

Tam Twirlers Square Dance Club

Newsletter

April, 2012



Dance Schedule

Wednesday Squares & Rounds

Rod and Gun Club

April 4, 11, 18, 25

6:15–7:30 Phase 3 Round Dance Class (Rumba)

7:30–9:30 Plus Class begins April 11 followed by full Plus dancing. April 4th is all full Plus with guest caller, Steve Minken. See Gen's column below for details.

Prez Sez

Gen Sheppard

We had a lot of guests in March. Some came for round dancing and then stayed for the square dancing. Lots of energy and fun was had by all.

Our wonderful caller, Eric, has been doing a great job with his Tuesday night class in Novato. Now, with increased job demands, he is no longer able to run these classes. He has several almost Plus dancers who would like to continue and become proficient Plus dancers and possibly Tam Twirler club members in the near future. The Board approved Eric's proposal to hold Plus lessons on Wednesday nights from 7:30-8:30 starting April 11th. He will use the yellow cards to encourage members and guests to dance during this time as well. 8:30-9:30 will be full Plus dancing for our club members and guests.

We hope this meets with everyone's understanding and that you all will join the Board members in welcoming Eric's students. Many of you already know them because you have been kind enough to be "angels" on Tuesday nights. I would like to thank everyone who has helped make the Tuesday night dance class such a success, especially Jeanice McGee who acted as

class coordinator. Dan will still conduct our round dancing from 6:15 to 7:30.

Bob and I will be away visiting family and friends in New Jersey until late on the 11th, so we'll see you again April 18th. The club's Vice President, Frank, will be filling in for me.

See you on the dance floor.

Gen

Student Class Act

Jeanice McGee

Our beginning class came to an end on Tuesday March 27th. Eric was unable to continue the class because of work commitments. Our small class will be encouraged to go to the Adobe Squares to continue dancing. Those dancers who have started plus dancing will join us on Wednesday April 11th as associate members.

Thank you to all of our angels who helped with the beginning class, we are hopeful Eric's work schedule will settle down by the fall, and a beginning class can start then.

Round Dance Class Starts Rumba

Meg Wallhagen

Dan is back in full swing and we are now done with our March review of Two-Step, Waltz, and Rumba. Rumba starts April 4. Dan will also be reviewing what we learned before Rumba one evening each month so we won't forget.

April Dances

Ghost Riders 40th Anniversary Dance

Saturday, April 7, 7:30 – 10:30

Charlie Robertson and Hunter Keller

Can't beat this combination. Live music from the Ghost Riders and two great callers all in one

evening. Plus the Ghost Riders are planning on bringing back some of their earlier members just for this one evening. Their manager, Dave Zachery, is assembling old pictures and memorabilia. For a brief history of the Ghost Riders, see the March newsletter.

Both callers for this hoedown started young and one of them still is. Older one is Charlie Robertson, who began his career at the ripe old age of 12 when he mentioned to his mother that he wanted to learn how to call. She contacted a local caller and arranged lessons. 30 years later he still calls and lives in southern California.

From Billings, Montana, Hunter Keller is so young he still lives with his parents. Following his grandfather's influence he started calling in 2004 and later attended Scot Byars' 4Dance Caller's Academy in Napa, California. He'll also be calling in Redding a week later (see below).

Sharon and Casey Parker will cue rounds. Ygnacio Valley High School. 755 Oak Grove Road in Concord.

Vaca Valley Ramblers 4th Anniversary Dance
Saturday, April 28, 8:00 – 10:30
Charlie Robertson

www.vacavalleyramblers.com

Our area's newest club presents its 4th anniversary dance with Charlie Robertson (described above). Cuers from 7 to 8 will be John Flora and Dolores Ferrero. Plus squares follow; A1 and A2 star tips. Three Oaks Community Center, 1100 Alamo Drive, Vacaville.

Upcoming Early June Dance
Singles and Pairs 50th Anniversary Dance
Saturday, June 2, 7:00 – 11:00
Deborah Carroll-Jones

www.singlesandpairs.com

Our neighbor club to the North is going all out for their 50th Anniversary dance. From Arlington, Texas, Deborah Carroll-Jones ranks as one of the best female callers in the United States but rarely gets to the Bay Area. Joining her to cue rounds will be John Flora and Dolores Ferrero.

