



# Newsletter

*Ballroom Dance Charleston SC - USA Dance*

## **Chapter 6021**

**2408 Ashley River Road, Charleston, SC – Pier Pont Crossing Center**

**Website:** <http://www.ballroomdancecharleston.org/> **Phone:** 843-482-0871

**Photos:** <http://charlestonballroomdanceclub.shutterfly.com>

**February 2015**

## **Præsident's corner**

By Pamela C. Levi

### **Thirty Days of Growth, Change and Success**

We have been in our new home for 30 “dance days”. It is terrific to see the enthusiasm and energy as well as the generosity of our members. We are a long way toward our goals because of that generosity-thank you.

We are a new Board, and a smaller one; this first month is an organizational one for us. Thank you for your patience as we try to determine how best to make our all-volunteer organization work best in the new facility.

We ran out of membership application forms last Saturday, what a fabulous problem! Have you looked at our new web page or Face book pages yet? We are getting daily calls about Ballroom Dance Charleston from our web sites and from Meet-Up. Many thanks to Jan Hyatt, for her professional level skills in on-line media!

Our Friday and Saturday parties are critical to our financial health as well as being our principal reason for existing. The parties consist

## **Happy birthday**

Norman Bell .....	Feb 11
Alan Capalugan .....	Feb 5
Trudy Carnahan .....	Feb 22
James Holmes .....	Feb 27
Randy Hyman .....	Feb 3
Floyd Jerigan .....	Feb 25
Walter LeCroy.....	Feb 17
Jane Locke .....	Feb 7
Wesley Markiewicz.....	Feb 16
Charlotte Martinez.....	Feb 11
Kim Pearson .....	Feb 20
Rita Peterson .....	Feb 23
John Rock .....	Feb 19

## **Special events**

Board Meeting

Sunday, February 8, Calhoun Library 2:00

Valentine's Day Party – POTLUCK!

Saturday, February 14, 2015

7:30 Bolero with Kate

8:30 Potluck Dance Party

Hosts: Marcia and Jackie

Recept: Rob O. DJ: Bob H.

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of a triad-Music, Environment and Ambience. Ambience here means what is usually thought of as host.

Serving as host can be a lot of work, and responsibility. In order to make this critical role more workable and less stressful we are doing the following:

We have separated the financial part of hosting and the traditional host role. The host will no longer take money, attendance rolls or sell memberships etc. All financial transactions will be done by a group of individuals called the Reception Committee. This group communicates to the Board through Connie Vance, the Treasurer.

Our music is critical and we have formed a DJ group that meets quarterly, evaluates and shares music and gathers feedback from members. They also look after the sound equipment. The DJ's have been asked to share the studio closing duties with the Host. This group communicates to the Board through Todd Biegger, the Vice-President.

A Host Committee is being formed that will consist of 12-15 people who will be responsible for one weekend every three months. This is how it is envisioned working but this may change. Once every three months the committee will meet. They will choose one weekend. On their weekend, each will ask one friend to help them. Each night there will only be one host-the friend will have the other party that weekend. Each person asks only one friend-not one person making 30-40 calls to find hosts for one month. Each committee member has freedom to bring food or use BDC snacks. The Host Committee will recommend policy, equipment needs to the Board through Marcia Hessert, the Director for Hosting.

The Board needs your suggestions, thoughts and questions. We also want you to share your talents, skills and intellect to improve Ballroom Dance Charleston.

## Spotlight on Board Member:



Jane Locke was voted in as a new member to our Ballroom dance club board during the last elections in December 2014.

She has a great love for ballroom dancing and felt she could contribute to the development of our club and its future.

Circumstances in Jane's life have driven her to volunteer for numerous national charities. In 1987 she realized a need for a local children's charity. Along with a group of two dozen others-many of whom were local firefighters she started an organization called Carolina Children's Charity.

She has held every possible position on that board including 18 years as president. Since 1987, Carolina Children's Charity has distributed more than \$3.7 million to offset health care costs for thousands of children. There are two events held each year which are the major fund raisers- a telethon and a 5K walk/run. The organization pays vendors, medical providers and pharmacies directly instead of reimbursing families later.

