



MINNESOTA

# DANCER

June 2019

An Official Publication of USA  
Dance-Minnesota Chapter #2011

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**National Champions Can  
Dance Anywhere!**

*(Dancers Carol Post, Gary Stroick, Leslie Whitney, and Leland Whitney)*

*See details on page 3.*



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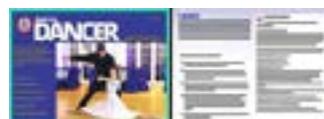
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See the features at the bottom of the publication.



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## Minnesota Dancer

An Official Publication of USA Dance-Minnesota  
Chapter #2011

### USA Dance: Who Are We?

We are a nonprofit organization that promotes ballroom dancing. The USA Dance Minnesota Chapter #2011 was formed in 1991. Membership in USA Dance is open to dancers of all levels. USA Dance Minnesota Chapter #2011 sponsors monthly dances and other special dance events. Members receive discounts on admission to monthly dances, as well as other benefits.

The Minnesota Dancer is published monthly by the USA Dance Minnesota Chapter #2011, to provide information and news about ballroom dancing.

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# Cover Photo

Although it has been years since USA Dance National President Gary Stroick and his wife Carol Post-Stroick have competed, they playfully staged a “tango dance-off” with USA Dance Social Vice-President Leland Whitney and his wife Leslie.

The couples were visiting Salt Lake, Salt Lake City, UT after the 2019 USA Dance Nationals Championships when they saw an old piano on the beach. They found an accompanist and captured a fun image, proving that these four Championship DanceSport athletes are ready to dance anywhere!

Both couples have long and successful dance competition careers and have held several National Championship titles through the years.



## SENIOR I AMERICAN SMOOTH

- 2002 Gary Stroick & Carol Post-Stroick
- 2001 Gary Stroick & Carol Post-Stroick
- 2000 Gary Stroick & Carol Post-Stroick
- 1999 Gary Stroick & Carol Post-Stroick
- 1998 Gary Stroick & Carol Post-Stroick
- 1997 Gary Stroick & Carol Post-Stroick
- 1996 Gary Stroick & Carol Post
- 1995 Gary Stroick & Carol Post

## CABARET

- 2000 Gary Stroick & Carol Post-Stroick
- 1999 Gary Stroick & Carol Post-Stroick
- 1998 Gary Stroick & Carol Post-Stroick

## THEATRE ARTS

- 2002 Gary Stroick & Carol Post-Stroick
- 2001 Gary Stroick & Carol Post-Stroick
- 2000 Gary Stroick & Carol Post-Stroick
- 1999 Gary Stroick & Carol Post-Stroick

## SENIOR IV SMOOTH

- 2015 Leland & Leslie Whitney
- 2016 Leland & Leslie Whitney
- 2017 Leland & Leslie Whitney
- 2018 Leland & Leslie Whitney

## SENIOR IV RHYTHM

- 2015 Leland & Leslie Whitney
- 2016 Leland & Leslie Whitney
- 2018 Leland & Leslie Whitney

## SENIOR IV NINE DANCE

- 2016 Leland & Leslie Whitney
- 2017 Leland & Leslie Whitney
- 2018 Leland & Leslie Whitney
- 2019 Leland & Leslie Whitney



# President's Letter

*By Joyce Thompson*

*Joyce Thompson is a long time volunteer of Minnesota Chapter #2011, and is current President of the chapter.*



Thank you Carol Post, for chairing the 27<sup>th</sup> Annual Tea Dance at the Lafayette Country Club on April 28, 2019. Thank you, also to volunteers Russell Alliev, Stephanie Alliev, Bonnie Burton, Daniela Hofer, Ed Soltis, Gary Stroick, University of St. Thomas students Mac and Abbey, and Leslie Whitney. Thanks to Leland Whitney for taking charge of the sound system and filling the DJ role. I met a number of dancers who were new attendees. Welcome! Thank you to all of our attendees for making this a successful event.

There are five Sunday sessions remaining to attend Project Dance at Duende Dance Studio to learn and improve your waltz dance skills with Instructor Troy Lerum.

Flash Mob plans are in process. This year's dance is Salsa. The Salsa flash mob steps are easy, which will allow beginners to participate and perform the flash mob at the Mall of America demo. In addition, Salsa will be featured at Project Dance during the months of August and September.

