

MINNESOTA

# DANCING TIMES



A publication of the Minnesota Chapter of USA Dance

February 2006



## Star of the North 2006

Practice Competition and  
Masquerade Ball Photos

## Love and Dancing

Get a **FREE** online subscription to the  
Minnesota Dancing Times – at  
[www.usabda-mn.org](http://www.usabda-mn.org)

**Inside this month's issue... Love & Dance:**

Star of the North Information, An Interview With Jesse Smith & More



## Dancers Nite Out



- Sa 02/04 USA Dance's "The Groove" Collegiate Dance at Cinema Ballroom, 1260 St. Clair, St. Paul from 8pm-12midnight. FMI: [www.myspace.com/thegroovemn](http://www.myspace.com/thegroovemn)
- Sa 02/11 Valentine's Dance with Boogie Wonderland, Medina Entertainment Center, 500 Hwy. 55, Medina, doors open 8pm, music starts 9:15pm; Admission: \$10; FMI: [www.medinaentertainment.com](http://www.medinaentertainment.com).
- Sa 02/11 2006 Viennese Waltz Ball at Cinema Ballroom, 1260 St. Clair, St. Paul, 7-7:30pm Reception, 7:30-8pm Lesson, 8-11:30pm Dance to Christina Rosholt & Cafe Accordion Orchestra; Advanced tickets: \$35/general admission, \$50/reserved seat(w/perks!) if ordered before 2/10/06; FMI: [www.cinemaballroom.com](http://www.cinemaballroom.com)
- Fr-Su 02/17-19 USA Dance and MN Amateur Sports Commission host 9th Annual Star of the North DanceSport Competition, Memorial Hall, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis; FMI: Mike at 651.699.4857 or [ek865@aol.com](mailto:ek865@aol.com)
- Sa 02/25 Tango Milonga at Cinema Ballroom, 1260 St. Clair, St. Paul, 9pm-12midnight, presented by Rebecca Abas; FMI: [rebecca@4seasonsdance.com](mailto:rebecca@4seasonsdance.com)
- Su 02/26 Special Variety Dance at the Medina Entertainment Center, 500 Hwy. 55, Medina, \$5 admission, Dance 2-6pm, DJ: Gail Zimmerman; FMI: [www.medinaentertainment.com](http://www.medinaentertainment.com)

**Arthur Murray Dance Studio** (651) 227-3200  
534 Selby Avenue, St. Paul, MN. Salsa for beginners and advanced on Wednesday 8:15 pm/\$15. Date Night variety class for beginners on Friday 6:45 pm/\$25/couple.

**Black Dog Cafe & Wine Bar** (651) 228-9274  
308 Prince Street, St. Paul Argentine Tango night every 3rd Saturday. Lesson at 7:30, dance from 8-11 pm \$3.

**Cafe Bailer Dance Club** (952) 949-3016  
Social dance club specializing in Latin and Ballroom dancing holding dances twice a month @ Fosters' Dancesport Studio, 816 1/2 Main Street, Hopkins. 2nd Friday and 4th Saturday every month. Lesson at 7:30 pm, dance 8:30-midnight. For more info go to <http://www.cafebailer.com>.

**Cheek to Cheek Ballroom** (763) 755-3644  
11415 Foley Blvd., Coon Rapids, MN, 1st Friday Dance! Lesson 8-8:45pm; Dance 8:45-11pm; \$8/non-studio members; \$5/studio members, [www.cheektocheekdancestudio.com](http://www.cheektocheekdancestudio.com)

**Cinema Ballroom** (651) 699-5910  
1560 St Clair Ave, St Paul, MN, 2nd Friday Dance! Lesson 8-9 pm; Dance 9-12 am; \$6/general admission; \$5/with student ID, [www.cinemaballroom.com/spin](http://www.cinemaballroom.com/spin).

**Dancers Studio** (651) 641-0777  
[www.dancersstudio.com](http://www.dancersstudio.com), 99 Snelling Ave. N. St. Paul, MN. Every Friday night, Beginning and Advanced lesson at 8 pm, Dance 9-10 pm. \$15-25/non-members.

**Hidden Haven Country Club** (763) 434-4626  
20520 NE Polk St., Cedar, MN Every Sunday from 6-10 pm. Classic country and rock-and-roll, the band is Ringer.

**Loring Pasta Bar**  
<http://www.loringcafe.com/pastabar> Sunday nights have tango or other latin music from 6-9 pm.

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# 9th Annual STAR OF THE NORTH DANCESPORT COMPETITION

## FEBRUARY 17-19, 2006

Memorial Hall  
McNamara Center  
University of Minnesota

Cheer on your friends and bring your  
dance shoes for the special social  
events!

[www.usabda-mn.org](http://www.usabda-mn.org)

**USA Dance MN HOTLINE**  
**(651) 483-5467**

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

## From the Board

### Minutes of the Monthly USA Dance Board Meeting December 6, 2005

November minutes were approved with minor changes to the treasurer's report.

#### New Officers

Mike Jones appointed and approved as Pres effective Jan '06 for a two-year term. Erik Pratt appointed and approved as Vice-Pres effective Jan '06 for a one-year term. Other new board members will be brought on board at January meeting.

#### Mission Statement

Committee presented the second half of their report with specific discussion about our priorities and our working relationship with the national association. Debbie will do a calendar of yearly occurring events for Jan board meeting to help prioritize and schedule events for '06.

#### Monthly Dances

Mike J and Erik will look into locations for '06 monthly dances and bring report to January board meeting.

#### Hotline

Decision made to continue with hotline as is for the present since Pete has offered to let us continue to use the current number.

#### Committee reports

**Ballroom Blast (Frank)** – The event was judged a success and a money-maker. Final budget will be presented at the January board meeting.

**Floor committee (Gary)** – discussion about use of the floor for The Snow Ball 2006. Gary will tell Paul & Donna the floor is available to them for the usual rental fee. Some discussion about "free use" of floor for 2005 Nationals – to be further discussed at January meeting per request of Dan V.

**Membership (Carol)** – reports that one or two people express interest in membership at each monthly dance.

**Nationals** – unanimous agreement that the original agreement for sharing of proceeds be held up. Gary will talk to Esther.

**SOTN (Mike Y)** – everything proceeding on schedule. Volunteers needed – Sherrie V, Yvonne V, and Ellen A have agreed to emcee again.

January Dance Extravaganza is scheduled for January 21 at the Dance Shoppe. Fewer lessons are scheduled due to feedback from previous extravaganzas, but will include country 2-step lessons.

#### Next meeting

Tues, Jan 3rd, 7:30 pm at Dan's office  
6681 Country Club Drive  
Rear lower level entrance



## 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 and clarity. Photos will be returned. Please provide a self-addressed, stamped envelope or send jpgs via email.

**Subscriptions:** \$18/year. Make checks payable to USA Dance MN and send to Anne LaTourelle, 6130 Ives Lane, Plymouth, MN 55442. Expiration dates are printed on the mailing labels.

