



# Newsletter

USA Dance, Chapter 6021, 1642 Sam Rittenberg, Charleston, SC  
Website: <http://www.ballroomdancecharleston.org/> Phone: 843-482-0871  
Photos: <http://charlestonballroomdanceclub.shutterfly.com>

July 2014

## President's corner

By Bob Olszewski

I want to update you on the progress of finding a permanent location for the Dance Club. We are taking our time searching for a location. We must find the right location for a long commitment and the large expenditure the club may have to make. The club is fortunate we have a location to dance, rather than the need to make a quick decision.

The committee has reviewed 33 properties through speaking with leasing agents using on-line information, drive-by and visited 5 locations.

We have offers from 2 and one other will offer shortly. One of the locations is our previous club. Mr. Simmons is requesting a large rent increase and we must install a floor at our expense. Another drawback is no drop ceiling just rafters. The other location is new construction at Pier Pont Center on route 61, high traffic location. Must be surveyed at dance hours to see if it is a viable location.

We will be gathering details and update you as the committee continues its search. The board will also discuss the best way to get member input for this important decision.

To clear up any confusion regarding the food part of hosting. In response to the member survey in June 2013 and April 2014, current board policy is that hosts are free to bring whatever they like – there are no food restrictions and also no food requirements. If you are busy and prefer to work from supplies in the kitchen, that is great too. We appreciate the many styles of our hosts!

## Happy birthday!

Jocelyn Aluague .....	July 24
Russell Barber .....	July 29
Ledlie Bell .....	July 5
Carol Ann Bly .....	July 23
Catherine Cox .....	July 15
Wanda Floyd .....	July 25
Ilona Goldtman .....	July 30
Debbie Hanrahan .....	July 7
Kenneth Henson .....	July 21
Debbie Housand .....	July 22
Bob Hyatt .....	July 14
Virginia Keith .....	July 3
Brett May .....	July 31
Bob Ramey .....	July 14
John Redant.....	July 6
Clarissa Strange Koon .....	July 31
Kathleen Stringer .....	July 5
Ashley Jones .....	July 27

## Special events

### Board Meeting

Saturday, July 12 – St. Andrew's Library 4:00

### Ice Cream Social

Saturday, July 19 Hosts – Betsy and Larry  
Please bring your favorite cake, pie, cookies or ice cream topping. \$5 Members, \$10 Guests

## Membership renewal

All BDC memberships expired May 31 with a renewal price of \$45 for the first four months, and then it is prorated for the rest of the year. Party prices will be \$10 after July 1 for those who have not renewed their membership. But, if you decide it is better for you to remain a guest, we welcome you as always. The more the merrier!

## New members

A great big welcome to our two newest members, Leisa and Rick!



**Leisa Lawrence** was at a singles gathering when someone asked her if she had ever thought about taking ballroom dance lessons. She said no, but had always wanted to, so he took her to BDC on a Friday night. It wasn't a date match, as often happens, but she went back to BDC the very next night by herself. She joined in 1994, was a member for 12 years, and was on the board of directors for one year.

She is currently the office manager and bookkeeper for Rhode Construction but her favorite job of all time was dance instructor at the Fred Astaire Dance Studio; she said it was a party every day! She has also been a wilderness field instructor for "at risk" teens in Utah, served in the US Navy as an aviation hydraulics mechanic, and sold cars. This new member is versatile!

Leisa was born in Charleston but before coming back here, she lived in San Diego CA, Tacoma WA, Tupper Lake, NY, and Enterprise Utah. And, how many of us can say this – she lived on a sailboat for 2 years at Folly Beach!

Her favorite place to visit is the Adirondack Mountains in New York but travels have taken her to Mexico, Canada, and Pennsylvania.

God, her son, daughter, and grandson are most important to her. When she is not with family or dancing, she enjoys hiking, kayaking, reading, and research.



**Rick Apfel** has several very important people in his life. The first two are fabulous daughters who both graduated from Yale Cum Laude. The older of the two went on to graduate from Harvard Law and now

works for the state department posted in Baghdad after stints in Jamaica, Bangkok, and Washington DC. Lauren, the younger, went on to get a doctorate in classics at Oxford University in England. Her husband is a law professor at the University of Glasgow and they have four children. She writes a blog, OMNIMOM.COM, and contributes to several other online columns.

