



Swinging Stars

Square and Round Dance Club



Newsletter for October 13, 2024

Message from the Presidents

Richard and Jan Covington

No rest for the weary... Your club president logged a lot of hours Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday getting ready for a Friday night dance, a Saturday Board Meeting and reviewing future dates and contracts for callers & cuers. I know what you're thinking...he prepares????, yes Virginia, I prepare my thoughts for the announcements right up until time to give them - haha. It is time well spent.

We have a spreadsheet of dates of our dances that tracks when our callers and cuers will not be in with us it also tracks the guest callers/cuers filling and when/whether they have signed a contract. We have most of 2025 completed and we started 2026. Communications have gone to Charlie & Kristy Robertson and Jan & David Tom asking they the confirm their dates. The spreadsheet is constantly updated with new and/or revised information. Even with all-of this tracking, you may recall, we had one dance where we missed a date and David Toms stepped in and called for us. It is good to have a talented caller willing and able to step-in at the last moment. Also, we ask David to substitute for Charlie often when he is out. As you know, David not only calls for us he and Jan have taught our square dance classes for the past several years. Thanks again David & Jan for all you do...

Your board periodically looks at ways to possible improve our Club. Saturday was a long but productive board meeting. We discussed our 2025 Pre-Round Up dance date as to whether is should be the second or fourth Friday dance and the two dates in question were September 26th or October 10th of 2025. There are definite positives for both. The fourth Friday, 09/26/2025 won the split decision. However, Charlie will not be available to call 09/26/2025 Pre-Round Up dance and we will need a guest caller. We discussed potential callers for our 09/26/2025 Pre-Round Up dance. Charlie will be calling our regular club dance, 10/10/2025.

We discussed whether to have lessons in the coming winter/spring due to the cost. Since NORTEX only allows one lessons grant per year per club a lot of the burden of the second set of lessons will fall on the club. It was decided that we would plan lessons to start in February 2025 rather than January. It also decided that we will continue to offer lessons on Tuesday at Network Ministries and that the caller would be paid based on a percentage of each student's tuition. For example, we pay \$40 per night for lessons based on eight students, however, if there are only six students and the decision is made to have lessons, then 6/8th of \$40 would be reduced the caller's pay to \$30 per night. Of course, the caller will have a say as to whether to proceed with lessons based on the number of students.

David Toms is already obligated to teach Kissin' Kuzzins on Tuesday's nights in January. The board asked me to teach and I am available, honored, and willing to teach. I have taught five complete sets of mainstream lessons, and I have taught a lot of Plus and Advanced classes.

We hope to have another demo for Network Ministries the Thursday before our lessons start to encourage attendees to take lessons start in February 2025. We also discussed reaching out to the sponsor churches and offer to give demos or square dance parties for their empty nester's groups. This is a longer-range plan for classes starting next September. I'll reach out to Network Ministries in to set up the Demo for their Senior's group.

Given the pool of active members, approximately eighteen, it was discussed eliminating the office 1st VP position and having President, VP, Secretary and Treasurer. It was pointed out that NORTEX only requires member clubs to have a President, Secretary and Treasurer. The board currently consist of five offices, and these are filled by five couples. Though it does not have to be a couple but most often in our club it has been. That is ten of the eighteen active members and not all eighteen members are willing and able to serve on the board. After discussing in detail, the reassignment 1st VP duties and putting most of the duties on committee members, the discussion was tabled for further review and how the bylaws would need to be rewritten to make the change. However, if we do not have a candidate/nominee the position could remain open. As of today, we do not have a willing candidate though I have not yet talked to everyone. If you are willing and able to fill the role of 1st VP, please reach out to me. My phone number is 214-675-6523 and email is Richard.Covington@sbcglobal.net or President@swingingstars.org if you prefer.

Nominees to date are as follows:

President – John and Debbie Cave
1st Vice President – open
2nd Vice President – Ron & Donita See
Secretary – Chris & Merry Trujillo
Treasurer – Nevin & Sarah Mulvin

Thank you, guys, for stepping up to take a position on the board. Your service and commitment to Swinging Stars is appreciated.

On a very positive note, Charlie & Kristi's contract has been signed for 01/01/2025 – 12/31/2025 and the board will offer Jan to extend her current contract, (07/01/2024 – 06/30/2025) to expire 12/31/2025 to get the caller/cuer contracts concurrent.

We discussed various other issues including whether to have a substitute cuer on those dates that Jan is not available. We decided that we need to capture information about the round dancer attendance on the date she is not cueing and whether it is a second or fourth Friday. Neven indicated he could make a note of it. We will revisit it later.

