

Tam Twirlers Square Dance Club



Newsletter September, 2011



September Dance Schedule **Tuesdays Square Dance Classes**

September 6, 13, 20, 27

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

September 7, 14, 21, 28

Rod and Gun Club

6:15–7:30 Phase 3 Round dance class begins

7:30–7:45 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**

Welcome to our new members Sharon and Paul Prudhomme who are returning to square dancing after completing Eric's Tuesday night classes. Also we welcome Lou Cornish who had been a Tam Twirler with his wife many years ago and then was a member of the Buzz 'n Boots until his wife passed away. Lou is now back in the swing of things dancing with us. We are very excited to have our new members.

Because of the police activity near the Rod and Gun club Wednesday, Aug. 17, when we had to cancel our dance at the last minute, I would like to suggest that you check your email and phone messages before heading out to dance each week. Thank you to our phone chain who helped to notify everyone last week.

SAVE THE DATE – Friday, December 2, 2011 for our annual Christmas dinner/dance which will be held again at Deer Park Villa in Fairfax. We have reserved some fabulous entertainment for the evening. You won't be disappointed. More to follow next month.

We are enjoying an increased number of guests joining us Wednesdays. Please take some time during the evening to say hello and make them feel welcome.

Reminder that our annual picnic will be held Saturday, August 27 from 12 noon until 3PM at the home of the Kerby's, 31 Fowler Ct., San Rafael. It is a pot luck and BYOB party.

Wednesday, August 31, will be Hawaiian shirt/skirt party night. Please bring a Hawaiian-inspired finger food to share.

See you on the dance floor

Gen

Student Class Act **Jeanice McGee**

Our class continues to move along. We have had quite a few students on summer vacation

and are now returning to dancing. On the Tuesday I missed, students from the first two classes were angels for the beginning class. Last week, we were short angels and so seven people had to sit out the first two tips. Remember our new class begins October 4th. It will be here before you know it.

Round Dance Class Starts Phase 3 **September 7th Let's Cha Cha!**

Meg Wallhagen

Now that we've learned nearly all the Phase 2 waltz and two-step moves, Dan and Allison plan to start Phase 3 on Wednesday, September 7th. The first dance will be the Cha Cha, which Dan feels is a good transition because the "Cha Cha Cha" part is the same rhythm as a two-step. If you haven't joined us because you already knew Phase 2, feel free to come for Phase 3. Dan and Allison are great teachers and provide both written guides and CDs for dancing on our own.

McCloud Dance Country Earns High Praise From 8 Attendees

Callers Mike Sikorsky and Joe Saltel Sizzle

Featuring a 1906 dance hall with a gorgeous maple hardwood floor, McCloud Dance Country offers 5-day packages throughout the summer in a rural setting 10 miles east of Mt. Shasta City.

New Tam Twirler members Paul & Sharon Prudhomme joined John and Lucy Davis to attend the July 10-14 Plus with DBD week led by Mike Sikorsky. This certainly took courage because both couples had completed the Martinez Swingers blast Plus class only the Saturday before. Then upon arrival in McCloud they found out that only one other couple had signed up. But Mike had encouraged them to come and so went ahead using a local couple to fill in the square. The result was personalized attention from a very good caller. John and Lucy even went back for a second week starting July 31st; over 20 dancers showed up for that one.

Paul and Sharon said they liked the individual attention and enjoyed the antics Mike

performed. He does have some amazing moves while calling, such as dancing around on the stage, coming down on the floor, and even sometimes getting into your square.

John and Lucy said they vastly improved their new Plus dancing skills. "Mike is a hoot" John said. "Like Eric he is high energy and very entertaining. I can't say enough good things about the whole scene. Everybody was extremely supportive and helpful, and having Paul and Sharon to dance with made it even better. McCloud is such a cute town in such a spectacular setting at the base of Mt. Shasta that it is worth a visit in its own right."

Carolyn and Tom Maloney from our Round Dance class joined John and Lucy for the July 31st week. This was their 5th year, and Carolyn said "We enjoy Mike and his challenging calling. We even got in a little round dancing, thanks to our class with Dan and Allison. We keep meeting new friends and enjoy those who come back every year -- sorta like family."

Your editors joined 46 other dancers for the July 3-7 A2 week with Joe Saltel, who drew couples from as far away as Colorado. The dancing was fun and energetic with 6 workshops and 4 evening dances full of variations on Advanced calls and several new ones. We loved it and came back tired but, like John and Lucy, definitely better dancers. Joe's 78 year-old mother with her partner danced every tip, giving us encouragement for our own future dancing.

