

GLENVIEW SQUARES NEWSLETTER

Supporting every training class are the “Angels”. As they patiently mentor the new students it is hard to tell who has more fun. A great process of learning and sharing. This talented group makes square dancing better for us all.



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PRESIDENTS MESSAGE



HAPPY HOLIDAYS, MERRY CHRISTMAS, HAPPY NEW YEAR!

It's so hard to believe that it's almost 2018. As we all take time during the holidays to spend with family and friends, Glenview Squares has a lot to look forward to next year.

January will be a particularly busy month. Beside our two regular dances, we have our Board Meeting on Saturday, January 6 at 9:30am at the Glenview Library. All members are invited to attend. We are always looking for our members to participate, share their ideas for our club and indicate what we could be doing better. We hope you'll join us and there's probably an opportunity to go out to lunch and socialize after the meeting.

Then we have two Intro parties, one at the library, on Saturday, January 13 at 2pm. The other party at the Glen Park Center on Sunday, January 21 at 6pm. Invite your friends and acquaintances and bring a snack to share. We want these two dances to be the most attended we've ever had for an Intro Party.

Then as our first set of 18 weeks of Club 50 lessons wraps up on Tuesday, January 16, we begin our second class of Club 50 on January 23.

In January, we begin planning for our Dinner Dance in May. We will also start selling tickets for the Sweetheart Dance on Sunday, February 18. At our December 15 dance, we had our members vote for our Sweetheart Couple. Myrnice Ravitch and Ed Friedman won. Please congratulate them. Myrnice and Ed met while taking our square dance lessons, so they are most deserving to be our Sweetheart Couple. Please plan on purchasing your Sweetheart Dance tickets in advance. This helps MCASD planning.



S Again, please enjoy the holidays. See you at our first dance Friday January 5.

KEY EVENTS

Mark Your Calendar for a great end of 2017 and beginning of 2018

Check the Glenview Squares Shutterfly Calendar for full details and to sign up.

Postering Brunch Thursday, Dec. 28 - 11:00 - 2:00 we EAT (got to keep our strength up!), then we spread out as teams and put up posters. Sign up on Shutterfly, or notify Janice

New Year's Eve Square Dance, Sat. Dec 31, 2017 - 8:00. Dosido into 2018! The evening includes dancing Plus and Club 50/Mainstream level to callers Bob Asp and Chuck Witt. Admission includes a delicious dinner provided by the host clubs. Buy tickets from Janice or Joy.

Glenview Squares' first dance of the New Year, Friday, Jan. 5, 2018 -7:30- 10:00

Bobby Poyner will be calling all Club 50, all the time. Angels, *can you keep up??*

GVS Board Meeting, Saturday, Jan. 6 - 9:30 am - 11:30. Please come check it out. Yes, this is where the GVS magic happens. And you can, too.

New Callers' Winter Workshop, Saturday Jan. 6 - 1:00 pm - 8:30 pm. Test dancers needed. Two-hour shifts at The Book Market. Lots of good food, and an interesting look at our activity from the other side of the mic. Shifts include 1-3 pm; 3-5 pm; 6:30-8:30 pm. RSVP Janice. Full details <https://chicagocallerschool.shutterfly.com>

'Hoedown 101' Intro to Square Dance Party, Saturday Jan 13 - 2:00-3:30 pm. at the Glenview Library. Arlene Kaspik will be calling. Sign up Shutterfly, please por favor!

GVS Club Dance, Saturday Jan 19 - 7:30 pm - 10:00. Chuck Witt alternating Club 50 and Plus

'Dancing + Dessert' Intro to Square Dance Party, Sunday Jan 21 - 6:00-8:00 pm at the Glenview Park Center. Bruce Holmes calling. Sign up on Shutterfly, please/ por favor!

Beginner Lessons Launch, Tuesday Jan 23 - 7:30-9:30 pm at Glenview Park Center - need all hands-on deck!

Looking forward to seeing you at these fun events.

