

**THE GRAND SQUARE**  
Official Publication of  
The Central District Square Dance Association, Inc.  
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**Message from Ronnie and Shirley Jackson, 2008 C.D.S.D.A. Presidents:**

Shirley and I selected the motto, Working Together for the Best Year Ever, to communicate to everyone our game-plan for 2008. All the dancers in Central District, club officers, board members, Star members, callers/cuers and new dancers taking lessons, are one big family. As your Presidents, we will work very hard to make dancing enjoyable for everyone in our combined square dance/round dance family!

The success of our new website at [www.cdsda.com](http://www.cdsda.com) has been phenomenal! We have received over 1200 visits to the website the first three weeks! We want to thank Sonya Savell-Jones for her work in designing the website. Sonya donated her time and expertise to the district so that we would have a fast and efficient way to spread the news. Thank you Sonya for a job well done! Please give Sonya a big Yellow-Rock the next time you see her!

The Central District officers visited Territorial Squares for their 19th Anniversary dance on January 12. Congratulations to Territorial Squares! We appreciated your hospitality. Everyone had a good time and enjoyed dancing to the calls by Lawrence Biggs and the visiting callers.

We visited Happy Tracks on Jan. 25th, for their Anniversary dance and had a great time! Many on the board were there and we very much enjoyed dancing to the calls by Dick Manning and the guest callers. This dance celebrated Dick Manning's retirement as the Happy Tracks caller. We congratulate Dick for his many years of devotion and service to square dancing.

Shirley and I look forward to meeting each of you this year. We're open to any and all suggestions and we encourage each of you to be thinking of ways we can assist your club. Thank you for your support.

Most Sincerely, Ronnie & Shirley Jackson

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**Exhibition Dance at Grace Living Center:**

The Central District Square Dancers had an exciting Exposition at the Grace Living Center on Rankin in Edmond on Wednesday, January 23rd. There were dancers from Happy Tracks, Norman Silver Spur, Shawnee Square 8, Heartland Rounds, Teacup Chains and Swinging Rebels. Sonya Savell-Jones did an excellent job of keeping the dancing going. The two squares kept rotating and dancing nonstop. She also called Rounds for the exhibition. The residents seemed to enjoy the exhibition. A big THANK YOU goes to Sonya and the Dancers who took time out of their busy day to spend time entertaining the elderly.

Vernon & Lois Willis, CDSDA Publicity Directors

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## **Central District Blood Drive Report:**

Our 2008 Blood Drive took place on Saturday, January 19, at the West Side Lions Hall. The Oklahoma Blood Institute was there with their technicians and equipment. Because of the generous donations by Central District members, family members and friends, the Oklahoma Blood Institute will provide free blood transfusions to any Central District member whose medical insurance does not pay for blood. The telephone number of the Oklahoma Blood Bank is: 405-297-5700.

The Central District board members provided free breakfast for everyone participating in the blood drive. Thanks to Jim and Linda Fuller for organizing the blood drive. Yellow Rocks go to the donors, the cooks and to everyone who brought food!

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### **Education:**

The Central District Square Dance Association (CDSDA) has an upgraded website (<http://www.cdsda.com>) for you to use. It contains the following menus:

HOME – This contains a message from the CDSDA presidents. It also list who the current officers and board member are with an e-mail link to them.

CALENDAR – Shows the current month of which clubs dance on which night. And also reflects in red the special events that are happening that month.

CLUBS – Lists the club presidents, level and type of dancing, location, time, and the caller or cuer. Each Club President and Caller or Cuer have their e-mail address linked to their name.

SPECIAL EVENTS – A yearly (frequently updated) schedule of special events like anniversary dances, jamborees, and conclaves. If a “See Flyer” link is available this will take you to a flyer about the event.

NEWSLETTER – The Grand Square newsletter can be downloaded. It is updated daily (if needed) with corrections. They will remain on the site for up to one year to allow retrieval of past issues.

CDCCA – The Central District Caller & Cuers Association provides tables of who the callers and cuers are, their phone numbers, e-mail addresses, websites and which clubs they work for.

PHOTOS – Contains photographs of recent events. These can be viewed as single photos or as a slide show of the event.

COMMENTS – To provide feedback or information to Sonya Savell-Jones, the website master. Steve & Stacey Palmer, CDSDA Education Directors

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## Message from Richard and Carol Schwake, 2008 Newsletter Directors:

Hello! This is our second newsletter and we are pleased with the positive response we've received from many of you. Our plan when we accepted this job was to publish and distribute Central District news online on the CSDSA website. We knew that online publishing is a fast, efficient way to communicate within an organization. Our "virtual newsletter" is accessible to everyone in Central District. We owe Sonya Savell-Jones a big **Thank You** for her outstanding work in designing and hosting the new site!

