



# 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>*

*March 2015*

## President's corner

By Pamela C. Levi

Our long awaited Grand Opening is Saturday, March 7th! There have been days in the past year when it seemed this Gala would never come! But it is finally here!

The dignitaries are invited, the caterer is ready with great food, and special performances and surprises are planned. A commemorative printed program has been ordered.

There are many people working hard behind the scenes to make this an evening that is incredibly special and our ballroom is looking more and more beautiful.

There are going to be several times in the program that all our members should be aware of and be READY to come to the Dance floor as quickly as possible. We will have a President's Waltz that will begin with the past Presidents and quickly add all of you who have served or are serving on the BDC Board.

We will have an anniversary Foxtrot - all members will be invited and then we will ask dancers to leave the floor by 5 year increments so the last couple(s) dancing will be the members who have been in BDC

## Happy birthday

James Banks .....	Mar 11
Betsy C. Beldner .....	Mar 30
Bill Bunting .....	Mar 3
Jean Carlton .....	Mar 28
Steven Clark .....	Mar 6
Laura W. Downing.....	Mar 19
Hammond Eve.....	Mar 11
Tommy Ferguson.....	Mar 8
Marcia A. Hessert.....	Mar 1
David K Hoskinson.....	Mar 19
Margie LaPorte .....	Mar 12
Cynthia Laroche .....	Mar 29
Maureen Matthews.....	Mar 4
Debra Nelson.....	Mar 8
Stephanie Stone .....	Mar 2
Joe Stringer .....	Mar 22
Normandie Updyke .....	Mar 17
E. Paige Wisotzki .....	Mar 2

## Special events

Phoenix -Up From the Ashes Ball

Saturday, March 7, 2015

7:00 pm – Midnight – No Lesson

DJ: Bob Hyatt

Reception: Roger Viton

7:00pm Ribbon Cutting and hors d'oeuvres

7:30pm Program

8:30pm Dance Party

\$25 Advance Tickets for BDC Members

\$40 Advance Non-BDC Members

\$35 At the Door for BDC Members

\$50 At the Door for Non-BDC Members

Board Meeting

Sunday, March 8, BDC Location 3:00 pm

## President's Corner Continued:

for the longest. Ladies choose a partner if you come to BDC alone, stay on the floor until the person with the longest membership-yours or his-is called.

Debbie Housand's Advanced Class will do a Cha-Cha performance that will energize anyone watching and leave her students panting with lots of fun steps and typical Debbie energizer bunny tempo.

David Roland will start a waltz with selected students and after a minute the DJ will invite all dancers to participate. Both of these numbers will be videotaped for promotional segments for BDC. Make sure you are ready and are on the floor quickly because we want all our dancers to be in the movie clips.

Please come with a great attitude and pose for our cameras and outside invitees. We have a lot to be proud of and this is our night to FLAUNT our good fortune! There will be a professional photographer outside to get "red carpet" pictures. PLEASE give him really great shots! I hope that you will not miss this very special milestone in our Chapter's history.

Please participate in the group shots that are being organized for our Chapter Archives and of course, ask the photographers for all the special shots you want because we love pictures.

We will ask that all the members who donated funds, time and talent stand and be recognized. This is not time for modesty. We are where we are because of those of you who work for this Chapter's success. Let us publicly thank you!

Last word - we would love for you to add a fire color to your clothing for this night, but the bottom line is do not let any concern over clothes keep you away. It does not matter what you wear. What matters is you are there.

Bring your cameras and don't miss the fire twirler-see you Saturday.

## Spotlight on New Members:




Chris and Marian Hoffman began a new life in Charleston after both lost their spouses. They celebrate 6 years of marriage in August 2015. Each is from a varied background with

Marian growing up in Chicago, IL and living in Ft. Wayne, IN and Columbia, SC. She spent her professional career as a nurse. Marion has a BS in nursing, Purdue University. Chris grew up in Ana Maria Island, FL. and attended The Citadel receiving his BS in Business Administration. He was also a pilot for 5 years in the Air Force and then sold medical supplies for 30 years. He lived and worked in Charlotte and Columbia. Chris and Marian love Charleston because there are so many cultural venues, wonderful restaurants and The Citadel activities for Chris. They are a blended family with Marian having three sons, two in Columbia, and one in Greensboro. Chris has one son in Denver, CO and another married son in Portland, OR and has two daughters. Marian's hobbies are selling Avon, playing piano and gardening. Chris volunteers at The Citadel and his church along with a little yard work. He and Marian share interests in attending plays and movies together. They started dancing 3 years ago at Fred Astaire and love dancing together. They also enjoy traveling all over the world. They feel having found each other and sharing their combined families make them feel extremely lucky.