We are looking for interested individuals to join the USA Dance-Minnesota Chapter #2011 Board of Directors. We are a busy organization and the current board members are feeling stretched. These board member positions will be appointed for a term that expires at the end of the year. You would then have the opportunity to run for election in November. This appointment period would provide an opportunity to see if this is a role

you enjoy enough to make a larger commitment. See the 'Help Wanted' ad below for details.

Mark your calendars for our upcoming monthly dances! We hold dances on the second Friday, and third Saturday of each month. See details on our website calendar at: <http://www.usadance-minnesota.org/events/>

Happy dancing!

## HELP WANTED!

### USA Dance-Minnesota #2011 Board Members

**Positions are open for additional members on the USA Dance-Minnesota Chapter #2011 Board of Directors. Your term will be effective until the end of the year. You will have the opportunity to run for the board in the November 2019 chapter elections. You must be a USA Dance-Minnesota member in good standing for the past two years.**

**It's easy to apply: Click on the application link below, complete the application form and email your application to President Joyce Thompson by Monday, June 17, 2019. Interviews will be conducted and appointments will be made at the July 2, 2019, USA Dance-Minnesota board meeting.**

**[Download application form](#)**

**Send your applications to:  
[contactjoycethompson@gmail.com](mailto:contactjoycethompson@gmail.com)**





*David Chin*  
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# USA DANCE CHAPTER #2011 MONTHLY EVENTS

## June

### Monthly Dance

**Saturday, June 15**

**American Classic Ballroom**

1495 Steiger Lake Lane, Victoria  
7-8 pm Tango lesson  
by Paul Botes  
8-11 pm Variety Dance

### Project Dance

**Sundays May 5-June 30**

**Progressive Waltz**

Duende Dance Studio  
5808B West 36th Street  
St. Louis Park, MN  
Progressive Waltz  
lesson by Troy Lerum  
2:00-3:00 pm  
3:00-3:30 pm is practice time

## July

### Monthly Dance

**Saturday, July 20**

**Duende Dance Studio**

5808B West 36th Street  
St. Louis Park, MN  
7-8 pm Cha Cha lesson  
by Christine Miller  
8-11 pm Variety Dance

### Project Dance

**No project dance in July**

## August

### Monthly Dance

**Saturday, August 17**

**American Classic Ballroom**

1495 Steiger Lake Lane, Victoria  
7-8 pm Waltz lesson  
by Paul Botes  
8-11 pm Variety Dance

### Admission to USA Dances:

\$5 Students under 25 with ID  
\$10 USA Dance Members  
\$15 Non-Members

If you join USA Dance at a monthly dance, you attend that dance for free!

### Admission to Project Dance:

\$5 USA Dance Members  
\$10 Non-Members

You can sign up to become a member at Project Dance! Yearly membership is only \$35<sup>00</sup>.

# Top Ten Things to Know About the Twin Cities Open Ballroom Championships ...

By Amy Anderson

**10** – It is the longest standing ballroom dance competition in Minnesota! Produced by Scott & Amy Anderson, this four-day event is the only dance event in the state that has the prestigious “Championship Status” from the National Dance Council of America!

**9** – It takes place July 18-21, 2019 at the Hyatt Regency in downtown Minneapolis

**8** – It is open to dancers of all levels – from the very beginner to the top professionals in the country! It is open to dancers of all ages – from those under 8 years of age to over 80 years of age!

**7** – If you are looking for a great shopping experience, some of the top vendors in the country are at Twin Cities Open! Shoes, dresses, men’s wear, jewelry and practice wear..... It’s a great time to stock up before your next event!

**6** – The Twin Cities Open is the only event in town with state-of-the-art theatrical lighting and staging to provide you with the best dance experience around!

**5** – Competitors will be treated to special “extras” including cool towels in the on-deck area; healthy snacks to keep the energy up throughout the day; special sundries for those unexpected costume or foot emergencies ... and new this year, a special “TCO Rocks! Green Room” where dancers can relax on breaks!



*The above is a slideshow of many event photos, be sure to use the side arrows to see all the photos. Photos submitted by TCO.*

**4** – If you want to just come and watch, there are tickets available prior to the event! Friday and Saturday evenings tend to sell-out, so be sure to get your tickets ahead of time! It’s easy! Just contact TCO via email and reserve tickets in advance! ***Make a special night of it by staying at the hotel and receiving special “Spectator Package” rates!***

**3** – Attend the “American Style Congress” on Sunday... it is a series of four (4) lectures by some of the most well respected champions of American Style Smooth & Rhythm. It is great information for any dancer, any level – from beginner to professional! You do not have to compete in TCO to attend this – don’t miss it!