Carol and I strongly support the motto, **Working Together for the Best Year Ever!** We believe the new website encourages the 21 clubs to work together. Now everyone in our square dance family can know what each club is doing and when they have activities scheduled. We will publish the Grand Square online on the 1<sup>st</sup> of each month. Please submit your club news to us during the last week of each month for inclusion in next month's newsletter. Any changes or additions to your club news can be emailed to us during the month and we will post them ASAP!

If you have suggestions for us or for the newsletter or the website, please email them to Carol and me at [schwake@att.net](mailto:schwake@att.net)

Sincerely, Richard and Carol Schwake

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## Caller of the Month:

We are very proud of our Central District callers and cuers. Each month we will feature one caller or cuer in the Grand Square. This month we have chosen Dick Manning and his wife, Carole. Dick has decided to retire from his two largest clubs, Stillwater Wagon Wheel Club and Happy Tracks Club. He will continue to call for Easy Level and Double Nickel for a while.

### DICK AND CAROLE MANNING



1974



2007

In January 1961, Dick & Carole Manning enrolled in a set of square dance lessons in Alamogordo, New Mexico. After five of the twelve lessons, Dick made the monumental decision to learn to call. For several years, Dick's work on several NASA government projects took them from New Mexico to Utah and on to Alaska. In 1972, the Mannings chose to settle in Oklahoma. Since their calling career began, they have served as caller for more than 20 square dance groups.

Besides club calling and teaching, Dick and Carole have called for festivals, weekend institutes, square dance resorts, square dance tours, and dances for clubs all over the United States, Canada, England, and Scotland. Dick called and recorded on the DASH record label.

The Mannings have been active in many caller and teacher associations. In 1975, Dick received an invitation to join Callerlab, and in 1978, he received his Callerlab Certificate of Accreditation. Dick & Carole served on the Callerlab Styling Committee and as Chairman of the Subscribers Committee. Locally, Dick & Carole were instrumental in the formation of the Central District Callers Association. They served two years as President, two years as Secretary/Treasurer, one year as Training Officer, and one year as Membership Chairman. Dick & Carole wrote a caller's manual for new callers and taught new callers as often as possible. The Mannings helped form The Oklahoma State Callers & Teachers Association, and they served as President of that organization in 1979. Dick & Carole actively support the Overseas Square Dance Association and serve on the executive board. In 1997, the Mannings were awarded the prestigious Nestor Award. The Nestor Award is presented to an OSDA member who have performed outstanding service showing devotion to square and round dancing over a long period of time. This is not an annual award, but one that is designed to be the OSDA equivalent of the American Square Dance Society's Silver Spur Award.

A variety of square dance subjects were covered in articles written by the Mannings and published in American Squares, Sets in Order Square Dancing, and other square dance publications. Dick & Carole have participated and served on a variety of educational panels for Callerlab, National Square Dance Conventions, and for state and local groups. They served as Vice-Chairman of the Youth Committee for the 29th National Square Dance Convention, and Vice-Chairman of the Exhibition Committee for the 38th National Square Dance Convention.

All four of the Manning children learned to dance. Sons, Richard and Frank Manning and their spouses are active in the Overseas Square Dance Association. Dick and Carole have dedicated their lives to teaching dancers and callers and promoting square dancing everywhere.

**Clubs for which Dick and Carole called for are as follows:**

- \*\*Chaparral Squares Square Dance Club - Alamogordo, New Mexico  
Hollamanders - Holloman Air Force Base, White Sands Missile Range
- \*\*Tulie Kickers - Tularosa, New Mexico
- \*\*Canyonlands Squaranaders - Moab, Utah
- \*\* Green River Squares - Green River, Utah
- \*\*Nugget Squares Square Dance Club - Fairbanks, Alaska
- \*\*Santa Swingers - North Pole, Alaska  
Fairbanks Folk Dance Club - Fairbanks, Alaska  
Shawnee Square 8's - Shawnee, Oklahoma
- \*\*Depew Swingers - Depew, Oklahoma
- \*\*Rainbow Strollers - Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
- \*\*Swinging Teens - Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
- \*\*Landmark Square Dance Club - Oklahoma City, Oklahoma  
Buttons 'n Bows - Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
- \*\*Happy Tracks Square Dance Club - Choctaw, Oklahoma
- \*\*Monday Night Advanced Workshoppers - Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

