



Newsletter

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August 2013

President's Corner

By Bob Olszewski

The board received 20 responses to the opinion survey – thank you! We approached the surveys seriously with the goal to act on your recommendations to the best of our ability. The surveys were the major topic for our regular board meeting plus a two-hour special meeting the next week to complete the review.

We formed two committees that will consider survey responses for snacks/parties and music then present recommendations to the board in August. The music committee will review our music and make recommendations for music selection, rotation of dances, and also ideas for increased mixers. While reviewing the music survey input, we also evaluated the dance host. After input from members on both sides of the dance host issue, the board evaluated our original concept effectiveness. In an attempt to get everyone more dances, we voted to replace the dance host with more mixers, Sadie Hawkins, and snowball dances. We also addressed instructors, classes, website, the newsletter, e-mail notifications, and building maintenance/cleanliness. More details about the survey discussion can be found on page 3.

Besides all that, the membership outreach committee is working on a promotional card, which will offer first-time guest 50% off of their first visit. A distribution plan for these cards will be developed in August. Our club is the best value and has the most dancing activity in the Charleston market! We should all promote the club, not only for its cost value but also for dancing's health value. Dancing keeps challenging our minds and helps keep our bodies limber.

Happy Birthday!

Joe Richardson	August 2
James Terifaj	August 2
Richard Felsingier	August 3
Margaret Markiewicz	August 4
Connie Vance	August 8
Ewa Ferguson	August 10
Barry Weissglass	August 10
Larry Beldner	August 14

If your birthday has not been showing up, contact Connie at 843-754-5087 connievance10@gmail.com

Special Events

Fred Astaire Studio Night
Friday, August 2
7:30 Cha Cha Lesson with Lauren
8:30 Dance Party
Board Meeting - BDC
Saturday, August 10, 6:00 p.m.
Night Club 2-Step Workshop, Beginner to Intermed.
Sam and Denise Miller
Wednesday, August 14 (Please Pre-Register)
7:30 – 9:30, \$25 Members, \$35 Guests
Hawaiian Party - Potluck
Saturday, August 31, 2013
7:00 Salsa Lesson by Marina, 8:30 Dance Party

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Mystery Dancer

Be the first to guess the identity of this mystery dancer and win 2 free passes to a regular Friday or Saturday night dance! If you think you know, contact ConnieVance10@gmail.com. Last month's mystery dancer was Jody Martindale.



She was born in Moscow, Russia, although at that time, it was called the Soviet Union. After she left Russia, she lived in Rome for a short while, then in New York for several years, then moved to Fort Lauderdale, FL (still home to her). She worked and lived on the Mediterranean island of Malta for a few years and

then returned to Florida. Her work as a computer programmer brought her to Charleston in December of 2011.

The Twist must have been as popular in Russia as it was here since that was her first dance experience at age 5. She started taking dance lessons in 2006 but stopped in 2008. But, after discovering BDC in January 2013, she is a regular!

When she isn't dancing or working, she likes to travel to other countries and particularly admire architecture. She also likes to listen to music, do Yoga, and just read and think.

Family includes a daughter who lives in Florida and is an artist. She manages an art supply store in Ft Lauderdale and does all types of paintings and drawings, but especially enjoys painting murals.

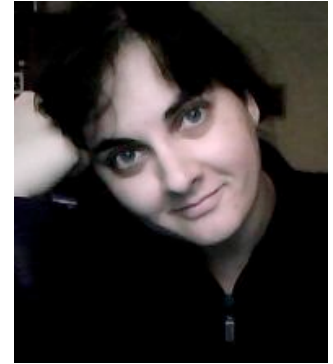
If you want to impress this mystery dancer, give her peace of mind and kindness!

Welcome New Members!

We welcome all new members to our dance chapter and hope that they will enjoy it as much as we do. The remainder of new members will be featured in later newsletters as we get information and photos.

Meet Ellie

Miltcheva from Sofia, Bulgaria! She is one of our newest members and made the decision to join us on her second visit. Ellie said the very first night she felt a little apprehensive but her doubts were quickly dispelled when she saw how friendly everyone was. She sends out a big THANK YOU to all who were there for making her first dancing lesson a wonderful experience.



