

Dancin' Times

Published monthly for members of the United States
Amateur Ballroom Dancers Association--Minnesota Chapter



December 1995

DANCERS NITE OUT

Sat. 12/2 TGIS Singles Dance w/ Sneakers & Tight Shoes, Medina Ballroom, 644-3443.

Fri. 12/8 John Kujda Big Band, Shakopee Ballroom, free lesson w/ admission, 7:30pm, Dance 8:30pm, 445-0412.

Sat. 12/9 Holiday Dance Extravaganza, Coliseum Ballroom, 722-6311 or see ad pg. 3

Sat. 12/9 The Roasted Chestnut Romp, Capitol Ballroom, 224-5523 or see ad pg. 11.

Fri. 12/15 West Coast Swing Club Christmas Party, (Note, members only), B-Dale Club, 2100 N. Dale St., St Paul, 8:30pm, 731-9768.

Sat. 12/16 **USABDA** Toys For Tots Benefit Dance, Twin City Ballroom, includes FREE lesson by Timothy & Michele Mason! See info this page.

Sat. 12/16 Free dance sponsored by the M.B.O.A., Park Ballroom, New Prague, two bands- Old Time • Country, (612) 758-3813.

Sun. 12/17 Dancers Studio Holiday Showcase and Dance, Macalester College, 641-0777 or see ad pg. 5.

Sat. 12/30 Dick Macko Orchestra, Medina Ballroom, free lesson w/ admission, 7:30pm, Dance 8:30pm, 478-6661.

Sat. 12/30 TGIS Singles (Pre New Years Blast) Dance w/ Hi Tops, Thunderbird Hotel, 644-3443.

Sun. 12/31 New Years Eve Party, West Coast Swing Club, everyone welcome, B-Dale Club, 2100 N. Dale St., St Paul, 8:30pm, 731-9768.

Sun. 12/31 New Year's Eve Ball, Harrington Mansion (Zuhrah Shrine Center), 871-3555 or see ad pg. 8

Sun. 12/31 Puttin' On The Ritz, Arthur Murray- Edina Studio, 920 1900 or see ad pg.7

Sun. 12/31 The Reveler's Ball, Capitol Ballroom, 224-5523 or see ad pg. 11.

Coming in January...

Wed. 1/31 Next Beginner Dance, Macaster College, details next month.

USABDA-MN presents

A Toys for Tots Benefit Dance



Saturday, December 16

8:00 -11:30pm

(Bronze level dancing 1st 1/2 hour)

**FREE lesson at 9pm by
Timothy & Michele Mason!!**

Holiday refreshments

Cost: \$4 USABDA members,
\$6 guests

*Please bring a new, unwrapped toy to be
donated to a women & childrens' shelter*

Twin Cities Ballroom Dance Club
West 7th & Walnut, St. Paul

USABDA HOTLINE

612-489-0581

*Call for information on dance events. Leave
a message for membership information.*

What Is USABDA? Who Are We?

USABDA stands for the United States Amateur Ballroom Dancers Association, a non-profit organization formed to preserve and promote ballroom dancing not only as an art but a healthy sport. Minnesota's chapter was started in 1991.

Membership in USABDA is open to ballroom dancers of all levels. There are membership categories for all dancers: Social, Competitive, Junior (17 and under), College students and Associates (professional/instructors).

USABDA sponsors a monthly dance and other special dance events. Membership includes both national and local dues. Membership entitles you to discounts on our monthly dances, a monthly newsletter and a great network for meeting other dancers.

You'll have fun dancing and meet many new friends!
For more information Call the USABDA Hotline number.
612-489-0581

Minnesota Dancin' Times

Published monthly for members of the United States Amateur Ballroom Dancers Association—Minnesota Chapter, providing news of ballroom dancing to chapter members and friends.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

USABDA Members: No charge
Non-members: \$10 per year

ADVERTISING

Display Ads: To advertise your professional service or event, submit camera-ready artwork.

