



Swinging Stars

Square and Round Dance Club

Newsletter for April 21, 2013

Presidential Ramblings

Have you put this on your calendar? Sunday, May 5 at 4:00 PM – Club Meeting at Spring Creek BBQ on Hwy 75 – Elect/Re-elect officers, Vote on By-law change, Board Member Reports, Old & New Business

Hope you will plan to be there.

Are we having fun yet??? Our Formula 51 dance month rolls on with success. Have you danced with the students? What are you waiting for? Get out your promenade, find a Formula 51 dance, call a student and invite them to join you. They don't know everything yet and it is a lot of fun helping them learn.

Speaking of fun, square dancing is fun because of the people that we dance with... We came to lessons with Swinging Stars to relearn the calls but we joined the club because of the fun friendly people. Let's reach out and make our guests feel welcome. We are already a fun and outgoing club and as you know, clubs love to come visit because of it and because of our great caller and cuer. However, you remember the old adage – if you're not moving forward you are moving backward and if you think you're maintaining, you're actually losing ground. So, how do we make our visitors feel more welcome? By making a concerted effort we can build a larger group of regular visitors and increase our enjoyment of dancing at the same time. As mentioned, your executive board would like to adopt a new tradition of introducing a "host" couple to a visiting couple when they walk in the door. The "host" couple would then invite the visiting couple to dance the first tip. So, when you arrive at the dance, tell the treasure or one of the greeters that you are available and they will direct a visiting couple(s) to you. After the dance starts, go find another visitor and invite them to dance the next tip with you. This is your opportunity to make our visitors feel more welcome than they already do.

You will note that we have Plus lessons coming June 11th. I hope that you plan to sign up for Plus lessons at the Carpenter Rec Center in Plano on Tuesday nights with Wayne Baldwin. Some reasons for taking Plus lessons can include learning the Plus calls or to improve your ability to dance Plus. By learning Plus you get to dance two more tips per night. Plus dancing helps make better dancers and as better dancers, your dance card will be full all night

Mainstream lessons are just a few months away. August 27th is just around the corner. Just a hint in getting people interested in square dancing... DON'T RECRUIT. People hate to do things they don't want to do and when you RECRUIT, it sounds like you are trying to convince them to do something they don't want to do. So, what do you do – talk about square dancing and how much fun you and your spouse (or dance partner) enjoy the activity. Tell them how it has benefited you – it provides you a good workout, a group of good social friends and/or a chance to get out-of-the house and out-of-the front of the television. Whatever you enjoy about square dancing, share that with your friends, acquaintances and people you come in contact with day-to-day. Everyone these days seems to be open to dancing with all of the TV shows with dance contests. As mentioned previously, women tend to be more interested in getting involved in square dancing but we find after the guys get started, they love it too, don't we.

Search for the Truth: Roswell New Mexico Area 51 UFO Crash



What really happened on that warm July, Roswell night in 1947? Surely you have heard of the incident in Roswell New Mexico that has remained a controversy till this day. There is no question that something crashed to the ground that night, but there seems to be no hard drawn conclusion among the different theories. Was it a weather balloon or an alien UFO?

An abundance of people still say that the military and government has many questions they've yet to answer in relation to the Roswell crash. They claim there was an enormous conspiracy to cover up what really happened. Whatever it was that crashed that night left a trail of debris reaching almost a mile long and several hundred feet in width. First discovered by a local ranch manager, the debris was recovered by the 509th Bomb Group Intelligence Office with Major Jesse Marcel at the lead.

