

MINNESOTA DANCING TIMES



A publication of the Minnesota Chapter 2011 of USA Dance

February 2011



Star of the North...See Ad page 9

Photo by Decadance Photography – Tony Eng

Inside this month's issue...

Snow Ball Competition Review, Star of the North, and Other tidbits!



Dancers Nite Out



- Fr 2/4 Cinema Ballroom Variety Dance; lesson 7 pm, dance 8-11 pm; 1560 St Clair Ave, St Paul; call 651-699-5910 or visit www.cinemaballroom.com
- Sa 2/5 Tropical Ballroom: Ballroom & Latin Dance Party; lesson 7:30 pm, dance 8:30-11 pm; cost \$10; call 651-414-0644 or visit www.tropicalballroom.com
- Sa 2/5 Whitesidewalls Doo-Wop, Rock-a-billy, R&R; lesson 7:30 pm, dance 8:30 pm; cost \$12; Medina Ent Ctr, 500 Hwy 55, Medina; call 763-478-6661 or visit www.medinaentertainment.com
- Fr 2/11 Cinema Ballroom Salsa Fusion; lesson 7 pm, dance 8-11 pm; 1560 St Clair Ave, St Paul; call 651-699-5910 or visit www.cinemaballroom.com
- Fr 2/11 Classic Big Band Swing Valentine's Day Dance; 8-11 pm; Knights of Columbus Hall, 1114 American Blvd, Bloomington; 952-888-1492
- Sa 2/12 Tropical Ballroom Café Bailar Dance Club; lesson 7:30 pm, dance 8:30-11 pm; cost \$10, \$8 members; call 651-414-0644 or visit www.tropicalballroom.com
- Sa 2/12 Boogie Wonderland 70's, 80's, Disco; 8:30 pm; Medina Ent Ctr, 500 Hwy 55, Medina; call 763-478-6661 or visit www.medinaentertainment.com
- Fr 2/18 Cinema Ballroom Variety Dance; lesson 7 pm, dance 8-11 pm; 1560 St Clair Ave, St Paul; call 651-699-5910 or visit www.cinemaballroom.com
- Sa 2/19 **USA Dance at Tropical Ballroom, see ad this page**
- Fr 2/25 Cinema Ballroom Salsa Fusion; lesson 7 pm, dance 8-11 pm; 1560 St Clair Ave, St Paul; call 651-699-5910 or visit www.cinemaballroom.com

American Classic Ballroom (952) 934-0900
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Arthur Murray Dance Studio (651) 227-3200
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FEBRUARY MONTHLY DANCE



Saturday, February 19th

7-8 pm Intermediate Cha Cha Lesson
Instructor: James wood

8-11 pm Ballroom/Latin Variety Dance
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 Inside Valley Creek Mall

USA Dance MN HOTLINE
(651) 483-5467
www.usadance-mn.org

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

Theme of the Month...

2011 SNOW BALL DANCE COMPETITION

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From the Board

Minutes of the Monthly USA Dance MN #2011 Board Meeting – January 4, 2011. Submitted by Leslie Whitney.

In attendance: Sue Zeller (President), Leslie Whitney (Secretary), Zhoujing Liu, Carissa Ranum, Mike Jones, Bill Nunn, Cathy Dessert, Yeun Chou, Julie Elholm, Paul Stachour, Nick Westlake

Location: Quixotic Coffee, St. Paul, MN

Call to order: Quorum established.

Agenda approved. December minutes approved.

ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS:

Treasurer's Report: Craig was unable to attend.

Board Officer Elections: Corissa, Yeun, and Zhoujing introduced themselves and spoke about their dance history. Job duties of each officer were detailed for the benefit of new board members. Additional committee directors for communication, membership, music license reporting, youth outreach, organizing monthly dances and dance demos are needed. These positions and those (including all chapter members) who wish to fill them will be on next month's agenda. Bill will contact the National Committee to learn if a specific program is used to track financial and membership data. Motion was made and seconded to affirm the election of the current board officers with the addition of Cathy Dessert as Vice-President.

PROJECTS:

Website: There is an immediate need to rebuild Chapter #2011's website. Cathy has been in contact with Nic Westlake who attended the meeting in order to offer his expertise and listen to the specific needs of the chapter. Mike and Bill will work together to identify goals for this website and coordinate with Nic. Nic has offered to train people to use this website and to help maintain it. A motion was made and seconded to allocate money to have Nic Westlake build a new website for USA Dance MN Chapter 2011.

Membership Survey: Craig absent.
Next month's agenda.

2011 PLANS AND SCHEDULE:

Monthly Dances: Zhoujing is interested in working on this committee. Corissa is working to advertise April's U of MN Ballroom Dance Club fundraiser dance.

Star of the North: Jessica is interning with Min this year with a plan to take the lead for this event in 2012. A new location will have to be found for the event.

Tea Dance: May 1st at the Lafayette Club.

Alliance Dance: A discussion included the goals of this event, the date, and whether we should include demos. We will continue this discussion at next month's meeting.

Dance Performance Event: This event is still being considered.

Committees: Previously discussed.

NEXT MEETING:

Tuesday, February 1st, 7 pm

Quixotic Coffee, 769 Cleveland Ave. South,
St. Paul, MN

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:** 651-483-5467.

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.

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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

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 (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	
Qtr. page	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: annelatourelle@comcast.net

DEADLINE FOR ALL MATERIALS:
10th OF EACH MONTH
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FROM THE EDITOR

By Anne LaTourelle

Living in Minnesota in the summer has many benefits. The winters, however, can seem long, cold, and this year, snowy. Something to look forward to helps the situation and The Snow Ball Dance Competition is just what the doctor ordered for those who love dance. This year, a 2nd day was added. Especially exciting was the addition of professional events. Teachers work hard getting their students ready and the Snow Ball gives them a chance to shine and show their talents. This year Tom and

I danced another solo event with Mark and Karen Tepley. What fun to perform in front of a local crowd and an impressive judging panel! Thanks to Donna Edelstein for putting on such an excellent event. Check out this issue to hear more about The Snow Ball. Enjoy! ■



Star of the North DanceSport Classic

February 25 – 27, 2011

Ukrainian Event Center
301 Main Street NE
Minneapolis, Minnesota

Volunteers Needed for Star of the North!

For more information,
visit: sotn.usadance-mn.org
or contact Min at min_y_chong@hotmail.com



Photo by Jack Yan, Creative Pro Studio



The President's Corner Dance Sport Competition

We are fortunate in Minnesota to have some dance professionals who create incredible dance sport competitions for us to participate in and watch. Donna Edelstein has a very well-organized Snowball dance competition every year in January. Think of all the months, days and hours it takes to pull off this well-attended competition.

USA Dance MN has several members who participated in Snowball this year. There is so much excitement about preparing and participating in a dance sport competition. The amount of lessons and practice that goes into preparing for a few minutes on the floor is astounding. Finding the right dance clothes also takes a bit of time and money. It's just all part of the fun of being part of the dance sport competition experience.

