



# Newsletter

**Ballroom Dance Charleston SC, USA Dance – Chapter 6021**  
**1642 Sam Rittenberg, Charleston, SC**

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

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

**November 2014**

## President's corner

By Bob Olszewski

The board recognized the fact that our party fees should have been increased a few years ago.

- We experienced operating losses in 2011, 2012, and 2013, all covered by reserves.
- Electric, water, and other costs have increased each of the last seven years.
- All this combined with increased rent and construction expense made it necessary to increase party fees to cover expense.
- See page 5 for more information.

At our September board meeting the board voted to increase our party fees in November to \$10 for members and \$15 for non-members. We thought this increase would coincide with our move to our own, new and exciting dance location at Pier Pont. It became clear that the landlord had a delay in getting building permits, therefore it looks like we won't be ready until at least mid-December. In response to this delay, the Board voted to delay the increase until the first regular party at our new facility

## Board candidates deadline

If you are interested in serving on the Board for a two-year term, please submit a 50-word summary of your qualifications to Election Committee Chairman, Bob Hyatt, by Monday, November 17. His contact information is [bobhyattjr43@yahoo.com](mailto:bobhyattjr43@yahoo.com), 843-485-6828, 185 Angora Way, Summerville, SC 29485. Ballots will be mailed out by December 1 with the election results on December 14 at the Annual Membership Meeting. Committee members are Bob Hyatt, Fred Turco, and Normandie Updyke.

## Happy birthday

Liza Bickley .....	Nov 27
Lou Cristo .....	Nov 19
Bill Downing .....	Nov 16
Ernie Groome .....	Nov 15
Jake Halford .....	Nov 26
Jody Martindale .....	Nov 18
Georgia Ramey .....	Nov 16
Cathy Richardson .....	Nov 3
Millicent Softy .....	Nov 30

## Special events

### Board Meeting

Sunday, November 9, Calhoun Library 2:00

### Foxy Foxtrot Workshop

Marina Fridmanovich

Sunday, November 2 2:00 – 4:00

\$25 BDC and SAF Members, \$35 Guests

### Ballroom Line Dance Workshop

Brenda Mackaness

Sunday, November 9 2:00 – 4:00

\$25 BDC and SAF Members, \$35 Guests

### Fred Astaire Studio Night

Friday, November 14

### Thanksgiving Dinner and Party - POTLUCK

Saturday, November 23

7:30 Dinner (No Lesson)

8:30 Dance Party

\$5 Member, \$10 Guests

## In this issue

Facility Update .....	Page 2
Classes for October .....	Page 3
Parties, Videos, Fee Increase Delay .....	Page 4
Answers to \$ Contest .....	Page 5

## Facility update

By Pam Levi



While we wait for the permits to be approved by the county, we are moving ahead with being ready to take possession as soon as the contractor has completed the “vanilla box” component of our new home.

Many thanks to Maureen Matthews (Beehive Design) for the many hours she has

invested in helping us ask the right questions and making countless wonderful suggestions on how the jigsaw puzzle that is our empty shell might fit together to best meet our needs (at the lowest possible cost). We of course expect many more hours Maureen-but we are truly grateful!

A special thank you to Hammond Eve for his extraordinary CAD drawings of the ideas being thrown at him non-stop. Hammond is so cool under pressure, never raises his voice when some of his female fellow dancers want changes made pretty much every other day. He is a voice of calm-thank you!

Bob Hyatt, Allen Vance, and Steve Martindale are at work on our sound system. Determining what still works and what we need to purchase or replace to give us an exceptional sound system in our new larger facility requires good planning. Thanks to these men for taking on this very important task. If anyone has a sound engineer friend who is willing to provide advice (pro bono of course) please let one of the committee know. If you have knowledge and would enjoy working on this committee as well, please email me!

We are exploring the creation of a development committee for BDC. David and Trish Hannemann have agreed to provide leadership for the group and there will be much more about how we can work towards financially securing the future of the club in the near future. If you have a development background or an interest in participating in friend and fund raising, we want to talk to you!

The Board certainly looks forward to the day we can send you weekly pictures of club members working in our new facility and a tentative date for our grand opening. We REALLY hate waiting and I know we are all ready to be in our new place!

Have questions or comments; please email me at [plevi@levicentral.com](mailto:plevi@levicentral.com).



Units J and K run from the corner shown on the right side of this picture down to where Bob is standing.



### **Pier Pont Crossing, 2408 Ashley River Road**

From the intersection of Highway 61 and Sam Rittenberg, turn between Barnes and Noble and Senor Tequila. Travel .5 miles then stay right on SC-61/Ashley River Road. Travel 1.7 miles. Turn right at the stoplight then take the first left into the shopping center. Ballroom Dance Charleston will be in units J and K straight ahead to the left of the corner unit.

