



P.O. Box 7021

Metairie, LA 70010-7021

<http://usadancegumbo.org>

Editor: Diana Lovell

**Our mission is to promote the quality and quantity of ballroom dance in the U.S.A**

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SUMMER 2014

## President's Message

Dear Chapter Members and Friends,

Summer is quickly coming to an end and it seems only yesterday that we were in Baton Rouge hosting the Gumbo DanceSport Championships, the Senior IV National Championships and the Junior II National Championship events. While it was lots of fun watching all of the competitive dancing, especially the championships, it was heartwarming to see the local young dancers. I want to thank all of the folks who work so hard day in and day out to give these young people the opportunities to dance and I also thank the ones who share their knowledge of dance in order to help them grow. As we all

know, dancing is only part of what we learn through the lessons; poise, social graces, teamwork and much more is communicated through dance training. A special thanks goes out to the Gumbo team of volunteers who put on a first class event year after year. 2014 was no doubt your best!

On Saturday, August 23<sup>rd</sup>, we held our annual Gumbo Goes to the Ritz fundraiser. Ben and Gwen Becnel were our onsite hosts for this big event and we thank them for all they do to help our chapter raise the necessary funds to assist us with our mission of expanding and educating the public on the benefits of dance. We had great music by

DJ Richard Stewart, some excellent food prepared by our own members and lots of fun showcase dances as well as a Pay-to-Dance by our celebrity dancers. We thank all those who attended and took part in the fun.

To celebrate National Ballroom Dance week, this year the chapter is organizing a fundraiser for wounded warriors in conjunction with the Kenner American Legion Post 377. We hope you will come out and support this worthy cause. Please check out our flyer in the newsletter for details.

*Jim Steven, President*

## Competition Update

*by Ann Durocher*

From the time the Gumbo DanceSport Championships started on Friday morning, June 27<sup>th</sup> until it completed Sunday afternoon, June 29<sup>th</sup>, the ballroom at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Baton Rouge was electric. With the added Senior IV and Junior II Nation-

al Championship events, it was a recipe for a perfect Gumbo. The ingredients were put together by our outstanding Gumbo team beginning months before.

The 2014 fundraising campaign kicked off with the annual dance and silent auction,

bringing in a record \$10,615. Sterling Sightler, Jim Crowell and Charlie and Peggy Clement head up this event each year and are to be commended for their dedication to its success. Many contributed to the financial success of the Gumbo of Ballroom weekend. Sponsorships, donations and

*Cont'd on Page 2*

## Competition Update cont'd

scholarships from many caring companies, organizations, chapters and individuals followed the fundraiser, resulting in our being able to add more practice floor and provide a better location for our youth hospitality room. We also were able to award a record \$11,350 in scholarships to competing dancers.

Throughout the year our core team works together to build the weekend piece by piece. It begins with critiquing the most recent event and determining what needs to be modified in order to make the next weekend better than the last. We meet over dinner in Gonzales, Louisiana approximately nine times a year to enjoy each other's company while we put the layers of the project together. Team members who participated in the meetings and worked on this year's weekend are:

Charlie Clement – assistant chair, webmaster, registrar and fundraiser event

Peggy Clement – spectator ticket sales, awards and fundraiser event

Sterling Sightler – fundraiser event, volunteers, front desk and decorations

Jules Borne – treasurer

Melanie Tichenor – awards

Jennifer Vaughn – door monitor and ticket sales

Sandy Patrick – adult hospitality

Romaine White – youth hospitality

Cecil Phillips – publicity and dressing rooms

Neila Phillips – signage and dressing rooms

Jesse Gellrich – floor monitor

Larry Pentecost – publicity

Jim Steven – banner ads, chapter president

Tom LaStrapes – adult hospitality

Jeanine Knight – SNB president

Richard Knight – Dancing Classrooms representative

Jack Jaubert – deck captain and artist

A note about Jack... Thanks to his talent and his willingness to share it with the Gumbo, we have the best program cover in the nation. He also awards a painting each year to one of our loyal competing couples, making the Gumbo a most unique NQE.

