

# Tam Twirlers Square Dance Club



## Newsletter April, 2011



### The Pres Presents

#### **Janet Sayles**

Rain predicted all year - April Fools!

New beginner class next Tuesday, April 5th at 6:45 pm. Eric wants as many angels as possible to support his new group.

Our new floor at Rod & Gun Club will be ready for us on Wednesday, April 6th.

Only a few weeks till Silver and Golden State Roundups. See page 3 for more information about these two festivals as well as the benefit dance for Japan on Sunday, April 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Happy Easter to all!

### April Dance Schedule

#### **Tuesdays**

**April 5, 12, 19, 26**

**Los Robles Mobile Home Park Rec Center**

**!NEW CLASS STARTS APRIL 5!**

- 6:45 – 8:30 Beginning square dance class
- 8:30 – 10:00 Continuing square dance class

All members welcome for all sessions

#### **Wednesdays**

**April 6, 13, 20, 27**

**Rod and Gun Club**

- 6:20–6:45 Round dance class: 2-step review
- 6:45–7:30 Round dance class: level 2 waltz
- 7:30–7:45 Two couple Plus warm-up
- 7:45–9:30 Plus tips. Numbered cards are used for square assignments except for the first and last tips. Rounds between tips.

### Class Act

#### **Jeanice McGee**

Our class is moving along to Plus. They breezed through Teacup Chain and Ping Pong

Circulate. The smiles continue to grow as they learn more and more. They are looking forward to being angels to our new class. Speaking of which, it starts Tuesday April 5th. We would love for the Tam Twirlers to show up in force. Bring some food and a smile.

### Circle Away

#### **Meg Wallhagen**

Newest dances include “New York, New York” (2-step) and “Lay Down Beside Me” (waltz.) This latter includes the figure, “Solo left turning box,” which definitely requires coordination to look smooth. It’s great to have a couple, Dan and Allison, teaching the class because they can not only help dancers individually but also show what steps look like when danced well together.

### Roster Update

Jim and Janet Ward have moved, so please update your rosters:

### Other News

#### **Sunnyvale Singles Become Squares**

For years now Eric’s other club, Sunnyvale Singles, had a simple rule. Only single dancers could be members. This caused problems over time because when dancers met someone they liked (often another member) and settled down, they were out of the club. Although they could still dance as guests, many no longer felt welcomed. So the name and the rules have been changed. Membership is now open to all square dancers, single or not. Welcome aboard!

### Just How Far is That Dance Anyway?

#### Driving Distances to Hoedowns and Festivals

Here is a list of MapQuest driving distances to hoedowns and festivals frequented by Tam Twirlers. Starting point is central San Rafael so adjust the mileages for where you live or if you don't take MapQuest's first recommendation. The one exception is that we adjusted the King City mileage to go thru San Francisco, then south on 280 to 101 rather than MapQuest's recommendation to use the Richmond bridge, then south on 580 to 880 and on to 101.

Miles	Hoedowns
20	Petaluma Veterans Hall, Petaluma (Adobe Squares)
30	Morello Park Elementary School, Martinez (Clutch Busters)
30	Senior Rec Center, Martinez (Martinez Swingers)
35	Walnut Creek Elks Lodge, Walnut Creek (Jet Sets, Japan Benefit Dance)
40	Beresford Rec Center, San Mateo (Roadrunners)
40	Concord High School, Concord (Concord Stompers)
40	Monroe Hall, Santa Rosa (Sonoma clubs)
40	Wischemann Hall, Sebastopol (Eric's DBD Plus, Redwood Rainbows)
72	John Muir School, Sunnyvale (Sunnyvale Squares)
	<b>Festivals</b>
45	San Ramon (Golden State)
122	Yuba City (Harvest Hoedown)
132	Los Banos (MidCal Classic)
142	Sonora (Wing Ding)
173	King City (Winter Fest)
214	Redding (Swing into Spring)
215	Reno (Silver State)
250	Tulare (Sequoia Stampede)

### Guest Caller Column

#### Nasser Shukayr

[Nasser's home is near San Antonio, Texas, where he also calls Sunday evenings for the FunDancers. He will call here with Circles 'N Squares at Monroe Hal on Saturday, September 10<sup>th</sup> and has previously called at our own Tam Twirler hoedowns. Here's his latest adventure.]

#### Good News and Bad News

Good News: Last month we were booked to call a dance in Tucson.

Bad News: Our flight was canceled.

Good News: We're on the next flight; it lands 30 minutes before the dance starts.

Bad News: The dance is 30 miles from the airport.

Good News: Our daughter lives in Tucson. She agrees to meet us at the airport and whisk us away to the dance.

Bad News: Someone raised her to obey speed limits and traffic signs so we will be late.

Good News: A caller, who happened to be at the dance, offered to call the first tip.

Bad News: The dancers are now at the mercy of some random caller. What if he bombs?

Good News: It was no random caller! It was Mike Sikorsky!

Bad News: Sikorsky is a tough act to follow.

Good News: No problem. In fact, we were greeted enthusiastically.

Bad News: The amplifier quit working during the dance.

Good News: Mike Sikorsky happened to have a spare amplifier in his car. So "All's well that ends well."

### April Dances

#### Concord Stompers Live Music Hoedown

Saturday, April 2, 8:00 to 11:00 PM

#### Gary Kendall and the Ghost Riders

The Ghost Riders seem to be everywhere this year, and here they are with Gary Kendal, who calls for both the Clutch Busters and the

Concord Stompers. Concord High School, 4200 Concord Blvd., Concord.

