

# Mewsletter

USA Dance, Chapter 6021, 1632 Ashley Hall Road, Charleston, SC

Website: http://www.ballroomdancecharleston.org/ Phone: 843-482-0871 Photos: http://charlestonballroomdanceclub.shutterfly.com

November 2013

## President's Corner

By Bob Olszewski

Thank you for your get-well cards and well wishes. I am recuperating to the point that I plan to go back to dancing this November.

Thanks to Shelby Groome, Carol Ann, and Connie for putting together another great Halloween Party. Also a big thanks to all who brought their favorite dish to share, David for the Cha Cha lesson, and Susan for a great job as our DJ. Hope all enjoyed the dancing, music, food, mixers, games, and prizes.

At our board meeting on November 9, we will set a date for the annual membership meeting to be held in December. This is a time for the board to report the club's status to you and also to hear from you. Everyone is welcome.

The Friday night West Coast progressive lesson series was approved by the Board in September on a two-month trial basis and has been very popular so far. Our goal is to offer activities and learning opportunities that interest you. At the November board meeting, we will vote on the next dance lesson series for December, so let us know what dance interests you most. Currently, board members are Betsy, Connie, Toni, Barry, Raymond, Steve M., Inge, and me.

You may have noticed that more workshops are being offered lately. An effort is being made to offer workshops that appeal to different groups of people so that everyone has the opportunity to grow their dancing. One workshop does not fit all! Here again, let a board member know your interests. Enjoy dancing!

## Happy Birthday!

Cathy Richardson	Nov 3
Ernie Groome	Nov 15
Georgia Ramey	Nov 16
Bill Downing	Nov 16
Jody Martindale	Nov 18
Lou Cristo	Nov 19
Nemia Ruz	Nov 25
Jake Halford	Nov 26
Mark Judy	Nov 26
Liza Bickley	
Keelea Foley	Nov 28
Millicent Softy	Nov 30

## Special Events

#### **Board Meeting - BDC**

Saturday, November 9, 6:00 p.m.

#### **Thanksgiving Potluck Dinner**

Saturday, November 16

7:30 Salsa Lesson with Marina

8:30 Party with Hosts Skip and Cheryl

DJ – Henry

Bring your favorite Thanksgiving dish to share!

#### (No Class on Thanksgiving Day November 28)

#### **Christmas Party**

Saturday, December 14

#### **Membership Meeting**

December – To be Announced November 9

#### New Year's Eve Party

Tuesday, December 31

## In This Issue

New Members, Friday Lesson Series	Page 2
Weekly Classes	. Page
Dance and Party News	Page

## Welcome New Members!

We welcome these three new members to our dance club and hope that they will enjoy it as much as we do. Other new members will be featured in later newsletters as we get information and photos.



Steve and Barbara Pollock

Welcome to **Barbara and Steve** who recently moved to Seabrook Island from New York. Steve hails from Denver, Colorado and Barbara from Long Island, New York but between here and there, they have lived in many foreign countries.

Steve and Barbara have been dancing a number of years and remember doing "disco" in Athens, Greece during the 80's. They started country western dancing about 1988 but then the transition to ballroom started in Virginia where they took some "adult ed" classes. At their instructor's advice, they moved on to private lessons. At the same time, they were instrumental in the formation of the Williamsburg, VA, chapter of United States Amateur Ballroom Dance Association, now USA Dance.

In 2002 they returned to Long Island from Virginia and made the full transition to ballroom. There was a wealth of ballroom available with dances on Friday nights and usually two or three to choose from on Saturdays. They said they made wonderful, lifelong friends through dance.

Barbara and Steve love to promote dance. In the Hamlet of Oyster Bay where they lived, four years ago they created "Dancing in the Streets" as a way to promote dancing and to show what a great place Oyster Bay is. This event takes place on four Fridays in July where they close off the street by Town Hall and have a DJ. It was, and is, a great promotion for Oyster Bay.

#### Steve and Barbara continued.

When they aren't dancing, they like to golf, kayak, XC ski, and most other activities.

Finally, they have two Samoyeds who have been saying for years they want to go north -- Vermont, Canada, anywhere cold. However, the multitude of deer in their new home have them distracted now.

They told me they have to pinch themselves everyday to be sure they now live in such a beautiful place.

#### Kristen Sullivan



Although Kristen has lived in New York, Texas, and Florida, she has gone full circle and returned to Charleston where she was born. Charleston is the place to be! Kristen's favorite part of Charleston is the deep cultural roots

and history in this wonderful place.

