



Swinging Stars

Square and Round Dance Club

Newsletter for December 1, 2013

PRESIDENTIAL RAMBLINGS

Did you overstuff with Turkey, Dressing, Mashed and/or Sweet Potatoes, Green Bean Casserole and Pecan Pie, or whatever your Thanksgiving meals may have consisted of? We along with a number of Swinging Stars took the opportunity to dance some of it off at the Texas Reeler's 38th Anniversary Dance last night. Jon and Deborah Carroll Jones put on a display of their musical ability as they rolled out songs from musical in keeping with their theme, Broadway Musicals. Deborah Carroll spell-bound us with her song from the musical Hair and Jon wowed us with his "Ol' Man River" from the 1936 musical Showboat. Even with Square Dance calls interspersed, the songs were tremendous to listen to.

We have a couple of big events coming this weekend. First our **Swinging Stars Holiday Party Fun!** is December 6th, this Friday night. Linda Harris has planned the evening and has her actors preparing their skits for this one time, one night play. We have a couple of notable returning actors, Bob Pitts and Mel Foust. A new actor this year, Jim Bondi and a star returning from prior years, Frank Starrett, and others for this annual feat.

Get your money in early! \$30.00 per couple which includes a catered BBQ dinner with all the trimmings, beer and margaritas, square dancing with the incredible Wayne Baldwin and line dancing with our own Walter Brewer! Cash or check payable to Linda Harris, 9434 Hilldale Drive, Dallas, TX 75231. You can give your check or cash to Jan Covington or Linda and Charlie Harris as soon as possible. Deadline for payment was December 1st so you are already late. Hope to see everyone there!

Next Sunday, December 8th, the NORTEX/NTCA Toys of Tots Dance will be at the Richardson Civic Center located at 411 W. Arapaho Road, Richardson, TX. The Toy Drop Host will be Chip Waggoner of Fox 4 News. The dance times: 2:30 – 4:00pm Formula 51/New Dancers Dance; 4:30 – 5:30pm Early Rounds & Plus Dancing; 5:30 – 8:00pm Square & Round Dancing – Cash (preferred) and/or Unwrapped Toys. So, while you are out shopping this week, don't forget to pick up a toy to bring. Also, pick up a second gift for first December dance on the 13th, Toys & Books for Kids Holiday Ball.

Vote for your favorite Caller & Cues song. The annual Singing Call of the Year dance and the Round Dance Cues Dance of the year at Swingtime on January 26, 2014, so mark your calendars. The dance itself is free. Voting cost \$1 per ballot and three votes on each ballot. You can print the ballot out of the Promenade.

The Assisted Listening Device was successfully used at our club dance Friday, November 22nd and those who had the receivers were most pleased. If you want a receiver, Charlie Harris ordered six more and you can purchase one for \$90 each, Or you can order your own direct for \$99.88. This is for the Williams Receiver.

Thanks so much!
Richard and Jan

DANCE LESSONS

Our lessons only have three weeks left – it depends on how you count it. We have December 3rd and December 10th and graduation on December 17th – we expect 30 students to graduate.

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



Anniversary Dance Report

Thank you to everyone that has signed up to help with the anniversary dance, "Dancing with the Stars Season II". We have had an excellent response to our request that everyone sign up to help and to bring food. After the dance on Friday the 22nd, Dave and I hurried home to finish packing for our trip to Illinois to visit our son for Thanksgiving. I neglected to check how many more we need to cover all of the duties on the sign-up sheets, and silly me, I didn't bring the sheets with me. Well I decided that you all know if you have gotten signed up or not. I know we need more help with the decorations committee and more salads. Please if you have not gotten signed up, either call me at 972-396-0941 OR Email me at Lorraine@Bursons.us. Also, you can also sign up at the next club dance. Thank you and we hope you all had Happy Thanksgiving!

Lorraine & Dave Burson

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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.



**Swinging Stars Ladies Holiday
Luncheon
Wednesday, December 18th
Noon**

**Anne Nejdil House
4105 Cassandra Lane
Plano, TX 75093
972-954-5979
Yo_Red@verizon.net**

I will provide ham, turkey breast and drinks. Please bring a dish or dessert to share.

