



MINNESOTA

DANCER

March 2018

An Official Publication of USA
Dance-Minnesota Chapter #2011

USA Dance-Minnesota
member Bob Anholt dances
with Instructor Nelly
Dorovskikh at the Lafayette
Classic

Chasing Dance

President's Letter

Tea Dance Sponsorship

MN Competitor Results

Dance Contacts

Traveling with Costumes

Dance Venue Report



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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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Winners of the Dancing Through the Decades Showcase, Lance Boole with instructor Meghan Anderson dancing to Ed Sheeran's The Shape of You.

Chasing Dance and Drinking Kool-Aid®

By Julie Johnston

What to do on a snowy Minnesota afternoon? Some ballroom dancers chase dance and drink the Kool-Aid – meaning to passionately and blindly follow a cause they love.

Armed with that expression, dance friends Elizabeth Curran and Michelle Krekelberg and myself, gleefully call each other 'Kool-Aid Sisters'. Within our group, we're able to do the three D's: we dance, we watch dance, and we talk dance.

Click arrows on either side of photo to view the slideshow.

Continued on the following page.

On a recent snowy February Sunday, equipped with a four-wheel drive, we made the 30 mile trek to watch the Lafayette Classic, held at the historic Lafayette Country Club by Lake Minnetonka. It is also the location of USA Dance-Minnesota's annual Tea Dance, held in early spring. As an aside, during my childhood my mother was a cook for Mrs. George Halpin at her estate called Green Trees, which is located nearby. So it was nostalgic to visit an area I was familiar with as a child.

What intrigued me about the Lafayette classic, in addition to location, was the student showcase with the theme "Dancing through the Decades". This was an opportunity for students to show their dance performance skills through dance and through acting. Students were paired with their instructors in accompanying costumes, showing quality dance, humor and creativity. The winners of the \$300 first prize were Lance Boole and instructor Meghan Anderson, dancing to Ed Sheeran's *The Shape of You*. Equally entertaining were routines done to M.C. Hammer's *Can't Touch This*.

In addition to being entertaining, the venue was very intimate compared to larger competitions. The smaller ballroom, with seating right on the floor, provided an up-close view that you don't get at the larger competitions. It was like a studio showcase, where you could observe the technique of the dancers up close and cheer on friends in the smooth and rhythm competitions that took place earlier.

This is definitely an event that I will make a point to attend again. Well done to the Anderson family – Scott and Amy, and Meghan and Igor Afonkin. Between The Lafayette classic and Blues-a-Palooza, which I have attended twice, it is apparent that Andersons know how to throw a party!

I'm looking forward to the next opportunity to drink chase dance and drink some Kool-Aid!

Video by Deb Lundgren.

Click the play button to be taken to video.



Progressive West Coast Swing

Sunday, March 3 — 1:30 pm
Sunday, March 10 — 1:30 pm
Sunday, March 17 — 1:30 pm
Sunday, March 24 — 1:30 pm
Sunday, March 31 — 1:30 pm
Sunday, April 07 — 1:30 pm

Classes with
Bonnie Inveen

Tapestry Folkdance Center
3748 Minnehaha Ave. S.
Minneapolis, MN 55406
612.772.2914



www.usadance-minnesota.org
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Follow us @USADanceMN



USA Dance Minnesota offers dance instruction to members for \$5. Non-members pay \$10.

Become a member of USA Dance at 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.



Moonlight Masquerade

SPRING BALLROOM DANCE SHOWCASE

MARCH 22

7 PM - 11 PM

**All are welcome for a night behind masks where ballroom, latin and swing take center stage under the moonlight of this one night only event.
Tickets are available at www.eventbrite.com/dsmoonlightmasquerade**



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President's Letter

By Joyce Thompson

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



Congratulations to Randi Schmidt, Julie Johnston, Scot Rolek, Dolores Houle, Ray Stiff, Nina Zhang, Nick Mavrogenis, Stephanie Clausen, Kerri Seemann, and Mark Seemann for your loyal attendance at Project Dance sessions this past year! You all attended more than fifty percent of the Project Dance lessons in 2018, and in appreciation you will receive free admission to a monthly USA Dance in 2019. I look forward to seeing you at an upcoming dance! Thank you all for supporting this program.

