

Swinging Stars

Square and Round Dance Club

Newsletter for February 12, 2012

HAPPY VALENTINES DAY



What do you think?

What did you think of the change at the club dance? Did you like the caller and cuer setting up at the opposite end of the gym? Do you think this helps with the noise that is going on when the dancers are arriving and visiting in the entry. Email me and let me know what you think. Lorraine@Bursons.us

Explanation of visitations:

For the new (and experienced) members, I would like to explain about club visitations. The club visits other clubs to help generate visitors to our club. Which translates to dollars in our treasury.

Banner Raid: One aspect of the visitation activity is to visit other clubs in the NORTEX area and capture their banner.

Retrieval: Once we have capture another club's banner that club will visit our club to retrieve their banner.

Another aspect of the banner game is that another club visits our club dance and captures our banner, so we in return visit that club to retrieve our banner. I won't go in to the numbers that we need to have for a banner raid or banner retrieval at this time.

Now to explain what we mean by OFFICIAL VISITATION and DANCE OF INTEREST. The explanation can be for a variety of reasons.

OFFICIAL VISITATION:

Club members are encouraged to participate in an Official Visitation and show club loyalty in support for the Swinging Stars. Just know that a good member supports the club for Official Visitations.

An official visitation can be either to capture a banner or to retrieve a banner.

An official visitation maybe scheduled because a club is having an Anniversary Dance or a special dance such as a Pre Round Dance. By visiting clubs having special dances we show support for that club. Hopefully in return they support us by attending our special dances.

DANCE OF INTEREST:

Dance of Interest, simply means that on any given night, usually a Friday or Saturday, we would like to attend a dance. The dance may or may not be anything special, but would like to dance with other Swinging Stars that are likely to be there. It is always more fun to attend a dance where other

members of the club are dancing. It is also a good idea to call around and see if others are actually going to that dance. Depending on how many show up we might capture a banner or retrieve ours. If you wish you may attend another dance that is to your choosing. The 2nd vice President along with the approval of the President decides which club is to be an official visitation. Some really wonderful dances are a little further away. A good idea is to car pool to dances especially to dances that are a longer distance away. It would be unfortunate for you to miss a fun dance because it is a little further than you would want to drive. If you would be interested, I could set up a car pool committee that you could contact to see if you can share a ride. Riding together is fun and makes the drive time seem shorter.

Lessons:

Thank you to the Swinging Star members that are angeling the students taking Mainstream lessons at the Richardson Senior Center. They are (and I hope I don't miss anyone) Covington's, Amy's, Barber's, Burson's, Humphrey's, and Row's. We invite you to come meet the students and help angel them. The students are doing great and are likely to join our club. If you have a free Tuesday, now and then, please make plans to come by and have fun with them. You will enjoy the fun of helping these new dancers become Swinging Stars. Lesson time is 7:00 to 9:00. I would like to share what one of the student couples has sent to me in an email message about the angels.

Dennis and I are absolutely loving the square dance classes and the angels like you and Dave are what is making it so much fun. Without that help, I think we might have gotten frustrated long ago. So it is important for our members to come out and help. Call or email me lorraine@bursons.us and let me know if you would like to help.

Free Fun Dance Party:

The NTCA and NORTEX have put together a new dancer dance and have called it a Fun Dance Party. It is free to everyone. All new dancers and the students taking lessons are invited to be there. I would like the Swinging Stars to take an active part in getting all our new dancers and the current students to attend this Fun Dance Party. We encourage you to go and invite someone to ride with you. It is always more fun to ride together. Callers will be Mike Bramlett and Vernon Jones. John Brewer will be there doing some fun stuff with line dancing and mixers. The callers say this will be fun, not just your run of the mill new dancer dance, but more like a party dance. If you would like to go and don't know who to invite get in contact with Lorraine (me) at Lorraine@Bursons.com and I will help you. For more information about this Fun Dance Party see the Ad on Page 5 of the February Promenade.

Mark your calendar: March 4, 2012, 2:00 pm at the Swingtime Center.

