



# The Grand Square

Official Publication of the Central District Square Dance Association, Inc.  
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## 2009 Executive Board

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## Message from Jim & Ruth Ford, 2009 Presidents:

As we put away the tree, ornaments and garland, we bask in the memory of another great year in square dancing. We say thank you to all the callers, cuers, club officers and the 2008 Central District Board for "Working Together For The Best Year Ever!"

We are humbled that you have entrusted the leadership of Central District to us for 2009. We thank the CD board members who have volunteered to serve. We thank each of you and ask your continued support as we strive to give you our best for the benefit of all. It has been said, "If you try to please everyone, you will please no one, including yourself." We are willing to try and together we can do great things!

Each New Year offers challenges and new opportunities for growth for each of us personally, professionally and in the name of square dancing. With your help and cooperation we will work together, with you and for you, to meet the challenges and opportunities 2009 has to offer.

By now your officers are in place and we wish to be a real part of your club's success. We are eager to assist in your efforts to recruit and retain members, furnish information, flyers, etc.

Our theme this year is "**Saddle Up For A Good Time in 2009!**" It is an action theme. We invite and encourage you to be part of the overall success of another great year in all areas of our fun, wholesome hobby.

January is off to a good start as we celebrate Territorial Squares 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, January 10, American Legion, 125 N. 1st Street, Guthrie; and Happy Tracks 29th Anniversary, January 30, India Shrine Center.

Saturday, January 31, 9– noon, Westside Lions Hall, is the annual blood drive hosted by Central District. Come, give blood and/or make a monetary donation and enjoy breakfast with the CD Board. It is a great, feel good event. So, come on out and be a part of this worthwhile cause.

Get your dancing duds on and saddle up for a good time at the Callers Hoedown, Westside Lions Hall, January 31st, a 5th Saturday night and a perfect time to be kickin' up your heels. Let the fun begin! Think heavy on the FUN at the Callers FUNdraiser. Advance tickets, \$5 and \$6 at the door. Ya'll Come!

We wish you a happy, prosperous New Year.  
Jim and Ruth Ford, CDSDA President 2009

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### **Blood Drive:**

The 2009 Blood Drive will be held at the Westside Lions Hall on January 31, 9-12 noon. Ronnie and Shirley Jackson are the chairmen for the 2009 Central District Blood Drive. Executive Board members will cook and serve a hearty breakfast for the donors. Technicians from the Oklahoma Blood Bank will be there to collect the blood donations. Please mark this important date on your calendars and plan to donate a pint of blood. Blood donations are in critical need by Oklahoma hospitals. Our annual blood drive is an opportunity for square and round dancers to give something back to the community. A flyer on the blood drive can be viewed on the Special Events page of the website.

Ronnie and Shirley Jackson, 2009 Blood Drive Chairmen

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### **Caller / Cuer of the Month: Bob Thomas**



Bob Thomas is our featured caller for the month of January. Bob is the caller for Norman Silver Spur and is active in Central District, having recently served on the Central District Executive Board as the Caller Coordinator.

Wherever you see Bob you are sure to see his lovely partner Melissa Harrison. They have been dating and dancing together since June of 2006. This year Bob and Melissa are serving as the Webmaster for CDSDA.

Bob took square dance lessons from Jeff Holley with the Spirit of 76 square dance club in September of 2002. During those lessons he developed an interest in learning to become a caller. Jeff began working with him soon after graduation. In 2003 Jeff sponsored Bob as an Associate caller with the Central District Callers and Cuers Association. Bob was voted in as a full member of this organization in December of 2005.

In 2003 Bob did his first paid dance in Broken Bow Oklahoma. Since then he has called dances in Oklahoma and Kansas. He has even called a tip or two on international waters.

In May of 2005 he was chosen as caller for Norman Silver Spur square dance club in Norman. Norman Silver Spur celebrated its Diamond Anniversary in 2008. The club has been dancing continuously for 60 years. One couple, Jack and Wanda McHughes, has been members for 51 of the clubs 60 years.

