

## ***DALLAS HARVEST HOLIDAY A REAL BALL!***

Seems like a funny headline for a Louisiana club report, but this annual event over Thanksgiving weekend is a real highlight in the round dance world. The folks in the Dallas area work all year long with fund raisers and special dances in order to finance one of the best dance events in our area. This was their 49th, and next year promises to be even better when a 50th Harvest Holiday Festival will feature Bill & Carol Goss. The festival itself is Friday night and all day Saturday with a wrap-up on Sunday. However, the real fun is with the freebies and the after-parties. At the Sterling Hotel Ballroom, starting on Monday before Thanksgiving and continuing through the week, the Dallas instructors cue FREE nightly dances. During the day on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday one of the local or visiting instructors presents impromptu teaches. These teaches are also FREE! WHAT A DEAL!

Back to the after-parties: Each night of the week there is a free food and drink session on the 11th floor of the hotel where the Dallas area dancers and cuers really put on a spread. On Saturday night, after the program dance, the ballroom is cleared and tables set up for a full breakfast buffet. This breakfast just sets the stage for Christine Hixson to start everyone fun dancing to her world-famous after-party cueing.

This was the first year Frances and I were there for the entire week (we usually drive over Thanksgiving day), so this time we took Thanksgiving day to make a quick flying trip to New Orleans to have turkey with our West Bank family, and then back to Dallas on Friday. Believe me, next year will again see us in Dallas for the entire week! Come join us!

Louisiana dancers and cuers who attended the 49th were: Don & Shirley Bellue, Baton Rouge; Bill & Martha Buck, Shreveport; Foy Hunter and Diane Spears, Shreveport; Al & Alice Irvine (formerly Baton Rouge, now Atlanta Ga.); Harry & Iris Sprague, Baton Rouge; Jerry & Frances Stinson, Ruston; Jay & Olga Wegmann, Metairie; and Gloria Jackson & Larry Shackelford, Bridge City TX - (Gloria is an LRDTA Associate Teacher).

Curt & Tammy Worlock were the clinicians for this year. They taught "My Sweet Catherine" (Goss) VI WZ and "Angelina" (Worlock) V+2 CH. Some dancers attending were not yet familiar with many phase V and VI figures but found the instruction a benefit to them in learning technique as well as figures.

Back to reality after that Thanksgiving week venture, we continued preparing for the January Jewel. Louisiana has only two annual round dance festivals (other than the LRDTA Weekend) and one of them is the January Jewel, a weekend designed for newer dancers. This weekend has become as popular as the annual October Red River Rounders Halloween Ball. Both these Shreveport/Bossier City functions are heavily supported by east Texas dancers (another reason for supporting the Harvest Holiday Festival). We are indeed fortunate to have these top rated weekends in North Louisiana and East Texas and they all need our support.

Jerry Stinson  
3D Round Dance Club

Louisiana attendees picture