Bill Wilder was born in Atlanta and has lived in the Southeast United States. He grew up with four siblings. Bill decided to take advantage of a new job opportunity and moved to Charleston. He loves all the exciting history in the city and surrounding areas. He has a Masters in Education and is the Director of



## **USA DANCE 50<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY (1965- 2015)**

### **A TURNING POINT YEAR FOR THE NEXT 50**

Historians have called the 1960s a turning point in American history. It was often a tumultuous time and historical events during the decade redefined people's lives, from the War in Vietnam, the Civil Rights and Women's Movement and the assassination of President John F. Kennedy to the first U.S. space walk, the Beatles invasion and the start of Social Security benefits.

It was during this decade that USA Dance found its humble beginning as the United States Amateur Ballroom Dancers Association (USABDA). The year was 1965 and the USABDA leadership believed that competitive ballroom dancing (today referred to as DanceSport) could one day become an Olympic sport. Although the Olympic dream was the founding mission, the leaders also believed that ballroom dancers – whether social or competitive – and a network of social dance chapters could make a measurable difference in people's lives and their communities.

Fifty years later in 2015, USA Dance recognizes the dedicated leaders and volunteers who have made this 501c3 charitable organization what it is today. The USA Dance 50th Anniversary is a time of great celebration. And chapters have every opportunity to promote their programs, grow their membership and create the support alliances they need for continued success in their communities.

Happy National Ballroom Dance Year. The celebration starts now!

Life Cycle Institute. Bill has two children and enjoys painting, dancing, theater and history. When asked what was most important to him, his response was family.



Dennis Romano was born in New Kensington, PA. He relocated to Charleston about 20 years ago to get out of the snow and ice. Dennis is a manager for Wal-Mart at Tanger Outlets. He

has a brother who still lives in PA as well as a sister and two nephews who live in SC. Dennis enjoys reading and watching movies while preferring science fiction and horror in particular. He enjoys walks on the Battery and spending time with friends.



Mark Mitchum was born in the cotton fields of western Kentucky. He has lived all over the South East but has been in the Low Country for 30 years. Mark moved to

Charleston from Wilmington, NC to help his father open TTE, a local business focused in telecommunications. Mark is a big fan of the water so the beach is a special place for him. He also can't resist downtown Charleston and all it has to offer. Mark is still actively working and is President of Enterprise Technologies, Inc. He graduated from the University of North Carolina Wilmington. Mark is blessed with two children, Alex (15) And Eliza (12). Both children attend First Baptist School. Remembering Mark's love for water, his hobbies are swimming competitively in open water distance events, under water hockey and paddleboards. He also likes biking and actually walks Folly end to end! Mark feels the most important things to him are better spiritual, mental, physical and emotional balance in his life and business along with focusing on helping his children to grow into wonderful individuals.

## 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.

March - Rumba

### 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. David will teach smooth 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

March - 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 -\$50 for 5 weeks

Guest Prices - \$60 for 5 weeks

Individual Classes \$15 per week payable in advance

March – Cha-Cha

### 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 - \$50 for 5 weeks

Guest Prices - \$60 for 5 weeks

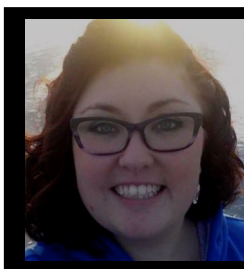
Individual Classes \$15 per week payable in advance

March- Merengue

### ALL LEVELS – ROTATING CLASS

#### Thursday – 2408 Ashley River Road

7:00 – 8:00, Samantha Hunzinger



Samantha will be joining us in March! The Thursday slot has been reserved for rotating instructors. This month it will be Samba 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

March - Samba





## 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  
Bolero Progressive, David Roland, January

## Party payment options

Saturday, January 3 party prices increased 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 parties

**Friday** March has been reserved for a series of Tango lessons with Mike Hogarth. 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.