MINNESOTA

DANCING TIMES



A publication of the Minnesota Chapter 2011 of USA Dance

December 2011



Inside this month's issue...

Minnesota Dancers Rock Chicago, Ohio Star Ball, and the Mall of America!

Join us for the USADance

December Monthly Dance

Saturday, December 17th

7-8 pm Waltz Lesson Instructor: Jeff Nehrbass **8-11 pm Variety Dance**

Music DJ: Andy Trawick

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

Dancers Night Out

- Fri 12/2 Cinema Ballroom: Variety Dance; lesson at 7, dance 8-11; 1560 St. Clair Ave, St. Paul; call 651-699-5910 or visit www.cinemaballroom.com
- Mon 12/5 Four Seasons Dance Studio: Rhythm Junction Monday Night Swing Dance; 8-12; \$5; 1637 Hennepin Ave S, Mpls; call 612-342-0902 or visit www.4seasonsdance.com
- Sat 12/10 Medina Entertainment Center: Synergy, '60s-'80s; 500 Hwy 55, Medina; call 763-478-6661 or visit www.medinaentertainment.com
- Sat 12/10 Aqua Gliders Christmas Dinner & Dance; catered dinner at 7; dance 8:15-11:15, John Kudja Band; 7540 Penn Avenue S, Richfield; call 612-869-3062 for reservations
- Mon 12/12 Four Seasons Dance Studio: Rhythm Junction Monday Night Swing Dance; 8-12; \$5; 1637 Hennepin Ave S, Mpls; call 612-342-0902 or visit www.4seasonsdance.com
- Fri 12/16 Cinema Ballroom: Variety Dance; lesson at 7, dance 8-11; 1560 St. Clair Ave, St. Paul; call 651-699-5910 or visit www. cinemaballroom.com
- Sat 12/17 Medina Entertainment Center: Boogie Wonderland; '70s, '80s, and Disco; dance at 8:30; 500 Hwy 55, Medina; call 763-478-6661 or visit www.medinaentertainment.com
- Sat 12/17 USA Dance Ballroom Dance Party Retro Ballroom St. Louis Park - Variety Dance
- Mon 12/19 Four Seasons Dance Studio: Rhythm Junction Monday Night Swing Dance; 8-12; \$5; 1637 Hennepin Ave S, Mpls; call 612-342-0902 or visit www.4seasonsdance.com
- Fri 12/23 Cinema Ballroom: Salsa Fusion; lesson at 7, dance 8-11; 1560 St. Clair Ave, St. Paul; call 651-699-5910 or visit www.cinemaballroom.com
- Fri 12/23 Medina Entertainment Center: City Lights; lesson at 7, dance at 8; costume contest; \$12; 500 Hwy 55, Medina; call 763-478-6661 or visit www.medinaentertainment.com
- Mon 12/26 Four Seasons Dance Studio: Rhythm Junction Monday Night Swing Dance; 8-12; \$5; 1637 Hennepin Ave S, Mpls; call 612-342-0902 or visit www.4seasonsdance.com
- Sat 1/21 USA Dance Ballroom Dance Party Dance with Us America - Edina - 7-8 p.m. International Rumba Lesson Instructor: Gene Bersten 8-11 p.m. Variety Dance \$7 USA Dance members • \$10 non-members
- Sat 2/18 USA Dance Ballroom Dance Party 7-8 p.m. Tango Lesson Instructor: Shane Meuwissen 8-11 p.m. Variety Dance \$7 USA Dance members \$10 non-members

USA Dance – MN Chapter #2011 Board Minutes

Tuesday, November 8, 2011

Submitted by Leslie Whitney

In attendance: Sue Zeller (President), Cathy Dessert (Vice President), Jane Phipps (Treasurer), Čorissa Ranum, Zhiojing Liu, Mike Jones, Yeun Chou, Julie Elholm

Location: Quixotic Coffee, 769 Cleveland Ave South, St. Paul

Call to Order: Quorum established. Agenda approved. October minutes approved.

ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

Treasurer's Report

Jane distributed a written financial report.

The Chapter's financial status remains constant. USA Dance District 2 Meeting, November 5th, Chicago

Photos from Ohio Star Ball start on page 12!

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Corissa attended this meeting and reported on several issues:

- Conflict of Interest Forms for Board Members
- Approximately 20,000 USA dance members nationwide
- Corissa senses that Chapter #2011 is progressive, well established, and well organized.
- Consideration of a joint dance venture with other clubs and chapters, ex. Rochester, Rebels, MN West Coast Swing, Tango Society of MN.
- Rochester Chapter is considering a Tea Dance for college students.

PROJECTS

November Annual Meeting and Volunteer Ap-

Saturday, November 19th, Cinema Ballroom, 6:00

Sue will speak about the importance and appreciation of our volunteers in carrying out our mission.

She will highlight the events of this past year.

The chapter continues to need volunteers as we pursue new venues to promote dance in our com-

A motion was made, seconded, and approved to allot money for food for this event.

Marketing Communications

Mike has connections to the Winter Carnival Royalty and will work with Jessica to determine whether their appearance would be a fit for

Mike will contact the City of Mpls. to see if there is an opportunity to promote both the city and dance on the city's website.

The board wants to organize a Marketing Communication Committee. Volunteers?

Practice Dance Event

As a chapter, are there ways we can promote improving the quality of dance?

Continue this discussion next month.

SOTN 2012

Jessica distributed a planning overview. Thank you, Jessica and volunteers, for your hard work.

There is an opportunity to sponsor an individual event at SOTN. A donation of \$20.00 or more toward the scholarship fund will be greatly appreciated. Please contact Jessica if interested. www.sotncomp.com

The board made a motion, seconded, and approved funds to match an anonymous donor's scholarship fund donation for team matches.

Youth Fundraising

Yeun presented a draft of a letter seeking donations to promote youth dancing.

We will place this on next's month agenda.

Next Meeting:

6:00 p.m.

Tuesday, December 6th

Quixotic Coffee

769 Cleveland Ave South, St. Paul

USA Dance: Who Are We?

We are a non-profit organization formed to preserve and promote ballroom dancing, both as an art and a healthful sport. The Minnesota chapter, USA Dance MN, was formed in 1991.

Membership in USA Dance is open to dancers of all levels. There are several categories to choose from: Social, Competitor, Junior (17 and under), Collegiate, and Associate (professional/instructor).

USA Dance MN sponsors monthly dances and other special dance events. Members are entitled to discounts on admission to the monthly dances, as well as access to a great network for meeting other dancers.

As a member, you'll have fun dancing and meeting many new friends. For more information, call the USA Dance MN HOTLINE: 651-

The Minnesota Dancing Times is published monthly by the members of the Minnesota Chapter of USA Dance, providing information and news of ballroom dancing to members and friends.

Editor: Anne LaTourelle (612) 280-7818 Associate Editor: Mary Beth Beckman Design/Layout: Nic Westlake (612) 412-1112 Copy Editor: Mike Youngdahl (763) 441-0646 Marketing / Ads: Suzi Blumberg (612) 869-4416 Mailing: Committee member

Contributors: Suzi Blumberg, Paul Botes, Bonnie Burton, Donna Edelstein, Lorie Hurst, Anne LaTourelle, Sue LaVigne, Lester Martin, Greg Moore, Susan Prasch, Yuko Taniguchi , Yvonne Viehman, Peter Westlake, Sue Zeller.

Contributions: Articles submitted may be edited for length, clarity and content. Photos will be returned. Please provide a self-addressed, stamped envelope or send high quality jpgs to Anne LaTourelle.

Subscriptions: \$22/year. Make checks payable to USA Dance MN and send to Anne LaTourelle, 6130 Ives Lane, Plymouth, MN 55442.

Advertising

Qtr. page

DISPLAY ADS: To advertise your event or professional service, submit a digital file (300 dpi pdf or jpeg format ONLY) or camera-ready artwork to Suzi Blumberg (email: suzi.b@usfamily.net phone: 612-869-4416) along with payment to **USA Dance MN** Advertising for charge cards, insurance, or travel cannot be accepted. Ads can be typeset or designed for a small fee, contact Janie. Payment to accompany ad.