## 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 – St. Andrew's Fitness Center

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.

November - Tango

### 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 October, David will teach rhythm dance technique

and will choose techniques common to all rhythm dances with a weekly emphasis on a different dance. \$40 for 4 weeks.

November – Rhythm

### ADVANCED to INTERMEDIATE DANCER

#### Tuesday – St. Andrew's Fitness Center

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 4 weeks.

November – Viennese 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 4 weeks.

November - Rumba

## Friday progressive series



The 3 week Foxtrot series with Debbie Housand starts on Friday, November 7, skips a week for the Fred Astaire Studio night, then continues on the 21<sup>st</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>. These 3 weeks are structured the same way as the classes and it includes a PARTY with snacks!

Regular party price of \$5 Members, \$10 Guests.

## 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

## Party price increase

When the board approved an increase of party fees on September 13, the start date was chosen to coincide with the projected move to the Pier Pont facility at early to mid-November. Because of the owner's difficulty in obtaining building permits, it looks like the completion will not happen by then. We are hoping for mid-December.

Because of this delay to move to Pier Pont, the board approved a new start date for the party fee increase. The increased party fees will not be effective until the first regular party at the new facility. \$10 Members and \$15 for Guests.



Discount cards have been printed and will be available for sale when the party fees go up or shortly before.

## Regular dance parties

**Friday** October has been reserved for a series of Foxtrot 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! Each lesson will be video 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 \$5 for members and \$10 for guests.

One exception to the every Friday this month. Friday, November 14 will be Fred Astaire Studio Night. Always FUN!

**Saturdays** 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 November is \$5 for members and \$10 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

*Fall Showcase, Saturday, November 8*  
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. Hgw 17, Mount Pleasant  
[www.fadscharleston.com](http://www.fadscharleston.com)



## \$ Contest

Our goal was to see what information we need to communicate better. The answers are in blue. Congratulations to our winner - \_\_\_\_\_

### Operating Expenses

**1. Out of these four years (2010, 2011, 2012, 2013), how many years had an operating loss?**

- A. One year
- B. Two years
- C. Three years - 2011, 2012, 2013
- D. Four years
- E. None

**2. How were we able to cover operating losses and pay our bills during those years when there was a loss?**

- A. Reserve money
- B. Donations

**3. Will rent at Pier Pont be more or less than it was at our old facility on Ashley Hall Road?**

- A. More - \$4,200 each year
- B. Less

**4. If our average party and class attendance remains the same, how much is the operating loss estimate for 2015 without a party fee increase?**

- A. No Loss
- B. Loss of \$4,200
- C. Loss of \$13,200 (if you want to see the budget, contact [connievance10@gmail.com](mailto:connievance10@gmail.com))

**5. Based on average party attendance, how much extra income will the party fee increase bring in next year?**

- A. \$10,450
- B. \$15,450
- C. \$20,450

**6. What is the main reason we do not have an operating loss so far this year at St. Andrew's?**

- A. At St. Andrew's, the rent is lower than at the old facility and there are no utilities or cleaning fees to pay.
- B. Party and class income is higher.

### Reserve Money

**7. How much reserve money did our chapter have at the end of September 2014?**

- A. \$64,000
- B. \$74,000
- C. \$84,000

**8. In the recent survey, how much money did our members say they want to hold back as an emergency fund?**

- A. \$25,000
- B. \$10,000
- C. \$15,000

**9. After keeping the emergency fund reserve amount in #8, will the construction at Pier Pont take most of our money?**

- A. Yes, after the \$25,000 reserve, it left \$49,000 left at the end of September and the floor will take about \$28,000 of that. This amount available will go up or down each month depending on profit or loss. Every time you come to a party, you contribute the the construction fund.
- B. No

**10. At our new facility at Pier Pont, we must have a good dance floor, a music system, walls, ceiling, lights, 2 bathrooms, and kitchen sink. Will we be able to purchase everything we would like to have for our new facility without donations or unusually high party attendance? (Cabinets, mirrors, special signage, drapes, furniture, decorations.)**

- A. Yes
- B. No. The key word is "everything". We may have to make do with the basics for a while but we are committed to not spending all of our reserve. We have several donation offers of both time and money already so, that will help as well.

### Summary

1. We already needed a rate increase, starting in 2012. We have had losses for the last 3 years, covered by reserves.
2. We are spending excess reserves so we cannot rely on that to cover losses.
3. Rent will be more in the new facility
4. A \$5 increase to both members and guests will generate about what we need next year to pay the bills.