## Advertising

**DISPLAY ADS:** To advertise your event or professional service, submit a digital file (**high quality pdf or jpeg format ONLY**) or camera-ready artwork to **Cathy Dessert (651-415-0375 or cathydessert@comcast.net)** 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 or Eileen. 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

**CLASSIFIED ADS:** Free 3-line ad in Swaplines available to subscribers (dance merchandise only).

**DEADLINE FOR ALL MATERIALS:**  
**10th OF EACH MONTH**  
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# 2006 Star of the North Volunteer Information

Mike Jones, Incoming President of USA Dance-MN

The 9th annual Star of the North DanceSport Competition is coming February 17-19, 2006 and here's the info that you've been waiting for.

By popular demand we are again making it possible for people to participate in this extraordinary event as volunteers. That's right, you can be right in the thick of the action and you don't even need to be a competitor. So once again my lovely co-volunteer coordinator, Sharon Kennedy, and I will be rustling up some volunteer talent.

The competition will be at the McNamara Alumni Center Memorial Hall at the University of Minnesota.

The volunteer shifts are as follows and the times can vary slightly depending on how the competition is going:

Friday Afternoon	12:00 PM – 2:00 PM	Floor Setup
Friday Evening	5:30 PM – 12:00 AM	Competition
Saturday Morning	8:00 AM – 1:00 PM	Competition
Saturday Afternoon	1:30 PM – 6:00 PM	Competition
Saturday Evening	7:30 PM – 12:00 AM	Comp./FloorTake-Down

It's fun and easy to volunteer. We just need a few bits of information including your

- Name
- Email Address
- Phone Number(s)
- Available Shift Times(s)

Please forward your info to: [SOTNvolunteers@gmail.com](mailto:SOTNvolunteers@gmail.com) as soon as possible!

Many of the volunteers have so much fun that they insist on staying around to help for multiple shifts. We're a pretty easy bunch so we allow the volunteers to enjoy themselves as much and for as long as they want.

## Frequently Asked Questions:

Can I take someone with me?

Absolutely, however, we would prefer to know that they will be coming ahead of time so we can assign tasks where you can work together.

What do I get for volunteering?

You get to watch some great dancing during your shift and you get FREE admission to another session of your choice. We'll have some freebee beverages for all of those thirsty volunteers. Plus you'll feel an inner glow that will last and last. (Some people are still glowing from last year).

What should I wear?

We recommend you dress comfortably and wear something that would be considered business casual. The evening sessions tend to be more formal. Some positions will require you to be on your feet more than others. For those positions you may want to wear

comfortable shoes. Don't forget your dance shoes. During the day there are occasional opportunities for some general dancing and at the end of each evening's events the floor opens up for lots of general dancing.

What will I be doing? Will I have to do that the entire time? Do I get any breaks?

Some assignments are predetermined ahead of time; however, most assignments are made at the competition. Sometimes this assignment will be the initial and primary position you will be holding during the competition. Sometimes positions are rotated. We will have people to relieve you periodically and there may be opportunities to move around if there are others to take your place.

The following are examples of available volunteer tasks:

### Admission Table

Sell tickets to spectators.

### Competitor Check-In

Assist the registrar on checking in competitors and giving them their competition packet. This will include their tickets to the floor as well as any other information they may need.

### Runners/Awards Assistant

Take scoring sheets from judges after each dance and give them to the scrutineer. In between heats assist judges in distributing awards.

### Emcee/Judge/Scrutineer Assistant

Assist the emcee(s) and judges with any requests they may have during the competition. Assist with the calculation of scores, posting of results and other assistance the scrutineer requires.

### Refreshment/USA Dance Info Table

Sell snacks and beverages to competitors and spectators, distributing information regarding USA Dance as well as sell memberships and newsletter subscriptions.

### On-Deck Captain

Make sure competitors are in the on-deck area before their heat as well as make sure competitors for the next heat are on-deck. This position is only for experienced competitors.

### Security

Oversee the general security of the area which will include making sure all people in the floor area have a badge and/or ticket.

### General Purpose Go-fer

Be responsible for making sure any additional needs that arise are addressed as well as relieving other volunteers for breaks.

The following link will take you to the Official Star of the North website which includes a veritable plethora of general info about the event including links to maps and parking.

<http://www.usabda-mn.org/DesktopDefault.aspx?tabid=55> ■



# Experience the Unrivaed Energy of Star of the North DanceSport Competition

By Michelle Nordberg



**T**housands of feet pounding out familiar rhythms, a rainbow blur of colors and lights, and the hum of hundreds of excited voices filling the air – welcome to Star of the North. Each year students and adults meet here to compete for ballroom dancing titles. For many of them, it will be the first time competing, and they will be completely swept up in this new world.

It will be their first time hearing their name announced in front of a room filled with captivated faces, their first time seeing people scurrying in tuxedos, rhinestones, fake eyelashes, jewels, and glamour. As they twirl around the room they will be thrilled by an onlooker's amazement and awe-inspired glances. It will be their first time experiencing the rush of audience members cheering and clapping, just for them. Their hearts will be pounding, their eyes will not be able to take it all in, and every fiber of their bodies will be enraptured with excitement and anticipation.

The excitement in the room will be inspiring, even intoxicating. The ballroom will be filled with an electric glow of energy. It will be an experience for all that you do not want to miss.

Nels Petersen says it best; "Star of the North has more

energy than any other dance competition." He explains that this energy is present because the bulk of the participants are experiencing the newness of ballroom competition. I'm sure you can still remember those very first steps onto the competition floor. It was a thrill to participate that very first time, but it is just as much of a thrill to witness the child-like wonder of newcomers experiencing the fascinating world of ballroom dance. Come support, cheer, and be inspired by these newcomers.

Competitions will take place February 17th through 19th starting at 5:30 pm on Friday night and running through Saturday evening. There will be dance seminars on Sunday. This year, Star of the North will be held at a brand new venue, the McNamara Alumni Center Memorial Hall at the University of Minnesota. It is located at 200 Oak Street SE in Minneapolis.

For more specific information about this event, schedules and ticket information, please visit our website at <http://www.usabda-mn.org> and click on Star of the North on the bottom right side. Relive the feelings of those very first competitions and come watch the 9th annual Star of the North Dance Competition. ■

## Corrections

### *Dancing After the Storm*

In the January 2006 article *Dancing After the Storm* this publication mistakenly reported that the Amateur Athletic Union (AAU) controls Olympic events in the United States. The AAU does not control any Olympic event nor any Olympic qualifying events in the United States or elsewhere. All such events are the responsibility of the United States Olympic Committee (USOC) and its National Governing Bodies (NGBs). For clarification the Olympics does not include events segregated by age categories including Junior. Although the AAU does run the Junior Olympics these events are not associated with the Olympics. These events were designed to provide the AAU with a youth venue when they lost control of the Olympics in 1978 by congressional mandate. We apologize to the USOC and its NGBs for these errors and any misrepresentation of USOC/NGB roles and responsibilities.

### *Minnesotans at Ohio Star Ball*

In the Ohio Star Ball article from last month it was stated "In the Junior Amateur Latin Gene Bersten and Zhana Vayntraub placed third."