Full page 7.5" wide x 10" high \$130 Half page 7.5" wide x 4.75" high \$80

OR 3.5" wide x 9.5" high 3.5" wide x 4.75" high \$60 Business Card 3 consecutive months \$50

SWAPLINE ADS: Free 3-line ad in Swaplines available to subscribers (dance merchandise only). Send to: $\underline{annelatourelle@comcast.net}$

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www.usadance-mn.org December 2011 / MDT

From the Editor

by Anne LaTourelle



In last month's issue, I recounted my start with the newsletter and how a team of people rally together to produce the issue you read each month, how adding regular writers and themes helped pull issues together.

Some of my favorite memories of the newsletters come from the early years where just about every month I would head over to Janie's house (usually around 9 or 10 on a weeknight; yikes!), and we would pound through the finishing touches: photos, captions, cover design ideas, etc.

Janie is a perfectionist, and she never put less than 100% into an issue. Thank you, Janie, for all your hard work, and thanks to Eileen Arcilla and more recently Nic Westlake for splitting layout duties with Janie. You both brought some of yourself to the newsletter while maintaining the overall look to keep the experience for our readers consistent. Not an easy feat!

I would like to also single out Nels Petersen and Theresa Kimler for their devotion to the newsletter, hosting newsletter meeting and driving readership with their visions. We really made major leaps and bounds under their involvement, and the newsletter is the magazine it is today thanks in large part to those two.

Theresa, thank you, in particular, for your project management skills freeing

me up to focus on the big picture: the themes, the articles, and the writers.

To my husband, Tom, thanks for your support and understanding as each month the process of the newsletter repeated itself.

The newsletter would have been pretty blank and boring without all the studios and individuals responding to my pleas for ads, materials, and photos month after month. Without a staff of writers, the newsletter relied on the community to fill the pages. Month after month, year after year, this group that I reached out to responded. Thank you for making the newsletter a priority.

In closing, I want to encourage all of you to find any way you can to raise your hand, step forward, and give of your time and talents to something you love. While I did not start out with a 10-year commitment in mind, I have cherished bringing the newsletter to life each month and loved pulling it out of my mailbox and envisioning the rest of the readers doing the same. Volunteer! You'll get back much more than you put into it. Newsletter team, you ROCK, and I wish continued success and best wishes to the next editor!

See you all out on the dance floor.

Your Editor, Anne LaTourelle ■

Demo News

Upcoming Performance Opportunities

Sunday, 12/04: Southdale Mall by Macy's on 1st floor –

1 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. and 2 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Sunday, 12/11: Rosedale Mall (location to be determined) –

1 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. and 2 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

The President's Corner

Counting Blessings



blessing to those of us who love to dance is the right dance professional(s) to work with. We have a wealth of dance talent that can instruct us to bring out the best dancer or dancesport champion we can be. It seems that many of these individuals not only have the talent to help us, but also the right touch of encouragement, the pressure to get to the next level, and a sense of humor. We know we

can count on our professionals for choreography as well as coaching in styling and expression that will set us apart.

As leaders in the dance community, it is our responsibility to provide new dancers with excellent dance instruction and ample opportunities to dance. Simply put, our mission is to improve the quality and quantity of dance in Minnesota. Recently Zhuojing Liu, who is a board member and monthly dance manager, said, "We seem to be doing well on the quantity of dance. We need to do more on improving the quality of dance." Improving the quality of dance will be a stronger focus in 2012.

The biggest blessing to USA Dance MN is the volunteers that keep us informed, dancing, competing, entertaining, and passing it on to others. Thank you to all of the many USA Dance MN volunteers! As volunteers, you help us keep on dancing and help others join in the fun. Fundraiser volunteers, newsletter volunteers, dance demo volunteers, monthly dance volunteers, Star of the North amateur dance competition volunteers, dance floor volunteers, USA Dance MN financial supporters, Board of Director volunteers, etc. are the blessings USA Dance MN is counting.

One of the remarkable volunteers to our Dancing Times newsletter is Anne LaTourelle. Anne has given countless hours for over 10 years to make sure the newsletter representing USA Dance MN is outstanding in every way. Anne not only volunteered, but did it in a way that other volunteers and dance professionals, wanted to contribute too. Anne has already said she will not stop her volunteering; however, she is giving over her editor position to another volunteer who has come forward. Thank you, Anne, for

your outstanding contribution to our newsletter and USA Dance MN for such a long time.

We have several dance demo volunteers who gave an outstanding performance at the Mall of America this year. Our dance demo volunteers enroll others into dancesport, entertain, fundraise, and bring in donations to USA Dance MN, so that we can continue our mission. We are blessed with outstanding talent in this group of volunteer dancers. Thanks to Yvonne Viehman who chairs the dance demo committee and emcees dance performances along with her husband, Dan. One couple returning to dancing is the Knickerbockers. Coming back from a fight with stage 3 breast cancer, Bridget Knickerbocker and her husband, Jeff, are back with all their joy and dance talent to share with others

Whether the year has been a balance of challenges and triumphs or more challenges or more triumphs, we can always find something to count as a blessing. I've spoken with many of you at dance events, catching up on the goings-on in your lives. Through the ups and downs, you always want to dance. Dance is a real blessing.

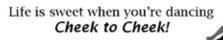
Happy holidays and happy dancing!

Sue Zeller ■

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Ed and Bonnie

Michael and Corissa

Greg and Susan

Peter and Sehyun

Minnesota Couples Head to Chicago DanceSport Challenge

By Bonnie Burton, Lorie Hurst, Anne LaTourelle, Susan Prasch, Nic Westlake, and Peter Westlake

Bonnie Burton & Ed Soltis

The Chicago DanceSport Challenge was our first amateur/amateur competition. We had no idea what to expect, as when we have danced as an amateur couple at pro/am events, there was often very little competition. How surprising, and a little intimidating, as well, to find as many as two dozen couples in our heats at this event! Lots of very talented competition!

Our goals were simple: 1) Participate fully and learn about am/am comps as much as possible; 2) Have fun; and 3) Although we had no idea how we would rank compared to other amateur couples, we really did not want to place dead last in our heats!

We learned that unlike pro/am competitions, where students are taken care of and looked after by their pro, an amateur couple must be more self-reliant at an am/am competition. The having fun part was easy; of course we love to dance, and we were so impressed by the quality of talent in general and especially the placement of our fellow Minnesota dancers. It was fun to see them all dance

beautifully, often winning 1st place! Our third goal was met in that we did not place last at all in any dance. We performed better in the Silver Smooth heats than in the International Standard category. It's true we could offer reasons for mostly scoring in the middle of the pack, such as being distracted by our pending wedding, which was just days later. Instead, we will take the experience and the video to our coach to learn how to dance better. We hope to participate in many more such competitions in the future.

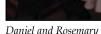
CJ & Lorie Hurst

My husband CJ and I attended the Chicago DanceSport Challenge this past weekend, our second time at this competition. Remembering it from before as a well run and enjoyable comp, we were not disappointed. It was organized, ran smoothly and punctually, and had the added benefit of being in a beautiful and unique-looking hotel. We had previously been disappointed at Nationals when we discovered that the check-in and registration process was terribly unorganized and needlessly time-consuming. Since then, we have found a healthy respect and appreciation for the attention to detail that it takes to give dancers a













CI and Lorie

good impression from the very first minute. Chicago gets big points in that area from us! Many things go into making a competition successful and enjoyable, and I give credit to Chicago for their ballroom, their music, their announcer, their awards presentations, and their heat sizes. From a dancer's perspective, they put on an impressive event.

We didn't dance as well as we could have, but since life had given us other big things to deal with that took our time and attention away from dance practice, we weren't surprised at this outcome. We told ourselves to just go out there and have fun, and we truly did. As competitions always are, this was a learning experience. We discovered we need to work on floor craft (something that isn't readily apparent when taking lessons on a large dance floor that is always empty) and lead and follow when the routine breaks down. But there were those moments when everything came together and we felt like we were the perfect expression of our art.

We found ourselves very proud to be part of the Minnesota contingent. We didn't realize there would be so many dancers from home there, and we felt a team spirit that we truly enjoyed. It was fun to see our friends win medal after medal, and we let our pride show. At one point, we were standing on the floor receiving awards, and it got down to the top three—all Minnesota couples. It was a great feeling! Competitions give dancers a venue where they can shine to the best of their ability, get out there in all their gowned and suited glory, and make that music come alive. No matter how we place, we will always love competitions for that. Chicago, we'll be back next year!