Richard Stewart – DJ, set up and take down dance floors

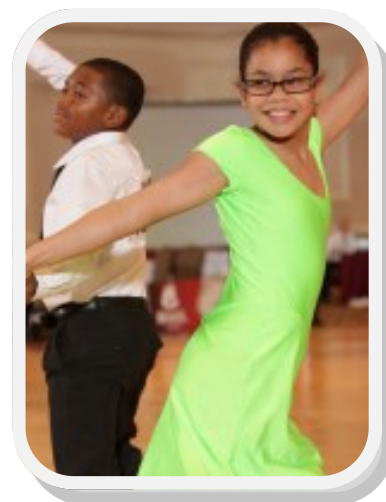
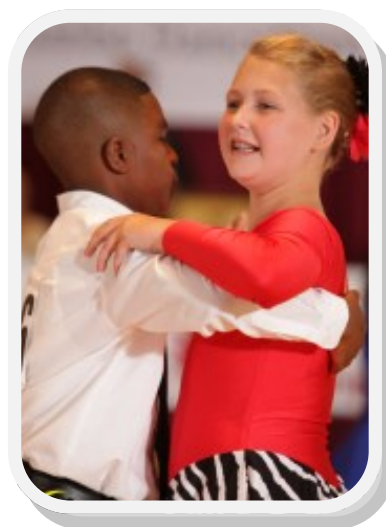
A note about Richard... He is rarely seen at the Gumbo, but you know he is there when the MC says, "Music please." Thanks to his long time dedication to providing the best music, the 2014 Gumbo was dedicated to our wonderful friend Richard.

Ann Durocher – chair person

The work our organizing team does throughout the year to stage a dancesport competition of this magnitude is an expression of our dedication toward the promotion of dancesport and our need to pass on our love of ballroom dancing to future generations.

Although the championship level dancing on Friday and Saturday evenings of the weekend was nothing short of awesome, the most touching moments were the times our own local youth competed. To see young dancers that came out of the Lake Charles and Baton Rouge school programs, such as Dancing Classrooms, brought tears to many eyes. Following the weekend event several judges commented that this part was the highlight of the weekend for them. Comments like this from world class judges stir the passion within us to continue in our team's effort to

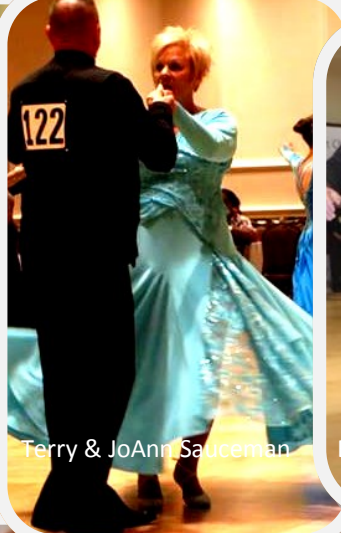
provide opportunities for our local youth to dance. In order to do this, we continue to look for ways to strengthen our team. If you share our passion, want to be part of the Gumbo's winning team and are willing to share your talents toward future successful Gumbo weekends, we want to hear from you. Email Ann at [fliprann@aol.com](mailto:fliprann@aol.com) and join us.







Ed & Carrie DeLorge



Terry & JoAnn Sauceman



Bill Anderson & Lane Barry



Duane McKenzie & Paula Proskauer



Cecil & Neila Phillips



Kerry & Diana Lovell



Walker Fleming & Taylor Schoen



Betty Younger & Tyler Videll



Aaron & Sarah Smith



## **Fundraiser to Benefit Local Wounded Warriors**

Hosted by USA Dance LA Gumbo Chapter 5031 &  
American Legion Kenner Post 377



**Friday, September 26, 2014**

**Jefferson Orleans North**

**2600 Edenborn Avenue, Metairie, LA**

**7:30PM-11:00PM**

**\$20.00 per person**

An evening full of fun: Heavy Hors d'oeuvres, Exhibition dances, Cash bar  
Music by: American Legion Post 175 Band and Jerry Embree Swing Band  
For Information, reserve tables or to sponsor call: (504)607-1041 or (225)324-9830

**Purchase Tickets Online at [www.usadancegumbo.org](http://www.usadancegumbo.org)**

**Mail Donations to:** (Checks payable to USA Dance)

USA Dance LA Gumbo Chapter 5031, Wounded Warriors Fundraiser

P. O. Box 7021, Metairie, LA 70010-7021

Section 501©(3) nonprofit organization

[www.usadancegumbo.org](http://www.usadancegumbo.org)

[usadancegumbo@gmail.com](mailto:usadancegumbo@gmail.com)

***Come out and help support those who served our country with honor.***



# DancingAroundTown

## Club Silhouette

3505 N. Hullen Street, Metairie, Louisiana  
504-885-1771

[www.clubsilhouette.net](http://www.clubsilhouette.net)

As classes and events change from week to week, please check their website or call the above number.

