

# Happy Time Sun-Times

Volume 2009

Happy Times Squares

Lawrence, Kansas

## The Year in Review

2009 was quite a year for Happy Time Squares. In addition to our regular monthly dances, we had a number of special events. We had a very successful Boots, Bows & Barbecue. We traveled a lot, went to State Convention, and graduated a new class of dancers. We mourned the loss of a beloved member and celebrated a wedding of two HTS members. With this newsletter, we want to share the highlights of 2009. **Thank you** to every member of Happy Time Squares who contributed to the success of the club during the year.

### Special Events Add Fun to Our Year



#### Shindig in the Barn

On Sunday, July 12, at least 37 members of Happy Time squares gathered at the home of Dave and Tonya Ketchum for a "Shindig in the Barn". Dave had just finished his log cabin garage (aka as the "barn") and it was the site for our dance. We thoroughly enjoyed dancing to Wade Morrow's calling, and had a chance to enjoy really good food and have a relaxing visit.



#### Trains and Ice Cream

Members got together at the home of Dave and Nancy Wickersheim on August 30 to watch trains, visit with each other, and have ice cream! Dave has quite a train setup and we enjoyed a delightful evening. We really enjoy opportunities to get together and socialize!



#### First Annual Summer Social

On Sunday, July 26, seventy-nine members and several guests gathered at Centennial Park for our first ever summer social. The weather was absolutely ideal. We had a great potluck dinner and an opportunity for a relaxing visit with fellow members. The park was a perfect setting and everyone had a good time. There is little doubt that there will be a Second Annual Summer Social!



#### Soup Supper

On December 21 we had a delicious soup supper before lessons. The dinner was prepared and served by the Centenary United Methodist Church, and we were happy to participate in an event to support them. We also had an opportunity to visit the Festival of the Nativities. What a perfect activity right before Christmas.

### A Great Party!

Happy Time Squares threw a great party - our 2009 edition of Boots, Bows & Barbecue. Over 300 members and guests (313, by our count) gathered on September 26 for food, fun and fellowship. Stan and Lois Zaremba, with the help of many members, cooked and served a great meal.

Fun continued throughout the evening with line dancing for everyone, square dancing with guests participating, round dancing, and a demonstration by our Happy Time Stompers.

Nineteen squares joined the Grand March to start the Mainstream square dancing. Our caller and cuers were in top form and everyone was smiling throughout the evening. Our callers and cuers are the best, and we appreciate their talents! We were also honored to have many area callers and cuers join us for the evening.

HTS recognized Stan and Lois Zaremba for their leadership, and our "souper" salespeople, Toni Nelson, Lloyd Northrop, and Frank Alexander.

We concluded our evening with our traditional "Happy Trails" to send everyone home with a smile.





Happy Time Squares Anniversary Dance - January 8, 2009

## HTS Members Enjoy Monthly Club Dances

HTS Members enjoyed twelve regular monthly dances during the year. Vic Perry provided his peerless calling style for our dancing pleasure. Vernon Nelson cued rounds and Judy Broers cued lines for fun and variety. Thanks to Vic & Donna, Vernon & Toni, and Judy & Gene.

**January:** Eighty-seven members and forty-seven guests gathered for our third Anniversary Jubilee! Decorations and our square dance attire reflected our colors of red, yellow and black. Tonya Ketchum provided an anniversary cake. We started the dance with a Grand March resulting in eleven squares. After the dance, we gathered for a group picture. It was a wonderful start to our dancing year.

**February:** Our Hearts and Flowers Dance provided a great way to spend Valentine's Day! Decorations included (of course) hearts and flowers. 80 members and 37 guests joined the festive atmosphere. Love songs high-lighted the dance.

**March:** We had a grand turnout for our Leprechaun Party on March 14 - 96 members and 56 guests. Vic even donned an oversized Irish hat for the occasion.