Kudos to Kerri and Mark Seemann who suggested the idea of scheduling the same dance to be taught two consecutive months at Project Dance: the first month to provide foundations of the chosen dance and the second month to provide progressive or intermediate instruction. This has been very successful modification to the program. I continue to receive numerous positive comments about this change.

Congratulations to our local competitors who danced in the Royal Palm DanceSport Championships in Fort Lauderdale, FL on February 9th. Minnesota competitors included Leslie and Leland Whitney; Bonnie Burton and Ed Soltis; Jill Smith and Greg Warner; Stephanie and Russell Alliev; Sue and Greg Prasch; Rebecca Steinkruger and Greg Story.

Congratulations also, to all competitors who danced in the Mid-Atlantic Championships February 22-24 in Baltimore, Maryland.

Make your reservations for our annual Tea Dance at the Lafayette Country Club prior to April 15th for an early bird discount for this special event! This event sells out fast! Each year a number of people provide sponsorships to College Ballroom Dance Clubs to provide the opportunity for students to enjoy this event. If you would like to provide a sponsorship to a college student, see the flyer for details.

Happy dancing!



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Caribbean Dance Cruise XVII

February 1st - February 11th, 2019



Costa Deliziosa

10 Nights
Departs from Ft. Lauderdale, Florida

Itinerary
Ports: Nassau, Bahamas • Turks & Caicos
Ocho Rios, Jamaica
Georgetown, Cayman
Roatan, Honduras • Cozumel, Mexico



USA DANCE CHAPTER #2011 MONTHLY EVENTS

MARCH

Monthly Dance

Friday, March 8
Tapestry Folkdance Center
3748 Minnehaha Ave. S., Mpls.
Lesson 7–8 pm
8–11 pm Variety Dance

Monthly Dance

Saturday, March 16
Dance with Us America
Southdale Center, #930, Edina
Samba lesson
7–8 pm
8–11 pm Variety Dance

Project Dance

**Sundays, March 3, 10, 17, 24,
31 and April 7**
Tapestry Folkdance Center
3748 Minnehaha Ave. S., Mpls.
Progressive West Coast Swing
lessons by Bonnie Inveen.
1:30–2:30 pm
2:30–3:00 pm is practice time

April

Monthly Dance

Saturday, April 20
Cinema Ballroom
1560 St. Clair Ave., St. Paul
Foxtrot lesson
7–8 pm
8–11 pm Variety Dance

May

Monthly Dance

Saturday, May 18
Cinema Ballroom
1560 St. Clair Ave., St. Paul
Hustle lesson
7–8 pm
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 \$35⁰⁰.

SPECIAL EVENTS

27th Annual Tea Dance

Sunday April 28, 2019
Brunch, dancing and live entertainment at the historic Lafayette Country Club
2800 Northview Road, Wayzata, MN
Tea Dance brunch and dance 11:00-4:00 pm
[See full details on page 9](#)



USA Dance –MN Chapter #2011 Board Meeting Minutes 9 January 2019

Submitted by Carol Post

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

The meeting was called to order at 6:30PM

1. Agenda: Approved 9/0/0
2. Confidentiality
3. Appointment of new board members: Marla Heisterkamp:
Approved: 8/0/0
4. Board Minutes 12/4/2018 as amended: Approved: 9/0/0
5. Treasurer Report: Approved 9/0/0
6. Board member job responsibilities/assignments:
 - a. Coordinators: Communications-Bonnie Burton, Membership-Stephanie Clausen, Social Dance-Joyce Thompson, Special Events-Carol Post, Marketing and Publicity-Marla Heisterkamp, Volunteers- Leslie Whitney.
7. Special Projects Report:
 - a. Tea Dance-Marketing materials in development
 - b. Dance Camp- Will explore feasibility for 2019.
8. Communications Report:
 - a. Minnesota Dancer. Joyce will submit a monthly column in MN Dancer. Constant contact effective for marketing events and chapter activities. Looking into additional electronic formats. Team will assist with development of flyer for the Tea Dance.
 - b. Website upgrades continue.