EFFECTIVE RECRUITING AND GROWTH SEMINAR, with Jim and Marcia Langdon. This is a free seminar to learn some techniques to add new members to the club and retain them for a long term. We would like to see several of the members of the Swinging Stars attend this seminar. This is for everyone that is interested in recruiting new dancers and also retaining members in the club. Dave and I will be going. It would be nice to have several of the Swinging Stars in attendance to hear this motivational seminar. Please plan to attend. See Page 34 of the February Promenade.

INFORMATION YOU NEED TO KNOW

Please keep this in mind:

The Executive Committee has approved, to move the Early Rounds to the 4th Friday and move the Mainstream DBD Workshop to the 2nd Friday. Because our advertized theme dances are usually scheduled on the 4th Friday and most round dancers want to attend the early rounds, we hope that this will generate more visitors to our theme dances. This change won't happen until the April 13th dance, since we have advertised in the Promenade for the months of February and March with the Early Rounds on the 2nd Fridays and the DBD Workshop on the 4th Fridays.

Change in dance location:

The May 25th dance will held at the Wilson Middle School cafeteria. Wilson Middle school is located at the corner of Custer and Grandview Dr. Next door to Shepard Elementary. This is one time only. The Shepard School is not available for that night.

PLUS LESSONS:

We will be having Plus Lessons starting Wednesday, March 21 at the Carpenter Recreation Center, 6701 Coit Road, Plano. For information call 972-208-8087. Time 7:00 to 9:00. If you have wanted to learn Plus level dancing, here is your opportunity to learn from our caller/ instructor and Texas Callers Hall of Fame member, Wayne Baldwin. We look forward to seeing you there.

Events of the past week:

Swinging Stars Club Dance: Friday, February 10th. Wow, what a fun time we all had. Wayne called the last tip first to go along with the changing front to back etc. He also called some new songs that we had not heard before. I think that the round dancers were pleased to be able to hear John cueing the early rounds better because of the change around. The total number of dancers attending was 95. 87 S/S, 2 dancers that just moved here from North Carolina, 2 Model A's, 2 Texas Reelers, 1 Lone Star, and 1 Independent. Thanks to the refreshment committee for the delicious food, Hamm, Hursey, Harris, McClure. Good Job!

Dance of Interest: Saturday February, 11th. Cotton Pickin Squares annual Valentines Dance. We had just 2 couples attending Perrotts and Bursons. We had a good time dancing to Dave and Michele Vieira. They are quite a duo.

NORTEX QUARTERLY MEETING: Sunday February 5th. Just a short report back from the meeting. Thank you to our delegates for attending the Harris, Trujillo and Bursons. There were 78 voting strength attending.

- A report was given about the Teen Scholarship Benefit Dance to held on March 4th at the Swingtime Center. The theme will be a Mad Hatter Dance. Caller Toby Thompson and cuer Jack Kenny. There will be a Funny Hat contest.
- Report on 2011 Round up was given. 555 dancer in attendance. With a net profit of \$2,652.21.
- 2012 Round up report by Sam and Mary Stephens Chairman for the 2012 Roundup. The theme is Have a Ball. Featured caller Hunter Keller and the staff caller Mike Bramlett. Location will be in the ballroom at the Sterling Hotel in Dallas. Colors will be black and white and if you wish a splash of color of your choosing. Have a Ball can be interpreted as you wish. From a ball at a ball park to a ball at the beach or even a formal ball. (that is what I understand it to mean)
- Lesson Grant Committee Chair Debbie Anderson presented the Swinging Stars with a lesson grant of \$200.

- Nomination report, Chair Curtis Cole presented the NORTEX Slate of Officers nominated for 2012-2013. For President, Kevin and Christine Hadley, Secretary, John and Shirley Currie, Treasurer, Scott and Karen McGinney. For Area Vice Presidents: Debbie Anderson, C.B. and Clarice Davis, Tom and Vicki Evanto, Ray and Vicki Spray, Sam and Mary Stephens, and Diane Wright. To be elected April 22nd.
- The GRAM (Growth, Retention, and Motivation) committee report was very informative. Just to hit some of the highlights; They have updated the Logo, Literature and information that existed a few years ago (The Wanted Poster & Learn to Dance poster). Clubs can download and print out this information as they need it, you won't have to wait for it from your area Vice President if you need it immediately. A Facebook page has also been set-up under LIFE'S JUST A DANCE. This will give information about square dancing in general and not a particular club. NORTEX approved to have a Food Drive Dance/Reunion Dance with a budget of \$2500 and to put a \$10 Coupon on Life's Just a Dance Website to be honored by participating clubs hosting NEW BASIC LESSONS.