**Japan Relief Dance, Multiple Callers  
Sunday, April 3, 1:00 to 9:00 PM  
Walnut Creek Elks Lodge,**

Join Jet and Sylvia Roberts, Eric, Rod Shuping, and Jay Henderson plus 5 cuers for this benefit dance. Ghost Riders too in evening. All profits go for relief in Japan so please be generous. See next dance below (Jet Sets) for Elks Lodge address. Here is the schedule:

1:00 – 3:00 – A2 with single rounds

3:00 – 4:30 – Round dance party

4:30 – 6:00 – BBQ Dinner on site

6:00 – 9:00 – Plus with single rounds

Make your checks out to GSI [Grand Squares International] and write “Japan Relief” on the memo line. Your contribution is tax deductible.

**2011 Jet Sets European Style Dance  
Friday, April 8, 7:30 to 10:00 PM  
Jet Roberts Calling**

This is the second of 7 European Style dances that Jet will do this year at this same location. Most will be on Friday evenings. Interesting dance sequence with alternating Plus and A2 with no breaks and no rounds. This way dancers take breaks only when they want to. The hall is the Walnut Creek Elks Lodge, 1475 Creekside Drive, Walnut Creek. If anyone went to his first dance (March 18) please let your editors know.

**Circle ‘n Squares Plus Dance  
Saturday, April 9, 8:00 to 10:30 PM**

**Doug Davis with Bud & Marlene Gooch**

Caller Doug Davis comes from Colbert, Washington; his motto is “FUN is a three letter word with U in the middle of it.” Joining him are cuers Bud & Marlene Gooch, a young local couple who are lots of fun and only recently broke into the cueing circuit. Round dancing from 7:30 to 8 and between tips. Monroe Hall, 1400 W. College Ave., Santa Rosa.

**Upcoming Festivals**

**64<sup>th</sup> Annual Silver State Dance Festival  
Friday–Sunday, May 6<sup>th</sup>–8<sup>th</sup>**

**Grand Sierra Resort, Reno, Nevada**

Billed as “The longest continuously running

festival in the country,” Silver State features callers Jerry Story (Texas), Michael Kellogg (Northridge, California), and our very own Eric Henerlau. Cuers are Joe and Pat Hilton (Missouri) and Ron and Georgine Woolcock from Olympia, Washington.

Heavy dance schedule including a Trails End Plus dance on Thursday evening (extra fee above the 3-day rate for those who come this early) and even a warm-up dance on Friday afternoon (included in the 3-day rate). Levels from Newer Dancer through C-1. Dancing is on wood floors.

Everything is close at hand, including a casino for those who like gambling. There are also what the resort bills as “family fun” activities like miniature golf, go karts, and bowling. Something for everyone!

**58<sup>th</sup> Annual Golden State Round Up  
Friday–Sunday, May 27<sup>th</sup>–29<sup>th</sup>**

**San Ramon Marriott, San Ramon**

Returning to its previous Memorial Day weekend date, this festival is put on by our association, the NCSDA (Northern California Square Dancers Association) and draws lots of Tam Twirlers every year.

Callers include Ray Brendzy (Canada), Dan Nordbye (Arizona), Bronc Wise (New Mexico), and Joe Saltel (Texas). Cuers will be Kristine and Bruce Nelson (Arizona). Local callers usually fill in during transitions. Sunday night features live music with (guess who?) – the ubiquitous Ghost Riders. All levels including Handicapable.

See the flyer on our table for how to secure the \$95 nightly rate if you are planning to stay overnight at the Marriott. This rate includes free parking. Parking rates for those coming only for a day are supposedly half the usual Marriott rate, although last year there was confusion because the hotel staff had not been informed. Let’s also hope the sound problems that have plagued this festival since it moved to the Marriott will be solved this year. Otherwise the echoes in some of the halls made hearing the callers so difficult that some folks just left.

## April Birthdays

Frank Aftowicz Jackie Carr June McClanahan  
Bill Moffett Brad Sayles

## Setter/Cleaner Uppers

Please check the monthly newsletter for your times. The calendar is also posted at Rod and Gun on the sign-in table. Please remember that it is your responsibility to switch with someone if you are unable to make your assigned date. When you do switch, be sure to let Vita Drucker know so she can revise the calendar and remind the appropriate people the day before. If you go on leave or on a long vacation, let her know in advance so she can schedule accordingly.

**Set-up:** Arrive by 7:00 – tables should already be set up along with the ice water. Put out the hand sanitizer, cups and snack mix. Arrange dance flyers on the table where Brad sets up his computer. On party nights (last Wednesday of each month), set up an extra table for the food, set out napkins, fill the coffee pot with water and put out the instant coffee, tea bags, hot chocolate mix, etc. When supplies are running low, let Jeanice know so she can pick up more. Arrange chairs around the perimeter of the dance floor far enough back for two rows of squares. Put sign-in sheets on the table by the door. When it gets dark turn on the outside lights.

**Clean-up:** Help cuers and callers load their equipment. Police the hall for empty cups and other trash. Empty the water cooler. Place the cooler, supplies, and table items back in their respective bins in our cupboard. Chairs and tables remain in place. The janitor will take care of the garbage, lights, and locking up. But be sure to close ALL doors when you leave. Lift up on side door to close it if it sticks.

### Schedule

	7:00 Setup	9:30 Cleanup
Apr 6	Kerby	Strawbridge/Wallhagen
Apr 13	Moffett	Betts
Apr 20	Street	Rapport
Apr 27	Bowcock/McClanahan	Parker
May 4	Carter	Hard
May 11	Farwell	Sayles
May 18	Sheppard	Ward
May 25	Nelson	Hard

## Board Members

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### Caller

Eric Henerlau

### Cuers

Dan and Allison Drumheller

### Tam Twirlers Website

Webmaster: Brad Christie

### Newsletter Editors

Bill Strawbridge & Meg Wallhagen