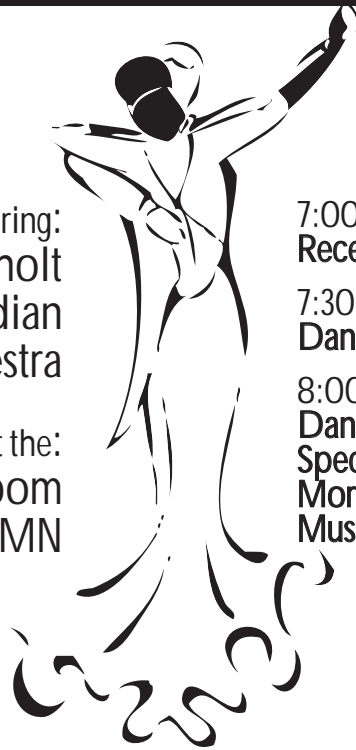
Their placement was actually 2nd!

A n evening of elegance and romance.

# Viennese Ball 2006

Featuring:  
Christine Rosholt  
& Cafe Accordion  
Orchestra

At the:  
Cinema Ballroom  
St. Paul, MN



7:00-7:30  
Reception

7:30-8:00  
Dance Lesson

8:00-11:30  
Dancing to Live Music,  
Special Presentation and  
More Dancing to Live  
Music!

## February 11

### Advance Tickets:

Reserved Seating \$50 • General Admission \$35 • Students \$20

### Reserved Seating:

Tickets for reserved seating are available for this event. Reserved seating gets you:

A reserved seat at a table for four next to the dance floor

A red rose

A set of free drink tickets

Call 651-699-5910 or go to our website and reserve your tickets now!

<http://www.cinemaballroom.com>

# When Dancing Leads to Love

## Minnesota's Couples Exposed

By Anne LaTourelle

**D**ancing has led many people to finding a partner for both on and off the dance floor. It sounds romantic and heady but was it really love at first sight or did some couples take some time to fall for each other?

I set off to find out more about the stories behind the couples on the Minnesota dance scene. I posed the same questions to all of them...here are their love stories just in time for Valentines Day, enjoy!

### *Steve & Shari Vespested Married September 4, 1999*

**Q:** How did ballroom dancing bring you two together?

Steve and I met and got to know each other at many dances in the mid-late 1990's.

**Q:** Did you know the meeting was special right away? Maybe just one of you did?

It was one-sided. Steve was looking for a competitive partner and had his eye on me early on, but I was both clueless and uninterested.

**Q:** Did you dance together first and then become a couple or start dating right away?

Steve asked me to be a practice partner in the spring of 1997, but I'd just had a nasty ski accident and was out of commission for many months. Finally, in the fall of 1997 I was healed enough, and decided that since no one else was asking, I'd be partners with Steve. The stipulation was NO DATING, as I was still uninterested. Over the next year we became very best friends and started dating in the fall of 1998. By spring of 1999, I realized this was not 'just friends' anymore; it was a LOT more. Steve proposed at the 1999 Minnesota Star of the North Dance Competition, in front of some 300+ people. Fortunately, I was ready and said, "YES" with a little help from the audience!

**Q:** How long did you date before getting married?

About 8 months, then we were engaged 5 months.

**Q:** What role did dancing play in your wedding?

There was no dancing on the day of the wedding, as that was a relatively small affair with about 65 people. The next day we had a party/reception at the Shakopee Ballroom for about 250 guests. Nathan & Deanne taught a swing lesson that everyone enjoyed. Then we had a 45-minute show with about 12 performances, starting off with our wedding dance to a string version of a Chopin waltz. The show featured many of our friends, all different styles of dance, including a featured performance by the YMCA boys!

**Q:** What role will dancing continue to play in your future as a couple?

Social dancing only, after a couple years competing together we found that we argued too much during lessons and practicing! Steve found that he enjoyed organizing dance events (MN Star of the North, USA DanceSport Nationals and recent USA Dance-MN President.) I am now 'dancing' with 2 of our shelties at agility competitions. I use all of my ballroom dance training in a whole new way, as the dogs go where the feet and hips are pointed – it's all about alignment, movement, and partner connection. The biggest difference is the dogs don't argue!

### *David & Jeanne Schmit Married June 8, 2000*

**Q:** How did ballroom dancing bring you two together?

We met at a wedding dance in May 1998. I had just started taking ballroom dance lessons at the NW Athletic Club in January and was frustrated that I wasn't learning fast enough (I was taking only one group lesson per week). While dancing a rumba (a dance I didn't know), David advised me to get some dance shoes (I never knew there was such a thing) and to take many, many, more lessons. I took his advice and took 15 hours of classes per week that summer. In September I saw David at a dance and had to tell him I had taken his advice and could do most of the dances. We started dating shortly after that.



**DANCING LEADS TO LOVE...** continued on page 8



Q: Did you know the meeting was special right away? Maybe just one of you did?

It was special for me because I was so excited to learn to dance. It wasn't about dating at that point for either of us.

Q: How long did you date before getting married?

We dated for 2 years before getting married. We weren't serious about our dancing until after we were married. We never intended to compete, but when it was announced that Nationals would be in St Paul the following August, we decided to use that as a goal to improve our dancing. We thought it would be fun to participate in something our friends were doing!

Q: What role did dancing play in your wedding?

We had a small wedding and didn't want to make our wedding about ballroom dancing. We did English Country dancing (an easy dance everyone could partake in) outdoors by the pool.

Q: What role will dancing continue to play in your future as a couple?

We love to spend time together, and have wondered what we'd do if we didn't dance. We've found other interests together, such as running my studio. We do it as a couple and really enjoy developing something new. We aren't sure how our dancing will evolve.

You didn't ask, "How does dancing affect your marriage?" I'll take a stab at it, because it's an important question. It's kind of a "hush, hush" topic. Competitive dancing is very hard on a marriage. If you manage to get along and enjoy each other while training for dancing, you can make it through most anything! It's a struggle for us, mainly during practices. We've done much better over time, but it's still a challenge. We've needed to change the way we respond to situations, words, and actions in hopes of a successful and fun practice! People often look at us and think it must be so much fun and so romantic to be married dance partners (and it is, in many ways! I'm not complaining!), but they don't see how hard it is most of the time. We've chosen to hang in there anyway because dancing offers a tremendous growth opportunity. We've

learned so much that can be applied to many areas of life. It's been well worth it!

***Paul Botes & Donna Edelstein***  
***Married September 5, 1998***

Q: How did ballroom dancing bring you two together?

We danced together for about a year as professional partners and became good friends.

Q: Did you know the meeting was special right away?

We were quite surprised when we realized that we were attracted to each other, because we had been partners and friends, nothing more. Once we decided to become involved we knew it was serious and that we would get married, which we did the next year.

***Scott & Amy Anderson***  
***Married January 14, 1984***

Q: How did ballroom dancing bring you two together?

