

HOT TIPS



FEBRUARY 2013



Welcome new dancers!

By embarking into the world of modern western style square dancing, you join a surprisingly-large and close-knit community of friends.

In lieu of a boring meeting or Monday night announcements that are even more epic and long than usual, here's everything(?) you need to know for orientation:

Who are you people? The Hotlanta Squares is the second-largest square dancing club in the state of Georgia. The Club is a member of the International Association of Gay Square Dance Clubs (IAGSDC), and most of us are proud to be gay, lesbian, bisexual, or transgender; but, not all of us are, and we like you whether you are or are not. At heart, we are fun-loving people who like to dance. Some of us have been dancing for only a few months; some have been dancing for 40 years.

What happens if I miss a night? Square dancing lessons are cumulative, so you will want to come each week, but if you are sick or have to work late, please check our website to see what calls the class learned, and check out the online demonstrations so you can keep up. Sad, but true: to keep classes clicking along smoothly, if you miss more than three classes, we have to ask you to start over again at our next open house this fall – not that this will happen. You're going to want to commit to us anyway.

What happens on Tuesday nights? Our beloved Club Caller, Johnny Jones, teaches four levels of dancing: Mainstream (aka "Basic"); Plus; Advanced; and Challenge. Mainstream and Plus happen on Mondays; Advanced and Challenge happen on Tuesdays. Everyone who has a fancy name tag has

completed the mainstream class **at least once**. Most people complete each level at least twice before progressing to the next level. When it comes to Challenge level (very tricky), most dancers complete Advanced lessons several times before moving up.

What's an Angel? An Angel is someone who has mastered a level, who still appears for that level's classes to help new dancers. Please note, however – while we depend on our angels to help out new dancers, there is only ONE instructor in the class, and that's the guy we pay (Johnny). If you are not sure how to do something, feel free to holler out, "Oh Captain, My Captain!" and Johnny will get you on track.

(Angels, please see page 10 for guidelines)

Anything special I'm supposed to do? Decide whether you will dance boy or girl and then stick with that same role each week. Show up each Monday night. Say yes every time someone asks you to dance. Don't be afraid to ask people to dance. Speak up if you don't understand a call. Dance with different people each tip. Have fun!

The style of dancing you learn with us is the same style taught around the world. Some of our members fly around the country and around the world to dance with other clubs. Becoming a square dancer ensures a connection to more than 100 people like you in Atlanta alone, and gives you something interesting to talk about in job interviews. And did we mention we have dances? You will love us, and we will love you. Welcome aboard, and see you in a square!

Christie Ayotte, President, 2012-2013

Where Would We Be Without Penny Jones



We all think of Johnny as the captain of the class, and without him, our lessons would be pretty sad indeed, but there is another square dancer in our midst, one with perfect attendance and high-level dancing skills. A “buy one, get one free,” if you will.

Whether dancing Mainstream, Plus, or Advanced, the lovely and talented Penny Jones is always willing to step in to complete a square when we need only one more person. She dances girl, she dances boy, and she flawlessly provides demonstrations for new moves.

It should be no secret to you by now that the board has made member retention a focus of this term, by creating a Sunshine Committee. But did you ever wonder who helps keep up with the list of who’s in class and who’s MIA? That’s right – Penny volunteered to do that for us.

We are very lucky to have Johnny as our Club Caller, but next time you think, “Man, that was fun!” remember the one who’s there whenever we need her – and say thank you to Penny.



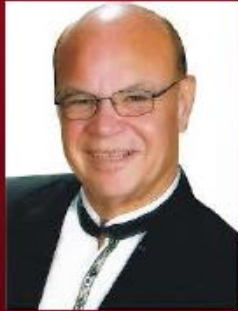
DO YOU HAVE SOMETHING TO ADVERTISE? GARAGE SALE? ROOM TO RENT? NEED A TRAVEL-MATE? LOOKING FOR A JOB?

Send me the following information by the 15th of the month and your ad will be in the next month’s newsletter. Send to Eileen: elstone@bellsouth.net



NAME:	DATE:
TIME	EVENT TYPE:
LOCATION:	ANYTHING ELSE WE NEED TO KNOW?