To Christmas-party or not to Christmas-party, that is the question.... For the past several years, Nina Lassiter has graciously opened her beautiful home to us for our party. This year she is going to be out of town for Christmas. We discussed alternate locations including the Elk's Lodge in Plano. Chris Trujillo and Linda Harris are working to come up with a viable solution.... If you are willing to host the Christmas party, reach out to Linda or Chris. Stay tuned to your favorite newsletter for more information.

We decided to forgo having a guest caller for the anniversary dance. We all love Charlie and Kristi Robertson and the great job they do. Jan and David Toms continue to do a fabulous job on the rounds. The anniversary dance is on a fifth Friday, 05/30/2025 and thus will go dark on the fourth Friday, 05/23/2025.

We discussed and agreed to have a "Student Dance" on 12/13/2024 and invite other clubs to bring their students. Everyone will have come near the completion of lessons and should be able to dance a good list of calls. We will advertise at least one tip for Student Dancers. Charlie assured me tonight at the Circle I dance that he can call an interesting and challenging dance using the list of calls the student have completed. We will need to confirm what calls other clubs, planning to attend, have taught. Also, our sixteenth lesson and graduation is planned be at our January 10, 2025 dance and it will be our advertised "New Dancer" Dance.

Put 11/10/2024 at 4:00 PM on your calendar for our club members meeting and officer elections.

We had 70 dancers for our double deal dance with Dan Nordbye. This included 18 Swinging Stars members. We had eleven Circle I, eleven Rebel Rousers and ten Kissin' Kuzzins and eight Reelers. David and Dan shared a tip they only practiced through email.... They were great together.

It was good to see Harry and Zari Kilejian on the dance floor again. They have been angeling our lessons for the past couple of weeks. They did great. Give them a big Yellow-Rock when you see them.

We had a very good contingency of Swinging Stars to make it over to Circle I's Pre-Round Up dance. Charlie Robertson and Ray Savel did a bang-up job of delivering a fast-paced dance with creative figures. Charlie called "everybody cross run" from two-faced lines and "swing-thru" from left-handed waves (it starts in the middle rather than the ends). Chris Farabaugh delivered his smooth round dances to the enjoyment of all round dancers.

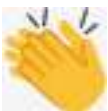
It has been a great week for square dancing, and we look forward to the upcoming dances leading to Callers Cavalcade and Round Up. Have you bought your tickets? What are you waiting for?

I will see you in a square.

RichardC

Message from the 1st Vice Presidents

Charlie and Linda Harris



Thank you to all that come early and stay for tear down. You are appreciated.

Beginner Square Dance Lesson - Every Tuesday 7-9pm!!

Location > Network Ministries 1500 International Pkwy #300, Richardson, TX



>>>>>The new dancers need angels! See you there!

A BIG thank you to all the "Lead" for lessons. Your support helps us move forward. Thank you, angels for your support on Tuesday October 8th, John and Debbie Cave, Merry Trujillo, Richard and Jan Covington, Harry and Zari Kilejian and Allen Taylor.

Lesson Date	Lead
Oct 8	Caves
Oct 15	Covington
Oct 22	Trujillo
Oct 29	Peggy Amy

See you in a square,
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
Pegasus	3/24/2024
Log Cabin Swingers	5/04/2024
Circle I	10/12/2024

Swinging Stars Banners Out

Club	Date Captured
Triangle Squares	2/23/2024
Texas Reelers	9/27/2024
Rebel Rousers	10/11/2024

EVENTS FROM THE PAST WEEK

Official Club Visitation - Banner Raid – Round-Up Theme Dance

Saturday, October 12 – Circle I – Toys on Parade

Charlie and Ray did an outstand job calling to a crowd of great square dancers. There were 8 squares in the Grand March. In the last tip of the night there was 4 die hard dancers still kicking up their heels. Cuer Chris Farabaugh is what I believe to be an excellent cuer, cueing the favorite rhythms for the round dancers to enjoy at the special Toys on Parade theme dance. There were 6 couples round dancing after the first tip. During most of the evening there were 4 to 6 couples still going strong. Swinging Stars had 11 members attending. Thank you to: Peggy Amy, Bursons, Caves, Covingtons, Sees, and Trujillos for supporting our Official Club Visitation. We retrieved our banner and captured their banner. I guess they felt generous by let us have our banerand their banner with only 11 Swinging Stars. We also collected 2 more signatures toward our next Club Visitation Award Patch. There were 19 Circle I members and 68 Visitors. What a wonderful time we all had.