We have some excellent dance professionals in Minnesota, or come to Minnesota, who have the talent, experience and ability to help bring out the best dancer in all of us. It's exciting to watch others advance in their dancing over the years.

USA Dance MN is $\frac{3}{4}$ owner of the "World Class Dance Floor" used for Snowball Dance Sport Competition. The dance floor is also used by part-owner Scott Anderson for his Twin Cities Open competition in July. Eliecer Ramirez-Vargas also uses our dance floor for his Minnesota Open competition in May.

Over 10 years ago, our "World Class Dance Floor" was purchased for use at competitions and USA Dance MN events. Several members raised money or bought their own dance floor square's so the floor could be obtained. Last year we were able to determine that the dance floor is still worth what it cost us to purchase it. The dance

floor is well taken care of by dance volunteers. Special thanks to Gary Stroick, Bill Nunn and all the dance floor volunteers for the great care given to the set up, take down, maintenance and storage of the special dance floor.



USA Dance MN's Star of the North Amateur dance competition takes place at the end of this month, February 25th-27th. The location again this year is the Ukrainian Event Center in Minneapolis. See the ad for this month. This is a fun event to be a part of whether you are spectating or competing.

Volunteers are needed for Star of the North. Please see sotn.usadance-mn.org or contact Min at min_y_chong@hotmail.com to let her know you would love to volunteer for Star of the North.

A great place to practice for this Star of the North Amateur competition or for a night of social dancing, is at our February monthly dance being held at Tropical Ballroom in Woodbury. Hope to see you there for lots of dance fun.

Happy dancing!

Sue Zeller, USADance MN President ■



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2011 SNOW BALL DANCE COMPETITION

Cold Outside, Hot Inside *By Donna Edelstein*

The Snow Ball celebrated its first year as a National Dance Council of America (NDCA) sanctioned event on January 7 and 8th 2011. The Snow Ball is now allowed to run a multi-day competition and include open amateur and Professional competitions.

As always the pro/am divisions were hotly contested with some outstanding competitors vying for places in the finals and on the winner's podium.

Pro/Am Standard Scholarships

- Pro/Am Bronze Standard Scholarship – Elizabeth Dickenson with Jeff Nehrass
- Pro/Am Silver Standard Scholarship – Emily Habisch with Gordon Bratt
- Pro/Am Open Standard Scholarship – Jessica Anderson with Paul Botes

Pro/Am Latin Scholarships

- Pro/Am Bronze Latin Scholarship – Sarah Champeau with Thomas Varian
- Pro/Am Silver Latin Scholarship – Liz Rocco with Eric Hudson
- Pro/Am Open Latin Scholarship – Carol Ferrell with Jay Larson

Pro/Am Smooth Scholarships

- Pro/Am Bronze Smooth Scholarship – Susan Iverson with Jay Larson
- Pro/Am Silver Smooth Scholarship – Tracy Anderson with Scott Anderson Open
- Pro/Am Smooth Scholarship – Eileen Arcilla with Eric Hudson

Pro/Am Rhythm Scholarships

- Pro/Am Bronze Rhythm Scholarship – Susan Iverson with Jay Larson
- Pro/Am Silver Rhythm Scholarship – Emily Swanson with Troy Lerum
- Pro/Am Open Rhythm Scholarship – Rachel Damiani with Jay Larson

standard and Latin or smooth and rhythm, to be the best across two styles of dance. Winners in these divisions are as follows:

International 6-Dance and 10-Dance Challenges

- Closed Silver 6-Dance Challenge – Liz Rocco with Eric Hudson
- Open 10-Dance Challenge – Carol Ferrell with Jay Larson

American 6-Dance and 9-Dance Challenges

- Pro/Am Bronze 6-Dance Challenge – Susan Iverson with Jay Larson
- Pro/Am Silver 6-Dance Challenge – Tracy Anderson with Scott Anderson
- Pro/Am Open 9-Dance Challenge – Rachel Damiani with Jay Larson

Many of the best amateur couples in the region came out to compete at The Snow Ball.

Amateur/Amateur Smooth

- Open Amateur Smooth Scholarship – Nels Peterson and Theresa Kimmler
- Over-35 Amateur Smooth Challenge – Jeremy Anderson and Yuko Taniguchi

Amateur/Amateur Rhythm

- Open Amateur Rhythm Scholarship – Greg and Sue Prasch
- Over 35 Amateur Rhythm Challenge – Jeremy Anderson and Yuko Taniguchi

Amateur/Amateur Standard

- Open Amateur Standard Scholarship – Nicholas Westlake and Jessica Madson
- Over-35 Amateur Standard Challenge – Greg and Sue Prasch
- 50+ Amateur Standard Challenge – James and Suzanne Benjamin

New this year, are the 6-dance, 9-dance and 10-dance events which challenged competitors who compete in both

SNOW BALL 2011 cont. on page 7

2011 SNOW BALL DANCE COMPETITION

SNOW BALL 2011 continued from page 6

Top Students for the 2011 Snow Ball are:

- Top Newcomer: Cindi Andren with Paul Botes
- Top Bronze: Julie Goetsch with Jeff Nehrbass
- Top Silver: Lawnie Conlin with Jay Larson
- Top Gold: Anna Gilbertson with Tom Neterval
- Top Open: Jessica Anderson with Paul Botes
- Top Solo: Ron Sterenson with Bonnie Inveen

Top Teachers are:

- Jay Larson
- Paul Botes
- Jeff Nehrbass
- Michael Bang
- Scott Anderson
- Tom Neterval
- Tie between Eliecer Ramirez-Vargas and Eric Hudson

Top Studios are:

1. Jay Larson
2. North Star Dance Studio
3. On Your Toes

Professional events are always a highlight of any competition. We were treated to two awesome hip-hop performances featuring the talented duo of Ashley Selmer and Bryson Hunter, a Pro dance team.

Friday night packed the room with the Rising Star competitions. The audience really got into cheering for their favorite couples and brought out the best in all of the dancers.

Professional Rising Star Smooth Winners – Gordon and Kate Bratt

Professional Rising Star Rhythm Winners – David Smith and Janna Merten

Saturday night, Derrick and Susie Murray treated us to a Professional Standard demonstration, which was a huge crowd pleaser.

Many people told me that one of the highlights of this year's Snow Ball was the Professional Latin Show with the infectious energy of Nikolai Pilipenchuk and Natalia

Skorikova. At ages 25 and 24 they are already World Finalists in the Pro 10-dance division – and they certainly put on a world-class show. They've already been dancing together for 7 years (after his mother asked her to partner him) and we predict a very bright future for them.

The Snow Ball was a blend of wonderful Pro/Am, Amateur, and Professional Dancing. A special thank you is due to the talented teachers and dancers that make this event possible. We look forward to seeing everyone January 13 and 14th 2012 for the ninth annual Snow Ball. ■



Photos by Decadance Photography – Tony Eng

SEE MORE SNOW BALL PHOTOS on page 14-15, 17



Peak Performance with Kathryn Bratt

Saturday, February 19, 2011 • 3:00 - 5:00 pm

Do you know tricks for looking awesome on the dance floor even when not dancing? If your answer is yes, maybe, or no, then you need this seminar! Kathryn will demonstrate how to get on and off the floor with grace, instruct on proper roll-outs and bows, talk about costuming and share some trade secrets. This is a **MUST** for new competitors and seasoned vets alike.