We met through dancing, but it wasn't "ballroom" – I was continuing my dance training (tap, jazz, ballet) by auditioning for the dance group on campus (UW-LaCrosse). Men didn't have to audition, and Scott was one of those men. He had been in sports in HS, and wanted to try something different – plus it was a way to meet girls!

Q: Did you know the meeting was special right away? Maybe just one of you did?

We became friends right away & started dating about 8 months later.

Q: How long did you date before getting married?

5 years

Q: What role did dancing play in your wedding?

By the time we got married, we were both teaching at the Fred Astaire Studio in downtown Minneapolis waiting for our Bloomington location to open. We did put together a "wedding dance." My veil kept wrapping around my neck





– wasn't pretty! Plus, back then (1984) the only dance shoes I had were black – a big fashion YUK!

**Mark & Karen Tepley**  
**October 17, 1998**

Q: How did ballroom dancing bring you two together?

Karen & I started taking dance lessons at Arthur Murray's about the same time. We met at the Minneapolis studio.

Q: Did you know the meeting was special right away? Maybe just one of you did?

We both were at the studio to learn to social dance. We had a slowly developing relationship. It took us about 1 \_ years before we started dating.

Q: Did you dance together first and then become a couple or start dating right away?

We decided to practice together and joined a performance team. Marsha Weist Hines suggested we might dance together for a showcase. We started dating after we became partners.

Q: How long did you date before getting married?

We dated for about 8 years.

Q: What role did dancing play in your wedding?

We had a small private wedding on October 17th. We were married at our friend's house, who we met through dancing. The next day we had a large reception at the First Trust Center. We had 300+ people at our reception. Most of them were dancers. Jay Larson and Julie Jacobsen conducted a very large group lesson in swing for the guests. Pete and Joyce handled our music. We had friends and our formation team perform. We did a solo waltz to "Two Socks at Play", music that was part of our wedding ceremony. We also did a solo foxtrot "Can I Steal A Little Love".

Q: What role will dancing continue to play in your future as a couple?

We will likely continue to be involved in local shows and competitions, and will always enjoy social dancing.

Q: How does dancing affect your marriage?

One of the hardest things you can do is compete and be in a relationship with each other. We have been together for over 15 years in one way or another. We found that if you can get along as dance partners, you can get along as a married couple. It is not easy. You also learn how to communicate with each other and how to leave things on the dance floor.

**Ken & Julie Kendle**  
**Married July 23, 2004**

Q: How did ballroom dancing bring you two together?

Dancing certainly brought the two of us together. After maybe a year and a half of taking lessons from Julie, it seemed that we were spending more time talking during lessons than dancing. I think that is when we both learned how much we had in common, and that we shared many interests.

Q: How long did you date before getting married?

Once we became a couple we were both pretty sure of the direction we wanted to go, and after another six months we set a date.

Q: What role did dancing play in your wedding?

For our reception Julie put together a foxtrot/WCS/rumba to "All The Things You Are", which went well and was a lot of fun. Another highlight for us was having Deanne Michael and Nathan Daniels dance at our wedding ceremony. It was a very moving and memorable performance.

Q: What role will dancing continue to play in your future as a couple?

I still love dancing with Julie; she is a joy to dance with. Our dancing time these days is mainly spent practicing routines and preparing for competitions. Beyond that, we really don't do a lot of social dancing. This isn't because we don't want to, but because we're busy doing lots of other things. Dancing is something we will always have in



Mark & Karen Tepley



Ken & Julie Kendle

## DANCING LEADS TO LOVE... continued from page 9

common. It will be interesting to see how things change with a baby due May 1. My guess is that in the short run the time available for dancing will be hit and miss. In the long run it will be an activity we can share with our family as well.

### *Tom & Anne LaTourelle* *Married November 26, 2004*

Q: How did ballroom dancing bring you together?

Anne and I met at Arthur Murray, where I was teaching. Anne (Glynn) had decided to return to ballroom dancing after a thirteen year break, a decision came after unexpectedly visiting a psychic (no, I'm not kidding). So in she walked, started dancing, and became my student.

Q: Did you know the meeting was special right away? Maybe just one of you did?

Being my student, dating Anne was an automatic no-no in Arthur Murrayland, not to mention the fact that her then-husband would probably not have appreciated the extra-private lessons. Not surprisingly, I did not think of dating Anne at all. To me, she was a talented and attractive student that I had a good time dancing with and talking to, but not someone I was planning to date.

Q: Did you dance together first and then become a couple or start dating right away?

Dancing together as teacher-student gave us lots of time together without all the normal hang-ups and inhibitions of dating. So you can say that we danced, became friends and then started dating, and that's when things started getting interesting. While the end of Anne's marriage opened the door to the possibility of dating, the fact that we were still teacher-student caused a problem. Inevitably, though, we started dating anyway, and developed the habit of keeping secrets and sneaking around. While having a secret love affair can sound romantic or exotic, it lost its attraction after much too short a time. There were many drawbacks, not the least of which was hiding it not only from our studio, but our friends, many of whom were dancers. After 2 \_ years the studio found out (of course) and got rid of us.

Q: How long did you date before getting married?

Leaving the studio meant we were able to date openly, and we did for many, many (many) years. Following the venerable tradition of long-dating ballroom couples (the Tepleys and the Nordbergs) we dated for nine years before getting married. We continued to dance, even started competing, during that time.

Q. What role did dancing play in your wedding?

Finally getting married and being able to dance meant that we both wanted a good "dance" at the wedding. We made sure to find a place with a big ballroom so everyone could dance. We danced a waltz and a foxtrot. Several of our friends performed too. It was a lot of fun; a good wedding reception.

Q. What role will dancing continue to play in your future as a couple?

We both love to dance and have socially danced since we started. While I can see a time that we will not compete I cannot imagine not socially dancing. It's a great way to get out and see and be with other people that enjoy dance as much as we do.

### *Andy & Janie Nordberg* *Married October 13, 2001*

Q. How did ballroom dancing bring you two together? How did you meet?

We met at a U of M ballroom dance class. I had recently moved

to the Twin Cities from northern Minnesota.

Taking the dance class sounded like a fun idea and a chance to make new friends. Andy was attending the class as a teacher's helper.

Did you know the meeting was special right away? Maybe just one of you did?

I think we both did... a friend had tipped me to try to dance with the teacher's helpers to learn faster. I spotted Andy and he looked very appealing to me... so when I got a chance I made a beeline for him! I must have made an impression as well when he complimented my dancing and said I should attend the advanced class!

Q. Did you dance together first and then become a couple or start dating right away?

**DANCING LEADS TO LOVE...** continued on page 13



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# ON THE TOWN

with Lois Donnay



## Ah, Love

I ran into an old dancer friend at a dance the other day - one I had not seen for about 10 months. It was a little jarring, since I had seen him so regularly before, and then he was just gone. He was one of those dedicated dancers, too - I saw him everywhere. When I didn't see him I would get emails and messages that he directed toward the dance community about where he was going and where he would like to see us.

