



Swinging Stars

Square and Round Dance Club

Newsletter for February 25, 2024

Message from the Presidents

Richard and Jan Covington

In this month's Promenade, Audrey Mansell, President of NORTEX, stated "There is a joy of dancing that has not been seen in years". I agree there is an excitement growing and we are seeing more folks getting involved plus it seems more students are taking lessons. Our club dance was certainly exciting. Charlie and Kristi were caught in traffic and David Toms started the dance by calling very good first square dance tip. Jan Toms wowed the round dancers with her fabulous cueing and song selection. Charlie and Kristi arrived with a ball-of-fire and the excitement continued. We had forty visitors with notable attendance from Triangle Squares (13), Rebel Rousers (11) and Pegasus with (8). We had 30 Swinging Stars for a total of 70. Thank you all for coming and keeping it lively.

We all need to do all we can to promote our activity. Your involvement in doing this is vital. Talk about it on your Social Media Platforms, post pictures, video, etc. like you are talking to your best square dance friend. Tell everyone you meet about the fun you had at the weekend dance you just attended, tell them about the excitement you have for the upcoming dances and how much fun you had with helping with lessons.

I have to tell you; it has been a busy week starting with our quarterly NORTEX meeting. Before I get into the details, I want to let you know that your NORTEX representatives are Jan and I, Dave and Lorraine Burson and John and Debbie Cave. We all have the improvement and advancement of square and round dancing in our hearts. And, as your representatives we have the best interest of Swinging Stars at heart. We are open to your input.

Several important items were discussed at the NORTEX meeting including the following:

- the cost of the electronic ads in the promenade
- the nomination of new officers
- the upcoming 75th National Square and Round Dance Convention to be held in Waco, TX in June 2026
- the letter from the Texas Federation of Square and Round Dance and whether we should accept their offer to affiliate

I have asked Dave Burson to include a copy of the letter in case you haven't seen it. Click on the following link: <https://swingingstars.org/TSFSRD Offer and Cover Letter.pdf>
There is also a copy of the letter in to this month's Promenade (Pages 48-49).

What's this all about? You may not be aware but years ago NORTEX was a part of the Texas Federation of Square and Round Dance organization. There was a difference in opinion, as presented from the floor at the meeting, that it was due to the voting procedures as each area organization only had three votes regardless of membership size. Thus, the small area associations had the same number of votes as the larger area associations. For example, an association of 50 had the same number of votes as an association of 500 members. Kevin Hadley indicated that in 2011 as president of NORTEX he and the then president of the Texas State Federation started

having communications to improve the relationship between our two organizations. The efforts in that regard have continued with subsequent presidents and board members.

In the attached letter, you will note that they have offered NORTEX the opportunity to become an Affiliated Member of the Texas State Federation organization. As an Affiliated Member we would not pay them dues or share in their Teen Scholarship Program nor participate in their insurance program. As an Affiliate Member we would have an open invitation to attend general business meetings and to speak at their meetings with the recognition of the chair of the meeting. They would keep us informed of activities of TSFSRD with the invitation to participate. Subject to scheduling, they would list our Roundup as a visitation for officers and past presidents.

A number of other issues were discussed, and it was suggested that if we accept their offer, we should extend the same Affiliation status to TSFSRD.

An issue involving your NTCA was brought up by the NTCA Secretary, Jack Von der Hyde, that needs to be clarified regarding the proposed affiliation with the state federation, will NTCA callers be able to call for state functions? Currently it is not possible as the callers for state functions have to be nominated by two or more area organizations before they are considered. It is my understanding, that since NORTEX is not a member of the Texas State Federation, it is not possible for NORTEX to nominate callers for state functions. So, if we affiliate, will NORTEX be able to nominate callers for state functions?

In regard to the cost of ads in the electronic Promenade, the Directors studied the situation and Kevin Hadley presented their findings. Their finding was that the current cost of electronic ads was justified as there are additional modifications and editorial changes required before publishing the Promenade.

Moving on, Liberty Recreation Center is where we are holding, and have held, our lessons. They have had some issues with angels coming and going with no accounting for them. Like every organization they have insurance and legal issues to adhere to. So, Linda Harris, First VP and Chair of Lessons and I met with Precious Scott and Kristi Bell of Liberty Recreation Center to discuss possible solutions. The best solution was decided upon, and it is that Liberty Recreation Center will establish a concurrent class where the angels will register at no charge. The class will be labeled Angels or Square Dance Angels. This should be on the Liberty Recreation Center's website before Monday's class. We will all need to register in order to keep using their facility.

We also discussed that our instructor's back -up needs to have a background check done prior to teaching a class. Since Jan and I have covered for David and Jan Toms in the past, Jan and I completed the Background Check forms. Other teacher that sub will need to complete the background form prior to teaching. There is no charge for the background check.