*** COMING EVENTS ***

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

<https://new.nortex.org/nortex/wp-content/uploads/2024-10-Promenade.pdf>

Official Club Visitation – Banner Retrieval – Round-Up Theme Dance

Friday, October 18 – Texas Reelers – Halloween Costume Dance

Where: Richardson Senior Center - - 820 W. Arapaho Rd, Richardson

Caller: Deborah Carroll Jones & Jon Jones

Cuer: Chris Farabaugh

Time: Early Rounds 7:30, Grand March 8:00

Note: See page 27 of the October Promenade for more information

Wednesday, October 23 – Ladies Luncheon

Thank you to Merry Trujillo for volunteering to be hostess for our Ladies Luncheon.

The following is the information she sent for us.

On Wednesday, October 23, at 12:30pm, Swinging Stars Ladies Lunch will be held at:

The Olive Garden Restaurant located at the following address:

700 N Central Expy, Plano, TX 75074

Restaurant Phone: [972\) 578-8576](tel:9725788576)

You can find lunch-sized favorites at this site:

<https://www.olivegarden.com/menu/create-your-own-pasta>

Please RSVP by October 17, 2024, to Merry Trujillo via text or phone call to 214-802-4721.

Or you may email RSVPs to the following email: merry.trujillo@gmail.com.

I look forward to seeing you,

Merry

Friday, October 25 – Swinging Stars – Halloween Costume Dance

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

Caller: Charlie Robertson

Cuer: Jan Toms

Time: Early Rounds 7:30, Square up 8:00

Note: See flyer at the end of this newsletter. BOO! This is a Costume Party Dance. Hope you will wear a costume. There will be a prize for the best costume. If you are not wanting to wear a costume, come in regular attire. You won't win the prize, but we will miss you.

Sunshine information

From Peggy Amy and Nina Lassiter our Sunshine Reporte

Our longtime friend and fellow dancer, Anne Stuart, passed away Wednesday, October 9th, 2024. She had recently broken her femur, 2 ½ months ago.

Jeff and Anne were constant and faithful contributors to our dance club. They served in many club leadership positions, including President in 2000 and again 2010.

Anne Stuarts' obituary will be in next weeks' newsletter.

Please send your thoughts and prayers to Jeff.

His address is: Jeff Stuart

4800 W Parker Road, Unit 321

Plano, TX 75093

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

You can email Nina Lassiter Sunshine or Rain, at your convenience. ninalassiter@gmail.com

Or you may call or text 214-769-6032. She always needs any reports (good or bad), by Friday in order to get the report to Dave and Lorraine in a timely manner.

Special dates to put on your calendar

Sunday, November 10, 2024, 4:00 PM **Swinging Stars General Club meeting** at TBD

Saturday, December 14, 2024 **Swinging Stars Holiday Party** at TBD

Friday, November 22, 2024 **Swinging Stars Double Deal** Dance

Friday, December 6, 2024 **NTCA Callers Cavalcade**

Saturday, December 7, 2024 **NORTEX 2024 Round-Up**

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.

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



HALLOWEEN **Swinging Stars** *Costume Party Dance*



Friday, October 25, 2024

Early Rounds 7:30

Square Dancing 8:00

Network of Community Ministries

1500 International Pkwy Ste. 300 Richardson, Tx. 75081

Dancers under 18 dance for free when accompanied by a paying adult



Banners Honey Pot Lite Snacks Fun Dancing BOO!

For info: 214-675-6523 or president@swingingstars.org

Visit our Web Site: www.swingingstars.org

★ Swinging Stars ★

Network Ministries Benefit Dance



Benefiting the Network Communities Ministries.
**A group of Churches in Richardson that support people
in their community with staples for life.**

Suggested Donations:

Hygiene Products: Soap, Shampoo, Toothpaste, Deodorant.

Canned: Meat, Fish, Veggies, Beans, Fruit, Pasta Sauce.

Dry Rice, Dry Beans, Pasta, Mac & Cheese.

Baking items: Oil, Sugar, Flour, Single Serving Snacks.

Unwrapped toys for Christmas, clothing. Also: Accepting CASH Donations.



November 8, 2024



NETWORK OF COMMUNITY MINISTRIES

1500 International Pkwy Ste 300

Richardson, TX 75081

Caller: David Toms

Early Rounds: 7:30

Cuer: Jan Toms

Grand March: 8:00

Banners, Honey Pot, Singles Board, Lite Snacks

Dancers under 18 Dance for free when accompanied by a paying adult

For Info: 214-675-6523 or president@swingingstars.org

Visit our Website: www.swingingstars.org



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