Ellie moved to Charleston in 1995 to join her mother in a simple quest for a better life and more opportunities to study and work. She took advantage of that opportunity and earned a BA from the College of Charleston and a JD from the Florida Coastal School of Law in Jacksonville, FL.

For the past two years, Ellie has been employed as a paralegal but hopes to apply her education and skills as an attorney some day. Before that, she very much enjoyed her job at the Gibbs Museum.

Right now, family consists of her mother and sister, but she hopes to change that someday. Ellie values life itself and her family and friends most of all. She says that the faith that they inspire in her and the love they share is so important.

Welcome!

Opinion Survey Report

The board met on July 13 and then again on July 20 to review and carefully consider all suggestions. Some items are in the development stage and will take more time. This is a short summary.

Parties: Generally our members and guests are happy with the parties and really like the games and different dance mixers. The board agreed that guests and new members should continue to be introduced to members and make them feel welcome, to reinstall the “What’s Happening” Board, publicize special events more, and remind people to help at the end of the party. More than once we heard, “Walk around the edge of the dance floor instead of through the middle”!

Music: Three DJs have been appointed to look into the many suggestions made by our members and come up with guidelines for selection of music, rotation of dances, and the addition of more mixers/snowball dances so that everyone is up dancing. Those three DJs are Debbie Housand, Susan Groome, and Bob Hyatt.

Instructors: Suggestions included having the instructor explain to new dancers how to recognize a distinctive beat to match to the dance they are teaching. All instructors should maintain crowd control and be respectful to participants. An instructor evaluation form similar to the one used back in 2008 was reviewed.

Dance Hosts: Opinions were split - some like it, some don’t. As alternatives to the dance host, the board voted to replace it with more mixers, Sadie Hawkins dances, and snowballs so that everyone gets a chance to dance more. With ten or so unaccompanied women every Saturday night, most were only getting a couple of extra dances with the host (some not at all) because of time restraints.

Snacks: Here again, because of the number of suggestions and the many possibilities, a committee was formed to look into this and make a recommendation to the Board in August. That committee consists of Bob Olszewski, Betsy Beldner, Shelby Groome, and Normandie Updyke.

Classes: Four responses here, generally that more workshops are needed and classes should be relaxed and student friendly.

Website, Calendar, Newsletter, E-Mail Notifications: We had a few comments in these areas mainly about needing the calendar sooner and making the website easier to navigate. We are working on that. Other publicity options are being explored.

Building Maintenance and Cleanliness: There were mixed reviews on this one; some think it is clean enough, some don’t. Efforts are being made to communicate with cleaning people to correct any problems. If you see a problem, please contact President Bob at 609-827-8832 or mbolszewski@homesc.com as soon as possible. Regarding coolness, there were several comments that the temperature is too hot but hopefully, that has been remedied by repairing Unit 1 in late June. In other maintenance, a wide L-shaped section of the floor from the door to the ladies restroom will be refinished soon.

Miscellaneous: Starting a DVD or VHS dance tape library was suggested, excellent idea! If you have a DVD or VHS dance tape you would donate or loan to the club library, please contact President Bob O.

Thank you again for your input!

Other Board Action

Promotional Cards: In an effort to introduce our club to others, the board is ordering special promotional cards that will admit a first-time person and guest for 50% off our regular guest price of \$10 each. A distribution plan is being developed and hopefully, will be adopted at the August 10 board meeting.

Advertising Space: The Board voted to open advertising space in the newsletter and the website to all dance related businesses, which includes studios, instructors, dance clothing/shoes. Our very own “Dance Shoppe”! There will also be an inexpensive corner for members to advertise other businesses, furniture, houses, junk, etc.

Friday Parties: The Board is reviewing the possibility of offering different options for the Friday parties to create more interest and provide variety. A class that progresses each week similar to the Monday, Tuesday, Thursday group classes and Argentine Tango are two ideas being evaluated. Your ideas are welcome!

Monthly Dance Classes

What other dance venue has four group dance classes scheduled every week plus an hour lesson on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday! The monthly group classes are structured so that there is a different dance featured each month.

Every week, the instructor reviews the previous weeks and adds a new step. This repetitive method is very effective. Because it is a progressive class, it is important to start on the first week of the month to avoid having to catch up with the rest of the class, thereby slowing their progress.

