



Buckles & Bows Square Dance Club



Volume 47, Issue 8

Editors: Pat & Jerry Akers

President's Message Greetings everyone.

It's sure great to see life returning to something resembling what we once considered normal. For Buckles and Bows that means our Tuesday classes are well attended by new dancers and returning "Angels". Mike Seastrom is keeping things lively and fun as he introduces our new SSD format. Our monthly dances are also beginning to look like 2019 again. Our January dance featuring Mike Seastrom calling and Cindy Mauer Cueing and our 47th Anniversary dance in February with David Mee and Gary McLaughlin were very well attended by Buckles and Bows members and visitors from many other clubs as well.

As all of you know, we have a lot of people asking how we have maintained such a strong club after the long Covid interruption. We believe that there are many reasons but one that is often overlooked is the continuing strong support that we get from our "Advanced Dancers." In too many clubs, the folks who go on to dance in the A1 and A2 programs seem to lose interest in helping their original clubs and focus only on the advanced programs. Often these are people who had been in leadership positions in their respective clubs leaving a void that may be hard to fill. At Buckles and Bows, nearly everyone who has gone into the advanced programs have also remained active and supportive club members including some who continue to serve on our Board of Directors. We believe that it's the kind of leadership that they show that keeps our club moving forward while others struggle to find a way.

It won't be long before we will be looking for folks interested in joining our Board of Directors or volunteering to help in other ways so be thinking about how you might be able to add your support.

See You in a Square.

Bill and Nancy Armstrong



Winter Spring Class Update

We are glad to report that class is in full swing, and everyone is having a very good time. We have been dancing with approximately eight or nine squares each week, which we think is a good turnout at this first class after COVID.

As of last week, masks became optional, so some people wear them, some don't. It's an individual choice. We are still requiring proof of vaccinations or a negative test in an attempt to be as safe as possible in our group setting.

This year's class has 24 students registered. It is our first foray into teaching Social Square Dancing, which has just 50 steps to learn before graduation. We're hoping this will bring in more students and enable them to dance quickly, as well as allow Plus dancers to dance at an easier level if they feel unsure of themselves - which many of us do after two years of not dancing.

Thank you to all of our Angel dancers. We have a lot of you coming to help at our classes. We certainly appreciate your help and support.

Class coordinators

Dean and Joanne Cunningham,



Important Dates:

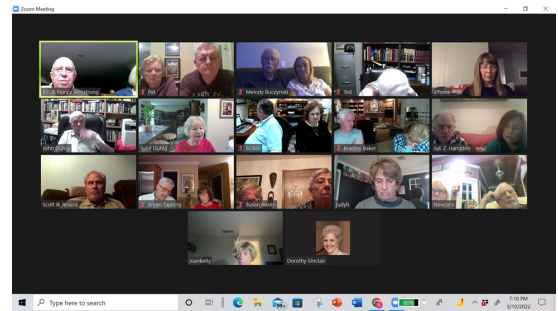
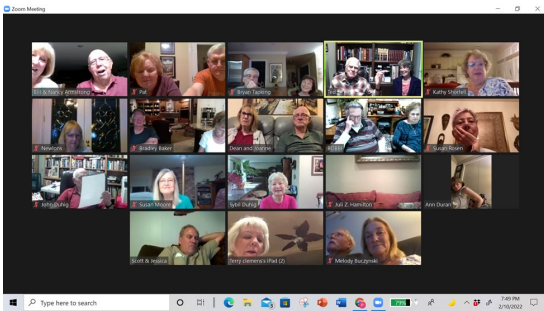
- Every Tuesday night, Class for New Dancers
- Saturday March 26th, 'Swing into Spring' Club Dance (Caller: Mike Seastrom).
- Saturday April 23rd, 'Sunshine or Showers Club Dance (Caller: Rod Shuping)
- Tuesday April 26th, Last night of New Dancers Class

Buckles and Bows Board Meetings

Your board continues to meet via zoom. The screen shots below show attendees at the two meetings Feb. 10th and Mar. 10th.

Major Items Discussed were:

The new dancers class is going well. The Goebel Center will be closed in May for a remodel/refinish. The last night for the current new dancers class will be April 23rd. During May a workshop will be held on Thursday nights at the Dover and Hendrix Rec. Center. Once the Goebel Center work is complete Tuesday night dancing will resume. The 2nd Class New Dancers will start Sept. 13th and end Dec. 13th.



