



# BALLROOM BY THE BAY

*A publication for Members and Friends of the Bellingham Chapter of USA Dance, Inc.*

Vol 10 Issue 3 USA Dance, Inc. Bellingham Washington Chapter 1013

September 2011

## VEGAS, BABY, VEGAS!

On Saturday, September 17th, Bellingham Ballroom Dancers bring to town Classic Vintage Vegas!



*Evan & Charlie Brown*

**EVAN & CHARLIE BROWN** are veterans of the Nevada lounge circuit and played there often in the 60's, 70's & 80's. They were also headliners aboard the cruise ships **UNIVERSE** and **STARDANCER** sailing the Caribbean, the Panama Canal, Mexico and Alaska in the 80's.



Now off the road and playing mainly in the Seattle-Tacoma area Elks, Eagles and VFW halls, , we met them when they played for an Arcadians Dance Club event at the Rainier Country Club last year. We were impressed with how easy it was to dance to every number, and enjoyed their delightful personalities.

Evan and Charlie aren't brothers, but they play as if they have been together for years...and they have! Their musical repertoire consists of a wide variety of styles and ages. They play standards from days past for ballroom dancing including waltz, rumba, cha-chas, tangos & sambas, plus "rock-n-roll" mostly from the 50's & 60's. And never fear, they do have some Country ready for the WC Swing.

We will have a beginning West Coast Swing lesson at 7 pm with the live music for general dancing beginning about 8.

Our dances are held at the Blue Moon Ballroom, located in downtown Bellingham at 1213 Cornwall Avenue, right across the street from The Leopold. Refreshments will be served and there will be a waltz mixer so everyone gets a chance to dance. Be sure to wear your lucky shirt!

### In this Month's Issue:

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**USA DANCE, Inc.** A volunteer 501 (c) non-profit organization promoting the healthy activity of ballroom dancing to communities across America

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### NEXT BALLROOM DANCE:

Live Band! Evan and Charlie Brown

Saturday September 17th. West Coast Swing lesson  
7-8 p.m. General Dancing 8 -10 p.m.

*Suggested Attire: Vegas Style!*

### UPCOMING DANCING OPPORTUNITIES

#### ARGENTINE TANGO DANCES

2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of each month

Squalicum Yacht Club, 8 pm

#### OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER USA DANCE BALLROOM DANCE

Saturday, October 15, Blue Moon Ballroom

Saturday, November 19th, Blue Moon Ballroom

#### OCTOBER BELLINGHAM TRADITIONAL JAZZ SOCIETY DANCE SWING DANCE

Saturday, October 1st, VFW Hall 625 N State Street  
2-5 PM Live Band: Red Beans and Rice

#### BLUE MOON BALLROOM- BELLINGHAM

1213 Cornwall. See their website for lessons and  
special events: [www.thebluemoonballroom.com](http://www.thebluemoonballroom.com)

## Cornucopia Harvest Ball!

*A richly elegant evening of Music, Dance  
and Culinary Delights*

*The Polish Home, Seattle*



**Sunday, October 16th, 2011  
5 pm to 9 pm**

**Music By The Cornucopia Orchestra**  
**For more info and tickets:**

<http://www.danceforjoy.biz/cornucopia.html>

## October USA Dance: North of the Border

# Evening in the Copper Room

*By Karen Harris*

On Saturday, October 15<sup>th</sup>, we'll be featuring music from the Harrison Hot Springs Copper Room all evening... music recorded by the Jones Boys for the past 30 years and recordings from The Copper Room Orchestra dating back to 1943. Elegant Cocktail attire is suggested and we will be selling 'mocktails' as a fundraiser to support future events.



If you aren't familiar with Harrison Hot Springs, a favorite of many USA Dance members, you're missing a seldom seen opportunity to dine and dance 7 nights a week in a historic hotel just 90 minutes from Bellingham. The original resort, named the Saint Alice Hotel, ran from 1886 to 1920, and was unfortunately destroyed by a fire. In 1926 the hotel was rebuilt and became the Harrison Hot Springs Resort, run by Vancouver businessmen.

From 1943 to 1945, the hotel was a Convalescent Hospital for the Canadian Department of National Defense. From 1949 to 1998, The Harrison Hotel was owned by United Distillers, Seagram's Corporation, Wosks and the Itoman Corporation of Japan. Today it is owned by Delaware North Company which also manages the Queen Mary in Long Beach CA.

From the beginning, the Copper Room has been the scene of live music for ballroom dancing. Presidents and Premiers have stayed and dined in this little village at the foot of the enormous Harrison Lake.



Can't wait until October 15<sup>th</sup>? Come join us at Harrison on September 24<sup>th</sup> for dinner and dancing at the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual "Celebrate Karen's 39<sup>th</sup> Birthday (Again)" Event. Some folks will be driving up for the evening, some of us staying the night. For hotel reservations at the resort (so you can enjoy the 5 hot spring pools) go to [www.Harrisonresort.com](http://www.Harrisonresort.com). If you plan to attend please let me know so I can give a headcount to Travis in the Copper Room for dinner. 360-739-4842 or [karen.harris@ricoh-usa.com](mailto:karen.harris@ricoh-usa.com)

## Buddy Schwimmer in Bellingham

*By Mary Simler Evans*

Bellingham Dance Company is proud to bring to you Buddy Schwimmer, award-winning West Coast Swing dancer, choreographer, instructor, and the inventor of the Nightclub Two Step!

Come dance and learn from "The King of Swing" Sunday, September 18, 2011, at the Majestic in Bellingham. In addition to Buddy's professional and fun approach to West Coast Swing fundamentals, "The Man with a Thousand Moves" will also be teaching classes on breaks and syncopations.