BEGINNER to BRONZE

Thursday

7:00 – 8:00, Stephen Duane, 843-557-7690



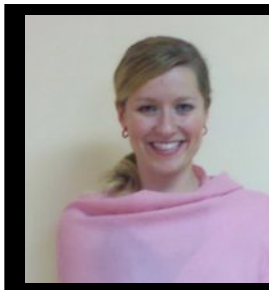
New to the dance floor or maybe you tried but realized that you had two left feet? A beginning dancer focuses on one aspect of dance only, which makes you forget about the music and or timing. You are just trying to move! After a while your feet move in time with the

music. Now you are a basic dancer, beginning to lead and follow takes on new meaning. Beginning dance classes teach the basic frame and body positions, a breakdown of the basic rhythm and steps of the essential ballroom dances such as Waltz, Foxtrot, Tango, Swing, Rumba, and Cha Cha.

INTERMEDIATE

Thursday

8:00 – 9:00, Marina Fridmanovich, 843-654-1011



You have been dancing for a while, you have the basics down, and you want to perfect your dancing. It's time for Intermediate Class. These classes will teach you how to move around the floor with confidence

(sequencing steps together), how to lead and follow, how to add drive to your steps, how to add styling (Latin movement, contra-body movement, arm styling, etc.).

INTERMEDIATE continued

The intermediate dancer needs to be able to change direction at a given moment, know the line of dance, and know the sequence of steps. You are beginning to “drive” your steps and move your own body versus someone moving it for you. You are mastering the components of dance so that you learn new patterns much easier.

ADVANCED INTERMEDIATE

Tuesday

7:00 – 8:30, David Roland, 843-568-6888



Now that you have become a little more confident and comfortable, you can move on to more advanced technique and styling. Refining good lead and follow is a major part of dance. Without it, true dance cannot happen and you end up with 2 sets of

memorized steps that hopefully happen at the same time. This class will start with a half-hour of lead-follow and technique that will be applied to the dance of the month. The last hour will include advanced intermediate patterns.

ADVANCED – ANYTHING GOES

Monday

7:00–8:00, Debbie Housand, 843-991-3601



The advanced dancer is someone who already understands directional movement for all dances. You can change direction on a moment's notice to avoid obstacles (other dancers). The advanced dancer utilizes sway and contra body where needed

to enhance movement. You can remember about footwork and body position in different movements. This class will incorporate new and creative moves!

Monthly Class Price List – Members	One Class	Multiple Classes
*Monday Class – 4 weeks	\$30	\$25
*Tuesday Class – 4 weeks	40	35
Thursday Class – 5 weeks	40	35
*Non-Members Mon, Tues	+10	+10

Monthly Group Classes

Mondays – Anything Goes Lessons

Debbie Housand, 7:00-8:00

Foxtrot (4 weeks)

Stephen Duane 4:15-5:15

Youth Swing, Lindy Hop \$5 Person

Tuesdays – Intermediate to Advanced Lessons

David Roland, 7:00-8:30

Lead Follow Cha Cha – 7:00 – 7:30

Cha Cha Pattern 7:30 – 8:30 (4 weeks)

Thursdays – Beginner-Bronze Lessons

Stephen Duane, 7:00-8:00

Rumba (5 weeks)

Marina Fridmanovich, 8:00-9:00

Intermediate Waltz (5 weeks)

Sundays – Advanced Youth Lessons

David Roland 1:00–2:00

Dance Floor Available For Practice

Our dance floor is available to members for private lessons and practice. All private lesson students and members using the floor for practice should enter this information on the sign-in sheet located at the front desk.

- ✓ The floor-use charge for practice is \$10 per hour for members. (Private lessons already include the cost of floor use.)
- ✓ Payment envelopes are on the sign-in sheet clipboard at the front desk (place \$ in safe).
- ✓ Prepaid discount rates are available for practice.

Discount Rates

30 Hours Floor Rental \$250 (\$8 per hour)

50 Hours Floor Rental \$350 (\$7 per hour)

If you would like to schedule practice time, please contact Toni at 330-416-1712 for a door access code.

It's Dance
Time!