9. Social Dance Coordinator Report:

- a. Chapter Monthly Dances: January 19- Dancers Studio-Mambo (Theme: Chapter Anniversary-Birthday Cake), February 16-Dancers Studio-Quick Step, March 16- Dance With Us America Ballroom-Samba, April 20 –Cinema Ballroom-Foxtrot (Treats provided).
 - b. 2nd Friday Dance- 11 January-(Co-hosted with Tapestry).
10. Project Dance: January-February-n'Motion Dance Studio: EC Swing. Coverage identified for February.
11. Donation to the Sleigh Bell Dancers and Lynne's Dance News: Motion for 100.00 for their support of USA Dance Chapter #2011 activities: Approved 9/0/0
12. Dancing Classrooms: Spring session begins in February.
13. Collegiate Ballroom Dance Report: Rochester scrimmage cancelled. Tea Dance advertising will be sent to college teams.
14. Membership report:
 - a. 2018- January: 250
 - b. 2019-January: 244
- Meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm. Next meeting is Tuesday February 5. Byerlys St Louis Park Community Room 6:30-7:45pm.

Tea Dance Sponsorships

Every year, generous members of our dance community graciously provide Tea Dance sponsorships for college ballroom dance students. These sponsorships allow students an opportunity to attend the annual Tea Dance. Be a part of this memorable tradition. Tea Dance brunch and dance tickets for college students are \$34 per ticket.

Make checks payable to: USA Dance Chapter 2011. Please indicate the number of student sponsorships in the memo column. Payment must be received by April 15.

Mail to:
USA Dance Chapter 2011

Attention: Carol Post
3600 France Avenue South
St. Louis Park, MN 55416

For more info:
teadance2019@gmail.com



27th Annual Tea Dance

SUNDAY APRIL 28, 2019

USA Dance Minnesota Chapter #2011
invites you to enjoy an elegant afternoon of brunch,
dancing and live entertainment at the historic
Lafayette Country Club
located at 2800 Northview Road, Wayzata, MN



Checks payable by April 23rd to
USA Dance Chapter #2011-Tea Dance
c/o Carol Post
3600 France Ave., S.-St Louis Park, MN 55416
include phone number and email

**EARLY BIRD RESERVATIONS THROUGH APRIL 15, 2019
BRUNCH (11:00AM-12:15 PM) AND DANCE (1-4PM)**

ADULT \$39

STUDENT \$34

**RESERVATIONS MADE APRIL 16-APRIL 23, 2019
BRUNCH (11:00AM-12:15 PM) AND DANCE (1-4PM)**

ADULT \$45

STUDENT \$40

DANCE ONLY 1PM-4PM

ADULT \$25

STUDENT \$20

For further information call: 952-926-7648 or email: teadance2019@gmail.com

2019 COMPETITION CALENDAR

April

12-13

USA Dance National DanceSport Championships

Orem, UT

Hosted by USA Dance Nationals Org. Committee

May

4

New England DanceSport Championships-NQE

Dedham, MA

Hosted by MASSabda USA Dance Ch. #3002

May

17-19

San Antonio DanceSport Classic-NQE

San Antonio, TX

Organizers: Wayne & Marie Crowder

May

19

Go Wild DanceSport Competition

Bloomington, MN

Hosted by Donna Edelstein

June

28-30

Gumbo DanceSport Championships-NQE

New Orleans, LA

Hosted by the LA Gumbo USA Dance Ch. #5031

July

18-21

Twin Cities Open Ballroom Championships

Minneapolis, MN

Hosted by Scott & Amy Anderson

July

26-28

OKC Dreamcatcher DanceSport Championships-NQE

Oklahoma City, OK

Organized by Wayne & Marie Crowder






RECOGNIZED SPORT ORGANIZATION

USA DANCE
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 Two Competition Dance Floors

