



Swinging Stars

Square and Round Dance Club

Newsletter for February 24, 2013

Presidential Ramblings

It never ceases to amaze me that it doesn't take a very large crowd of Swinging Stars to have a fantastic time and we proved it again Friday night. We had sixty-seven Swinging Stars, two Rebel Rousers and two Model A's. You would have thought that with all of the energy on the floor that we had two hundred dancers rather than seventy-one. Our Texas Hall-of-Fame Caller, Wayne Baldwin and our Class A Cuer, Walter Brewer kept us on our toes by calling a very interesting and challenging dance. Wayne pulled out an oldie moldy (his words), "Love in the Country", and made it sound brand new. He introduced a new singing call "Come From the Heart" and finished the dance with "Wave-on-Wave". If you weren't able to attend, you missed a great dance.

I had-to-have a word with your club president - he forgot to bring out the American flag before the dance. He didn't realize it till he started to say the pledge. Thanks to a couple of good men, Charlie Harris and Mark Hawkins, they had the flag in-place before the end of the announcements. Thanks guys.

Charles Wolfe has again accepted the role of club photographer and Barry Feldman has agreed to substitute when Charles cannot be present. Along with that I would like to express our appreciation to Charles for the club pictures posted on our Swinging Stars Facebook page. Check out the page, pictures and post your own comments.

Dave and Lorraine have graciously volunteered to serve as Chairpersons of our 2014 Anniversary Dance scheduled for January 31st 2014. Debbie Piziali has agreed to be Chairperson of our Sunshine Club. Thanks Debbie for stepping in to this very vital role. In the future I hope to include a section in the newsletter about members that are sick and/or in-need.

Linda Harris stepped forward as the owner of the second Facebook, actually the original, created in 2011. Good job Linda. We plan to merge the two but for now you can find - Swinging Stars Square & Round Dance Club and Swinging Stars Square and Round Dance Club of Plano. Does anyone know how to merge the two? I know it can be done but that is about it. Logging into Facebook is just about the extent of my knowledge.

In regard to Facebook, I would like to caution everyone not to post personal information. I believe it can be a fun free media for sharing pictures and communicating fun with our club and friends. Just know that it is out-there for everyone and you do not want to give too much information about yourself.

Just a quick apology, you may have received an email from one of our member's this week about a fund raiser for a very good cause. That individual asked me about sending it out and I told them that it should not be a problem. However, I was unaware of a club policy that we do not use the roster for purposes such as this. Again, please accept our apologies.

NORTEX NEWS

Check out our Swinging Stars club picture taken at our 38th Anniversary Dance in the March Promenade. We are a bunch of good looking people, don't you agree.

“Formula 51”

Ladies and Gentlemen, start your engines..... We are quickly approaching the month of April, right after March. Are you ready? You all can dance mainstream but how well do you know the basic calls, the first 51 calls? Our callers in the NORTEX area promise a challenging month of Formula 51 calls.



Swinging Stars will offer “Formula 51” dances during the month of April on the 12th and 26th. These dances will be great for our current students. The dance on the 26th will be "Out of this World."

NEED YOUR INPUT

Wanted: I need your recommendation of a good candidate for our club chaplain.

Two questions:

What do you like best about the Swinging Stars?

What can we do to improve our club?

Please send me an email – President@SwingingStars.org – in regard to any and all of the above.

SWINGING STARS JACKETS

You have seen some of our members wearing these nifty Blue Jackets with Embroidery Lettering and some of you have asked where we got them and whether we can get some more. Well....we are in luck. Note the following details & pricing:

Satin jacket - kasha lined (as before) with (2) slash pockets

Color - solid royal blue shell, knit collar & cuffs

Embroidery - left chest with small logo and first name personalization

Pricing: (includes sales tax - f.o.b. swinging stars)

	<u>15 units</u>	<u>20 units</u>	<u>25 units</u>
Sm – XL	\$59.34 unit	\$58.89 unit	\$56.35 unit
2XL	\$62.32 unit	\$61.86 unit	\$61.35 unit

We need an order commitment of at least 15 jackets and they will bring samples in for people to try on for size. Otherwise, without an order of at least 15 jackets, we would incur a restocking fee and the cost of the incoming freight on the samples.

Please contact Mark & Karen Hawkins, First VP's [972-436-4868](tel:972-436-4868) or 1stVP@swingingstars.org to place your order – the size can be confirmed when they come out with samples – as soon as we have 15 units committed, we will arrange for the vendor to come to a club dance for sizing. We have four committed after Friday's Dance.