**\*\*A.C. Dueces - Oklahoma City, Oklahoma**  
National Cowboy Hall of Fame Exhibition Group – Oklahoma City, Oklahoma  
Stillwater Wagon Wheels Square Dance Club - Stillwater, Oklahoma  
Singles Plus - Oklahoma City, Oklahoma  
Easy Level – Oklahoma City, Oklahoma  
Double Nickel – Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

**\*\*Clubs the Mannings started.**

Square Dance organizations to which Dick & Carole Manning belong are as follows:  
Overseas Square Dance Association / Callerlab / Oklahoma State Callers & Teachers Assoc.

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**February 2008 Club News:**

**ARISTOCRATS PLUS**: Everyone is invited to come to our Valentine's Dance on Saturday, February 9. For the month of March, we are planning a St. Patrick's Dance on March 21, and a Special Dance to be held on March 29. We will have more information on our March dances in the next newsletter. President is Cathy Adams.

**CIRCLE 8**: Circle 8 is starting a new idea so that we can continue being a solid and fun club. Each dance will have a "President of the Dance," which will be a member at large. We have had one dance with this new concept and it was very, very, successful. Everyone in the Club gets an opportunity to be President!!

Put Feb 23 on your calendar!! Tea Cup Chains and Circle 8 are hosting a very special dance at historic Farmers Market. Bobby Willis and Henry Israel will be doing an "All Singing Calls" dance – You do not want to miss this dance!! Note: Flyer posted at <http://www.cdsda.com> on the "Special Events" page.

Speaking of anniversaries, our 67th is coming up. Our 1st dance in March falls on the actual date. Flyers are being prepared for the Grand Square and for Club Member distribution. As always we look forward to Great Dancing with our many friends 1st, then door prizes and great food.

Please see the "Special Events" page at <http://www.cdsda.com> for a flyer about our 67<sup>th</sup> **Anniversary** Celebration next month on March 13<sup>th</sup>!! Please come help us celebrate!!

For Circle 8 board business please contact Dick & Dorothy Manley, Vice President or anyone on the Circle 8 board.

**DANCING SHADOWS ROUND DANCE**: We are having some great dances with everyone having a great time of dancing and fellowship. We dance easy level up to Phase 3 and 3+ rounds. Come have a wonderful evening of fun with us. CUNA circle real soon. Please stay safe and

healthy. "If the dancers win, we all win!" Cuer/Instructors are Jim & Georgianne Couey. Presidents are Carol and Ernie Palmer.

**DOUBLE NICKLE SQUARES:** Hi! Will Rogers Senior Center is where Double Nickle Squares dance. The road has a "Closed to THRU traffic" sign, however it is open to the square dancers. Just turn right at the Tennis Court Entrance on North Portland in the 3500 block (turn right a little this side of NW.36th street.) The address is: 3501 Pat Murphy Drive. We dance daytime every Thursday at Noon. Singles are welcome! Feel free to wear street attire. Come in and have Fun! Dick Manning is our caller. Sincerely, Allen and Dorothy Watson. 405-348-5309 or E-mail: [alndotw@juno.com](mailto:alndotw@juno.com)

**FUNTIMERS:** We will have our Valentine Dance on Feb. 12 at 8 pm. Bring your sweetheart and dance the night away!

Attention all hobos! You are invited to our Hobo Stew Dance on February 26 at 8 pm.. Each person is asked to bring a can of their favorite stew ingredient. We'll open the cans, dump them in a pot and cook some hobo stew! Wear your hobo clothes and we'll give a prize for the best hobo costume. Presidents are Ron and Sandy Johnson.

**HAPPY TRACKS SQUARE DANCE CLUB:** Happy Tracks wishes to thank each and every Central District Caller and Square Dancer that attended Dick Manning Retirement Party and Our Anniversary Dance on January 25th. We were really excited by the great turnout and we are looking forward to many more years of anniversaries.

We also want to invite all dancers to our next dance at our new night of the week, Thursday and at our new Location in Nicoma Park on Thursday, February 14th. Watch for our Happy Track Sign on NE 23rd in downtown Nicoma Park. It will be our Valentine Dance and please wear your Red and White. All are welcome and remember we do not have any door charge. Vernon & Lois Willis, Reporter. Presidents are Don & Helen Tremain.

