



Swinging Stars

Square and Round Dance Club

Newsletter for June 9, 2013

PRESIDENTIAL RAMBLINGS

Have you ever experienced the joy of square dancing for the first time with your kids, nieces or nephews? First, they have so much energy and they put a lot of effort into their dancing. It is truly a thrill. We had the pleasure of dancing with my niece, Mandy Campbell, and her son, CJ Lewis, from Dudes and Dolls in Great Falls, Montana. This was their second dance out-of-lessons and their first dance in six weeks but what a joy. The question is, how do we attract young people to square dancing? How can we attract our kids? There are youth clubs around the area for teenagers but I don't see them coming to our dances but then do we attend theirs? Last year we went to the Houston Hoedown (our Round Up) and they had an afternoon event that put the teenagers and not so "youngsters" in a single room for a dance called by KO Jeans (he is the caller for one of the teen clubs in Houston). WOW... they swing, they twirl, they spin, they whirl and they run circles around us. HAHHA.....

Here is an exciting youth event – do you have children or grandchildren that might participate?

Girl Scout Camp Square Dance Event

Where-----Historical Park of Farmers Branch, 2540 Farmers Branch Lane, Farmers Branch, Texas

When-----June 13, 2013, Lessons

June 14, 2013, Demonstration

Time-----6:00 to 6:45 each evening

Caller-----Alan Woods, 817-223-8422 for additional information

Chris and Carolyn Mills of Circle I are the NORTEX Teen coordinators. They reported at our last NORTEX meeting that there are currently forty-five youth out of 1300 to 1400 NORTEX members.

Most square dance callers that I have talked to in the area and a good number of officers have told me that in order for square dancing to survive we need to get younger couples involved. I don't believe that they necessarily meant teenagers but we need to get younger couples to perpetuate the activity that we all love. As we all get up in years and we become less active we would like the option of coming to participate as much as possible.

We plan to have an "open-house" dance on August 9th. A number of folks have asked, what is an "open-house"? It is simply an opportunity for you to invite your friends and family to one of our club dances, no charge for non-dancing guest, to see the square dance activity without committing to taking lessons. At some point, around the third tip, instead of having a plus tip, we will ask them to participate in some introductory

lessons to show them how much fun it is. Timing is perfect for this as Mainstream enrollment starts August 11th. Wayne Baldwin will be teaching and he is definitely the instructor that you want your friends to learn from.

Square Dancing is great for people of all ages!!! We want to encourage people of all ages to take lessons. So, as we prepare for mainstream lessons this fall don't forget to talk to your kids and their friends about coming and enjoying this awesome activity.

DANCE LESSONS

Are you one of those people who wait till the last minute to do things? There are a lot of us around. PLUS lessons start Tuesday, June 11th. It is late but not too late. Come early and sign up in person or stop what you are doing right now and call the Carpenter Recreation Center in Plano @ 972-208-8087 or go on-line at www.PlanoParks.org and register for course number 140245. Classes run from 7:00 – 9:00.

Wouldn't it be great to see 100% of our club members on the dance floor during the PLUS tips. Wayne is the best instructors in the square dance world. Don't put it off, call and register today.

There are lots of reasons to dance PLUS – it makes you a better dancer overall and you get to dance all of the tips during the night. You get more of what you paid for, and you are recognized by the other dancers as one of the better dancers. You will have the option to go away and dance the PLUS weekends. We would love to see you at a PLUS weekend; they are the best fun you can have.

Mainstream lessons are scheduled to start on August 27th also at Carpenter Recreation Center in Plano. Wayne Baldwin will be teaching and he is definitely the instructor that you want your friends to learn from.

WHY SQUARE DANCE???

The follow is borrowed from <http://www.c-p-s-d.org/> web-site – the Committee to Promote Square Dancing.

Square dancing is a wonderful activity that provides light aerobic exercise, mental stimulation, and social interaction in a safe environment.

The result: Physically, it may lower risk of heart disease, diabetes, certain types of cancer, age-related memory loss, and osteoporosis.

Mentally, remembering all of the calls may help to keep the mind sharp, potentially staving off age-related memory loss.

Socially, having a large circle of friends may lower depression and provide a social support structure.

And, IT'S LOTS OF FUN.

It is truly amazing the good health enjoyed by long term square dancers.

NORTEX Officer and Installation Dance

June 23, 2013

Swingtime Center in Fort Worth

Swinging Stars are helping HOST this year's NORTEX Officer and Installation Dance. We will be responsible for labeling the Chair Backs. Dave and Lorraine have volunteered to make the Chair Back. Thanks !!!!!!!!!!!!!!! The refreshment committee has asked that we provide 60 sandwiches and three dozen cookies.

Please let me know if you can:

1. Make 3 dozen cookies (any type)
2. We need 3 people to each make 20 sandwiches (cut them in quarters-any type)

This is going to be a fun dance and it is **FREE**.

***** If you can help let Terri Pitts know and, if you are not able to go, we will be happy to pick the cookies or sandwiches up and take them. Terri's home phone is 972-392-4325 or her email is tjtpitts@sbcglobal.net.