## Starlight Ballroom

5050 W. Esplanade Ave., #L, Metairie, Louisiana  
504-889-0906

Private and group lessons from owner/instructors Stela and Stephan Howard. Please contact Stela or Stephan Howard regarding their classes. They also hold a dance on the second Saturday of the month.

## Jefferson Orleans North

2600 Edenborn Ave. Metairie, Louisiana  
504-454-6110

[www.jeffersonorleansnorth.com](http://www.jeffersonorleansnorth.com)

Sunday and Wednesday night dances with orchestra, and venue for our Sunday afternoon chapter dances. Check website or call Jefferson Orleans North for more details.

## Mandeville Ballroom

5150 Hwy 22 Suite A-5 Mandeville, LA 70471  
985-966-0178

[www.mandevilleballroom.com](http://www.mandevilleballroom.com)

Private and group lessons from owner/instructor Aaron Smith. Check website or call Aaron for details.

## Studio 371

371 School Street, Houma, Louisiana  
<http://www.studio-371.com>

Private and group lessons and venue for Houma chapter dances. Check website for more details.

## Saturday Night Ballroom

American Legion Hall, Baton Rouge, LA  
[www.saturdaynightballroom.com](http://www.saturdaynightballroom.com)

Home to Saturday Night Ballroom on the first Saturday of each month. Check their website for details.

## Sunday Rhythms at Jeffie Jean Studio

11600 S Harrells Ferry Rd  
Baton Rouge, LA 70816

Sunday evening dance run by Richard Stewart and Melanie Tichenor. Dance from 7-9 p.m.



## USA Dance, September 21, 2014

Jefferson Orleans North  
2600 Edenborn Ave., Metairie, LA

1:30: Teacher: Margaret Lancaster teaching Cha Cha  
2:00-5:00 p.m. General Dancing

Mixers

Food

Exhibitions

Great music, no partner required

Admission:

Members: \$10

Non-Members: \$12

Students (under 25): \$5

For more information, contact President, Jim Steven, at 504-214-3145



## USA Dance Saturday, September 27

Studio 371  
371 School Street, Houma, LA

General Dancing 8:00-11:00 p.m.

Lots of food, fun and great music

Admission: \$10

For more information contact (985) 853-0030



## June Houma Dance

At their June 21st dance, Studio 371 in Houma showcased several homeschoolers in the Houma area, taught by Michelle Boudreaux, a professional teacher, who traveled to Houma to teach the children during a Ballroom Summer Camp. They were taught Meringue, Salsa, East Coast Swing, Cha Cha, Tango and Waltz. The children were invited to dance for their parents.



The flyer for the summer camp advertised the benefits of ballroom dancing for youth which are improved social skills, including proper etiquette and manners, building self-discipline and confidence and developing respect for others and self through cooperation and team work.

### Metairie Dance Schedule

Jefferson Orleans North  
2600 Edenborn Ave. Metairie, LA

September 21

October 19

November 16

December 21

### Houma Dance Schedule

Studio 371  
371 School Street, Houma, LA

September 27

October 25

November 22

December (no dance)

### USA Dance Special Events

Wounded Warrior Fundraiser

Friday, September 26, 2014

7:30-11:00 p.m.

Jefferson Orleans North, Metairie

## Monthly Dance News *by Diana Lovell*

### June Metairie Dance

Although attendance was slightly lower than usual, Father's Day didn't prevent some of our regular dads from showing up to our Sunday afternoon dance. A few of the dads said they had already celebrated the day with their kids and had been looking forward to their favorite pastime—dancing! Our own very talented Carrie DeLorge taught Nightclub Two Step. This is a good dance to do at a nightclub (as its name suggests) instead of just moving in a circle to very slow music.

Our food table was laden with lots of goodies: delicious stuffed eggs from the Savoy's, brownies from Kerry, and sandwiches, fruit and all kinds of other goodies brought by Gerald Sellars, which turned out to be a surplus from a celebratory lunch at his church. Thank you Gerald for thinking of us. The DeLorges also brought fresh blueberries for door prizes. We very much appreciate your continuing to bring items to give away and if others wish to bring door prize items, we would welcome them.

