

Tam Twirlers Square Dance Club Of Marin Newsletter September 2010



The Pres Presents

Sunny weather, good conversations, plenty of food and wine, what more could you ask for at our first club BBQ! Thank you to Bob & Soni Farwell for offering their home to us and making us feel like family.

For anyone who has enjoyed our round dance instructions we have good news for you – it will continue after Labor Day with Dan and Allison Drumheller. We also wish their daughter Sara a speedy recovery from her dental surgery.

Bring a friend, let everyone know they can try square dancing and have fun too! Eric is starting a new beginner class Tuesday, September 14, at the Rod & Gun Club. 7:00 to 8:30 PM. First night is free and class begins the second night at \$25.00 X 4 weeks. No charge to club members who attend and angel.

Board meeting, Saturday, October 2, 2010 at the Kerby's home.

Janet, President

Round Dancing Will Continue

As Janet notes above, the 6:30–7:30 round dance class led by Dan and Allison Drumheller will continue. The class has grown since it started with about 25 dancers now taking part, including 4 couples from other clubs. The class is working through Phase 2 steps and dances.

Cost is \$5 per person per class. Non-Tam Twirlers taking the class can stay for square dancing and only pay an extra \$5 rather than the usual \$6 guest fee. Dan has also been staying after 7:30 to cue some round dances during breaks. The one exception to the hour-long class will be when the beginner square dancing class

meets on Wednesday instead of its usual Tuesday; on those days the round dancing class will only be from 6:30 to 7:00. See the exact schedule in each month's newsletter.

September Wednesday Schedule

- 6:30 Round dance class
- 7:30 Warm up Plus tip & review/workshop
- 7:45 2 couple Plus workshop
- Numbered card Plus tips
- 9:05 Open Plus tips

Beginner Class Details

- Starting date: Tuesday, September 14
- Time 7 to 8:30 PM
- First night is free
- Subsequent cost: \$25 for 4 classes
- Solos welcome
- Class coordinator: Jerry Kerby

The Rod and Gun Club is free on Tuesday evenings except for the first Tuesday of each month – on that day the class will be invited to come on Wednesday instead, when the schedule will be round dancing from 6:30 to 7:00, Beginner class from 7 to 8:30, Plus dancing from 8:30 to 9:30. The first Wednesday when this will occur is October 6th.

To ensure a good-size class, all of us need to approach our friends, neighbors, and anyone else we know about coming.

Computer Cards Now In Use

In order to give all dancers equal chances at getting into a square and better integrate our members, we've been experimenting with using numbered computer cards to assign dancers to

squares for part of each Wednesday evening. It's a work in progress but here is how Eric would like the system to work:

- Take ONE card per couple when signing in
- TURN THE CARD IN when you leave
- If you want to sit out a tip, please inform Eric *at the end of the preceding tip*.
- Singles rotation dancers should fill in the rotation sheet but have Beaus hold the card.

Leave Update

As reported last month, Tom and Roselee Metzger along with Art and Elaine Reichert are on leave. Roselee is in the midst of cataract surgery for both eyes as well as as well as dealing with her knee problem. She and Tom asked to give "hellos and regards" to everyone. Elaine injured her knee and wrist at our June hoedown and so needs some healing time as well. She and Art came to the BBQ and so could say "Hi" in person. Let's hope all 4 get back soon; things just aren't the same without them.

New Setter/Cleaner Upper Rules

As Gen Sheppard turns over Hospitality to Vita, she has revised the list of duties mainly to make them easier to understand and answer questions that folks have had. See page 4 for the new list. Please also remember that if you can't make your assigned date, it is your responsibility to arrange a swap with someone else and notify the Hospitality Chair (Vita) of the changed dates.

Member Rosters Out Soon

Mary Carter will distribute the latest member rosters this month. They will be sent to current members via email with some printed copies also available on Wednesday evenings.

August BBQ

Who was that familiar face at the BBQ on August 21st? None other than former member Harold Jones accompanying his wife, Dorothy. They joined with 30 other Tam Twirlers to enjoy the gracious hospitality offered by Bob and Soni Farwell at their home for a BBQ on August 21st. Even the weather cooperated and Bob proved in the words of Mary Carter to be "a

mean grill man." New members Frank, Molly, Vita, Sybil, and Bill came as well. So who missed the old Cruising Club!

September Dances

Circles 'n Squares Plus Hoedown

Saturday, September 11, 7–10:30

Nassar Shukayr Calling

Monroe Hall, Santa Rosa

Circles 'n Squares' Plus dance at Monroe Hall on Saturday, September 11, features Texan Nassar Shukayr calling and former Tam Twirler Bob Ensten cueing. Pre-rounds from 7 to 8, Plus squares from 8 to 10:30 with double rounds.

Stanford Quads Challenging Plus Hoedown

Saturday, September 18, 7:30–11:30

Rob French Calling, Ferrero's Cueing

St. Andrews Methodist Church, Palo Alto

The "Challenging" part is what we need to concentrate on here. Stanford Quads is an APD Plus club, which means knowing calls from all positions. We get some APD from Eric (such as Teacup Chain with the men as teacups) but this will be the Full Monte version. Pre-rounds 7:30 to 8, APD Plus with double rounds 8 to 10:30, Advanced and Challenge tips from 10:30 to 11:30. 4111 Alma St., Palo Alto.

Early October Plus Dance

Adobe Squares/Singles & Pairs Hoedown

Saturday, October 2, 7–10:00

Hunter Keller Calling

Monroe Hall, Santa Rosa

Don't miss this guy – he won't be back until June. Hailing from Billings, Montana, Hunter Keller is a dynamic, young caller who's going places fast. Pre-rounds at 7, Plus 7:30 – 10:00.