In 2006 Bob was chosen as the first full time caller for Youth Stormin' Oklahoma square dance club. He held this position for a year. At that point other obligations required that he give up that position.

Starting last year Bob and Melissa along with Jim and Dede Howard have been in charge of the single's annual float trip down the Illinois River. If you're single or at least still remember how to act single, you should consider joining the festivities the last weekend in July.

The greatest thing about square dancing for Bob is the number of great friends he has made. Bob has had the opportunity to go on some great trips thanks to square dancing. He has called and danced on a cruise with Jeff Holley, Bobby Willis, and Jim Couey. The last two years Bob and Melissa have gone to Fun Valley, Colorado for a great week of square dancing with Jeff Holley, Jim Couey and Lem Gravelle.

Bob is a member of the Central District Callers and Cuers Association, Oklahoma State Callers and Teachers Association, and Sooner State Caller and Cuers Association. Bob and Melissa served as Caller Coordinator this past year on the Central District Square Dance Association board.

Bob works at Cox Business as a Tier 2 Technical Support Representative to support his square dance habit. He has been with them for 5 years.

Bob always says the most important thing about square dancing is HAVING FUN. If you want to come have some fun with Bob and his friends at Norman Silver Spur, they dance every 1st and 3rd Saturday in the Irving Recreation Center just south of the corner of Vicksburg and Alameda in Norman. Dancing begins at 7:00 PM. They will be teaching new dancers to have fun every Saturday starting January 17th at 3:00 PM at the same location.

Central District is fortunate to have callers and cuers like Bob Thomas. Bob and Melissa have a great sense of humor and always make square dancing fun! We are lucky to have them as Central District callers.

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**Message from Richard and Carol Schwake, Newsletter Directors:**

Carol and I are proud to serve again in 2009 as your Newsletter Directors. We accepted the job with the goal of making the Grand Square more informative and interesting than ever before. We promise to work very hard in publishing all the Central District news in a timely manner. We recently received the good news that Bob Thomas has volunteered to be the new CDSDA webmaster. Bob will take the webmaster duties over from Sonya Savell-Jones who designed the website last year. We look forward working with Bob.

The purpose of both the Grand Square and the CDSDA website is to provide communications throughout Central District. Each month Carol and I contact each CD club for news. We collect

the news the last 10 days of the month and publish the newsletter online on or near the first of the next month. We greatly appreciate the cooperation we have received from the clubs and from the Central District officers who submit news articles each month. Have fun dancing!! Sincerely, Richard and Carol Schwake

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## **January 2009 Club News:**

**ARISTOCRATS PLUS:** We hope everyone had a very good holiday this year. Not much to report other than we will have both of our dances this month. Everyone is invited to come and have fun. The board for Jan through July is as follows.

Steven and Vanessa Ackerman, President

Jerry and Judith Chesser, Vice President

Jim Briscoe, Secretary

Bill and Angel Baker, Treasurer

**HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL!**

Steve and Vanessa Ackerman, Presidents

**CIRCLE 8:** Circle 8 wishes everyone a wonderful New Year filled with **Joy and Peace.**

Marvin and Donna K. Pierce, President

**DANCING SHADOWS ROUND DANCE CLUB:** Happy New Year to you all. Hope 2009 will be the best ever. We will be dancing each Monday night @ Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Family Life Center, 700 N Air Depot, Midwest City, OK. Lots of good dancing, fun, and fellowship planned for another year. Hoping all round dancers will be able to join us from time to time. Our dance times are from 7-9 pm. Our fee at the door will increase to \$4 per person beginning in January 2009.

Our beginner class will be graduating soon and hopefully will be joining in the fun of dancing every week. These students are doing well and looking forward to becoming an important part of our round dance family. Come join us when you can. CUNA circle soon.

Jim Couey, Cuer/Instructor

**DOUBLE NICKEL SQUARES:** We have had a very good year. First is the completion of the Duck Pond and its paved road. You need to see the new "levee" around the pond. The Canadian Geese just love it. Also we have two of the very best square dance callers in this neck of the woods..We have been having good dances. Come over every Thursday at 1:00 PM and join the fun.( BYOJ. ) Bring Your Own "Joke" for half-time.