In order to hold our room and time slot David plans to hold a polishing fun shop to continue to review the mainstream calls. This will be open to any and all dancers that want that want work on improving their mainstream dancing ability. It will be in a square dance format. The center has day passes for those attending classes. Day passes are \$10 per person. It may be cheaper to sign up for the class and pre-pay. Also, we may need a core group of eight for the class to make... they weren't clear on that, but she mentioned that she can't show a loss for the use of the room.

Survey, if you have not done so already... and you regularly read the newsletter send me a quick confirmation to president@swingingstars.org or you can reply to this email. So far about 14 people have indicated they read our newsletter on a regular basis and several of them are not members of Swinging Stars though some have been in the past.

I will see you in a Square.

Richard C

Message from the 1st Vice Presidents

Charlie and Linda Harris

Mainstream Lessons

Lessons are in progress and going well – Come help with angeling! Women are needed! Monday nights 7:15pm

Location: Liberty Rec Center
2601 Glencliff Drive
Plano, TX 75075



A “BIG” thank you to all assisting with setup and tear down.

Thank you for your support,
Charlie and Linda Harris – 1st VP

2nd VP Report

Dave and Lorraine Burson

The current Swinging Star Banner inventory is shown below. If you visit a club whose banner we have, please don't bring home one more.

Banners Captured by the Swinging Stars

Club	Date Captured
Circle I	2/10/2024

Swinging Stars Banners Out

Club	Date Captured
Tri-City Promenaders	7/14/2023
Triangle Squares	2/23/2024
Rebel Rousers	2/23/2024

EVENTS FROM THE PAST WEEK

Friday, February 23 – Swinging Stars – Mardi Gras

See the report by Richard Covington at the top of the Newsletter.

*** COMING EVENTS ***

To reach the **February Promenade**, click here:

<https://new.nortex.org/nortex/wp-content/uploads/2024-02-Promenade.pdf>

Official Club Visitation - Banner Raid

Friday, March 1 – Kissin' Kuzzins – Mad About March

Where: Network Ministries – 1500 International Pkwy #300, Richardson, TX

Guest Caller: Bobby Willis

Time: Plus Workshop 7:30 PM, First S/D Tip 8:00 PM

Note: See page 31 of the February Promenade for more information

Friday, March 8 – Swinging Stars – Happy St. Patrick’s Day

Where: Network Ministries – 1500 International Pkwy #300, Richardson, TX

Caller: Charlie Robertson

Cuer: Jan Toms

Time: Early Rounds 7:30, Dance 8:00

Note: See page 18 of the March Promenade for more information

* * * OTHER EVENTS * * *

To reach the **March Promenade**, click here:

<https://new.nortex.org/nortex/wp-content/uploads/2024-03-Promenade.pdf>

Sunshine information

From Peggy Amy and Nina Lassiter our Sunshine Reporters

No news to report this week.

Let's keep in touch by sharing news in our Newsletter.

Please send news to Nina Lassiter ninalassiter@gmail.com

Special dates to put on your calendar

Sunday, May 19, 2024, 4:00 PM **Swinging Stars General Club meeting** at Spring Creek BBQ
270 N Central Expy, Richardson, TX 75080

Friday, May 10, 2024 **Swinging Stars 49th Anniversary** Dance

Friday, October 11, 2024 **Swinging Stars Double Deal** Dance

Friday, November 22, 2024 **Swinging Stars Round up Theme** Dance

Web Master Dave Burson

Be sure to check out our web page: www.swingingstars.org

There is a lot of information about what is going on with the Swinging Stars.

For information about weekend dances, go to our Web Page and click on Weekends.

Message from Newsletter Editor

Thank you for making it this far down the newsletter.

As we streamlining the newsletter, if we remove something or change something that you liked the way it was, or have any suggestions, please send your comments and suggestions to:

newsletter_editor@swingingstars.org Anything sent to that email address will go to the **President of the Swinging Stars** and to the **Newsletter Editor** (Dave Burson).

Dave Burson

Newsletter Editor

Swinging Stars

Email: newsletter_editor@swingingstars.org

Phone: 972-396-0941 .

See Flyers below



Swinging Stars



Happy St. Patrick's Day



Celebrating All Things Irish



March 8, 2024



Caller: Charlie O' Robertson

Early Rounds: 7:30

Cuer: Jan O' Toms



Square up: 8:00



Network Ministries Building



1500 International Pkwy Ste.300

Banner Lite Snacks Singles Board Honey Pot



Dancers under 18 dance **FREE** with paying adults



72.9 MHz

For info: 214-675-9823 OR president@swingingstars.org



Visit our website: www.swingingstars.org



Swinging Stars



Celebrate



MARCH MADNESS



Caller:

Friday, March 22, 2024

Cuer:



Charlie Robertson

Chris Farabaugh

Square Dance Attire
OR

Show Your Team
Spirit By Wearing
Your Favorite
Team Shirt



Early Rounds 7:30
Square up 8:00

Banners Singles Board Lite Snacks Honey Pot



Network Ministries Building 1500 International Pkwy Ste. 300
Richardson TX. 75081

Dancers under 18 dance for free with Paying adult



72.9 MHz