



Swinging Stars

Square and Round Dance Club

Newsletter for December 15, 2013

PRESIDENTIAL RAMBLINGS

Graduation! Tuesday we graduate one of the best and one of the largest square dance classes that we have had at Swinging Stars. Come out and celebrate their accomplishment and provide them encouragement to take the next step and become an active member of our Square Dance community.

Friday's dance we had eight-seven dancers at our dance including sixty-nine Swinging Stars, six Road Runners, four Kissin Kusins, and two from each of the following: Rebel Rousers, Trail Dusters, Lone Star Solos and Dixie Chainers. John and Shirley our Area VP's came to promote the Toys for Tots dance on Sunday. Other Nortex officers included Don & Sharon Andrew.

A great Toys for Tots dance and a great fund raiser for such a great cause. The rescheduling caused problems for many as the number of attendants was down from last year. Nevertheless, the funds raised increased. Chip Wagner was on hand to announce the funds raised. First those that bought ads exceeded expenses by \$391, donations at the door were \$1835 and the wreaths totaled \$2543 for a total of \$4,669. Chip explained that the Marines triple the purchasing power which brings the total to \$14,007. Great job to all - GRaM, NORTEX, and NTCA!!! These three groups put their efforts together to put on a fun dance with callers donating their time and dancers donating their efforts and money. You have brought a lot of joy for many children that would otherwise not have these gifts of love.

Vote, vote and vote again for your favorite Caller & Cuer song. The annual Singing Call of the Year dance and the Round Dance Cuer 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 use the ballot out of the Promenade and make as many copies as you want.

The Assisted Listening Device has been a success. 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 digital Williams Receiver.

Thanks so much!

Richard and Jan

DANCE LESSONS

Wayne has finished teaching all of the mainstream calls and lessons are now more like a workshop. Since it is very important that these new dancers not become discouraged, we greatly appreciate all of the angels who are assisting us each week. We've learned a few new things too! We want to thank the following members who assisted our students last week: Dave & Lorraine Burson; Kenneth Henneberger; Dan & Kathy Mosher; Barry & Helen Feldman; Dave & Mary Colter; Harry & Zari Kilejian; Ron & Donita See and Mark & Karen Hawkins.

We want to thank the following angels for their assistance at lessons last week: Jim & Knaril Bondi; Ralph & Lucy Hamm; Adam & Jean Sobotka; Kathy & Dan Mosher; Dave & Lorraine Burson; Barry & Helen Feldman; Mark & Karen Hawkins; and Ron & Donita See.

Also we want to recognize the following new members of Swinging Stars: Lon Bushell & Delores Dvorak; Bob & Kathy Estep; Willis & Patricia Friesen; Jim & Katie Halvorson; David & Cher Jacobs; Joel & Marilyn Kern; Mark & Roxana Mars; Steve & Debbie Sherrell; and Van Thoreson & Linda Floyd. Be sure to search out these 'New Dancers' and make them feel welcome.

We have certainly enjoyed getting to know all of you. Now that lessons are coming to an end we hope that you will continue with square dancing. But as chairman of the Square Dance Committee we need to make a final report to North Texas Square & Round Dance Association about our graduates and their club affiliations. Therefore I am asking each of you to respond to this email with the name of the club that you have joined or intend to join.

Again we have enjoyed the time we have spent with you tremendously and we are looking forward to dancing with you in the future.

Mark & Karen Hawkins, 1ST VP

Round Dance Lesson - Basic Choreographed Ballroom - Beginning Two Step - Co-Sponsored by the Swinging Stars Square & Round Dance Club of Plano and Plano Parks & Recreation
Tuesday, March 18th thru May 20th @ Carpenter Recreation Center- 6701 Coit Road, Plano Texas 75023
Ten lessons taught by Instructors: J L and Linda Pelton - Course # 154588



Anniversary report for December 15, 2013
Chairman Dave and Lorraine Burson

As you all know our Anniversary Dance this year is called "Dancing with the Stars, Season 2". It will be January 31st at the All Saints Catholic Church, 5231 Meadowcreek Dr. in Dallas. We will have one hour of Rounds at 7:00pm with a Grand March at 8:00pm. Wayne Baldwin will be calling along with Guest Caller Brad Caldwell from Georgetown, Texas. Walter Brewer will be Cueing all of the rounds.

Not much has changed since the last report. **BUT**, we still need more salads for the refreshments and more helpers to work as Food Service Attendants. We also need more help on the Decorations Committee. Sondra and Mel Foust are chairing that committee and if you can help, let Sondra or Lorraine know. We still have several members that have not signed up to bring food or to do their part of the workload for having an Anniversary Dance. All the members are expected to help out. I would like to make it clear that the new members that have just graduated and just joined the club, are not required to help with these duties. We do want all of them to come and help us celebrate of our 39th year as a club. If you wish to help you may, but you are not expected to.

The "After the Dance Party" will be at the home of Jeff and Anne Stuart beginning as soon after the dance as possible. Their address is in the latest roster. We will also have some flyers with directions to their home. I have attached a flyer for the Anniversary Dance, (Click on the following link: http://www.swingingstars.org/2014_Dancing_with_the_Stars_the_second_season.pdf) Please feel free to print some to take with you to dances that you might be attending. Spread the word about the Swinging Stars Anniversary Dance. Talk it up to everyone in your square when you are out dancing.

