



Be iN ouR Squares

Gashland United Methodist Church
7715 N Oak Trafficway - Kansas City, MO

Caller: Lynn Nelson 2nd Fridays 7:30-10:00PM

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NEWSLETTER

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FEBRUARY 2024

Once again Mother Nature worked against us and our January dance (and everyone else's) had to be cancelled. However, our February dance was well attended and by all reports, Dan did a great job. He was hoping to have a guest caller or 2 to give him a break but that didn't work out and by the end of the dance, his voice was a little weak but he persevered. Thanks, Dan, for your dedication to our club.

Thank you so very much for my Christmas gift. Since the weather was so rainy on our cruise, many of the souvenir shops didn't open SOO, I decided to order a pair of ear rings called watermelon tourmaline to go with a necklace I bought a few years ago. Thank you for completing my set.

Daniel lott has had surgery on his right shoulder and is well on the way to being the bionic man. Dorothy Claussen is continuing her treatments and has good days and bad. Carol Hershey came home from our cruise only to discover she had COVID. Lynn managed to escape COVID, but suffered a really bad cold for about a week. Both Shelleys had the flu when they got home, but recovered quickly. Hopefully Jennifer is doing better and will be back among us soon. It was good to see Bryant at our dance. I know he wears the sling to remind others to be gentle. Joe Luttrell checks in periodically to see how we are doing and says he's about the same and enjoys getting out to walk the grounds.

To the best of my knowledge, we still don't have a new lesson location. It needs to be free or at least, very inexpensive, and since lessons will be during the heat of summer, air conditioning is imperative. The Zuhlikes can accommodate 2 squares but if we get any more than that, we will out grow their living room. Wouldn't that be a wonderful problem to have? Several people have commented that they have people interested in lessons, and while I know you can't count on them until you actually see the whites of their eyes, we do have to be prepared. We also want our new dancers to be able to angel for the review. If you know of somewhere or have a connection with someone who does, please see what you can arrange. Even a climate controlled garage would work. Leann and Steve Z know what type of area we need, so keep them in the loop.

Next year, my plan is to only do one class. We will plan to start on Wednesday, April 24th. This should allow us to complete lessons just at the beginning of the new season and they will be able jump right in at the beginning of the square dance year. Our club is one of the few clubs in the state of Missouri that is growing and that is due to all of you and the job you do recruiting new dancers and making them feel welcome and part of our group right from the get go. And remember, although we don't have any youth members currently, we are a family club and encourage youth both in our lessons and in our club. I have some criteria for youth students so I would need to vet them, but it's not an arbitrary age limit. Just let me know.

Because it's been so long between dances, I highly recommend that you take advantage of the "Blast Dance" on March 2nd. This is not for students but for all dancers to help get back in the swing of things. Dana Schirmer will be the caller and he is great to help polish off those rough edges. Mainstream will be addressed in the morning and there will be a session for plus in the afternoon. It will be at Graceway Fellowship Hall. I have always encouraged our new dancers to dance often and to lots of different callers. It's all about repetition. That's what creates what is called "muscle memory". That being said, Mother Nature has not been cooperative, to say the least. Each time a dance gets cancelled, it puts another stretch of time between your time on the dance floor. Every time that happens, you think you won't remember how because it's been so long but it's important that you get back on the dance floor as soon as possible. The longer it stretches on, the harder it will be. Everyone started out as a new dancer and we're all willing to help you get over the rough patches. The more you dance, the easier it gets and the easier it gets, the more fun you will have. This would be a good way to get back into things.

If you have any questions, get in touch with Leann. We speak daily and she keeps me up to date on all the club happenings. She will be sending out the reminders for visitations and we request that you **please respond, whether you can go or not.** That helps us know if we have enough or need to cancel and allow those who said yes to make other plans.

Be in our Squares
8510 Sandusky Ave
Kansas City, KS 66112

TO:

Next Dance:

March 8th

Night at the Movies

Happy Birthday and

Happy Anniversary

From your friends at

BNR Squares

As you know, we usually have a pot luck in June and at that time we plan our themes for the next season. Carol and I have chosen Saturday, June 8th. More details will follow as the day gets closer but we want you to put it on your calendar and plan to join us.

As always, you have been doing a great job with our visitation program and with getting the visitation cards signed. As clarification, in order to get the card signed for Heart of America, we have to have a minimum of 6 members in attendance. Kathy Bean and Leann Chapman have these cards and if they aren't able to visit, they make it a point to get it to someone who will be there. The "Friendship Visitation" program for the NW District allows us each to carry a card and get it signed, even if we are the only one in attendance. If there are several of you, only one person need get the card signed and then put the total number of members in attendance in the appropriate spot on the card. You're doing a great job with visitations. Keep up the good work and maybe we can keep 1st place in the NW District.

Past Visitations

01/26	Stewartsville Kut Ups	11
01/27	Harmony Dancers	12
02/02	St Joe Squares	12
02/03	Pistols 'n Petticoats	9
02/04	Newbie Dance	7
02/12	KC Plus	4
02/16	Ramblers	4

Future Visitations

02/24	Harmony Dancers
03/02	NW District Blast Dance
03/08	<i>Our Dance</i>
03/17	Savannah Sashayers

Future Themes

3/08	A Night At the Movies
4/12	Black Light Dance
5/10	Hawaiian Dance
6/08	Summer Pot Luck

Special Dances

(those in blue sponsored by us)

4/19-20	HOA Fed Dance with Ken Burke
7/14	MINK Ladies—St Joseph, MO
10/18-20	MO State Festival Sedalia

Our next dance is March 8th. It will be our "Night At The Movies" dance so get creative. Leann has access to a popcorn popper and Casey and David have some things up their sleeves. Maybe movie theater fare for our refreshments — mini candy bars or something. I know you will come up with something, you always do.

I want to thank all of you for carrying on while I was south, but especially Leann for taking the reigns. Somebody has to do it and I can think of no one more qualified or dedicated. Also, Dan Robinson for filling in for me. My trip south each year, is more than a vacation. It helps me deal with health issues, as well, and I appreciate everyone who plays a part in keeping the club running.

Have a blessed Easter!

Lynn