



Harvest Holiday News

November/December 2020

Note from the Chair

This newsletter should have gone out before now, but, as we've said in the past, it is difficult to put a newsletter together when we have relatively little dancing to report.

We are deeply saddened and shocked by the loss of one of our own – our beloved Jack Kenny. He was taken from us much too soon. He and Sharie have contributed so much to Harvest Holiday, and his passing leaves a great void in our hearts and our dance activity. Our condolences go out to Sharie and all the Kenny family. We each have our own special memories of Jack, and we will miss him greatly. R.I.P Dear Jack. On page 2 is an “In Memoriam” prepared by Linda Pelton. A number of friends have donated to Harvest Holiday in memory of Jack, and we are most appreciative of that.

Swingtime Center is remaining closed at least through February, so our dancing there is still on hold. Thanks to JL, our proposed 2021 schedule which will take effect as soon as Swingtime opens up has been posted on the Harvest Holiday website.

Thanks to all the 2020 Harvest Holiday officers/committees who have committed to continue in their same capacities for 2021.

We hope all of you stay safe and healthy, and that you will still be able to enjoy time during Christmas with some of your family and friends. We are looking forward to the time in 2021 when we can all get together again.

Christine & Theron Hixson
2020/2021 Harvest Holiday Chair Couple

**Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays,
and Many Blessings to all for the New Year**



IN MEMORIAM

Jack Kenny – August 13, 1950–November 25, 2020 – Arlington, Texas

By Linda Pelton

John “Jack” Carrington Kenny III passed away on the evening of November 25, 2020 after three weeks of hospitalization from congestive heart failure and complications from pneumonia and kidney failure. He was known as Jack from the day he was born to differentiate him from all the other Johns in his family. He married Sharie in 1972 at the end of their senior years at Texas Christian University in Fort Worth. He is survived by Sharie, two daughters, Allyson Kellner and husband Zach, Rosalyn Kenny, and four grandchildren, Sarah 16, Joanna 14, Lydia, 12, and Daniel 9.

Jack spent 35 years working as a Research and Development Scientist and Chemist at Alcon Laboratories. It was as retirement began that Jack and Sharie started round dancing in 2007 as they had been watching from the sidelines at square dances. After several years of dancing, Jack tried cuing, and so their cuing and teaching journey began. Jack and Sharie were members of the ICBDA Board of Directors from 2015 through 2017. Jack was also part of the ICBDA Technical Advisory Committee (TAC), which works on the technical resource manual of ballroom dance technique and teaching methods. During that time Jack was cuing for two square dance clubs and dancing weekly at three different round dance clubs.

For many years Jack was a Harvest Holiday cuer in the Dallas area and cued for the regular Harvest Holiday monthly dances and the week-long Festivals held over Thanksgiving. He also cued and taught at the yearly Harvest Holiday Mini-Fests. Jack and Sharie were the Chairman of Harvest Holiday in 2013 and 2018; they served often as Co-Chairs. Jack also served the organization as Historian and CASUL Representative for many years.

He was a member of the Texas Round Dance Teachers Association throughout his years cuing and held the position of Treasurer for several years. He and Sharie also regularly cued and taught at the yearly TRDTA South Festival held in La Grange, Texas. In 2016, Jack and Sharie started teaching at Merry Rounders, a Carousel Club, in Arlington, Texas, and then in 2019 became the instructors for Dance, Dance, Dance, another Carousel Club in Garland, Texas. Jack choreographed a total of almost 40 dances at a variety of levels and in many rhythms. Jack and Sharie attended Roundarama for many years and showcased several of their own dances there. He was quite pleased when Curt Worlock taught his choreography, Honor and Respect, a Phase 6 Waltz, in the 2015-2016 season in Florida.

Jack loved taking pictures of family trips, scenic vistas, wildflowers, and who can forget the food dishes? His friends often teased him about those food photos. He and Sharie loved stopping off at the Blue Bonnet Café on their trips to south Texas. Sometimes I think they actually planned a trip just to go there. As his daughter wrote, “My dad was very blessed with a family who loved him, as well as a fun and wide network of friends and colleagues.” Jack was very well liked and will indeed be greatly missed by his friends.

