



The Chatter

March 2025

Hotfoot Stompers Presidents

Happy fake spring, people!

Knowing Minnesota, it won't last, but we'll take it while we can get it! We have certainly had some rough weather as of late. The amount of times there was talk of cancelling either lessons, or even the February dance was quite a few. But we are a tough group and don't get scared off by, well, typical unpredictable Minnesota weather. I mean, it's Minnesota. Be prepared for anything! Despite nearly canceling, our February dance with Bryan Bush had almost 11 squares! Thank you to all of the dedicated people who braved the snow that day and danced with us.

Graduation is just around the corner! A big thank you to those who have helped out with lessons this year, even if it was just dancing. Angels are so important in making lessons run smoothly. You not only help the students learn, but also help us welcome them into the club and square dance community. We are so proud of all 13 students that we will be graduating and can't wait to celebrate their accomplishments together very soon. Please help us celebrate on March 3rd, starting with a potluck dinner at 6pm. There are some fun activities planned and we would love for all of you to join in on the fun.

While we are just hitting March, we would like to make sure everyone has our April dance on their radar. We have the Siegmann Trio coming in for our annual royalty dance. If you have not danced to the Siegmanns before, they are amazing. Not only are they just fun callers, they are also amazing singers. Considering one of them recently moved to Canada with his wife, who knows how often they will be calling together in the future. Don't miss out on this opportunity to dance to them! Being that it is also

our royalty dance, it will also be time to elect our new queen. Any ladies that have yet to be queen and would be willing to run, please let us know.

See you in a square!



Julie Bittner & Anna Soland

Hotfoot Stompers' Presidents



Hotfoot February New Dancer Dance

Our February 8th New Dancer dance themed “Red, White & Blue” was called by Bryan Bush to nearly 11 squares of dancers at Northdale Middle School with Ken LaBau cueing



Bryan Bush

Theme:
**RED, WHITE, &
BLUE**

Hotfoot “New Dancer” Dance

Saturday, February 8, 2025

Caller: Bryan Bush
Cuer: Ken LaBau

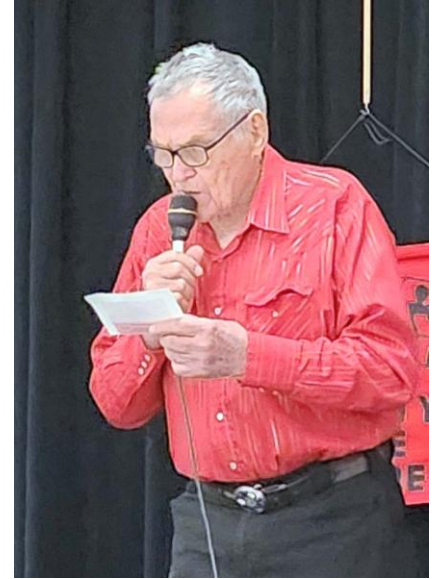
Plus 7:30 - 8:00 p.m.
MS: 8:00 - 10:00 p.m.
Plus 10:00 - 10:15 p.m.

Northdale Middle School
11301 Dogwood Street NW
Coon Rapids, MN 55448

Potluck
Bring a healthy snack to share!

See You There!

Information
Julie Biltner 265.276.8425
or
Anna Soland 263.248.3002
www.hotfootstompers.org



Ken LaBau



Stage is set up ready for some fun dancing



Wow, look at the fun



and more fun



Gee, there sure seems to be a lot of red, white and blue tonight – oh that's our theme tonight



Students joined in and made the dance even more special





It's sure fun to see our youth enjoying square dancing - I remember when I was young