**April:** We took our cue from our logo and held a Smile Power Dance on April 11. And what power – 104

members and 41 guests! And we were sure smiling!

**May:** 98 members and 34 guests welcomed spring on May 9 at our dance that was festooned with flowers and colorful streamers in keeping with our "Weaving the Maypole" theme.

**June:** Hawaii was the theme for our June 13 dance as we said "Mahalo 'oe" (thank you) to our 124 members and guests. Many dancers wore Hawaiian attire for the fun.

**July:** This always seems to be a special dance as we celebrate our Nation's birthday. 135 dancers joined the celebration. A Grand March resulted in twelve squares for an America the Beautiful dance. While we were lined up, we took the opportunity to honor Bob and Kevin Rainbolt for their outstanding work on our HTS website.

**August:** Many dancers sported western attire at our Wild Wild West dance on August 8. 130 dancers enjoyed the decorations and western songs. What fun!

**September:** We changed venues for our September dance and Rocked and Rolled at the Eagles' Lodge on September 12. The setting was perfect (right down to the rotating crystal ball!) for a 50's dance. After the meeting, we elected officers for

2010 and adopted a family membership options.

**October:** In spite of windy and chilly weather, 94 dancers attended our Harvest Moon dance.

**November:** On November 14, dancers brought food, cash and other items for Lawrence food pantries to "Share our blessings". 85 members and 25 guests attended the dance. Thanks to Ace and Lareeda Hickey for their donation suggestions and for delivering the donated items.

**December:** 87 members and 24 guests filled our Mitten Tree with warm donations. The Women's Transitional Care Services really appreciated receiving these items. The dance was a lot of fun, with everyone cuing and calling to Christmas songs! Our Happy Time Stompers performed for us and we concluded the dance with "Silent Night." After the dance we installed the new officers and recognized the officers and chair people who'd done so much for our club during the year.

For pictures from all of these dances, visit the HTS website: [www.HappyTimeSquares.com](http://www.HappyTimeSquares.com). You will also find presidents' reports dating back to the club's inception.



## Class of 2009 Graduates!

Twenty-three weeks of lessons culminated in an evening of fun, food, and fellowship as thirty-one new dancers, joined the Happy Time Squares Family. More than fifty angels came to congratulate our new dancers and join in the festivities. Decorations carried out the graduation theme. Stan and Lois Zarembo provided a delicious dinner for all. Tonya Ketchum baked a decorative and delicious cake.

Vic Perry hosted the graduation ceremony, which began with the officers forming a square representing the purposes of square dancing. Keith & Carol Noe spoke; and Vernon & Toni Nelson distributed information and welcomed graduates to KSDA. Vic then presented diplomas and name badges.

Following cake and ice cream (of course), we enjoyed several tips of square dancing. We all had a good time.

## State Convention Attracts HTS Members!

Sixty-eight members of HTS attended the Kansas State Square Dance Convention the weekend of June 5 and 6. We had great fun dancing to a national caller and cuers. Of course we had the opportunity to dance to Vic, Vernon, and Judy, as well as other state callers and cuers.

We enjoyed workshops, clogging demonstrations, and a fashion show. Frank & Betty Alexander and Vic

Perry participated in a panel discussion on membership.

Forty-four members joined the Parade of Clubs that opened the festivities on Saturday night. (Other members of HTS marched as members of our sister club, the Ottawa Promenaders)

Nearly fifty members gathered for dinner at a local Mexican restaurant for food and fellowship. And, of course, we had ice cream each evening!



## On the Road with Ace and Lareeda

Ace and Lareeda Hickey did a fantastic job as travel chairs in 2009. Under their leadership, HTS traveled to 12 clubs and had an average of 25 HTS members for our travel dances. They organized dances, informed the members, contacted host clubs, and arranged car pools.

Ace and Lareeda also prepared monthly calendars that kept us abreast of all activities at home and in the square dance area. We really appreciate their dedicated and excellent work!

