



Swinging Stars

Square and Round Dance Club

Newsletter for June 16, 2013

PRESIDENTIAL RAMBLINGS

Happy Father's Day...I hope that you all enjoyed celebrating it as much as I have. Though Jan and Amy (oldest daughter) are away in Honduras, I had a very rewarding Father's Day weekend being with Karen (other daughter), sons-in-law and grandkids. I pray that you were blessed with having your Family & Friends close & with you for this holiday.

Great Dance this week. Wayne started with the monthly workshop, "Funshop," with work on Circulates and cross runs. He can really mix it up with three & one line formations and disjointed waves and columns. If you did not know, our club has a square dance workshop every second Friday. Then he kicked off the dance with the "Ghost Busters" patter later he used "Tennessee Waltz" and "Do the Hustle." He sang several of my favorites such as "Amy", "Goodhearted Woman" and "Love Grows Where Rosemary Goes." Walter cued the rounds with his fabulous flair that we have all become accustom. He kicked it off with a ChaCha to a song called "Why" and a Rumba to a song called "Blue Moon." Other tunes included "Autumn Three", a Waltz to "Hope" and a Cha to "I'll Be the One." Don't take our caller and cuer for granted, they are the BEST. Thanks guys for all of the hard work and great dances that you bring to us every second and fourth Friday.

Chris and Carolyn Mills of Circle I are the NORTEX Teen coordinators. They provided me with some detail that I would like to share with you.

- There are 12 clubs with 48 youth members---three youth are members in two clubs so the real total is 45. Clubs with youth are: Circle I, Decatur 8'ers, Triangle Squares, Dixie Chainers, T Square Gadabouts, Ft Worth Squares, Log Cabin Swingers, Rebel Rousers, RoadRunners, Tri-City Promenaders; Solitaires and Cliff Dwellers.
- Youth specific clubs in NORTEX ----- none
- Most active club with youth is Decatur 8'ers with 12
- Calendar events that are planned at this stage--- annual **Teen Scholarship Dance** at Swingtime 2/23/14-----recognize that most of our youth are under driving age, so they must depend on their parents---- summer is about the only time that we can get the kids together or at the scholarship dance
- We try to communicate with the youth that we know about and have email addresses via the NORTEX Youth Face Book page: **I Square / NORTEX Youth and Young Adults** as you are aware kids and social media are tuned into one another---does this work---not sure at this point but we are still plugging away with this approach
- We believe the best opportunity for growth in youth membership comes from kids that are home schooled and we do have some evidence of this.
- NORTEX offers \$2000 scholarships to youth members in good standing for one year and who are entering college—based upon application/approval process

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

PLUS lessons started Tuesday, June 11th. We went for having ten people to twenty-four the last week of registration and the Tuesday night the number jumped to thirty-two. We have several clubs represented. It is very exciting.

Angels we love that you are there so please do not be offended. However, thirty-two students make exactly four squares. You may not get to dance every tip, if at all. If you want to be sure that you are dancing, get three or four other Angel couples to come so that we can for sure have an extra square. If you want to guarantee that you dance every tip, you can still pay for lessons.

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. Registration starts August 11th.

If you need details, you can print the lessons flyer from the web-site. If you want a three-fold flyer on the heavier paper, see Dave Burson. A special thanks to Lorraine Burson and Jan Covington

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 NORTEX refreshment committee has asked that we provide 60 sandwiches and three dozen cookies. Looks like we need one more volunteer for twenty sandwiches cut in fourths – 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.

Thank you to those of you that have stepped up and agreed to bring refreshments – see the “Note from Your 2nd VPs” for details.

NOTE: Not only is this is going to be a **FREE** dance, it is going to be a great time square & round dancing. (Free, hmmm, actually you paid for it as part of your dues so come out and get what you paid for....)

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

First, and most important, we want to wish a Happy Father's Day to all! We hope you all had a good week of dancing. We had loads of fun at our Gilligan's Island luau and at the Rebel Rousers anniversary dance this past weekend. And coming up we have a busy weekend of visitations that includes the Texas Reelers Black and White Ball, an official dance, a Dixie Chainers dance of interest, and the NORTEX Officer Installation Dance.

We want to encourage you to 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 some of the officers being inducted are Swinging Stars. Come out and show your support at this FREE dance. We have our carpool arranged – do you? And thanks to those who have volunteered to help bring food for the Officer Installation Dance. Lucy Hamm is bringing 3 dozen cookies. Wendy Perrot and Terri Pitts are each bringing 20 sandwiches each quartered. We are looking for one more volunteer to bring 20 more sandwiches quartered. Lorraine Burson is making the decorations for the chair backs and others have volunteered to help her get them ready at the Installation Dance. Thanks for helping and showing your support at the June 23rd Officer Installation dance. See you there!

There is a change in the Ladies luncheon location for this Thursday June 20th at 11:30AM. The updated location is the Chocolate Angel Café and Tearoom (Parker and Preston location @ 4709 West Parker Road

Suite 450, Plano, Tx 75093). If you can attend, please RSVP to Terri Pitts (tjtpitts@sbcglobal.net) or call (972) 392-4325 by Tuesday evening June 18th, so we can give them an accurate seating count.

Don't forget to send us an email (bobp8211@gmail.com) if you are attending the national convention in Oklahoma City weekend after next. We know that at least 7 Swinging Stars couples will be there.

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. We have heard from 7 Swinging Stars couples who are planning to attend.

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
Rebel Rousers	15-Jun-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
Texas Reelers	10-May-13

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

Official – Rebel Rousers, Saturday, June 15th

There were 28 Swinging Stars accounted for at the Rebel Rousers 24th anniversary dance held at All Saints Catholic Church. The dancers brought out their brightest colors keeping in step with the theme for the dance: Kaleidoscope of Colors. Christine Hixson cued the early rounds and rounds between tips. After the early rounds Mike Bramlett, the caller for the evening, was surprised by a ceremony inducting him into the Texas Callers Hall of Fame. The award was presented by Toby Thomason. Mike's wife, Dee, their son Drew, and Dee's parents were at the dance. Dee and Drew joined Mike on several tips belting out some of our favorite dance numbers – they make quite the trio. The Rebel Rousers had a great salad and dessert spread prepared for their guests. In addition to retrieving our own banner the Swinging Stars captured a Rebel Rousers banner. The Swinging Stars at the dance were: P. Amy, Brewers, Colters, R. Covington, Feldmans, Fousts, Benedetto / Guidrone, Harrises, Maiers, Pitts, Rickerts, Rows, Sees, Hardin / Smith, and the Underwoods.

* * * 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 * * *

Ladies Luncheon – Thursday, June 20th

Location: Chocolate Angel Café and Tearoom (4709 West Parker St. 450 Plano, TX)

Time: 11:30am

Website: www.chocolateangel.com

Hostess: Terri Pitts (tjtpitts@sbcglobal.net)

Notes: Let Terri know on or before Tuesday, June 18th, 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 – let's make a good showing, 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 28	Harris, Rose, Archey*, DeLuke
July 12	Burson, See, Sobotka, Colter
July 26	Anthaume, 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.

Upcoming Advertised Swinging Stars Theme Dances thru Aug 2013



July 12, 2013 Celebrating Freedom
Swinging with the Stars and Stripes



August 23, 2013 Take Me Out to the Ballgame



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:

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. Go to our Facebook Page <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Swinging-Stars-Square-Round-Dance-Club> - “like us,” view picture, post pictures, comments about anything what you enjoy about square dancing or a specific dance.

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@swingingstars.org

Phones: (972) 325-1144