Anne & Tom LaTourelle

Tom and I had a good time attending this qualifying regional. We did a quick fly-in on Friday, danced Friday night, and flew home early Saturday. We landed just after 10 a.m., which allowed us to have most of our weekend at home and helped us justify our third regional since June. The event was heavily attended, and we even had a semifinal in our Senior II Championship. American Smooth Senior II Pre-Champ and Smooth Senior I Championship had seven and six couples respectively.

What was different about this event was that we felt a little disconnected from the event. There wasn't a "host" per se like at Baton Rouge and North Carolina where Ann Durocher and Wayne and Marie Crowder greet everyone and make you feel like family. The event ran smoothly but had some things that we had not experienced before. For example, couples were not announced by first and last names, just "Tom and Anne." There was also no indication of where the couples were from, as in: "From Minnesota,

www.usadance-mn.org December 2011 / MDT Tom and Anne LaTourelle." I appreciate hearing the last names, because sometimes I recognize a name from years before and remember some couple to say hello to. They also did not announce the couples during the championship rounds, and I found myself missing the opportunity to have a quick breather and acknowledge the crowd. Still, there were Minnesota couples to cheer for, and any day on the dance floor with my fabulous husband is a good day!

Our results:

- Senior II Championship Smooth 4th place
- Senior II Pre-Champ Smooth 3rd place
- Senior I Championship Smooth 3rd place

Greg & Susan Prasch

Greg and I attended the Chicago DanceSport Challenge November 4-6, 2011. This comp was held at the Hyatt in Rosemont, IL. We like how well organized this comp is: registration is fast and easy, the heats run on time, and the scoring is computerized so you get your results immediately. We also had plenty of time to change costumes between heats when we needed a costume change.

We began dancing Friday night with the Senior I and II Championship Nine Dance. This was our first attempt at Nine Dance and one of the few times we have danced at night. It was a long but enjoyable comp for us; we started with heat 14 and ended the comp with the second to last heat, 139 in Rhythm.

We have attended this comp for the past four years, and it is always fun to see many of the same couples and every-one's improvement from year to year. There were many couples there from Minnesota in a variety of age groups from Youth to Senior II. Minnesota was well represented. In fact, in Adult Silver Standard, Minnesota took 1st, 2nd, and 3rd places. Our heats ranged from 7 couples in Rhythm to 24 in Standard. It was a great weekend for us, as we qualified for Nationals in all of our events.

1st Place

Senior II Championship Nine Dance

- Senior II Silver Standard
- Senior I Silver Standard
- Senior I Gold Standard
- Senior I Open Syllabus International Viennese Waltz
- Senior II Open Syllabus International Viennese Waltz

2nd Place

- Senior II Gold Standard
- Senior II Silver Rhythm
- Senior II Gold Rhythm

3rd Place

- Senior I Silver Smooth
- Senior II Silver Smooth
- Senior I Gold Smooth
- Senior II Gold Smooth
- Senior I Gold Rhythm

4th Place

- Senior I Champion Nine Dance
- Senior I Silver Rhythm

Jessica Madson & Nic Westlake

We were proud to see Minnesota couples earn the top three places in Adult Silver Standard. Jessica and I did our part in representing Minnesota, placing first in Adult Amateur Standard Silver and Gold. We're gearing up for our first competition in Novice at the Northwest DanceSport Championships in January.

Sehyun Oh & Pete Westlake

Sehyun and I were among the many couples showing off Minnesota talent at the Chicago DanceSport Challenge this year. We took a strong 1st place in both the Novice and Pre-Champ Adult Standard divisions. Wish us luck as we continue on to the Manhattan Amateur Classic this January.





Holiday Hits at the Mall

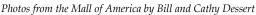
by Yvonne Viehman

USA Dance hosted a night of great dancing on Tuesday, November 1, 2011, as many performers took to the Best Buy Rotunda at the Mall of America. With sprinklings of holiday tunes, many mall patrons gathered on all four levels to take in the beautiful gowns and stunning tuxedos that adorned many of the dancers. We opened the show with the Twin Cities Ballroom Performance Team, who did a playful foxtrot. The team members included Bernie and Scott Osborn, Ellen and Don Ardery, Karen and Lance Boole, and Lori and Jeff Goldstein.

The floor then became a flurry of fun as many couples danced American Smooth routines. These couples included: Theresa Kimler and Nels Petersen, Linda and Tom Crable, Leslie and Lee Whitney, Jackie Dalton and Kent Tarbutton and David Schmit, Christine Garvlaus and Myron Lowe, Elizabeth Aslakson and Jeff Chinn, Julie Elholm and Mike

Cowles Center in downtown Minneapolis. The dancers who performed a waltz included: Elizabeth Aslakson, Jay Cai, Jeff Chinn, Nicole Greibrok, Frank Kohlasch, Tom Nyberg, Kim Perry, and Larisa Smith. The Minnesota PerformDance Starettes also rocked the house with a fantastic jazz/kick number. Their group included the following dancers: Nika Antuanette, Amanda Ballensky, Jamie Jewison, Heather Conover, Melissa Eichelberger, Jessi Fett, Ashley Klatte, Heather Lundgren, Sherita Moseley, Rachelle Neuberger, Kari Strauman, and Kelli Wynia. Andy and Janie Nordberg finished out the trio with a gorgeous bolero. Who knew there was so much talent in the Twin Cities?

The group numbers didn't stop there, however. To bring in even more holiday cheer, the Sleigh Belle Dancers delighted the crowds with their jazz/kick routine. Dancers included: Lori Goldstein, Barbie Albers, Marie Reilly, Kirsten Hase, Melonie Robran, Michelle Skrypec, Gretchen Vandputte, Britty Goldstein, Brooke Goldstein, Yvonne Viehman, Christy Otte, Laureen Darling, Jan England, and Melissa McCabe.









Jones, Corissa Ranum and Michael Kasinkas, Matt Crawford and Allaina, Missy Badden and Russell Alliev, and Janie and Andy Nordberg.

Over 200 people cheered and watched as the show continued with polka and old-time waltz dancing by Karen and Tom Wiblishauser, Sharon and Ron Meyer, and Mary and Ted Ringberg. Argentine Tango was also featured and included dancers from the MN Tango Society such as Sandra Uri and Donald Rowe, Jackie Dalton and Gibson Batch, and Katerina Karter and Dan Larson. Some who had performed American Smooth also engaged the audience with the five Standard dances. Those folks were joined by Seyhun Oh and Peter Westlake, as well as Jessica Madson and Nic Westlake. We spiced up the show with a few rhythm numbers and dancers such as Laura Bohne and Jeff Chinn. Bridget and Jeff Knickerbocker and with others named above were lucky enough to get on KARE 11's "Before We Go" segment of that night's news broadcast.

We were thrilled to have dancers from Minnesota PerformDance join us, thanks to Frank and Lynn Kohlasch. They did a three-song debut of their "All Wrapped Up" holiday show, slated for opening on December 2-3 at the Thanks to all of these dancers for sharing their joy of dancing with so many. There are other folks who helped out in a big way who deserve many kudos, and they include: Andy Trawick, our music technician, and Sue Zeller and David Schmit, our on-deck captains. Special thanks to my fabulous husband, Dan Viehman, for his golden voice as he emceed the event. We'd like to also thank Tina Wu, our Mall of America Event Coordinator, for all her help with the setup and support, Anthony for his sound tech assistance, as well as Sarah Schmidt, our Mall of America Media Advisor, for her efforts to promote our event. Great times were had by all!

More dance demos are scheduled below, so join us in spreading some holiday cheer on:

Sunday, December 4 – Southdale Mall (shows at 1:00-1:30 p.m. and 2:00-2:30 p.m.)

Sunday, December 11 – Rosedale Mall (shows at 1:00-1:30 p.m. and 2:00-2:30 p.m.)

Please contact Yvonne Viehman at 763.553.1202 or danyman@aol.com to volunteer!