Immediately upon their return to the southern Nevada [Area 51](#) base there was an official press release stating that debris from some kind of flying disc had been recovered. It had been written by Lt. Walter Haut, and a newspaper story followed on July 8th with the headline "RAAF Captures Flying Saucer on Ranch in Roswell Region". Click this link to see the actual paper: http://alien-ufo-research.com/Roswell/Roswell_news_paper.jpg

Click this link to see [Area 51](#) base: <http://alien-ufo-research.com/Roswell/area51googleearth.jpg>

However, that press release was almost immediately pulled and replaced by another stating that the crash was only that of a weather balloon, and had nothing to do with an alien UFO. Lt. Walter Haut never made a big deal of it, and always was nonchalant about the incident when interviewed over the years. He died in December of 2005; supposedly leaving the truth behind in an affidavit that was only to be opened after he had passed away. His affidavit was a shock to some. There were many people who never stopped believing the government was running a conspiracy, and it looked as if they were finally able to say "I told you so". Lt. Walter Haut claims that the crash was indeed a UFO made from material that was extremely thin and light weight, yet incredibly strong. He went even further to say that he had seen a couple of aliens on the floor of a hangar where the UFO was stored; they were about four feet and had large heads compared to their little bodies.

Now our 2nd VP, Bob and Terri Pitts, were able to obtain this top secret photo that is proof that an alien UFO indeed crashed on earth. They are happy to have finally put to rest the long disputed truth of the crash in Roswell, NM, Area 51 in 1947.



The second installment of our Formula 51 dance is April 26th and it will be our “AREA 51” dance. Costume ideas could be any of your favorite space travelers and/or space creatures or both. I encourage you to use your creativeness – come as a member of the Star Ship enterprise, as a character from Lost In Space or maybe a member of Star Wars series... I would love to see someone come as Chewbacca or Princess Leia, Will Robinson, Spock or Lieutenant Lahore.



See if you agree with me, John and Ann Barber have the best idea for a costume that I have heard of... they plan to come as Andy and Debbie Piziali. No kidding, when you see John and Ann, you will truly think they are Andy and Debbie. Their costumes are perfect replicas of the real Piziali's. You will have to come to see for yourselves. Andy and Debbie will be there incognito.



“Formula 51”



Keys for making our Formula 51 dance a success – invite student dancers into your square. Remember when you were a new dancer coming to your first club dance – you were probably somewhat timid if not frightened. They do not want to mess up and embarrass themselves or upset the experienced dancers. So, they will have the tendency to dance with other students. Grab a student couple and three experienced and form a square. Try to only have one, not more than two, student couples in a square. When your square breaks down form lines and, just like he always does, Wayne will get you started as soon as he can.

Other things to remember, have a good time but remember the students learned to dance dosido “no touchy, back-to-back.” We will have plenty of time later to teach them the proper way (just kidding). Let's be sure to show them our Swinging Stars hospitality and make them feel as a welcome guest.

Finally, as you know, there are lots of Formula 51 dances this month. Call up one of our student couples and invite them to join you to one or more Formula 51 dances. These dances are to help them integrate into the club dances. They are more apt to go if a SS member invites them to go along.

NOMINATIONS

Our club by-laws require that officers be nominated and re-elected after the first six months. The nominations committee remained unchanged with Vickie Evanto, Jack Duncan, Louise Duncan, Peggy Amy and Fran Bivins. The nominees are as follows:

President: Richard & Jan Covington

1st Vice President: Mark & Karen Hawkins

2nd Vice President: Bob & Terri Pitts

Treasure: John & Ann Barber

Secretary: Gene & Phyllis Deluke

Please note the time change of the meeting:

Sunday, May 5 at 4:00 PM – Club Meeting at Spring Creek BBQ on Hwy 75

Estimated Time: 1 hour

Re-election of officers, Vote on By-law change, Board Member Reports, Old & New Business

BEHIND THE SCENES

At our first Executive committee meeting Bob & Terri Pitts brought the idea of researching ALD (Assisted Listening Devices) and they volunteered to head this up. I mentioned this to Mike Bramlett and discovered that the GRAM committee was working on this very issue. They want to standardize the broadcasting units so that dancers can purchase their own receiver. The GRAM committee caller and cuer members purchased a transmitter and 6 receivers in order to run a test at a live dance within the next couple of weeks. Bob, Terri, Jan and I hope to attend the dance to observe.