Cost: \$25 in advance or \$30 at the door

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Monday, February 14, 2011 7:00 - 9:00 pm

All levels welcome!

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7:00-7:20 Beg. Waltz & Rumba

8:00-8:20 Beg. Swing & Tango

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**Ukrainian Event Center
301 Main Street NE
Minneapolis, Minnesota**

*Come watch or compete in the
best amateur ballroom dance
competition in town!*



Photos by Jack Yan, Creative Pro Studio

All ages and skill levels welcome!



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Information
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FEBRUARY 12-13, 2011

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Saturday, February 12 Dance Showcase

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SOCIAL DANCE AND SHOW Featuring US Standard Finalists Artem Plakhotnyi & Inna Berlizyeva

Social dancing and Professional dance show by Artem Plakhotnyi and Inna Berlizyeva. Have a great time at this fun celebration of dance!

Sunday, February 13 Dance Technique Seminars Taught by Artem Plakhotnyi & Inna Berlizyeva

**Location:
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Being in the Moment with a Gracious Dance Partner

By Chris Trask

TAP TAP

Do you start your day making a, "To do list?" Of course, you do. The goal of this list is to cross off the projects listed as completed. Right? Sometimes you try to complete multiple projects you have on your list all at once. When this happens, do you find that instead of crossing something off the list, that the following might occur?

1. It took me 15 minutes to find where I parked my car after walking out of a store.
2. I found my cereal box in the refrigerator.
3. I left my groceries at the store.
4. Someone needs to call me because I can't find my cell phone.

At the end of the day, do you feel like you lost your mind? Are you so consumed by getting things done that you feel like you lost your spirit of fun and enjoying the moment you are in? You might be saying to yourself at the given moment, "How does one get their mind, body, and spirit together at a given moment in time?"

I found out.

A gentle tap on the head is the greeting I received from a gracious dance partner when I danced for the very first time at the Cinema ballroom. With another tap, tap, on the head, I started to laugh and found that the nervous knot in my stomach left. Yes, I was dancing with a humorous, kind man that took the time to teach me different dance steps on the floor. Slow, quick, quick. I could not think or do anything else but dance. My mind, body, and spirit were together being in the moment with my new social dance friend.

My dance friend is also a humble man that does not want his name revealed. I still felt the need to share the experience with you, the reader, because this gracious man is a great role model. He took the time to dance with a beginner and make me feel at ease. After all, that is the mission statement of USA Dance MN, "To help preserve and promote ballroom dancing both as an art and healthful sport." My sincere gratitude goes out to my gracious dance partner. Dancing with you is a moment in time to cherish. ■

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2011 SNOW BALL DANCE COMPETITION

80 Degrees of Dancing *By Kate Bratt*

Florida was treated to a visit from the Bratt Pack in December, in the form of Erika Gallagher, Linnea Brown, Kate, Gordon, and the wee girls. We headed down to The Southeastern States Dancesport Championships for competition, camaraderie, and of course, nice weather.

Upon our arrival, we had everyone from bellboys to Rufus Dustin apologizing for the “cold” weather. I thought the North Face down parka I saw a woman wearing was a little much considering it was 60 degrees. It reached 82 on our day off and I laughed when I saw it was 2 in Minneapolis.

Erika found us an amazing deal at a hotel two blocks from the Renaissance SeaWorld where the competition was held. We had two bedrooms, a kitchen, and a sweet lanai (yes, Gordon, it’s a word). There was also a seemingly endless selection of pools, a lake with paddleboats shaped like animals, and “bike cars”!

The Southeastern States is a swanky competition focused on serving the dancers. The ballroom was decorated in style, with a fitting holiday theme. Though none of the freestyle categories were highly contested, Erika made a splash on the floor, showing up the Southerners with some good ol’ Midwestern awesomeness. Linnea, the girls, and I shouted our approval through all the “Irish Tanners” glory.

After Gordon and Erika won second place in the Open Dancesport Superbowl Championships (rhythm and

smooth) and Kate and Gordon won second and third in the Pro Rising Star and Open Smooth, the gang celebrated with tequila, cigars, bad pop music, and card games on the lanai. The next two days were all about non-dancing rest and relaxation in the form of Disneyworld (none of the Bratts but Kate had been before) and Universal Studios for Erika and Linnea, then speed-bump-jumping on the surrey bikes, lounging by the pools, and Benihana for dinner.

Next, the Dancers Studio hit the amazing SnowBall Dancesport Competition in sunny St. Louis Park! We had Team David (Good, Jendrek, and Zaleske), the Emilys (Habisch and Swanson) and Ron.

Friday started out with a bang. Fans were there promptly to cheer on the Studio. The “Hab” and Dr. Dave represented us fantastically in the Standard division, with lovely Emily winning the Silver Scholarship.

Friday night also brought the first professional divisions at the SnowBall, both in American Rhythm and American Smooth. In Smooth, Chris Kempainen and Bonnie Inveen were “stunning” (Leslie’s quote) and took home third place. Kate and Gordon Bratt were proud to take home first place in the same division.

Saturday started at a very reasonable time of day (yay for 9am!) with our favorite men newcomers – David J. and Ron! Both men were awesome and looked like they were born to perform. As the day continued, we got to see Emily S. and Troy shake their tail feathers, David Good float with Christine, and Emily H. and Gordon show people they’re only Caucasian on the outside. There was so much great dancing to watch!

The Dancers Studio crowd roared when Emily Swanson won the Silver Rhythm Scholarship and Ron Sterenson won Top Solo! Way to go, competitors! Saturday evening ended with an inspiring show from Nikolai Pilipenchuk and Natalia Skorikova, the US’s 10-dance representatives. I couldn’t decide who I had more of a crush on.

My personal awards for the weekend are as follows:

- **Best Under Pressure:** David Jendrek.
He can lead ANYONE.
- **Positive-ly Stunning:** Carol Ferrell and Echo Huang.
These two ladies are always a joy to watch dance and talk to, since their enthusiasm is overwhelming.



80 DEGREES OF DANCING cont. on page 13

Dancers Studio Showcase

By Kate Bratt

In December, the Dancers Studio hosted their annual Holiday Showcase. After having attended a few of these shows, I have to say this was one of my favorites.

Along with the usual assortment of Dancers Studio staff and students, we were joined by Scott Anderson, Jay Larson, Monica Mohn, and Jeff Ringer with their awesome entourages! The evening was full of naughty (bad Santa and his lady, Groucho Marx and his siren) and nice (two bakers with a "Recipe for Love," two hippies out for a "Mellow Yellow" stroll in some fabulous boots) solos and fantastic freestyles!

Suzanne Kalan looked, and danced, like Cinderella. Jeanie LaFavor showed off her new smooth routines, as did Leland Whitney. Soraya Scott and Hub Nelson made

a rousing return to the Showcase floor and Jeanene Klecker did a sweet bolero.

