

Tam Twirlers Square Dance Club



Newsletter August, 2011



August Dance Schedule Tuesdays Square Dance Classes

August 2, 9, 16, 23, 30

Los Robles Mobile Home Park Rec Center

6:45–8:15 Green (Beginning) class

8:15–8:55 Yellow (Mainstream) class

8:55–9:30 Blue (Plus) class

All members welcome for all sessions

Wednesdays Plus & Rounds

August 3, 10, 17, 24, 31

Rod and Gun Club

6:15–7:30 Phase 2 Round dance class

7:30–7:45 Squares. Two couple Plus warm-up

7:45–9:30 Squares. Plus tips. Numbered cards used for square assignments except for first and last tips. Rounds between tips.

Prez Sez

Gen Sheppard

July seems to have flown by very quickly. It started with our dancing in the street before the Corte Madera/Larkspur parade. Eric did his usual fabulous job calling, and we had square dancers from all over Northern California show up to dance. Afterwards he and Jennifer hosted their annual chicken B-B-Q at their home which was lots of fun. Then Saturday, July 9, fourteen Tam Twirlers showed up to dance at Monroe Hall where we won the coffee.

We now have a new club secretary – Janet Sayles graciously came out of a very brief retirement as club president to agree to be secretary. Thank you, Janet.

It is wonderful having Bob and Soni Farwell dancing with us again after Bob's extensive cancer treatment. We were delighted to see

them at the 4th of July dancing in the street and again Wednesday, July 20.

Last year's pot luck picnic at the Farwell's home was so much fun that we would like to consider a picnic again this year. Anyone with a suggestion for a venue, please contact me. Maybe early in September when everyone's back from vacation?
Gen

Student Class Act

Jeanice McGee

Welcome to all our new dancers. And thank you to all the angels who came to the first class. We have ten new dancers. One dancer who dances bell is now learning the beau part. All the other dancers are new to square dancing, and seem to enjoy it. So, come dance with us, meet the new dancers, and angel.

Round Dance Class Starts Phase 3 September 7th Want to Join?

Meg Wallhagen

Now that we've learned nearly all the Phase 2 steps, Dan and Allison plan to start Phase 3 on Wednesday, September 7th. The first dance will be the Cha Cha, which will certainly get us all moving. If you have not joined us so far because you already knew Phase 2, feel free to come for Phase 3. Dan and Allison are great teachers.

Eric Offers Plus APD

Fridays, August 5 & 19, 7:30 to 9:45

Then First & Third Fridays, Sept – Nov
Wischemann Hall/Sebastopol Youth Annex

Learn and enjoy All Position Plus Dancing over four months. "This workshop will raise your enjoyment of Plus dancing by exploring variations of calls and practicing them with your

friends,” says Eric. Flyers are on our table.

Dates are: August 5 & 19
September 2 & 16
October 7 & 21
November 4 & 18

First Fridays will be at the Sebastopol Youth Annex, which is right next door to Wischemann Hall in Sebastopol. Third Fridays are at Wischemann Hall. There is even a bonus – Hexagon workshop from 9:45 to 10:30. As Eric says, “Think beyond the Square.” Those coming should be able to dance all Mainstream and Plus calls from standard positions. \$10 per person.

Other August Dances

Circle ‘n Squares Plus/Advanced Dance

Saturday, August 13, 7:00 to 10:30

Joe Saltel with Jeanne Van Blarcum

Joe hails from Pharr, Texas, and always puts on a great dance. His mom lives in California and often accompanies him when he calls here. If she gets in your square don’t be fooled by her age (78) – she can out dance most of us. For an inside joke, though, ask Joe to explain the call “Woo Woo!” Advanced dancing from 7 to 7:30, round dancing from 7:30 to 8, and then Plus till 10:30. Wischemann Hall, Sebastopol.

Green Callers 2011 Dance

Sunday, 2 – 5 PM, Aug 28

Three Oaks Community Center, Vacaville

Here’s something different – a chance to dance with a new or green (pretty new) caller. Who knows – years from now you could say you danced to the next Eric Henerlau at his very first try at calling! The community center is at 1100 Alamo Drive in Vacaville. Take the Alamo Drive Exit off I80 and go ¼ mile east.

Upcoming Festivals

Los Baños Mid-Cal Classic – Plus & A2

Friday, Saturday, Sunday, Sept 2–4

Bob Baier and Jet Roberts

This Labor Day Weekend festival features Jet Roberts and Bob Baier. Be forewarned, though: dance levels are high, so be sure you are a strong Plus or A2 dancer if you go. Air

conditioned hall, hardwood floor, and the Vagabond Inn is within walking distance. With only one hall, the workshops and dances usually alternate Plus and A2 in 2 hour segments. Go to www.jetroberts.com/pdfs/2011/090211_MCC.pdf Rounds with Sharon and Casey Parker.

Yuba City Harvest Hoedown

Friday, Saturday, Sunday, Oct 21–23

Dougherty, Nordbye, Robertson

Harvest Hoedown features good workshops, introductory sessions, solo rotations, flexible packages, reasonable prices, and a snack bar. 2011 callers are Randy Dougherty, Dan Nordbye, and Charlie Robertson with cuers TJ and Bruce Chadd. Newer Dancer to A2. There is even a beginning square dancing blast class as well as frequent newer and mainstream dancing.

For specifics, go to www.asdsc.org and click on Harvest Hoedown. Forms are also on our table at Rod and Gun. For the Bonanza Inn, check prices on-line (www.bonanzainnyc.com) for the best rates rather than telephoning.