Carolina Children's Charity receives many grants each year from its supporters. Jane remembers the largest being thousands of dollars used for wheelchairs or diabetic supplies.

A comment from one of Jane's colleagues about her commitment was, "Jane is not afraid to push her sleeves up and move furniture, or fold pamphlets, or sweep the floor. But then she can put on a beautiful suit and represent the charity before some of the really influential people in our community. Not a lot of people can do that."

We are extremely fortunate to have such a dedicated and diverse person on our Board. She will share her knowledge and experience with BDC while playing a major role in directing our future. Welcome Jane Locke - we are so happy to have you with us.

## Monthly dance classes

The monthly group classes are structured so that there is a different dance featured each month.

- ✓ Choose classes at your skill level.
- ✓ Start on the first week of the month.

Every week the instructor will review the previous weeks and add a new pattern.

### BEGINNER

#### Wednesday – 2408 Ashley River Road

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



Beginning dance classes teach the basic frame and body positions, a breakdown of the basic rhythm and steps. Students should enroll in this class at the beginning of the month so that everyone will be on the same “page” every week.

\$40 for 4 weeks.

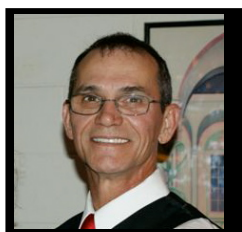
Individual Classes \$10 per week payable in advance.

February - Waltz

### INTERMEDIATE TECHNIQUE

#### Thursday – 2408 Ashley River Road

6:00 – 7:00 David Roland, 843-568-6888



This class will help dancers of all levels correct form and function to maximize ease and enjoyment in dance. It is an excellent combination with the Wednesday Beginner class at 7:00. In October, David will teach rhythm dance technique

and will choose techniques common to all rhythm dances with a weekly emphasis on a different dance.

Member Prices - \$40 for 4 weeks

Guest Prices - \$50

Individual Classes \$15 per week payable in advance

February - Smooth

## Practice time available

If you would like to rent the floor for practice, you may do so for \$10 per hour. Please contact Pam for details at [pam@summermarshphotography.com](mailto:pam@summermarshphotography.com).

### ADVANCED to INTERMEDIATE DANCER

#### Tuesday – 2408 Ashley River Road

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



Refining good lead and follow is a major part of dance. This class will start with lead-follow and technique that will be applied to the dance of the month then go on to advanced intermediate patterns.

Member Prices - \$40 for 4 weeks

Guest Prices - \$50 for 4 weeks

Individual Classes \$15 per week payable in advance

February - Waltz

### ADVANCED DANCER – ANYTHING GOES

#### Monday – 2408 Ashley River Road

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



The advanced dancer is someone who already understands directional movement for all dances. The advanced dancer

utilizes sway and contra-body where needed to enhance movement. You can remember about footwork and body position. This class will incorporate new and creative moves!

Member Prices - \$40 for 4 weeks

Guest Prices - \$50 for 4 weeks

Individual Classes \$15 per week payable in advance

February – Advanced Cha-Cha

### ALL LEVELS – ROTATING CLASS

#### Thursday – 2408 Ashley River Road

7:00 – 8:00, Mike Holgarth



Mike will be joining us February! The Thursday slot has been reserved for rotating instructors. This month it will be Rhumba and will be a good fit all levels of dancers.

Member Prices - \$40 for 4 weeks

Guest Prices - \$50 for 4 weeks

Individual Classes \$15 per week payable in advance

February - Rhumba



## Party photos and vidzoz

We have a nice selection of class and workshop videos to help us all remember what we learned!  
[www.charlestonballroomdanceclub.shutterfly.com](http://www.charlestonballroomdanceclub.shutterfly.com)