Circle To A Valentine Dance



Saturday, February 16th

Caller: Jimmy Roberson

5 - 7 pm A/C

7 - 8 pm Line Dance Lessons - Eileen Stone

8-10 pm MS/Plus and Hot Hash

Tickets: \$6 Members / \$8 Non-members
\$4 Non-dancers

Location: Christopher Hall at Rehoboth Presbyterian Church 2729
Lawrenceville Hwy., Decatur, GA 30033

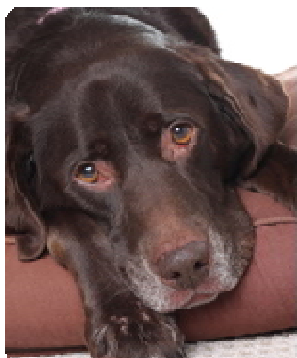


Please bring cat and dog food for
Pets Are Loving Support (PALS)



Pets Are Loving Support

Help a friend keep a friend



PALS is in desperate need for dry dog food
We prefer pedigree but will take any brand.

Thank you for your donations and thank you for
your continued support of Pets Are Loving Support!

Please Call Now 404-876-7257



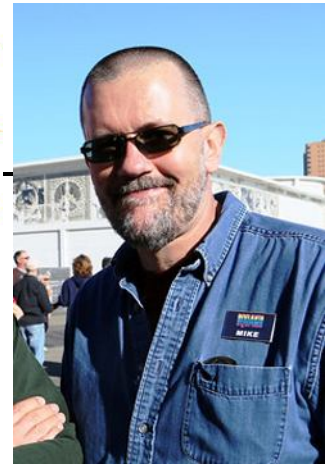
P.A.L.S. is a volunteer-based organization. P.A.L.S. currently does not receive any federal or state funding. P.A.L.S. is a non-profit 501(c)3 organization and relies on donations from area businesses and private donations.



IN THE BEGINNING....

The February issue of HOT TIPS focuses on people that have been with the club since its inception: Mike Shagina, Ann Qi and Mick Coleman.

Mike Shagina



Your Name?	Mike Shagina
How do you pronounce that?	Shuh-gee-na
Are you named after anyone?	My father
Favorite square dance call?	Make Magic *poof*
Where do You live?	Decatur
Occupation? Where?	Visual Information Specialist at CDC
Strangest/Most Interesting Job You Ever Had?	
What do you do for fun when you're not square dancing?	Paint, play music
Your Astrological Sign?	Leo
Have a significant other? Anyone we know?	No
Have any pets/kids? Details!	A cat named "Tucker"
Your favorite movies?	2001: A Space Odyssey, Crouching Tiger-Hidden Dragon, Rocky Horror Picture Show, Aliens, Clockwork Orange
TV shows you love?	Breaking Bad, American Horror Story, True Blood, Futurama, Family Guy
TV show that never should have been canceled?	Carnivale
What radio station do you listen to?	90.1 WABE
What's your guilty pleasure?	Trashy Sci-Fi and Horror movies
Where is "Home" for you?	Atlanta, but I'm from Anaconda, Montana
Best vacation you ever took?	My first trip to Europe, went to Amsterdam and Paris.
What are people surprised to learn about you?	I play and collect guitars
Ever held a Hotlanta Squares leadership position? What role & when?	Webmaster, VP/President 2008-9/Emeritus, Marketing and Promotions, PDP 9 Chair 2010.

Ann Qi



Your Name?	Ann Qi (pronounced like “cheese” without the “se”)
How do you pronounce that?	
Are you named after anyone?	No.
Favorite square dance call?	[anything] and Roll
Where do You live?	Downtown Decatur
Occupation? Where?	Accountant, SunTrust
Strangest/Most Interesting Job You Ever Had?	A Medicaid audit internship at the state government, only because I got to watch a lot of protests outside.
What do you do for fun when you’re not square dancing?	Reading, listening music, armchair traveling via YouTube and Google Map
Your Astrological Sign?	Aries
Have a significant other? Anyone we know?	No
Have any pets/kids? Details!	None
Your favorite movies?	Historical epics, adventure, foreign language
TV shows you love?	Sex and the city, Queer as folks
TV show that never should have been canceled?	I canceled TV, period.
What radio station do you listen to?	NPR for now; Kicks 101 when I was a country dance enthusiast
If you had a personal theme song, what would it be?	“I hope you dance” by LeAnn Womack
What’s your guilty pleasure?	Surfing the internet in three languages – it’s very time-consuming
Where is “Home” for you?	Where I live
Best vacation you ever took?	Two weeks in Ukraine on my own in the fall of 2012
What’s in the trunk of your car?	Just a jumping cable, I think.
What are people surprised to learn about you?	That I don’t like to talk about “levels”?
Ever held a Hotlanta Squares leadership position? What role & when?	Treasurer, July 2003 – June 2007
Belong to any other square dance clubs? Which ones?	I dance with the Matrix South group in Hapeville sometimes. It’s not a formal club.