Hmmm..... Dance freak one day, and then absent for 10 months. Oh, yes... "So, you broke up, huh?" I asked. Well, this was a little jarring to him. You see, he didn't know that I knew he was dating someone, let alone that the romance had gone sour. He was right. I didn't know he was dating anyone; nor about the breakup. However, I've been around long enough to know that there is only one thing that can get the dedicated dancer off of the floor for that long.

Ah, love.

So what does one do when a new relationship causes one to willingly give up a former passion? Although this has not happened to me, I never let the lack of personal experience or knowledge impede my ever-generous desire to give out advice.

My advice this month is to give a little exposure to your new love. Get him or her out to see some dancing. How do you do this without resistance? Ask them out to dinner. If you get the timing right, they will be comfortably seated

with a favorite drink in their hand - before the dancing starts. Once they see people having so much fun, how can they not be delighted with your gift of a certificate for dance lessons?

Great places to eat and dance are the Times on Wednesdays and Thursdays, Tiburon on Fridays' Loring Café on Saturdays and Sundays, Famous Dave's on Tuesdays, Babalu's on Mondays and Saturdays, La Bodega on Wednesdays. See below, or check my website at [www.mndance.com](http://www.mndance.com), for more ideas.

There's a new Salsa Club at Trocadero's Fine Dining Restaurant, 107 3rd Avenue North Minneapolis, MN 55401 \$7 cover charge Tuesdays

French bistro, swing, tango, Latin, and other favorites are played by Mark and Francine at French Press Jazz Cafe, 213-4th Street East (between Sibley and Wacouta in St. Paul lowertown, across from the Depot), 651-224-2732, [www.fpjazz.com](http://www.fpjazz.com), 8-1, \$5 cover.

The Quest Nightclub has been sold, and the fate is up in the air. Right now it is closed

Becky Thompson & Old School have moved from Lee's to the Eagles, 25th and 25th Ave S, Mpls, 9-1 Music is a little country, but very danceable. WC, EC, Lindy Swing, some Latin, 2 step, waltz. Every Monday but the first Monday of the month. No cover, variety of dancers ■



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# ASK DR. DANCE

by Paul Botes &  
Donna Edelstein

Paul and Donna are popular coaches and adjudicators. They own Time To Dance in Plymouth and organize The Snow Ball DanceSport Competition. They can be reached at 763 557-6004.



**Q** My husband has a hard time saying “no” at social dances to anyone who asks him to dance. Unfortunately, there are always ladies who ask him to dance multiple times during the evening—sometimes 3, 4 even 5 times. Not only do we not get to dance together, but he misses dancing with ladies that he would normally like to ask because he is always being asked first. I have suggested he tell them “no” but it seems hard to do. Dr. Dance, can you help inform the social dancer?

## He Said:

Saying 'no' is always awkward. However sometimes one just has to gently inform the lady that even though he enjoys dancing with her he is saving most of the dances for his partner. Failing that, you can always say, "Sorry I already promised this dance to \_\_\_\_". Perhaps at the next USA Dance you should try instituting a dance card just for fun.

## She Said:

If you are alone at a dance it is OK to ask an accompanied gentleman or lady to dance once. Don't make a habit of asking them over and over. Look for other single dancers. If a person you have asked once wants to dance with you again that evening he or she will ask you. ■



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## DANCING LEADS TO LOVE... continued from page 10

Shortly after our first meeting, Andy invited me on our first date to the "Minnesota Open" competition. So I guess you could say the dancing and dating went hand in hand. I'm not sure which I fell in love with first... Andy or the ballroom dancing!

Q. How long did you date before getting married?

I think we have the record... 10 years. (We met in 1991 and got married in October 2001).

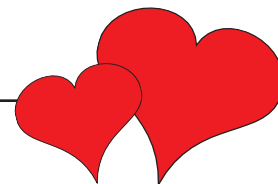
What role did dancing play in your wedding? Did you perform a wedding dance? What was the dance? To what song?

Dancing is such a big part of our lives...it played a very prominent role. Many of our dance friends were part of our wedding party or helping out in some way. We began our

wedding dance with a waltz performance to "The Godfather's Waltz". This was the first time many of our family members and relatives had seen us dance, including my parents. Then a few of our dance friends put on a wonderful show for us, and our guests.

Q. What role will dancing continue to play in your future as a couple?

I know that dancing will always be a part of what we do... it gets in your soul and becomes part of who you are. We have competed at the championship level for almost 10 years and are not sure where we will take our dancing next. In the last couple of years we have had the opportunity to work with some formation teams and beginners. We have discovered how much we enjoy mentoring and helping them with their dancing. ■



# An Interview with Jesse Smith

by Marsha Wiest-Hines

Marsha: Jesse, you are a loved and respected member of the Minneapolis ballroom dance community, but for those who don't know you well, can you outline your dance career to date for us? How did you begin dancing, and what kept you going?

Jesse: My dance background began as a youth when I was forced to take ballet lessons while attending Edison JR. High in Sioux Falls, SD. Not the coolest thing a kid could do to say the least, but I did enjoy our performances of the Nutcracker each year. The performing, the audience, and running back-stage for quick-changes, were all very exciting.

I also helped my mother with some community education ballroom classes and that gave me the confidence to apply to teach at the Minneapolis downtown Arthur Murray studio. I thought it would be a fun part-time job while I went to school. It quickly became a full-time pursuit and the prospect of competitive dance was very appealing. I had some wonderful and talented dance partners at an early stage, which was fortunate, as I could only glimpse the extent of how much I did not know. But I was an eager learner, seeking out coaching whenever available.

Teaming up with my future wife Lynda Price raised the bar for me in many ways. Her previous competitive experience, drive to excel, and commitment to rehearsing to perfection all made this competition stuff more serious. Our first competition together was a memorable disaster, and the first time I felt really nervous. Despite that rocky start, our results soon improved. We quickly became Rising Star contenders in the Arthur Murray and Open competitions.

By 1993 (soooo long ago!) we had won many championships in both rhythm and smooth categories. By then the things that kept me going were the schedule, the next competition, the next show, and the next coach coming in. I was also becoming a better dancer, because the schedule we kept promoted continued refinement of our skills. At the U.S. Championships the following year we won both Rhythm and Smooth Rising Star competitions, were finalists in the Open Rhythm and won the National Nine Dance title. It was a good year. In 1995 we continued to compete and retained our Nine Dance Title, but for me at least, the road life was getting rough.

Our home life became more of a focus, as Lynda and I bought a house, got married, and in July of 1996 had our son Dayton. We did compete that fall at the National



Jesse Smith with his family (daughter Elyse, son Dayton and wife Lynda) in Verona, Italy.

Arthur Murray competition, Superama, to keep our smooth title for another year, but that was our last competition. We have continued to judge, coach and perform around the world, Japan, Hong Kong, and Italy were notable, but mainly we slowed down a bit and enjoyed life at home.

Our second child, Elyse was born in 1998. Lynda and I did a few shows, and I continued to coach and judge. Lynda and I have enjoyed developing talented dancers at our studio, both professionals and amateurs alike, and we continue to develop our teaching and dancing skills.

M: What do you consider to be your greatest professional accomplishments?

