



Buckles & Bows Square Dance Club



Volume 47, Issue 8

Editors: Pat & Jerry Akers

President's Message Greetings everyone.

Well, it's Déjà vu all over again. Seems like every time I sit down to write a President's Message my first thoughts are " Now how the hell do I come up with another positive spin on the Corona Virus."

Here goes. According to an article in the LA Times dated August 30, 1990 there were no less than twelve Square Dance Clubs in Ventura County. Now there are two. The positive spin you ask ? The challenge brought about by the COVID Virus has caused us to form an even stronger alliance with the other remaining club in Ventura County, The Boots and Slippers in Simi Valley. At our most recent Tuesday Workshop over one fourth of the dancers were from Boots and Slippers and several others belong to both clubs. It has always been our belief that continued cooperation between these clubs will help us not only survive but continue to grow as we were before this pause for the COVID.

To that end, our first class for new dancers in over two years is being held on Tuesday February 1st. We are confident that the new format, which we have discussed previously, will encourage more folks to not only join the class but stay with us after they graduate. It's probably true that the Vaccination and Mask requirements will keep the numbers down somewhat but the response from our members and potential class members has been very positive. With Mike Seastrom's enthusiastic and confident leadership we expect this class to spark a new beginning in the continued growth of Buckles and Bows.

See You in a Square.

Bill & Nancy



Fun Time at the Dec 5th Holiday Party

75 club members and guests attended the wonderful party. As promised, there was time for dancing and for socializing. Dale Hoppers called a very nice variety of dances. The event flyer was beautifully designed by the Steve Buczynski and Jerry Akers. The food table was fabulously designed by Brad Baker and the kitchen volunteers were streamlined by Donna Baker and Pat Akers. The beverages were nicely presented by the Jambor's and Weiser's.

Weeks before the Decoration Committee had a craft workshop to prepare the decorations. On party day, the decorations went up without a hitch. The hall looked wonderful, thanks to everyone who participated.

Thank you to everyone who pitched in for a speedy cleanup...

It was a very successful event, even with the COVID masks restrictions, we were able to have a good time.

Thank you so much.

Paulette Clemens,



7TH Annual Blue Box Project

Collection of Feminine Products to Benefit Lighthouse For Women and Children

February 1- March 8th
SEE PAGE 5 FOR DETAILS

Important Dates:

- Every Tuesday night, Class for New Dancers
- Blue Box Collection Feb.1st to March 8th
- Saturday February 26th, 47th Anniversary Dance (Caller: David Mee).
- Saturday March 26th, 'Swing into Spring' Club Dance (Caller: Mike Seastrom).

Tribute to Terry Clemens

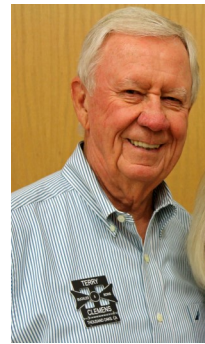
by his wife of 54 years, Paulette.

I would like to thank you for your kindness and sympathetic gestures that were shown to me during the passing of Terry.

Terry truly enjoyed dancing with Buckles and Bows. All the avenues; from the National Conventions to the special festivals, the club visitations, our theme dances; but, most of all the club's interaction. He loved lending a hand wherever there was a need!

I can't thank you enough.

Terry is smiling down on all of us from heaven!
Blessings to all of you,
Paulette



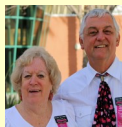
Terry Clemens

Terry Martindale

Into the "Sunset"

Spreading Sunshine

Kathy & Jon
DeForge



**Missing you in
the 'Squares'**

John Hood,
Dan Carnahan,
Joyce Schiable,
Jon DeForge, and
Jim Magnuson

January Birthdays

- David Hankins
- Dorothy Sinclair
- Joyce Schiable
- Javier Reyes
- Frank Schiable
- Bill Vlahos
- Dan Nathan
- Marilyn Benton
- Brigitte Dickinson
- Chuck Stone
- Colette Weiss
- Steve Snider
- Roberta Plost
- Tracey Bolton

February Birthdays

- Bob Peterson
- Edward Hansen
- Bill Kitchens
- Jay LaRue
- Kit Hime
- Pete Pederson
- Dee Bower
- Dean Cunningham
- Betsy Fries
- Ann Duran
- Jessica Lee
- Scott Boucher
- Mike Waters
- Adrienne Clack
- Alan Grant