Plus dancing from 8 to 10:45; Advanced from 7 to 7:30 and the last tip after 10:45. Rounds from 7:30 to 8 and between tips. Monroe Hall, 1400 West College Avenue, Santa Rosa.

Upcoming Festivals

Swing Into Spring Jamboree
Redding, April 13-14
Bob Baier and Hunter Keller
Sharon & Casey Parker

www.northstatedancersassociation.com

Another chance to dance to Hunter Keller, but this time with Bob Baier. Two halls and a chance to see the famed Sundial Bridge on a break. Weekend, day, and evening rates available. Redding Elks Club and Redding Senior Center. Advanced and Plus evenings & Saturday morning/afternoon.

65th Annual Silver State Dance Festival
Friday–Sunday, May 11–13
Grand Sierra Resort, Reno, Nevada
Baier, Shoemake, Saltel

www.squaredancenevada.com

Billed as “The longest continuously running festival in the US,” Silver State features callers Bob Baier (Texas), Gary Shoemake (Tennessee) and Joe Saltel (Texas). Cuers are Susie and Gert-Jan Rotscheid from the Netherlands.

The dance schedule includes a Trails End Plus dance on Thursday evening (extra \$7.50 but then you'll get Joe Saltel) and a warm-up dance on Friday afternoon with callers from the floor (included in the 3-day rate). Mainstream through C-1. Dancing is on wood floors.

59th Annual Golden State Round Up
San Ramon Marriott, May 25-27
Marshall, Kellogg, Lipscomb, Robertson
TJ & Bruce Chadd

www.ncsda.com

Time once again for our very own NCSDA (Northern California Square Dancers Association) event. Callers include John Marshall (Virginia), Michael Kellogg (California), and Charlie Robertson (California). Cuers will be TJ and Bruce Chadd (Idaho). Mainstream thru Challenge.

Package and day rates available.

See the flyer on our table for how to secure the \$95 nightly rate if you are planning to stay overnight at the Marriott as well as parking info. Look at the back of the flyer to see why it got an award for the smallest ever flyer print size.

**Sonoma Wine Country Senior Games
Spring Village, Santa Rosa, May 31-June 10
Competitive Squares June 8th and 9th**

www.winecountrygames.com

See pages 5 and 6 for full details on this “first-of-a-kind” event. Square dancing during the Wine Country Senior Games will be held June 8 and 9th at Spring Village in Santa Rosa. The larger event features competition for seniors in 14 athletic events, one of which is Square Dancing. All proceeds benefit the Sonoma Council on Aging. Carolyn Maloney from our round dance class is coordinating the square dancing.

Far-Out Festivals

Harvest Hoedown

Yuba City, Oct 26-28

Dee Dee Dougherty, Mike Seastrom, Bronc Wise

Ron & Mary Noble

www.asdsc.org

Winter Festival 2013

King City, January 18-20

Baier/Oxendine/Story/Henerlau/Tannehill

Sequoia Stampede 2013

Tulare, February 15-17

**Bill, Meg, & Carolyn’s Puzzle Time
Guess the Mainstream Calls**

Yes, we’re back along with that famous Greek writer, Anonymous, to beguile [frustrate?] you with 10 more clues to calls. (Editors’ Note: Please don’t get on our case for the outrageous clue about the deer – blame it on round dancer Carolyn Maloney!)

Each clue refers to a single Mainstream call. For example, from our Plus round before, the answer for the clue “Work together” was “Coordinate.” Answers are on page 4.

If you would like to join our Guess the Calls team, just send us clues for any of the remaining 55 Mainstream calls. We’d love to include them.

Match a Mainstream Call with Each Clue

Needs WD-40 if it squeaks

Going the wrong way? Then . . .

Stick together, gals

Get money off the floor

I go up, you go down

Divide a call in half

Female deer looked at another

Big, fancy block

Rhymes with “bear two”

Ladies social network

Setter/Cleaner Upper Duties

Please make sure to lift chairs and tables when moving them rather than drag them so that no scuff marks are made on the floor.

Check page 4 for dates or the sign-in table at Rod and Gun. 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, most of the chairs, and the 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, the coffee pot, and assorted drink items. When it gets dark, turn on the outside lights.

Clean-up: Help cuers and callers load their equipment. Police the hall for cups and other

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trash. Empty the water cooler. Place it, supplies, and table items back in their respective bins in our cupboard. Chairs and tables remain in place. The Janitor takes care of the garbage, lights, and locking up. Just be sure doors are closed when you leave.