She works hard as an LPN and plans to go back to school to earn an RN degree. But, with two daughters and two sons ranging in age from 18 to 7, this lady is busy! Kristen says that family is the most important aspect of her life and gives her strength.

As you might expect for someone so busy with work and children, her only hobby is dancing for now.

## Friday Lesson Series

Please contact a board member to let them know what dance you would be interested in for December. (Current board members are listed on the front page.) A few suggestions received so far are Tango, Waltz, Cha Cha, and East Coast Swing but the board wants input from all of you!

The progressive lessons on Fridays have been a big hit because it allows dancers to concentrate on one dance at a time and practice more. Especially for the harder dances, repetition and getting those steps in muscle memory is the key for most of us.

As with anything new, we are still working out the balance of how much repetition and practice time people want and need versus learning new patterns. Be sure to let us know what you think about this.

## Monthly Pance Classes

The monthly group classes are structured so that there is a different dance featured each month. And, there is a \$5 discount for each class if you take multiple classes. Professional and affordable.

Every week, the instructor reviews the previous weeks and adds a new pattern. 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. This class is open enrollment, with either a reduced rate by the month at \$25 for 3 weeks or by the week at \$10.

#### **BEGINNER**

#### Wednesday

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



This Class is at the same dance level as the Thursday Class listed above. It is being offered to our beginners for more opportunites to learn the basics. Having the option of 2 nights give a choice of dance taught, night of the week, and structure. Students should

enroll in this class at the beginning of the month for the entire month so that everyone will be on the same "page" every week. \$30 for 4 weeks.

#### 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, and how to add styling. You are beginning to "drive" your steps and move your own body versus someone moving it for you. \$25 for 3 weeks or \$10 per class.

#### 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. \$40 for 4 weeks. (1 ½ Hour Class)

#### **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. This class will incorporate new and creative moves! \$30 for 4 weeks.

## Monthly Group Classes

#### Mondays - Anything Goes Lessons

Debbie Housand, 7:00-8:00

Cha Cha (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 Viennese Waltz – 7:00 – 7:30

Viennese Waltz Pattern 7:30 – 8:30 (6 weeks)

#### Wednesdays - Beginner Lessons

Debbie Housand, 7:00 – 8:00

ChaCha (4 weeks)

#### Thursdays - Beginner-Bronze Lessons

Stephen Duane, 7:00-8:00

Beginner East Coast Swing (3 weeks)

Marina Fridmanovich, 8:00-9:00

Intermediate Bolero (3 weeks)

#### Sundays - Advanced Youth Lessons

David Roland 1:00-2:00

#### Mondays - Youth Lindy Hop Swing Lessons

Stephen Duane 4:15 – 5:15

<b>Monthly Class Price List</b>	One	Multiple
Members	Class	Classes
*Monday Class – 4 weeks	\$30	\$25
Monday Class By the Week	10	
By Instructor Discretion		
*Tuesday Class – 4 weeks	40	35
(1 ½ Hours)		
Tuesday Class By the Week	15	
By Instructor Discretion		
Wednesday Class – 4 weeks	30	25
Thursday Class – 3 weeks	25	20
Thursday Class Each Week	10	
*Non-Members Mon, Tues	+10	+10

## 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 at the front desk.

Contact Toni for a door access code. 330-416-1712.

- ✓ 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)

### Pance Parties

Fridays October and November have been reserved for a series of West Coast Swing lessons. These are progressive, meaning that every week the previous weeks are reviewed and new patterns added. In December, the series will change to a new dance. There is an hour-long lesson from 7:30 to 8:30 and then a dance party. Admission is \$5 for members and \$10 for guests. Dress code is always your choice!

<u>Saturdays</u> 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. Dress code is always your choice!

<u>Sunday</u> 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.

#### November 3 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.

#### November 10

DJ Roger Bellow and the Drifting Troubadours
Roger Bellow and the Drifting Troubadours is an
authentic Western Swing band. Western swing music
is a subgenre of American country music that
originated in the late 1920s in the West and South
among the region's Western string bands. Roger is
the premier authority on Classic Country/Western
music in the Charleston, South Carolina region.
Charleston Magazine called him "perhaps the city's
most authentic country artist"

#### November 17 – To be Announced

#### November 24 Classic Memories Big Band

This is 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.