

Newsletter for December 11, 2016

From Kathy and Bob Estep, Swinging Stars Presidents:

Club Dues: The Club voted to raise dues from \$35.00 per couple per quarter to \$45.00 per couple per quarter effective January 1, 2017

Holiday Cash Gift for Miguel.

Miguel Angel is our custodian at Shepard Elementary. He has served us faithfully by setting and cleaning up for each dance. We owe a BIG THANK YOU for his smiling face and continued service. The Swinging Stars were very generous again this year and a \$300.00 cash gift was collected. He has two little ones and is very appreciative of our generosity. Thank you to all that contributed!!!

Read all the way to the end of the Newsletter as the "Important Dates" are starting to get filled in for the year.

Kathy and Bob

Happening This Week

Monday, December 11 – Lessons in Allen – Graduation – Please come celebrate with the students.

Wednesday, December 14 – Ladies Luncheon – Anne Nejdl's House (Plano) -

Friday, December 16 – Texas Reelers – Candy Cane Xmas – Deborah Carroll Jones, Jon Jones and Chris Farabaugh

Saturday, December 17 – Rebel Rousers – Bacon Bowl – Mike Bramlett & Christine Hixson

Announcements

Allen Lessons: Student Graduation is December 12th. You are encouraged to join the lessons that night to encourage the new dancers.

Time: Monday evening; 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm Location: 105 South Anna Dr. Allen, TX 75013

Square Dance Lessons start January 10, 2017 at Carpenter Rec. Center. Pick up flyers and tri-folds at Club Dance December 9, 2016 and start recruiting NOW!

Round Dancers: Linda and JL Pelton will be teaching a new beginning class of Bolero starting Tuesday, January 10 at Carpenter Rec Center, 6701 Coit Road, Plano. This is an 8-week class from 7:30 to 9:30. A two-hour class gives plenty of time for practice and, just like square dancing, it's practice that makes you a good dancer.

Bolero is a fun Latin rhythm, very similar to Rumba. If you have had Rumba and Cha Cha class, this one will be really easy with similar figure names. If you haven't had Rumba or Cha Cha, it will make that Latin class easier to learn.

Registration is now open for everyone. You can call Carpenter Rec Center at 972-208-8087, or you can register online at <u>www.planoparks.org</u>. The name of the class in the Parks and Rec catalog is Choreographed Ballroom Bolero, Course #187430.

Thank you for serving our favorite activity. We look forward to another great year of dancing and friendship.

2nd VP Report – 11 December 2016 Jim & Knarik Bondi

RECENT ACTIVITY -- DANCING/TRAINING

"A" Square Dance followed by Plus Square Dance

Wednesday 07 December – Plus 4s

During the early "A" dance, for 75 minutes, Quiz drilled both squares on a variety of A1/A2 calls, providing badly needed practice for 2016 "A" students/graduates. During the main Plus dance that followed, a total of 9 Swinging Stars participated. "Brain ticklers" this evening included Load the Boat starting with the 4 ends facing out (wherein it's very important for the ends to *dance by the definition*, carefully counting 3 other ends as they're passed and only then immediately turning to face in) and Left Spin Chain and Double Exchange the Gears. A big Thank You to these Swinging Stars who attended: P. Amy, Bergesens, Bondis, Kilejians, and Sees.

Our Square + Round Dance

Friday 09 December – Swinging Stars – "Holiday Dance"

7+ squares enjoyed our Swinging Stars club dance Friday night at Shepard Elementary School in Plano, TX. Dancing kicked off at 7 PM with 45 minutes of squares workshop by Hall of Fame club caller, Wayne Baldwin, focusing on Star Thru. Wayne even patiently trained participants on "Star Thru 9 Times" wherein 9 successive Star Thrus are executed by the overall square ... but only directly facing dancers can participate in each particular Star Thru. During the remainder of the dance, Wayne delivered a solid set of Main Stream tips, 2 Plus tips, and, as always, some memorable singing calls, several of them holiday songs consistent with the season. On rounds, club cuer, Walter Brewer, countered with a well balanced evening of rounds that, through its nice variety of rhythms and phases, fully engaged all round dancers present. After the dance, 16 Swinging Stars partied on a bit longer at Austin Avenue Grill, sharing some Christmas cheer with each other.

Square + Round Dance

Saturday 10 December – Cotton Pickin Squares – "Holly Hop"

10 Swinging Stars made the trek to Greenville, TX, Saturday to dance with our friends, the Cotton Pickin Squares. Cuer Christine Hixson delivered a nice evening of rounds with a good mix of phases and rhythms beginning with an hour of early rounds and continuing with intermittent rounds during the main dance. In that main dance, guest caller Wayne Baldwin offered an entertaining set of square tips that included some fabulous holiday-seasonal singing calls. A grand Thank You to these Swinging Stars who participated: Bondis, Esteps, Hamms, Harrises, and Sees. Your attendance qualified us for our hosts banner but, already holding one in our inventory, we declined another.