*Continued on the following page.*

2 - Don't forget to dress in your best "Glam Rock" on Saturday night! The "Purple Carpet" will be out and so will the special TCO paparazzi!

1 – *Scott and Amy take great pride in trying to produce a dance event like no other. The goal is to bring the entire dance community together to share in this unique and fun experience. But they can't do it without you! Meet other dancers from our area, meet dancers from all over the country, cheer on your favorite competitors, and watch some of top professionals in the country.... This is what makes "TCO Rock!"*

For more information visit [www.twincitiesopen.com](http://www.twincitiesopen.com) or email [TCO.dancesport@gmail.com](mailto:TCO.dancesport@gmail.com)

## *Lynne's Dance News*

Dance events for every day of the week.

Updated daily.



for a comprehensive list of dance events in the Twin Cities and surrounding area see:

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



*The above is a slideshow of many event photos, be sure to use the side arrows to see all the photos.*



## USA Dance –MN Chapter #2011 Board Meeting Minutes April 2, 2019

Submitted by Carol Post

Attendees: Joyce Thompson (President), Leland Whitney (Vice President), Carol Post (Secretary), Russell Alliev (Treasurer), Bonnie Burton, Stephanie Clausen, Gary Stroick and Leslie Whitney. Marla Heisterkamp (absent).

1. Agenda: Approved 7/0/0
2. Confidentiality
3. Board Minutes Approved: 7/0/0
4. Treasurer Report: Approved 8/0/0
  - a. Budget: Approved 8/0/0
5. Communications Report:
  - a. Minnesota Dancer: Interactive format has been launched. Will have computer demo available at Tea Dance to demonstrate e-format interactive navigation.
6. Website, Facebook, Constant contact: Will be able to post Flash Mob and other video on chapter website.
7. Special Projects Report:
  - a. Tea Dance-Event planning is on track.
8. Social Dance Coordinator Report:
  - a. Chapter Monthly Dances: April 20 –Cinema Ballroom-Foxtrot (Treats provided), May 18-Cinema Ballroom-Hustle, June 15-American Classic Ballroom-Tango. July 20- Duende Dance Studio-Cha Cha Cha, August 17- American Classic Ballroom-Waltz. Nov 16-Dancers Studio-Viennese Waltz.
9. Project Dance Report:
  - a. April-Tapestry-Bonnie Inveen W.C.Swing
  - b. May-June-Duende Dance Studio-Waltz-May 5, 12, 19 (coverage needed for May 19) -June 2, 9, 16, 23 and 30.

- c. August 4, 11, 18, 25 -Sept 8, 15, 22, 29 TDB
  - d. October 6, 13, 20, 27 –November 3, 10, 17 and 24 TBD. Concurrent sessions continue to be an ongoing success and attendance remains up. Voucher recipients who completed sessions were grateful for certificates to attend dances.
  - e. Collegiate Ballroom Dance Report: St Thomas Ballroom Dance students to provide assistance at Tea Dance. Will coordinate through Leslie day of the event.
  - f. K-12: Dancing Classrooms: Fundraiser MidPointe Event Center May 8. Registration begins at 11:30am, program 12-1pm. Reservations required.
10. Marketing and Publicity Report: Tabled until May.
  11. Motion to provide scholarship support of \$300.00 to the 2019 USA Dancesport National Championships. Approved 8-0-0.
  12. Membership Report:
    - a. 2018- April 254
    - b. 2019- April 269
- Meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm. Next meeting is Tuesday May 7th. Byerlys St. Louis Park Community Room 6:30-7:45 pm.