Janice & James

GROWING A FUN CLUB

The Well-Attended Square Dance Class

(a.k.a., The Magic Only Happens After a LOT of Hard Work)

By Janice Cha, Glenview Squares V.P.

Back in the heyday of square dancing (well before my time), I am told that there used to be waiting lists (!) of couples (!!) hoping to sign up for square dance lessons. That era is long gone, alas. These days even strong clubs such as Glenview Squares must work extra hard to get the word out about our activity and our lessons. Our message runs along these lines: *"Square dancing is an ongoing social networking activity that connects people through music and laughter."*

Our Fall 2017 beginner class, led by Bruce Holmes, is a small but mighty group. Looking ahead to January, we expect our Winter '18 beginner class to be more robust. The Glenview board has lined up an ambitious marketing plan to GET THE WORD OUT for our January Intro Parties and lessons. But we need your help!

Read on for the (ambitious) 10-point plan of what we're aiming for by way of marketing our 2018 Intro parties and Beginning Square Dance classes. The best deal in town... friendship in action.

GVS Marketing Plan for 2018

1. **Word of mouth.** THE most important way to bring in new people! Invite your friends, your friends' friends and your family to our Intro to SD parties.
2. **Posters everywhere!** Join GVS friends for a Postering Brunch on Thursday, Dec 27. We'll eat, then we'll spread out and put up posters. Can you join us? RSVP to Janice.
3. **Yard signs** in front of the Park Center.
4. **Mailchimp email inviting people to our Intro to SD parties.** Janice is collecting email addresses of people who might be interested in our Intro to SD parties. If you have a few names and emails to add to the list, send them to Janice via email. We promise never to spam people (the Mailchimp message takes considerable time to craft so it's just right). Recipients can unsubscribe at any time.
5. **Digital display at Park Center.** Keep an eye on the flat-screen display on the 2nd floor of the Park Center.
6. **Social media.** Facebook, Nextdoor are our two main outlets. When you check the Glenview Squares FB page, be sure to add 'Like,' 'Share,' and comments to help boost visibility.
7. **Glenview TV spot.**
8. **Print media** and press releases.
9. **Glenview Chamber** - new resident handouts... we're checking on this.
10. **Singles groups.** If you know of any, we'd love to reach out to them. Let Carolyn or Janice know if you can make an introduction.

STEALING & RETREIVING EXPLAINED

Some of our newer members may have heard Mike Altschuler talking about stealing and retrieving and wondered what on earth he was talking about. It's simple, really: "Stealing and retrieving" is a way for square dance clubs to promote friendly visits and socialization between all clubs in the greater Chicago area. The purpose is not to over-patronize a select few clubs but rather to spread the visits to all clubs.

"Stealing" is an event where at least six members, or "thieves," from one square dance club attend another club's dance in hopes of winning the host club's banner (flag) and bringing it back to the thieves' club. If the thieves succeed in doing this, members from the club, whose banner was won (stolen), will band together and attend a dance hosted by the thieves' club in order to win it back

When more than one club comes Stealing, the winning thieves are determined by putting their club names into a hat and choosing a winner at random. Sometimes it does take more than one visit to score a successful steal. If a club returns again to steal, that club gets to put their name in the hat as many times as they've attempted to steal. This gives that club a better chance of winning the banner,

"Retrieving" is the reverse – six club members attend a dance hosted by a club that has stolen their banner. By attending that dance they win back their banner and get to bring it back home.

Mike, our "Chief Thief," organizes all this for the Glenview Square Dance Club. He, with the help of Jo Byers, keeps track of who's going to these steals, when all the other clubs' dances are, where our banner is (so we can retrieve it), and whose banner we'll try to steal. At the end of the dance season, Mike and Jo will tally members' participation and recognize those who have gone to 8 or more Steals/Retrieves.

You'll see sign-up sheets at every Glenview Squares dance so you can officially register your intent to steal or retrieve. Mike needs people to sign up in advance so he knows when a Stealing or Retrieving team is planned. We also rely on our Shutterfly site's: <https://glenviewsquares.shutterfly.com/stealing>. Signing up at a Glenview dance or on Shutterfly accomplishes the same thing.