International Latin, Standard & 10-Dance
 American Rhythm, Smooth & 9-Dance
 Pre-Teen I to Senior V Divisions
 Theatrical DanceSport Divisions
 Professional Divisions
 Pro-Am Divisions
 WDSF World Events

Scholarships for Championship Divisions
 Selecting USA World Teams for WDSF World Championships

APRIL 12-13, 2019
UTAH VALLEY UNIVERSITY
OREM, UTAH

Andrew Maliyava & Avital Ayzerov (NJ)
USA Dance 2018 National DanceSport Championships
National Champions, Junior II 10-Dance
USA World Team, Junior II Latin
 LISA DUBINSKY/BOSTON

NATIONALS
Crowning Champions



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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



Minnesota Competitor Results

ROYAL PALM DANCESPORT CHAMPIONSHIPS NQE 2019

February 9, 2019 – Ft. Lauderdale, FL

Russell Alliev & Stephanie Alliev

2nd (of 3) Adult Bronze Standard
3rd (of 3) Amateur Adult Silver Standard
1st (of 2) Adult Bronze Latin
1st (of 1) Adult Silver Latin
1st (of 4) Adult Bronze Smooth
2nd (of 2) Adult Silver Smooth
3rd (of 4) Adult Bronze Rhythm
1st (of 1) Adult Silver Rhythm
2nd (of 8) All Ages Hustle
3rd (of 7) All Ages Salsa
2nd (of 3) All Ages Argentine Tango
2nd (of 7) All Ages West Coast Swing

Kurt Anderson & Jessica Doro

1st (of 3) Amateur Adult Bronze Standard
2nd (of 3) Amateur Adult Silver Standard
1st (of 1) Amateur Adult Gold Smooth
1st (of 1) Amateur Adult Novice Smooth
1st (of 1) Amateur Adult Gold Rhythm
1st (of 1) Amateur Adult Novice Rhythm

Greg Prasch & Sue Prasch

4th (of 4) Amateur Senior II Novice Standard
1st (of 2) Amateur Senior III Novice Standard
7th (of 7) Amateur Senior II Pre-Champ Standard
6th (of 8) Amateur Senior III Pre-Champ Standard

4th (of 7) Amateur Senior II Pre-Champ Smooth
3rd (of 7) Amateur Senior III Pre-Champ Smooth
2nd (of 2) Amateur Senior II Championship Smooth
2nd (of 3) Amateur Senior III Championship Smooth

Matthew Randolph & Maggie Campbell

1st (of 1) Amateur Adult Newcomer Intl. Waltz
1st (of 1) Amateur Adult Newcomer Intl. Viennese Waltz
1st (of 1) Amateur Adult Newcomer Intl. Quickstep
1st (of 1) Amateur Bronze Intl. Viennese Waltz
3rd (of 3) Amateur Adult Bronze Standard
1st (of 1) Amateur Adult Newcomer Intl. Cha Cha
1st (of 1) Amateur Adult Newcomer Intl. Rumba
1st (of 1) Amateur Adult Newcomer Intl. Samba
1st (of 1) Amateur Adult Newcomer Intl. Jive
2nd (of 2) Amateur Adult Bronze Latin
2nd (of 4) Amateur Adult Bronze Smooth
1st (of 1) Amateur Adult Bronze Am. Viennese Waltz
2nd (of 3) Amateur Adult Bronze Am. Tango
2nd (of 3) Amateur Adult Bronze Am. Swing
2nd (of 4) Amateur Adult Bronze Rhythm
2nd (of 2) Amateur Adult Silver Rhythm
4th (of 8) All Ages Hustle
7th (of 7) All Ages Salsa
6th (of 7) All Ages West Coast Swing

Continued on the following page.