Mick Coleman



Your Name?	Mick
How do you pronounce that?	Mick, rhymes with tick
Are you named after anyone?	My paternal grandfather
Favorite square dance call?	Relay the Deucey / Cast a Shadow
Where do You live?	Clayton, Georgia
Occupation? Where?	Recently retired from the University of Georgia (Department of Human Development and Family Science)
Strangest/Most Interesting Job You Ever Had?	Early in my career, as a behavior specialist at Georgia Regional Hospital at Savannah, I quickly discovered the folly of attempting group counseling with schizophrenics, especially when a number of individuals all proclaimed to be Jesus Christ.
What do you do for fun when you're not square dancing?	Running and gardening. This summer, I'm taking a pottery hand building class at John Campbell Folk School.
Your Astrological Sign?	Pisces
Have a significant other? Anyone we know?	No significant other
Have any pets/kids? Details!	I have periodic visits from deer, bears, coyotes, and most recently wild turkeys.
Your favorite movies?	The James Bond series (at least those with Sean Connery & Daniel Craig)
TV shows you love?	Star Trek / Vicar of Dibley
TV show that never should have been canceled?	Wonderfalls (2004)
What radio station do you listen to?	I constantly push the scan button.
If you had a personal theme song, what would it be?	According to an online quiz sponsored by Seventeen Magazine (as good an authority any anything else on this topic), my theme song is "Someone Like You" by Adele.
What's your guilty pleasure?	Almost anything chocolate
Where is "Home" for you?	Clayton, Georgia Although I do miss Decatur
Best vacation you ever took?	Barcelona / Ibiza
What's in the trunk of your car?	Currently, bails of pine straw
What are people surprised to learn about you?	I have a twin sister.
Ever held a Hotlanta Squares leadership position? What role & when?	Public Affairs Chair around 2004; Photography Chair for our 2011 IAGSDC GWTW convention
Belong to any other square dance clubs? Which ones?	I'm thinking of visiting the High Mountain Squares (Franklin, NC) or the Currahee Squares (Toccoa, Ga), depending upon their dress codes.



Marsharee C.	Feb. 3
Mark W.	Feb. 6
Chris J.	Feb. 8
Jesse P.	Feb. 10
Joel S.	Feb. 14
John B.	Feb. 20
Mick C.	Feb. 25
Fred F.	Feb. 28

Check out our new Website and Facebook pages!

HOTLANTA SQUARES
P.O. Box 15533
Atlanta, GA 30333
hotlanta.squares@gmail.com
WWW.HOTLANTASQUARES.ORG

[https://www.facebook.com/
groups/hotlantasquares/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/hotlantasquares/)

MARCH MIX DANCE

TOOLS & TULLE



CALLER: ROGER LONEY from COLUMBUS, GA
SATURDAY, MARCH 23rd, 2013

5 - 7 PM Advanced

7 - 8 PM Line Dancing / 2-Step

8 - 10 PM MS/Plus/Hot Hash

Tickets: \$6 Members / \$8 Non-members

First Metropolitan Community Church of Atlanta
1379 Tullie Road
Atlanta, GA 30329

April Acey Deucey Dance



Saturday, April 13th
Caller - Chris Phillips
from South Florida
3:30 - 5:30pm: A & C
7:00 - 10:00pm:
MS/ Plus / Hot Hash/
DBD

Tickets: \$6 Members
\$8 Non-members

First Metropolitan Community
Church of Atlanta
1379 Tullie Road
Atlanta, GA 30329

HOTLANTA
SQUARES

PDP 12 “The Wild, Wild West Show”

Jan. 17th through Jan. 19th, 2014

I know we have just barely rested from PDP 11 (thank you Danny Miller and company for an awesome time), but now our attention turns to PDP 12 in January 2014. The theme for our fly-in will be “The Wild, Wild West Show.” So, we now need to get a little organized.