**HEARTLAND DANCERS ROUND DANCE CLUB:** We have a good dance each Thursday night from 7- 9 pm. We don't dance on the 5th Thursday. Sometimes we have a workshop with the Coueys to learn a new dance or work on a dance we might be having a little of trouble with and then dance the rest of the night. Sometimes we just dance the whole time to dances we all really like. Jim has a request board to list our favorite dances and he will do all of them if he has enough time as well as explain some of the difficulties we might have. We have half-pot drawings and finger foods and LOVE visitors, so come join us when you can. We will show you a good time and give you great fellowship and exercise to boot!

Our beginners class is on Wednesday nights at the same location. We have finished the two-step and waltz basics and will be graduating in early February. Check out the CDSDA website for more info on our upcoming "Ides of March Mini-festival". CUNA circle soon. "If the dancers win, we all win!" Cuer/Instructors are Jim & Georgianne Couey.

**KALICO KAPERS:** The Kalico Kapers dance on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays of each month at the West Side Lions Club, 4135 NW 10<sup>th</sup> Street. 7 PM C-1 Workshop and 7:30 Plus Dance.

The Kalico Valentines Sweetheart Dance will be on February 7. Polish your shoes, powder your nose and maybe you could be voted as the “Kalico Sweetheart Couple for 2008!”

++ - DBD Lessons - Plus Plus - APD - ++

Kalico Kapers, Jerry Stover will start DBD lessons on February 7 and continue for as long as necessary .

These lessons are for people that already dance at the plus level. So if you dance the Plus program, please come join us and let Jerry show them how much fun DBD Plus can be. Each lesson will be from 7:00 to 8:00pm on 1st and 3rd Thursdays then our regular dance will follow. Cost of each lesson is \$1 per person and if you would like to stay for the dance we would welcome you to practice what Jerry just taught, the cost is \$5 per person. Jerry will be calling the dance at the level he just covered in lessons.

Please see the Flyer on the “Club” page <http://cdsda.com> for additional club information and activities. We sincerely hope to see you this Thursday at Westside Lions Hall. Caller is Jerry and Gayle Stover. Presidents are Ralph Jenner and Laverne Wynn

**METRO SINGLES:** We dance the 2nd & 4th Friday, Rounds 7:00 ~ W/S 7:30 ~ GM 8:00 PM.

Our theme dances are as follows: February 8th, Sweethearts Dance; March 14th, St. Patrick’s Day Dance; and April 11th, Rich Man / Poor Man Dance.

Come join us for fun dancing & fellowship. We dance an ‘A’ tip after the main dance is over.

For more information call 692-2586. President is Jessie Jackson.

**NATIONAL COWBOY HALL OF FAME:** We’ll be dancing on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Mondays of each month. Right now National Cowboy is gearing up and practicing hard for our new routine for the 57th Nationals in Wichita, KS. If anyone would like to come check us out, we dance on the 1st & 3rd Mondays, 7:30 pm at Linwood Methodist Church.

President is Art Myers.

**NORMAN BUCKAROOS:** Calling all square dancers! Calling all square dancers! We need dancers and we cordially invite all of you to come visit and dance with us. We’re a small, friendly club and we love visitors!! By the way, we dance at 8 pm on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Fridays of each month at Whittier Recreation Center, 2000 W. Brooks St. Norman, OK.

President is Mavis Grayson.

**NORMAN SILVER SPUR, INC:** Come dance with us on the 1st and 3rd Saturdays, dance starts at 7:00 pm. Norman Silver Spur started lessons Jan.12th and accepted new students through Jan. 26. Our lessons are being held at Irving Recreation Center in Norman and start at 3:00 pm.

Presidents are Morris and Janice Walker

**SHAWNEE SQUARE EIGHTS:** Hey, everyone! We started lessons on January 16 with ten people; the second open night, January 23, brought five more people; the final open enrollment night will be January 30th and we're hoping for still more dancers that night. So far we have received 21 telephone calls from interested people. We purchased 25 small signs advertising our square dance lessons. After receiving permission from property owners, we put them out all over Shawnee. They are great attention getters and have brought in lots of new dancers for us! This sort of sign was used a few years ago for Jump Start in Central District. Vernon Willis from Happy Tracks was the member who arranged for those signs. Presidents are Bernie and Lila Bergman.