Edward Soltis & Bonnie Burton

1st (of 4) Amateur Senior IV Gold Standard
1st (of 1) Amateur Senior IV Pre-Champ Smooth
2nd (of 2) Amateur Senior IV Championship Smooth

Greg Story & Rebecca Steinkruger

3rd (of 3) Amateur Senior II Silver Standard
2nd (of 5) Amateur Senior III Silver Standard
5th (of 6) Amateur Senior II Silver Smooth
4th (of 7) Amateur Senior III Silver Smooth

Greg Warner & Jill Smith

2nd (of 4) Amateur Senior III Bronze Standard
3rd (of 5) Amateur Senior III Silver Standard
1st (of 3) Amateur Senior IV Silver Standard
4th (of 7) Amateur Senior III Silver Smooth
3rd (of 7) Amateur Senior III Gold Smooth
1st (of 4) Amateur Senior IV Gold Smooth
3rd (of 6) Amateur Senior III Silver Rhythm
3rd (of 6) Amateur Senior III Gold Rhythm
1st (of 2) Amateur Senior IV Gold Rhythm

Leland Whitney & Leslie Whitney

5th (of 7) Amateur Senior III Pre-Champ Smooth
3rd (of 3) Amateur Senior III Championship Smooth
1st (of 2) Amateur Senior IV Championship Smooth
4th (of 6) Amateur Senior III Pre-Champ Rhythm
2nd (of 3) Amateur Senior III Championship Rhythm
1st (of 1) Amateur Senior IV Championship Rhythm

Join us at Project Dance

Experience different area studios and learn from a variety of Twin Cities talented dance instructors. Sundays each month except July and December. See more details on [page 5](#).



Jennelle Donnay and Mike Dinsmore teaching East Coast Swing

Video by Julie Johnston.

Click the play button to be taken to video.

Dance Contacts

If you would like to be listed on this page, send your contact information to bonnieburton@comcast.net

