

Mates and Dates March 2026

Notes from the President

The feedback on our January dance was all aglow and the Joe Ferrari Big Band was a huge hit. For our March dance, In addition to being at a new venue, we are giving pre-recorded music a try for those who want very danceable music chosen by experienced dancers for every song. I hope you join us to give both a try. The venue is a little bigger and much brighter and I'm pretty sure you will enjoy the music selection. See the song list at <https://matesanddates.org/playlists>.

March 20 St. Patrick's Ball

- Our **St. Patrick's Ball** will be Friday March 20 at the **Campbell Community Center**, 1 W. Campbell Avenue at the Orchard City Banquet Hall. Attire will be dressy casual or theme appropriate. Doors open at 6PM, singalong with Allan Bernstein starts at 6:15, dinner served at 7:00. Dance music starts at 8PM.
- Our virtual DJ, Otto Madik, will not be taking requests at the dance, but you can review and provide input on the playlist right now. See <https://matesanddates.org/playlists> and if we are missing your favorite, fill out the feedback form on the website.
- Especially important to the board is your feedback on the playlist. Each table will have several copies of the entire playlist with a 1-4 rating checkbox for each song. Each song will announce what dance it is leading into so you can use the playlist to keep track and make sure you don't miss your favorites. Tell us which ones you love and which ones you hate and write in your missing favorites on the back to make our music better suit you.

Future Dances

- Starting with the May 15 **60's Flower Power** dance, we will be back at the Mountain View Mason Hall for the remaining dances this year. We will also have the Joe Ferrari Big Band back for our July 17 **Serving our Military at the USO** dance. Dust off those uniforms and 1940's attire for another great dance to an excellent big band.
- Thank you to the 43 couples that paid their \$60 membership fee to become paid members. The privilege of membership, besides getting a \$20 discount on each dance, is that you can self register online and have seating choice. By definition and by our bylaws, if you are not a paid member you are a guest and must be invited by a member to attend a dance. Members can easily register guest couples to sit at their table online or fill out the paper guest registration forms and mail them in.
- Dance registration is by table. Any paid member can register for the next dance at any time online. Once you do, tell your member friends what table to request so they can select that on their online or paper registration form to sit with you. Anyone can see who is seated where at <https://matesanddates.org/seating>.

- Remember, even though you picked a table for you (and your guests), members can login online and move themselves (and their guests) to different tables any time. Just click on the Seating link at the top of any web page and click the 'Move me...' link to any table that has room for you (and your guests).
- If no one in your table group can register online you can annotate whom you want to sit with on your mail-in registration form. **Include the phone numbers of everyone that has confirmed they will attend that you want to sit with on the registration form so we can call you all to coordinate. The sooner you register, the more likely you will get your preference.**

Survey Feedback

We received 33 completed feedback forms at the last dance. Most everyone had a great time and really loved the Joe Ferrari Big Band. See results at <https://matesanddates.org/feedback>.