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# 2019 COMPETITION CALENDAR

June

**28-30**

Gumbo DanceSport  
Championships-NQE  
New Orleans, LA  
Hosted by the LA Gumbo USA  
Dance Ch. #5031

September

**7-8**

Kansas City Dance Classic -  
Registered Event  
Overland Park, KS  
Organized by Matt & Ellen Pansing

November

**16**

California State DanceSport  
Championships - NQE  
Hosted by NorCal USA Dance  
Chapter # 4004

July

**18-21**

Twin Cities Open Ballroom  
Championships  
Minneapolis, MN  
Hosted by Scott & Amy Anderson

**26-28**

OKC Dreamcatcher  
DanceSport Championships-  
NQE  
Oklahoma City, OK  
Organized by Wayne & Marie  
Crowder

October

**4-6**

2019 Carolina Fall Classic  
DanceSport Championships-  
NQE  
Charlotte, NC  
Organized by Wayne & Marie  
Crowder

**25-27**

Chicago DanceSport Challenge-  
NQE  
Chicago, IL  
Hosted by Chicagoland USA  
Dance Chapter #2001



# 2020

# COMPETITION CALENDAR

January

**10-12**

Snowball  
Minneapolis, MN  
Hosted by Donna Edelstein

January-  
February

**31-2**

Southeastern DanceSport  
Championships-NQE  
Dunwoody, GA  
Organized by Wayne & Marie  
Crowder

# Dance Floor Courtesy and Etiquette

By Gary Narducci

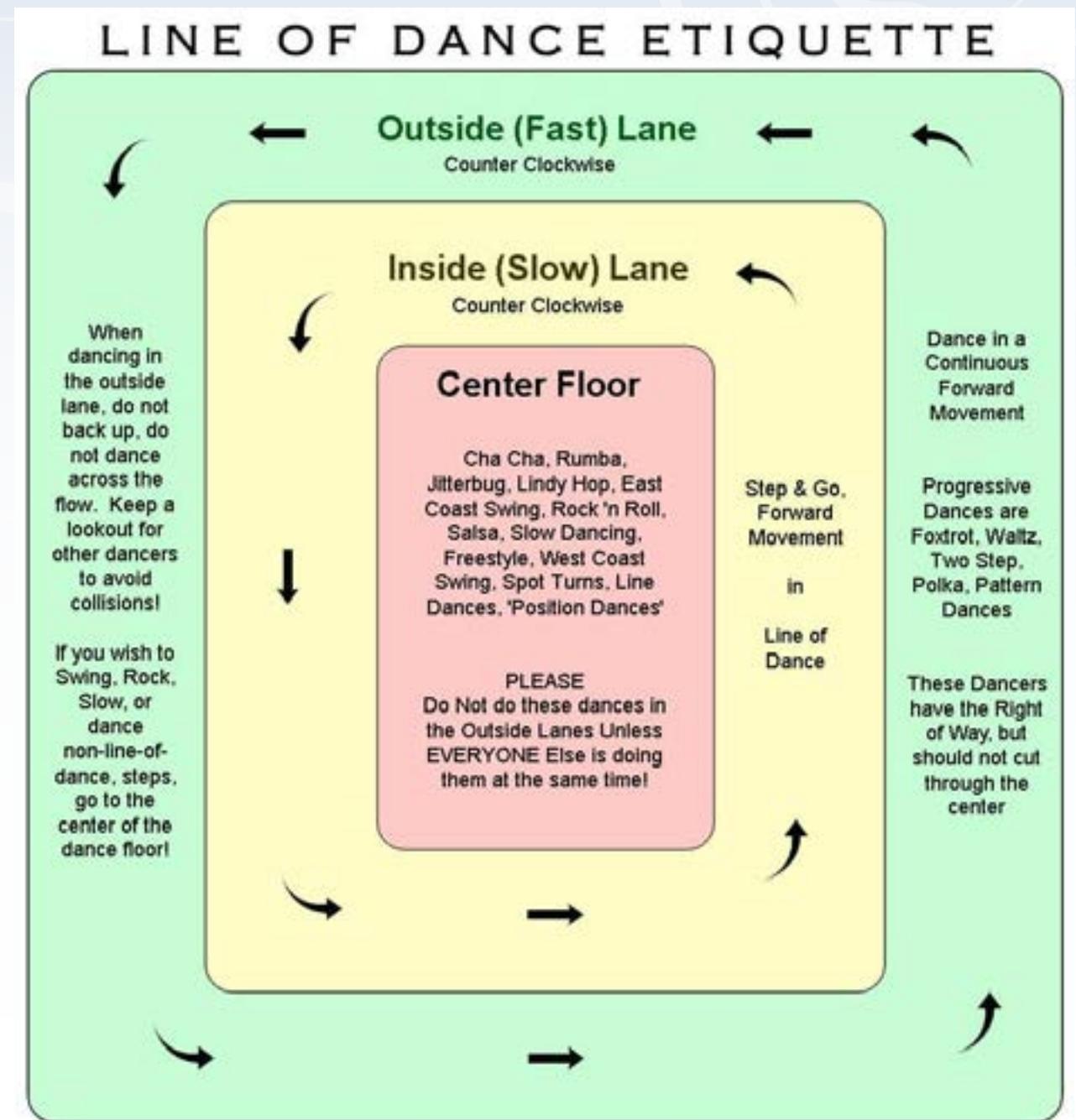
Gary has been dancing since the mid-1990's, primarily as a social dancer. He has competed locally and nationally as an amateur, in addition to participating in many dance showcases in the Twin Cities.