Upcoming NCSDA Stampedes

The Northern California Square Dance Association (NCSDA) multi-level stampede in July was so popular that three more are tentatively planned for upcoming months with five Saturdays (October 31 this year and January 30 and April 30 next year). July's dance attracted 6 Advanced squares for the afternoon and 16 Plus squares for the evening. As if Jet Roberts and Charlie Robertson were not enough, Montana's Hunter Keller came in the evening as a mystery

caller. All this for only \$5! Nothing specific for the next three yet, but as NCSDA's Vice President Steven Bath said, we'll be getting a lot back for our dues. Fifth Saturdays are used because no club has annual events scheduled for those dates.

Upcoming Festival

Yuba City Harvest Hoedown – All Levels

Friday, Saturday, Sunday, Oct 22–24

Yuba-Sutter Fairgrounds

This festival features great callers, workshops, introductory sessions, solo rotations, flexible packages, on-site meals, and reasonable prices. Callers this year include Tim Marriner, Jet Roberts, and Eric Henerlau. All levels from Newer Dancer to Challenge plus lots of round dancing. You can even take non-square dancing friends with you and enroll them in a beginner square dancing class on Saturday.

For those interested in attending, go to www.asdsc.org and click on Harvest Hoedown for an interactive flyer. Preferred hotel is the Bonanza, but check prices on-line at www.bonanzainnyc.com because at press time you could still beat the advertised \$78 dancer discount telephone registration rate by \$1.20.

Who's Your Corner?

See if you can figure out who this month's mystery corner is. Answer is on page 4.

- He describes himself as a “true hodge-podge person” because he's done so many different things in life. Born in Texas, he grew up in Monterrey where he had the unusual experience of being in the oldest class in his school for 5th through 8th grades because the small private school he entered in the 5th grade kept adding one class each year.
- After high school he attended an art school, focusing on sculpting. When he realized that although good, he didn't want to spend his life sculpting, he opted for a practical job baking bread and pastries in San Francisco.
- Eight years later he came to Marin to assist his brother who coordinated volunteers for a program counseling men who abuse women

and then moved on to working at the San Rafael Rock Quarry. There he had the demanding job of keeping track of rock shipments by running three trucks a minute over the scales and processing where the trucks were to go.

- Next he decided to work more with his brains and enrolled in a cognitive science program at UC Berkeley where he combined classroom work with neural anatomy research on rat brains. He also used his growing scientific knowledge and interest in education to develop games for 4th graders teaching them how our cardiovascular system works by having them walk through a large floor diagram exchanging different colored markers to represent oxygen and carbon dioxide exchange. Another game used beans and macaroni to demonstrate blood components.
- Finally, he combined his scientific education with love of the outdoors for his current Park Service job at Fort Mason. There he handles everything from people who want to put on a picnic for 300 people in the Golden Gate National Recreation Area to 9-year olds who want help writing a report on Alcatraz to distraught parents who want to know why their teen hasn't come home from a hike.
- Naturally inquisitive, he's built his knowledge of nature by taking classes at Point Rays on topics like how Marin natives turned grasses into fibers and how they made stone implements. Just ask him the origin of the brown grass on our Bay Area hills. The answer will surprise you.
- Hodge-podge is also the theme for his fun activities. He hikes in Yosemite, goes on long rides on his recumbent trike, and has recently experimented with cooking using a huge 100-year-old cast iron pot formerly owned by a friend's grandmother. At 10-12 servings a crack, he's a natural for club potlucks because no one else will have to bring anything.
- He had some square dancing experience before but learned about Tam Twirlers from Squares 'Round the Bay and came to take classes with a friend. Who is he?

September Birthdays

Margaret Bastian	Geri Kerby
Mary & Nick Carter	Roger Rapport
Jack & Maria Giessler	Marilyn Ryan
Dorothy Jones	Cecilia Street

Setter/Cleaner Uppers

If you switch days with someone, please let Vita know so she can remind the appropriate people of their times. Please check the monthly newsletter for your times. The calendar is also posted by the front door. If you go on leave or a prolonged vacation, let Vita know in advance so she can schedule accordingly. Your participation and cooperation are greatly appreciated. Thank you.

Set-up: Please arrive by 6:30 to get the ice and water from the bartender. Put out the hand sanitizer, cups and snack mix. Arrange dance flyers on the long table where Brad sets up his computer for Taminations. If it is party night (the last Wed. of the month), have a table for the food and set out napkins. In the colder months, fill the coffee pot with water and put out the tea bags, hot chocolate mix, etc. When you notice that supplies are running low, please let Vita know so she can pick up more.

Arrange chairs around the perimeter of the dance floor. Set up table by the door for sign-in sheets, etc. When it gets dark early, please turn on the outside lights.

Clean-up: Police room for empty cups and other trash. Neatly place all supplies back in the bins in our cupboard. Chairs and tables can remain in place. Rod & Gun Club's janitor will take out the garbage, turn off the lights and lock up. But please remember to close ALL doors.

Schedule

	6:30 Setup	9:30 Cleanup
Sep 1	Mousley	Betts
Sep 8	McGee/Ryan	McComas/Rappaport
Sep 15	Sheppard	Strawbridge/Wallhagen
Sep 22	Clinton	Sayles
Sep 29	Kerby	Hard
Oct 6	Street	Ward
Oct 13	Bowcock/McClanahan	Jones/Christie
Oct 20	Carter	Van Herick
Oct 27	Farwell	Pharis

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www.tamtwirlers.org

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★★ And Your Corner Is ★★

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