

Do Paso Gazette
Gnat Boxers Square Dance Club



2015

Presidents Message:

Following our dance on October 3rd, the club will hold a short meeting. This is our annual meeting please plan to attend the meeting or if you are at the dance plan on staying for a few minutes after the dance. Our club needs the support of all members. We will be electing our new 2016 officers as well as dealing with any other club business that is brought to our attention.

Lessons are beginning all around our area and the Gnat Boxers first two free dances are September 28, and October 5th, with regular lessons beginning October 12th. If you haven't already done so please be sure to invite someone to lessons.

One item that has been the subject of many discussions within our officers meetings, as well as, among our members is that of "Angels". Our Club in recent years has not discussed or made members aware of what is expected of our "angels". Following is some loose guidelines for all angels to keep in mind as we welcome new students and members into our club.

What is an Angel?

Angels are the wonderful people who volunteer their time to ensure that our class has the best possible learning experience. Angels provide

the new class members with their first real look at our club. How angels behave and treat new dancers, other angels, and visitors will affect our new students. Angels are role models. No matter what the instructor and club try to communicate to the students, class members inevitably take their cues from what they see the angels doing. It is important that angels be extra careful to provide good role models. Smile, be enthusiastic, and enjoy the dancing. Be friendly, courteous, and gentle. This is sometimes easier to say than to do, especially if it has been a long day. Although most of us do the right things instinctively the majority of the time it can't hurt to reiterate certain points. The following advice for angels has been extracted from several sources, including articles in square dance publications and handouts prepared for other clubs.

- Angels are not teachers; this is perhaps the most common misconception that causes problems. The primary teaching function of an angel is to teach by example. To be in the right place at the right time. One important thing you can do is to establish handholds after every move. This not only helps the students maintain their orientation in the square, it is a very good habit to develop. It is always tempting to explain something your square is not getting and the

students will often ask you to do this. Please resist while the teacher/caller is at the microphone. It diverts the student's attention from the teacher and one of the most important things to learn in beginner class is to listen to the teacher/caller. Angels can clarify a simple point for students between tips; this is fine, and helps our dancers feel welcome.

- Another difficult point is just how much help and guidance we should give in getting dancers into the right place. Dancers, after all, must learn to do the moves on their own. To gently guide someone through a maneuver if they have a momentary lapse of memory might be okay and sometimes one can help by indicating nonverbally where a person should go. But we accomplish little by pushing or pulling a dancer through an action when he or she doesn't know what was supposed to have been done. It is better to let a square break down rather than to use too much force getting people into the right place. Broken down squares is an indication to the instructor that the dancers are having problems. Do be sure the caller/teacher is aware of problems, raise your hand if necessary and ask the teacher to explain something if your square is having trouble. Be careful, however, not to embarrass any dancer by the way you ask for help. It is much better to say that "the square is not getting" a certain move rather than saying "Steve isn't getting" a certain move.
- Encourage students. Let them know that all new dancers make mistakes and that

things get better with practice. Angels do make mistakes too. It is good to admit to them cheerfully as it makes the students less tense about their own mistakes.

- Square up with everyone, seek out the weaker students and ask them to dance with you. Make sure that students are not sitting out because angels are dancing.
- End Conversations Promptly -- when the caller/teacher begins a tip. If you are not dancing, keep your conversations low in the dance area.
- Remember -- your name badge. The new students have to remember our names as we try to learn theirs.

Most importantly remember Square Dancing is fun. Let's enjoy our new class of students as we once again develop friendships set to music.

We will have a sign-up sheet for anyone who wants to earn their "angel badge" beginning with the first regular lesson on October 12th.

As always we encourage you to share any concerns and suggestions. We will do our best to address these and represent all our members. God Bless you all.

***Respectfully your Presidents,
Kevin and Pam Brazee***

Dance Highlights

The September 19th dance welcomed caller, John Ramsey and cuer, Bruce Haislip. It was

attended by 34 members and 30 guests. Members provided a variety of apple dishes for refreshments for the evening. There was a total of \$32 in the 50/50 drawing. Norton Grand Squares and the Circulators raided the dance. Other visiting clubs were Fun Shop, Medina Squares, Swing-a-Lings, Solo Squares, Western Whirlers, and Broken Wheel. A guest from Norton Grand Squares won the door prize provided by Scott & Rhonda Boothby.

A BIG THANK YOU to all who participated in the demo dance at the Wayne County Fair this year.

Please keep the following in your prayers: Judy Jacquet, Jim Poff, Linda Staggs, Glen Shaffer and Elaine Weygandt.



Traveling with Dick

- Oct. 4 - Federation Dance - Brunswick
2-5 p.m.
- Oct. 5 - Gnat Boxers - 2nd Free lesson
- Oct. 10 - Cloverleaf's - Shelby
- Oct. 12 - Gnat Boxers - lessons
- Oct. 17 - Gnat Boxers - Wooster
- Oct. 18 - Cleveland Fed. Dance - Rocky River
- Oct. 19th - Gnat Boxers - lessons -
Continue every Monday night thru Oct.
And November.
- Nov. 13 - Dixie Squares - Fredericktown

Upcoming Dances

Oct. 3 – Ray Wiles, Caller; Phyllis Burdette, Cuer



Oct. 11 - Celebration Dance - OARDC

w/ Scotty Sharrer & Tom Strickland at Fisher Auditorium – OARDC – Wooster

Oct. 17 – Dick Mackey, Caller; Kristy Lake, Cuer HOBO DANCE/ HOBO STEW

All members bring a can of veggies to add to the stew.

Nov. 7 – Jacky Pladdys, caller; Sue Powell, cuer 8 – 11 p.m.



10-25 Helen Hawkins



- 10 – 9 Bob & Louise McAfee
- 10-11 Scott & Rhonda Boothby
- 10-17 Dan & Diane Austen
- 10-20 Earl & Sue Nickles
- 10-21 Kevin & Pam Brazee

2015 Officers

Pres. – Pam & Kevin Brazee

330-262-5281

V. Pres. – Tom & Elaine Weygandt

330-262-1963

Treas. – Bob & Jane Moore

330-345-6587

Asst. Treas. – Bimp & Mary Hawthorne

330-345-7911

Sec'y. – Harold & Michelle Mong

330-464-3037

Refreshment Comm. – Judy & Larry Jaquet

330-695-3010

Banner Raid Chairmen – Pat Brinkerhoff & Larry Webb

330-264-0211

Federation Reps – Dick & Nancy Mackey

330-264-2725

Alternates – Kevin & Pam Brazee

Message from your secretary....Please report any news, suggestions, **birthdays and/or anniversaries** or any necessary information for the newsletter to us at 330-464-3037 or email us at mmong16@yahoo.com The information must be in my hands no later than the second dance of the month. Don't forget to let us know if you should change your address, email address or phone number. To receive your copy of the newsletter by email, please send us an email request, or provide your information on the sign-up sheets. Also, please be sure to visit the club website at www.qnatboxers.com



We are in need of volunteers for refreshments for the remaining dances for 2015. Please take your turn and help us out.

With Sympathy

to Don Smedley who lost his wife in September this year.



Angels are needed at our lessons.

We had 29 new people the first week.



***Gnat Boxers Square Dance Club
Harold & Michelle Mong
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Jeromesville, OH 44840***