## Regional Events

Happy Time Squares is a member of the Northeast Kansas Square Dance Association (NEKSDA). We attended three major NEKSDA events during the year.

### NEKSDA Festival – Feb. 7

This event is always a lot of fun, and gives us the opportunity to dance to the callers and cuers of the area. Of course, we also got to dance to our own caller and cuers, Vic, Vernon, and Judy.

### Tenderfoot Dance March 7

Nineteen new dancers and 44 angels from Happy Time Squares attended this dance. The hall was filled with more than 200 dancers, of which 63 were new. A parade of banners was one of the highlights of the afternoon, with Tom and Nancy DeGarmo carrying the HTS banner. To finish the dance, the NE callers and cuers led us through a rousing square of "The Party's Over."

### Fall Friendship Dance - September 27

This was another opportunity to dance to other callers and cuers.

## Membership

In September, HTS members adopted a change to our **membership dues**. The new wording allows for household memberships. "If a household with at least one adult member has a square dancers under the age of 18, dues for each dancer under 18 will be \$5.00 per year." Lydia Morrow was our first family member!!

On September 21, nine new dancers started lessons. They are progressing well, and we thank the Angels who have come out to help. Graduation is set for February 15.

In addition to Lydia Morrow, we welcomed five new members this year who had previously square danced: Mike and Jeanne Bronoski, Carol Schwarting, and Jim and Marilyn Dilley. At the end of the year, our membership stood at 146.

It is the members that make this club such a good one – we really appreciate all that everyone does to help HTS.

### In Memory – Beth Shipp

Members mourned the loss of one of our beloved members when Beth Shipp died on January 4. Bob and Beth were active and supportive members of Happy Time Squares, and were among our original members. In addition to Bob, Beth is survived by her son Ed, daughter Becky and husband Jeff, three grandchildren and her mother. We miss Beth and her enthusiasm.

## In addition to square dancing –

Fifty-one dancers showed up for waltz round dance lessons offered by Vernon and Toni Nelson. On April 27, forty-six new dancers graduated and joined experienced dancers for a Graduation Dance. Since then, Vernon and Toni have held monthly round dances that are well-attended. They will hold two-step lessons in 2010.

Judy and Gene Broers offered line dance lessons in May that were attended by many members of Happy Time Squares.

The lessons have resulted in an increase in the number of dancers having fun between tips at our monthly dances!



## Our Great Website

In January, Bob Rainbolt unveiled a new and improved website for Happy Time Squares! **We have a really fantastic website!** During the July dance, HTS gave special recognition to Bob and his son Kevin for all their work on the website.

**We encourage you to visit our website often! You will always find up-to-date information on our activities and activities in the area. You'll also find pictures, past communications and useful information for members.**

[www.HappyTimeSquares.com](http://www.HappyTimeSquares.com)



## A Happy Time Squares Wedding!

Carl Bahnmaier and Mary K Page were married on May 31 in a moving ceremony. We counted at least 74 members of Happy Time Squares at the wedding and/or reception at Stony Point.

Vic Perry led the reception festivities that included guest square dancing and some Mainstream later. HTS members brought finger food and helped out.

Carl and Mary K met while square dancing in HTS. Congratulations to you both!

## Odds and Ends

During the year, we also:

- Participated in 4 demonstration dances, including one at Brandon Woods attended by 95 residents and guests!
- Attended many fun dances in the area.
- Had two members attend CallerLab School to become square dance callers: Wade Morrow and Sam Hunsaker.
- **Installed our new officers for 2010. We know they'll do a great job!**

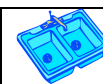
Presidents: Bob & Rosalee Rainbolt

1<sup>st</sup> VP: Vernon & Toni Nelson

2<sup>nd</sup> VP: Larry & Alice DeMoss

Secretary: Elsie Middleton

Treasurers: Don & Ivey Harris.



## Did We Forget Anything?

If we left out someone or something, we apologize. Please let us know, and we'll add it to this year-end review.