If you are interested in serving on a committee or just have ideas I want to talk to you. I’m going to have a very BRIEF meeting on Monday, March 4th at 7:30pm. Yes, I know it’s during class time but hopefully you’ll just miss one tip. This meeting will help us in identifying folks interested in taking on a committee responsibility and even may consider being the Co-Chair for the fly-in.

Remember, the Co-Chair this year will put on the fly-in for PDP 13 in January 2015. We are excited to have callers from across the country: Gary Monday (Seattle), Darren Galina (California), and Aaron Wells (St. Louis). It should be a “Wild” time.

Thank you.
Kent Tolleson
PDP 12
Chairperson



**30th Annual
IAGSDC Convention
San Francisco
July 4-7, 2013
sanfrancisco2013.org**

Schedule of Events (Tentative)

Friday, June 28	Transgender March	
Saturday, June 29	Dyke March	
Sunday, June 30	Gay Pride Celebration	
Monday, July 1	GCA Callers School Starts	
Tuesday, July 2	Sister Bingo - All Join Hands benefit	7:30 PM
Wednesday, July 3	Beach Blanket Babylon	7:00 PM
Thursday, July 4	Caller School Dance	10:00 AM - 1:00 PM
	Delegate Meeting	1:00 PM - 4:00 PM
	GCA Meeting	4:00 PM - 6:00 PM
	Trail-in Dance	7:00 PM - 10:00 PM
Friday, July 5	Fun Badge Tour	8:00 AM - 12:00 PM
	Dancing Starts	9:00 AM
	Opening Ceremonies	4:00 PM - 6:00 PM
	Grand March	5:00 PM - 6:00 PM
Saturday, July 6	Banquet	6:00 PM - 8:00 PM
Sunday July 7	Brunoh	12:00 PM - 2:00 PM
	Closing Ceremonies	8:00 PM - 9:00 PM

REGISTER NOW...

Registration Rates

New Dancer	(see article in this issue)	\$165
Standard	thru 3/31/2013	\$225
Procrastinator	thru 7/1/2013	\$265
Non-Dancer	thru 7/1/2013	\$120
Fun Badge Tour	until sold out	\$50

You can register online or by mail. For a mail-in registration form or information on how to register online, go to Weave Your Heart's [registration page](#).

...RESERVE YOUR HOTEL ROOM...

Book your stay at the San Francisco Marriott Marquis at these very reasonable room rates:

Single and Double	\$139 per night
Triple	\$159
Quad	\$179

Our room block runs from **June 27 to July 8** (check-out).

Visit the Weave Your Heart web site's [hotel page](#) for more details and to book on-line, or call 1-877-622-3056 and ask for the group Weave Your Heart.

...AND BOOK YOUR FLIGHT!

American Airlines is offering a **5% discount** on air travel to SFO for our convention. Go to <http://aa.com/group> and use promotion code **6563BY** when booking your flight.

TOP TEN REASONS NEW DANCERS SHOULD WEAVE THEIR HEARTS IN SAN FRANCISCO

10. The first time is always the best.
9. Special \$165 registration rate, and hotel rooms at an incredible \$139 per room night.
8. All day dancing - dance, take a break, dance, eat and dance some more, sleep and repeat next day.
7. They've been doing this every year for thirty years. They must have it figured out by now.
6. Glow-light dance, moonshine (naked) tip, picnic, costume ball, and the Honky Tonk Queen contest!
5. Vacation in a beautiful gay-friendly city, and dance all over the place on the Fun Badge Tour.
4. Top-notch callers from all over the world.
3. Next-level intros with fellow beginners (and repeaters) in the spacious Mainstream Hall.
2. All your coolest square dance friends will be there.
1. It's in San Francisco... duh??

Square Dance Angel Guidelines

When you become a class ANGEL, there are some simple rules to remember:

AN ANGEL has taken Mainstream/Basic class enough times to know the calls without hesitation. If you are breaking down squares you're not ready to be an angel.

AN ANGEL will give up his/her place in a square so that new dancer doesn't sit out.

BE ON TIME. You may be the cause of three other couples sitting out during a teaching tip.

BE OBSERVANT: Make sure that every student is in a square during the teaching tip. BUT don't wait for them to square up. Invite them into your square.