### Videos Posted on Shutterfly

Night Club 2-Step Workshop by Sam and Denise M.  
Quickstep Workshop by David Roland  
Beginner Cha Cha Workshop by Debbie Housand  
Viennese Waltz Class by David Roland  
Bolero Progressive Series by Debbie Housand  
American Tango Progressive Series by David Roland  
Argentine Tango Workshop by Linda Scott  
Rumba Progressive Series by Debbie Housand  
Waltz Progressive Series by David Roland – April  
Argentine Tango Friday Series, Linda Scott, May  
Bolero Progressive Series, Debbie Housand, June  
East Coast Swing Series, David Roland, July  
Farewell to Hans Riekerk July 26, 2014  
Cha Cha Prog. Series by Debbie Housand, August  
Hawaiian Luau August 16  
Dance with the Stars Party – September 27  
Cha Cha Progressive with Jason and Sheela, Oct  
Halloween Party Dance Game Oct 25  
Foxy Foxtrot Workshop, Marina November 2  
Foxtrot Progressive, Debbie Housand, November

## Party price increase

Starting Saturday, January 3 party prices will go increase to \$10 members and \$15 guests.

If you have a “Free Pass”, it will be worth \$10 for members and \$15 for guests.

“Pre-Paid Admittance Cards” are a little different because one of your fellow members purchased the card. In this case, they are worth whatever is shown on the card.

Discount cards have been printed and are available for sale. The price is \$90 for 10 squares worth \$10 each or \$100. If you are a guest, you may use one square and pay \$5 at the door.

## Regular dance partizs

**Friday** February has been reserved for a series of Cha-Cha lessons with Debbie Housand. These are progressive, meaning that every week the previous weeks are reviewed and new patterns added – just like a class but with a party bonus! Each lesson will be videoed if possible and posted on Shutterfly in case you want to review or have to miss a lesson.

There is an hour-long lesson from 7:30 to 8:30 and then a dance party. Admission for the lesson and the party is the usual \$10 for members and \$15 for guests.

**Saturday** Lessons vary every week and it is usually an instructor from a local studio--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! Snack food, sodas, and coffee are included as well. Admission for is \$10 for members and \$15 for guests.

## Area studio news

Area studios are very busy promoting ballroom dance as well. Only showcases are shown here, please check out these websites for special events, workshops, and more.

### Arthur Murray Studio

1706 Old Towne Road, Charleston  
[www.arthurmurraychs.com](http://www.arthurmurraychs.com)

### Carolina DanceSport Studio

1850 Wallace Road, Charleston  
[www.carolinadancesportcharleston.com](http://www.carolinadancesportcharleston.com)

### Elite International Dance Studio

709 Johnnie Dodds Blvd, Suite B  
Mount Pleasant  
[www.elitedancecharleston.com](http://www.elitedancecharleston.com)

### Fred Astaire Studio

1938 Ashley River Road, Charleston  
1767 N. Hwy 17, Mount Pleasant  
[www.fadscharleston.com](http://www.fadscharleston.com)



# Dance Etiquette

This is a summary of good dance etiquette and below that, is a more detailed version from USA Dance.

- ✓ The dancers move counter-clockwise around the floor
- ✓ When things go wrong on the dance floor always apologize. Generally it does not matter who is at fault.
- ✓ If you are moving more slowly than other dancers keep to the center of the floor.
- ✓ If you are engaged in conversation move off the dance floor.
- ✓ To cross the room, either dance across the floor or walk around the perimeter.
- ✓ Carry food and beverages around the perimeter. Wipe up your own spill.
- ✓ A request for a dance must be accepted under almost all circumstances. If you decline a dance, you should not dance until the end of that song.
- ✓ If a Beginner wants to watch, don't insist on them joining a lesson.
- ✓ No unsolicited teaching on the dance floor! There is a good chance this will make your partner feel small and humiliated.
- ✓ Do not monopolize a partner on the dance floor.
- ✓ On the floor, be considerate of the other couples. Exercise good floorcraft; do not cut other couples off; no aerials or choreographed steps on the dance floor

## Social Dance Etiquette

### MAY I HAVE THIS DANCE?

When you ask someone to dance, be sure to make **eye contact** with your prospective partner, offer our hand, and ask clearly, **"Would you like to dance?"** If your partner says yes, smile, offer your hand, and escort him or her onto the dance floor and into dance position. This will make your partner feel supported and at ease.