SWINGING STARS OFFICIAL DRESS

Our official colors will continue to be Aqua, Purple, or Royal Blue. However, the company that was making our Aqua skirts and tops will no longer be able to offer that option. Their supplier no longer is able to provide the material. With that being said, we formed a committee and are researching options for adding an additional club skirt and top. We will continue to wear each of our three colors as a group when we go out visiting based on the calendar submitted by our 2nd Vice Presidents. Matching Purple and Royal Blue shirts may be found through Mondiki or other companies. Aqua or a close match might be found through other dancewear providers.

We would like our new outfit to be a blend of maybe 1-2 of the colors so it would be within our color scheme. If you would like to provide input please contact one or more of the committee members - Lorraine Burson, Terri Pitts, Sondra Foust, or myself. We want dancers to be able to choose a “Poofy” outfit or a longer skirt. We will keep you updated.

Thanks so much.

Jan Covington

SWINGING STARS JACKETS

If you want a jacket, please contact Mark & Karen Hawkins, First VP's, 972-436-4868 or 1stVP@swingingstars.org to place your order. The price has yet to be firmed up as they want to look at the stitching before giving us a final estimate.

*** * * Note from Your 2nd VPs * * ***

Happy dancing to all of the Swinging Stars. It was a great week of dancing with multiple Swinging Stars couples visiting five clubs excluding those that are exclusively plus. Keep it up, which, by the way, encourages other clubs to visit us, which helps keep our club healthy and entertained.

This Thursday is the Swinging Stars Ladies' Luncheon on April 25th @ 11:30am (Into My Garden Tearoom in Plano). Hope you can join us. Please RSVP to Lorraine Burson if you can attend.

*** * * EVENTS FROM THE PAST WEEK * * ***

Official Visitation – Yellow Rockers, Thursday, Apr 18th

The Swinging Stars ventured out on a school night to visit the Yellow Rockers for their 45th anniversary dance at Chapel Hill United Methodist Church in Farmers Branch. Rounds were cued by Chris Farabaugh who kept the round dancing pace elevated with several high energy numbers throughout the evening. Enjoyable mainstream and plus squares were called by the Yellow Rockers' club caller, Ray Stenger who was joined by his wife, Evelyn, for the last tip which ended with a nice patriotic tune. Caller, Dave Viera, who was in attendance for the evening, called a tip. A delicious assortment of snacks was prepared for the dancers. The following 9 Swinging Stars brought back a Yellow Rockers' banner: P. Amy, Bursons, R. Covington, J. Duncan, Pittses, and the Sees.

Official Visitation – Kissin' Kuzzins, Friday, Apr 19th

There was an impressive showing of 32 Swinging Stars who attended the Kissin' Kuzzins 40th anniversary Kentucky Donkey Derby dance. Rounds, including a fun full hour of tunes which included requests, were cued by JL Pelton. One of his tips included two Rumbas which targeted the current level of his ongoing class - the dance floor was full to the brim for this one. The fun squares were called by Wayne Baldwin who entertained the dancers including Derby-themed numbers and a hot hash tip. There were funniest and most elegant hat contests for both the men and the ladies. Our own Bob Pitts captured the winning funniest hat with his space cowboy themed hat which doubled as a subliminal advertisement for our upcoming Entering Area 51 dance. The prize was an exquisitely wrapped set of 4 Solo cup stemmed 'crystal' goblets, 2 candle holders, 4 cans of Lite beer, and two tapered candles (the Pitts are now definitely prepared for a romantic evening). As usual the Kissin' Kuzzins prepared a great spread for the crowd. Many of the Swinging Stars, the callers and cuers, and some NORTEX officers trekked a block over to Dos Banderas for some fun social interaction and TexMex food after the dance. The Swinging Stars who recaptured our own banner and ran off with one of the Kissin' Kuzzins' banners were: P. Amy, Bursons, Covingtons, Dennisons, Hamms, Hennebergers, Jimisons, Lassiters, Maiers, McClures, Pharrs, Pittses, Reids, Sees, Smith / Hardin, Starretts, and C. Wolfe.