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That's What Friends Are For

by Yuko Taniguchi with Jeremy Anderson

ttending the Chicago Dancesport Challenge was full of excitement, surprises, and, most of all, good times. We left on Thursday evening from Rochester and drove six hours to the hotel; we like to arrive at the venue a day early so that we can relax and prepare for the competition without rushing. While unpacking, Jeremy suddenly looked up with panic and guietly asked, "Where are my costumes?" I looked around. Not there. In fact, his garment bags, which contained all of his Rhythm, Smooth, and Standard costumes, were hanging inside our closet at our home in Rochester. Jeremy had packed everything the night before, hung his garment bag inside the closet door, and, unfortunately, closed the door. We simply did not see the bag and forgot about it. Jeremy's face turned pale for a moment, but he quickly snapped out of his panic and explored his options. Should he start driving back to Rochester now so that he could return to Chicago by the next morning? Possibly, but this option was exhausting. He turned to his best resource: Facebook. He contacted several dancers in Minnesota who planned to attend this competition.

We found out that Tom and Anne LaTourelle were traveling on Friday morning and were willing to bring the costumes for Jeremy if the garment bag could be delivered to them from Rochester. Who loves Jeremy enough to be willing to go into our house, get his costumes, drive an hour and half from Rochester to the Minneapolis airport to meet Tom and Anne, and drive an hour and a half again to return

to Rochester? Jeremy's beloved father, Paul Anderson. Receiving an emergency costume call from his son in the middle of night, Paul accepted this task with much kindness. Moreover, Paul precisely reported the progress of costume delivery: "Right now, I am standing by Door 4 at the airport with your costume. Tom and Anne are on their way to the airport." Meanwhile, this dramatic costume dilemma had been broadcast on Facebook, and the story had been shared among the competitors in Chicago. Around 3 p.m., Tom and Anne arrived with a shiny black garment bag. Jeremy was finally reunited with his costumes. As Jeremy profusely thanked Tom and Anne, Anne simply said, "That's what friends are for."

During the entire competition, Anne's statement reminded us to focus on what was important. Dancing in front of judges can be stressful, and the results can be discouraging at times, but much support, advice, and encouragement was shared among our dancer friends from Minnesota. We cheered for Anne and Tom, who clearly demonstrated their togetherness with such ease. We loved cheering for Gregory and Susan Prasch, who participated in Championship Nine Dance for the first time, and we fell in love with their beautiful Standard. We watched Peter Westlake and Sehyun Oh sharing their smart, strong, and simply beautiful dancing. We were amazed by CJ and Lorie Hurst, who participated in many dances, and we also encouraged each other when we were on the dance floor together. As Nic Westlake and Jessica Madson passed by us during Adult Silver Standard, I almost forgot my own dancing, watching their beautiful lines and powerful mobility. We also had great conversations with everyone. Our friends reminded us that dancing is a tool to explore what our bodies can do and how we physically express our spirit.







Photos from USA Dance Collegiate Championships by Theresa Kimler and Corissa Ranum

My First Experience at Ohio Star Ball ... Whoosh!

By Cathy Dessert

Let me first say, I believe there is no competition like Ohio Star Ball. I have limited experience, but Sam Sodano is a master. I attended the event with some really lovely ladies from Cinema Ballroom and our dance master, Eric Hudson. Also there from Minnesota was a contingency led by Scott Anderson and the amazing kids of the University of Minnesota Ballroom Team.

I will share my impressions with you in the three areas where I spent the most time: competing, watching others dance, and shopping.

My first event was American Smooth in the gorgeous Regency Ballroom. My heats were gigantic; in some cases, I had to dance to qualify for quarter-finals. This was definitely a situation in which I have never been and where, whatever the outcome—because of the number of competitors and high quality of dancing—I definitely felt I'd earned my final placement when all was done and danced. My best finish was a third in waltz. I was happy. Standard was a bit tougher; semi-finals was all I could muster. Still not too shabby, I felt. I didn't know what I was in for until I got there. Ironically, when signing up, I said to Eric that I didn't want to dance too much! I was in some of the largest heats there ... Karma?

Watching everyone dance was exciting and fun. It was great to cheer everyone on, especially when some did

so well. Minnesota has some great dancers! The evening shows were splendid, too. Seeing all the big-name pros dance right in front of me—sweat, feathers, fringe, and sequins swishing by in a blur of color and energy ... so exciting! Additionally, we got to watch Eric and Shannon Rohne open the show with an honor dance for winning Best Bronze Solo on Friday night. Did I say Minnesota is the best? Thanks, Cinema, for those amazing front-row seats.

Okay, I love shopping. I really could have done more, but ran out of time and energy. There were more dance-related vendors than you could shake a stick at, and they had absolutely *everything!* There was an entire floor devoted to just shopping! All the dress-sellers were there—all of them, including ones I have never even heard of. They had shoes—even Capezio, which you couldn't get for a while, padded inside and still flexible. There was jewelry, makeup, hairspray, eyelashes, practice-wear, videos, consignment, and things I'm sure I never got to look at. And with each purchase came a raffle entry. Winner?

Lastly, the hotel is quite good and connected to the event—get dressed in your room and go. I also used the hair and makeup folks onsite. Really good. Had a massage, too. Excellent. Really good party after the event. They served breakfast. The organizers thought of every detail. A fine event, huge, a must-do at least once. Really. Even if you don't dance, go watch. All of it reminds me a little of being in Las Vegas. Unsure if it's day or night and not knowing what's going on in the world outside, it's just what you're doing, right now. Live, eat, sleep, dance. In my humble opinion.



Photos from Ohio Star Ball by Scott Anderson and Cathy Dessert









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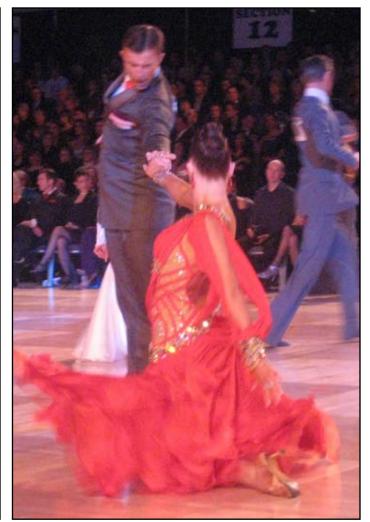
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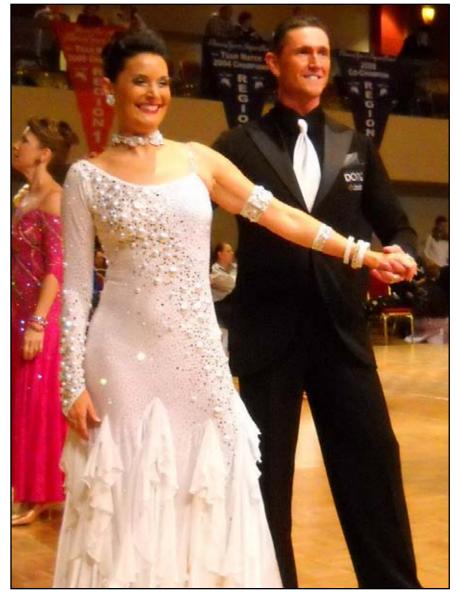






Photos from Ohio Star Ball by Scott Anderson and Cathy Dessert







Bridget Knickerbocker Fundraiser

By Anne LaTourelle

riends, family, and the dance community came out on the magical date of 11-11-11 to attend a fundraiser for Bridget Knickerbocker and her family. Bridget celebrated completing a year of battling stage 3 breast cancer. The event included a huge silent auction with donated items filling up three 8-foot tables, providing guests with a wide variety of items to bid on, including homemade desserts made by Karen Tepley and dance lessons from some of the biggest pros in town. Surprisingly, BBQ beef and pulled pork were some of the hottest items.

The guests watched Jeff and Bridget dance a cha cha, rumba, and swing, and Bridget gave a moving speech thanking everyone who helped her through the difficult year. Guests also watched wonderful performances from some of the top amateur and professional dancers in town, including Gordon and Kate Bratt, Peter Westlake and Sehyun Oh, Eliecer Ramirez-Vargas and Rebecca Dahlquist, and Nels Petersen and Theresa Kimler. The event raised over \$3,800 for the family.