Paul and Sharon are leaning toward going back next year while the rest of us have already signed up. See www.mcclouddancecountry.com for more info and do consider giving McCloud a try if you haven't gone before.

Callers Black Book

New Way to Keep Track of Callers & Cuers

If you go to lots of dances and want to get signatures of the different callers and cuers you dance to, the new "Callers Black Book" is for you. As your signatures reach 75, 125, 200, and 250 (whew!) you even get medallions just by

mailing in forms from the book. Upfront cost is \$10 for the whole package. This is an improvement over the old system with its restrictive rules and having to mail in the entire book for a medallion. To order one go to kenritucci.com. Your editors also have one if you want to see what it looks like.

September Dance

Circle 'n Squares Plus Dance

Saturday, September 10, 7:00 to 10:30

Nasser Shukayr with Bob & Maureen Ensten

Like Joe Saltel, Nasser Shukayr hails from Texas (Universal City), only not as Pharr as Joe. Nasser is no stranger to Monroe Hall or to Tam Twirler hoedowns and consistently calls fun dances. The only exception is his "The Teenage Call," which makes fun of teenagers. Nasser says it is his most requested singing call, but others like your editors think it is more demeaning than funny. Round dancing from 7 to 8 and between tips with the Enstens; Plus dancing 8 to 10:30. Monroe Hall, Santa Rosa.

Really Early October Plus Dance

Adobe Squares Plus Hoedown

Saturday, October 1, 8 – 10:30

Eric Henerlau with Jean Van Blarcum

This hoedown comes up real early in October and will showcase our own caller so head north and enjoy. You'll get festival level calling for a lot less money and travel. Rounds with Jean Van Blarcum from 7 to 8 and then double rounds between tips, Plus with Eric from 8 to 10:30. Monroe Hall, Santa Rosa.

Upcoming Festivals

Los Baños Mid-Cal Classic – Plus & A2

Friday, Saturday, Sunday, Sept 2-4

Bob Baier and Jet Roberts

See the August newsletter for details on this Labor Day Weekend festival.

Yuba City Harvest Hoedown – All Levels

Friday, Saturday, Sunday, Oct 21-23

Dougherty, Nordbye, Robertson

Harvest Hoedown features good workshops,

solo rotations, flexible packages, reasonable prices, and a snack bar. There is a beginning square dancing blast class and something rarely seen at local festivals – a separate hall for frequent Newer and Mainstream dancing. Callers: Randy Dougherty, Dan Nordbye, and Charlie Robertson. Cuers: TJ and Bruce Chadd.

Look on our table for flyers or go to www.asdsc.org and click on Harvest Hoedown. Check on-line (www.bonanzainnyc.com) rather than calling for best rates at the Bonanza Inn.

Far-Out Festivals

Here are major upcoming festivals in brief form. More detail will follow as they draw near.

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

Joke Time

Your editors just had to share this with you.

A man goes to a psychiatrist saying he needs help because he thinks he's a dog.

"How long have you thought you were a dog?" asks the psychiatrist.

"Every since I was a puppy."

September Birthdays

Mary Carter Nick Carter Geri Kerby Dorothy Jones
Roger Rapport Marilyn Ryan Cecilia Street

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.

Setup and Cleanup Schedule

	7:00 Setup	9:30 Cleanup
Sep 7	Street	Jones/Christie
Sep 14	Aftowicz/Anderson	Sayles
Sep 21	Nelson	Carter
Sep 28	McGee/Ryan (Party Night)	Strawbridge/Wallhagen
Oct 5	Sheppard	Van Herick
Oct 12	Bowcock/McClanahan	Rapport
Oct 19	Kerby	Parker
Oct 26	Davis (Party Night)	Betts

Board Members

President

Gen Sheppard

Vice President

Frank Aftowicz

Treasurer

Marge Bowcock

Brad Christie

Secretary

Janet Sayles

Publicity

Mary Carter

Brad Christie

Membership

June McClanahan

NCSDA Delegate

Bob Sheppard

Class Coordinator/Hospitality

Jeanice McGee

Fun and Games/Sheriff

Brad Sayles

Caller

Eric Henerlau

Cuers

Dan and Allison Drumheller

Tam Twirlers Website

Webmaster: Brad Christie
www.tamtwirlers.org

Newsletter Editors

Bill Strawbridge/Meg Wallhagen