**SILVER SPUR OKC:** Silver Spur OKC will be celebrating their 59/59 Club Anniversary on March 1, 2008 which is a celebration of the Club's organization of 59 years along with having the same Club Caller, Gerald McWhirter for 59 years. Reception at 7:00PM, Grand March at 8:00PM. Westside Lions Hall, OKC, OK. A dance flyer can be found on the "Special Events page" at <http://www.cdsda.com> should you need additional information. Please plan to attend; we would love to have you come out to help us celebrate our anniversary. It will be a wonderful evening of fellowship, fun and great dancing! Looking forward to seeing all of you soon; you are always welcome at Silver Spur, OKC!

John and Teresa Thompson, Presidnet; Gerald McWhirter, Caller

**SINGLE ROUNDS:** We dance every Monday evening of the month except when there's a fifth Monday. Our dances are held at the Bohemian Hall, 3800 S. Portland. We offer beginner's round lessons from 6 - 7:30 pm; Workshop for rumba, two-step, etc. from 7:30 - 8:30; Dance Time from 8:30 - 10. Our instructor/cuer is J.C. Johnson. Admission is \$4/person and this price includes everything! Although our club is named Single Rounds, couples are welcome as well. Please come dance with us! President is Marie Hunter.

**SINGLE SQUARES, INC:** Everyone is invited to our Anniversary Dance on February 1. We will have Rounds at 7 pm, Workshop at 7:30 and Grand March at 8. We dance at the Bohemian Hall at 3800 S. Portland. Please come help us celebrate our birthday! President is Chuck Short.

**SPIRIT OF 76:** Spirit of 76 invites all dancers to join us on the 2nd & 4th Sunday of each month, for fun, fellowship, and great dancing. Our new dance time is 7:30 PM for Round Dance workshop and 7:45 PM for Square Dance workshop. Spirit Of 76 invites all dancers to join us on February 10th, 2008 to celebrate Valentines day. Jeff and Jim have a lot of sweetheart songs to share with us to make it a very special night. February 24th will be a Mardi-Gra Dance, with all the decorations and food. President is Lawrence Wise.

**SWINGING REBELS:** The Rebels are looking forward to our first dance on February 8, 2008. This will be our "Valentine Hippie Dance." The music will be the 60's and the dress will be the hippie attire. Remember the psychedelic colors, bell bottom pants, mini-skirts, go-go boots, A-line dresses, shifts, bouffant hair do's, the Beach Boys and the Beatles so get you favorite 60's dress and come join us for a fun evening of dancing. Also, at this dance we will be giving the "Lap Quilt" away. If you have your name in the hopper you will want to be there to take the quilt home if it's drawn.

The Rebels will start a new set of lessons on February 18, 2008 at 7:00p.m. at the Warr Acre Community Center. If you have someone interested in learning our hobby, bring them and be their angel. We already have several who will be bringing their new dancer on that night and look forward to introducing them to the wonderful world of Square Dancing.

Well, we hope to see you at a Rebels' dance on February 8 or February 22 and remember we will leave the lights on and greet you with a yellow rock and lots of good fellowship anytime.

Presidents are Roy and Sharon Taylor.

**TEACUP CHAINS:** We dance every 1st and 3rd Saturday at the Dance Studio, 15th and State Street in Edmond. We are starting off with the calendar filling up with plenty of opportunities for your dancing pleasure. Teacup Chain members are excited about 2008 and the up and coming fun dance that will be co-hosted with Circle 8 at the historic Farmers Market where Hank Williams, Sr., Bob Wills, and Merle Haggard once performed. The address is 311 S. Klein in Oklahoma City and the date is Saturday, February 23 at 8 PM. The admission charge is \$5.00 per person. Come dance to all singing calls by Bobby Willis & Henry Israel. See the flyer at <http://www.cdsda.com> on the "Special Events" page for details. Enthusiasm is growing for this event and we hope that all of you will consider attending this fun dance! Let's light up the Farmers Market dance floor like they did back when!!

Please welcome our 2008 president, Myron & Shirley Brown. They can be reached at 348-6053. We hope everyone is enjoying the New Year!

**TERRITORIAL SQUARES:** Hope everyone enjoyed our 19th Anniversary Dance. We sure did! Now it's time to look to another month - February! We will be starting another set of lessons on the 4th of February, 7 to 9 p.m., and continuing every Monday night thereafter. If you know of anyone who wants to learn to square dance, send them up to Guthrie, we sure would love to have them. Since the cost of gas is so high, there is no charge for lessons (not really, our lessons are always free). We will be having our Valentine's Day Dance on the 9th of February. Come join us and don't forget to wear "red and white". On the 15th of February we will be dancing at Coles' Nursing Home in Guthrie. Territorial Squares loves visitors, so come join us.

Presidents are Andy and Lanita Turner.