Social Chair

For our Spring Outing, we are looking into a group tour of SoFi Stadium in Inglewood. Another possibility would be an Amtrak Train ride to Ventura or Santa Barbara, both have many points of interest. Closer to home is a tour of the Strathern Historical Park in Simi Valley. Details to come. Contact me with any ideas you think our group would enjoy..

Paulette Clemens



March Birthdays
 Jon Newbill
 Pat Weeks
 Mike Lemos
 John Hood
 Carl McLaren
 Tom Sunderland
 Hall Place
 Linda Eggli
 Mark Spector
 Sharon Hopkins
 Doreen Karsai
 Sybil Duhig
 Suzy Moore

March Anniversaries
 Bill & Nancy Armstrong
 Bob & Roxana Chappell

April Birthdays
 Joanne Cunningham
 Sandi Voullaire
 Mel Wilson
 Melody Buczynski
 Lynn Foerster
 Jeanne Grant
 Herb Oberman
 Bob Sheets
 Sandi Babbitt
 Larry Hapner
 Mike Anderson
 Cindy Levy
 Christine Houghton
 Steve Genstil
 Gary Katzman
 Sandy Hood
 Diane O'Connell
 Lorraine Newlon
 Cheryl Hankins

April Anniversaries
 David & Cheryl Hankins
 Richard & Pat Pool
 Steve & Susan Langberg
 Carl & Cindy McLaren
 Bill & Lynn Vlahos

Spreading Sunshine
 Kathy & Jon DeForge
Stay well and keep dancing

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 - Pat and Jerry Akers



Pat was born in Little Rock, Arkansas. In the middle of kindergarten her family re-settled in Kansas City, KS, where she attended grade school, high school, and junior college. The street in front of the house was a great sledding hill. When the snows came the sleds followed. She completed the last two years of her Bachelor's Degree in Elementary Education at the University of Arkansas. As she finished her classes in mid-year, she was not excited about returning to Kansas City to teach. On somewhat of a lark, she decided to accompany her roommate (also an education major) to a job interview in Port Arthur, Texas. The roommate's longtime boyfriend had recently started working as an engineer at the Dupont Plant in Orange, TX. As it turned out both women were offered teaching positions. So in January off to Texas they went. One to be near her 'steady' and the other to just spread her wings.

Jerry was born in Wichita, Kansas and lived as a toddler in government housing built during World War II for employees at the nearby Boeing plant where B-29 airplanes were built. The family relocated to a new housing development even nearer the Boeing Plant, McConnell Air Force Base, and Cessna Aircraft. With the Beechcraft factory a few miles away on the east side of town and Lear Jet out west a few miles the sky was filled with airplanes big and small. Riding his bike to school in the morning was sometimes an air show. There's the latest small plane or a dozen B-52's flying in formation. A paper route meant early Sunday morning deliveries assisted by his father. Quiet streets, what a wonderful time to learn to drive a 'on the column' stick shift at the age of 12. His father's promotion to 15th Air Force Headquarters at March AFB moved the family to Riverside, California. There Jerry completed high school and attended Riverside City College for two years. He transferred to UC Davis, graduating with a BS in Chemical Engineering. Getting ready to graduate he interviewed mostly California based companies. By chance there was an interview opening at the campus placement center for this east coast chemical company Dupont. Ultimately, he accepted a job at Dupont's Beaumont, Texas works.

What does a newly 'transplanted to Texas' teacher do for her roommate. Get her steady boyfriend to arrange a blind date with one of the other engineers, who just moved to Texas from out of state. Our first blind double date was a Friday night movie. The following Thursday we went dancing at the popular 'Cow Bayou' club in Bridge City, Texas. It was a case of 'Love in the first few weeks'. We met in February and in late April we were engaged with a wedding planned for Christmas time. A few weeks later Jerry was told he was being transferred to Newark, Delaware. Not wanting a prolonged time apart, we moved our wedding up to August 7th, 1970.

Jerry moves to Delaware in June. Pat and Jerry get married in August. For our Honeymoon I took Pat to the most beautiful place I knew 'Yosemite'. Then it's a cross country flight to the new apartment in Delaware. A year later we were transferred to East Brunswick, New Jersey. Our daughter Julianne was born a few miles south of New York City. Our first son Michael came 20 months later also in New Jersey. We move back to Delaware for several years and then to Corpus Christi, Texas where our second son, Thomas was born. Another move to Fort Worth, Texas where our third son Stephen came along. We moved back to Corpus Christi for another stint. In 1990 we moved to Thousand Oaks. In our first 20 years of marriage, we had 8 different addresses and the last 30 years one address.