And some round dancing while square dancers enjoy the potluck



President Julie and Caller Bryan



Janet & Dan have fun



How cousins can relieve stress



Announcements



B & B Squares retrieves their banner

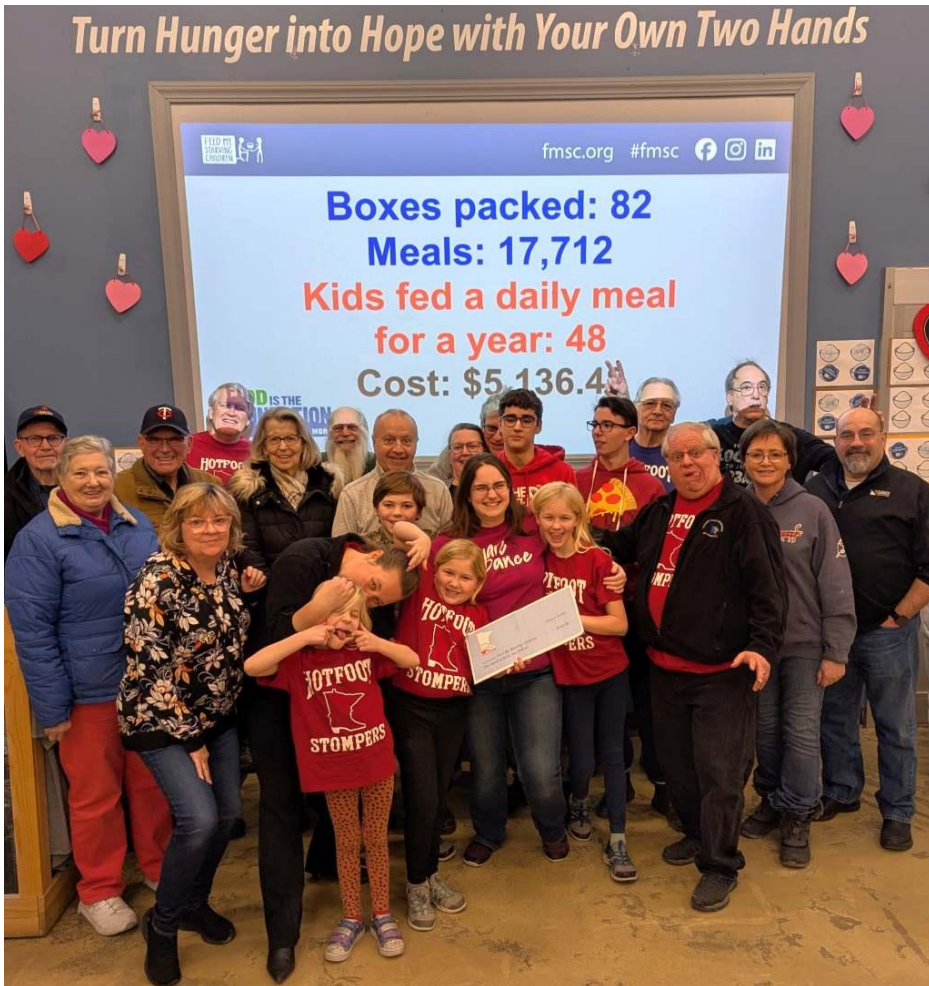


Dan's Pac steals a Hotfoot banner



Cambridge Corners steals a Hotfoot banner

Hotfoot at Feed My Starving Children on February 18th



Swingmaster Callers and Cues at Mid Winter Magic January 25th



Faith Lutheran Church was the location for Mid Winter Magic this year



Hotfoot Stompers Class of 2025



Thirteen Hotfoot Stompers' students ready to graduate on March 3rd, 2025



Hey everyone – look here for a picture - I guess it was announcement time at Monday night lessons at Faith Lutheran Church 2-17-25

Thoughts and Prayers to those not doing so well

Bob Sadler
Bethany Higgs
Bill Bump
Keith Lakeman
Bob Johnson
Marian Love

Mark Your Calendar

Hotfoot Stompers Annual Banquet
Brookhall Event Center - Banquet Hall
11930 Central Ave, Blaine, MN 55434
6:00 – 7:00 dinner 7: 9:30 PM comedian
\$27 adults: \$10 age 17 & under; pay by
April 25th for the May 12 Banquet

From Hotfoot Queen Sandy



Robert and I had a blast at the Swingmasters Square Dance Callers Association 46th annual Mid Winter Magic on Saturday, January 25, 2025. Around 12 squares of dancers promenaded the afternoon away to a lineup of incredible callers. New dancers seized this amazing opportunity to practice what they have learned during lessons, and there were designated tips for the plus level dancers.

Doug Brodeen did outstanding cueing the rounds, and he also led a large group of dancers in a "Patty Cake Polka" mixer!

Mid Winter Magic has a fascinating history. It originated from the St. Paul Winter Carnival. Way back in 1948 when planning was underway for the 1949 event, the organizers were pondering what to do with the auditorium after the parade. A Winter Carnival committee member suggested an evening

square dance. Although the rest of the committee was not fond of the idea, lacking anything else to offer, they accepted it. Future mayor George Vavoulis was made Chairman of the first St. Paul Winter Carnival Square Dance which was held on February 12, 1949.

The St. Paul Winter Carnival Square Dance was an independent event for 5 years, but it was given over to Swingmasters in 1954. The afternoon dance was added in 1966 to provide more floor time for out-of-town attendees.

The final St. Paul Winter Carnival Square Dance was in 1979. In 1980 due to issues at the venue, Swingmasters decided to move the dance to another location. January 1980 was the First Annual Mid Winter Magic dance with 100 squares of new dancers at the afternoon festival and 145 at the evening festival. The event continued with two dances through 2018. Due to decreased participation at the evening dance, it was eliminated and beginning in 2019, it was reduced to just the afternoon new dancer session.



