



# Swinging Stars

## Square and Round Dance Club

*Newsletter for November 10, 2013*

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### PRESIDENTIAL RAMBLINGS

Awesome dance Friday night - it was a real treat to have visiting callers come with their students – Jon & Deborah-Carroll Jones, Toby & Judy Thomason and cuer Jack and Ann von der Heide each blessed us with their talent and added to the quality that Wayne & Jodi Baldwin bring us weekly. JL & Linda Pelton were filling in for Walter & Eula Brewer and, of course, they did a fantastic job. He passed the mic to Jack von der Heide who led the floor of venturesome students and angels in the Cupid Shuffle line dance – it was fun. Wayne asked Jon & Deborah-Carroll Jones to take the mic and after some very polished patter they treated us to their song from Shrek, “Hallelujah.” Toby graced us with the next tip adding to the pool of talent of the evening. I know the students did not grasp the rarity of the situation of having this number of seasoned talented and national callers come together at a club dance. However, I applaud these men and women for taking their time to help a floor of new dancers get the most enjoyment from their first real square dance. My hat is off to each of them – callers, cuers and spouses alike – thank you.

We had a great turn-out in attendance – twenty-one Texas Reelers, thirteen Triangle Squares, four Kissin Kusins, two Plus Fours, one from Model A’s and Lone Star Solo’s. Peggy Yung’s sister was visiting from Maryland. Twenty two students, 109 total people in attendance. It was a very good dance.

**\*Do you still have Raffle Tickets Stubs sold or unsold? We, Swinging Stars, still have approximately 50 tickets unaccounted for and we have to account for all of the tickets that we took. Please turn them in, or if you lost them, we need to know that too, as we do not have to pay for lost tickets.\***

Forty-five Swinging Stars met at Spring Creek BBQ for our club meeting today. The nominations committee did an excellent job putting together a slate of talented officer nominees. Your Executive Board for 02/2014 – 08/2014 was unanimously approved and they are as follow:

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 to our future executive board and the nomination committee members for your willingness to serve our club in these vital roles. It is critical to have good talent leading our club.

We also approved the purchase of an Assisted Listening transmitter. We narrowed it down to two units – the Listen and the Williams unit. A committee was appointed consisting of Charlie Harris, Richard Covington, Bob Pitts, Fred Underwood and John Barber to make the final determination within financial guidelines defined. In addition, we took up a donation to go toward the purchase of the transmitter. We will have a donation basket at our next couple of dances or until adequate money is accumulated to make the purchase. John Barber, our treasurer indicated that we need to wait till 01/01/2014 to disperse the funds. Now, we need the unit no later than our Anniversary dance and we would like to get it as soon as possible. So, please give generously to this important acquisition. Club members need to purchase their own receivers and Fred encouraged members to check out the Williams Sound R37N FM receiver. It is a little smaller than the Listen receiver and it automatically seeks out 17 frequencies broadcasted by the transmitter so listeners don't have to fumble with tuning controls. It's also field tunable to match the frequency of your choice. It is digitally synthesized for greater audio clarity and stability. It has a channel-lock capability to prevent accidental channel change. Priced at \$84.99 + ear piece \$14.99 + shipping. You can purchase it at [www.audiolinks.com](http://www.audiolinks.com). I included the flyer on the Listen unit in last week's newsletter. Fred also indicated that they have the analog Listen LR200 at \$76 + ear piece + shipping. You will note that it only has three channels and the batteries have to be removed to move a sliding selector switch to change the channel.

Both brands are compatible with the two transmitters that we are considering.

Link to Round Up a super slide show put together by Noah Siegman -  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=opKbRCh8Rgg>

Richard and Jan

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## DANCE LESSONS

There are two New Dancer Dances Friday, November 15<sup>th</sup>. The Triangle Squares in Denton and the Texas Reelers in Richardson. We need angels to hook up with students to attend one dance or the other as both clubs brought a good number of dancers to our new dancers dance Friday night.

Twenty-seven students joined us last week for lessons. They are quickly moving through all of the Basic and Mainstream calls. We had 18 wonderful angels helping us and we all got to dance at some point in the evening. The angels were the Covingtons, the Hawkins, the Sobotkas, Kenneth Henneberger, George Loxsom, the Feldmans, the Moshers, the Hamms, the Sees, and the Shermans.