April Birthdays

Frank Aftowicz Jackie Carr June McClanahan Brad Sayles

Setup and Cleanup Schedule

	7:00 Setup	9:30 Cleanup
April 4	Street	Mousley
April 11	Grissom	Parker
April 18	Kerby	Prudhomme
April 25*	Nelson	Sayles
May 2	Ryan	Van Herick
May 9	Strawbridge/Wallhagen	Carter
May 16	DARK	
May 23	Sheppard	Christie/Jones
May 30*	Aftowicz/Anderson	McGee/Cornish

***Party Night.** Those setting and cleaning up for the month are asked to bring something to share.

Answers to Guess the Mainstream Calls

Clue	Mainstream Call
Needs WD-40 if it squeaks	Hinge
Going the wrong way? Then . . .	Turn Back
Stick together, gals	Ladies Chain
Get money off the floor	Sweep a Quarter
I go up, you go down	See Saw
Divide a call in half	Split Circulate
Female deer looked at another	Do-sa-do [we warned you]
Big and fancy block	Grand Square
Rhymes with "bear two"	Square Thru
Ladies social network	Teacup Chain

Board Members

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Class Coordinator/Hospitality

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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

Sonoma Wine Country Senior Games
by Steve Minkin

Greetings dancers, callers, and friends of the Northern California Square Dance community!

I am writing to remind you and encourage you to put together a square for our first ever Square Dance Competition at the Sonoma Wine Country Senior Games:

<http://www.winecountrygames.com/>

We are patterning our event on the square dance competition that is a key part of the world's biggest senior games -- the Huntsman World Senior Games in St. George, Utah, where the square dance competition has been called by Gary Shoemake and Ken Bower for more than a decade. Ours will be only the second square dance competition at any senior games.

Although the games will be held in early June, the deadline for registration is May 1. The commissioner for the sport, Carolyn Maloney, is available to answer any questions you may have

Profits from the event go to the Sonoma County Council on Aging.

We will have a welcoming dance on Friday night, June 8. This dance will also be a chance for singles, couples and foursomes to find dancers to fill out their square for the Mainstream and Plus events. (Singles are encouraged to come with a partner, if they can, to make the process easier.) Saturday morning we will have a practice session, with the competition itself on Saturday afternoon. And Saturday night we will have the results, the presentation of awards and the closing dance.

This year's three categories will be Mainstream, Plus, and Random Plus.

Each square will be assigned two judges with stopwatches for each five minute segment, and the judges will time how long the square is broken down, starting their watches at the time of the breakdown and stopping them when the square has formed lines and is prepared to rejoin the action. The square with the lowest cumulative down-time wins. Each division's competition will consist of three five-minute tips, the first one easy, then medium, then hard. The general atmosphere and level will be more like a fun dance than a hot hash or take-no-prisoners tip.

All dances will be held at the auditorium in Spring Lake Village in east Santa Rosa -- a spacious, well-lit, modern facility with a beautiful wooden dance floor.

The cost to register for the senior games is \$40. That covers your eligibility to try many other sports as you would like to try, including golf, ping pong, bocce ball, running and pickle ball:
<http://www.winecountrygames.com/Sports.html>

There is a \$5 fee for the square dancing competition, which is the same cost as most of the sports

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(exception is \$40 for golf). The \$5 entitles you to compete in all three square dance divisions, dance Friday night, Saturday morning, afternoon and night, and you get a lunch at the hall.

We encourage you put together your own square. The Huntsman Games has at least one pre-set square that has been repeat champions in their division for a number of years. You may also arrive as a foursome, a couple, or a single, and find a square to join or to create during the Friday Welcoming Dance.

In the Random Plus category couples are randomly assigned to squares with three other couples, and that group of four couples then competes as a square.

We encourage folks who are intrigued by this but can't or don't wish to compete to join us as judges. We'll need a bunch of them! We can offer you lunch, an invitation to dance with us at the closing party, and an opportunity to help shape a new (to this region) and exciting way to feature and to play with our dance.

If you are interested in learning more, or in volunteering, please give Carolyn a call

And the web site for signing up for the competition is:
<http://www.winecountrygames.com/SquareDancing.html>

We'd love to see your club come up with a square or two for the event!

Happy trails,

Steve Minkin