J: That's a tough question, our competitive titles count for a lot, but competition is a small part of my profession. I think the studio environment that makes so many people comfortable and open to learning what dance has to offer is significant. I believe my work, as part of the Arthur Murray Dance Board has been significant as well.

M: You and Lynda own the Minneapolis Arthur Murray Dance Studio, and are currently... what exactly is your official title?



J: I am currently the Region 6 Dance Director and also the Area IV Director for Arthur Murray International.

M: And tell me, what does the AMI Area Director's position entail? What are your duties and opportunities?

J: The Area Director co-ordinates two training and award weekends a year. I will also organize the Northstar Dance-O-Rama, an Arthur Murray competition; this year held August in Minneapolis. The Area Director also works as a liaison between franchisees from the area and the home office. To me the position reflects recognition of business success and the willingness to help others. Running the DOR can also be profitable, although it will take some time to build. I will be running my first area-training weekend this January 21-22 in Cleveland. Wish me luck!

M: Everyone has a "Worst Dance Moment." Since you got to share your best with us, how about sharing the opposite?

J: Too many to list! One I can recall was in a Seattle competition where I just knew we were off and worse yet, the judges knew as well. Our poor performance was punctuated by a spectacular slow motion fall from a pivot action that (to me) lasted several minutes. Lynda and I took second to a couple that we usually beat and were knocked out of a special "Champions Challenge." It did give us a free night in Seattle, which was not wasted in the ballroom.

M: You have been battling Hodgkin's Disease now for (how many? three? almost four?) years. Does dancing make a difference in your particular fight?

J: Nearly four years now, which seems like forever. Dancing has been a huge aid in my fight, as it is physically, emotionally, and I believe spiritually uplifting. Being in the dance environment has forced me to be more positive than I sometimes feel. Behaving in a positive way generally leads to feeling better.

M: You have always had an amazing ability to cut to the chase and see the big picture. Tell me, what question I should have asked you that I did not?

J: How am I now? What's next?

M: Thank you for being willing to share that information. People do ask me frequently how you are doing.

J: I have been blessed though out my illness to be able to maintain a high level of activity, until recently. In November of last year I experienced symptoms of autonomic neuropathy that has left me drained of energy and unable to eat and digest food with the ease that I have always taken for granted. I have lost weight and am weak and tired most of the time. I do have

therapy options available to me, but I need to build my strength to be able to take them. I have seen some improvement, but it is slow going. I do remain optimistic that my situation will improve as I have so much to live for and a few more dances to dance.

M: I know that waging medical war is a costly business and that you have a defense budget, the Jesse Smith Miracle Gift Fund. For those who might like to help you buy artillery, could you give us that information?

J: The JSMGF has been quite literally a lifesaver, as it has allowed me to pursue non-traditional therapies along with traditional medicine provided by my insurance. As my options with the traditional route become less available, the Fund will become even more important. To donate in any amount, please send a check to Arthur Murray Dance Studio, attention Jesse Smith Miracle Gift Fund, 5041 France Ave. S., Minneapolis, MN 55410. You will receive my heartfelt thanks. Chicken enchiladas are also accepted, but have special postal requirements.

M: Fifteen years ago, I asked you what you wanted to be when you grew up. I don't know if you remember your answer, but it was not Arthur Murray Area IV Director. I want to ask again. What do you want to be when you grow up?

J: I am not sure what my reply was fifteen years ago. It probably was loaded with an unhealthy amount of sarcasm. In today's context, I can honestly say I am what I want to be when I grow up. I just want to be better at it. (Getting healthy would certainly help this cause.) I want to be more involved with my children, more engaged in my relationship with Lynda, and to continue my development as a dance coach and choreographer. I am proud of my success at the studio and enjoy the challenges it provides. My illness has connected me more with God and opened me up to His goodness and the goodness of so many others, including you. I would like to devote much of my time to honor that. ■



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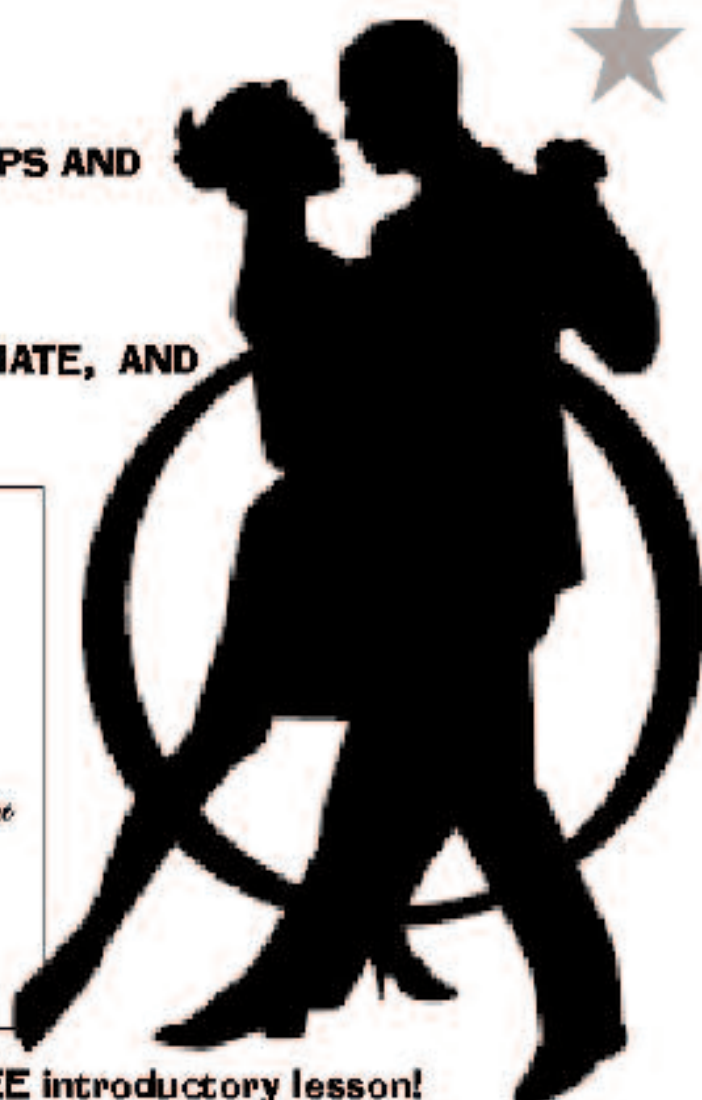
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# Who is Behind That Mask? And Why Are They Wearing It?

By Theresa Kimler

The Masquerade Star Ball was a roaring success on Sunday, January 22nd. The event was held as a fundraiser for the Star of the North Competition to help the event provide scholarships to participants. The Ball was a festive occasion with masked vixens and dapper gentlemen out for a night of dress-up, socializing, and mysterious dancing. Check out the photographs and see if you can guess who is behind each mask!

Preceding the Masquerade Ball, the Star of the North committee hosted a Pre-Competition practice. This was a great way for many new and seasoned competitors to get out on a crowded floor to show their amazing routines and flair. The group was glad to have so many mixed-proficiency couples join in the fun and wish all competitors an exciting time at the Star of North Competition.