We all had a wonderful time at our New Dancer Dance Friday night. It was such a special treat that the new dancers got to dance to several different callers. I think they got a real feel for the fun of square dancing! The students that joined us were Mary Bonkiewicz, Bob and Kathy Estep, Jim and Linda Flack, Willis and Patricia Frieson, Joel and Marilyn Kern, Ann Koenig, Jeff and Martha Lloyd, and Mark and Roxana Mars. Thank you to all of the wonderful Swinging Stars who mentored our students and made them feel welcome. There was nothing but positive comments from everyone as they left the dance.

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, 1<sup>ST</sup> VP

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## 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](http://www.lifesjustadance.com)  
then click on GRaM Pub

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## 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](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

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# ANNOUNCEMENTS

Royce Wheaton had 2 in-hospital procedures this week, trigger from complications of heart failure. He is currently in Lake Point Hospital, but expected to be released within a day or two. He is up and sitting on the bedside and in good spirits. For those who would like to send a personal greeting to Royce, please do. His address is in the Swinging Stars Roster.

Calls, cards and visitors welcome!

November 15, 2013, Friday, Texas Reelers is having a New Dancer Dance. Please send us your new dancers and angels. New Dancers with Students badges can attend free of charge. This is, also, our Salute the Troops Dance. We are looking forward to dancing with y'all.

November 15, 2013, Friday, Triangle Square, Denton is having a 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.

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 in advance, 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 28th 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)

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

Another busy week of dancing is in the rear view mirror. As far as visitations this week, we had Swinging Stars gathering at Plus 4's and the Roadrunners dances and a good contention at the Jerry Story weekend in Tool and we popped in at the Houston Hoedown in Conroe. Bob's dad's pacemaker replacement went well too ... thanks everyone for their well wishes.

IMPORTANT NOTICE – we have changed the dance of interest Friday, November 15<sup>th</sup>, from the T-Square Gadabouts to the Texas Reelers because the Reelers are hosting a new dancer dance. Encourage our students to attend and let's join them for an evening of dancing. Since they have our banner we also want to have enough Swinging Stars to get our banner back (and maybe take theirs). Saturday night is an Official Visitation to the Dixie Chainers for their double deal anniversary dance. Wear aqua if you have it.

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
Roadrunners	07-Nov-13
Solitaires	03-Nov-12
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
Rebel Rousers	25-Oct-13
Texas Reelers	27-Sep-13

## \* \* \* EVENTS FROM THE PAST WEEK \* \* \*

### Plus 4's, November 6<sup>th</sup>

A large showing of Swinging Stars visited Plus 4's in Farmers Branch on Wednesday. Veteran club caller Charles Quizenberry (aka "Quiz") challenged dancers with tips that delved into dancing by definition. Our education under Professor Quiz's careful tutelage included advanced schooling on "coordinate" with dancers in atypical starting positions and schooling on atypical diamond configurations such as "3-and-1" diamonds. Although many dancers were initially stunned, most were performing these moves with confidence by evening's end. All present had a terrific time. The 21 visiting Swinging Stars were: P. Amy, Archeys, Bondis, Colters, Covingtons, Evantos, Hawkins, Lewises, Sees, Shermans, and the Starretts. Thanks to Jim Bondi for the dance write up.

### Roadrunners, November 7<sup>th</sup>

There were five Swinging Stars at the Roadrunners dance at Swingtime Center on Thursday night. The Roadrunners held a Sadie Hawkins Day dance featuring Joey Duhamel calling squares and Karen Gloodt cuing rounds. Joey held a plus workshop and called a challenging and fun dance highlighted by some extremely good yodeling (I didn't even know they had mountains in Louisiana). The Swinging Stars who captured the Roadrunners' banner were: P. Amy, the Evantos, and the Sees. Thanks to Ron See for sharing the dance details.