P.S. Will Rogers Park is located at NW36th between North Portland and the Grand Boulevard service road. The Duck pond is North East of the Tennis courts.

Allen and Dorothy Watson, Presidents, 405-348-5309 or email: [alndotw@juno.com](mailto:alndotw@juno.com)

**FUN TIMERS:** Fun Timers had to cancel our Christmas dance on Dec. 9<sup>th</sup> due to cold weather and ice. Being the fun group we are, we will now have our Christmas dance on Jan 13th. We play dirty Santa so anyone that wants to join the game needs to bring a \$10 gift. We have a lot of fun with it. Everyone who still has the Christmas spirit please come join us for a good time!

We dance each 2nd and 4th Tuesday nights at the Midwest City Senior Citizens Center which is located just north of the Midwest City Fire Station and east of the Library.

We wish everyone in Central District a Happy New Year!  
Presidents are Ron and Sandy Johnson

**HAPPY TRACKS SQUARE DANCE CLUB:** Happy New Year from Happy Tracks. We are a truly happy club with no complaints. Our future looks good because we are growing. January will be our planning month with hopes of creating more club activities this year.

We had a great Christmas (first place we think) float for the Choctaw parade. However, we had very strong winds on parade day and decided the wind would destroy all of our decorations. We will save the basic idea for next Christmas. We had fun putting it all together, and no regrets. We will dance at the Nicoma Park Community Center on Jan. 8th. We have a workshop that starts at 7 pm and includes basic and plus instruction. We will not dance on the 22nd because of our Anniversary Dance on Jan 30th at the India Shrine Center in OKC. This is a 5th Friday dance. Early rounds start at 7:30 with Grand March at 8 pm. Invite everyone you know. We will have great door prizes, good food, and lots of fun and dance. Hope you can come!

January we will start 2 sets of Lessons. One will be at the E.O.C. Tech Center in Choctaw, OK starting Jan. 13th and continue every Tuesday Night in the Adult Day Center from 7 pm to 9 pm. The other set of lessons will run twice a week (every Monday & Wednesday night) from 6:30 to 8:30 pm at the Rose State College in Midwest City starting Jan. 22nd. Please contact Don & Helen Tremain or Sonya & Terry Savell-Jones for additional information!

Don and Helen Tremain, Presidents 391-2247 / Vernon and Lois Willis, Reporters 390-8426 / Sonya Savell-Jones, Caller 630-8199

**HEARTLAND DANCERS ROUND DANCE CLUB OF OKC:** Due to Christmas and New Year's being on our dance nights, we haven't danced since the 18th of December '08, but we plan to have a wonderful year of dancing phase 2, 3, & 4 and some 5's and maybe a 6 on some evenings. This depends on the abilities of the dancers. We'd love to have all round dancers that love to have a good time dancing and seeing friends and meeting new ones come and visit us and enjoy our hobby. We dance the first 4 Thursdays of each month at Linwood UMC, 3034 NW 17th, OKC. This year our fee at the door is going to \$4 per person. Also, this year, we will be having a workshop from 7-8 and will be dancing from 8-9:30 pm. These are a few small changes to our program.

Georgianne and I hope you had a good 2008 and will have an even better 2009. It is our sincere wish to make the hobby of round dancing as enjoyable to you as it is for us. Come and join us. We promise to make your evening enjoyable and entertaining and also maybe have a piece of cake or a brownie with your coffee as well as dance the evening away to your favorite dances. CUNA circle soon and may you have a great year 2009.

Jim Couey, Cuer/Instructor

**KALICO KAPERS:** Our first dance on Jan 1 is cancelled because of the holiday. We plan to resume our normal Dance Schedule on January 15th. We will be starting DBD plus lessons Feb 5th. They will be from 7pm to 8pm.

We dance on the 1st & 3rd Thursdays at West Side Lions Club, 4135 NW 10th Street, OKC, OK.