In recent months there's been discussion of dance floor etiquette. We all need to be very proactive about this. Let's clearly define dance floor courtesy. First, as leads we must be aware of the dance level of the follow. An experienced lead should not assume the follow to be silver or advanced bronze. A lead should be observant enough to realize at which level a follow is most comfortable. If you don't know, ask. Second, an experienced follow should not assume a lead is more competent than they are. When I began dancing, I asked a woman to dance. She said to me "You know, I can do more complicated dance steps?" Since I was a beginner my reply was "Well maybe I can't." A good rule to adopt would be to never assume.

A short time ago, I was watching one of our Twin Cities dance professionals interview a competition dance judge. In the interview, the judge was asked what he thought was important to see on the dance floor. His reply was "courtesy".

Dancing socially is not just doing patterns you have learned in private lessons or from a more experienced amateur. It is like driving in bumper to bumper traffic. You must keep your eyes open to prevent getting into an accident. The line of dance is on the outer perimeter of the dance floor. Look at it as the 'fast lane' of traffic. One must never do a step that impedes the line of dance. Inexperienced dancers should move to the inner ring of the dance



floor. There is where you build your confidence to travel in the fast lane.

Experienced dancers or competitors, should never use a social dance to perfect their competition routines. That is poor dance etiquette. Traffic flow is important to observe. If you are practicing a routine and bump into another dancer, the result can be injurious to all

*Continued on the following page.*

parties. In some instances, I have been very firmly stepped on and had to stop dancing. Women in open toe dance shoes can be injured very easily. Conversely, a man being stepped on by a two-inch heel can receive an equally serious injury. If a competitor gets stepped on during a social dance that could be hazardous to their future performances.

One side note: the Argentine Tango is a very beautiful dance when done in the appropriate situation. However, it is generally not a progressive smooth dance. If you're at a general social dance with the typical ballroom style being done, move to the center of the dance floor and enjoy yourself.

ALWAYS BE CAREFUL and observe the rules clearly outlined regarding dance floor protocol. Please pay attention.



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# 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.

## Circulating.

In a social dance situation it is appropriate to dance with a variety of people. It is poor dance etiquette to partner up and dance with the same person all evening. Some will prefer certain dance partners to others, but it 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 say, “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 later.”

## Cleanliness is heaven at a dance.

Social dancing is a quasi-intimate activity requiring a degree of physical closeness. Good hygiene shows respect and consideration for other dancers. Dancers should bathe, use deodorant, **breath mints**, and wear clean clothes that will not be too hot. If you perspire a great deal while dancing, it is considerate to bring a towel and/or change of clothes. If you find yourself getting too sweaty on the dance floor, stop, dry off, and cool down for a bit. Your partners will thank you for it. Use a **light touch with perfume or cologne**. Some people are 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.

*Continued on the following page.*

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If your partner is dancing off time, view the situation as a challenge to dance to the same internal rhythms as your partner. Your partner is not dancing off time intentionally. If your partner is physically hurting you, it is probably inadvertent. 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.

### How Close Is Too Close?

There is nothing more uncomfortable for a lady dancer than being pressed up against someone she’d rather not be pressed up against. For most people this would seem to be common courtesy but it is a frequent problem when a male partner believes the only correct way to dance is with full body contact. Your partner has the right to determine appropriate closeness regardless of what is perceived as the correct way.

### Floorcraft.

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 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 they are okay before you resume dancing. If necessary, escort

the person off the floor to a chair and see if they need 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.