Sizes: Full page 7 1/2" wide x 9 1/2" high
Half page 7 1/2" wide x 4 1/2" high (horizontal)
3 1/2" wide x 9 1/2" high (vertical)
Quarter page 3 1/2" wide x 4 1/2" high
Business cards

Rates: Full Page- \$40 Half Page- \$25
Quarter Page- \$15
Businesscard- \$15 for 3 consecutive months.

Classified Ads: Free 3-line ad in *Swaplines* available to members. Dance merchandise only

Payment: Please make checks payable to USABDA-MN
Payment must accompany ad.

DEADLINE

All materials due the 10th of each month.

Submit information, copy and ads to:

USABDA-MN Newsletter Editor
c/o Shari Akemann
1020 Sumter Ave. N.
Golden Valley, MN 55427

Newsletter Editor: Shari Akemann.....612/593-0822



Send address changes to
Karen Voels at address on
back of this newsletter.
Please notify National
USABDA also.



May your
stocking
overflow...

USABDA
Board of Directors

COMPETITOR'S COLUMN

(includes some regional and USABDA events)

Holiday Dance Classic

December 15-17, Treasure Island Hotel, Las Vegas (602) 327-3405.

Kansas Star Ball

December 29-31, Airport Hilton Hotel, Wichita, (316) 838-4847.

9th Intercontinental Intercollegiate & Adult Amateur DanceSport Festival (USABDA)

January 2-9, 1996, Matheos Hall, Clearwater, Florida, includes workshops, full competition, fun dances, demos by pros & teams. (301) 933-5505.

Twin Cities Open

February 2-4, 1996, Minneapolis Convention Center. Deadline is Dec. 23, Contact Amy Anderson, 431-0936. See ad pg.12

5th Annual Harvard Invitational (USABDA)

February 3, 1996 (tentative), Harvard University, Cambridge, MA, (617) 491-6028.

***for a more complete list, see "Amateur Dancers", the national publication for the U.S. Amateur Ballroom Dancers Association.



HOLIDAY DANCE EXTRAVAGANZA

Saturday, December 9
8:00 to 11:30pm

Dance Party with Special Showcase Dance
Exhibitions to Holiday Music
Lots of General Dancing
Hors D'oeuvres & Refreshments
\$15

Coliseum Ballroom
2708 East Lake Street, Third Floor,
Minneapolis
722-6311

Paid Advertisement

NORTHERN LIGHTS STAR BALL

Amy Anderson

The Twin Cities was once again host to a ballroom competition recognized by the National Dance Council of America (NDCA). On October 6&7 the "Northern Lights Star Ball" was held at the Minneapolis Convention Center. The event was sponsored by Midwest Dance Promotions and organized by Amy Anderson. The following dancers came away with the top honors from the competition...

TOP BRONZE EXHIBITION

Marie Casey & Charlie Hardcastle; Coliseum Ballroom

TOP SILVER EXHIBITION

Sanae Storey & Shinya McHenry; Dancers Studio

TOP ADVANCED EXHIBITION

Svetlana Kudimova & Scott Anderson; FADS-Bloomington

TOP FORMATION

North Towne Ballroom; Milwaukee, WI

TOP NEWCOMER STUDEN

Matt Kellar & Judy Bosco; Coliseum Ballroom

TOP BRONZE STUDENT

Phil Schloss; Coliseum Ballroom

TOP SILVER STUDENT

Ember Reichgott-Junge; Coliseum Ballroom

TOP ADVANCED STUDENT (TIE)

Svetlana Kudimova/Bea Beddor; FADS-Bloomington

TOP OVERALL FEMALE

Marcella Groh; Coliseum Ballroom

TOP OVERALL MALE

Phill Schloss; Coliseum Ballroom

TOP AMATEUR COUPLE

Matt Kellar & Judy Bosco; Coliseum Ballroom

TOP TEACHERS

IST: Suzana Madson; Milwaukee
2ND: Paul Botes; Coliseum Ballroom
3RD: Jay Larson; FADS-Bloomington

