



Newsletter

USA Dance, Chapter 6021, 1642 Sam Rittenberg, Charleston, SC
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Photos: <http://charlestonballroomdanceclub.shutterfly.com>
June 2014

President's corner

By Bob Olszewski

At our general membership meeting, we assigned a committee to find a permanent location for our dance club. I want to keep you updated on the progress.

Shelby and Ernie met with David Simmons, the owner of our previous location. Mr. Simmons stated he intends to rebuild and would like us back as tenants also taking the store next to the old club, which would give us 4,000 sq. feet. We will consider this option based on cost. He is claiming our dance floor with the insurance company and if successful, it would save the club close to \$40,000 on a new floor. The reconstruction would entail a new ceiling, walls, windows, doors, lights, air conditioners, and resurfaced parking lot. As of May 26th, the entire interior of the building has been demolished. Pam, Jody, and Shelby visited a number of other locations and will report to the Board at the next meeting. We will continue to update you on the progress.

There still seems to be some confusion I want to clear up about hosting, probably caused by all the recent changes since 2012 - hosts could bring food - then they couldn't bring food - then they could. No wonder there is confusion. Betsy will inform you when your turn to host comes around, but in the meantime to clear things up, this is the current policy made after the member survey in June 2013. This is from the August 10, 2013 board minutes. *"Bob compiled a list of party snacks for the club to supply: salsa, salsa crackers, nuts, soda, multi-grain crackers, pretzels, coffee, mints, and fruits or vegetables. Hosts can add what they like."*

The recent facility survey once again supported this opinion that great food at parties is important.

So, if you are hosting and want to bring food, it will be enjoyed, but if you are too busy and can only work out of the pantry, we will have snacks available and your hard work is very much appreciated. Without our hosts and DJs there would be no parties! If you would like to host, contact Betsy. A variety of both styles is a good thing.

Happy birthday!

Lydia Barber	June 15
Gaye DuPree	June 4
Skip Erckert	June 23
Amy Gause	June 22
Bill Green	June 16
Gunars Medins	June 12
Maurice Olfus	June 15
Raymond Paskauskas	June 6
Joseph Reeves	June 8

Special events

Board Meeting

Saturday, June 14 – St. Andrew's Library 4:00

Little Black Dress Night

Friday, June 20 \$5 Members, \$10 Guests
Hosts – Michelle and Fred, DJ Debbie

DJ Romantic Music Contest Night

Saturday, June 28
Entries due June 25! Details on page 2

Quickstep Workshop, David Roland

Sunday, June 29 2:00 – 4:00
\$25 Members, \$35 Guests
See page 4

New membership information

Frequently asked questions

Q What is the benefit of becoming a Ballroom Dance Club member?

A Reduced rates for all parties, workshops, and classes above the beginner level.

Q What is the process for becoming a new member?

A Fill out a one page application and turn it in at any party or class along with the fee. The application is available at the club or we will be glad to send you one.

Q What is the fee for becoming a new member?

A The BDC cost for a year is \$45 and is prorated after the first four months. There is a chart on the application for this amount. There is also a fee of \$25 to be a USA Dance member. Both are required.

Q When will my annual fees become due again?

A All BDC membership fees expire May 31 of each year. The USA Dance membership fees are due on your anniversary date.

Q How do I get my USA Dance card?

A Go to www.usadance.org, click on Membership, then Join/Renew, then Renew/Change (Yes, even though you just want to print the membership card). Either sign in if you've already registered, or register to get access even though it says "Join Now." Once you're in and see your name, underneath it says "View/Print My Membership Card." They are no longer sending plastic membership cards. If you are unable to print your card, you can contact them and they'll send a paper copy just like you can get online.

Q What is the benefit of having a USA Dance card?

A If you go to another USA Dance Chapter nationwide, you can use the card to get a reduced rate.

Q If I include my email, will it be shared with anyone?

A No, your email address is only used to send club newsletters and updated information.

Membership renewal

All BDC memberships expire May 31 and can be renewed anytime until July 1 without having to pay the guest price. For now, the price is still \$45 for the first four months, and then it is prorated.

The party price will be \$10 after July 1 for those who have not renewed their membership.

If you decide it is better for you to remain a guest, we welcome you as always. The more the merrier!



BDC is a long-time member of USA Dance and they require that all of our members also be a member of their organization. Their fee is minimal (\$25 a year) and includes a monthly dance magazine and a reduced entry at all USA affiliated dances around the US.

Their dues should be paid on your anniversary date when they bill you, but if yours is due now, we will be happy to submit that for you.

DJ Corner

Contest
Enter Now



Have you been to a wedding lately and felt real pain as the bride and groom try to dance to music only a professional could make look good? Well, we are going to help these kids out by posting the best danceable romantic songs ever written on our web site! Do you hear CONTEST?-- and the prize is a great one! Here are the rules:

- (1) Submit your top three choices of the best romantic song ever via email (plevi@levicentral.com or stevemartindale1@gmail.com) by JUNE 25
- (2) At least one of your song choices MUST have been recorded in this century (yes- the 21st century)
- (3) Be prepared to dance a (romantic) victory lap on June 28th and collect your prize of Party Passes valued at \$30.00!!
- (4) Our DJ's will be the judges, biased and contrary as we all are-our decisions are final.
- (5) Instructors-you can enter too!

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. Starting on the first week will avoid having to catch up with the rest of the class, thereby slowing progress for you and others.

BEGINNER to BRONZE

Thursday – 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. This class is open enrollment, with either a reduced rate by the month at \$30 for 4 weeks or by the week at \$10. June – Swing.

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. \$30 for 4 weeks. June - Samba.

