



Be in our Squares

Gashland United Methodist Church
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Caller: Lynn Nelson 2nd Fridays 7:30-10:00PM

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NEWSLETTER

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NOVEMBER 2021

Our October dance was small but all in attendance seemed to have a good time. Dan and I are working on getting into a rhythm and I know it will continue to get better each dance. It's nice to have the variety of lines for singles and rounds for couples between tips. We did have a special guest at our dance. Leann's son, Jason, who danced with the youth clubs for many years, was visiting from Florida and while he didn't think he would remember how, he got in the square and looked like he'd never left. Many of you don't know Jason, but for me, and I'm sure his mom, it was great to see him back on the dance floor having a good time.

To the best of my knowledge, we remain healthy as a group. June's daughter went back home and June continues with her therapy. She looks forward to being able to drive again and of course, to join us on occasion. We will sure be happy to see her back on the dance floor. Marla has been staying in Nebraska while her sister recovers from knee surgery. She got back just in time for lessons this week. It was sure good to see her.

Our students are moving right along and I hope to have them graduated around Thanksgiving. You know me, when we get close, I'll pick a date but we are narrowing down the list of calls they haven't yet done. They all pick it up so quickly and it does my heart good to see them asking questions and especially, catching their own mistakes. That shows progress. I can't wait to get them out visiting with us.

Have you started collecting underwear and sweat pants for elementary aged school children to be donated to the church? December will be here before you know it and we want to have a nice amount to donate. We will gather them all up at our holiday party and I will deliver them to the church. Demonstrating the generosity of square dancers is a great way to generate interest in our activity. Please put the afternoon of December 5th on your calendar and plan to join us at Carol Hershey's for our get together.

The Heart of America Federation has scheduled a "Newbie" dance for the afternoon of Sunday, November 14th from 2-4pm at Old Shawnee Town Hall where the Heartland Squares dance. The dance will be geared to students and new dancers but everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend. Let's have a good showing to welcome new dancers to the dance floor. Remember, we were all new once and someone encouraged us. Let's return the favor.

HOA is looking for volunteers to help with a number of things. If you have some free time, consider it.

The benefit for Missouri Patriot Paws was October 12th and while I had hoped there would be more in attendance (7 squares on the dance floor with a couple more sitting out), once again square dancers showed their generous spirit. Linda Krebs and the ladies of the Pilot Club, who sponsored the dance, were able to present a check for \$3,000.00

As a reminder, the holidays will be here before we know it. In December we change our dance from the 2nd Friday to Christmas night. I know many of you will have family obligations and be unable to attend but for many who find themselves alone, that is a very long and depressing evening so we are a welcome escape and usually have a nice crowd. Also, at our gathering last month, we decided to again cancel our January dance in anticipation of inclement weather. Please adjust your calendars accordingly.

Be iN ouR Squares
8510 Sandusky Ave
Kansas City, KS 66112

TO:

Next Dance:
November 12
Honor Our Veterans
Happy Birthday and
Happy Anniversary
From your friends at
BNR Squares

Our Missouri State Festival was disappointingly small but those in attendance were treated to a great weekend of dancing. K.O. Jeanes did a wonderful job of keeping everyone moving with super smooth choreography and a variety of music. His beautiful voice made his singing calls a joy to listen to, as well as to dance to. The state callers and cuers filled in to keep the fun going in the alternate halls. The last I heard, the unofficial count was 213. Hopefully, that was due to the different weekend combined with hesitancy on the part of some dancers to get back on the dance floor yet. Next year, the festival will once again be on the 2nd weekend rather than the 3rd so plan now to attend. It's always a good time and usually the leaves are changing so a beautiful drive. Since it will be in Sedalia next year, it's also quite a bit closer. Dan Preedy of Washington State will be the featured caller.

Thanks to those of you who have been getting out and visiting with us. We were able to repay the Santa Fe Trailers already so we are already caught up from our September dance.

For anyone interested, the Ottawa Promenaders will have their annual hog roast/dance November 6th. Let me know if you want additional information. This is always a great meal and a fun dance. It is a fund raiser for the club.

Past Visitations

10/2	Santa Fe Trailers	6
10/8-10	MO State	4

Future Visitations

10/22	Dan's Dancers
10/30	Pistols & Petticoats (all Plus)
11/05	Live Wires (Evan Pauley calling)
11/12	<i>Our Dance</i>
11/19	Ramblers (Lynn Calling)

Our next dance is our "Honor our Veterans" dance on November 12th. I will go to the hall early and fog the hall, hallway, restrooms and kitchen so you can feel safe to attend. There is also plenty of hand sanitizer available and we encourage everyone to use it frequently. There is a mask mandate not only by the city, but by the church so masks will be required. At this time we will not have refreshments and I ask that everyone bring their own beverage in a covered container.

When you all gather with family and friends this year at Thanksgiving, please include our country and those who protect her in your prayers. Also our first responders — those who run toward danger when the rest of us are running away from it. Say a special prayer for our square dance activity and those who form our square dance family and especially those who are battling COVID. It's a very real battle and I believe the only way to eradicate it is the same way we beat polio, small pox and tuberculosis — vaccines for everyone. That being said, it's a personal choice and if you aren't going to vaccinate, please follow the other CDC guidelines. We've already lost enough square dancers. We don't want to lose you, too.

Have a blessed Thanksgiving!

Lynn