So, in California, we began a new stage. Our youngest child was in grade school and the oldest in college. Pat returned to teaching, where she met Suzy Moore and Brad Baker. Jerry was working as chemical plant and oil refinery consultant traveling the world, while Pat kept the home fires burning.

Our daughter is a teacher. Our oldest son is the IT manager for his company. Our middle son has his own aeronautical engineering business building specialized UAV's for the Defense Department. Our youngest son is a Catholic priest. We have 4 grandchildren, the oldest is graduating law school and the 3 youngest are all 7th graders.

15 years ago, we were introduced to square dancing by Fred and Suzy Moore. We have been involved in Buckles and Bows since our first lessons. We enjoy the dancing and the people.

Following our retirement in 2012 we have taken short and long trips in our travel trailer. Routinely visited our two children living in Texas. We have also taken long multi-month vacations to Italy and France. In both countries we found via the internet, Square Dance clubs. So, we have danced in France at a regular club lesson and in Italy at an evening dance party. It is amazing to square up with people you can barely communicate with and then magically all the calls are in English and you are dancing away.

Oh, by the way the couple that introduced us were married a year after us. They travel with us in Europe and we visit each other when we can. During our coming two-month RV trip to New York state, we will be spending some time with them at their lake house in Arkansas.

Pat and Jerry

Blue Box Project Results

The Lighthouse for Women and Children thanks Buckles and Bows for the collection of feminine hygiene supplies. This generous donation will supply the 60 women clients for the next year.



The collection spreadout in front of a garage door.



The collection filled the pickup's bed and the rear seat of the Club cab

Swing Into Spring

Caller: **Mike Seastrom**

Cuer: **Joe Scarlatella**

Saturday, March 26, 2022

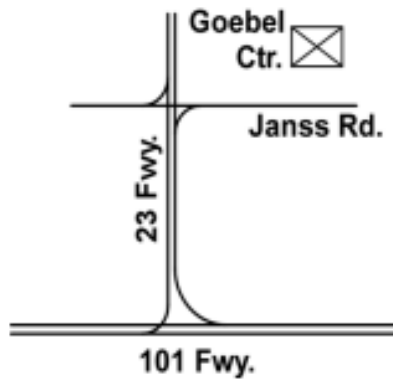
Plus Level 7:30 to 10:00 pm

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
1385 E. Janss Road
Thousand Oaks**

Information:
Bill & Nancy
(805) 368-5371

Visit Us @

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

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

BUCKLES & BOWS

Sunshine or Showers

BUCKLES & BOWS

Caller: Rod Shuping

Cuer: Gary McLaughlin

Saturday, April 23, 2022

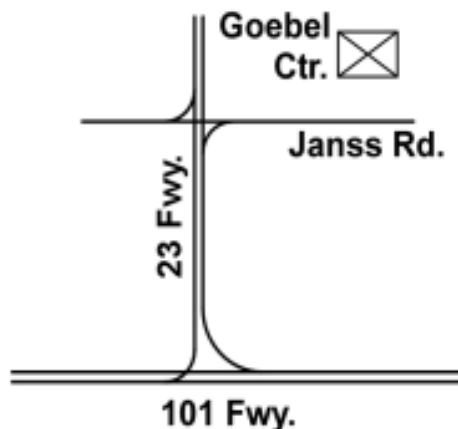
Plus Level 7:30 to 10:00 pm

Bonus Advanced Tip at 10:00

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.*



Information:

Bill & Nancy (805)368-5371

Coming Dances:

May 28 - Andy Allemao

June 25 - Darren Gallina

Goebel Adult Community Center

1/2 block East of 23 Freeway

1385 E. Janss Road

Thousand Oaks

Visit Us @

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

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

February and March Photos



Remember Dancing with Masks



March 2022

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

		<i>1</i> <i>Class</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>5</i>
<i>6</i>	<i>7</i>	<i>8</i> <i>Class</i>	<i>9</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>12</i>
<i>13</i>	<i>14</i>	<i>15</i> <i>Class</i>	<i>16</i>	<i>17</i>	<i>18</i>	<i>19</i>
<i>20</i>	<i>21</i>	<i>22</i> <i>Class</i>	<i>23</i>	<i>24</i>	<i>25</i>	<i>26</i> <i>Club</i> <i>Dance</i>
<i>27</i>	<i>28</i>	<i>29</i> <i>Class</i>	<i>30</i>	<i>31</i>		

April 2022

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

					1	2
3	4	5 Class	6	7	8	9
10	11	12 Class	13	14	15	16
17	18	19 Class	20	21	22	23 Club Dance
24	25	26 Last Night of Class	27	28	29	30

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

Live Lively -



Square Dance!

