dance has been canceled since their anniversary dance is the following week).

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
Kissin' Kuzzins	18-Oct-13
Log Cabin Swingers	4-May-13
Lone Star Solos	28-Mar-13
North Star 8	09-Feb-13
Solitaires	03-Nov-12
Texoma Squares	01-Jun-13
Triangle Squares	30-Aug-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
Rebel Rousers	25-Oct-13
Texas Reelers	27-Sep-13

* * * EVENTS FROM THE PAST WEEK * * *

Official – NTCA Callers' Cavalcade, November 1st

Many thanks to ALL the new and seasoned callers and cuers who gave their time and talent for the enjoyment of the dancers Friday night in a great show of NTCA strength. Our own Walter Brewer did a great job as the official MC for the evening, and our own Wayne Baldwin got great applause and recognition for his calling and duet with Rick Smith. The visiting Swinging Stars were: P. Amy, the Archys, Baldwins, Bivins, Bondis, Brewers, Colters, Covingtons, Evantos, Hamms, Harrises, Hawkins, Lassiters, Maiers, Pharrs, Pitts, Sees, Smith / Hardin, Rows, Starretts, Trujillos, and C. Wolfe.

Official – NORTEX Round-Up, November 2nd-3rd

Many thanks to Vernon Jones for a fantastic new dancer dance and giving the NORTEX students great confidence at their very first 'away from home' dance. Thanks to all our new students who attended and thanks to all our Swinging Stars angels at the new dancer dance Saturday morning. Thanks also go to the Bursons who organized the dance and made sure it went smoothly. The Swinging Stars students at the dance were: M. Bonkiewicz, the Flacks, Kerns, A. Koenig, and the Sherrells.

On the round dance side, JL and Linda Pelton taught the dancers a phase 2 Two Step and phase 4 Cha. The Cha, 'Dance with Me' was a brand new dance choreographed by the Peltons, and included a new unphased figure called Ronde Box ... very fun. The Two Step included a challenging whale tail.

What an incredible showing of yellow at The Yellow Rose of Texas dance Saturday night! Noah Siegmann, a caller from Rubicon, WI, did a fantastic job as the headline caller, and those who stayed for the after party were treated to some great singing and guitar playing from Noah and his wife. Staff caller, Vernon Jones, was fabulous to dance to, as always, and his dad, Jon Jones, contributed also and as a trio, to cap off the whole evening. And the many Stars who attended on Saturday were: the Amys, Archys, Bergesens, Bivins, Bondis, Bullocks, Bursons, Covingtons, Delukes, Evantos, Feldmans, Hamms, Hawkins, Harrises, Hennebergers, Kilejians, Lassiters, Loxoms, Maiers, Moshers, Perrotts, Pharrs, Pitts, Pizialis, Rows, Sees, Smith / Hardin, Sobotkas, Starretts, Stuarts, Trujillos, and C. Wolfe. Great turn out for an away dance ... way to go Stars! This morning chaplain Bates Richmond (Rebel Rousers) led the church service. Jon Jones, Vernon Jones, Toby Thomason, Paul Kinsey, Noah Siegmann, and new callers James Alexander and Lee Meador, each called gospel tips. Swinging Star attendees were P. Amy, the Colters, T. Evanto, Hawkins, Pharrs, and Smith/Hardin. Thanks Mary Hardin for sharing these details.

THANK YOU to all our NORTEX officers, the 2013 Round Up officers and the Round Up committee, those who contributed door prizes, and to all NORTEX members who contributed time, talent, and money to make all this fun happen this weekend.

* * * COMING EVENTS * * *

Swinging Stars, Friday, November 8th

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: JL Pelton
Notes: New dancer dance

Swinging Stars Club Meeting, Sunday, November 10th

Location: Spring Creek BBQ (270 North Central Expressway, Richardson, TX)
Time: Meeting – 3:00PM / dinner – after meeting
Notes: Please attend – this is a required meeting

Dance of Interest, T-Square Gadabouts, Friday, November 15th

Location: Swingtime Center (5100 SE Loop 820, Ft. Worth, TX)
Website: <http://www.tsquaregadabouts.com/>
Time: Early rounds – 7:00PM / grand march – 8:00PM
Callers: Rick Smith and Jon Jones
Cuer: Charles Crockett
Theme: Turkey Shoot
Notes: This is a double deal dance, carpool with your friends

Official, Dixie Chainers, Saturday, November 16th

Location: Farmers Branch Senior Center (14055 Dennis Lane, Farmers Branch, TX)
Website: <http://www.dixiechainers.com/>
Time: Early rounds – 7:00PM / grand march – 7:30PM
Callers: Vernon Jones, Jon Jones, and Deborah-Carroll Jones
Cuer: Jack von der Heide
Theme: 55th anniversary dance
Notes: This is a double deal dance, wear aqua if you have it

NORTEX Quarterly Meeting, Sunday, November 17th

Location: Swingtime Center (5100 SE Loop 820, Ft. Worth, TX)
Time: Meeting – 2:00PM

Ladies Luncheon, Tuesday, November 19th

Location: BJ's Restaurant (1101 N. Central Expressway, Plano, TX)
Website: <http://www.bjsbrewhouse.com/>
Time: Lunch – 11:00am
Hostess: Terri Pitts – RSVP if you can attend at (972) 392-4325

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

Log Cabin Swingers Jerry Story weekend, November 8-10th

Location: Promenade Hall (1210 N. Tool Dr., Tool, TX)
Website: <http://swingingstars.org/storytime2013.pdf>
Caller: Jerry Story
Cuer: Walter Brewer

Houston Hoedown, November 8-9th

Location: Lone Star Convention Center (9055 Airport, Conroe, TX)
Website: <http://www.squarethru.com/hoedown.htm>
Callers: Hunter Keller and Houston area callers
Cuer: Randy Preskitt

REFRESHMENTS DUTY AND INFORMATION

November 8	Feldman , Loven, Bivens, Hursey
November 22	Loxson , McClure, Row, Evanto
December 13	Mosher , Stuart, Whipple, Harris
December 27	Holiday for Everyone

*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.

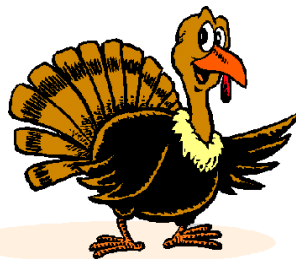
Thank you all for serving on our Refreshment Team.

Upcoming Advertised Swinging Stars Theme Dances



November 8, 2013

New Dancer Dance



November 22, 2013

Shake Your Tail Feathers

Thanksgiving Dance



December 13, 2013

Toys & Books for Kids

Holiday Ball



Friday, November 8th – New Dancers Dance

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:

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

December 13, 2013 - Toys & Books for Kids Holiday 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

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



63rd National Square Dance Convention®

June 25 - 28, 2014

Little Rock, Arkansas

Website: www.63nsdc.com & Facebook under the 63rd National Square Dance Convention®.

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.

Remember our Sunshine person is Debbie Piziali and you can email her at 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@swingingstars.org

Phones: (972) 325-1144