

## SWINGING 8'S

On July 4, 1966, a group of square dancers, taught by Dale Riffle, had a carry-in and a business meeting to discuss the forming of a new club.

This meeting was held 1 ½ miles northeast of Ansonia, in a vacant hen house. The name "Ansonia Swinging 8's" was chosen from a list of five names.

The first slate of officers elected to the club was:

Harold and Norma Jean Clark - President  
Bob and Janice Coby - Vice-President  
Chalmer and Maxine Cruze - Secretary  
John and Phyllis Lindemuth - Treasurer

It was decided the club would change officers the first of July each year. Workshops were set for the first Sunday evening and the club dances were set for the fourth Saturday night of each month. These events took place at the Ansonia Elementary School gymnasium. The following is a list of the charter members from the first meeting.

Bob and Janice Coby  
Hank and Eula Byers  
John and Mary Rismiller  
Bill and Sue Thompson  
Earl & Margaret Rismiller  
Clifford and Mable Gibson  
Chalmer and Maxine Cruze  
Charles and Sue Gibson  
Harold and Norma Jean Clark  
Dick and Joan Asterman  
Jack and Roberta Warner  
Dick and Shirma Gower  
Denver and Lenore Harter  
Sam and Eve Rader  
John and Phyllis Lindemuth  
Johnny Lindemuth  
Gene and Joan Dowler  
Scott Riffle  
Dale and Pat Riffle

Only three charter members are still active: Dale, Pat and Scott Riffle. The largest membership achieved was 95 couples. The largest class was 61 students.

The presidents of our club were:

1966-67 Harold and Norma Jean Clark  
1967-68 Bob and Janice Coby

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**1968-69 John and Phyllis Lindemuth**  
**1969-70 Charles and Mary Lou Gander**  
**1970-71 Bob and Carol Voight**  
**1971-72 Floyd and Maxine Kaufman**  
**1972-74 Allen and Mary Burkett**  
**1974-75 Gene and Helen Besecker**  
**1975-77 Eldon and Mildred Lanich**  
**1977-78 George and Jean Young**  
**1978-79 Rick and Kay Jones**  
**1979-80 Don and Carol Rank**  
**1980-81 Dave and Janice Carter**  
**1981-82 Scott and Cindy Riffle**  
**1982-83 Doug and Anita Bevins**  
**1983-85 Scott and Cindy Riffle**  
**1985-86 Dale and Pat Riffle**  
**1986-87 Harvey and Phyllis Crick**  
**1987-88 Bob and Maxine Fitzgerald**  
**1988-89 Dale and Pat Riffle**  
**1989-91 Larry and Shirley Studebaker**  
**1991-93 Harvey and Phyllis Crick**  
**1993-97 Frank and Sarah Baker**  
**1997-99 Mark and Cindy Libert**  
**1999-00 Ed and Cathy Miltenberger**

1/2000