Also very high on the important scale are his cats: Duke Ellington, Billie Holiday, and Peggie Lee.

Rick was born in New York City, lived in Harrison and White Plains, New York, Charlotte, NC, and most recently, landed at Wild Dunes.

He earned an economics degree at Middlebury College and worked in advertising and strategic planning for Homelite. His favorite job though was Specialized Media Services that he and his ex-wife started in Charlotte in 1982, which became very successful and the model for many competitors. She still runs the business.

We will all have to ask for more details, but he said his first dance experience was in June Flexner's basement.

He also enjoys tennis, bridge, reading, general fitness conditioning, and eastern philosophies and meditation. In High School and College he played on two championship baseball teams, one All-Star team and was a co-captain of his college team. Batters up Rick!!

# Welcome!

## 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. Since the first week was a holiday time, you could easily start in week 2 starting July 7.

### BEGINNER to BRONZE

**Monday – St. Andrew's Fitness Center**

7:30 – 8:30, Stephen Duane, 843-557-7690



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. \$40 for 4 weeks. July - Salsa.

### BEGINNER

**Wednesday – St. Andrew's Fitness Center**

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



This class is at the same dance level as the Thursday class listed above. 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 the next 4 weeks. July - Waltz.

### INTERMEDIATE TECHNIQUE

**Wednesday – St. Andrew's Fitness Center**

8:00 – 9:00 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 July, David will teach rhythm dance technique and will

choose techniques common to a rhythm dances with a weekly emphasis on a different dance. \$40 for the next 4 weeks. July – Rhythm Dances.

### ADVANCED to INTERMEDIATE DANCER

**Tuesday – St. Andrew's Fitness**

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

Refining good lead and follow is a major part of



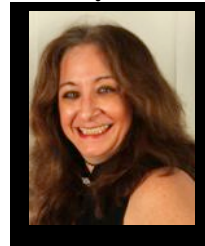
dance. This class will start with lead-follow and technique that will be applied to the dance of the month then go on to advanced intermediate patterns.

\$40 for the next 4 weeks. July - East Coast Swing

### ADVANCED DANCER – ANYTHING GOES

**Monday – St. Andrew's Fitness Center**

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



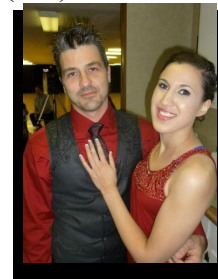
The advanced dancer is someone who already understands directional movement for all dances. The advanced dancer utilizes sway and contra-body where needed to enhance

movement. You can remember about footwork and body position. This class will incorporate new and creative moves! \$40 for 4 weeks. July - Tango

### JASON & SHEELA'S CLASS!

**Monday – St. Andrew's Fitness Center**

8:00– 9:00 Jason and Sheela (256) 348-6700 or (256) 566-6222



Jason Creel and Sheela Agrawal will be offering classes open to all level dancers. In July they will be teaching Country Two-Step.

If you have a dance suggestion, let Pam know! (843-276-7050)

\$40 for next 4 weeks. July–

Country Two-Step.

## Friday progressive series

The July progressive series will be a 4-week series on east coast swing with David Roland. The first of the series was on Saturday, July 5 since we are closed on the 4<sup>th</sup>. This is structured the same way as the classes, but it is less expensive if you are a member and it includes a PARTY with snacks! Regular party price of \$5 Members, \$10 Guests.

## Class prices

The board voted to increase class prices to a flat \$10 per hour, which should be paid at the first class you take. If you want to start classes after the second week, please speak to the instructor.

## Class and instructor evaluations

We have paper forms at the check-in desk for you to evaluate classes and instructors as often as you like. These forms are short and quick, but very helpful. After completing the form, please place it in the box provided. The forms are confidential and only composite information will be shared with the instructors. Regular evaluations:

- ✓ Every Saturday lesson
- ✓ Last week of Monday-Thursdays Classes
- ✓ Last week of Friday Progressive Lessons.

## DJ Corner



A DJ training session will be held Monday July 28. There will be discussion on equipment issues, needs for a new facility, music, and how to create an exciting party atmosphere. DJs make the party happen!