If you want to attend a dance that is not listed on our Shutterfly sign up page please feel free to let other Glenview Squares members know. Maybe you can invite several other members to join you to "Create Your Own Steal". Let Mike know. A great way to support and promote your own square dance club!

The problem with not signing up:

Occasionally, a Glenview Squares member will kindly agree to go to a steal or retrieve even though they might be changing other plans. We're always grateful. But what if that member gets to the steal/retrieve and sees other Glenview members who did not sign up? That member, who generously agreed to go stealing because "we just need one more person", is upset because we didn't need him/her after all. They could be discouraged from signing up in the future. Please be courteous to our Glenview Squares members and call, text or email Mike or use the Shutterfly site (even if it's the day before)

Bottom line: the "Steal/Retrieve" system spells the difference between fun, successful dances and poorly attended ones for all our Chicago area clubs. So, let's... all... go.... Stealing!

mike.alts54@gmail.com call or text at 224-619-3162

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Good News!

We are happy to announce that **Sherry Jost** has joined the Membership Committee and will help us as we plan ways to attract and retain members. Please consider joining Sherry on the committee to help us meet these goals. Many on the committee have served faithfully for a number of years and are ready to step aside. You could bring fresh, new ideas and insights to ensure Glenview Squares remains a vital, growing square dance club.

Mark Your Calendar and Come with Your Ideas.

Our next Membership Committee meeting is **Wednesday, February 7, 2018 at 7pm.** Linda Warren will host the meeting **at 1219 Norman Lane, Deerfield, IL.** We'll be talking about plans for summer and Fall lessons. Just let me know you're coming so we can have enough seating available.

We Wish You a Joyous Holiday Season and A Healthy and Happy New Year!

The Membership Committee

**Mike A., James C., Janice C., Bruce H., Sherry J., Bob L., Carolyn L.,
Carol M., Phil M., Chris M., Linda W. and Joy N.**

joylmn@yahoo.com

847-262-0000

MEMBERSHIP NEWS-TRAINING

Beginner Class



Intermediate Class



NEW YEAR'S DANCE EVE

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

405 S. RUSH ST., ROSELLE

TICKETS

Advance: \$15/person

After 12-16-17: \$18/person

DANCING AND DINING

2 Halls

PLUS and CLUB50/MAINSTREAM

8:30 pm Rounds

9:00 - 12:30? Squares

DINING OPENS AT 9:45ISH



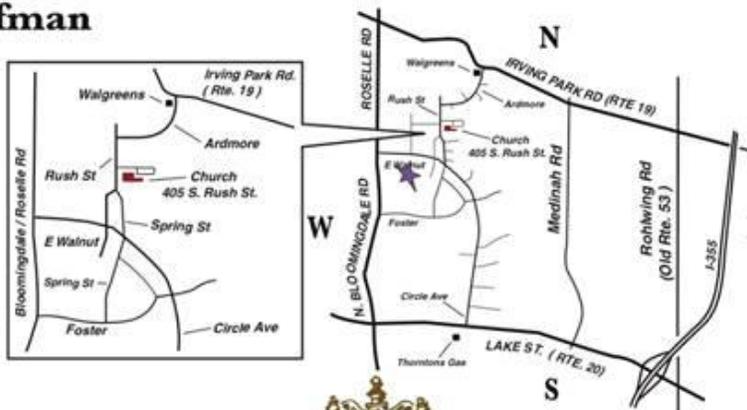
Cuer

Howard Hoffman



Callers

Bob Asp
and
Chuck Witt



2017



2018



Call For Information:

Yellowrockers - Bill & Andi 630-529-9869

Fox Valley Mixers - Jules & Marilyn 630-762-9936

Downers Grove Square Thru's - Jan & Pat 630-665-3761

NEWSLETTER INPUT

The Glenview Squares Newsletter is written by, and for, members of the Glenview Square Dance Club.

You can submit articles and photographs to Dave Parr, at:
parr6@sbcglobal.net