7:00 pm - C1-Workshop

7:30 pm - Plus Dance

9:30 pm - A2 Star Tip

President is Marta Sullens

Caller: Jerry & Gayle Stover

**METRO SINGLES:**

Caller: Danny & Sharon Payne

Cuer: J. C. & Elberta Johnson

West Side Lions Hall,

4135 N. W. 10th Street

**MERRY CHRISTMAS & HAPPY NEW YEAR**

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

We dance an 'A' tip after the main dance is over.

Metro members are looking forward to another great year with our Caller & Cuer. We appreciate all the visitors that have danced with us this year. We are looking forward to 2009.

For more information call 692-2586.

Max Robinson, President

**NATIONAL COWBOY HALL OF FAME:** National Cowboy is looking forward to the New Year. We will be working on a new routine for Nationals in Long Beach. If you would like to join in on the exciting but hard work, come see us on 1st and 3rd Monday nights at the Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in MWC.

See you in a square soon.

DeDe & Jim Howard

President: Patsy Jones

**NORMAN BUCKAROOS:** We are pleased to announce that we begin 2009 with two new members! We are a small club and we welcome visitors. We dance on the second and fourth Friday nights at 7:00 pm at Whittier Recreational Center, so please come visit us anytime. Please come visit us!

President is Mavis Grayson

**NORMAN SILVER SPUR, INC:** Another year is upon us again. As we welcome in 2009, let's not forget the hard work of our Norman Silver Spur 2008 board. We would like to thank Presidents Morris and Janice Walker and their board for all their hard work this past year. We had a wonderful square dance year and the entire club worked very hard on our 60th anniversary.

We welcome our New Presidents Bill and Reatha Schlegel. We wish them a great and exciting year with our club. Lets all work hard to build our clubs this year. We will be starting a new set of mainstream lessons January 17th, 3:00 p.m. at Irving Recreation Center. Thank you to all of the dancers that came to visit us this past year. We love having new faces to dance with. If you are in the Norman area some Saturday night, please come and join us. We dance the 1st and 3rd Saturday nights of each month. Thank you to our caller Bob Thomas for your hard work, dedication and great calling this year. We look forward to another fantastic year of square dancing to you!!

Presidents are Bill and Reatha Schlegel & Bob Thomas is our caller.

**SHAWNEE SQUARE EIGHTS:** Greetings from Shawnee! We plan to begin lessons January 14th at the Towers, 1130 East Independence (east of Walgreen's) in Shawnee. Charges will be \$3.00 per person per lesson.

We dance each month on the 2nd & 4th Saturdays from 7:30 to 10 pm. Our dances are held at the Shawnee Municipal Building located at 10th and Bell. Please come visit us anytime!

Presidents are Bill and Kay Young

**SILVER SPUR OKC:** Silver Spur, OKC, welcomes all Clubs, Callers and Cuers to join us for an evening of fine dancing, fun and fellowship the first and third Saturday nights of the month; Workshop @ 7:30PM; Dance @ 8:00PM. We are looking forward to the upcoming winter dances and our 60/60 Anniversary Celebration planned for March 6-7, 2009 in the spring. A flier will follow in the weeks to come with additional information on the anniversary festivities. We completed our set of Mainstream lessons held this past fall and congratulate and welcome ALL new dancers to the wonderful world of square dancing. You are welcome to dance with us anytime; we would love to have you!

Westside Lions Hall, 4135 NW 10th St., OKC, OK  
Don and Jan Gamble, President                      Gerald McWhirter, Caller

**SINGLE ROUNDS:** '09 finds us finishing up on our latest set of lessons. We have our regular dances following lessons, from 8 to 10 pm every Monday (except 5<sup>th</sup> Mondays) at the Bohemian Hall, 3800 S. Portland. All dancers, both Singles and Couples, are invited to come to dance with us. Admission is \$4/person at the door. Our expert cuer is J.C. Johnson. We invite all of our round dance friends to come visit us this month!

President is Marie Hunter.                      Cuer is J.C. Johnson

**SINGLE SQUARES, INC:** Single Square Dance Club will dance January 2 & 16th....we had a busy holiday in December - a great Christmas Dance so --January we will be taking it easy....Wear Square Dance attire and just come relax and dance with us....The more visitors the more fun we have....our New Offices for 2009.....President, Delores Chambers, 1st VP Harley Watson, Treasurer, Lynn Moore, Editor, Bill Walton...we still have positions open..