TOP STUDIO

Fred Astaire's Bloomington

SCHOLARSHIP RESULTS:

(Sponsored by FADS-Bloomington)

AMATEUR SMOOTH

IST: Bobby Tarnowski & Monica Mohn
2ND: Gary & Carol Stroick
3RD: Bill & Bea Beddor

PRO/AM RHYTHM

IST: Jeannie LaFavor & Dan Rutherford
2ND: Sue Lakso & Shinya McHenry
3RD: Bob lafelice & Suzana Madson

PROFESSTONAL RESULTS:

RISING STAR STANDARD

IST: Paul & Sandra Botes
2ND: Shinya & Marcy McHenry
3RD: David Aanestad & Tracy Heinze

OPEN STANDARD (Same results as above)

OPEN AMERICAN SMOOTH

IST: Paul & Sandra Botes
2ND: Rainier Rics & Julie Jacobson

OPEN AMERICAN RHYTHM

1ST: Robert & Jennifer Foster
2ND: Rainier Rics & Julie Jacobson
3RD: Brian Sostek & Meghan Guernsey

The highlights of the competition included special exhibitions and recognition of most of the United States Ballroom Champions Pro-Am and Amateur that reside right here in the Twin Cities. Also, was the always entertaining midwest professional show that included numbers from **Robert & Jennifer Foster, Rainier Rics & Julie Jacobson, Shinya & Marcy McHenry, Paul & Sandra Botes, Scott & Amy Anderson, and Jay Larson** dancing with former Latin Champion, **Wendy Johnson**. A fun time was had by all with everyone looking forward to the **Twin Cities Open** to be held February 2-4, 1996! See you there!!

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The Dancers Studio Holiday Showcase and DANCE!

Professional Dance Show
Amateur Showcases
General Dancing
Hors d'oeuvres

Sunday, December 17
Noon-5 pm

Paid Advertisement

Macalester Grand Ballroom
(Corner of Grand & Snelling)

Tickets: \$15 advance
\$17 door

For more information call The Dancers Studio at 641-0777

Dance Demonstrations

BRIDGES FOR OUR FUTURE

By David Schmit
College and Youth Coordinator.

"Bridges For Our Future" was this year's theme for **MAHPERD's** annual convention held at the Thunderbird Hotel in Bloomington. **MAHPERD** stands for **Minnesota Association For Health Physical Education Recreation And Dance**. The convention included the usual conferences, exhibitions and awards until Friday evening October 27th.

USABDA had the honor and privilege to introduce "DANCESPORT," a new college and youth program at the MAHPERD convention. "DANCESPORT" is a Ballroom dance exhibition program established to provide students in elementary, secondary schools, and colleges, the opportunity to see social and competitive level dancing at its finest.

Our Friday evening exhibition included a variety of performances including a debut performance of Beauty and the Beast by **Carol and Gary Stroick**, a competition Bolero and Swing performance by **Theresa Kimler & Nels Petersen**, and a variety of impromptu smooth and rhythm dances by **Monica Mohn & Bobbie Tarnowski**, **Michelle Vandesteeg & Jeff Chinn**, **Lisa Hamilton & John Woodcock**, **Iva Matusinska & Scott Koefed**, **Janie Sorheim & Andy Nordberg**, and **Karen Kettler & Doug Lusher**. You guys were great!

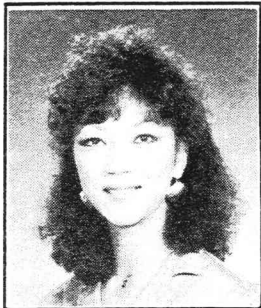
Thanks so much to MAHPERD for their \$50.00 donation and a very special thank you to **Meryl Gisselquist** for her invitation and all of the dancers for a show well done.