### Log Cabin Swingers Jerry Story weekend, November 8-10<sup>th</sup>

More than 2 squares of Swinging Stars visited "Story Time, Chapter 1" at the Log Cabin Swingers. Legendary and beloved caller, Jerry Story, called the squares while our own "Sir Walter" Brewer cued the weekend's great rounds. Not surprisingly, many square dancers came just because of Jerry Story and they were NOT disappointed. The floor reverberated from Friday night through Sunday morning with Jerry's patented fast-paced, high-energy calls accompanied by terrific singing. Saturday morning opened with a general plus squares workshop, followed later by a DBD plus workshop, which served as PARTIAL training for a short DBD plus square dance session that followed. After Saturday evening's main dance session, we were treated to a one hour after party with Jerry singing a whole host of songs as we ate corny dogs cooked up by our great hosts. Sunday morning began with Log Cabins' traditional made-to-order pancake and sausage breakfast. While we ate, Jerry again treated us with singing, this time mostly spiritually themed music to suit the day. Breakfast was followed

by the closing session's round and square dancing. All attending had a marvelous time, warm social experience, and great learning opportunity. The 15 visiting Swinging Stars were: the Amys, Bondis, Bullocks, Bursons, Evantos, T. Heintz, the Perrotts, and Smith / Hardin. Dance details shared by Jim Bondi

### **Houston Hoedown, November 8-9<sup>th</sup>**

The Houston Hoedown was held this year at the Lone Star Convention Center in Conroe, TX. Friday night was filled with squares and rounds by Houston area callers and cuers. In addition, the headline cuers Randy and Marie Preskitt of Seattle, Washington, also cued some rounds Friday night. Saturday was filled with an assortment of mainstream, plus, DBD, and advanced square dancing, rounds, advanced rounds, and round teaches by the Preskitts, and even a clogging special. The Preskitts taught two advanced rounds, a level 5 rumba and a level 4+2 waltz. The headline caller was Hunter Keller who entertained the dancers in many venues all day Saturday. The Pitts were the only dancers from NORTEX attending this year.

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

### **Dance of Interest, Texas Reelers, Friday, November 15<sup>th</sup>**

Location: Swingtime Center (5100 SE Loop 820, Ft. Worth, 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: Salute Veterans  
Notes: Banner retrieval, new dancer dance – come out and work with our students

### **Official, Dixie Chainers, Saturday, November 16<sup>th</sup>**

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: 55<sup>th</sup> anniversary dance  
Notes: This is a double deal dance, wear aqua if you have it

### **NORTEX Quarterly Meeting, Sunday, November 17<sup>th</sup>**

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

### **Ladies Luncheon, Tuesday, November 19<sup>th</sup>**

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

### **Swinging Stars, Friday, November 22<sup>nd</sup>**

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

# \* \* \* SPECIAL WEEKEND DANCE OPPORTUNITIES \* \* \*

## **Rhythm Winter Festival, January 3-4**

Location: Waco Convention Center (Hilton Waco, 113 S. University Parks Dr., Waco, TX)

Website: [http://swingingstars.org/Winter\\_Festival\\_Flyer\\_2014.pdf](http://swingingstars.org/Winter_Festival_Flyer_2014.pdf)

Callers: Dee Dee Dougherty, Mike Seastrom, Ken Bower, Gary Shoemake, Wade Driver, Marshal Flippo

Cuer: Mark Prow

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## **REFRESHMENTS DUTY AND INFORMATION**

November 22 **Loxson**, McClure, Row, Whipple

December 13 **Mosher**, Stuart, Evanto, 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:**

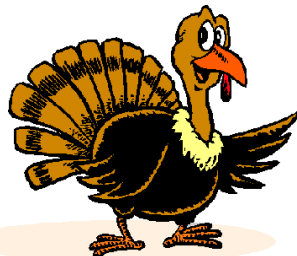
If you have a conflict with the Refreshment Schedule

- 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](mailto: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](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**

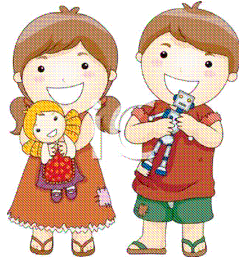


November 22, 2013

Shake Your Tail Feathers

Thanksgiving Dance





December 13, 2013

Toys & Books for Kids

Holiday Ball



**Friday, November 8<sup>th</sup> – New Dancers Dance**

**Friday, December 6<sup>th</sup> – Stars Annual Holiday Party**

Sunday, December 8<sup>th</sup> – NORTEX Toys for Tots dance will be at the Richardson Civic Center

**Friday, January 31, 2014 – Swinging Stars 39<sup>th</sup> 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 – 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®.



**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@swingingstars.org](mailto:president@swingingstars.org)**

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