If anyone would still like to donate, please contact Anne LaTourelle: annelatourelle@comcast.net. ■





Ghouls Just Wanna Have Fun

by Sue LaVigne

hat happens when you combine black cats, a belly dancer, bats, spider woman, a medieval lady, and a diamond thief with a clown, a sheik, Zorro, a hunter, a police officer, and a soldier? You have a lot of fun. That's exactly what happened at the Halloween Dance Party at Cheek to Cheek Dance Studio on Friday, October 28th. We finished up our east coast swing lessons and had a spooktacular dance party. Everybody was in the Halloween spirit dancing to tunes like Monster Mash and Ghostbuster. Scotty even beamed down a couple from the Enterprise to join in the fun.



Dance Soup

Dancing has led to love off the dance floor for another Minnesota couple. Congratulations to Bonnie Burton and Ed Soltis, who were married on the memorable date of 11-11-11. They met when paired together as an amateur practice couple, and now they are dance partners for life!

Beyond Ballroom

By Suzi Blumberg

Beyond Ballroom Dance Company (BBDC), a Twin Cities nonprofit ballroom dance theater company, held their annual fundraiser at Retro Ballroom on Friday, November 4. The purpose of the fun gala was to raise money for their show set for February 3–5, 2012, at the exciting new Cowles Theater.

The guests who attended were treated to wonderful appetizers from Francesca Catering, and the silent auction was full of dance experiences and interesting gifts. Before the night ended, Scott Anderson taught everyone steps to the Slue Foot—women on one side, men on the other. What a blast!

Best of all, BBDC performers put on a wonderful show. Scott Anderson, Jay Larson, Charlie Hardcastle, Julie Jacobson, Deanne Michael, Christine Hallberg, and Cindy Nehrbass performed several excerpts from *Change of Hue*,

which debuted at the Ritz Theater last season and will be expanded this year.

They also presented a new work, *Night and Day*, which uses vintage film footage to highlight the glory days of ballroom dance when Fred and Ginger swept across the stage. Of course, BBDC has added their unique twists and contemporary choreography. *Night and Day* has received partial funding in the form of a grant from the Metropolitan Regional Arts Council.

BBDC is committed to presenting ballroom dance as concert dance rather than a competitive sport. This season boasts the company's largest cast yet, including newly-added local dance stars Nathan Daniels, Eric and Michelle Hudson, and Jeff Nehrbass.

If you haven't experienced a production of Beyond Ballroom Dance Company, mark your calendar for February 3-5, 2012. You will enjoy the presentation immensely! Tickets are on sale now at the cowlescenter.org.



Beauty in Partnership

A Memoir of Ballroom Dancing by John S. "Jack" Munday

Review by Paul Botes

I was delighted to be asked to write a review for Jack's book. However, I was also filled with some trepidation, not knowing whether I would like it or not. Writing a positive review about a book I felt lukewarm about did not seem like a lot of fun. So it was with some misgivings that I started to read.

What a pleasant surprise! I read it from cover to cover in one sitting. Jack has a conversational style of writing that makes you connect to him and to what he is relating. I found it an easy read, and I enjoyed his progress in the world of ballroom dancing. As a teacher myself, I appreciate the difficulties of learning and the frustrations new students are facing. He shows that with perseverance and a dedicated teacher, anything is possible.

I found his observations insightful, and I think the book is a must-read for amateurs and professionals alike. Andy Rooney, who sadly just passed away, was famous for saying that if dogs could talk, it would take a lot of the fun out of owning one. Well, as teachers, we seldom know what students really think about us or our teaching methods. Jack, in his book, demonstrates the value of a good teacher and is quick to attribute his success and that of his wife, Fran, to their teachers.

It is with pleasure that I recommend this book to all. ■

www.usadance-mn.org December 2011 / MDT 17

Danceland

Chapter Twelve

By Lester Martin

fter three weeks of classes and three extra practice sessions with Jessica, I was beginning to feel like I had some control of the Foxtrot routine. At least I could get us all the way around the floor without crashing.

At the end of the fourth class, Brian spoke to us about costuming. Our music was Tony Bennett's big hit "The Best Is Yet to Come," so Brian suggested clothing from the mid-20th century. Dresses with full skirts for the ladies and black trousers with white dress shirts for the men were minimum requirements. The gents could wear either neckties or bow ties. No hats.

Scorpion and Capezio exchanged knowing smiles. They probably had a couple of spectacular outfits all set to go.

Brian also said a few words to the guys about grooming. "The wet look was still big back then, so your hair should be gelled and combed flat. Part it on the side. Shave just before you come to the studio, and don't forget the backs of your necks."

After class I approached Jessica. "Will your husband be at the party?"

She chuckled and shook her head. "David has climbed mountains, rafted down the Colorado, and bicycled from Canada to Mexico. But dancing? Well, I think it scares him."

"I think it scares most men."

"We've been to a few dances at the local ballrooms, and we always leave early because he's so nervous."

"But he's okay with you coming to classes on your own?"

Competition Calendar

Ian 13-14, 2012

The Snow Ball

Hosted by Donna Edelstein at Minneapolis DoubleTree Park Place. www.thesnowballcomp.com

Feb 25-26, 2012

Star of the North

Hosted by USA Dance MN at Marriott Minneapolis West, St. Louis Park. www.starofthenorthcomp.com

May 19, 2012

Minnesota Star Ball Dance Competition

www.MNstarball.com

She smiled and tilted her head. "Why wouldn't he be okay with it?"

Some questions are better left unanswered. This was one of them. So I just shrugged and smiled.

"Oh, that reminds me," she said. "David has bow ties. Hundreds of them. Would you like to borrow one?"

"Yeah, that would be great! Does he have anything that goes with black trousers and a white shirt?"

"Well, I can't make any promises, but we'll do what we can."

The day of the party I was a zombie at the office. My desk was covered with invoices and reports and schedule updates, but all I could see were twinkles and heel turns and feather endings. Finally, around four, I gave up and headed out the door.

I stopped by the cleaners and picked up my best white shirt. I had requested heavy starch, and the collar was as stiff as cardboard. At home I inspected the trousers from my wedding and funeral suit and hung them up inside the plastic bag with the shirt. I shaved carefully, including the back of my neck. Finally, I rubbed a palmful of Dippity-Do into my hair and combed it out. I almost didn't recognize the person looking at me from the bathroom mirror.

The group lesson that evening (Swing) was at 7:00, so our group gathered at 6:30 for a final runthrough. Jessica and I stared at each other for a minute. She had never seen me with my hair slicked back, and I had never seen her with eye makeup and lipstick. A tiny light bulb came on in my head.

"Now I know who you remind me of," I said.

"Really? Who?"

"Jackie Christensen," I said, shaking my head as the memory of those days came into focus. Jessica waited patiently for an explanation. "Never mind," I said, waving the memory away. "I'll tell you later."

Rehearsal went off without a hitch. As Brian was giving us a few last pointers about posture and smiles ("If you stop smiling, people will stop watching."), the guests started



showing up. I recognized Gene and Diane from my Rhythm days. We exchanged waves. Dallas and Corinne arrived and headed right for me.

"We hear someone is putting on a little show tonight," Corinne said with a conspiratorial smile. I just blushed and grinned.

After the Swing lesson, Brian started the party with a Waltz. Of course, I didn't know any Waltz, so when Howard Darling asked Jessica to dance, she accepted but gave me a sheepish look.

"Be careful, Howard," I said. "I need her back in good condition." Howard just flashed his big horsey smile and nodded.

I watched them while they danced and recognized some of the figures we had learned in the Foxtrot class. Despite my friendly warning, Howard threw a few moves at Jessica that I had never seen, but she handled his leads without hesitation and looked good from start to finish. Amazing.

When Brian played a Rumba or a Swing I danced with other ladies and was surprised at how much I remembered. If we heard a Cha Cha, Jessica and I found each other and hurried out to the floor together. At one point Brian put on a Foxtrot, so we went through our routine. Unfortunately, we had never attempted it on a crowded floor, so we had to stop and restart a lot.

Around the middle of the evening, our group retired to the back studio to get ready. Todd was standing in front of one of the mirrors, buttoning himself into a very elegant gray pinstriped vest that fit like a glove. He wore a tuxedo shirt and a black satin tie that was fixed in place with a pearl stick pin.