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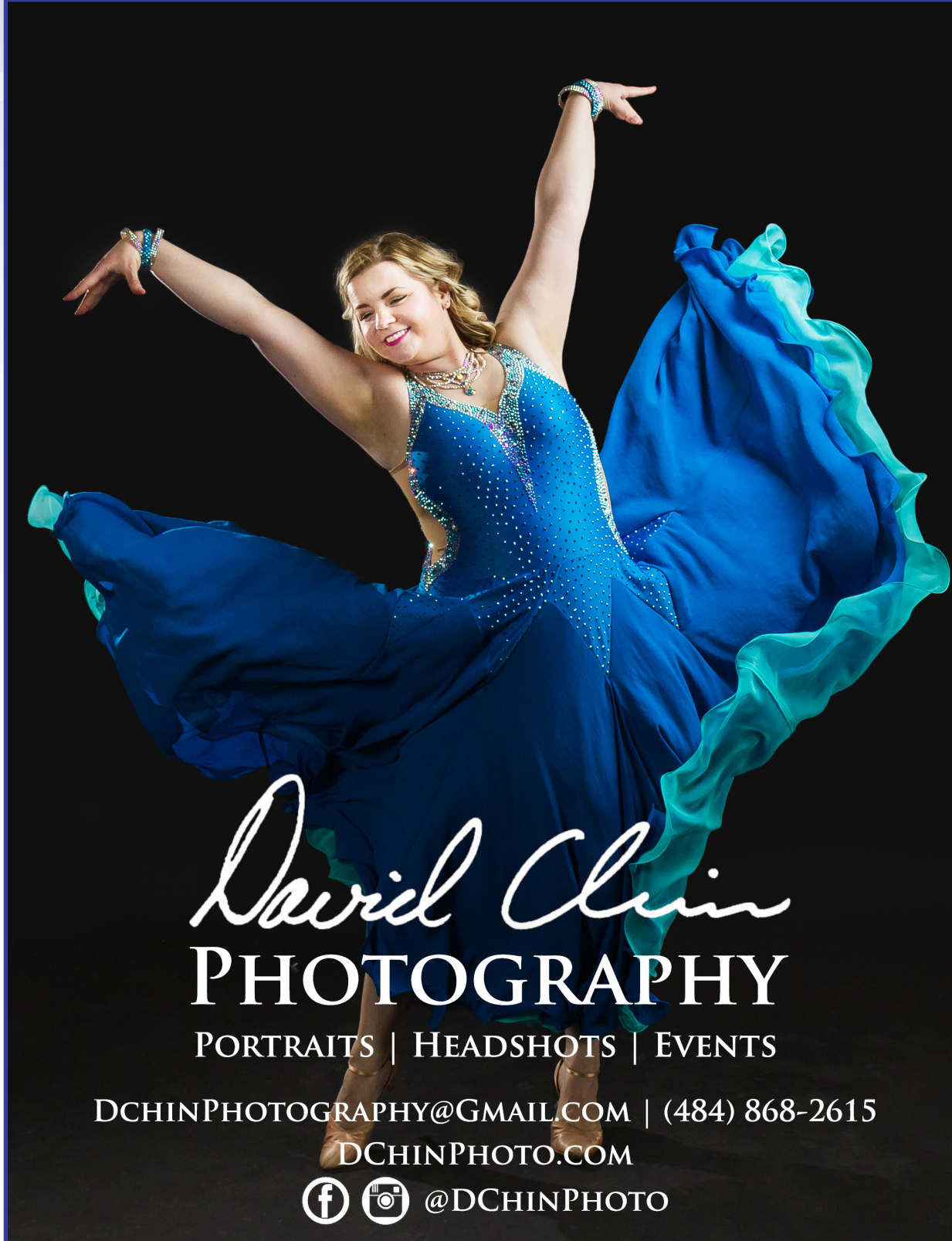
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Traveling Safely with Your Dance Costume

© Deborah J. Nelson/Satin Stitches Ltd.

Deborah Nelson is the Founder and Head Designer of Satin Stitches Ltd, a custom performance costume manufacturer in Minneapolis. Deborah is a leader in the fashion/costume industry with 40+ years of professional design, fitting, alterations, and patternmaking experience. She holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts (Major: Fashion Design) degree and is a former instructor at The Minneapolis College of Art and Design (MCAD). For more information about Satin Stitches, visit their website at: www.satinstitchesw.com



February this year has been the snowiest February since 1962 – the year my baby brother was born during another huge snowstorm, the first week of March! Traveling can be problematic with the many flight delays and cancellations, plus difficulty with car travel. Securing your competition dance costumes may be farther down on your list of concerns. BUT, don't lose track of your costumes!

If you haven't had a problem with lost luggage or having forgotten to pack a particular outfit or travel item, then you are a very lucky person! Lost luggage can be a nightmare. Will you ever see your favorite pair of sandals again? Or your favorite jeans? **Or – horror of horrors – your beautiful, custom, competition dance costume?** It is much easier to replace a pair of sandals, a swimsuit or your favorite pair of jeans than a CUSTOM competition dance costume.

Whether you compete as an individual or part of a team, there are many things that you can do to ensure that your dance costume or costumes are not lost.

