



JANUARY
2018



Changes for the new year – A letter from the Club President

It is time to step outside our comfort zone and shake things up. Our next Open House is scheduled for January 22, 2018. We will do things differently. Open House will be two hours (7:00 PM - 9:00 PM) followed by a meet and greet for the new attendees. No Plus class this night.

As previously announced, we are now a two caller club. Effective this Open House, Clara Welch will teach both Mainstream and Plus on Mondays while Mike Shagina will teach Advanced and Challenge on Tuesdays. Each caller will be a back up for the other in the case of vacations or other absences. Michele Monti will be the New Dancer Coordinator and brings a lot of experience to this assignment having held this position in the past in addition to her tenure as president.

Another big change for the Mainstream class will be that it will be on a tuition basis. Our Open House will be free to everyone and new students can join through the third week. Their first attendance will be free but if they decide to make the commitment to continue, the \$50 down payment will be due on their second night and the balance of \$30 will be due on the 11th class night. This payment plan would actually result in a savings if the student attends all class nights. It has been pointed out that our new students need more dance time so we are expanding the Mainstream class nights to run from 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM followed by Plus from 9:00 PM to 10:00 PM. Advanced and Challenge classes on Tuesdays will be from 7:00 PM to 8:15 PM and 8:15 PM to 9:30 PM respectively.

Several members of the Hotlanta Squares Board attended a "Recruitment and Retention Seminar" at last year's IAGSDC convention in Palm Springs. Several growing clubs have implemented a tuition basis Mainstream class with success. The idea is that new students will make the commitment to attend class and graduate if they have a financial stake in the program. Our past experience has shown us that we tend to have good attendance the first few weeks of Mainstream class and then students drop out 2 or 3 months into the program.

Each new student will receive a syllabus showing the calls to be taught during the 20 class nights ending early June, 2018. A Saturday Mainstream Blast for review will also be included and each student will receive a Mainstream manual. Learning the definitions for the calls will be stressed.

These changes to our Mainstream class can be considered an experiment to address the problems of poor attendance and drop outs that we have experienced in past classes. I would like to request your attendance for this very important Open House.

I thank you for your support,

Doug Miller - President

Whoville Holiday Hoopla is a Hoot

Whos came out of the woodwork for our "Grinch" themed Holiday dance called by Travis Cook from Goshen, KY. It was Travis's first time to call for our club and he brought several friends down with him on a very cold night. We all had a wonderful time and many came up with clever "Dr. Seuss" like costumes for the event.



Mainstream Graduation Held on January 8th

Congratulations to Betsey Tate, Michael Stanley and Janet Aldredge for completing the graduation exercises and receiving their certificates. Janet started with our Mainstream Blast in November and sets a new Hotlanta Squares record for the shortest time to ever complete a Mainstream class.



Promenade Down Peachtree – 2018 – Carnival

Over a hundred dancers from all over the U.S. braved frigid temperatures and a flu epidemic to don their gay apparel and dance the weekend away. Some very creative costumes with a Mardi Gras theme appeared at the Saturday night dance.









Sha-Ron Cassell - January 2nd

Carolyn Cornelison - January 3rd

Bryant Golden - January 6th

Susan Browne - January 7th

Andrea Neddleton - January 31st

Don Weston - January 31st





RETURN OF THE CONSISTENCY AWARD

In addition to the fun of coming to dance or visit on Monday, seeing your friends, polishing your skills or learning completely new calls, helping new dancers learn or just helping the general overall operation of the club, you can also earn a consistency award to show your ahmmm, consistency.

Here is how it works:

You will attend 10 consecutive "weeks", i.e. dance nights, as indicated by Writing your name legibly on February 5th, then for succeeding nights, there will be a spreadsheet and you can merely check off the date by your name.

An award/"valuable prize" will be presented to you about a week or two after the competition ends. At that point, you do not have to be present to get the award.

Who is Eligible for an award? Everyone, Dancers, non-dancers (usually spouses but anyone is welcome to hang out with us), Members and Non-members.

Hope we can have several winning the award together! Yay!



HOTLANTA SQUARES

**MEMBERS, DON'T FORGET
TO RENEW YOUR
MEMBERSHIP FOR 2018**

**Attention Hotlanta Squares Members. If you
have not already done so, please renew your
membership for 2018.**

**If you are not currently a Hotlanta Squares
member and are an experienced dancer,
dancing Mainstream or above, you can join
our club for the same rate.**

\$40

ATTENTION HOTLANTA SQUARES CLUB MEMBERS.
DON'T FORGET ABOUT OUR OPEN HOUSE ON MONDAY,
JANUARY 22ND. PLEASE INVITE YOUR FRIENDS TO COME
AND FIND OUT WHAT SQUARE DANCING IS ALL ABOUT. THE
FLYER BELOW WILL PROVIDE THEM WITH ALL THE
INFORMATION THAT THEY NEED TO KNOW.

HAPPY NEW YEAR

From
HOTLANTA SQUARES

Atlanta's premier LGBT Square Dance Club

You may have seen us at the 2017 Atlanta Pride Parade giving hugs along the parade route . Or maybe you visited our booth at Piedmont Park to spin the wheel to win a plush bear.

We'd like to invite you to a

FREE OPEN HOUSE

on Monday, January 22, 2018 7-9pm
City of Light Spiritual Center
3125 Presidential Parkway
Atlanta, GA 30340

That's just off of Chamblee Tucker Road at I-85 in the shadow of Spaghetti Junction.

You'll get a chance to meet our caller and club members and try a few basic calls for yourself. We will also have some great refreshments. If you like it (*and we know you will*), you can enroll in our **Spring Mainstream Class**.

Classes start on Monday, January 29th (you can enroll as late as February 5th). We'll meet each Monday from 7:00pm until 9:00pm through mid-June. Your first week is free. Tuition is \$50 for weeks 2 through 11 due your second week of class. On the 12th week of class, an additional \$30 will be due to cover the remaining weeks of class and a Saturday workshop to be scheduled near the mid-point of the semester. No experience is required. You will be given a syllabus and schedule of classes on the first day of class. There is no dress code. Dress comfortably and make sure to wear comfortable shoes.

Square dancing is great exercise and a great way to meet really nice people and make new friends. In fact, you'll soon see why we say that "Square Dancing is Friendship set to music"



**HOTLANTA
SQUARES**