If you already DJ or would like to learn, please contact Pam Levi at 843-276-7050 or [pam@summermarshphotography.com](mailto:pam@summermarshphotography.com)

Dinner will be provided! Please register by Sunday, July 27.

## Regular dance parties

**Fridays** July has been reserved for a series of East Coast Swing lessons with David Roland. Ok, this is different – the first of the Friday series was on Saturday, July 5 since we were closed on the 4<sup>th</sup>. Even if you already know this dance, David will introduce some new patterns to make us all look good on the dance floor! These are progressive, meaning that every week the previous weeks are reviewed and new patterns added – just like a class with a party bonus! 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 \$5 for members and \$10 for guests.

**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! Snack food, sodas, and coffee are included as well. Admission is \$5 for members and \$10 for guests.

## Party photos and videos

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





# 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 spills.
- ✓ 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.



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

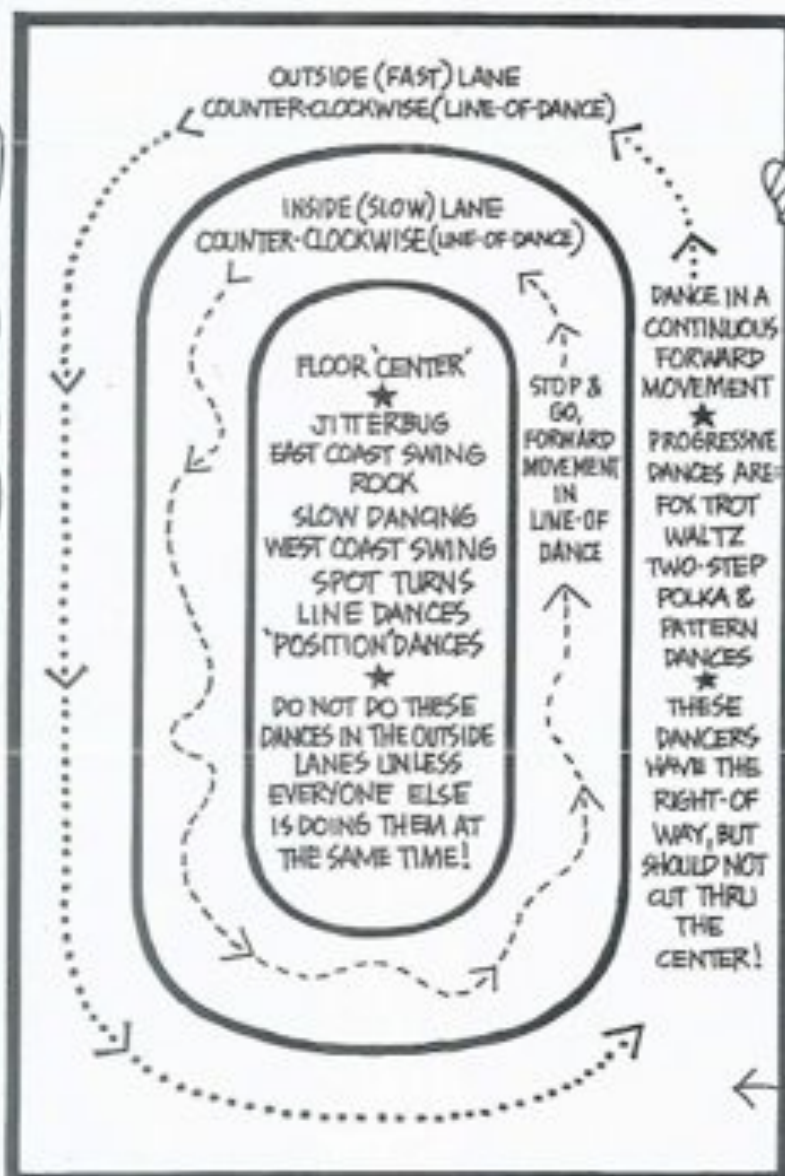
MANY DANCERS AND MANY STYLES OF DANCING CAN BE ACCOMMODATED ON THE FLOOR AT THE SAME TIME, IF TRADITIONAL DANCE FLOOR ETIQUETTE IS FOLLOWED. LET'S ALWAYS BE COURTEOUS, AND WE'LL ALL HAVE A GREAT TIME DANCING!



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



WHEN DANCING  
 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!



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



DANCE  
 FLOOR

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