"That is so cool," I heard myself saying.

"Thanks!" he said with a big smile. "Melinda got me this vest for my birthday."

"My birthday's coming up soon. Maybe I should mention it to her."

We both laughed.

Jessica emerged from the ladies' room in a short-sleeved black chiffon dress that was belted at the waist and had a very full skirt. It was covered with large purple and white orchids. It looked like something Grace Kelly had worn in one of her movies.

All I could think of to say was "Wow."

"Thank you," she said brightly. "And look what I brought for you." She held up a narrow strip of shiny black fabric decorated with purple and white geometric shapes. It was short and oddly shaped, like a necktie that had gone through the washer and dryer. Then I realized it was an unknotted bow tie.

"Uh ... I don't know how to ..."

"No problem," she said. "Hold still." She slipped the tie under my collar, lined it up carefully, folded it this way and that, tied a final knot, and gave the ends an outward tug. Then she stepped back, cocked her head to one side, and raised her eyebrows. I turned to face the mirror that covered one of the walls and studied her handiwork.

"Tell David I said thanks."

Brian lined us up at the door. Todd and Melinda were up front, then Jessica and I, then Arthur and Joan, and finally Dale and Larissa.

"Okay, everybody. Keep your heads up and your smiles on. Knock 'em dead!" With that, he disappeared into the front studio. We heard the music fade and saw the lights come up. Brian was saying something or other about a special presentation. Then, in a loud clear voice, he said, "Silver Foxtrot!" That was our cue.

We filed out to a generous round of applause, found our stations, assumed closed partner position, and waited.

There's the music. Let four beats go by. We go when Tony starts to sing. NOW! Twinkle to promenade, open right turn, heel turn—get out of her way—and another twinkle, feather ending to an open left turn. There go Todd and Melinda, starting their long wall. Feather and twinkle to another open right, underarm turn for Jessica with an outside partner pick-up, another twinkle to promenade, then my underarm



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run-through. Don't stoop! Get her hand up high enough. Now another outside pick-up and we're set up at the opposite corner to repeat the routine. So far, so good.

The second long and short wall also went well. By this point my brain was in total sync with the music, and my body was on autopilot. Jessica and I were flying. After a second lap, we all danced into the center, did a little runaround, and rolled the ladies out. The guys remained at attention while the ladies curtsied. The audience whooped and cheered. Then we picked up our partners and marched counterclockwise in single file back to the rear studio.

We were all laughing and congratulating each other when I noticed Dallas and Corinne approaching us. Dallas was carrying a video camera. He pulled us aside.

"Wanna see something?" he asked in a hushed voice.

I looked at Corinne. She nodded excitedly. Dallas held out the camera, flipped open the tiny screen, and pressed PLAY. Jessica and I huddled over it. He had kept the camera on us the whole time. The first thing I noticed was that we looked ... small. Not small in terms of size, exactly. Our movement looked small, as if we were dancing in an elevator rather than a ballroom. On the other hand, we looked confident and our figures were well defined. The extra practice had really paid off.

"Nice heels and toes," Jessica observed.

"Very nice," Dallas echoed.

"You make a very attractive pair," Corinne said quietly. Jessica and I glanced quickly at one another. Neither of us knew what to say.

After we had changed, we decided we'd had enough excitement for one evening, and I walked her out to her car.

"So tell me about Jackie Christensen," she said.

"That was high school," I sighed. "Lisa Christensen was my girlfriend. We were sophomores. She was very pretty and the smartest student in our class. We were both painfully shy. I guess I felt ... honored that she'd warmed up to me. Jackie was her older sister. A senior. She was very popular. Very athletic, too—basketball, volleyball, gymnastics." I

laughed. "My friends and I would go to the matches just to watch Jackie."

"She have any boyfriends?"

"She dated a lot, but never had a steady that anyone knew about." I stopped. I didn't feel like talking about Jackie anymore and changed the subject. "So what's next?"

"Well," she said, "I was thinking about doing the International Waltz class."

Actually, what I had meant was "What's next for us?" but that's not what she had heard. It seemed to me that something very nice was developing between us, but perhaps I had been mistaken. I usually am.

"What's International Waltz?" I asked.

"I'm not sure."

"Sounds interesting."

She opened her purse and dug out her keys. "Thanks for doing the Foxtrot class," she said. "I think we looked really good!"

"Yes, we did. Thanks for the practice sessions."

As she opened her door, I remembered something.

"Oh! I left David's bow tie back in the studio!"

She stopped and looked at me.

"I could ... bring it to class," I offered.

"What class?"

"International Waltz."

She paused, then smiled. "Sure. See you then."

She got in the car and started the engine. I watched her drive away. Then I turned and went back to the studio to find the bow tie, and to ask some questions about International Waltz.

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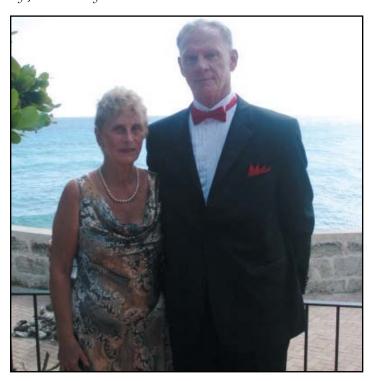
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Gentlemen Lead

By Jack Munday



ur home is on a lake in Isanti County, one of 157 Long Lakes in Minnesota. There is a resort on the lake. That means that once in a while there is a band at the resort that plays music we can dance to. For Fran and me, being only six miles from dancing is a real treat.

This band—a drummer, bass player, keyboard, and lead harmonica—played lovely songs. Most of the time, we danced East Coast single-step swing and had a great time. Fran wanted to do fewer turns because of her knee, so I let a waist wrap, behind the back pass and other patterns where I would turn and not subject Fran to more turns than her knee should have. Surgery was only six months ago.

Then they played a Latin song and we danced the Rumba. Now, once again, we were the most romantic couple on the floor. When the band leader said that there had been many request for a waltz, we performed. Others were on the dance floor, but we were the only ones who had the amalgamation of reverse, natural, grapevine, developé, and simple twinkle, along with other patterns. This is the reason I started dancing, not as an obligation to please my wife, but to be able to lead her over the dance floor as one being.

Dancing with Fran at the resort brought me back to the Saturday one week earlier when we went to a USA Dance Minnesota dance. That event happened to have a dollar dance for dancing with dancers from the University of

Minnesota Dance Club. I danced a waltz with a lovely lady and led all my patterns. She followed and smiled. I am so pleased that ladies and gentlemen at the University of Minnesota are learning ballroom dance. I wonder what my life would be like if my university, Purdue, had a dancing club way back then. Way back.

Of course, I know I still have a lot more to learn, more skills to acquire. I'm aware my frame can be better. Then, suddenly, at a lesson, it was. Fran will affirm that. I was trying to keep my neck, shoulders, ribs, hips, and the other part in line. Fran and I were adding a pattern to our waltz, and Monica wanted me to stand taller. Then Monica said, "Exaggerate!" So I did. Instantly, Fran disappeared. I disappeared. As a couple, we truly floated across the floor.

We were up another level. I'm not exaggerating. I've been told that learning to dance is like going up a staircase, not a smooth incline. This was a delightful step. We will enjoy the frame and get it to work in the other dances we enjoy.

Best of all, now I finally have the confidence to ask my wonderful editor, Anne LaTourelle, for a dance. She's done so much to encourage me and has been great for this magazine. Thank you, Anne, and good luck.

John S. Munday is a writer and lawyer who lives in Isanti County, Minnesota, with his wife Fran. Together they found ballroom dancing at Cheek To Cheek Studio. Jack is a student of Monica Mohn. Jack's new book, Beauty In Partnership, A Memoir of Ballroom Dancing, is available at www.johnsmunday.com and at several dance studios.

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ASK DR. DANCE

Donna Edelstein is a popular coach, judge and organizer of the Snow Ball DanceSport Competition. Paul Botes is an accomplished dance instructor, coach, choreographer and judge who has produced many nationally titled students and couples. He is an owner of American Classic Ballroom, located in Chanhassen, MN.