My favorite memories of the evening were hearing Scott laughing riotously during Pete Langworthy's solo (I was changing several rooms away) and the professional Viennese Waltz medley (the amazing transitions! the wonderful timing! and we did runarounds for many, many measures and I only fell down a little at the end). Also, how wow is Patty Handler? Pretty wow.

Congratulations to all our Showcase participants and spectators! Everyone made it one to remember! (Thanks to Catch A Candid for the photos. Check out more of their work, Showcase and weddings and more, at www.catchacandid.com.) ■

80 DEGREES OF DANCING cont. from page 12

- **Best Crowd Support:** North Star Ballroom. Where was all that noise coming from?
- **Best Dressed:** anyone dancing with Eric Hudson. Liz: always has a FABULOUS dress. Eileen: the polka dots were different and awesome. Cathy: has great taste.
- **Sassiest Couple:** Jeremy Anderson and Yuko Taniguchi... Newlyweds.

I loved seeing improvement in so many dancers. It was a great event to participate and spectate at and I can't wait for next year! ■



Photo by Decadance Photography – Tony Eng

2011 SNOW BALL PHOTO ALBUM...



Photos by Decadance
Photography – Tony Eng



Snow Ball Photo Album...



Photos by Decadance Photography – Tony Eng

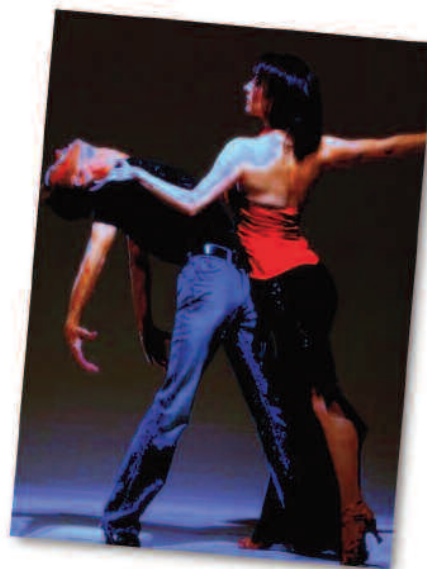
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The Ritz Theater
Minneapolis March 2011

Showtimes: Thursday, March 10 8pm
Friday, March 11 8pm
Saturday, March 12 5pm and 8pm
Sunday, March 13 7pm

Ticket Prices: Adult \$27 Student \$25 Senior \$25



The evening includes a reworking of the company's 2007 production, *Spinning Wheel*, *The Nightingale*, and new work, *Change of Hue*. The company consists of professional ballroom dance champions who the Star Tribune called "an eye-opening look at what ballroom dance in the 21st century can be".



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Snow Ball Photo Album...



Photos by Decadance Photography – Tony Eng

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Chapter two

[Our story so far: Middle-aged and single-again Cordell McEvoy has decided to look for romance in the world of social dancing. First, however, he must take a few lessons and has found his way to the Happy Feet School of Dance.]

I got out of my car, locked the door, and started walking across the parking lot. As I approached the dance studio it occurred to me that I had no idea what to say when I got inside. Their ad said they offered instruction in all the latest dances, but I didn't know what those dances were or which ones would best enable me to achieve my objective.

Objective? What is my objective? What will I say if they ask about my reason for learning to dance? I want to go out to nightclubs and dance like John Travolta and have women follow me home? I can't tell them that. What if they ask about a partner? I don't have a partner – that's why I dragged myself over here! Better not say that, either. In fact, the less said the better. I'll just poke my head in the door, grab a brochure, and run.

There was a small reception desk just inside the entrance. I was relieved to see that the receptionist was absent. That would give me a chance to look around a little without interference.

On the wall beside the desk there was a display case filled with trophies and photographs of couples dancing in elaborate costumes. Some of the men had large numbers plastered to their backs. On the top shelf, next to the biggest trophy, stood a photo of a couple dancing in very formal attire. She wore a flowing gown of lemon yellow fabric, sprinkled with tiny sparkling stones. Her blond hair was wrapped tightly on top of her head and decorated with more stones. Her eyes and her smile were even brighter than the stones. He wore a black tuxedo, the kind with the long tails, and a white bowtie. He was very tall, more than six feet. His hair was raven black. He was slender but his shoulders were very broad. He looked as strong as a god. She hovered blissfully in his arms, ethereal and weightless. I stared at this divine couple for a few minutes.

Then I turned my attention to the studio itself.

Like most shopping center spaces, this one was perhaps thirty feet wide and about a hundred feet from front to back. To the right of the entry was a small carpeted waiting area, separated from the dance floor by a waist-high wall. A cushioned bench, also unoccupied, ran along this wall. Under the bench I could see a neat row of men's and women's street shoes.

A partition wall ran across the middle of the main space, and there was a door at one end. Although the door was closed, I could hear piano music behind it. It sounded like Mozart.

On my side of the wall, Frank Sinatra was crooning "Under My Skin." A group of six couples were lined up along one side of the studio and watching a tall, slender man on the other side. Instead of street shoes, the men wore dull black Oxfords with very thin soles. The women wore black pumps with modest heels. Everyone was watching the instructor's feet intently as he walked through some sort of pattern. He was also wearing black Oxfords, but his were patent leather. As he demonstrated the steps, he called out the footwork: "Heel-toe, toe, toe-heel." He repeated this drill slowly three times. The men were then asked to perform this pattern, and to repeat the heel-toe incantation as they went along. Next, the women watched as the instructor went through the same pattern, only backwards. Then they had to follow his example, chanting "toe-heel, toe, toe-heel." Finally, everyone paired up and tried out the new moves together. The instructor watched for a few minutes and told them to keep practicing. Suddenly he turned and headed straight for me. He moved with a stately confidence, like a feudal lord making the rounds among his peasants. His curly black hair was turning gray on the sides and he was wearing black pleated slacks, a white dress shirt, and a floral tie that was colorful but not obnoxious.

"Hi there and welcome to Happy Feet!" he said in a brilliant tenor voice, flashing a smile to match. "What can we do for you today?"

I tried to guess his age but was stumped. His peppery hair and horn rimmed glasses said he was well into his forties, but his clean shaven, finely featured face and schoolboy's complexion said something else.

"Oh... uh... yes, actually... I was thinking about lessons. Taking some dance lessons. Learning how to dance."

"Well, I'm sure glad to see you! A lot of people who come in here just want change for the bus. It's very annoying."

I coughed out a small laugh and smiled. "Yes, I can imagine. Do you have any dance classes for raw beginners with no partners?"

"Oh, sure – not a problem! We make all the students rotate partners so everyone gets some floor time. Which dances did you have in mind?"

Well, this was it: The Moment of Truth. I probably shouldn't mention the two-step. He'll think I'm a hick. What is it they do in nightclubs? Is it latin? Is latin a dance? What did Ricky Ricardo do? Mambo, I think. Or was it samba? Tango? Is that a nightclub dance? Mom and Dad liked the waltz, but do people waltz in nightclubs?