One of the highlights of the afternoon was our first showcase dances, an idea hatched by Kerry who often comes up with good ideas! During the first break, couples who were competing in the Gumbo performed a Waltz and Foxtrot. Most of the couples dressed up. During the second break, the dancers performed Cha Cha and Rumba routines. Kerry provided numbers for the men to make it more authentic and the audience was asked to shout out a favorite couple's number. All agreed that this was a good dress rehearsal for the upcoming competition.



*Showcase dancers: Kerry and Diana Lovell, Jules Borne and Margaret Cranwell, Ed Fleischmann and Ruby Shrieves, Betty Younger and Ed DeLorge, Addi Phillippi and Junebug Willis, Andrew Pool and Laura Hudson, and Paula Proskauer and Duane McKenzie.*



*Ed and Carrie DeLorge who also danced in the Showcase.*

## July Metairie Dance



We had really good attendance this month at our July dance. Our teacher, Ed BourQuard, focused on silver Foxtrot technique and he also provided a leaflet describing the technique so we wouldn't forget. Good idea, Ed! One of his tips: "Don't leave the leg you're standing on till you have another in place." Sound advice!

Door prizes were 2 free dance passes to our monthly dances. Sandwiches and brownies graced the food table and good music was played by our DJ Joe Vaughn.

We shouldn't forget to thank Jennifer Vaughn for manning the registration desk every single dance, always cheerful and friendly to our guests. Occasionally she doesn't have anyone to help her so if you see her at the desk alone and you are not participating in the lesson, I know she wouldn't mind help with giving out the door prize tickets.

## August Metairie Dance



*Randy Hallner and Darian Scurlock dancing the International Rumba*

We were lucky enough to have Randy Hallner and his student, Darian Scurlock, demonstrate International Rumba technique for our lesson, followed later by a sensuous Rumba routine.

For those who don't know, Ballroom Rumba is split into two main styles, American and International. The main difference between the two is that American-style Ballroom Rumba focuses on the Cuban motion, which requires the bending and straightening of the knee in order to achieve the desired hip-swaying movement. On the other hand, International-style Ballroom Rumba utilizes the Latin motion, which requires the dancer to step on to a straight leg, and does not include the bending of the knee that is seen in Cuban style. Even moves with the same footwork that are practiced by both International and American-style Rumba dancers are called by different names. The timing is also different from American style in that it starts on the 2 beat instead of the 1 beat.

Some of our dancers were brave enough to have a go and we practiced Rumba walks back and forth across the floor trying to incorporate the technique.





*Carrie DeLorge and Wayne LeBoeuf trying to gain extra points at last year's team Duo Dance match! See flyer on Page 13 for details.*

## USA Dance Gumbo Chapter Board of Directors

President, Jim Steven (Houma)

Vice President, Diana Lovell (Mandeville)

Secretary, Jesse Gellrich (Baton Rouge)

Treasurer, Jennifer Vaughn (River Ridge)

Director, Joycelyn Perry (Houma)

Director, Ruby Shrieves (Harvey)

Director, Betty Younger (Metairie)

## NEW MEMBERS

Ana Grethel Sarabina  
Eric France

Welcome and thank you for joining our local organization. We have enjoyed seeing you at our past events and look forward to seeing you at our upcoming dances.

## Articles for Footnotes!

We are always looking for articles, pictures, etc. for our newsletter to make it more interesting. If you have attended a dance related event or want to advertise an upcoming event, please contact me below.

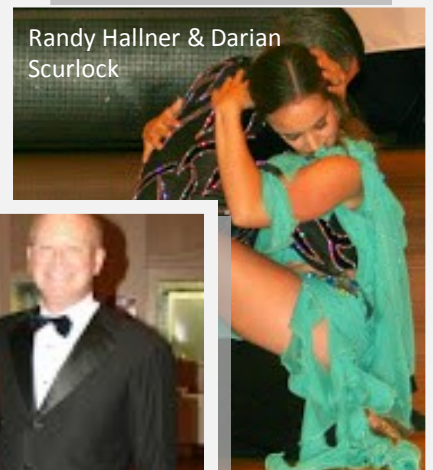
If possible, all pictures should be in jpeg and be high resolution.

Our newsletter is published quarterly by season. Next is the Fall issue which will be published end of November. Articles and pictures need to be submitted by the 15th of that month.