Our Single Squares Dance Club dances 1st and 3rd Friday Night at 3800 S. Portland, OKC, at the

Bohemian Hall.

We welcome everyone married or single. Pre-rounds start at 7:00 and then we have workshop at 7:30 for anything you are having trouble with. Square Dancing and Grand March begins at 8:00 pm. The purpose of Singles Squares--- the more people at our dances ---the more fun we get to have...see you in a square!!!

President is Delores Chambers      Caller is Jeff Holley      Cuer is J.C. Johnson

**SPIRIT OF 76:** Everyone Welcome: Spirit of '76 dances the 2nd and 4th Sunday of each month. We dance at the OKC Swing Club, NW 50 & Meridian (in the north east corner of the strip mall), with one of the best dance floors in the area. Great calling by Jeff Holley, great cueing by Jim Couey, great food, and GREAT FUN!!! Rounds at 7:30 & workshop at 7:45. Grand March 8:00.

We will start a new mainstream (beginner) square dance lessons class on Sunday afternoon, February 1st, from 4:00 until 6:00 pm at the OKC Swing Club. Contact Ed or Margaret Kelsay at 720-9800 or 789-3253 for additional information.

Ed & Margaret Kelsay,      Presidents

**SWINGING REBELS:** The Rebels hope that everyone had a very good holiday season. We will be starting the “New Year” with a new board and a new set of lessons. FREE! FREE! Lessons will start on January 12, 2009 at 7:00p.m. at the Warr Acres Community Center, 42nd and Ann Arbor. If you have someone that would like to learn our wonderful hobby then bring them and be their angel to the FREE!! LESSONS.

Our first dance of the New Year will be on January 9, 2009. Our second dance will be our “WINTER WONDERLAND” dance. Come join us any second or forth Friday at the Warr Acres Community Center we have a workshop at 7:30 pm. and our grand march starts at 8:00 pm. Hope to see you in a square real soon. Until then we will keep the lights on and coffee hot and save our yellow rocks to share with you.

Roy and Sharon Taylor, Swinging Rebels Presidents

**TEACUP CHAINS:** Greetings from Teacup Chains! If you have any friends that are interested in square dancing and would like to try it out, we will have an “Open House” dance on Saturday, January 3rd at Peace Lutheran Church (our new dance location). Bobby will be teaching a few easy calls so everyone can dance to music by the end of the night. This will be an introduction to our upcoming lessons.

We will have square dance lessons beginning on Monday, January 12th at the MAC center on Covell in Edmond. The lessons will be on Monday and Thursday nights from 6:30 to 8:30 pm. The cost is only \$20.00 per person. The lessons will run from Jan. 12 to Mar. 26th. To register for lessons, call Edmond Parks & Recreation at 359-4630 or visit the MAC center.

Our caller is Bobby Willis and our new presidents are Doug and Marianne Loveridge at 285-5141

**TERRITORIAL SQUARES**: Everybody - Mark your calendar for January 10th. The Territorial Squares will be celebrating their 20th Anniversary at the American Legion Post 58, located at 123 North 1st Street in Guthrie, OK. We will have a workshop at 7 pm and the Grand March will start at 8 pm. There will be plenty of food, door prizes, and most of all, lots of fun dancing. We send a special invitation to all dancers, to come join us for this special occasion. We will be back to normal (if that's possible) on the 24th of January with our regular dance at the Cabin. We love to have visitors at all of our dances, so come join us any chance you get.

Andy Turner, President/Reporter

**YOUTH STORMIN'**: We have officially moved our dances to St Paul's Catholic Church, 3901 South Sunnyslane in Del City. We dance on the First Friday of each month 8 to 10 pm. Not much to report for us other than we will dance on Friday, January 9<sup>th</sup>. We hope every one had a nice holiday and hope they got everything that they wanted for Christmas! HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Steven Ackerman, President & Caller