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*Continued on the following page.*

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Scott Anderson..... 612.816.4446

Nathan Daniels .... 763.464.1021

Jennelle Donnay... 651.357.2060

Loisa Donnay ..... 612.822.8436

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**USA Dance Minnesota offers dance instruction to members for \$5. Non-members pay \$10.**  
Become a member of USA Dance at [membership.usadance.org](http://membership.usadance.org) or fill out a membership form available at class. A different professional instructor teaches a new dance at a different location every month.

# Prepping for “The Big Event”!

© Deborah J. Nelson/Satin Stitches Ltd.



Your big ballroom dance competition is coming up...and you are checking your closet to see what you can wear for your social dancing and of course, what you can wear for your competition costume.

Maybe you want to refresh an ‘old’ dress or costume that you own and have worn before? Maybe you are shopping in your dance studio’s closet or online? Maybe you have already purchased a dress or costume from another dancer or from a ballroom retailer?

- Ladies: Maybe you want more rhinestones (who doesn’t, right)? Or more feathers? Or you need a tweak to take in, let out, shorten or another alteration to gain perfection?
- Guys: Maybe you have invested in a ‘certified’ ballroom outfit, but you need a tweak to make it perfect? Or dusted off your togs and it needs ‘a little something’?

If you have a clear vision on what you need updated/changed or added, give Satin Stitches a call, make an appointment (when we can give you a quote) and then we can get the job done!

If you are unsure of what you need to transform your dress or costume into your ‘perfect’ dress or costume, give Satin Stitches a call 763.323.9507 (when we can get you a quote) and then we can get the job done!

Besides being able to create your perfect social or competition dress, we specialize in transforming your ‘not yet perfect’ garments, with

decades of specialty alterations experience.

Refer to our September 2017 blog with many suggestions for updating ‘[off the rack](#)’ apparel.

Satin Stitches has been custom creating performance apparel for over 4 decades, and we have been at our same showroom/production location for 3 decades, now. We are a team of design, fit, and sewing/tailoring/embellishment professionals with decades of experience.

Besides solo designs, we create team costuming that is unique and custom to each team of dancers, figure skaters, professional cheerleaders, and show choirs that we work with. In addition to our full custom, we now also offer a customizable Web Store with basics that can be ordered by one or many. Our design and production staff continues to design new separates and full costumes for inclusion into our [shop.satinstitches.com](http://shop.satinstitches.com). We currently schedule two photo shoots annually and add new designs into our web store shortly after these shoots. Watch for many new styles later this month!

Our shop is located in the northern Minneapolis suburb of Coon Rapids, near the border of the city of Anoka. We are conveniently located near Coon Rapids Blvd, Highway 169 and Highway 10. Call for directions. Because we personally work with our clients, you need to make an appointment to be assured that the right person is available to work with you to attain your perfect costume results.

Always arrange to bring your ‘competition undergarments’ and your dance shoes for your fitting/appointment. We take appointments on Monday through Friday (except for holidays) between 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM and specially arranged evenings and Saturday mornings, for your convenience.

*Continued on the following page.*

Continued from the prior page.

Links:

1. updating 'off the rack' apparel: <http://www.satinstitches.com/blog/transforming-off-the-rack-garments-into-danceable-duds>
2. shop.satinstitches.com: <https://www.shop.satinstitches.com/>



USA Dance-Minnesota Communications team at the Annual Tea Dance.  
Left to right, Julie Johnston, Bonnie Burton, Tom Crable and Paul Stachour.

Photo by David Chin

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# Tea Dance: An Afternoon at the Lafayette Country Club

*By Carol Post, 2019 Tea Dance Chair, and Joyce Thompson, Chapter President*

The 27th Annual Tea Dance, sponsored by the USA Dance Chapter #2011 was held April 28th at the Lafayette Country Club. Beautiful weather and an elegant, grand ballroom welcomed guests to a delicious brunch and an afternoon of dancing.

Leland Whitney was DJ and filled the ballroom with music mixed by Joyce Thompson especially for the Tea Dance. David Chin, our event photographer, artfully captured photos of the activities and the dancers enjoying a wonderful afternoon of dancing and socializing.

Among attendees were student sponsorship dancers from St. Thomas University, the University of Minnesota and University of Minnesota Rochester Ballroom Clubs, as well as dancers from the Twin Cities and metro area.