For those USABDA members that would like to become involved in our dance exhibition program please contact Yvonne Riske at 525-8933.

Upcoming Dance Demonstrations

Fri. 12/8 8-9pm, a company Christmas Party,
Radisson South Hotel, Bloomington.

Wed. 12/27 7-8pm, Pre-New Year's Eve Party,
Knollwood Place Retirement Home



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DANCE NOTES

Remember a few months ago (September issue) when there was a blurb in the newsletter about auditions for the **Continental Ballet Company's** production of **The Nutcracker**? Well, one of our members tried out, and got in! **Doug Lusher** is now twinkling his toes to a whole new beat, and quite literally sweeping those ballerinas off their feet. The show will be performed at various venues around town this month, including O'Shaughnessy Auditorium and community theaters. If you're interested in tickets, ask Doug or call the Continental Ballet Company at 881-7378.

The **Fred Astaire National Dance Championships** were held at the Atlantis Resort- Paradise Island, Bahamas, October 17-22. Representing Minnesota and taking top honors were **Bill & Bea Beddor** who are the **Fred Astaire Amateur Smooth Champions**; and **Scott & Amy Anderson** who were crowned **Fred Astaire National Pro American Smooth Champions**! This is the first time Fred Astaire National Champions have come from Minnesota-- Congratulations!

Do take note of the many opportunities for dancing fun around Christmas and on New Year's Eve.

An avid reader of thrillers, I came across a great book that I think dancers might enjoy. **Mary Higgins Clark** has a novel called, **Loves Music, Loves to Dance**. It's not about ballroom dancers, just social dancers, but I got a thrill out of it just the same. You'll be surprised at the villain!

How do you like our new artwork? Bruce now has a scanner to scan most anything-- articles, clip art, drawings, logos, whatever. Are the '90's great or what?!

The Editor

SWAPLINES

Brand new men's International dance shoes, Sz 8 1/2, black lycra, latin heel, worn only 2 hours, \$50. Scott, 927-8049.

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Skippy Blair - CA
& Others

SWING DANCE FESTIVAL

Paid Advertisement

February 9-10-11, 1996 - Mpls/St. Paul MN

Workshops - Open Dancing

Swing Competition for Jack & Jill, Just Dance - Couples, & PRO-AM

Special Valentine "Red & White" Sat. evening DINNER SHOW & DANCE

Holiday Inn Conference Center - Arden Hills

Event fee \$55 prior to Jan 10 & \$70 after, Dinner Show \$22 until Jan 10, Rooms \$59

Carol & Norm Fritchie, Promoters Phone 612-429-4785

For registration form/schedule/rules, write to: 1637 Peltier Lake Drive, Centerville MN 55038-9773

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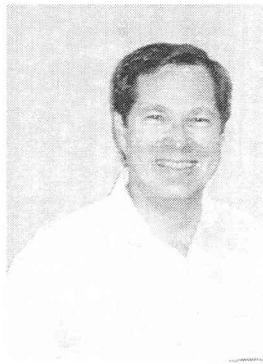
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USABDA PROFILE

FOCUS ON USABDA
MEMBERS

- JIM BAKER -



As many of us can relate, Jim started dancing, "...for something to do in the evenings." Stationed at Fort Carson, CO with the Army, he started taking lessons. Moving here in 1974, lessons continued at the downtown **Fred Astaire** studio, then located on Nicollet Mall. While there, he met **Mary**. The studio closed in 1978, but that didn't end it for them- they married in 1979. Home is Wayzata and they have two children: **David**- 14 and **Karen**- 9. Two cats and a hamster complete the family. Professionally, Jim is a research specialist for 3M with advanced degrees in physics and statistics.