**** TENTATIVE ****

Next Regular Sunday Fun Dance – March 14, 2021 Swingtime Center, Fort Worth

*** * DANCE FROM 2:00 TO 5:00 P.M.* ***

ALL REQUESTS – PH. III-VI

Dallas-Fort Worth Area Dance Club Status

Monday	
Merry Rounders ** (Phase 4-5-6) Monday, 6-8 pm Eunice Senior Center, Arlington	Jack and Sharie Kenny
Tuesday	
Ramblin' Rounds (Phase 3-4-5)** Tuesday, 7:00-9:00 pm Granger Rec Center Annex, Garland (Limited number of dancers allowed)	Christine and Theron Hixson Castles & Kings, 5 WZ, Slater After Midnight Tango, 4 TG, Moore Senorita Tango, 4 TG, Rumble
Wednesday	
Ramblin' Rounds ** (Phase 4-5-6) Wednesday, 7:00-9:00 pm Churchill Recreation Center, Dallas	Christine and Theron Hixson Center is open on limited basis. No dancing until further notice.
Rainbow Rounds (Phase 3-4-5) Wednesday, 6:00-9:00 pm Swingtime Center, Fort Worth	Karen and Ed Gloodt Swingtime closed through February 2021. Anticipate dancing in March, 2021
Thursday	
Dance, Dance, Dance ** (Phase 5-6) Thursday, 6:45-9:00 pm Holford Recreation Center, Garland	Jack and Sharie Kenny
Dance Arounds (Phase 3-4-5) Thursday*, 5:45:15-8:45 p.m. Sam Johnson Recreation Center, Plano	JL and Linda Pelton Center closed until further notice.

** Indicates a Carousel Club

Notes from Local Round Dance Leaders

Karen & Ed Gloodt:

We were shocked and saddened to hear about the loss of Jack Kenny. He and Sharie loved to dance, and our hearts are with her in this difficult time. Jack was a very talented man. He contributed so much to round dancing and to Harvest Holiday. We are all going to miss him, his impeccable cueing, and his quick wit.

I had a call from the President of Red River Rounders, and she had received a call from the church where they hold the January Jewel. The Church has decided not to have any large gatherings until mid-2021, or later, so the 2021 January Jewel is cancelled. We are tentatively scheduled to do the 2022 January Jewel.

We held our third Pacesetter's Round dance with 12 masked couples on Nov. 21st. For those who have never been to Pacesetters, it is a ballroom that was built in 1992 by Don and June Pittman, round and square dance enthusiasts, in a pasture south of Madill, OK. It has a wonderful dance floor which in normal times would easily accommodate 20+ couples. It is filled with memorabilia including pictures of old-time callers. For several years, Ed called for a plus square dance club there and I cued the rounds. If Swingtime doesn't reopen, we may have another dance there in 2021.

We are dark here at the house until after the holidays. We wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year with a return to dancing.

Christine & Theron Hixson:

We are still continuing with our small Tuesday group, but we are social distancing, wearing masks, etc. Because we are still not dancing on Wednesday, we are meeting 30 minutes early on Tuesday and dancing some of the harder Ph. V and VI dances previously danced on Wednesday.

We are also continuing with our Monday basic group, dancing basic waltz and for about 30 minutes, and then teaching basic two-step the rest of the lesson.

I (Christine) have been having knee problems. I had a Monovisc gel shot, and it is not doing the job, so I'm going to PT twice a week. Oh, the joys of maturity!! Otherwise, we're staying healthy but eating too much.

Love, Hugs and Best Wishes from our house to yours.

JL & Linda Pelton:

We were stunned when we learned of Jack's passing. We had been texting just the week before. He and Sharie were good friends of ours and we have great memories of the trip to South Texas to view the wildflowers together several years ago – and we probably had a stop at the Blue Bonnet Cafe too, although it might have been the excellent barbeque place. Jack knew all the good food places in Texas. Not much has changed in the last two months for dancing. The Senior Center where we dance is still closed for classes as is the recreation center where we do lessons. I don't think much will change until we all get vaccinated.

We're still doing a lot of cooking of new recipes. I can tell JL is bored when he starts putting recipes on my desk. We've done a tiny bit of dancing in our living room, JL has done some practice cuing and set up some pocket teach cards for teaching when we finally get back to dancing.

Wishes to you all a good holiday season – and an excellent New Year! 2021 here we come.

Ken Gartlir Update

Ken continues to do well with his AML chemo treatments and returned to the hospital on December 18 for another. As most of you likely know, chemo is often done not only to kill the known cancer cells, but also to kill any (what I call) "floaties" that MIGHT be out there escaping detection, so the latter chemo treatments which Ken is undergoing kind of fall into the "insurance" category (my terminology). If Ken were not doing so well, they would not give him the additional chemo – so that's why this should be considered as good news. The not-so-good news is that he likely will be spending Christmas in the hospital, but June is making plans to make sure he has a good Christmas Day dinner.

All your thoughts, prayers, and good vibes are working, and Ken and June (and Missy) are very thankful for them. So, please keep 'em coming!!

Important Message from NORTEX President

Dear NORTEX Family,

While our dancing time has been reduced or eliminated this year, Alex Nestor, our NORTEX Webmaster, has been busy updating the NORTEX website.

Although, you may not see much change in the website, many technical issues have been corrected. This effort has made the site much more stable and given us more flexibility and control.