Entertainment was provided by talented dancers from the Twin Cities area. First to dance were Narra Moreen, Omar Abdelfatah, Miller Bailey and Daniel Korus, students from the University of Minnesota Ballroom dance team. These talented, poised and impeccably costumed dancers mesmerized the audience with the beauty of well executed and beautifully choreographed dances beginning with a waltz, tango and concluding with foxtrot.

Making their debut, Tyler Bridges choreographed a lyrical bolero fusion to the song "Rewrite the Stars". Tyler and his talented partner Joy Davitt presented a fabulous performance. Minnesota is fortunate to have such new young talent in our community. A big thank you to these dancers for sharing your gift of dance.



*The above is a slideshow of many event photos, be sure to use the side arrows to see all your dance friends*      *Photos by David Chin.*

Thank you to Joyce Thompson who managed studio and outreach publicity; on-site volunteers Leslie Whitney, Daniela Hofer, Gary Stroick, St. Thomas University ballroom students Abby Gureski and Makenzie Johnson; Chapter Treasurer Russell Alliev; Ed Soltis and board member Bonnie Burton. Thank you to USA Dance members who donated to the Student Sponsorship Program; to those of you who donated flowers and decorations for tables; and to the Board of USA Dance-Minnesota Chapter #2011 for continued support of this event. A special thank you to the ballroom dance community whose attendance and support make this annual event a success. Mark your calendar for next year's Tea Dance on April 26, 2020. We look forward to seeing everyone again next year!

*Continued on the following page.*



*Both of the above photos are slide show of many event photos, be sure to use the side arrows to see all your dance friends.*

*Photos by David Chin.*



## Tickets & Schedule

*All Sessions are Open to the Public*  
*Tickets can be purchased at the Door*  
*Or ordered in advance at*  
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### Hyatt Regency Minneapolis

#### Wednesday, July 11<sup>h</sup>

**EVENING – 7 pm .....\$15**  
 “Night Club” Dance events & Championship

#### Thursday, July 12<sup>th</sup>

**MATINEE – 8:00 am – 5 pm.....\$15**  
 Pro/Am American Smooth events – Bronze & Silver – Championships & Scholarships

#### **EVENING – 7 pm .....\$30**

Pro/Am American Smooth events – Advanced levels – Championships & Scholarships; Amateur Multi Dance events; Solo Exhibitions

#### Friday, July 13<sup>th</sup>

**MATINEE – 8 – 6:30 pm.....\$15**  
 Pro/Am American Rhythm events – All Levels – Championships & Scholarships

#### **EVENING – 7 pm .....\$45**

Formations; Pro/Am Advanced Latin events;  
 Professional Rising Star Events

#### Saturday, July 14<sup>th</sup>

**MATINEE – 7 am – 6 pm.....\$15**  
 Pro/Am International Standard events  
 Pro/Am International Latin Bronze & Silver events

#### **EVENING – 7:30 pm .....\$50**

Professional Open Championships  
 “TCO ROCKS!” Professional Show

#### Sunday, July 9<sup>th</sup>

Smooth & Rhythm lectures from  
 Sam Sodano, Linda Dean, Rufus  
 Dustin, Forrest Vance, JT Thomas  
 And Tony Meredith!  
**COST: \$110**  
 10-3 pm



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 By June 15<sup>th</sup>!

# Dance Venue Report: American Classic Ballroom

*By: Paul Stachour*

*Photos by Connie Knipp*



*Paul teaching the lesson*

On Friday, December 28, 2018, I danced at American Classic Ballroom, located at 1495 Steiger Lake Lane, Victoria, MN. American Classic is a dance studio with a 64' x 45' feet dance-floor of sprung wood. There is a seating area for around 50 on tables and chairs, which includes a welcoming area complete with sofas and a TV. The parking area (for about 30 cars) and the main entrance is on the south (back) side of the building. There is no public transportation available. The general atmosphere is that of a high ceilinged room with beautiful chandeliers. The temperature was reasonable. The general handicap accessibility is poor with 6 steps to enter, however the toilet facilities are modern and handicapped accessible.



