



# Swinging Stars

## Square and Round Dance Club

*Newsletter for December 29, 2013*

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### PRESIDENTIAL RAMBLINGS



HAPPY★NEW★YEAR

WOW- 2014. I predict that this is going to be a great year for the Swinging Stars. We are a club who is thriving and growing. We genuinely like each other and enjoy spending time together as evidenced by the visits we make to other clubs as a group, eating out all together after our visitations, and eating out together after our home dances at our “very own” Mama’s Pizza Parlor or enjoying a bus trip together to visit another club. Many of our ladies are involved in “bunco” together and monthly ladies luncheons out at area restaurants. We are proud to be a part of this “family”. It is indeed a Happy New Year!!!!

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.

Thanks so much!

Richard and Jan

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### DANCE LESSONS

Round Dance Lessons - So what’s the scoop? We have apparently secured the Winter and Spring sessions at Carpenter giving Swinging Stars a year-round venue for lessons. Hurray!

The only problem was – Carpenter didn’t tell JL and Linda they were scheduling the class. All is well, however, even though you may have heard that JL and Linda are teaching Intermediate Waltz at Farmers Branch for Dixie Chainers. Unfortunately it looks very likely that Waltz class won’t make – but fortunately for Swinging Stars, Carpenter is willing to work with us. Obviously Linda and JL must honor the Dixie Chainer commitment if the Waltz class makes – and they will definitely know the first class night on January 14. So stay tuned for plans.

The Winter session at Carpenter starts January 21 and goes for 8 weeks until mid-March. If all goes as expected, JL and Linda plan to teach Beginning Bolero so even if you haven't had round dance lessons before you can sign up for this class. There is NO requirement to have had previous round dance lessons. Bolero is a great Latin rhythm and a beginning class of Bolero is rarely offered. So it's a good time to learn this rhythm from the beginning.

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Correction from last week – the Holiday party is scheduled for Saturday, January 18<sup>th</sup> and not Friday.

From Jim Bondi - Just a friendly reminder about the next "Friendship Plus" dance Monday/tomorrow 12/23 at 7PM in the Richardson Senior Center on Arapaho ~ 1 mi east of Coit. Yes, it'll be the eve of Christmas Eve -- but what a great way to get into the full holiday spirit -- dancing and laughing with friends and comrades.

Come get a real dose of all-plus floor time and work on polishing your skills in an "everyone's welcome," supportive environment.

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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.nortexc callers.com](http://www.nortexc callers.com)

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

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

We hope you had a Merry Christmas and got to share some good times with your families and friends. And we want to wish all a Happy New Year.

The Swinging Stars made visits to Friendship Plus this past Monday and a large contingent visited the Dixie Chainers Saturday night. Read about the details below.

This week's club calendar brings a double deal dance with Mike Bramlett's ADD+ club in Richardson Monday night, your choice of New Year's Eve Tuesday dances with either the Rebel Rousers (Mike Bramlett calling / Christine Hixson cueing) in Richardson or the T-Square Gadabouts (Wayne Baldwin and Rick Smith calling / Charles Crockett cueing) in Ft. Worth, and a Solitaires Ragin' Cajun dance (Joey Duhamel calling / JL Pelton cueing) on Saturday night.

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
Rebel Rousers	21-Dec-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
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**\* \* \* EVENTS FROM THE PAST WEEK \* \* \***

**Friendship Plus, December 23<sup>rd</sup>**

Six Swinging Stars visited Friendship Plus in Richardson on Monday. On this eve of Christmas Eve, two full squares of dancers made merry dancing to Texas Hall of Fame caller, Mike Bramlett. In his patented fashion, Mike led dancers through 2 hours of spirited and fun-filled plus tips. When given the floor for one tip, caller-to-be Richard Covington temporarily swapped roles from dancer to caller and "choreographer in chief." Richard demonstrated to all that he, too, could call lively and entertaining plus maneuvers. All attendees had a great time. Visiting Swinging Stars were: the Bondis, Colters, and the Covingtons. Thanks Jim Bondi for the dance details.

**Dance of Interest, Dixie Chainers, December 28<sup>th</sup>**

A sizable group of Swinging Stars was out Saturday night for the Dixie Chainers' Holiday Dance in Farmers Branch. Rounds were expertly cued by Jack von der Heide while squares were called by Vernon Jones. And Richard Covington even stepped up for early squares because Vernon arrived late due to traffic. Vernon's repertoire included a lot of rock and roll favorites, which, when coupled with his fun choreography, made the squares a lot of fun. There were quite a few new dancers at the dance and they were all having a fun time. The Dixie Chainers had a spread of desserts and ice cream. After the dance a whopping 24 Swinging Stars swung by Chili's for some great food, drink, and fellowship. The 33 Swinging Stars at the dance were: the Amys, Bondis, Bergesens, Bursons, Covingtons, Feldmans, Halvorsons, HARRISES, Heintzes, Pitts, Rows, Sees, Sherrells, Sobotkas, Smith / Hardin, Starretts, and C. Wolfe.

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

**ADD Plus, Monday, December 30<sup>th</sup>**

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

### **Of Interest, Solitaires, Saturday, January 4<sup>th</sup>**

Location: Chapel Hill United Methodist Church (12411 Templeton Trail, Farmers Branch, TX)  
Website: <http://www.solitaires1.com/>  
Time: Early rounds – 7:00PM / grand march – 7:45PM  
Caller: Joey Duhamel  
Cuer: JL Pelton  
Theme: A Raging Cajun Explosion

### **Swinging Stars, Friday, January 10<sup>th</sup>**

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

### **Of Interest, Kissin' Kuzzins, Friday, January 17<sup>th</sup>**

Location: Garland Senior Center (600 Avenue "A", Garland, TX)  
Website: <http://www.kissinkuzzins.org/>  
Time: Workshop – 7:30PM / grand march – 9:00PM  
Caller: Wayne Baldwin  
Cuer: JL Pelton  
Theme: Baby It's Cold Outside  
Notes: New dancer dance

### **Swinging Stars Holiday Party, Saturday, January 18<sup>th</sup>**

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

### **Ladies Luncheon, Thursday, January 23<sup>rd</sup>**

Location: Chocolate Angel (High Street Antique Mall, 800 N.C. Expressway, Plano, TX)

Website: <http://www.chocolateangel.com/>

Time: High tea –2:30pm

Cost: \$18.99 (tax and gratuity included)

Hostess: Terri Pitts – RSVP required if you can attend at (972) 392-4325 by Tuesday, January 21<sup>st</sup>

## **\* \* \* 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, Marshall Flippo

Cuer: Mark Prow

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## **MEMBERSHIP DUES**

If you have not already done so, the dues for the First quarter of 2014 will be coming due on January 1<sup>st</sup>. 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 Ann 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**

**Please make your check payable to Swinging Stars**

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## **REFRESHMENTS DUTY AND INFORMATION**

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](mailto: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](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



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 39<sup>th</sup> 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 – 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®.

Round Up 2014 – October 17<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>.

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

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