Round Dance

Sunday 11 December – Harvest Holidays – a free Holiday Dance

10 Swinging Stars went to Swingtime Center in Fort Worth Sunday afternoon, donned their dancing shoes, and round danced at Harvest Holidays' special holiday season free dance. Attendees enjoyed 3 non-stop hours of cueing by area cuers J.L. Pelton (host of this dance), Ron Webb, Barbara Yeargan, Jack Kenny, Karen Gloodt, and Christine Hixson. This sextet of cueing talent did a fantastic job of mixing rhythms and phases this afternoon so that all round dancers, no matter their current skill level, could participate and enjoy themselves for much of the dance. Light snacks were available that allowed dancers to recharge their batteries while occasionally resting. A warm Thank You to these Swinging Stars who came: Bondis, Walter & Eula Brewer, Perrotts, Pitts, and Jungs.

RECENT ACTIVITY -- OTHER

Miscellaneous Dancing Reports

If you're a Swinging Star wanting to submit a SHORT report on a unique dancing visit that otherwise would not get covered here, please submit it to <u>2ndvp@swingingstars.org</u> no later than mid Sunday afternoon for inclusion here in that night's newsletter. Try to include the names of fellow Swinging Stars who attended with you plus a few salient details (such as club, location, caller, cuer).

BANNER REPORT

We currently hold 9 banners captured from other clubs. On the flip side, other clubs currently hold 3 Swinging Stars banners captured from us. Overall banner status is detailed below. Remember, if you visit a club whose banner we already hold, please do not accept another of their banners.

Club	Date Captured
Rebel Rousers	19-Nov-2016
Lone Star Solos	10-Nov-2016
Triangle Square	15-Jul-2016
Log Cabin Swingers	07-May-2016
Cotton Pickin Squares	23-Apr-2016
Solitaires	02-Apr-2016
Dixie Chainers	28-Mar-2015
Diamond Jubileers	14-Mar-2015
T Square Gadabouts	20-Feb-2015

Other Club Banners Held by Us

Swinging Stars Banners Held at Other Clubs

Club	Date Captured
Kissin Kuzzins	11-Nov-2016
Texas Reelers	11-Nov-2016
Trail Blazers	24-Jun-2016

UPCOMING ACTIVITY -- CLUB-RECOMMENDED DANCING

Square + Round Dance

Friday 16 December – Texas Reelers – "Candy Cane Christmas"

Callers: Deborah Carroll-Jones & Jon Jones Cuers: Chris Farabaugh Early Rounds: 7:30, Grand March: 8:00 Richardson Senior Center 820 W. Arapaho Rd., Richardson TX 75080

Square + Round Dance

Saturday 17 December – Rebel Rousers – "Bacon Bowl"

Caller: Mike Bramlett Cuer: Christine Hixson Early Rounds: 7:00, Plus: 7:30, Grand March: 8:00 Richardson Senior Center 820 W. Arapaho Rd., Richardson TX 75080

UPCOMING ACTIVITY -- DANCING/TRAINING OF INTEREST

"A" Dance

Thursday 15 December – Model As

Caller: Wayne Baldwin "A": 7:00 Churchill Way Center 6906 Churchill Way (at Hillcrest), Dallas, TX

UPCOMING ACTIVITY -- OTHER

Ladies Luncheon

Wednesday 14 December, 12 Noon – Anne Nejdl's House (Plano)

Anne Nejdl has extended an invitation to all Swing Stars ladies to come to her lovely home on 14 December at 12:00 noon for the most wonderful luncheon of the year. We hope everyone will be able to attend. If you are planning to attend, please respond to Anne by Sunday 11 December. Anne will provide the drinks and a ham. Attendees need to bring a salad, appetizer, or dessert to share. We will again have the "white elephant gift exchange." Anyone wishing to participate should bring a wrapped item to re-gift. Anne Nejdl's address is 4105 Cassandra Lane, Plano, TX 75093. Please contact her at

Refreshments Duty and Information

December 22: Closed due to Holiday Season

Please do not purchase any staple items (plates, cups, napkins, forks, etc, etc.) without first checking with the 1st Vice Presidents [Russ and Ann Nejdl] to see if they are already in inventory. Thank you all for serving on our Refreshment Team

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

March 31, 2017 – Swinging Stars Anniversary Dance (Lorraine Burson coordinator) September 22, 2017 – Swinging Stars DD Dance (Something Special)

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

For information about weekend dances, go to our Web Page <u>www.swingingstars.org</u> and click on Weekends.

Remember our Sunshine person is Lucy Hamm, and you can email her at <u>llhamm45@gmail.com</u> or phone her at 214-872-7219. Please contact her with anything that we need to be aware of in regards to sickness or other issues.

Kathy & Bob Estep Swinging Stars Presidents Email: <u>president@swingingstars.org</u> Phone: 972-618-3640

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Upcoming Advertised Swinging Stars Theme Dances – Flyer(s) follow below:



New Dancer Dance

January 13, 2017

Caller: Wayne Baldwin Cuer: Walter Brewer



Sq Workshop 7:00 Plus Dancing 7:45 Grand March 8:00 Hot Hash after the last tip

Shepard Elementary School 1000 Wilson Dr. Plano Dancers under 18 dance for free when accompanied by a paying adult

Refreshments Banners Honey Pot Fun Dancing

For Info: 972-618-3640 or president@swingingstars.org



Visit our Website: www.swingingstars.org