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 May, David will teach rhythm dance technique and will

choose techniques common to all Smooth dances with a weekly emphasis on a different dance. \$30 for 4 weeks. June – Smooth 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.

\$30 for 4 weeks. June - Waltz

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

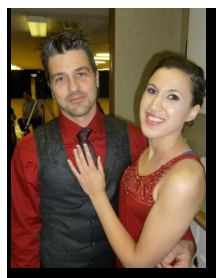
position. This class will incorporate new and creative moves! \$40 for 5 weeks. June - Foxtrot

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 June they will be teaching Country Two-Step.

If you have a dance suggestion, let Pam know! (843-276-7050) \$30 for 4 weeks.

June – Country Two-Step. (No class on June 16)

Friday progressive series

The June progressive series will be a 4-week series on Bolero with Debbie Housand. 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.

Monthly group classes

Monthly Class Price List Members - June	Price
*Monday Classes 7:00– 5 Weeks	40
*Monday Class 8:00 – 4 weeks	30
Monday Classes By the Week By Instructor Discretion Only	10
*Tuesday Class – 4 Weeks	30
Tuesday Class By the Week By Instructor Discretion Only	10
Wednesday Class – 4 weeks	30
Wednesday Class By the Week By Instructor Discretion Only	10
Thursday Classes – 4 Weeks	30
Thursday Classes Each Week	10
*Non-Members Mon, Tues	+10

(No multiple discounts.)

Multiple class discounts

In May the Board voted to discontinue the multiple class discounts. So, if you are taking more than one class, see the chart above for pricing of each class.

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-Thursday Classes
- ✓ Last week of Friday Progressive Lessons.

Quickstep Workshop – Sunday, June 29!

A workshop is a great way to get started in a dance or to brush up on the basics and learn new patterns.

David Roland will teach this workshop and it is one of his specialties. It is a fast dance but if your technique is correct, it makes it all do-able! Position, shoulders, head, and knees are all important just to name a few. The music for this dance just makes you feel good to boot. To pre-register, sign the sheet at the front desk by Friday, June 27!

Regular dance parties

Fridays June has been reserved for a series of Bolero lessons with Debbie Housand. 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 vidgos

We have a nice selection of class and workshop videos to help us all remember what we learned!

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
 From a Fire to Recovery – February 23 – March 7
 Waltz Progressive Series by David Roland – April
NEW - Argentine Tango Friday Series by Linda Scott – May

*Have fun
dancing!*

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.



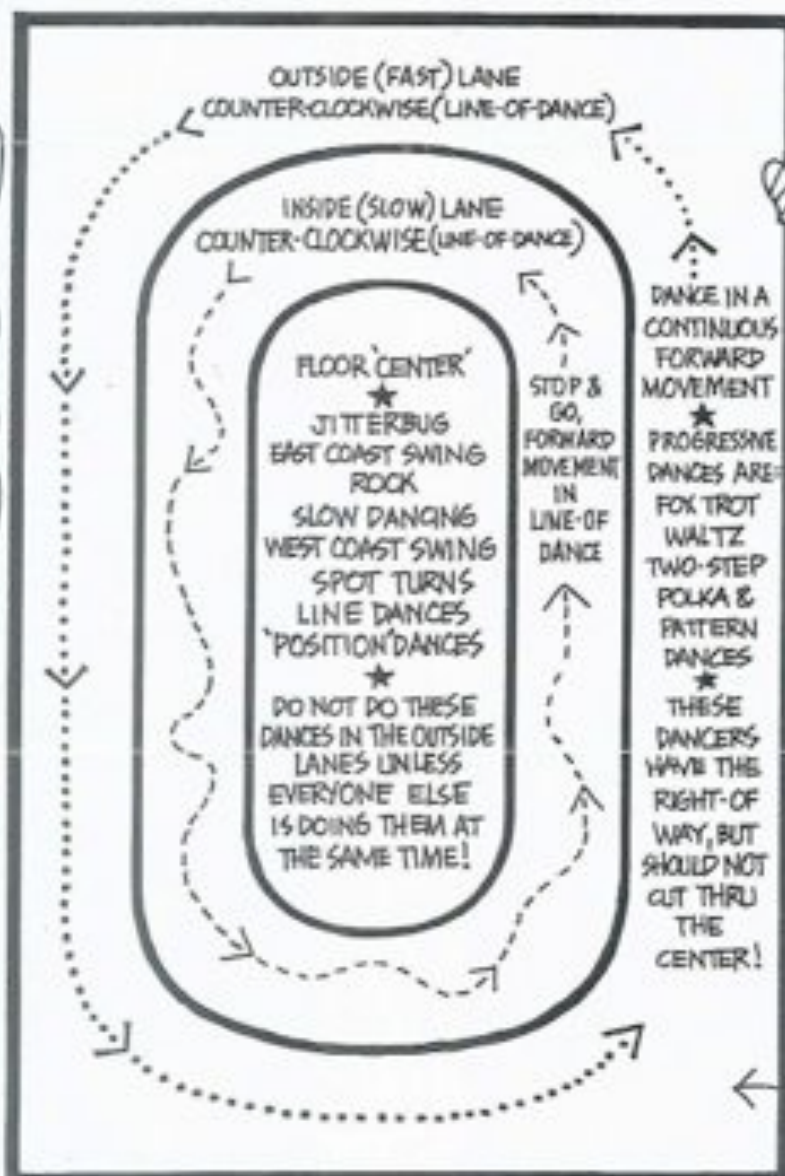
DANCERS! ENJOY DANCING TO THE FULLEST!
Let's All Practice Dance Floor Etiquette!

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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