A special thank you goes to The Dancers Studio for donation of the wonderful facility and to Kate VanAlstine, well-loved instructor, for providing the music. Thank you to Michelle Nordberg for organizing the event and to all who attended the Masquerade Ball to show your support for The Star of the North competition. We look forward to seeing you next year!



Photos from 2006 Masquerade Ball



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## Ladies!

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Hi, my name is Jen Wolf and I'll be applying  
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I do it all from "full face" to just "false lashes".  
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Please call me for more information or if you would  
like to set up an appointment! **651-249-4772**

## 2006 Practice Competition Photos



Photos from the pre competition practice/dress rehearsal held  
Sunday, January 22, 2006



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## DEAR DANCING TIMES

In October, amateur dancer Andrea Johnson was in a biking accident that left her with seventeen screws, one huge bolt, two plates and an abundance of wire in her arm. She did between four and six hours of physical therapy every single day after the accident, and continues to work on being able to straighten her arm. She can feel the screws whenever she moves her arm.

She's currently spending a month in Spain, but she took the time to write the Dancing Times about her relationship (and recent engagement) to fellow dancer Brad Kuzel:



Dear Dancing Times,

I'd love for Brad and me to be included in the February Love Issue. I'm SO lucky to have Brad, he was great during the whole ordeal with my arm. He works at least 80 hours a week and then would have to come home and take care of me. It wasn't easy for him, but he was an angel.

There is no way I would have survived without him. He made sure I got the best surgeon and let the doctors know I was a dancer. This was a tough surgery that lasted five hours! They said that people don't usually get back the total use of their arm, I was put on a tough schedule to get back as much range of motion as possible. Right now I can get to within 10 degrees of a straight arm. When I have my arm out, it looks straight so I hope I won't lose any points in competition. It's good that I have Brad and that I have dance. It gives me a goal and something to strive for.

As for our engagement... Before I left for Spain Brad surprised me on the winter solstice (since it signifies new beginnings, and after the accident with my arm, it IS a new beginning for us to live our lives again). I thought we were going to a party and that there was a ceremony at Minnehaha Falls. As we were walking along the path, I noticed rose petals sprinkled everywhere and made a joke that they knew I was coming and that they sprinkled rose petals for the Princess (he calls me his Princess). He said they were for the ceremony.

When we got to the falls (that's where we had our first date) I asked where everyone was. He said he didn't know. Then he pulled a box from his pocket, got down on one knee and proposed. I was totally surprised! Both our sets of parents were at the top watching. He set up the whole thing and both our families had a big dinner afterwards at our favorite restaurant. It was VERY romantic.

My arm is getting better and Brad and I are busy planning our wedding. Julie Jacobson will be coordinating our wedding dance. We think we're going to do a combination of dances, but we're not sure yet. One thing is for sure--one of our songs will be "Over the Rainbow". It's our song.

You know, after our first date, I wrote an email to one of my friends saying that I found my future husband. He had similar thoughts. It was love at first sight.

I can't wait to get back to dancing. See you at the studio!

Andrea

Note from Rebecca Kanner, Guest Editor: The Minnesota Dancing Times welcomes letters and pictures from readers and dancers. We want your stories! Please email [annelatourelle@comcast.net](mailto:annelatourelle@comcast.net) by the tenth of the month to include your story in the following month's issue.



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☛ Contact Lynn Kohlasch at 612-243-8800 or [lkohlasch@earthlink.net](mailto:lkohlasch@earthlink.net)  
**Latin/Rhythm Fuchsia & Blue Dress.** Beautifully stoned with sassy short skirt and open back. Size 4-8. Asking \$550.

☛ Contact Theresa at 651-773-3511 or [theresakimler@yahoo.com](mailto:theresakimler@yahoo.com)  
**Size 2-6 Blue Beauty.** Deep royal blue gown with elegant fit and stoning detail on bodice. Effortless movement, latest multi-tonal stones, fabric from London. Designed by LeNique just for USA Dance Nationals. \$2200.

**Size 2-8 Cutting edge mango yellow ballgown.** Designs to Shine created this stunning dress when she was designing for "Dancing with the Stars." Dress has extra fluidity thanks to feathers on the hem and slit on the right leg. This color can't be missed on the floor! \$2000.

**Size 2-6 Look like a goddess** in this Grecian-inspired white ballgown. One arm bare, bell-sleeve on left, slits on hem with scarves for softness. Gold and AB stoning design from one shoulder diagonal to skirt. Necklace and bracelets complete the look. \$1800.

☛ Contact Eileen @ 651-636-6306 or [eileen@arcilla.net](mailto:eileen@arcilla.net)

**Bright Blue Satin Smooth/Standard Gown.** Get noticed in a bright shiny satin gown. Full skirt and cut makes you feel like you're floating! Open back with fully stoned inset and skirt hemmed with satin band. Cut is flattering for many figures. Comes with matching earrings, hair piece, neckband and arm bands. Professionally designed/created by Flair Designs. Size 4-8. Asking \$1200 OBO.

**Lavender Latin/Rhythm Dress.** Lavender latin/rhythm dress with halter style top, ruffled hem and open back. Entire dress stoned in different colored stones which will make you sparkle! Dore Designs. Size 4-8. Asking \$2100 OBO.

**Mint Green Smooth/Standard Gown.** Elegant mint green dress can be used for both smooth/standard. Unique stoning and draped chiffon with stretch satin bodice and chiffon skirt makes this dress feel light as a feather. Comes with matching earrings, necklace and armbands. Made for Movement. Size 2-6. Asking \$900 OBO.

☛ Please call Anne @ 763-550-1223

**1st time offered, stunning hot pink American Smooth Gown** which skims your body and creates great lines. Surplice look neckline with heavily stoned flounce, long sleeves with cut-outs and stoned flounce at wrist, V-back with stoned flounce. The lines of this gown are beautiful and the color really pops. Try it on, only 4 months old. Made for Movement. Size 6-10. Asking \$1200. Call Anne @ 612-280-7818.

**Championship level gown.** Get the latest style without paying full price! Brilliant turquoise American Smooth gown loaded with stones in a figure flattering pattern! Off the shoulder style with very sexy open back and side slit for great kicks. Slinky fabric really moves and is comfortable. Matching tie for the gentlemen! Can be tailored to fit! Call Anne for more information. Size 8-12. Asking \$900.

**Beautiful bright coral standard gown.** Size 8 to 12. Made by Marsha Wiest Hines who described this color as "yummy"! Velvet and chiffon with beautiful coral and gold sleeves floats, bodice accents decorated heavily with beautiful colored stones. Very light weight to dance in and with an open back and V-front will fit many sizes and figures. These gowns really stretch to fit a large variety of figures... so try it on! Asking \$750.

**Catch the judge's eyes and show up well** against dark floors with a beautiful light pink gown. This very feminine dress includes a deep V-front, long sleeves and a stunning draped cowl in back. Stones cover this entire gown and the stretchy material shows them off with great movement. Will fit and flatter many figure types and stretches to fit many sizes (8-12+). I'm willing to contribute towards alterations. You won't know until you try! Asking \$900.