All I could muster was a weak smile and a shrug. I nodded toward the folks practicing their heels and toes. "What's that you're

DANCELAND cont. on page 19

teaching now?"

"Silver Smooth Foxtrot."

"Never heard of it. Do they do that in nightclubs?"

"Nightclubs? No. Foxtrot is a ballroom dance."

"What about mambo – is that a nightclub dance?"

"You could say that."

"Latin really looks like fun."

"Actually, Mambo is one of the Rhythm dances."

"Oh, that's right." I had no idea what Brian was talking about. I turned to watch the couples practicing Silver Smooth Foxtrot, whatever that was. After a few seconds of awkward silence he decided to help me out.

"Tell you what – we have a nice little introductory package: a free half hour private lesson plus three one-hour group classes for seventy-five bucks. You can try a few dances and see what you like. Believe me, we're losing money on the deal, but most of our regular students start out that way."

I had paid a hundred and twenty five dollars for each forty-five minute session in the marriage counselor's office. And that didn't include Frank Sinatra.

"Sounds OK to me. Did you want a check now?"

"Let's get you in the appointment book and you can pay next time. I'm Brian," he said, extending his hand.

"Cordell McEvoy."

"Oh, that's a relief! Right now we have two Daves and three Johns. It gets very confusing sometimes."

Brian came around to my side of the half wall, walked to the reception desk in three enormous strides, and studied the appointment book. "Hmmm. Cassie has some openings next week. How about Tuesday at 6:00?"

"Tuesday at 6:00 sounds fine. Does she teach mambo?"

"She can teach you just about anything. She's running the ballet class in the back studio."

"Ballet?"

"Yes, ballet. Nine- and ten-year-olds. We also offer Modern, Tap, and Jazz. The children classes are what really pay the rent. The ballroom classes are gravy."

We shook hands once again and Brian went back to his pupils. As I walked to my car I mulled over the details of my first visit to a dance studio and my encounter with Brian. Nightclubs and ballrooms. Latin and rhythm. Smooth and ... what? Rough? I started the engine, then got back out to scrape the ice off the windshield. Then I got back in, buckled my seat belt, and looked out at the Happy Feet School of Dance some more. I was expecting the school to be run by women instructors. Probably because my father had been taught to dance by his five older sisters. That plus my experience at the country-western dance suggested that the world of social dance instruction would be dominated by the female race. And I tried to figure out where I had seen Brian before. What was his story? He had the easygoing self confidence of someone who is quite comfortable performing for a crowd. Like a successful lawyer, or maybe a politician. Then it hit me. Brian was the tall gentleman in the photograph dancing with the smiling blond lady.

To be continued... ■



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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.

Q My partner and I are brushing off rather old choreography but American Smooth styling seems to always be changing. What is the latest trend in American Smooth?



He Said:

Trends are forever changing and not always for the better. The quality of dancing is getting better by leaps and bounds though, because the quality of instruction has improved tremendously in the past few years. I think that in terms of smooth dancing, the trend is to have the men be more active than in the past. It used to be that the man was the "Frame" and the woman was the "Picture". However, dancing requires

a constant search for "more" and in doing so some of the traditional ideas have fallen by the wayside.

Dancers are constantly striving for more speed, more light and shade, bigger shapes and higher impact on the floor. Unfortunately, this sometimes leads to distorted shapes and lines and the character of the dance often gets lost in an effort to be different. No matter what you do, you have to remember that your quest is to draw the spectator into your performance so that they are left with a feeling of wanting more. So to answer the question, brushing up old choreography may work if you keep in mind that it's almost always how you do rather than what you do. Make sure that someone who is qualified helps you polish those routines and good luck!

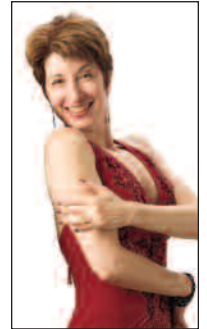
She Said:

My most recent vision of American Smooth is based on judging the Professional Smooth division at the Ohio Star Ball in November. Right now each of the couples in the professional final has developed an individualistic sense of style and personality. There is no single style dominating this division, making it one of the most creative around. The top couples reach the final because

they are able to combine their unique sense of artistry with lovely technique and musicality. For some couples, it's primarily research into counter-balancing, connection, and stillness, others are about continuity of movement, undulating shapes and tricks, others are exploring line, compression and expansion.

If you are 'brushing off old choreography,' first make sure that you still enjoy the choreography, and that it speaks to both of you as dancers. If it capitalizes on your strengths and suits your personality, then worry less about what is in style, and focus on what you can do to project your vision of smooth dancing. Convince the audience and judges that what you are doing is interesting and beautiful – and you will set the style.

Donna Edelstein donnaawrites@msn.com 763-557-6006 ■



Same Sex Dance Competitions by Jeff Ringer of StudioJeff, St Cloud, MN jeff@studiojeff.com

It's a little known secret but there are ballroom dance competitions for same sex couples sprouting up around the country and indeed around the world. They were recently part of the Gay Games in Frankfurt, Germany.

On Saturday April 30th, 2011, another such event will occur in Oakland, California. The April Follies is an annual dance competition for same sex couples—men dancing with men and women dancing with women. Although many of the participants are gay, lesbian, or bisexual, this is not a requirement. Anyone can participate regardless of sexual orientation.

The Follies include entries at beginner, intermediate, and advanced levels as well as in the American and International Styles. There are also "luck of the draw" events which are jack-and-jill events where individuals

can enter and find their partner on the dance floor. Last year there were also two line dance events.

This year, the April Follies will mark a milestone. The competition has been selected by the North American Same Sex Partner Dance Association to host the first ever National Same Sex Partner Dance Championships. This raises the stakes for the competition and will make it even more exciting than it already is.

April Follies is a nonprofit venture so it is extremely affordable. One can enter an unlimited number of events for one low price, around \$75 plus a registration fee (although this year's fees have not yet been set.) To learn more about the competition and to see a video of a recent male/male performance visit www.aprilfollies.com ■

Dance into Your Best Life® – Dance Local, Connect Global

By Julie Delene

On the dance floor

It is most important to be present and centered with your partner as you dance. When you are connected, available to your partner, and focusing upon each step... you are “dancing local”.

At the same time, one must observe the flow of the dance floor and be aware of those dancing around you. Instead of running into each other, you look for the rhythm of the larger dance floor and help create a harmonious and synchronistic movement. If the world were the dance floor, you are then, in a sense, “connecting global”.

An interview with Scott Anderson

Recently I was able to visit with Scott Anderson. And many of you already know, you couldn't find a nicer guy. Scott has been in the dance business since college and has been a steady, consistent force in the Twin Cities building this dance community. Our conversation inspired this topic in multiple ways.

For one, Scott meets people wherever they are and moves them forward. After all these years, he could be less than enthusiastic to teach new dancers, but instead he regards them as one of his greatest treasures – to help people take their first step. At the same time, he also enjoys pulling out the best in accomplished dancers and creating champions as we just experienced with his student, Tracy Anderson, at the Snowball competition.