Dance Reminders

Dancers – Please walk around the edge of the dance floor to protect both the dancers and the floor from food spills. See page 7 for dance floor etiquette.

DJs – Many dancers need, and most appreciate, an announcement before each song as to the dance type. Get everyone on the floor – mixers, snowballs, Sadie Hawkins, etc!

Dance Parties

Friday/Saturdays Lessons vary every week--see the calendar for details. There is an hour-long lesson before the regular dance AND it is included in the price of party admission! Light snack food, sodas, and coffee are included as well. Admission is \$5 for members and \$10 for guests. Dress code is always your choice!

Sunday night parties include a great band most of the time. While they do focus on the Charleston and Lindy Hop dances, there is always music for ballroom dancers as well.

August 4 The V-Tones: a Gypsy-Style Variety Band led by Noodle McDoodle whose main characteristic is a strong rotation of local musicians and 1920's Swing tunes.

August 12 – Classic Memories Big Band a 1940's-style Big Band led by Mike Larsen that specializes in a wide variety of Swing, Latin, and Smooth dance songs that are perfect for Ballroom dancing.

August 19 – Joe Clarke's Big Band (9 pieces) The instrumentalists have been selected from the best that the Charleston area has to offer. Many of them hail from other parts of the country and bring their own unique qualities to the group. Joe Clarke sings and plays the piano. Jenna Brinson compliments the stage with her sophisticated vocal style. The 9-piece Big Band songlist was created to reflect the best of the big band era.

Mark Your Calendar!

Fall Ball, Sat, September 21

Christmas Party, Sat., December 7

New Years Eve Extravaganza, Tues., December 31

Night Club Two-Step Workshop

**Wednesday, August 14, 2013
7:30 to 9:30**



**Beginner to Intermediate
\$25 BDC Members
\$35 Guests
Please Pre-Register**

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**Sam and Denise Miller  
Master Level Instructors**

**Multiple  
World Champion Winners**

Two-Step (Night Club Version), not to be confused with Country Two-step, is one of the most practical and versatile social dances ever conceived. It is designed to be used with contemporary soft rock ("Love Song" type music). This type of music is common just about everywhere, nightclubs, radio etc. The rhythm of the dance is very simple and rarely changes from the 1 & 2 count. This simple, romantic dance fills a gap where no other ballroom dance fits. It gives the dancer, either beginning or advanced, the opportunity to express and create without a rigid technique being required. It is attractive, romantic, and will be used often.

Night Club Two-Step is an easy dance that almost anyone can learn. The key characteristic is a rock step followed by a side step. Inventor Buddy Schwimmer says that the rock step is actually a 5th position break, adding that he doesn't recommend pronounced Latin hip movement.  
(Source [www.firststepdance.com](http://www.firststepdance.com))

Coming soon..... the Dance Shoppe! Advertising space is available to all dance related businesses, instructors, etc. Contact Connie at 843-754-5087 or connievance10@gmail.com if you are interested.



DANCERS! ENJOY DANCING TO THE FULLEST!  
**Let's All Practice Dance Floor Etiquette!**

MANY DANCERS AND MANY STYLES OF DANCING CAN BE ACCOMMODATED ON THE FLOOR AT THE SAME TIME, IF TRADITIONAL DANCE FLOOR ETIQUETTE IS FOLLOWED. LET'S ALWAYS BE COURTEOUS, AND WE'LL ALL HAVE A GREAT TIME DANCING!

SEE, IT'S GETTING  
ROUGH ON THE  
DANCE FLOOR  
THESE DAYS,  
FOLKS!



WHEN DANCING  
THE CHA-CHA  
OR RUMBA,  
DANCE IN YOUR  
OWN SMALL  
AREA AND  
IGNORE THE  
DIAGRAM!



DANCE  
FLOOR

WHEN DANCING  
IN THE OUTSIDE  
LANES, DO NOT  
BACK UP, DO  
NOT DANCE  
ACROSS THE  
FLOW. KEEP  
A LOOKOUT  
FOR OTHER  
DANCERS TO  
AVOID  
COLLISIONS!  
IF YOU WISH  
TO SWING,  
OR DANCE  
NON "LINE-  
OF-DANCE"  
STEPS,  
GO TO THE  
CENTER!