**February
Anniversaries**

- Ted & Joanne Noller
- Kevin & Juli Hamilton

Modern Square Dancing

**HEY LOOK!!!
NEW CLASS DATE**

**Class Every Tuesday
February 1 through May 10
7:00 - 8:30 pm
First 2 Classes FREE**

**High
Energy**



Buckles and Bows Square Dance Club

Donation: \$5 per person

Proof of COVID Vaccination Required

Or proof of negative COVID test within 48 hours

Local mask requirements apply

Goebel Adult Community Center

1385 E. Janss Rd.

Thousand Oaks, CA 91362

Information: Joanne (805) 231-6222

Bill (805) 368-5371

Visit Us @

Web Page: <http://www.bucklesandbows.org/>

Facebook: Buckles & Bows Square Dance Club Thousand Oaks CA

Joanne Cunningham suggested the newsletter could be a path for us to learn about our fellow club member's backgrounds. She has provided the first article in the new 'Our Story' series. The idea is club members contribute a short biography to be shared. The hope is even with limited social contact, we can learn about each other. Please send your one page or less stories to Pat and Jerry Akers email: akers.jerry.e@gmail.com. A special thank you to John Duhig, This featured continues because he hunts down 'volunteers'.

Our Story - Bill and Nancy Armstrong



Bill was raised primarily in the Eastern part of San Diego County as the second of nine children by his schoolteacher father and for obvious reasons, stay at home mother. Because money was short he worked his way through high school and almost two years of college before a series of events which shaped their future took place. In 1965, he dropped a college class which took him below the magic number of 12 units which were required to keep you out of the draft. This was right at the start of a major build up of forces in Vietnam and less than thirty days after dropping the class he had his draft notice. Bill opted to enlist in the Air Force rather than go into the Army. Eventually being stationed at McConnell Air Force Base in the foreign land of Wichita, Kansas. Little did he know that waiting nearby was the beautiful girl that he would spend his life with.

Nancy was raised as the second of six children on a farm owned by her extended family near Burlingame, Kansas which Bill always describes as being two grain elevators Southwest of Topeka. Many people are surprised to learn that Nancy first learned to drive on a tractor at about age 12 and spent most of her non-school hours doing farm related chores. During high school she worked behind the soda fountain in the local drug store and still makes a great pineapple soda. After high school with the help of an uncle she received a scholarship from a business college in Wichita, which included working as a nanny for a prominent family in return for room and board. Little did she know that lurking nearby was an Airman who couldn't wait to meet her.

It wasn't exactly a blind date for Bill since he had spotted her from a distance while both were visiting a friend. He later asked his friend who the girl in the blue shorts was. Turns out Nancy and his girlfriend went to school together. As luck would have it, Nancy had just broken up with some sad Kansas boy and agreed to meet Bill. Having grown up a Methodist near an Air Force Base, there were two kinds of guys she wasn't supposed to date, Air Force guys and Catholics. Since Bill represented both groups, that made him especially attractive to her. They hit it off immediately, he was attracted to her beauty and winning personality and she, according to her, was most impressed by the fact that he lived less than 100 miles from Disneyland!

After a short, and dare I say passionate courtship, they were married on March 16th, 1968 at the chapel on McConnell Air Force Base. Their honeymoon consisted of one night at The Lassen Hotel in Wichita, where Nancy fell asleep almost immediately and Bill watched an old movie on black & white T.V. Thus began a 53 year saga that continues to this day.

After being discharged in 1969, they left the prairie behind and settled for a short time in El Cajon where they both quickly found work. Bill as the office manager for a Mobile Home Dealership and Nancy in the accounting department for Travelodge. Only a couple years later after saving the incredible sum of \$6,000 dollars they opened their own Mobile Home dealership in Agoura Hills. Nancy was very reluctant to sign an inventory loan for \$100,000 with The General Electric Credit Corporation, but as Bill explained, "well if we can't pay it back, I'm pretty sure they won't eat us". This began 50 years of adventures and misadventures in the business world that included time in the Mobile Home industry, Recreational Vehicles, Auto parts and eventually led to our business of the past 20 years as General Contractors. Through it all, we worked side by side and only occasionally would an exasperated but loving Nancy would say "Can't you just get a job?"

Our son Steve was born in 1972 and 5 years later our second son, Scott arrived on the scene. We enjoyed all the experiences of raising two energetic boys. There were sports, little league, swimming & water polo and great times spent with our extended families. Both went on to graduate from college and Steve after several years at Microsoft is presently the CFO of tech startup in the Seattle area. We would love to tell you what he does, but don't understand a word of it. Scott on the other hand got a degree in Construction Management. We've always felt that this was for the sole purpose of being able to tell us everything we do wrong. For several years now Scott has been running our construction business in Moorpark and Bill goes in about once a week to return the favor. Between them we are the very proud grandparents of three girls and two boys. The two oldest are students at Boise State University, two are in high school and one in Jr. High.

As we were gradually easing out of the daily activities of running the business, Nancy suggested that we needed to find an activity that we could do together and suggested ballroom dancing. Bill countered with "how about we try square dancing." That was 2008 and since then Square Dancing and the friends we have made have become a focal point of our lives.