Thank you all in advance for helping the Swinging Stars celebrate our Anniversary Dance.
Dave and Lorraine Burson
Email: Lorraine@Bursons.us

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.

"Christmas in Texoma"
Texoma Squares Holiday Dance
with Wayne Baldwin and Karen Gloodt has been rescheduled for **Saturday, December 21.**
Appropriately as it is the first day of winter.
Early Rounds 7:30
Square Dance 8:00
929 Desvoignes Rd, Denison, TX

11th Annual **Singing Call & Round Dance of the Year** (and it's free)

Swingtime Center
7:00 PM 7:00 PM
January 26, 2014

Vote for your favorite Song or Round Dance of the Year
Performed by your Favorite Caller, Cuer, Duet, or Group.
Ballots must be received by January 1 of 2014 to be eligible.

Download a Ballot: www.nortexcallers.com

All proceeds from the balloting will go to MDA-Dallas North District (for ALS research)



**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



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

We were thankful the weather was cooperative this weekend. The only planned visitation was the Toys for Tots dance at the Richardson Civic Center Sunday and we saw many Swinging Stars there. Read about it below.

This week comes with a lot of exciting activities including: the graduation of our mainstream class on Tuesday night (all are welcome), the Ladies Luncheon on Wednesday, your choice of Rockwall Squares or Kissin' Kuzzins Friday, and the Rebel Rousers Make it with Bacon dance Saturday.

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
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, December 9th

Four Swinging Stars visited Friendship Plus in Richardson on Monday. With the recent ice storm barely over, only 6 couples braved the weather to come dance. Was this a problem? Not for Texas Hall of Fame caller, Mike Bramlett, whose experience allowed him to devise ways to keep 6 couples fully engaged during the evening. For example, we performed most tips in a 6-couple "square" using 2 couples in each of the head positions. Mike workshopped us through moves we already knew but with 2 extra couples. We learned that Spin Chain the Gears now involved 3 parallel waves with each outer wave interacting with the center wave to simultaneously do two interacting Spin Chain the Gears. Other common moves, like Tea Cup Chain, also required new tricks. Under Mike's careful tutelage, initially glazed eyes always gradually morphed into smiling faces as the evening progressed. Visiting Swinging Stars were Bondis and Kilejians. Thanks to Jim Bondi for the dance details.

Cotton Pickin' Squares, December 14th

Even though there was not a dance on the Swinging Stars calendar for Saturday night four couples still made the trek to Greenville to visit the Cotton Pickin' Squares. Christine Hixson cued the rounds and squares were called by our own club caller and Texas Hall of Fame member, Wayne Baldwin. The visiting Swinging Stars were: the Bursons, Colters, Harrises, and the Pharrs. Thanks to the Harrises for sharing the dance details.

Official, Toys for Tots Dance, Sunday, December 15th

The Swinging Stars were well represented at the rescheduled Toys for Tots dance Sunday afternoon. This dance was a marathon with the Formula 51 squares for new dancers starting at 2:30PM all the way to the last tip of the evening which ended just shy of 8:00PM. We got to round dance to many of the area cuers for the rounds including Jack von der Heide, Chris Farabaugh, and Christine Hixson. And squares were called by Mike Bramlett, who was also the MC for the event, Dave Viera, Jon and Deborah Carroll Jones, Toby Thomason, Wayne Baldwin, Ronny Himes, and Alan Woods. And Chip Waggoner from Fox4 joined in helping Mike announce the winners of the wreaths auction, sang in one of the tips, and inundated the dancers with thanks for all the gifts and donations. In addition to providing many toys, the dance raised a sizable donation for the Marine's Toys for Tots Foundation. The Swinging Stars at the dance included: P. Amy, the Bergesons, Bondis, Colters, Covingtons, Esteps, Harrises, Hearn, Heintzes, Perrotts, Pitts, the Sherrills, and C. Wolfe. We hope we didn't miss naming any of the cuers, callers, or Swinging Stars at the dance since we didn't attend the entire event.

* * * COMING EVENTS * * *

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

Swinging Stars Holiday Party, Saturday, January 18th

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

*** * * 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

MEMBERSHIP DUES

If you have not already done so, the dues for the First quarter of 2014 will be coming due on January 1st. Swinging Stars dues are due the first dance of each quarter - January, April, July and October

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

Please make your check payable to Swinging Stars

REFRESHMENTS DUTY AND INFORMATION

December 27 Holiday for Everyone
January 10 Reid, Lassiter, Rickert, Burson
January 31 Anniversary Dance - All Members
February 14 Covington, See, Ross, Schumacher
February 28 Starrett, Trujillo, Weckerly, Archey
March 14 Hawkins, Kilejian, Morse, Jung
March 28 Barber, Shinavar, Jimison, Lewis

*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 pm
- Enter thru the Gym door.
- Refreshments shut down at 9:30 pm (no earlier)
- If you take home a refreshment bag checks that it has all the items listed on the Florescent 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 and pick up the Four 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



January 31, 2014

Season II

Dancing with the Star



Sunday, January 26, 2014 – 11th Annual Singing Call & Round Dance of the Year @ Swingtime Center

Friday, January 31, 2014 – Swinging Stars 39th Anniversary Dance at All Saints Catholic Church

Themes:

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