With these website changes we will also see a change in the NORTEX email. Our web hosting provider is changing its marketing strategy for email accounts. In response to that change, we have created new NORTEX email accounts that better use the power of our new web platform. These new accounts give us greater control and flexibility to manage communications in our organization. The change is very simple, the old accounts used, @nortex.org, the new accounts use, @new.nortex.org. While we will be monitoring both accounts for a while, please be sure to update your contact list with the new accounts by January 1, 2021.

New NORTEX Email Accounts:

president@new.nortex.org
secretary@new.nortex.org
treasurer@new.nortex.org
webmaster@new.nortex.org
promenade@new.nortex.org
promenadepmts@new.nortex.org

You may begin to see messages from these new email address before the end of the year. In addition, the online January Promenade will have these new email addresses.

Please share this information with your membership.

My grateful thanks to Alex Nestor and Sam Stephens, Technology and Special Projects, for all their work on the website and emails.

Stay Safe,
Debbie Anderson, Nortex President

Local Lessons and Other Dance Opportunities

Rainbow Rounds – Continuing Lessons – 4-5 Catch-Up Teaches when regular club dancing resumes

Karen and Ed Gloodt

- **Wednesday nights** – 6:00-6:45 p.m. – Swingtime Center
Phase 5 catch-up teaches and reviews, partner required. Anyone is welcome to join. Evening program from 7-9 remains the same.

Waltz and Two-Step – Garland – Monday Nights – Ongoing

Christine & Theron Hixson – we were allowed to start with a limited number

- **Monday nights** – First part of evening is basic waltz; 2nd part is beginning 2-step
November 2, 2020 to January 25, 2021 – 7:00-9:00 p.m.
Granger Rec Center, Room 103, 1310 W. Ave F, Garland 75040
For further info: Call Christine at 972.270.7292 or email hixsoncuer@earthlink.net

Links to Other Festival and Dance Opportunities

January 22-23, 2021 – Shreveport, LA – Phase II-IV, Christ UMC, Church, 1204 Crabapple Dr.
30th Annual January Jewel – Featuring Karen & Ed Gloodt
Info: Martin & Doris Philyaw - Philyawdg@att.net; 318.938.7639 **CANCELLED**
Flyer: <http://peltondances.com/pdfs/2021-January-Jewel.pdf>

February 26-27, 2021 – La Grange, Texas – Randolph Rec. Center, 653 E. Pearl Street
TRDTA - Texas Round Dance Teachers Association South Dance Festival - Phase II-IV
Featuring Texas cuers throughout the state teaching and cuing / teaches Saturday morning & afternoon; Phases 2-4 - Programmed dances Friday & Saturday night
Flyer: <http://peltondances.com/pdfs/2021-TRDTA-LaGrange.pdf>

November 22-24, 2021 – Pre-Festival Activities – TBA - Featuring local Harvest Holiday instructors
Info: www.harvestholiday.com

November 26-28, 2021 – Sokol Hall, Dallas – 60/61st Annual Harvest Holiday Festival
Featuring Randy & Marie Preskitt – See Flyer at end of Newsletter
Info: www.harvestholiday.com



2021 HARVEST HOLIDAY FLYER BELOW

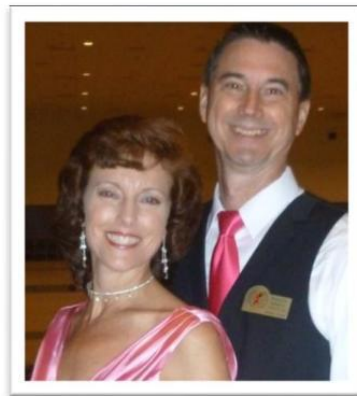
60/61st Annual Dallas/Fort Worth, Texas 2021 Harvest Holiday Festival

Friday-Sunday – November 26-28, 2021
Teaches and Dancing at Phase 4-6

Save the date!

Check www.harvestholiday.com for up-to-date information on venues, hotels and schedules for festival and pre-festival.

**Featuring:
Randy and Marie
Preskitt**



FESTIVAL (November 26-28, 2021)

Location: Sokol Hall, 7448 Greenville Avenue, Dallas, TX 75231

Registration: **\$140/couple** until September 1, 2021 **\$160/couple** after September 1, 2021

Full refund if cancellation received by November 1, 2021

PRE-FESTIVAL: TBD – see www.harvestholiday.com for details

For further information contact:

Christine and Theron Hixson (Chair Couple) 972-270-7292 hixconcuer@earthlink.net

Jack and Sharie Kenny (Hotels) 817-917-9078 jkenny3@sbcglobal.net

Kathy Ellis (Registration) 972-897-2079 csmkathyeellis@gmail.com

Make checks payable to: **HARVEST HOLIDAY (Please note on check: HH 2021)**

Send to: Kathy Ellis, 401 Wildbriar Dr., Garland TX 75043

Name (Last) _____ His _____ Hers _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____

Email _____

Amount enclosed: \$ _____

