



Be iN ouR Squares

Gashland United Methodist Church

7715 N Oak Trafficway - Kansas City, MO

Caller: Lynn Nelson Co-Caller Dan Robinson

2nd Fridays 7:30-10:00PM

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NEWSLETTER

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April 2026

From all reports our March dance was small but fun. As usual, Dan did not disappoint with his hat dance. There were 31 dancers at our April dance. Many of you were absent and I missed seeing you.

I now have 4 requests for club shirts. We are still 2 shirts short of an order. If you would like to have a new club shirt, please let me know so we don't have to keep these members waiting any longer than necessary.

At our last pot luck, we chose the date for our next one. Since Memorial day is a little early, we chose May 31st. I hope since we have given you lots of notice, you'll all be able to join us. This is where we choose the themes for our dances and discuss any changes we might want to make. Also, where we make plans for additional club functions. I have really missed our annual club trips. I hope we can return to those some time soon. If you would like to see us reinstate the club trips, please do a little research and bring your ideas to the pot luck.

Carol Hershey is still battling her foot wound and we hope that it will soon be healed. We would like to see her back on the dance floor. Leroy Gray will be undergoing cancer treatments for the next 7 or 8 months. I'm sure Kathy and Leroy would both appreciate our prayers. Dennis Trotter has lingering problems with A-fib but did stop by our dance.

Thanks to Susan Dowden, a good friend of the club, we now have a lesson. Lessons will begin May 6th at 7pm at Avondale United Methodist Church, 3101 NE Winn Rd, KCMO. We will enter around back under the portico. Cost this year will be \$75 per person. Now that we have a date and place, the only thing we need is students. I hope you will all try to bring someone and plan to angel. We always need angels to fill the squares.

Youth clubs used to be an active part of the Kansas City Square dance scene but, sadly, have been absent since the early 90s. I'm happy to report that a new youth club is forming in Lenexa with our own DJ Sermon as one of the Co-Callers. They will dance at the Lenexa United Methodist Church on 4th Fridays. The Wheel and Dealers Youth club will host a special dance on Tuesday, June 9th, from 6:30-8:30pm to give area dancers a chance to get familiar with their new club. A free will donation will be collected at the door to help the club get started. The theme that night will be Americana 250. I hope many of you will be able to be there to support DJ and the other club members. Youth are the future of our activity.

I am excited to share that the Harry S Truman Memorial will be having a Centennial Celebration on August 1st and they would like to make square dancing a part of it. The day's festivities will start with opening ceremonies in the auditorium starting at 10am. Throughout the day there will be various activities including educational talks, tours and exhibits. The day's activities will culminate with a square dance in the auditorium from 3-5pm. I am encouraging everyone to join us on the dance floor. There will be no admission fee that day and we are encouraging a variety of attire. I would like to request that no one wear shorts. I will use a variety of music and I'm hoping that the youth club will join us so that we can show spectators that square dancing has changed with the times and is a great family activity.

June 13th, there will be a dance to benefit Gashland UMC as a thank you for providing a dance location at a reasonable rate. This will be sponsored by all the clubs dancing at the church. It will be a Gospel Dance from 2-5pm, called by the club callers of all the clubs who dance at Gashland. Watch for flyers at dances of participating clubs. Dan and I will be representing BNRs and we hope many of you will attend. We want to thank the Shooting Stars for spearheading this effort. I hope that we get a good attendance so a sizeable donation can be made to the church.

One of the things I wanted to discuss at our next pot luck is increasing our door donation. I sent an email to all the area clubs to see what they are charging and the consensus from those who responded was they are either already \$1 more than us, or also considering an increase. As our expenses increase, our dances seem to decrease in number. Even with a bump in the door donation, square dances will still be a bargain. I don't want to see the cost of a dance become prohibitive but I feel like for 2 1/2 hours of dance and entertainment plus refreshments, we could charge a little bit more.

Dana Schirmer has been having a monthly seminar for new callers. These are held on the 4th Saturday of each month at Trinity Presbyterian Church in Topeka (where the Friendship Squares dance). There are between 9 and 13 callers there each month. Some of them are younger than most of us and I think that is not just encouraging, but exciting. There is more to calling a square dance than just picking up a microphone. At these seminars, Dana tries to give each caller mic time but to do that, we need dancers. If you would like to help, contact Dana for a good time to arrive.

Be in our Squares
8510 Sandusky Ave
Kansas City, KS 66112

TO:

*Next Dance:
Hawaiian Dance*

*Happy Birthday and
Happy Anniversary
From your friends at
BNR Squares*

You do such a great job of making sure our visitors all feel welcome and that they all get to dance. Believe me, people notice. If we each go around the room and thank everyone for coming, then even if we each don't thank everyone, everyone will be thanked by someone. That's important. It's also important that we be sure someone is thanking everyone as they leave—even those who leave early.

The NW MO visitation program for this year ends May 31st. Please bring your visitation cards to the pot luck to turn in and get a new one for the coming season.

Don't forget to reply to Leann's visitation reminders. Sometimes if we get enough no's, we know there aren't enough yeses left and we can cancel and allow you to go to the dance of your choice.

Past Visitations

02/28 Harmony Dancers 7
03/06 Live Wires cancelled
03/20 Ramblers 13
03/23 Dance to James Shaw 4
03/28 Friendship Squares -Topeka 2
Harmony Dancers 3
03/31 Heartland Sqs cancelled

Future Visitations

4/17-18 HOA Festival
4/24 Stewartsville Cut-ups
5/1 St Joe Squares
5/8 *Our dance*
5/15 Ramblers

Future Themes

May 8 Hawaiian Dance
Sept 11 Celebrate Lynn (30 years of calling)

*Next Pot Luck is May 31st.
Please bring your ideas for future
club functions and dance themes.*

Special Dances

(those in blue sponsored by us)
04/17-18 HOA Festival (new hall)
06/13 Benefit for Gashland UMC
07/10 Mike Hogan
07/10-11 HAASDA
07/12 MINK Ladies (HAASDA trail-out)
07/25 NW District
07/31 Lanny Weaklend
08/01 Harry Truman Centennial

Our next dance is our annual Hawaiian dance. Wear something cool, comfortable and colorful. Bring refreshments that are cool and refreshing.

Thank you all for all you do for me and for the club. It takes all of us to make our club a success. Without each and everyone of you, the BNRs wouldn't be the great club it is. Special thanks to Leann and Dan, who always step up and fill in the blanks when I can't. I can't tell you how much I appreciate all of you.

Lynn