



Be iN ouR Squares

Gashland United Methodist Church

7715 N Oak Trafficway - Kansas City, MO

Caller: Lynn Nelson Co-Caller Dan Robinson

2nd Fridays 7:30-10:00PM

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NEWSLETTER

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February 2026

I understand that our February dance was kind of small but a good time was had by all and there were lots of breakfast style goodies on the refreshment table. I also heard several of you got in the spirit with sleep attire and that makes it fun for everyone.

We have a couple of options in the works for a lesson venue but nothing locked down yet. I anticipate that we will start lessons between the beginning and middle of May this year. We will keep lessons north of the river so if you have prospective students, don't let them get away. As soon as we have something buttoned down, I will let you know,

I now have 4 requests for club shirts. We are still 2 shirts short of an order. If you would like to have a new club shirt, please let me know so we don't have to keep these members waiting any longer than necessary.

We asked for members to volunteer to host a dance and we still have the April dance available. **Please contact Leann to sign up.** April is our Poor Man dance. Time for planning is getting short and we need someone to step up. We had talked about serving beans and cornbread. Possibly relish or fruit trays.

At our last pot luck, we chose the date for our next one. Since Memorial day is a little early, we chose May 31st. I hope since we have given you lots of notice, you'll all be able to join us. This is where we choose the themes for our dances and discuss any changes we might want to make. Also, where we make plans for additional club functions. I have really missed our annual club trips. I hope we can return to those some time soon.

I understand Carol Hershey is being treated for a wound on her foot that just won't heal. I'm sure she would appreciate some prayers for healing so she can get back to her normal active life. Reports are that several of you have been passing a bug around from family member to family member. I hope you will soon stop sharing and get back to feeling better. Good news is that Dennis Trotter had a pacemaker inserted and is on the mend. We look forward to seeing him soon.

I mentioned club trips above. We used to take an annual trip together, sometimes involving a dance and sometimes not. Sometimes I was calling, sometimes not. The thing I miss is the camaraderie involved. It was always a good time to spend time together with more opportunity to visit than those busy times at dances. We've done things like attend a local country music show, visit Warm Springs Ranch where they raise the Clydesdales, travel to Hutchison, KS and go to the Cosmosphere or salt mine prior to a dance. At the salt mine, we danced a tip 650 feet underground. I'd love to get those trips started again. If you have any ideas, please do a little bit of research and bring your ideas to the pot luck.

At our last pot luck, we agreed to add 1 plus tip just before the end of the dance. Many of you were convinced that it would be a way to keep dancers from leaving before the dance was over. I didn't notice any difference before I left and from what I've heard, it didn't seem to make a difference at the last couple of dances either. It seems that no matter what time we start or end our dances, visitors will start to leave 30 minutes before the dance ends. It happened when dances ended at 11 - so they changed to 10:30. Then they started leaving at 10. Now everyone wants to end at 9:30. Maybe before we attempt to make changes in the way we do things, we should talk to dancers who have been around a long time. History tends to repeat itself.

One of the things I wanted to discuss at our next pot luck is increasing our door donation. I sent an email to all the area clubs to see what they are charging and the consensus from those who responded was they are either already \$1 more than us, or also considering an increase. As our expenses increase, our dances seem to decrease in number. Even with a bump in the donation, square dances will still be a bargain.

I am excited to share that the Harry Truman Memorial will be having a Centennial Celebration on August 8th and they would like to make square dancing a part of it. As soon as I return, I will be meeting with representatives of the committee to hammer out the details. I hope you will all save the date so that we can have a good showing of active dancers and plenty of people to invite newcomers into our squares for a taste of what we do and the fun we have.

June 13th, there will be a dance to benefit Gashland UMC as a thank you for providing a dance location at a reasonable rate. This will be sponsored by all the clubs dancing at the church and more details will be provided as they are available. Watch for flyers at dances of participating clubs. Dan and I will be representing BNRs and we hope many of you will attend. We want to thank the Shooting Stars for spearheading this effort.

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

TO:

*Next Dance:
Hat Dance*

*Happy Birthday and
Happy Anniversary
From your friends at
BNR Squares*

You do such a great job of making sure our visitors all feel welcome and that they all get to dance. Believe me, people notice. If we each go around the room and thank everyone for coming, then even if we each don't thank everyone, everyone will be thanked by someone. That's important. It's also important that we be sure someone is thanking everyone as they leave—even those who leave early.

I have scheduled the Friendship Squares in Topeka. They are having a special caller who doesn't get to our area very often. Darryl Lipscomb is a great caller and the dance will be at Croco Hall, which will give everyone a chance to peruse the "Resale Shop".

Don't forget to reply to Leann's visitation reminders. It's important.

Past Visitations

01/16 St Joe Squares 6
Rambler's 3
01/25 Savannah Sashayers Cancelled
02/03 Heartland Squares Cancelled
02/01 KC Plus 8
02/07 Pistols 'n Petticoats 4
02/20 Rambler's 12

Future Visitations

02/28 Harmony Dancers (wear pink)
03/06 Live Wires
03/13 **Our Dance**
03/23 Dance to James Shaw
03/28 Friendship Squares -Topeka
03/31 Heartland Sqs (retrieve our banner)
No visit Easter Weekend

Future Themes

Mar 13 Hat Dance
Apr 10 Poor Man Dance
May 8 Hawaiian Dance
Sept 11 Celebrate Lynn (30 years of calling)

Next Pot Luck is May 31st.
**Please bring your ideas for future
club functions and dance themes.**

Special Dances

(those in blue sponsored by us)
04/17-18 HOA Festival (new hall)
06/13 Benefit for Gashland UMC
07/10 **Mike Hogan**
07/10-11 HAASDA
07/12 MINK Ladies (HAASDA trail-out)
07/25 NW District
07/31 **Lanny Weaklend**
08/08 Harry Truman Centennial

Our next dance will be our Hat dance. Dan always does a great job of wearing a variety of hats to keep things fun. I hope you will all get in the spirit, as well. You can wear something funny or fancy or classy. Just wear something fun. I'm sure your regular finger foods will be just fine.

Thank you all for keeping the club and visitation program running smoothly, and making our visitors feel welcome. Special thanks to Leann and Dan, without whom I would never be able to take my arthritis to warmer climes for the winter. I can't tell you how much I appreciate all of you.

Lynn