Games and prizes

**Optional white elephant gift exchange
Bring wrapped trinket you wish to
"Re-gift"**

RSVP by December 15th



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)

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

We are now in the throes of another holiday season having survived a Thanksgiving feast and Black Friday shopping. The Swinging Stars also got some dancing in to help reduce the effects of the feasting. Read about the fun visitations to Friendship Plus and two local clubs that had anniversary dances: the Lone Star Solos and the Texas Reelers over the Thanksgiving weekend.

This week we hope to see you at the Swinging Stars Holiday Party and on Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day at the Texoma Squares Christmas in Texoma dance in Denison being called by our Texas Hall of Fame caller, Wayne Baldwin, and the accomplished cuer, Karen Gloodt. And Sunday you should make every effort to go to the GRAM-sponsored Toys for Tots dance – make sure to bring a toy or cash donation (both are requested). I am sure we will see a bevy of Swinging Stars there.

And don't forget to register for the 3rd annual Rhythm Records Winter Festival in Waco, the first weekend after our Happy New Year, if you plan to go. There will be 6 world class callers and a great cuer entertaining us. See details and a link to the flyer in the Special Dances section below.

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
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
Rebel Rousers	25-Oct-13

*** * * EVENTS FROM THE PAST WEEK * * ***

Friendship Plus, November 25th

A dozen Swinging Stars visited Friendship Plus in Richardson on Monday. Texas Hall of Fame caller, Mike Bramlett, kept all the dancers engaged by offering a good variation of pacing and difficulty, sometimes revisiting a call that produced confusion on the floor. For example, when calling various tags (1/2, 3/4, or full) from a wave, produced some glazed eyes and errant moves. Mike treated all dancers to repeated friendly work-shopping on these calls. As the evening progressed, warm pre-Thanksgiving camaraderie inside the hall kept dancers minds off the frigid temperatures outside. The visiting Swinging Stars included: the Amys, Bondis, Colters, Dennisons, Jimisons, and the Moshers.

Of Interest, Lone Star Solos, Friday, November 29th

Black Friday evening was topped off with a delicious helping of round and square dancing with the Lone Star Solos for their 49th anniversary dance Thursday night at the Knights of Columbus Hall in Dallas. The dancers enjoyed the rounds to the cueing of Chris Farabaugh while the fun squares were called by Dave Viera. Both the cuer and caller kept the dancers entertained with great selections and expert execution. And the Solos prepared a wonderful assortment of salads and desserts for the dancers. The 11 Swinging Stars at the dance included: P. Amy, the Bondis, Pitts, Smith / Hardin, and C. Wolfe and the Esteps and A. Koenig who are student dancers.

Of Interest, Texas Reelers, Saturday, November 30th

An large assortment of Swinging Stars holiday revelers was on the loose in Garland Saturday night attending the Texas Reelers 38th anniversary dance. The rounds were cued by Jack von der Heide who kept the dancers 'on their toes' with a good array of crowd favorites. The squares were called by club caller, Deborah Carroll-Jones, and visiting caller, Jon Jones, her husband. They both provided exquisite patter and singing calls all evening with both callers including both On and Off Broadway hits. The Reelers prepared a delicious feast of salads and desserts for the dancers. The visiting Swinging Stars were: the Bondis, Covingtons, Feldmans, Perrotts, Pharrs, Pitts, Smith / Hardin, the Starretts, and C. Wolfe and student dancers, the Esteps.

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

Swinging Stars Holiday Party, Friday, December 6th

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

Of Interest, Texoma Squares, Saturday, December 7th

Location: Texoma Squares Dancehall (929 Desvoignes Road, Denison, TX)
Website: n/a
Time: Early rounds – 7:30PM / dance – 8:00PM
Caller: Wayne Baldwin
Cuer: Karen Gloodt
Theme: Christmas in Texoma

Official, Toys for Tots Dance, Sunday, December 8th

Location: Richardson Civic Center
Time: Formula 51 Squares- 2:30PM
Early Rounds and Plus Dancing- 4:30PM
Square and Round Dancing – 5:30PM
Callers: Area callers
Cuers: Area cuers
Host: Chip Waggoner (and Marine Toys for Tots Foundation)
Notes: Admission – cash (preferred) and/or unwrapped toys