He shares his approach to success – apply the “90/10 rule”: talk about the student 90% of the time, and you 10%, and make it fun for them. The point being, as he meets people where they are, he is “dancing local”.

Scott has experience owning studios, three in fact, but he has now found it more satisfying to help support all the studios in the area. He does this by teaching their staff, renting their space, and organizing larger events where all studios can participate. By caring for the larger organized system of dance in the Cities, he “connects globally”. In fact, he and his wife, Amy, have been operating the Twin Cities Open for 20 years, truly raising the dance community to a global connection.

The metaphor in life

Certainly it is true that as we are present to ourselves and our steps, we are more available to our lives. Our moments

become more conscious, intentional and meaningful. We accept what is and meet others where they are. Our bodies are found to be communication vehicles that provide us with important information and wisdom. We live local.

As we do this, our hearts open, we release stress and anxiety. We create calm in our lives and operate from this space in our dealings with others. From here a doorway opens and we find ourselves connecting with others in more conscious, intentional and meaningful ways.

We are living our lives as a dance. As our light shines and we thrive, we bring awareness and connection to the larger version of ourselves. This larger dance floor of life is impacted by our calm, centered, grounded approach by inspiring flow and rhythm... we connect global.

On the other hand, this concept of living local and connecting global does NOT happen when there is a sense of separation, fear, and disharmony. In fact, returning to the metaphor of dance, this can be demonstrated when in a competitive atmosphere. I noticed at the recent competition, that running into others happened more often, overpowering past others is a part of the expression. It seems as though a sense for the rhythm and flow of the overall movement is compromised for individual goals. I know this is the meaning of a competition, but could one's gifts be expressed perhaps better from a place of thriving, rather than forceful competition?

The question then becomes... how can we thrive more, rather than compete or defend? How can we practice “living local and connecting global”?

Let us all experience the dance of life.
Best wishes, Julie

NOTE: Although Scott inspired this topic, there are many who also contribute to the greater good of this dance community. For example, all the volunteers of the Dancing Times and USA Dance... we are grateful.

Julie Delene, Move As One, LLC, Strategic life and business developer, Energizing individuals and teams to co-create astounding results! 612-598-5355, www.move-as-one.com, www.threetreasuresprogram.com, www.slippersdance.com, www.onyourtoes.org

Julie Delene offers training, coaching and consulting for the purpose of creating more fulfilling lives, businesses, and organizations. She is the founder of Move As One, LLC, creator of the M-O-V-E-S method, and is a certified trainer of Best Year Yet™, Miracle of the Breath™, and Black Sect Feng Shui. Julie teaches dance at On Your Toes/Retro Ballroom in St. Louis Park. ■



Feeling Appreciated By Chris Trask

On Sunday, January 16, members of USA Dance MN put on a fantastic, "New Year", dance show at the Stillwater VFW Post 323. The show started out with the, "Star Spangled Banner". Dance members were in the festive military colors of red, white, and blue. Dancers performed old-time waltz, cha cha, swing, waltz, fox trot, polka, and west coast swing. The Sleigh Belle dancers were a great hit as they kicked in unison to the music.

"I felt very appreciated this evening," commented William Richert, an Officer of the Navy who served during the Vietnam War. "Many of our warriors are exhausted, burned out, and susceptible to suicidal suggestions when they get back to the United States." "The members of the USA Dance team organized by Yvonne and Dan Viehman made my wife, Phyllis, and I feel greatly appreciated. Thank you." *The picture is of Phyllis and William Richert standing in front of the flag.* ■



Competition Calendar

Feb 19, 2011 2011 Phoenix DanceSport Challenge - NQE

Hosted by Phoenix AZ USA Dance Chapter 4033 in Phoenix. Qualifying event for 2011 Nationals.

Feb 25-27, 2011 Star of the North DanceSport Classic

Hosted by USADance Minnesota Chapter # 2011. Ukrainian Event Center, Minneapolis, MN. Contact Min at sotn@usadance-mn.org for more information.

Feb 26-27, 2011 Mid-Atlantic DanceSport Championships - NQE

Hosted by MidEastern USA Dance Chapter # 6001 in Washington DC. Qualifying event for 2011 Nationals.

Apr 8-10, 2011 2011 National DanceSport Championship

USA Dance 2011 National DS Championships, Baltimore MD.

May 7-8, 2011 Columbia Star Ball - NQE

Organized by Mark W. Tabor and Tiffanie Rhodes to be held in Portland OR. Qualifying event for 2012 Nationals.

Jun 17-18, 2011 Gumbo DanceSport Championships - NQE

Hosted by Louisiana Gumbo USA Dance Chapter #5031 in Baton Rouge LA. Qualifying event for 2012 Nationals.



Photography Provided by Chris Trask

New Year's Eve VFW Dance Demo



Photography by Cathy Dessert & Bill Nunn

MORE ON THE VFW DEMO on page 24

Dance Demo News!

By Yvonne Viehman

Many Thanks to Many Dancers!

Throughout November and December 2010, USA Dance participated in many dance demonstrations spreading immeasurable amounts of holiday cheer! There is something special about dancing to holiday music that lifts the spirits of so many!

It was a busy season with performances at the following venues: November 6th at Burnsville CareFree Assisted Living; November 19th at Rose Arbor Senior Living in Maple Grove; double performances on November 28th and December 5th at Southdale Mall; December 10th at Knights of Columbus in Bloomington; and December 12th at Rosedale Mall.

We are ever thankful for all of the following dancers who contributed their time and talents: Sue & Greg Prasch, Bonnie Burton & Ed Soltis (Ed also danced with Deb Huck), Ha & Carol Tuong, Janis Livingston & Greg Moore, Linda & Tom Crable, Sue & Greg Prasch, Lisa Wu & Daniel Lai, Jackie Dalton & Jeff Chinn (Jackie also danced with Paul Stachour) and (Jeff also danced with Zhoujing Liu), Corissa Ranum & Russell Alliev, Katie Menk & Matthew Crawford, Dagmar & Uwe Kortshagen, Alice Hindanov & Michael Kasinkas. Some of these couples performed for the first time and we're grateful they dipped their toe in the "dancing pool"!

We also were joined at many of these demos by some energetic polka dancers which included: Doris & Ron Lazarski, Mary & Ted Ringberg, Sharon & Ron Meyer and Karen & Tom Wiblishauser!

The Sleigh Belle Dancers provided some extra "eye candy" as we were told at all of the above venues which included the following dancers: Lori Goldstein, Brooke Goldstein, Sofia Cervall, Kirsten Hase, Melonie Robran, Marie Reilly, Lisa Motz, Barbie Albers, Bonnie Warhol, Pat Dechaine, Christy Otte, Christina Hill, Jan England and Michelle Skrypec.

No matter the venue, no matter the song, dance when you can and smile all the while! I want to give a special "thank you" to my wonderful husband, Dan Viehman as the emcee, music master and dance partner for all of these demos! Your support and

patience, along with your golden "radio" voice mean so very much to me and to all those attending!