My parents Chuck and Elaine, my siblings Nancy and Brian, and I attended both the final Winter Carnival Square Dance and the first Mid Winter Magic. At Mid Winter Magic in 1985, I met my life-long friend John Bittner. It is unfathomable to think that John and I have known each other for 40 years! Mid Winter Magic continues to be held annually on the fourth Saturday in January as an afternoon event for new dancers with plus tips and round dancing.

See y'all in a square soon.

Sandy Morgan
Hotfoot Stompers Queen

Hotfoot Banner Activity



Hotfoot takes a banner from County Line 1-31-25



Hotfoot takes a banner from B&B Squares 2-1-25



Hotfoot takes Cambridge Corners banner 2-7-25



Hotfoot takes a banner from County Line 2-11-25



Hotfoot takes Jolly Promenaders banner 2-12-25

Hotfoot North Shore Weekend Feb 21-23

Even some square dancing.



Hotfoot Volunteers 2024-25

President: Anna Soland & Julie Bittner
Vice President: Robert Morgan
Treasurer: Mary Jensen
Vice Treasurer: _____
Secretary: John Bittner
Past President: Keith & Tammy Lakeman
Sunshine Contact: Keith & Tammy Lakeman
Queen: Sandy Morgan
Banner Chief: John Bittner & Julie Bittner
Chatter Editor: Gary Kemmetmueller
Historian: _____
Photographer: Sandy & Robert Morgan
The ROUNDUP Reporter: Julie Bittner
The ROUNDUP ads & dance listings: Audrey Cecko
Spotlight Editor: _____
Website Webmaster: Rachel Katkar & Cathy Gates
Caller Booker: Les Marier

----- Committees -----

Decorating Committee: Peggy Decker, Margaret Theisen (Bob Johnson storage)
Door Prizes: Terri Axelson, Fran Sorensen
Greeters: Queen Sandy Morgan, Audrey Cecko
Lesson Set Up Committee: Sandy & Jim Quasbort
Lesson Cleanup Committee: Mark & Sheila Brouhard, Rosemary Valentine
Marketing Committee: Audrey Cecko, Tammy Lakeman
North Shore Weekend: Peggy and Lee Kohl
Pop Committee: _____
Sign Placer: Mel Wallner
Social Committee: Peggy & Lee Kohl, Colette Kilber, Cary Hebert, Fran Sorensen, Jerry Steinworth
Social Media: Tammy Lakeman
Telephone Committee: Marilyn Vialle, Cathy Gates (leader + Hotfoot News + roster + communicator)

----- Coordinators -----

Community Ed Contact: Cathy Gates
Dance Service Coordinator: _____
Student Coordinator: Danielle Rust
Demo Coordinator: John Bittner

We are on the WEB

www.HotfootStompers.org

Hotfoot Stompers



Minnesota Square Dance Club
Coon Rapids, MN
Presidents Anna Soland 763-768-3002
Julie Bittner 763-276-8425

2025 Dance Schedule

Saturday, 7:30-8:00pm Plus;
8:00-10:00pm, MS - potluck.

Northdale Middle School, 11301 Dogwood St NW
Coon Rapids - **Rounds** between tips by **Ken LaBau**
*Service Committee **Treasurer Assistant

Mar 8 - Bill VanBergen -MS - Mexican Fiesta –potluck

*Jim & Sandy Quasbort, Jerry & Nancy Knoth, __
** __, __

Mar 17 – Monday Dan Sahlstrom-MS – no lines nor rounds -6:30 to 9:00 PM – Northdale Middle School

Mar 31 – Monday TBD – MS - no lines nor rounds
6:30 to 9:00 PM – Northdale Middle School

Apr 12 - Siegmann Trio - MS - Royalty - pie & ice cream -
**Don & Monica Keyes, Jim & Sandy Quasbort, Doug & Jeannette Boxeth ** __, __

May 10 - Dee-Dee Dougherty-Lottie - MS - Sports Night - Potluck
**Don & Monica Keyes, Jim & Sandy Quasbort, Doug & Jeannette Boxeth ** __, __

Upcoming Event Reminders for March

March 3 – Monday–MS graduation & potluck 6-9:00 PM – no **PLUS** lessons- Northdale Middle School- Dan calling to new grads

March 4 & 18 – Tuesday- Hotfoot Daytimers MS SD 9:30 AM – 11:30 – Coon Rapids Civic Center, Wayne Tauer calling

Mar 8 – Sunday- Mill City Museum- 2 PM- sold out

March 20 – Thursday- SD Demo Caller John Bittner Edgemont Place – 2:30 PM
11748 Ulysses Lane NE, Blaine, MN

March 26 - Wednesday- Hotfoot Breakfasts:
Women’s and Men’s, both 8:30 AM at **Perkins** located in the NW corner mall at Main St & MN Hiway 65, 12545 Ulysses St NE, Blaine, MN