Swinging Stars, Friday, December 13

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
Theme: Books and Toys for Kids Holiday Ball
Note: Bring an unwrapped book or toy to donate

Swinging Stars Mainstream Lessons Graduation, Tuesday, December 17

Location: Carpenter Recreation Center
Time: 7:15-9:15PM
Caller: Wayne Baldwin
Theme: All are invited to come dance with our new mainstream graduates

Ladies Luncheon, Wednesday, December 18th

Location: The Nejd's home (4105 Cassandra Lane, Plano, Tx 75093)
Time: Lunch – 12:00PM
Hostess: Anne Nejd – RSVP if you can attend to (972) 964-5979 or email Yo_Red@verizon.net and let her know what dish you are bringing
Notes: Anne is supplying ham, turkey, and drinks. Everyone is asked to bring a dish to share. We will be playing games with prizes and have the dreaded white elephant gift exchange (optional).
Please let the student ladies in class know they are invited too.

Of Interest, Kissin' Kuzzins, Friday, December 20th

Location: Garland Senior Center (600 Avenue A, Garland, TX)
Website: <http://www.kissinkuzzins.org/>
Time: Workshop 7:30PM / grand march 8:00PM
Caller: Wayne Baldwin
Cuer: JL Pelton
Theme: Jingle Bell Rock

OR

Of Interest, Rockwall Squares, Friday, December 20th

Location: The Center (105 E. Washington @ Goliad, Rockwall, TX)
Website: <http://www.rockwallsquares.com/>
Time: Workshop - 7:30 / grand march – 8:00PM
Caller: Wayne Shoemaker
Cuer: Christine Hixson
Theme: New Dancer Dance

Of Interest, Rebel Rousers, Saturday, December 21st

Location: Richardson Senior Center (820 W. Arapaho Road, Richardson, TX)
Website: <http://www.rebelrousersdallas.com/>
Time: Early rounds – 7:30PM / grand march 8:00PM
Caller: Mike Bramlett
Cuer: Christine Hixson
Theme: Old Mother Hubbard Food Drive Dance and “Make it with Bacon” contest
Note: They will be collecting donations of canned and packaged foods

Of Interest, Dixie Chainers, Saturday, December 28th

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
Caller: Vernon Jones
Cuer: Jack von der Heide
Theme: Holiday Dance – double deal

ADD Plus, Monday, December 30th

Location: Richardson Senior Center (820 W. Arapaho Road, Richardson, TX)
Website: n/a
Time: Dance – 7:00PM
Caller: Mike Bramlett
Theme: Anniversary double deal dance

Of Interest, Rebel Rousers, Tuesday, December 31st

Location: Richardson Senior Center (820 W. Arapaho Road, Richardson, TX)
Website: <http://www.rebelrousersdallas.com/>
Time: Early rounds – 8:00PM / grand march – 9:00PM
Caller: Mike Bramlett
Cuer: Christine Hixson
Theme: New Year's Eve dance
Note: Black-eyed peas at midnight

OR

Of Interest, T-Square Gadabouts, Tuesday, December 31st

Location: Swingtime Center (SE Loop 820 @ Anglin, Fort Worth, TX)
Time: Early rounds – 8:00PM / dance – 9:00PM
Callers: Wayne Baldwin and Rick Smith
Cuer: Charles Crockett
Theme: New Year's Eve dance
Note: Refreshments all evening and black-eyed peas at midnight - \$15 per person in advance, or \$20 per person at the door

*** * * 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
Callers: Dee Dee Dougherty, Mike Seastrom, Ken Bower, Gary Shoemake, Wade Driver, Marshall Flippo
Cuer: Mark Prow

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

REFRESHMENTS DUTY AND INFORMATION

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 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



December 13, 2013

Toys & Books for Kids

Holiday Ball



January 31, 2014

Dancing with the Star

Season II



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:

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@swingingsstars.org

Phones: (972) 325-1144