*Diana Lovell at [dlovell308@gmail.com](mailto:dlovell308@gmail.com)  
or call 225-324-9830*

# Gumbo Goes to the Ritz Fundraiser

August 23, 2014







Angela & Ritchie Scurlock with their daughter Darian



Chapter 5031 Board



Tyler Videll & Isabelle Donahue



Ben & Gwen Becnel with (from left:) Diane Marks, Ron Hampton, Norm & JoAnn Kostick, and GiGi Hechler



Celebrity Dancers



## Competition Update (cont'd)



Andrew Pool & Laura Hudson



Jules Borne & Carrie DeLorge



Capt. Joe Jackson & Barbara Walden

## 2014 All Star Dance Camp



*Houma Gals: Carrie DeLorge, Joycelyn Perry, Paula Proskauer & Michelle Louviere*



Houma Gals cured the Post 2014 Gumbo of Ballroom's "What Now?" by dancing the blues away at the 2014 All Star Dance Camp held at Sam's Town Resort, Robinsonville, MS, in July. Five days of dance heaven! The fun began on a Sunday night with a Welcome Party/Dance and culminated with Dance Performances and a Dinner Dance.

We took classes everyday from 9:00 to 5:30, Dinner at 6:30 and a Dance Party: 7:30 - 10 pm. Because we hadn't danced enough, the After Party 10pm to 11:00pm every night finished us off. Needless to say, every night culminated in a room party with Epson salt foot soaks and hysterical laughter.

Each of us chose a performance class, which met an hour a day for 3 days and 2 hours on one day. The last night, with 5 hours of instruction under our belts, we performed at the nightly Banquet/Dance Party.

Houma dancers were not the only area dancers rocking the house at Dance Camp. Aaron Smith, June Bug, John Comotto, Duane McKenzie, & Brett Legendre treated the Houma Gals to nightly dances, laughter and costume support.

**Speaking of costumes!** The Houma Crew brought down the house nightly in their outrageous, matching attire. The Rat Packettes, The Go-Go's & the whole Robertson Family went a be's (Duck Dynasty) made memorable entrance. The Fabulous Go-Go's water-skied across the dance floor to a first place costume win. SCORE! Well, there was the boat issue. But we won't mention that Duane McKenzie!

Don't miss out and join our award-winning, illustrious group for the 2015 All Star Dance Camp. For more information email **Carrie DeLorge** at [ballroomjunkie1@yahoo.com](mailto:ballroomjunkie1@yahoo.com).

# **Duo Dance Team Match**

## **Dance Enhancement Competition**

**Friday & Sat Sept. 19 & 20, 2014**



*Come Join The Fun In Biloxi MS  
Great Competition, Social Dancing  
Casino Gaming & Fantastic Shows*

**American & International Ballroom,  
Country, Latin, Swing, Hustle & Solos**

**Awesome 16,000 sq ft Hardwood Dance Floor.**

**Duo Dance Event Center** 3100 Ladnier Rd Gautier MS 39553  
2 Blocks South of MS Gulf Coast JR College (I-10 exit 61 to Hwy 90)

**Friday 7-10 pm** Welcome, Pick Up Packets, Competition Begins  
Country, Swing, Hustle, Solos, & Ballroom Divisions as Needed

**Saturday 9-5pm** Ballroom Competition Continued

**Saturday 8-10pm** Awards Presentations, Top Amateur Dancers,  
Amateur Scholarships, & Top Instructor Awards & Social Dance

Information: Duo Dance 228-762-0304 [www.duodancems.com](http://www.duodancems.com)

Mail Entry to: Lynae Jacob 2430 Ingalls Ave Pascagoula MS 39567

Early Bird By Aug. 31....Final Deadline Sept. 7

**Hotel: Super 8** 13838 Wilford Seymour Rd Biloxi MS (I-10Exit 50) 228-875-2288 Duo Rate

**Suburban Lodge Hotel** 3491 Dolphin Rd, Gautier MS • (228) 497-1722

Area Activities: Casino Shows Beau Rivage, IP & Hardrock

\$2.00 of Every Entry Goes Toward Top Instructor Awards Last Year Total \$2500

**New this year:** All Early bird Entries in By **Aug15th** will go into  
Drawing for FREE Weekend Pass & 10 Free Dance Entries.  
Good Luck Everybody. Happy Dancing Lynae 228-762-0304