The studio that I dance at is recruiting students to be a part of a formation team for an upcoming studio event. I would be exposed to dancing with a new partner, learn new choreography, and make some new friends. On the flip side, my time could otherwise be spent doing group lessons and an occasional private lesson. What should I do?



She Said:

Both options are good ones. It just depends on what appeals to you the most.

Having a goal always drives improvement, so being part of a performance team will increase your skill level.

Some people prefer to take lessons and don't want to put their dancing onstage, and there is nothing wrong with that either.

Follow your heart. And keep dancing!

Donna Edelstein donnawrites@msn.com 763-557-6006

He Said:

Formation teams fall into two categories: great and not so great. If the teacher who is offering the formation has some experience in creating interesting visual concepts, this is something that will provide countless hours of enjoyment and camaraderie. Some of the more experienced formation teams in Minneapolis have been around for years, and the members tend to become good friends. My experience with formations has been very positive, and I learned a lot from dealing with students with different skillsets.

If, however, the formation tries material that is too challenging, it

becomes a drag for the formation as well as the spectators. Remember that formations are about the group, not the individuals, and, as such, you may have to sacrifice some of what makes you unique. My advice is to try it. It can't hurt, and you may find a whole new world of dancing experiences.





SWAPLINES

Contact Anne @ 612.280.7818

Everyone loves a blue gown and this one is a beautiful double-duty gown. American style or converts for International. Long sleeves, off-the shoulder, lovely hem detailing that really shows movement, multiple shades of blue really pop. Made by Marsha Wiest-Hines. Sz. 6-10 Striking black and hot pink American style gown. Sexy while still being covered up. Feminine while still being bold and strong. Whatever your vision on the floor this one has it covered. Light weight and effortless to dance in. The bottom of this dress dances unbelievably taking your movement and showcasing it to the max. Made by Marsha Wiest- Hines. Sz. 6-10

⊃ Contact Jean @ 952-922-7425

Ladies dance shoes size 11 narrow width, 11/2" heels, silver. Only worn a few times. \$60.

Contact Jeff @ 320 266 4137 or jeff@studiojeff.com New women's dresses for sale \$200 to \$400 size small. Pics at www.studiojeff.com.

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Latin, rhythm, salsa Dress, Size 0-6, brand new, piquant red color, sensual fringes show movement, open back with straps that can tie into various patterns, built in bra. \$380, negotiable.

Contact Cheri at 763-544-6724 or artncheri@aol.com Size 2-6 prices \$500-\$700 American smooth gowns. Contact Cheri for details and pictures.

Contact Stacie @ 612-251-8108 or SPIERSON0081@vahoo.com Purchase, rent to own or weekend rental available. Pictures available. Seafoam green latin/rhythm dress. Short playful skirt. Includes matching bracelets, choker and ear-rings. Sizes 0-6. \$1,950.

Black latin/rhythm dress with bugle beads and Abs. Dress worn on Dancing w / Stars and in Take the Lead. Size 0-6. \$1,850.

Black Lace with peach underskirt smooth gown. Entire dress is lace, long sleeves, open back. Skirt slit in back. Worn on dancing w/ Stars. Size

Deep Purple rhythm/latin dress. Skirt has some movement. Sexy but covers your sides. Size 2-8. \$2,750

Fusia Śmooth Gown. High slight on side, open back. Including jewelry. Worn on Dancing w / Stars. Size 4-8. \$2,350

Blue latin/rhythm dress. Full flowing skirt. Matching jewelry. Made for a larger chest. Šize 6-8. \$2,450.

Black and Rose Print Standard Gown. Full sleeves, large floats. Size 0-4.

Lady Supadance latin shoe, 2.5" heel, fits an American 5 1/2-6, never worn, style #1066, sell for \$151 asking \$75.

⊃ Contact Theresa at theresakimler@yahoo.com or 651-773-3511 Size 2-6: Royal Blue Beauty Smooth Gown. Navy blue dress covered solid in rhinestones in different shades of blue. Gives an ultimate shimmer and looks almost royal blue on the dance floor. Fox fur cutt on left arm, long sleeves, slimming fit. Made by Randall Designs. Championship dress. Pics avail. \$2800.

Size 2-6: Black Elegant Smooth Gown. Black mesh peeks through an interior of the control of the contr

intricate overlay for a stunning look. Cobalt blue rhinestones, necklace, earrings complete the intrigue of this dress. Long sleeves, one arm with fox fur cuff. See photo in April 2010 issue, page 21. \$2400 pics avail.

⊃ Contact AnnaMaria @ 612-280-6869 or annamariagregerson@comcast. net Retiring from competitive dancing, selling my gowns, rhythm dresses, and accessories. Wide variety of smooth gowns and latin dresses. Princess White Championship Gown, beautiful white lace one-piece, chiffon layered skirt, multicolored AB stones with flower details, open back, accessories available, Marsha Wiest-Hines designed, asking \$1300. Black smooth gown gives great movement on the floor. Open back, V-front straps, hand-sewn pearls, Swarovski crystals size 6-8, newly offered, asking \$1250.

Yellow smooth gown to Show your beautiful back, elegant, size 4-6, covered with Swarovski crystals, great movement on the floor, newly offered. asking \$1000.

Fuchsia rhythm dress (size 2-8) bell sleeves, open back, asymmetrical/ slit open shows leg movement, AB stones, beautiful low back, accessories available, asking \$500.

Sexy-hot Yellow rhythm dress, stunning yellow with contrasting royal blue appliqués, AB and Swarovski stones, you will be noticed!, accessories available, asking \$1200.

Light pink rhythm dress, bust covered in Swarovski crystals and sequins. For those who Dare to Bare tastefully. Open back, halter top, one of a kind. Asking \$1,800.

Gorgeous black rhythm dress, size 6-8, open back, really shows great legs, tons of AB and Swarovski stones, 3 layers of black hand-beading/ asymmetrical, will be noticed. Asking \$1275

Many more showcase gowns/dresses, and evening wear. Sizes 4-8, **some 10-12.** Gorgeous accessories to help you shine on the floor. AB and Swarovski hair jewelry/earrings, necklaces, bracelets, rings. Affordable. ⊃ Contact Janie @ 763-797-5230 or janienordberg@comcast.net

Georgeous Peach Championship Gown. This dress is one of a kind! Beautiful open back, stretch satin skirt with godets add fullness to movement. Fully stoned bodice and elegant gloves to match! Like new! Made by Marsha Weist Hines. Size 2-8. Asking \$1200. Pics available. Newly Offered! Beautiful Pink/Metallic Gold Smooth Gown. Very feminine look with lace trim on neckline, bodice, long sleeves and hems. Full coverage in AB multicolor stones! Like new - worn only twice! Size 2-8. Asking \$1100. Pics available.

Elegant Black Championship Gown, luxurious maribu boa on hem & neckline. Beautifully designed with open back and long sleeves, shows off curves. Covered in AB multicolor stones. Size 2-8. \$1100 obo. Pics avail. Black Gown with Hot Orange & Yellow Accents. Stunning gown has fiery orange and yellows accents drapes on long sleeves, bodice and chiffon layers of skirt, sexy slit shows off legs, beautiful color rhine stones. Size 2-8. \$800 obo. Pics available.

Sexy Pink & White Rhythm Dress! This stunning dress has tons of stones, beautiful pearl beading & flirty skirt! Bracelets, necklace, and accessories included. A showstopper! Size 2-8. Asking \$700. Pics avail. More gowns available to purchase and rent. Payment plans accepted.

Contact Joan @ 6123864174 or jdazer@comcast.com FOR SALE: 1 pr DANSport t-strap rhythm shoes, size 3 1/2 European; 2" flare heel worn approx. 10 times. Price: \$40.00; original price \$145.00. 1 pr Kelaci Eminence 3 rhythm shoes, size 5 1/2 European; 2 1/2" flare heel worn once. The Kelaci shoes are very very flexible. Price: \$75.00. Original price \$155.00.

Also one pair of nude court shoes with clear bands, size 7 or 7 1/2 American; 2". Worn less than 10 times. Price: \$50. Original price \$150.00. FOR SALE: Designed by Doré. Beautiful Royal Blue Smooth Gown. Size 6-10. Bodice is encrusted with blue and green AB stones. Long sleeves. Skirt has godets and moves very elegantly. The skirt is royal blue with a green underskirt. Earrings included. Original price of this gown was \$3800. Price slashed to \$1400.