In 2013 in a moment of weakness we said "sure we'll be Presidents for a year or two"....and the rest is history.

Bill & Nancy



BlueBox
project | IN MEMORY OF
REBECCA READ

What

A donation drive for feminine products (tampons, pads, deodorant, shampoo, soap, Body wash, etc.) for women n need in Ventura County

The **Blue Box Project** was started in 2015 by our granddaughter, Rebecca Read, as a service project for her Girl Scout Gold Award. She established this project to collect donations of sanitary and personal hygiene products for women affected by domestic violence. She installed collection boxes in churches. It was her hope that the project would continue for years to come, and it has. Visitors to those churches have taken the idea out to other states. Sadly, Rebecca lost her life in an auto accident in the summer of 2016.

In Thousand Oaks we are holding our 7th annual Blue Box Project to honor what would have been Rebecca's 24th birthday, Feb 17th.

All donations will be delivered to the Lighthouse for Women and Children.

Items accepted Feb. 1st-Mar. 8th.

Thanks for your support.

Jerry & Pat Akers



HOW TO DONATE:

- Bring items to Class on March 1st and 8th
- Look for the Blue Box on our porch at 1583 Wakefield, TO
- Or directly through our Amazon Wishlist link that appears below

https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/375YEW7XYTDSM?ref_=wl_share

BUCKLES & BOWS

47th Anniversary Dance

Caller: **David Mee**

Cuer: **Gary McLaughlin**

Saturday, February 26, 2022



Plus Level 7:30 to 10:00 pm

Rounds 7:00 to 7:30 & between tips

Bonus Advanced Tip at 10:00

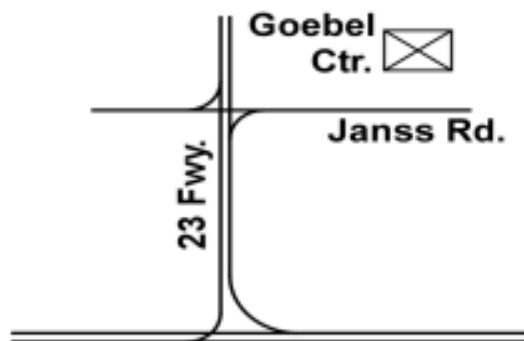
Donation : \$ 10.00 per person

Proof of COVID Vaccination Required

Or proof of negative COVID test within 48 hours

Local mask requirements apply.

Goebel Adult Community Center



Coming Dances:
March 26 – Mike Seastrom
April 23 – Rod Shuping

Information:
Bill & Nancy (805) 368-5371

1/2 block East of 23 Freeway
1385 E. Janss Road
Thousand Oaks

Visit Us @

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Facebook: [Buckles & Bows Square Dance Club Thousand Oaks CA](#)

Swing Into Spring

Caller: Mike Seastrom

Cuer: Joe Scarlatella

Saturday, March 26, 2022

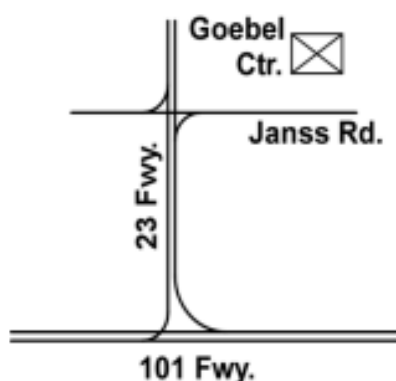
Plus Level 7:30 to 10:00 pm

Rounds 7:00 to 7:30 and between Tips

Donation \$10.00

*Proof of COVID Vaccination Required
Or proof of negative COVID test within 48 hours
Local mask requirements apply.*

Goebel Adult Community Center



Coming Dances:
April 23 Rod Shuping
May 28 Andy Allemao

**1/2 block East of 23 Freeway
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BUCKLES & BOWS

December Happenings - Holiday Party




--Feb 1st--
New Dancers Class



--January Happenings --
Mardi Gras Dance



		<i>1 New Class 1st Night</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>5</i>
<i>6</i>	<i>7</i>	<i>8 New Class 2nd Night</i>	<i>9</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>12</i>
<i>13</i>	<i>14 Valentines Day</i> 	<i>15 New Class 3rd Night</i>	<i>16</i>	<i>17</i>	<i>18</i>	<i>19</i>
<i>20</i>	<i>21</i>	<i>22 New Class 4th Night</i>	<i>23</i>	<i>24</i>	<i>25</i>	<i>26 47th Anniversary Dance</i>
<i>27</i>	<i>28</i>	<i>1 Mar. Mardi Gras</i>				

Buckles & Bows Square Dance Club
1583 Wakefield Ave.
Thousand Oaks, CA 91360

Live Lively -



Square Dance!