USA Dance Honors Veterans

On Sunday, January 16, 2011, USA Dance provided an opportunity to all veterans to come and be honored at a dance demonstration at the Stillwater VFW! We started the demo with the National Anthem, where everyone sang along. This was the first time we've ever done that and it is worth implementing again, just like at the start of any sporting event, we wanted to honor our country and the troops who serve! We had the following dancers perform: Jackie Dalton & Myron Lowe, Linda & Tom Crable, Susan & Arthur Hellmann, Mary & Ted Ringberg, Sharon & Ron Meyer and the Sleigh Belle Dancers! A special thanks to Chris Trask for organizing the event and to Cathy Dessert for snapping photos! ■



Photography by Cathy Dessert & Bill Nunn

Gentlemen Lead



by Jack Munday

I have previously written about dancing at the Fall Cheek To Cheek Showcase. Almost six weeks later, we also performed at the Dancer's Studio Showcase. The dance floor is larger than what we are used to, which proved to be a challenge. There would be a large crowd on three of the four sides of the floor instead of mostly one side.

In the rumba with Fran, when I led her in a sweetheart, I faced the longest line of spectators and turned Fran to face the center to my left, then the center to my right, then to the far left and finally the far right, then led her out of that pattern and in to a basic. During other patterns, I used the cross body lead to turn us to face one group and then another. When we finished and spoke with our friends, Fran and I glowed in their affirmations of our romantic adventure on the dance floor.

The fox trot had been choreographed at Cheek To Cheek by Monica so that when I led the grapevine, we would be in front of the largest gallery and use the entire width of the floor. Then as we danced away from the people, we did a series of promenade underarm turns, looking back at them. This time, we had to imagine points where to start and where to turn. A practice session on this larger floor proved to be invaluable.

In the West Coast swing with Monica, we used several patterns to reverse our positions, facing various groups of the crowd. When we weren't looking at each other in our "show me what you've got" attitude, we smiled at different audiences.

Later I told Monica that I adjusted the choreography to the music, saying that this is new for me.

Monica patiently reminded me that you don't change the choreography during a performance.

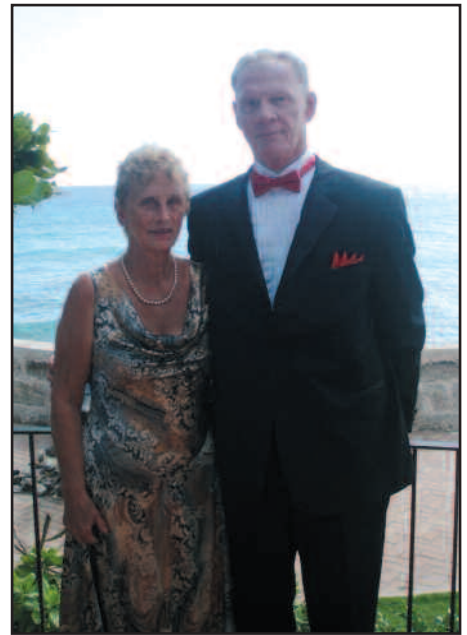
She's right, of course, and I explained that when I used the word adjust, I didn't mean "change." For Example,

I add or eliminate a basic that is in the routine, or take larger or smaller steps, to get where I need to be to begin a more complicated pattern like a fox trot grapevine to give the audience the best view. Our position on the floor is part of the story we tell in each dance.

Unlike the past, I can actually hear the music during the performance, and am aware where I am on the floor with respect to the music. And I also know where the spectators are. I see my awareness as one more step up the ladder of ballroom dancing. Some time ago Fran was pleased that I could lead us around other dancers on a crowded dance floor. Now, without any other couple on the floor, my leading includes the whole floor and the spectators.

The experience at a new (for me and Fran) studio was a delight. Isn't the whole point to performing to have fun?

John S. Munday is a writer and lawyer who lives in Isanti County, Minnesota, with his wife Fran. They dance at the Cheek to Cheek studio. Jack is a student of Monica Mohn. Jack is writing a memoir about his ballroom dancing experiences. ■



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☛ Contact Stacie @ 612-251-8108 or SPIERSON0081@yahoo.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 0-6. \$3,150

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

Fusia Smooth 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. Size 6-8. \$2,450.

Black & Rose Print Stand Gown. Full sleeves, large floats. Size 0-4. \$2,950

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

☛ Contact Janie @ 763-797-5230 or janienordberg@comcast.net

Peach Championship ballgown Size 2-6. Amazing gown made by Marsha Weist Hines - one of a kind! Gorgeous open sexy back, stretch satin skirt with layers adds fullness to movement. Fully stoned bodice and elegant gloves to match! Like new! Asking \$1100.

Black Championship ballgown Size 2-6. Feel luxurious in this gown with maribu boa hem & collar, and long sleeves. Beautifully designed with open back, shows off curves. Gown is covered in beautiful AB multicolored stones. Championship dress. Asking \$1000.

Black/fiery orange ballgown Size 2-6. Stunning gown has fiery orange tones and yellows accents on long sleeves, bodice and chiffon layers of skirt, sexy slit shows some leg, beautiful patterned stoning. Asking \$800.

Pink fantasy of color & stones! Size 2-8. Amazing latin dress - tons of stones, beautiful pearl beading and flirty skirt! Bracelets, necklace, accessories included. A showstopper! Asking \$600.

Black/fuschia ballgown Size 2-8. Striking gown with multi-layered chiffon skirt. AB and AB color stoning! Asking \$400.

Gold/rose-red rhythm dress Size 2-6. Beautiful Rose-Red lace overlays shimmery gold, bell sleeves, flare skirt, AB color stones! \$300 obo

Some gowns available to rent. Payment plans accepted. Call for details.

☛ Contact Steve at sgmkern@aol.com or 612-703-4822

Lady's Smooth Showcase Gown. Teal Green with stones artistically placed, worn twice. size 2-4. \$95

☛ Contact Theresa at theresakimber@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: Chrisanne Black Standard Gown. Incredible 5-layer silk skirt. Asymmetrical-designed velvet and stoned top that produces a slim waistline. Long sleeves, amazing full necklace and earrings. This dress is truly top-of-the-line. Must see. Call or email for pics. \$4000

Size 2-6: Current style red Chrisanne standard gown. Multi-tiered tulle material skirt shows beautiful movement. Slimming stone design through bodice and hips. International Dance Championship dress worn by world finalist. Fits 5'5" and taller best, but could be altered to fit. Ask about rental, too! Pictures available. \$3000.

Size 2-6: Black Elegant Smooth Gown. Black mesh peeks through an 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. \$2800 pics avail.

☛ Contact AnnaMaria @ 612-280-6869 or annamariagregerson@comcast.net

Photos on my website: <http://home.comcast.net/~dandamgreg009/site/>
Retired from competitive dancing, selling my gowns, rhythm dresses, and accessories. Wide variety of smooth gowns and latin dresses. Many showcase gowns and evening wear. Most size 6-10, some 4 and 12. Gorgeous accessories to help you shine on the floor. Affordable.

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 appliques, 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.