Far-Out Festivals

For those who want to plan well in advance for festivals, we plan to list major upcoming ones in brief form under this title. As they draw near we will describe them in more detail.

Winter Festival

King City, January 20-22

Story/Baier/Oxendine/Roberts/Wise

www.jetroberts.com/pdfs/2012/012012_WF.pdf

Sequoia Stampede

Tulare, February 17-19

Oxendine/Roberts/Robertson

www.grandsquareinc.com

Swing Into Spring Jamboree

Redding, April 13-14

Jet Roberts/Hunter Keller

northstatedancersassociation.com

Silver State

Reno, May 11-13

Bob Baier, Gary Shoemake, Joe Saltel

www.squaredancenevada.com

**Golden State Roundup
San Ramon, May 25-27**

Marshall, Lipscomb, Robertson, Kellogg
www.ncsda.com

Dance Tip

Anything And Roll

So simple, yet how often have we screwed it up? “. . . and Roll” can follow any call involving a turn at the end, such as Hinge and Role or Slide Thru and Role. Here’s Eric’s advice:

- After the first part (such as the Hinge part of Hinge and Roll) DROP HANDS and turn one quarter turn in the same direction you were turning WHILE STAYING IN PLACE. Then tighten up the resulting formation.

If we don’t drop hands before rolling we get tangled up with our partners, and if we don’t stay in place on the roll we screw up the formation. We must also get the direction right (same direction we were just turning). If only some dancers are turning at the end, they and only they do the roll. So who would roll and who would not on Swing Thru and Roll?

It may help to think of the call as “and Pivot” because then we are more likely to stay in place following the turn. By any name, the fun part is ending up in unexpected formations. Brad Christie has many examples under “Anything and roll” on Taminations. It’s a Plus call.

Who’s Your Corner?

See if you can figure out the name of this month’s mystery corner.

- If you are playing Bridge and see her smiling face at the table, you’d better hope she’s your partner because our corner is a regional and national player as well as having played recently in a tournament in Quebec. But she really plays mainly because she likes to so you will see her playing around here as well. She started playing in college but didn’t take it up again until 2006.
- Her analytic skills carry over in her work as an

attorney focusing on representing CNA Insurance. A graduate of Hastings, most of her previous work was with Lloyds of London.

- Her parenting skills are pretty sharp too having raised two boys and two girls now in their 20’s to 40’s. One lives in Denver, one in Washington, DC, and the other two live in the Bay Area.
- Square dancing started for her when a Tam Twirler friend suggested she take it up. A Contra dancer she was already familiar with some of the moves but had missed the start of the Tam Twirler class. So she joined the Tuesday beginning class at Adobe Squares where she also saw round dancing and decided to take that up as well. Eric was particularly helpful by encouraging her to start dancing here as soon as she felt comfortable.
- Not one to stay at home, our corner enjoys travelling, especially to Asia where she has visited nine different countries. But like Bob and Sony Farwell one of her best trips was on a safari in Kenya and Tanzania. Her strategy is to focus on more difficult trips now and leave places like Europe until advanced old age when it will be more difficult to get around.
- Finally, she enjoys mystery novels (see the consistent focus on figuring things out and learning in all she does?) Her Quebec Bridge tournament coincided with reading a mystery by Louise Penny, a Quebec resident whose novels focus on chief murder inspector, Armand Gamache. While in Quebec our corner got on the Web to see if she could find a book reading or other event where Louise Penny might be present. Alas, she found a book reading all right but to her amazement it was right back here at Book Passages in Corte Madera at the same time she was in Quebec! She’s hoping there will be a return visit when Penny’s latest mystery comes out in October.

So who is she? For extra credit, what is the name of the friend who brought her to our door? Answers are on the next page.

August Birthdays

Bob Farwell Jerry Kerby Sonza Van Herick Jim Ward

Setter/Cleaner Upper Duties

When moving chairs or tables please make sure to lift rather than drag them so that no scuff marks are made on the floor.

Please remember it is your responsibility to switch with someone if you are unable to make your assigned date and then let Jeanice McGee know so she can revise the calendar and remind the appropriate people the day before. If you plan to go on leave or a long vacation, please let her know well in advance so she can schedule accordingly.

Set-up: Arrive by 7:00 – tables, chairs, and ice water should already be set up by the round dancers. Put out the hand sanitizer, cups, snack mix, and flyers on the far table. Put out more chairs if needed. Put sign-in sheets on the table by the door. On party night, set up an extra food table along with napkins, and assorted drink items. When it gets dark, turn on the outside lights. When supplies are running low, let Jeanice know.

Clean-up: Help cuers and callers load their equipment. Police the hall for cups and other trash. Empty the water cooler. Place the cooler, supplies, and table items back in their respective bins in our cupboard. Tables and chairs remain in place. The Janitor takes care of the garbage, lights, and locking up. Just be sure doors are closed when you leave.

Schedule

| 7:00 Setup | | 9:30 Cleanup |
|-------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Aug 3 | Nelson/Steinberg | Van Herick |
| Aug 10 | Drucker/Marks | Rapport |
| Aug 17 | Sheppard | Parker |
| Aug 24 | Clinton | Betts |
| Aug 31 | Scott (Party Night) | Prudhomme |
| Sep 7 | Street | Jones/Christie |
| Sep 14 | Aftowicz/Anderson | Sayles |
| Sep 21 | Mousley | Carter |
| Sep 26 | McGee/Ryan (Party Night) | Strawbridge/Wallhagen |

★★★ **And Your Corner Is . . .** ★★★

Molly Anderson
Friend who brought her to us is Frank Aftowicz

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Cuers

Dan and Allison Drumheller

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www.tamtwirlers.org

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