T-Square Gadabouts, Friday, Apr 19th

4 Swinging Stars visited the T-Square Gadabouts' 18th Anniversary Dance at Swingtime Center in Fort Worth Friday night. Rounds were cued by Charles Crockett. This was NOT a Formula 51 dance so club caller Rick Smith plus guest caller John Jones led dancers through lively combinations covering all of Basic and Mainstream. The dance theme was "Mickey (Mouse) Goes Hot Air Ballooning". "Mousekateer ears" were seen moving all over the floor. All in attendance had a great time. Visiting Swinging Stars were the Bondis and Kilejians. Thanks to Jim Bondi for dance details.

Dance of Interest – Trail Blazers, Saturday, Apr 20th

Three Swinging Stars couples attended the Trail Blazers April Showers Bring May Flowers dance at Swingtime Center in Ft. Worth. A fun evening of rounds was cued by Jack Kenny and Bobby Willis called energetic squares. Swingtime Center was nicely decorated with garden-like decorations (little plastic chicks, flowers, eggs, etc.) and candy at all of the tables. A fantastic spread was provided by the Trail Blazers. It's always lots of fun dancing with our friends on the other side of the Metroplex. The Swinging Stars at the dance were: Bursons, Pittses, and the Sees.

Rebel Rousers, Saturday, Apr 20th

9 Swinging Stars and 3 of our students visited the Rebel Rousers' New Dancer Dance at Richardson Senior Center on Saturday. Rounds were cued by Christine Hixson. Squares were called by Mike Bramlett, who, even staying within the Formula 51 subset, kept things lively and interesting with a few surprises (like "all 4 men Do Sa Do" from a squared set). Seasoned dancers, new dancers, and students all enjoyed the evening. The Swinging Stars captured a Rebel Rousers banner. Swinging Stars in attendance included: P. Amy, Bondis, Covingtons, Rows, and Smith/Hardin. Our students attending were K. Branden and the Sunderhauses. Thanks to Jim Bondi for dance details.

*** * * SPECIAL DANCE OPPORTUNITIES * * ***

51st Annual Texas State Federation Square and Round Dance Festival, June 6-9th

Location: San Marcos, TX

Website: http://www.squaredancetx.com/st_festival.html

Notes: Fun for beginners and advanced square and round dancers

62nd National Square Dance Convention, June 26-29th

Location: Oklahoma City, OK

Website: <http://www.62nsdc.com>

Notes: For beginners and advanced square and round dancers, national conventions don't get much closer than this!

*** * * COMING EVENTS * * ***

Ladies Luncheon – Thursday, Apr 25th

Location: Into My Garden Tearoom

Historic downtown Plano – 1017 East 15th Street (inside Nooks and Krannies)

Website: www.intomygarden.com

Time: 11:30AM

Hostess: Lorraine Burson (Lorraine@bursons.us / 972.396-0941)

Notes: Let Lorraine know by Tuesday, Apr 23rd if you plan to attend. This is a wonderful tearoom with delicious items on their menu. Menu, map and parking links are available on their website.

Swinging Stars Club Dance – Friday, Apr 26th

Location: Shepard Elementary School (1000 Wilson Dr., Plano, TX)
Website: www.swingingstars.org
Time: Early rounds – 7:30PM / Dance – 8:00PM
Caller: Wayne Baldwin
Cuer: Walter Brewer
Theme: Entering Area 51 – wear your space / alien attire if you have some
Notes: NORTEX Formula 51 dance

Dance of Interest – Tri-City Promenaders, Saturday, Apr 27th

Location: Brookside Center (1244 Brookside Drive, Hurst, TX)
Website: <http://www.tricitypromenaders.com/>
Time: Early rounds – 7:00PM / Grand march – 8:00PM
Callers: Paul Kinsey and Toby Thomason
Cuer: Chris Farabaugh
Theme: Gospel Singing Dance
Notes: We already have their banner