*Seating area.*



*Ballroom entrance.*

*Continued on the following page.*

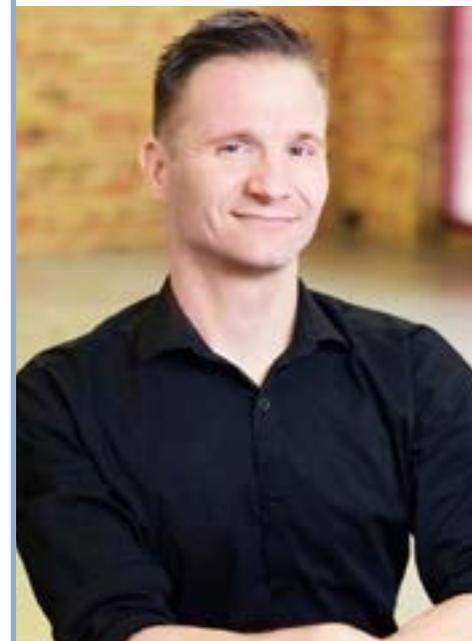
The event was their regularly scheduled Friday night practice party with a dancing time of 7-9 PM. The music was a DJ, by Natalie Botes with a cost of \$15. There was a rumba lesson at 6:30, by Paul Botes; the lesson was included in the price. Pizza, cookies, and various beverages were all included in the price, as is usual at the practice parties at this studio. Water was available in a cooler at no cost. There were about 15 dancers there, and I would characterize them as mainly students of the studio, with a lead/follow ratio roughly even.

I particularly noted that the venue has a floor which is larger than minimum competition size of 60' x 40'. As far as I know, it is the only dance studio in the twin cities with a competition sized dance floor.

My general impression of the site and the event is: The inclusion of both lesson and food/beverage for the price makes this venue/event combination an excellent bargain. It is disappointing that its far western location has the effect of not many dancers attending this regularly scheduled event. Especially so, for a night when almost all dance venues in the twin cities were closed. I like the way in which Paul explains the reasons behind the names for dance moves and patterns as he teaches.

This venue is the site for this month's June USA Dance-Minnesota Third Saturday dance. As you can see from the photo, this is a great dance floor with tremendous lighting. I hope that you can join the regular group of USA Dance dancers there on June 15<sup>th</sup>, 2019.

Further information about the venue or event can be obtained via their website at [www.acballroom.com](http://www.acballroom.com), or by contacting Paul Botes at 612-910-2610 or [info@acballroom.com](mailto:info@acballroom.com).



## Progressive Waltz

Sunday, May 05 — 2:00 pm  
Sunday, May 12 — 2:00 pm  
Sunday, May 19 — 2:00 pm  
Sunday, June 02 — 2:00 pm  
Sunday, June 09 — 2:00 pm  
Sunday, June 16 — 2:00 pm  
Sunday, June 23 — 2:00 pm  
Sunday, June 30 — 2:00 pm

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2019 USA Dance National Ballroom Week  
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## 2019 USA Dance Flash Mob Challenge

Join the fun! Learn the 2019 Flash Mob Dance and participate in the USA Dance Flash Mob Challenge and Competition during National Ballroom Dance Week!

**The FlashMob Dance this year is Salsa!**

**Preview the dance video at:**

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLJXB198rYa6kNkjVjotv5rB18QRteMZQ0>



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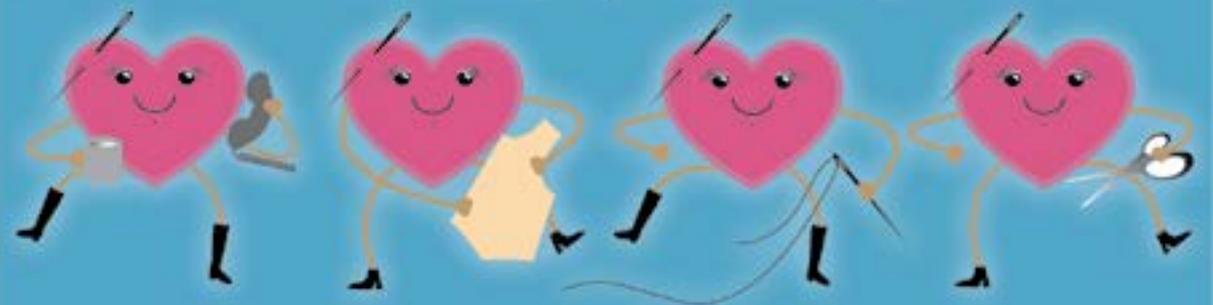
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