## CURRENT USA DANCE OFFICERS

### PRESIDENT

Skeeter Smith

### VICE PRESIDENT

Philip Ring

### SECRETARY

LaDonna Smith

### TREASURER

Bob Merth

### RESIDENT INSTRUCTOR

Bobbie Carter

### NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Karen Harris

### BOARD MEMBERS

Sam and Rosemary Wright, Bobbie Carter, Stanley and Karen Harris, Hope Reedy, Jim Dickinson, Cathy Chambers

### BEHIND THE SCENES



## Oly's Dance Studio Presents...



Is there a better way to learn more about the Nightclub Two Step than from the CREATOR of the dance himself? Not to mention the father of *So You Think You Can Dance* and *Dancing With the Stars* siblings Benji Schwimmer and Lacey Schwimmer.

### SCHEDULE OF CLASSES-

**Sunday, September 18, 2011** at the Majestic, 1027 N. Forest St, Bellingham

**2pm-3pm: WEST COAST SWING FUNDAMENTALS**

This class is a MUST for all swing dancers!

**3pm-4pm: INTERMEDIATE MOVES FOR WEST COAST SWING**

Dancers must already know the basic passes, basic whip, and sugar push for West Coast Swing in order to participate in this class.

**4pm-5pm: WEST COAST SWING BREAKS AND SYNCOPATIONS**

Learn to play with the music and have fun with a variety of moves from Buddy.

**5pm-6pm: NIGHTCLUB TWO STEP- BEYOND THE BASICS**

Dancers must already know the basic, basic turns and cross in Nightclub Two Step in order to participate in this class.

Call Bellingham Dance Company (Mary) at 360-224-4082 or email

[mary@bellinghamdancecompany.com](mailto:mary@bellinghamdancecompany.com) to register.

## Dancing With the Angels

On September 7<sup>th</sup>, long time USA Dance member

**Russ Gran** passed away from complications following a heart attack 10 days previous. Russ was President of our chapter in 1997, bringing the club back from a series of years of financial struggle.

His generous devotion of time and fabulous hosting skills that year resulted in a legacy that sustains the club to this day. Russ met his wife **Marilyn** at Dance Connection on a Friday night and they quickly became partners on the floor and in life. Russ was also President of the Mount Baker Organ Society, active in St. Paul's and the Masons, and looking forward to celebrating his 100<sup>th</sup> birthday in January. A funeral mass and reception will be held at St. Paul's Church on Saturday, September 17<sup>th</sup> at 1 pm with graveside service at Greenacres Park in Ferndale on Monday, September 19<sup>th</sup>.



On August 2<sup>nd</sup>, our friend and fellow dancer **Arnold Duckworth** passed away at the age of 83. Arnold was passionate about all the arts, but he really loved live music events that included dancing. Some fabulous USA dances at Maple Hall in LaConner were the result of Arnold's persistence. Arnold enjoyed dancing with everyone, but he saved the best tunes for his **Satin Doll**, his lovely wife, Lydia. We will miss you both!





# Dancing in Bermuda

By Karen Harris

Good thing we packed our dancing shoes! We honestly expected to have a hard time finding a place to dance and almost left them behind. So imagine how surprised and delighted we were to find our hotel, the Fairmont Southampton, had live music and a dance floor right in the lobby bar, every night of our stay! The three piece jazz band looked and sounded like they had stepped right out of the 60's, but they played all the standards with the added benefit of comfortable sofas and attentive waiters to bring another Rum Swizzle when needed.

And if we had become bored with that (didn't) we even had the option of taking the free 4 times daily water taxi to the OTHER Fairmont in Bermuda, the Hamilton Princess, about 50 minutes away. The evening jazz, plus they had Happy Hour jazz out on the lawn. It was elegant too, but in the city with no beach. Our hotel also had the requisite disco which was popular with the locals.



Bermuda has no fresh ground water- no rivers, lakes or wells. All water is collected via the pristine white channeled roof that each family maintains to keep the water tank under their home full. Running out will cost you 10 cents a gallon for delivery from the water truck!



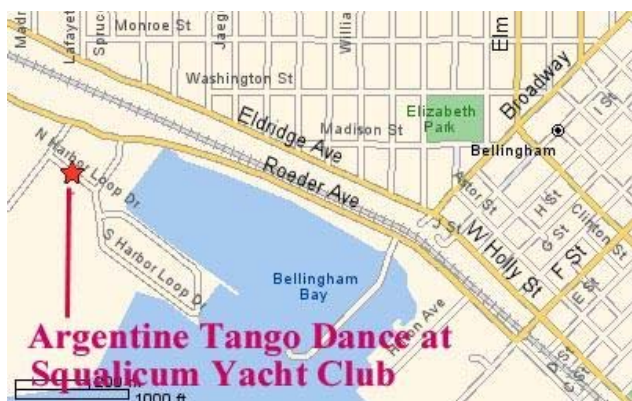
There is no income tax, no sales tax, just duty on imported goods. The bad news is *everything* is imported to this tiny island with a population the size of Bellingham, and duty can run quite high, up to 150% on cars. Guns aren't allowed and there are virtually no bugs.

Bermuda, with its colorful houses, waterfront views at every turn and pristine beaches truly is paradise...with nightly dancing!



## Tango Dance

Every Second Saturday



Bellingham Ballroom Dancers Association

USA Dance Inc. Chapter 1013

2809 W. Crestline Drive

Bellingham, WA 98226

## Ballroom Dance

Every Third Saturday

Blue Moon Ballroom

1213 Cornwall Avenue, Bellingham