⊃ Contact janislivi@msn.com for the following: Super sale on many ballgowns. Under 5′3″ and 130 pounds? try these: The Millenium Gown, Silver sparkle all over, white sheer netting on sleeves with AB stones, peridot stones, and crystal stones scattered. Zipper entry. hand washable. asking \$300.

The Tangerine Dream Gown, neon tangerine color stretch lycra, swimsuit entry, AB stones, floats, hand washable. Asking \$125. The Genesis Gown, neon yellow, orange roses, yellow stoning, yummy to wear, swimsuit entry, smooth/standard floats. hand washable. \$125. May sell Pink Champagne Gown for the right price.

Contact Shannon xin9264@hotmail.com (651)230-8901(c) Design Dress by Vesa, One-of-a-kind dress yellow stretch velvet drapes elegantly in front and back. Covered in crystal and citrine rhinestones Large citrine rhinestones and other decorative beads accent shoulders and panel at front and back, beneath the waist. Also large gold pallettes on the panel. A fringe skirt in front and back creates movement. Sides open to show off lines. Matching wristband, headband, feather hair accessory inc. Worn once by British prof rising star. Fit 0-6, 5'1"-5'5". Asking \$950.

⊃ Wanted: Tailsuit. College student looking for a used men's dance suit or tail coat set, 6'0" 150#, approx. size 37L. Contact Andreas at 651-983-5348 or amantius@comcast.net

⊃ Contact Sherri Earley at 651-271-7690 or wwp2005@gmail.com Red salsa or Latin beginners dress. Can fit anywhere from a 2 to 6. Adorned with black, silver & gold disc bangles. Comes with matching earrings & arm bands. Email for photos. \$75/obo.

Black beginners Smooth gown. Fits a ladies size small/2-4. Skirt is 3

layers. Red and silver stones. Optional black gloves can be included, \$10 extra. Email for photos. \$75/obo.

Contact Janet @ 763-389-9038 or kneadmyspace@yahoo.com for photos Gently used International latin dance shoes, size 7.5, dyed beige strappy heels. Great deal at \$40 plus will throw in a free pair of fishnet tights! Many dance instructional tapes, mainly West Coast Swing but other styles too. \$5 each.

Champion dance dresses, Jennifer Foster at 952-938-0048

⊃ Contact Lisa Wu at 651-278-4434 or lisa_wu_us@yahoo.com Green & blue rhythm dress sz. 4-10 green body & skirt with blue belt, lots of rhinestones all over, matching arm/wrist bands. Great for new competitor! \$300 nego.

Purple & white Smooth Gown. Sz. 6-10, \$300 New Latin & Ballroom Shoes for sale, sz. 7, 8 & 9 \$40

Contact Bernice at 952.936.2185 or 952.545.2989 DANCE SHOES FOR SALE: ladies' smooth-dance closed-toe pumps size 8 or 8 1/2, flesh-colored, worn once, Capezio DanceSport brand, \$50, also some RHINESTONE JEWELRY available for sale

Swaplines is a monthly feature offering members and subscribers the chance to sell their dance merchandise. Advertisements for partnerships are not published in this column. Please include your area code when submitting advertisements for Swaplines.

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| Dancers Studio |
| E.R.V. Dance Studio952-303-3339 816 Mainstreet, Hopkins, MN 55343, www.ERVdancestudio.com |
| Fred Astaire Dance Studio |
| Liola-La Bodega |
| Loring Pasta Bar www.loringcafe.com/pastabar Sunday nights have tango or other latin music from 6-9 pm. |
| Medina Entertainment Center(763) 478-6661) www.medinaentertainment.com 500 Hwy. 55, Medina 55340. |
| MN West Coast Swing Dance Club |
| Naar Grille Salsa Night(952) 946-6227 11528 Leona Road, Eden Prairie. Every Friday is Salsa Night from 10 pm-2 am. |
| On Your Toes School of Dance |
| Rebels Swing Dance Club |
| Rendezvous Dance Studio(612) 872-1562 711 West Lake Street, Ste B, Minneapolis, MN 55408 www. theplacetodance.com |
| Social Dance Studio |
| Suburban-Winterset Dance Club(952) 894-1424 www.suburbanwinterset.com |
| Tango Society of Minnesota(763) 576-3349 www.mntango.org Location for 2nd Saturday dances: |
| ERV Dance Studio, 816 Main St., Hopkins; Lesson 8 pm; Dance 9 pm – 1 am \$10. |
| Tropical Ballroom |
| Universal Steppers Dance Club |

Dance Contacts

| Dance Contacts | |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|
| Studios/Instructors | |
| American Classic Ballroom, Chanhassen | 952-934-0900 |
| Paul Botes, Andreas Mantius, Natalie Palmer Arthur Murray Dance Studio, St. Paul | CE1 227 2200 |
| Scott Anderson | 651-227-3200 412 816 4446 |
| Ballroom & Wedding Dance Studio, Minneapolis | 612-371-0300 |
| Harry Benson | 763-843-2285 |
| Gene Bersten | .763-234-8656 |
| Klaudyna Borewicz | |
| Cheek to Cheek Studio, Coon Rapids | .763-755-3644 |
| Cinema Ballroom, St. Paul | 651-699-5910 |
| Kristina Lee, Kirsten McCloskey, Nadine Messenger, Sha Meuwissen, Martin Pickering, Douglas Wallock | ane |
| Dahl Dance Center, Rochester | |
| Dance with Us America | .612-564-5483 |
| Gene Bersten, Elena Bersten, Andreas Mantius Dancers Studio, St. Paul | 651 641 0777 |
| Christine Hallberg, Jeff Halverson, Gordon Bratt, Kathry | n Bratt, |
| Bonnie Inveen, Chris Kempainen, Troy Lerum, Maria La | Nave- |
| Johnson, & Russell Hunter Nathan Daniels | 7/2 5/5 9/00 |
| Joy Davina | /03-3 4 3-0070 612-353 <u>-444</u> 5 |
| Jennelle Donnay | 651-357-2060 |
| Donna Edelstein | |
| F.R.V. Dance Studio | . 952-303-3339 |
| Eliecer Ramirez-Vargas, Rebecca Dahlquist-Eckhoff, Rac Baruch, Will Weaver, Soodi Pessian | |
| Four Seasons Dance Studio | 612-342-0902 |
| Rebecca and Bruce Abas Fred Astaire Dance Studio | GE1 4E1 G300 |
| Esther Granbois | |
| David Hanson | |
| Julie Jacobson | |
| Tony Karadjov | |
| LaDanza Dance Club Stillwater | 651-439-3152 |
| Jay Larson | .651-387-3886 |
| Tom Larson | |
| Monica Mohn | |
| Jeff & Cindy Nehrbass | |
| Mariusz Olszewski | |
| On Your Toes, St. Louis Park | 952-928-7803 |
| Jeff & Cindy Nehrbass, Elly Mae Toupin, Laurel Behning | g, Julie Delene |
| Todd Paulus | |
| Rendezvous Dance Studio | |
| Mary Rosenstiel | |
| Joy Davina, Todd Paulus | .012-410-4040 |
| Alex Spencerxelaspencer@gmail.com o | r 646-338-4770 |
| StudioJeff, St. Cloud, Jeffrey Ringer | |
| Tropical Ballroom, Woodbury | |
| Services | |
| Made for Movement: costume design, production, tailor | ing |
| (Marsha Wiest Hines) | 952-595-0003 |
| Oh Sew Special: tailoring, alterations, redesign | 252 544 5520 |
| (Susan Richardson) | 952-746-5539 |
| Satin Stitches Ltd.: custom designed dancewear (Deborah J. Nelson) | -800-48SATIN |
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| Clubs Aqua Gliders Dance Club | (12 860 3062 |
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| MN West Coast Swing Dance Club | |
| REBELS Swing Dance Club | |
| Tango Society of Minnesota | 763-576-3349 |
| Universal Steppers Dance Club | 651-783-6619 |
| USA Dance, Minnesota Chapter | 651-483-5467 |

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