



# Be in our Squares

Gashland United Methodist Church  
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NEWSLETTER

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SUMMER 2023

I hope that you are all enjoying your summer activities. The weather has been pretty agreeable and for the most part our visitations have been well attended. There are fewer dances in the summer and that allows you more time for other activities. But dancing doesn't completely stop and there are several options that you will find elsewhere in this newsletter. I hope you will continue to participate.

Daniel Iott recently had surgery and for the time being he is 'grounded'. He also has plans for his shoulder repair sometime in July so it will be a while before we see him and Nancy. I know he would appreciate your prayers and positive thoughts. To the best of my knowledge, the rest of us have been pretty healthy.

We still have a few hold outs on the Telegram front. Telegram is an instant message program so we don't have to worry about you missing a last minute email. If you can text, you can use Telegram. It is free, however there is a premium version. Since we aren't using the premium version, if it asks for a payment source, you can just bypass that. If you haven't signed up for Telegram, you could be missing out on some spontaneous dancing. Some of our last minute visits have been bigger than those we had scheduled..

Six of us went to Salina to enjoy the KS State Convention. Curt Braffett from Carlock, IL was the featured caller. His choreography was smooth and interesting and his singing calls were great. His choice of music was exceptional. Those of you who missed him, missed a great experience. There's always next year.

Our new dancers are coming along. They remain enthusiastic, smiling throughout lessons. We recently completed the plus lessons and extended the MS to 6:30-9pm. We're behind where we usually are at this point and I'm trying to make up a little time so we can get them out dancing. This past week we were missing 4 students so we put the others in 1 square so we could see exactly how they're doing. It was eye opening. We need some work but they remain determined so I know we will get there.

At our club picnic, 15 of us worked on next year. We chose the themes and decided on a club trip. We also made some changes in the way we will handle the decorations. Nancy and Jordan have done a fabulous job with decorations this past season, and our photo op area has been the topic of discussion even after dancers have left but I suspect it has become somewhat overwhelming. While Jordan has agreed to continue painting and creating our photo ops, Casey Zuhlke has agreed to coordinate the decorations for each dance, but we will have a different committee each month. If Casey asks for your help, please say yes. We already have volunteers for September and March. **[Our next picnic is scheduled for August 26th.](#)** Same time, same place.

At our September dance, we will be promoting Cancer Awareness—for all kinds of cancer. Kathy Bean and Dorothy Claussen are going to create "Cancer Ribbons" that say "I dance for" and pens for them to fill in a name. We will also be collecting donations for the American Cancer Society. Steve Bean would like to make it a more positive experience by providing a power point presentation of pictures of Cancer Survivors. We figure, if you survived treatment, you survived. So if you or someone you love is a survivor, please share that picture with Steve so he can get as many pictures uploaded in advance as possible.

During the summer there are fewer clubs dancing, however there are lots of good special dances. Several are listed on page 2 of this newsletter. We hope you will take advantage of those dances and support as many as you can. Call someone to go along with you.

**Next Dance:** TO:  
*July 7th*  
*July 21st*  
**Special Dance**  
*Happy Birthday and*  
*Happy Anniversary*  
*From your friends at*  
*BNR Squares*

The MO State Convention will be here before you know it. If you haven't gotten your room, better do it now. Be sure to mention that you are with the square dance convention. Even if all the rooms in the block are gone, if they have rooms available, they may give you the convention rate. And don't forget that our district is the convention sponsor so please volunteer to help wherever you can.

I hope that many of you will join us for the Summer Weekend Get-A-Way in Johnson, NE the middle of July. Our club usually has a square or more in attendance and it's a great weekend. Check out the flyer on Lanny Weaklend's website.

At our picnic, we agreed that we will all go to dinner and attend the Big Creek Opry in Pleasant Hill, MO, on August 19th. A restaurant will be chosen a little later but we will need to know how many of you will be attending so we can make reservations.

Don't forget to get your visitation card signed when you go dancing. If you don't have a new card, please be sure to get one.

#### Past Visitations

5/20	Harmony Dancers	4
	Crosstrailers	2
5/21	Savannah Sashayers	5
5/26	Stewartsville Kut-Ups	4
6/2-3	KS State Convention	6/6
6/20	Heartland Squares—cancelled	
7/1	Maysville Wranglers	7

#### Future Themes

9/08	Cancer Awareness
10/07	The Place To Be in '23
11/12	Honor Veterans
12/25	Christmas Night
1/12	Hat Dance—Dan Robinson
2/09	Elvis Dance—Dan Robinson
3/08	A Night At the Movies
4/12	Black Light Dance
5/10	Hawaiian Dance

#### Future Visitations

7/30	Savannah Sashayer—Jet Roberts
8/04	St Joe Squares
8/12	NW MO District Dance
8/13	Savannah Sashayers-DeeDee Dougherty
8/15	Heartland Squares (we owe them)

#### Special Dances

(those in blue sponsored by us)

7/7	Mike Hogan
7/14-15	Summer Weekend Get-A-Way
7/21	Lanny Weaklend
7/28-29	HASSDA Springdale,AR
8/12	NW District Dance 7-10
8/27	Mike Hogan in Topeka (see flyer)
10/13-15	MO State Festival with Tim Tyl

Our summer dances are casual if you wish. The format is a little different. We have plus from 7:30-8 and MS from 8-10pm. We don't do refreshments but will have coffee and water. There will be some visitations but we encourage you to find others on your own. Don't forget we hope to start another set of lessons once this class graduates. Talk it up so we can have a good class.

Enjoy the summer activities but stay safe. Hope to see you in many squares.

*Lynn*