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

Hello Swinging Stars. We are exhausted from our trip to the Texas state festival this weekend and our feet are still aching from all the dancing. Now that state is over, there are a few dances this weekend and next and then on to the national convention! This weekend will include our own Friday night Swinging Stars' Gilligan's Island theme dance, then Saturday we will dance at All Saints Catholic Church for the Rebel Rousers' Anniversary Dance. This is an official visitation and banner attack – we need to get our banner back and let's get theirs. The theme is Kaleidoscope of Colors so remember to dress colorful.

Moving on, next weekend includes the Texas Reelers Black and White Ball (official dance), Dixie Chainers (of interest dance), and on Sunday the NORTEX Officer Installation Dance. Please come to Swingtime Center to support our club and NORTEX as the Swinging Stars are one of the host clubs for this year's Installation dance (and it's FREE).

Don't forget to send us an email if you are attending the national convention (bobp8211@gmail.com). Those of you working on Century Club Badges or dangles, remember to pack your CC signature books for Nationals – you are allowed three caller signatures per day.

Are you going to CHAPARRAL EVENING IN PARIS August 30-31st? If so, email Bob & Terri (bobp8211@gmail.com) to let us know. There will be three dance halls to accommodate both mainstream and plus dancers with a fantastic group of callers and a cuer. New dancers: don't hesitate to make this your first weekend dance. **Important:** our club gets a \$100 rebate if three squares register early and \$50 if two squares register early. **To get the rebate for our club, all of the reservations must be sent in together. The Pitts will be collecting the registration forms and checks to send in as a group – please get them to us by July 31st.** Last year we had lots of Swinging Stars in attendance and had a GREAT time at the dance and had an organized dinner and Friday night after party. See the flyer at: http://swingingstars.org/19thEvening_In_Paris.pdf.

The current Swinging Star banner inventory is shown below.

Banners Captured by the Swinging Stars

Club	Date Captured
Cotton Pickin' Squares	23-Mar-13
Dixie Chainers	25-May-13
Dublin Cloverleafs	02-Jul-05
Kissin' Kuzzins	17-May-13
Log Cabin Swingers	4-May-13
Lone Star Solos	12-Jul-12
Lone Star Solos	30-Aug-12
Lone Star Solos	28-Mar-13
North Star 8	09-Feb-13
Roadrunners	07-Feb-13
Solitaires	03-Mar-12
Solitaires	03-Nov-12
Texas Reelers	05-Apr-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 Captured

Club	Date Captured
Rebel Rousers	26-Apr-13
Texas Reelers	10-May-13

* * * EVENTS FROM THE PAST WEEK * * *

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

A few Swinging Stars couples went to the state festival this year in San Marcos at the Embassy Suites convention center. We met couples from all over Texas (and visited with some we met at the last state festival in Wichita Falls) and got to round and square dance to a pile of exceptional cuers and callers, most of whom we had not met before. We even got to square dance to several tips by Brad Caldwell who, you may remember, will be our visiting caller for our 2014 anniversary dance. There were rounds, plus, DBD, and advanced teaches (we especially liked spin the windmill) and mainstream, plus, advanced, and clogging halls and a 2015 pre-festival square dance Sunday morning. Even though the after party Friday night and dessert run Saturday night were lightly attended, fun was had by all. The Swinging Stars couples at the state festival were: the Brewers, Jungs, Pitts, and the Sees. It was great to see that many members of various NORTEX clubs made a showing.

Dance of Interest – Kissin' Kuzzins, Friday, June 7th

18 Swinging Stars visited the Kissin' Kuzzins Friday at the Garland Senior Center. The early rounds and rounds between tips were cued by JL Pelton and included recent latin dance class graduate favorites "Beach Party Cha" and the rumba "Just Another Woman in Love". An assortment of the other rhythms was also cued. Our own Wayne Baldwin was the caller and his repertoire included the crowd pleasing "Mexican Hat Dance" and "Wave on Wave". He ended the evening with a couple of oldies but goodies. The Covingtons also took their niece, Mandy Campbell, and her oldest son, CJ Lewis who finished lessons six weeks ago – this was their second real square dance (their home club is Dudes and Dolls of Great Falls Montana). Several of the Swinging Stars gathered at Dos Banderas after the dance for food, drink, and socializing. The visiting Swinging Stars included: the Amys, Bondis, Covingtons, Fousts, Giffords, Harrises, Kilejians, Smith / Hardin, and the Underwoods. Thanks to Richard Covington for the dance details.

Dixie Chainers, Saturday, June 8th

4 Swinging Stars visited the Dixie Chainers in Farmers Branch on Saturday. Rounds were cued by Jack von der Heide and squares were called by veteran caller, Rick Smith, who was their guest caller. Rick entertained the square dancers with a lively set of patter and singing calls. All in attendance had a great time. Visiting Swinging Stars were the Bondis and Smith / Hardin. Thanks to Jim Bondi for the dance details.

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

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!