If you are in charge of a team:

- Instruct your team members on what to pack and how to pack it. Stress the importance of following your instructions!
- If your team is flying - have every team member pack their essential costume pieces (outfit, shoes, tights, and head-pieces, special makeup - items that cannot easily be replaced) in their carry-on luggage.
- Check (and recheck) to ensure items aren't missing.
- To avoid wrinkling your costumes, fold or neatly roll and place costumes into a 2-quart plastic zip-lock bag (if your costumes are small enough, that is). This helps prevent wrinkles and will prevent any liquid in your luggage from leaking onto your costumes. If you have large, bulkier costumes, fold or roll neatly into a plastic bag – either an inexpensive dry-cleaning bag or a garment bag. You don't want to store costumes in plastic, but temporarily, you DO want to protect them from liquid leakage or other items such as makeup that could damage your costumes.
- A garment bag can be your carry-on item, and is the safest way to transport an expensive, custom dance costume. Of course it needs to meet airlines' size regulations. And with all the new bare-bones plane tickets, make sure you have carry-on as an option (with or without an extra fee).
- If you are unable to carry-on your dance costumes and accessories, the next best option for making sure they don't get lost, is to gate-check your luggage. It is more difficult for

Continued on the following page.

the airline to lose these bags, as you have eliminated one part of their journey (from the ticket counter to the plane). Always arrive promptly to the luggage carousel and be watchful. If you don't, unwatched bags sometimes end up in locked offices or mistakenly in other's hands.

- If you are traveling by bus or train, make sure no luggage gets left behind. Be very observant about where your luggage is, at all times.
- Another option might be to ship your costumes ahead of your travels, to either a trusted friend or to the hotel you are staying. Shipping (with tracking) to arrive before you leave allows you to keep tabs on where your package is, and you can relax when tracking documents arrive. Be sure to pack according to safe shipping regulations (with items encased in plastic).
- Do a 'costume check' immediately upon arrival - to double-check that your team has all luggage, first of all, and then secondarily, that all their costume items are there. At this time, if you have to replace something, you have more time to scramble, rather than waiting until right before your team dresses for your performance.
- Plan ahead and bring extra tights, gloves, gauntlets, headpieces, and makeup or dance briefs. That way, if a team member forgets one of these secondary items, you'll be able to avoid an emergency!

- Have a strict policy in place that anyone without their costume/uniform will not perform at the event. Stick to this, even if a star performer is left out!
- PLAN for the unexpected with contingency options – if costumes are lost, what can you wear instead?

If you are traveling as a solo performer, take into consideration the same information as was noted for teams. If your costume is lost or damaged, you will need to consider if you can still perform with the damage, fix part or all of the damage, if you can borrow someone else's costume, or if you can buy a new costume to 'make do'.

Happy traveling to everyone! Remember to always take extra care to keep your luggage with you and undamaged.



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Dance Venue Report: Shamrocks—The Irish Nook

By Kate Jensen

On Saturday, December 15, 2018, I danced at *Shamrocks--The Irish Nook*, at 995 7th Street West, in St. Paul, located near Mancini's. It is a restaurant-bar with a 10 x 20 feet wooden dance floor (depending upon how the tables are arranged) and seating area for about 75. Free street parking is available and there is public transportation via MTC bus route 54. The atmosphere was friendly and the temperature was comfortable. The menu offerings were appetizers, wings, salads, flatbreads, and pizza. Full bar service was available. Restrooms (including handicapped) were clean and well-stocked. The venue is handicapped accessible via a ramp in the back, but there is one step at the front door.

Live music (with no cover charge) is played on Friday and Saturday nights from 10 pm to 1:45 am. The music on the night I was there was by a popular local blues band called *Inside Straight*. Dance lessons are not offered at this venue. My friend and I were the only dancers on the floor at 10 pm.

Further information about the venue can be obtained via their website at www.crnook.com or by phoning (651) 228-9925. Their website posts a calendar of upcoming bands.

My impression of the bar/restaurant and the evening in general were very positive. Service was good and it was nice that we had the dance floor to ourselves. I would recommend a visit to Shamrocks, especially if there is a band you would like to see and dance to.



[Editor's note: These venue reports are facilitated by and coordinated by USA Dance-Minnesota member Paul Stachour.]