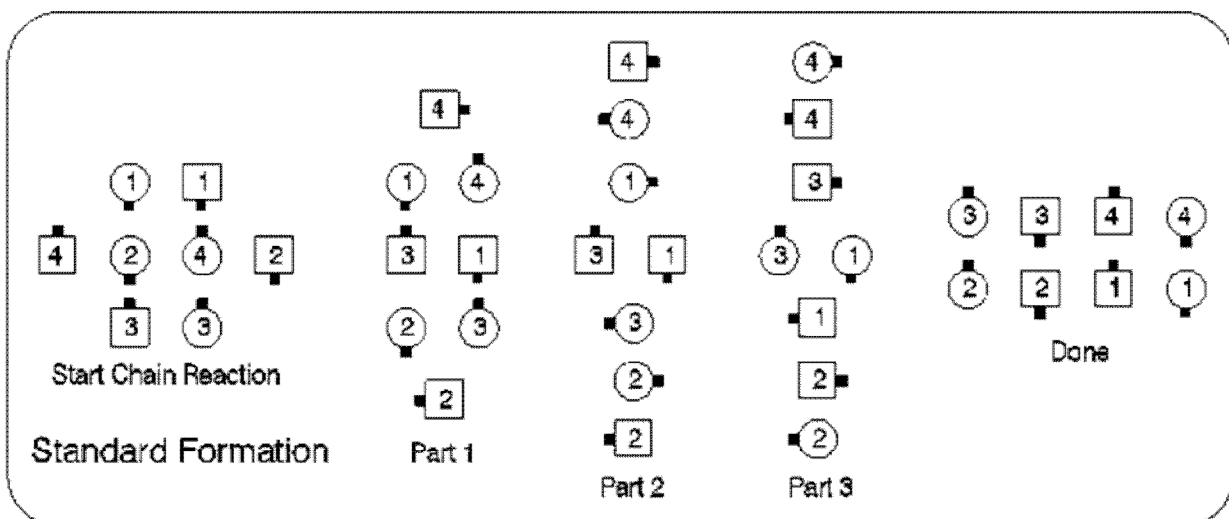
DO NOT TALK IN THE SQUARE when the caller is giving instructions. Learning to listen to the caller's commands requires concentration. No person can listen to two persons at a time. All students should be listening to Johnny.

ANGELS ARE HELPERS, NOT PUSHERS: Students must understand when they are being taught, they must learn to react to each command. To gently guide someone is fine, but we accomplish nothing for the student if he/she has been pushed through an action and doesn't know what was supposed to be done. Angels' action should be gentle but firm.

LET THE CALLER KNOW: if a dancer has not grasped the concept of a call after a reasonable time. The caller can review the call during the next tip. You don't have to "teach" a call during a break, just let them relax.

DANCE WITH THEM: Do you want to keep the new student in your club? Then you must dance with them, talk with them during breaks, encourage them. One of the biggest complaints heard from new dancers is that they are not sure the old club members want them.

Why it's called "Advanced"





HOTLANTA SQUARES CALENDAR

Roger Loney - Tools and Tulle Dance	March 23, 2013	5 - 7 PM 7 - 8 PM 8 - 10 PM	A Line Dancing or 2-Step MS/Plus/Hot Hash	MCC
Chris Phillips	April 13, 2013	3:30 - 5:30 PM 7 - 10 PM	A/C MS/Plus/Hot Hash/DBD	MCC
Dayle Hodge	May 11, 2013	3:30 - 5:30 PM 7 - 10 PM	A/C MS/Plus/Hot Hash/DBD	MCC
Rick Gittelman	June 1, 2013	3:30 - 5:30 PM 7 - 10 PM	A/C MS/Plus/Hot Hash	MCC

IAGSDC CALENDAR



Start/End	Name/Type	Host/Locale
15 18	Flip the Flamingo - Sun And Fun Flyin. Callers: Chris Phillips, Ben Rubright and Michael Cox	SUNCOAST SQUARES St. Petersburg, FL
15 17	ACDC 2013 A/C Weekend - East Coast. Callers: Rob French, Anne Uebelacker, Linda Kendall & Dayle Hodge	DC LAMBDA SQUARES Washington, DC
01-Mar 03-Mar	Shoot the Lone Star 2013: Our First Flyin! Flyin. Callers: Sandie Bryant and Bill Eyler Two large dance halls: one dedicated to MS/Plus and a second dedicated to Adv/Challenge	LONE STAR LAMBDA S Austin, TX

It's all about
**SQUARE
DANCING**