☛ Contact Joan @ 6123864174 or jdazer@comcast.com

Royal Blue Smooth Gown. Dress is covers with full nude sleeves and back. Earring included. Size 6-10, \$2,850

☛ 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.

☛ Contact Cathy at cathydessert@comcast.net. Stunning, eye-catching, not to be missed! Chrisanne standard gown, silvery blue, tons of tulle and rhinestones. Former Pro dress. Sz 0-6. Gently worn. photo available. \$2500.

☛ **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

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.

Classic Ballroom (763) 519-1314
www.classicballroomdance.com 4228 Lancaster Lane No,
 Plymouth 55441 (Four Seasons Mall – Cty Rd 9 west off Hwy
 169) Dance parties: 1st & 3rd Friday of every month: 7:10 pm –
 two group classes (1 for newcomers; 1 for bronze level and up);
 8-9 pm party follows! Cost: \$15/group & party, \$10/party only.

Club Salsero @ Cinema Ballroom 651.699.5910
 1st Friday Latin Dance Party, \$15 for lesson & party; students
 with ID receive discount at door.

Dancers Studio 651-641-0777
www.dancersstudio.com Corner of St Anthony & Pascal, 1508
 University Ave W. St. Paul, MN 55104

E.R.V. Dance Studio 952-303-3339
 816 Mainstreet, Hopkins, MN 55343, www.ERVdancestudio.com

Fred Astaire Dance Studio 651-451-6300
 5300 S Robert Trl, Inver Grove Hts, MN 55077,
www.FredAstaireMN.com, invergrovemn@fredastaire.com

Liola-La Bodega (612) 823-2661
 Lyndale & Lake Street, Mpls; Sundays and Mondays SALSA and
 Latin Dancing Costa Rica-style; Brought by ERVentertainment &
 Tico Baila (612-240-9053)

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 (651) 487-6821
www.mnwestcoastswingdanceclub.com B-Dale Club, 2100 N.
 Dale St., Roseville. Dances 2nd & 4th Fridays. Lesson 7:30 pm,
 Dance 8:30 pm. \$5/WCS members, \$8/non-members.

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 (952) 928-7803
 1st Sat & 4th Fri Ballroom Dances. www.onyourtoes.org and
info@onyourtoes.org 5810 W. 36th St., St. Louis Park, 55416.
 Jeff and Cindy Nehrbass.

Rebels Swing Dance Club (952) 941-0906
www.tcrebels.com New location for dances: Social Dance
 Studio, 3742 23rd Ave. S., Minneapolis; 1st & 3rd Sunday
 Dances; 7-10:30 pm; \$7 /members; \$11 non-members.

Rendezvous Dance Studio (612) 872-1562
 711 West Lake Street, Ste B, Mpls, MN 55408
www.theplacetodance.com

Social Dance Studio (612) 418-4046
www.socialdancestudio.com 3742 23rd Ave. S., Mpls, 55407

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 (651) 414-0644
www.tropicalballroom.com 1750 Weir Dr., Woodbury, MN
 55125 (inside Valley Creek Mall); James & Tricia Wood.

Universal Steppers Dance Club 651-783-6619
www.universalsteppers.net MLK, 271 Mackubin Street, St. Paul
 55102. Thursday class 6-8 \$5. Tuesday practice 6-8 pm.
 Donations accepted.



Dance Contacts

Studios/Instructors

<i>American Classic Ballroom, Chanhassen</i>	952-934-0900
Paul Botes, Andreas Mantius, Natalie Palmer	
<i>Arthur Murray Dance Studio, St. Paul</i>	651-227-3200
Scott Anderson	612-816-4446
<i>Ballroom & Wedding Dance Studio, Minneapolis</i>	612-371-0300
Harry Benson	763-843-2285
Gene Bersten	763-234-8656
Klaudyna Borewicz	612-203-9123
<i>Champion Ballroom, Edina</i>	952-934-2160
Robert & Jennifer Foster, Caitlin Rose Foster, Thomas Varian	
<i>Cheek to Cheek Studio, Coon Rapids</i>	763-755-3644
<i>Cinema Ballroom, St. Paul</i>	651-699-5910
Dustin Donelan, Michelle Haley-Hudson, Eric Hudson, Lindsey Hall, Alyssa Kark, Shane Meuwissen, Martin Pickering	
<i>Dahl Dance Center, Rochester</i>	507-252-1848
<i>Dancers Studio, St. Paul</i>	651-641-0777
Jill Ableman, Modie Chehourri, Christine Hallberg, Jeff Halverson, Kate Bratt, Gordon Bratt	
Nathan Daniels	763-545-8690
Jennelle Donnay	651-357-2060
Donna Edelstein	612-910-2690
<i>E.R.V. Dance Studio</i>	952-303-3339
Elicer Ramirez-Vargas, Rebecca Dahlquist-Eckhoff, Rachelika Baruch, Soodi Pessian, Mauricio Barrios, Stefany Frias, Alissa Zautne, Diosnel Campoalegre, Danadrian Harper	
<i>Four Seasons Dance Studio</i>	612-342-0902
Rebecca and Bruce Abas	
<i>Fred Astaire Dance Studio</i>	651-451-6300
Donna Frykman	651-777-5447
Esther Granbois	612-872-1562
David Hanson	218-722-0742
Julie Jacobson	651-261-6442
Tony Karadjov	612-203-5429
<i>LaDanza Dance Club Stillwater</i>	651-439-3152
Mark or Wanda Bierbrauer	
Jay Larson	651-387-3886
Tom Larson	612-371-0300
Deanne Michael	612-508-9255
Monica Mohn	612-874-0747
Jeff & Cindy Nehrbass	952-928-7803
Mariusz Olszewski	612-242-5159
<i>On Your Toes, St. Louis Park</i>	952-928-7803
Jeff & Cindy Nehrbass, Elly Mae Toupin, Laurel Behning, Julie Delene Eric Remsen	612-724-3156
<i>Rendezvous Dance Studio</i>	612-872-1562
Mary Rosenstiel	612-720-2584
<i>Social Dance Studio, Mpls</i>	612-353-4445
Joy Davina, Todd Paulus	
<i>StudioJeff, St. Cloud</i> , Jeffrey Ringer	320-266-4137
<i>Tropical Ballroom, Woodbury</i>	651-414-0644

Services

Made for Movement: costume design, production, tailoring (Marsha Wiest Hines)	952-595-0003
Oh Sew Special: tailoring, alterations, redesign (Susan Richardson)	952-746-5539
Satin Stitches Ltd.: custom designed dancewear (Deborah J. Nelson)	763-323-9507 or 1-800-48SATIN

Clubs

Café Bailar	612-600-5129
LaDanza Dance Club Stillwater	651-439-3152
MN West Coast Swing Dance Club	651-487-6821
REBELS Swing Dance Club	952-941-0906
Tango Society of Minnesota	763-576-3349
Universal Steppers Dance Club	651-783-6619
USA Dance, Minnesota Chapter	651-483-5467

MINNESOTA

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Bill Dessert 651-633-4600

Next Newsletter Deadline: February 10th, 2011