Coming Events:

Dance of Interest: Thursday February 16th. Yellow Rockers New Dancer Dance.

Caller Ray Stenger.

Cuer Chris Farabaugh.

Workshop at 7:00. Grand March at 7:30.

Chapel Hill Methodist Church, 11411 Templeton, Farmers Branch.

Don't be late. They start earlier than other clubs.

Dance of Interest: Friday February 17th. Texas Reelers Regular Club Dance. Caller Mike Bramlett and Cuer Jack von der Heide. Richardson Senior Center, 820 W. Arapaho, Richardson. Early Rounds at 7:30. Grand March At 8:00.



Official Visitation: Saturday February 18th. Rebel Rousers Mardi Gras.

Caller Mike Bramlett. Cuer Christine Hixson.

Richardson Senior Center, 820 W. Arapaho, Richardson.

Early Rounds at 7:30. Grand March At 8:00.

Dance of Interest: Sunday February 19th, 2:00 to 4:00. NTCA and NORTEX Fun Dance Party/ New Dancer Dance. A FREE dance for everyone.

Callers Vernon Jones and Mike Bramlett. Cuer John Brewer.

Senter Park East, 228 Chamberlain, Irving.

A good dance for ALL new dancers and the new students taking lessons. They will be calling basic calls 1 thru 30. Read about this dance on page 5 of the February Promenade.

Ladies Luncheon: Tuesday February 21st. The Ladies Luncheon will be at the Chocolate Angel Cafe and Tea Room, 4709 West Parker Rd, Plano, TX 75093. Corner of Preston and Parker on the North side of Parker Rd. We will meet at the Chocolate Angel at 11:30. Make reservations with Peggy Amy by contacting her at amybpeggy@verizon.net or phone 972-612-4934 by Feb 12th. You can check out the Chocolate Angel Cafe and Tea Room by going to www.Chocolateangel.com. We hope to see you there. All the Swinging Stars Ladies are invited to attend.



Swinging Stars Club Dance: Friday, February 24th. New Dancer Hoe Down.

Caller Wayne Baldwin. Cuer John Brewer.

Western or Square Dance attire.

Workshop at 7:30 and Square Dancing starts at 8:00.

Dance of Interest: Saturday February, 25th. Dixie Chainers Club Dance

Caller Vernon Jones. Cuer Jack von der Heide.

Early Rounds at 7:00. Grand March at 7:30.

Farmers Branch Senior Center, 14055 Dennis at Valwood.

Don't be late. They start earlier than other clubs.

Refreshment Schedule – thru April 2012

February 24 -- Meyer, Hawkins, Loven, Anthaume

March 9 ----- Stuart, Rose, Jung, Mosher

March 23 ----- Evanto, Capps, Underwood, Kehoe

April 13 ----- Henneberger, Deluke, Bivins, Bullock

April 27 ----- Ross, Whipple, Giandrone/Benedetto, Lewis

- Lead couple is first name on the list. This 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 the PISD we are not to be in the gym before 7:00; refreshments shut down at 9:30 pm (no earlier).
- Repack bags in a Tidy Manner. If you take home a refreshment bag check that it has all the items listed on the Fluorescent Hang Tag in the bag. And be sure all items are clean.
- Thank you all for serving on our Refreshment Team.

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. Or 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 Ralph and Lucy Hamm at 214-872-7219 or rehamm45@gmail.com for supplies prior to purchasing by Monday prior to club dance. We may already have what you need.

Dave and Lorraine Burson

Swinging Stars President

Email: Dave@Bursons.us