Harvest Holidays Round Dance Mini-Fest, Sunday, Apr 28th

Location: Swingtime Center (5100 SE Loop 820, Ft. Worth, TX)
Website: <http://www.harvestholiday.com/>
Time: Teaches – 2:00-5:00PM / Early rounds – 6:30PM / Dance – 7:00PM
Callers: N/A
Teachers: Karen Gloodt and JL Pelton
Cuer: Christine Hixson
Notes: Round dance only – phases II-IV

Dance of Interest – Texas Reelers, Friday, May 3rd

Location: Richardson Senior Center (820 W. Arapaho, Richardson, TX)
Website: <http://www.texasreelers.org/>
Time: Early rounds – 7:30PM / Grand march – 8:00PM
Caller: Deborah Carroll-Jones
Cuer: Jack von der Heide
Theme: Come Cruisin'
Notes: We have their banner

Official – Log Cabin Swingers, Saturday, May 4th

Location: Promenade Center (1210 N. Tool Dr., Tool, TX)
Website: <http://www.logcabinsquaredanceclub.com>
Time: Dinner – 6:30PM / Early rounds – 7:30PM / Grand march – 8:00PM
Caller: Wayne Baldwin
Cuer: Walter Brewer
Theme: Cinco de Mayo, 38th anniversary
Notes: Double deal dance, official banner raid, RV parking available



Swinging Stars Annual Fish Fry – Sunday, Jun 2nd

Save the date for this exciting annual Swinging Stars event hosted by our club caller and his spouse - Wayne and Jodie Baldwin. They invite all of the Swinging Stars to come to their home to eat all the fried fish you want. So please plan to attend. More details will be published soon.

FRIENDSHIP DANCE

Friendship Dance with the Rockwall Squares is planned for May10, 2013 at Shepard Elementary. We are making plans and will be sharing information soon.

MEMBERSHIP DUES

If you have not already done so, the dues for the first quarter of 2013 are due. Swinging Stars dues are due the first dance of each quarter - January, April, July and October. If you are not sure whether your dues have been paid, please contact the John and Ann.

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

April 26	Loven, Hursey, Hamm, Carter
May 10	Hawkins, Harris, McClure, Whitaker
May 24	Pitts, Rose, DeLuke, Jung
June 14	Giaudrone, Weckerly*, Lassiter, Sobotka
June 28	Ross, Bondi*, See*, Starrett
July 12	Burson, Archey*, Piziali, Colter*
July 26	Anthause, Perrott, Henneberger, Ryder
August 9	Reid, Rickert*, Kendrick, Trujillo
August 23	Bullock, Hardin/Smith, Jimison, Foust
September 13	Sherman, Schumacher*, Pharr, Ramirez
September 27	Dennison, Rickett*, Underwood, Maier
October 11	Gifford, Nejd, Hamm, McGuire
October 25	Amy, Lewis, Kilejian*, Meyer
November 8	Carter, Bivins, Hursey, Loven
November 22	Loxson, McClure, Row, Evanto
December 13	Mosher, Stuart, Whipple, Feldman
December 27	Holiday for Everyone

*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.
- 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 May 2013

April 26, 2013



Area 51

May 10, 2013



Fiesta Friendship

June 14, 2013



Gilligan's Island



Sunday, May 5 at **4:00 PM** – Club Meeting at Spring Creek BBQ on Hwy 75

Re-election of officers, Vote on By-law change, Board Member Reports, Old & New Business

Sunday, June 2nd - Stars Annual Fish Fry - Baldwin's House

June 6-9th - 51st Annual Texas State Federation Square and Round Dance Festival in San Marcos, TX

Tuesday, June 11 – Plus Lessons at Carpenter Rec. Center in Plano Enrollment - May 4th, Class # 140245

June 26-29th - 62nd National Square Dance Convention, Oklahoma City, OK

Tuesday, August 27 – Mainstream Lessons at Carpenter Rec. Center in Plano

Friday, December 6th - Stars Annual Holiday Party

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

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

Phones: (972) 325-1144