### YES, THANK YOU, I'D LOVE TO DANCE

When someone asks you to dance, your response should be, **"Yes, thank you, I'd love to."** In a social dance environment, it is customary to say "yes" when someone asks you to dance. In order for dancing to be a joyous activity, it is important that social dancers are supportive and kind to each other at all skill levels.

### YOU DANCE DIVINELY!

During the dance, be sure to be aware of your partner. Smile and make eye contact, *but don't stare*. It is fun to dance with a partner who is gracious and appreciative. At the end of the dance, **ALWAYS** say THANK YOU to your partner and begin to escort them off the floor.

### WHEN TO SAY NO

When a person asks you to dance, it is appropriate to say no if you have danced with this person before and he or she has been physically or verbally abusive. It is also appropriate to say no if the person is obviously drunk or threatening in some way. If you feel that a dancer is physically dangerous to the other dancers, you should report the situation immediately to a Chapter Board member.

Unless someone is truly offensive, it is not appropriate to say no because your partner may have poor dance technique. While dancing with this person may not be

one of life's peak experiences, a dance is only three minutes long and the experience will not kill you.

### CIRCULATING

In a social dance situation it is appropriate to dance with a variety of people. It is generally poor dance etiquette to partner up and dance with the same person all evening long. Naturally, some people will prefer certain dance partners to others, but this should not prevent them from accepting an offer to dance from a new person. If the same person asks you to dance repeatedly, for several dances in a row, it is acceptable to tell that person, "thank you, but I'd like to meet and dance with some other people for awhile. I'll be happy to dance with you again late in the evening."

### CLEANLINESS IS HEAVEN AT A DANCE

Social dancing is a quasi-intimate activity that requires a certain degree of physical closeness. Good hygiene shows respect and consideration for the other dancers. Dancers should bathe, use deodorant, **use breath mints**, and wear clean clothes that will not be too hot. Some dancers sweat a great deal while dancing. In this case, it is considerate to bring a towel and/or change of clothes. If you find yourself getting too sweaty on the dance floor, you should stop, dry off, and cool down for a few minutes. Your partners will thank you for it. Dancers should also use a **light touch applying perfume or cologne**. Some people may be sensitive to fragrances.

### YOUR PARTNER'S TECHNIQUE

Unless someone asks you directly to make a correction of their dancing, **you should never volunteer** criticisms of your dance partner's technique. Know that your dance partner is doing the best he or she can.

If your partner is dancing off time, you should view the situation as a challenge to dance to the same internal rhythms as your partner. Your partner is not dancing off time intentionally. Again, he or she is doing the best he or she can. Do your best to respect each others rhythms. If your partner is physically hurting you, it is probably

inadvertent. You should stop dancing for a second, and say "I'm sorry, but you're holding my hand a little tightly. Could we try again?" If you receive an inconsiderate response or your partner seems unwilling to modify his behavior, it is then appropriate to say, "thank you, but I'd like to stop now." Social dancing should never be physically painful or dangerous.

### FLOOR CRAFT

In order for a social dance to be enjoyable for all participants, it is crucial to be considerate and aware in your floor craft. No matter how much you may want to *swing out*, on a crowded dance floor your primary consideration should be **respect for the other couples on the floor**. You don't have to dance big to have fun.

At times, collisions do occasionally occur in the heat of the moment. When there is a collision, everyone involved should **stop and apologize**, regardless of whose "fault" it was. If someone has been hurt, you should make sure that person is okay before you resume dancing. Sometimes people are not okay after a collision. In this case, you should escort the person off the floor to a chair and see if that person needs ice, a drink of water or medical attention.

Careful observation of the traffic lanes in a ballroom can prevent mishaps. In Waltz, Foxtrot, tango, Quickstep and Samba, dancers move in a counterclockwise circle around the floor. This circle is known as **"line of dance"**. The very outside lane of the line of dance is the "fast lane"; it is generally used by very experienced dancers who cover a great deal of ground. The inside lane is for less experienced dancers who may be moving a bit more slowly. Beginners and those who would like to practice the basic steps without traveling can stay on the inside of the circle, out of the line of dance completely.

**In addition --** It is considered inappropriate to cut across the dance floor, especially when carrying food or drink. And also, remember to move off the dance floor when engaged in conversation.