But back to dancing. Jim & Mary competed as an amateur pair twice at **USBC** (United States Ballroom Championships), in the **American Style**. They placed 5th in 1984. (For those of you not aware, International has been broken into two divisions for years- Standard and Latin. American Style until the later 80's was all-encompassing. Amateur American included the waltz, tango and cha cha. Think of the costumes. No flowing dresses or skinny-mini spandex. The costume had to be appropriate for *both* styles. Men often wore jumpsuits!) Jim, through the eyes of experience, says that, *"The average dancers today would have been considered really good. The level of execution has become so much more involved, so much more technical."*

Jim is probably best known among dancers for **Theater Arts**. He met **Jennifer Foster** about 10 years ago when she was a brand new teacher. When Jennifer & Robert lived in Florida briefly, Jim would fly down for training. In 1980 they first competed at USBC representing the **Fred Astaire Ft. Walton Beach** studio. He is now a five time **Theater Arts Men's Champion**. He also competed with **Sandra Botes** in the **USBC Pro-Am American Smooth** in 1992, winning the men's title. On top of that he & Jennifer placed 6th at **USBC's Grand Championships** in 1994. (Again, for those not familiar, the Grand Championships have the winners in all of the Open categories compete against each other. So you'll see one competitor from waltz, swing, rhumba etc., all vying for the Grand title.)

*"The level I want to be at is hard. The competition is getting better so every year I have to get better. But I get frustrated. You hit plateaus where you don't seem to be making progress and you have to get through those... In my own dancing and my own success I owe a lot to three people: my coaches, **Rufus Dustin, Perry Adair**, and probably most importantly, **Jennifer Foster**."*

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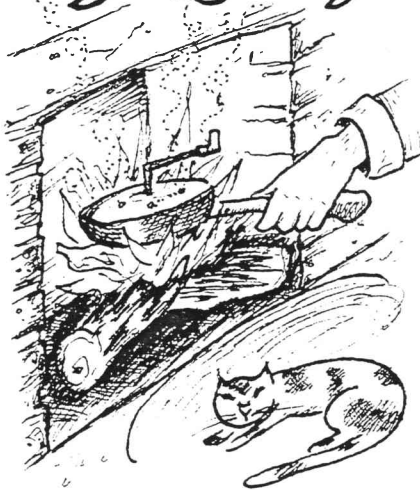
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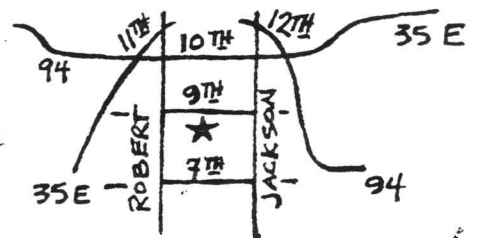
8:30-11:30 \$7⁰⁰

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free beginner GROUP class 8:00-9:00

dancing 9:00-1:00 AM

\$14⁰⁰ in advance \$16⁰⁰ at the door

1:00 AM breakfast!



*outside beverages
permitted.

ENTRIES CLOSE
DECEMBER 23!



**VOLUNTEERS
NEEDED! -
Call 431-0936
to help out!**

TWIN CITIES OPEN

BALLROOM DANCE COMPETITION

February 2-4, 1996

Paid Advertisement

Minneapolis Convention Center-Minneapolis, MN

First Competition of the 1996
DANCERS CUP CIRCUIT!!

Organizer: Amy Anderson (612)431-0936
7536-165th St W; Lakeville, MN 55044



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APPEARING AT TWIN CITIES OPEN FEB. 2-4, 1996

Photograph by Eric Ryan, Minneapolis, MN.

Parody: Not a sponsorship of Universal Pictures "To Wong Foo, Thanks For Everything Julie Newmar"

MINNESOTA

Dancin' Times

USABDA-MN
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612-489-0581

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*Call for group class information

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- ☛ Profile on Jim Baker
- ☛ December Toys For Tots Benefit Dance
- ☛ Lots of New Year's Eve events

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December 10