25th Annual Stagecoach Roundup, July 26-28th

Location: Salado, TX

Website: <http://www.acsquaredance.com/StagecoachRoundup2013.pdf>

Callers: Brad Caldwell and Scott Bennett

Notes: All plus square dancing including dance by definition

19th Annual Evening in Paris, August 30-31st

Location: Love Civic Center, Paris, TX

Website: http://swingingstars.org/19thEvening_In_Paris.pdf

Callers: Gary Shoemake, Mike Bramlett, Ken Bower, Marshall Flippo

Cuer: Patti Wheelington

Notes: 3 dance halls: plus, advanced, and mainstream (singing calls)

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

Swinging Stars Club Dance – Friday, June 14th

Location: Shepard Elementary School (1000 Wilson Dr., Plano, TX)

Website: www.swingingstars.org

Time: Workshop – 7:30PM / dance – 8:00PM

Caller: Wayne Baldwin

Cuer: Walter Brewer

Theme: Gilligan's Island

Notes: Look-A-Like island character contest

Official – Rebel Rousers, Saturday, June 15th

Location: All Saints Catholic Church (5231 Meadowcreek Dr., Dallas, TX)

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

Time: Early rounds – 7:30PM / Grand march – 8:00PM

Caller: Mike Bramlett

Cuer: Christine Hixson

Theme: Kaleidoscope of Color

Notes: **24th anniversary double deal dance**, let's get our SS banner back AND get theirs

Ladies Luncheon – Thursday, June 20th

Location: La Madeleine @ Preston & Park (Southwest Corner) in the back room
Time: 11:30am
Website: www.lamadeleine.com
Hostess: Kathy Mosher (dmosher5@verizon.net)
Notes: Let Kathy know on or before Wednesday, June 19th, if you plan to attend.

Official – Texas Reelers, Friday, June 21st

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: Black & White Ball
Notes: Let's get our banner back and get theirs

Dance of Interest – Dixie Chainers, Saturday, June 22nd

Location: Farmers Branch Senior Center (14055 Dennis Lane, Farmers Branch, TX)
Website: <http://www.dixiechainers.com/>
Time: Early rounds – 7:00PM / Grand march – 7:30PM
Caller: Vernon Jones
Cuer: Jack von der Heide
Notes: We have one of their banners so don't get another

Official – NORTEX Officer Installation Dance, Sunday, June 23rd

Location: Swingtime Center (5100 SE Loop 820, Ft. Worth, TX)
Website: www.nortex.org
Time: Installation – 4:00PM / Dance – 5:30PM
Callers: Paul Kinsey and Bobby Willis
Cuer: Chris Farabaugh
Notes: **The Swinging Stars Club is a host club so let's make a good showing, this dance is FREE**

Swinging Stars Club Dance – Friday, June 28th

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: JL Pelton

REFRESHMENTS DUTY AND INFORMATION

June 14	Ross , Perrott, Lassiter, Piziali
June 28	Harris , Rose, Archey*, DeLuke
July 12	Burson, See, Sobotka, Colter
July 26	Anthause, Weckerly*, 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

*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 July 2013



June 14, 2013

Gilligan's Island



July 12, 2014

Celebrating Freedom

Swinging with the Stars and Stripes



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

Sunday, June 23rd NORTEX Officer and Installation Dance (Free & we are one of the Host Clubs)

Location - Swingtime Center in Fort Worth

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

Friday, August 9th – Open House Dance, Bring your prospective students

Sunday, August 25th – NORTEX Pre-Roundup Kickoff & Food Drive, 4:30 – 6:30, Plymouth Park United Methodist Church in Irving

Tuesday, August 27th – Mainstream Lessons at Carpenter Rec. Center in Plano, 7:00

Friday, November 1st – Cavalcade at Roundup will run from 6:00 – 10:00 on November 1st

Friday, December 6th - Stars Annual Holiday Party

Sunday, December 8th NORTEX Toys for Tots dance will be at the Richardson Civic Center

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

Themes:

June 14, 2013 - Gilligan's Island

July 12, 2013 - Swinging with the Stars and Stripes

August 23, 2013 - Take Me Out to the Ballgame

September 27, 2013 - Burnin' Big Tex Chili Cookoff

October 25, 2013 - Boot Scootin' Show Your Colors Ball – Double Deal Dance

November 22, 2013 – Shake Your Tail Feathers Dance (Thanksgiving falls on November 28, 2013)

December 13, 2013 - Toys & Books for Tots Fairytale Ball

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 – 40th Anniversary Dance (Fifth Saturday)

Saturday, October 31, 2015 – Double Deal Halloween Dance (Fifth Saturday)*

Saturday, January 30, 2016 – 41st 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

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

Dave and Lorraine have agreed to head the Nominating Committee for this fall as a new slate of officers needs to be re-elected at our November Club meeting. If you are interested, please let the Bursons, Jan or me know.

RICHARD & JAN COVINGTON

Swinging Stars, President

Email: president@swingingsstars.org

Phones: (972) 325-1144