Note

If you go to a dance as traveling Swinging Stars let the 2nd VPs know at 2ndVP@swingingstars.org who went and some details so they can include in the club newsletters.

EVENTS FROM THE PAST WEEK

Ladies Luncheon – Feb 19th

The food, ambiance, and companionship were marvelous at the Ladies Luncheon. This month we were happy that 15 Swinging Stars ladies were able to attend at The Chocolate Angel in Richardson. And it was exciting to visit with a couple of our dancers who haven't been able to dance recently because of injuries.

Weekend Plus Dance – 30th Annual Texas Stampede Feb 22nd-24th

Several Swinging Stars went to the Texas Stampede plus weekend headlined by energetic callers Tony Oxendine and Jerry Storey and cuer Christine Hixson. As expected the weekend was both fun and challenging from a square dancer's perspective with dancers visiting from near and far. The squares workshops Saturday were especially challenging and Christine held round dance teaches for several different rhythms. If you missed dancing to Jerry you will have another chance in early April when he visits the Log Cabin Swingers for a dance weekend. The Swinging Stars in attendance included: Bursons, T. Evanto, Lewis, Pharrs, Pitts and Smith / Hardin.

Tri-City Promenaders – Saturday, Feb 23rd

Two of our recent graduates visited the Tri-City Promenaders in Hurst on Saturday. They were treated to a fun and fast-paced evening of square dancing called by Bobby Willis, a recent transplant from Oklahoma to the Metroplex. Rounds were cued by Chris Farabaugh. Thanks to the Swinging Stars who attended: Jim and Knarik Bondi. Details complements of Jim Bondi.

SPECIAL CLUB OPPORTUNITIES

Swinging Stars Bus Trip to Mineola Saturday, Mar 23rd

Time is running out and a significant increase in the number of Swinging Stars is needed for our bus trip to happen. We are currently only at 22 paid dancers and need 50 to pay for the bus. As committed, we are reaching out to other area clubs but don't know their interest level yet. Watch for an email this week with more information. Let the 2nd VPs (2ndVP@swingingstars.org) know immediately if you plan to attend.

The details: we are visiting the East Texas Square and Round Dance Association "It's GOLDen East Texas – 50 Years of Square Dancing" Festival in Mineola. We will leave Walmart at Spring Creek and I-75 in Plano at 8:00AM in a luxury coach for the 2 hour drive to Mineola and start the return trip about 10:30PM. An exciting day of dancing and fun is planned, including round and square dancing with hot hash and plus and an after party. Dave and Michelle Viera are the headline caller and cuer. Transportation is \$30 per person. Each dancer will be responsible for purchasing their lunch and dinner and the \$7 dance fee – that's right, only \$7. Our coach will drive us to historic downtown Mineola for lunch and shopping after the morning dancing. Dinner is planned near or at the civic center. Send Bob and Terri Pitts \$30 per person, first come first served, to secure your seats on the bus.

* * * COMING EVENTS * * *

Dance of Interest – Texas Reelers, Friday, Mar 1st

Location: Richardson Senior Center (820 W. Arapaho, Richardson, TX)
Website: <http://www.texasreelers.org/>
Time: Early rounds – 7:30PM / Grand march – 8:00PM
Caller: Jon Jones
Cuer: Jack von der Heide
Notes: Theme – Luck of the Irish

Dance of Interest – Log Cabin Swingers, Saturday, Mar 2nd

Location: Promenade Hall (1210 N. Tool Dr., Hwy 274, Tool, TX)
Website: <http://www.logcabinsquaredanceclub.com/>
Time: Plus – 1:00PM - 3:00PM / Early rounds – 7:00PM / Grand march – 7:30PM
Caller: Nasser Shukayr
Cuer: Walter Brewer
Notes: Come early Saturday if you are a plus dancer. They will provide potluck fixin's at the evening dance and bring your own snacks for the after party.

Club Dance – Swinging Stars, Friday, Mar 8th

Location: Shepard Elementary School (1000 Wilson Dr., Plano, TX)
Website: <http://swingingstars.org/>
Time: Workshop – 7:30PM / Dance – 8:00PM
Caller: Wayne Baldwin
Cuer: Walter Brewer

Official Visitation – Diamond Jubileers, Saturday, Mar 9th

Location: Swingtime Center (5100 SE Loop 820, Ft. Worth, TX)
Website: <http://www.diamondjubileers.com/>
Time: Early rounds – 7:00PM / Grand march – 8:00PM
Callers: Rick Smith and Mike Bramlett and Paul Kinsey
Cuer: Mel Neuman
Notes: 52nd anniversary and Mardi Gras celebration, king and queen selected from guests

Ladies Luncheon – Wednesday, Mar 20th

Location: Neiman Marcus Mariposa Restaurant (in the Shops at Willow Bend mall – 2201 Dallas Pkwy, Plano)
Website: <http://www.neimanmarcus.com/stores/store.jsp?storeId=13/WB&rest=400001>
Time: 11:30AM
Hostess: Peggy Amy (amybpeggy@verizon.net / Ph. 972.612.4934)
Notes: Huge popovers with strawberry butter for starters, and many lunch choices. A longtime favorite is their chicken salad & orange soufflé plate. Let Peggy know by Monday, Mar. 18th if you plan to attend.

FRIENDSHIP DANCE

Friendship Dance with the Rockwall Squares is planned for 5/10/2013 at Shepard Elementary. We are making plans and will be sharing information soon.

MAINSTREAM LESSONS

The Swinging Stars have 3 or 4 couples that are taking lessons at the Richardson Senior Center. We are asking the Swinging Stars to volunteer to help angel these new students. Lessons are on Tuesdays at 7:00 and last till 9:00. Please contact Richard and Jan at president@swingingstars.org or 972-325-1144 to let them know if you would like to help angel.

ROUND DANCE LESSONS

The Swinging Stars will be sponsoring beginner round dance lessons with instructors JL and Linda Pelton at Carpenter Recreation Center. JL and Linda have instructed round dancing for several years and have a successful intermediate round dance club on Thursday nights at the Plano Senior Center. Lessons will begin Tuesday, March 19 at 7:00PM and continue each Tuesday night for eleven weeks. Our hope is to continue lessons through the year, teaching students all the rhythms commonly danced at square dances – cha, rumba, two step, waltz, foxtrot, and jive. The first class will teach cha and rumba. This will be a great opportunity for interested couples to enter the tremendously enjoyable activity of round dancing.

We need to get an idea of how many students to expect for the round dance lessons beginning on March 19. Please let Ralph and Lucy Hamm know that you plan to take lessons as soon as possible. Email: rehamm45@gmail.com; Phone: (214) 872-7219. Registration begins March 2 online at www.planoparks.org; in person at Carpenter Recreation Center, 6701 Coit Road; or by phone at (972) 208-8087. Course number is # 140236 CAR. For additional information, see the flyer on the Swinging Stars website: http://swingingstars.org/ChoreographedBallroom_LessonFlyer.pdf

Roundup Theme for 2013

"Celebrating Texas' Heritage - The Yellow Rose of Texas



We are proud to have such good representation on the committee and we know you will do a superb job and we look forward to hearing more about your work on the Roundup Committee.

The feature caller will be Noah Sigman and the staff caller will be Vernon Jones (Wayne had previously booked a dance for the same weekend). The cuer will be JL Pelton. 2013 RoundUp will be held at the Grapevine Convention Center. Mark your calendars NOW for November 2 with the caller's cavalcade being held on November 1st. This will be a great week-end.

REFRESHMENTS DUTY AND INFORMATION

Lead couple is first name on the list.

March 8	Maier, Morse, Evanto, Kilejian*
March 22	Whipple, Humphrey, Row, Bivins
April 12	Stuart, Rose, Weigel, Pharr
April 26	Loven, Hursey, Harris, Hawkins
May 10	Carter, Hamm, McClure, Whitaker
May 24	Pitts, Feldman, DeLuke, Jung

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.

Schedule of advertised Swinging Stars Theme Dances thru March 2013

March 22, 2013



March Madness

Swinging Stars 39th Anniversary Dance is in the planning.

Chairpersons Dave & Lorraine Burson

The date is set for 01/31/2014 at All Saints Catholic Church in Richardson, TX

(pending approval of the club)

Please mark your calendar – more news to follow....



Tuesday, March 19 Swinging Star Round Dance Lessons

Tuesday, June 11 Plus Lessons

Tuesday, August 27 Mainstream Lessons

For information about weekend dances go to our Web Page www.swingingstars.org and click on Weekends.

RICHARD & JAN COVINGTON

Swinging Stars, President

Email: president@swingingstars.org

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