☛ Contact Donna @ 763-557-6004

**Size 2-6 Dynamic deep purple ballgown** with side slit has only been worn for Professional shows. Can be worn for smooth or standard. Two beautiful sets of accessories compliment this gown. One set has a rhinestone hip belt with matching cuff bracelets and neck scarf. The other set includes a fuchsia choker and cuffs. Asking \$850.

☛ Contact Janie @ 763-797-5230 or [janienordberg@comcast.net](mailto:janienordberg@comcast.net)

**American Smooth Sunshine Yellow!** You'll feel the energy in this gown. Slinky fabric moves with you. Assymetrical design collar, one full sleeve has bracelet style cuff with matching arm and wrist band, dropped waist belt solidly stoned, multi color AB stoning throughout! Made for Movement. Size 2-10. Asking \$1000.

**American Smooth Black & Fuschia ballgown.** Striking gown with black stretch lace bodice, 3 layered chiffon skirt, dynamic fuschia chiffon wrap on one sleeve, AB color stoning. Size 2-8. Asking \$700.

**Latin/Rhythm Orange Flame!** Don't miss your chance to try this one! This 2-piece rhythm dress is "one-of-a-kind" with assymetrical style sleeves and skirt. Sun AB stoning throughout. Beautiful braided detail belt and straps on top with matching wrist bands, necklace and earrings. Size 2-10. Asking \$900.

**Latin/Rhythm Stunning Red.** You'll feel like a champion in this dress with bracelet-style cuffs on sleeves and AB stoned matching hipster belt. Has full open back and slit in assymetrical skirt. Size 2-10. Asking \$800.

**Gold/Rose-Red Rhythm Dress.** Get noticed in this one of a kind dress! Beautiful Rose-Red lace overlays shimmering gold, bell sleeves and flared skirt add great movement. Light Siam AB stoning adds the finishing touch to this fabulous dress! Rose hair piece. Size 2-6. Steal deal at \$600.

**Fuschia Rhythm Dress.** Gorgeous Rose/fuschia/Ameythst AB stoning, bell sleeves, asymmetrical skirt, low back cut. Shows great movement on the dance floor! Size 2-8. Asking \$400.

**1/2 price Rhythm shoes!** Sz 8W USA DanceSport Capezio. \$50. Worn once.

☛ Contact Nora @ 651-489-4511.

**Unique White Latin/Rhythm Dress,** size 2-4. Covered in stones and flower shaped beading with matching bracelets. Asking \$1400. Payment plan acceptable.

**Elegant Black Latin/Rhythm Dress,** size 2-6. Looks best on long bodices. Comes with matching bracelets and earrings. Asking \$900. Payment plan acceptable.

**White and Black Smooth/Standard Gown,** size 2-6. Open back with beautiful black sheer sash around the front. Stunning on the floor! Comes with long white gloves and matching bracelet and earrings. Asking \$1200. Payment plan acceptable.

☛ Call Shannon 651-266-3415 for details.

**Brand New American Smooth Ballgown,** size 2-6, professionally made in Hong Kong. Sky blue lace bodice adorned with rhinestones, 2 layered chiffon skirt in blue and white. Long sleeves. Extremely elegant. Never worn, asking for \$350.

☛ Contact Cheri at [artncheri@aol.com](mailto:artncheri@aol.com) or call 763-544-6724 (home), 952-967-5016 (work)

**American Smooth Size 2-4.** Flashy fushia silk dress with silver swirls, featured in the Minneapolis Star/Tribune photo. This dress is very eye catching on the floor. Asking \$675

**American Smooth or Standard Size 2-4.** Aqua and blue silk and chiffon dress. Long sleeve gown with heavily stoned bodice and a three tiered chiffon skirt. This dress is soft and elegant. I have fabric for floats as well. Asking \$1200.

☛ Contact Carol 952-926-7648 or 952-351-1779

**American Size 2-8.** Classic black sleeveless gown has handkerchief skirt. Midnight blue AB stones accented throughout gown. Both fabric and simplicity of design will fit many figures. Asking \$800.

**American/Standard Size 4-8.** Dynamic color blend of sky and earth tones literally "glows" with over 50 gross of rare Gold AB. Heavily stoned contrasting bodice and wristlet in Capri and Ocean Blue draw attention. Complementary bracelets, gloves, scarfs and jewelry transforms the look this dress to suit either style. Lightweight, maintenance-free makes this gown a "must-have". Asking \$1000.

**Standard Size 2-10.** Dramatic midnight blue penne velvet gown has overlay of Capri blue chiffon Guinivere-sleeves and peek-thru shirt. Designed to fit any figure, it is surprisingly cool and comfortable. Travels great, and is maintenance free. Asking \$1600.

*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.*

# Competition Calendar

**February 10-11, 2006**

**Smoky Mountain Dancesport Championships - Marriot, Knoxville, Tn.**

Sanctioned by USA Dance. Hosted by Greater Knoxville Chapter. Contact Tim McGhee at 865-386-7843; website: [www.usabda-knoxville.us](http://www.usabda-knoxville.us).

**February 17-19, 2006**

**9th Annual Star of the North DanceSport Competition**

**Memorial Hall, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, Mn.**

Hosted by the Minnesota Amateur Sports Commission, USA Dance MN and the U of M Ballroom Dance Club. For more information contact Mike at 651-699-4857 or [ek865@aol.com](mailto:ek865@aol.com).

**February 24-25, 2006**

**Triangle Open USA Dancesport Championship - Durham, N.C.**

USA Dancesport sanctioned. For more information contact Wayne Crowder at 336-623-4961; email: [waynec@nuvox.net](mailto:waynec@nuvox.net).

**February 25, 2006**

**Heart of Florida Dancesport Classic  
Stardust Dance Center, Plant City, Fla.**

Organized by the Heart of Florida Chapter. Contact 863-686-6072; email: [patrickon1395@earthlink.net](mailto:patrickon1395@earthlink.net) or [Klinejd@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:Klinejd@tampabay.rr.com).

**DNO** continued from page 2

**Medina Entertainment Center**

**(763) 478-6661**

<http://www.medinaentertainment.com> 500 Highway 55, Medina. Wednesdays, Big Band Dances, Lesson 7 pm, Dance 8-11 pm.

**MN West Coast Swing Dance Club**

**(651) 777-5599**

<http://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.

**Rebels Swing Dance Club**

**(952) 941-0906**

<http://www.tcrebels.com> Harmonies Dance Center, 10726 France Avenue South, Bloomington. Two Sundays per month, Dances 7 pm. \$5/Rebels members, \$8/non-members.

**Shakopee Ballroom**

**(952) 445-0412**

2400 East 4th Avenue, Shakopee. Every other Friday they offer either ballroom or swing or dance bands; lesson at 7:30 pm and band begins at 8 pm. Other dances scheduled occasionally.

**Social Dance Studio**

**(612) 418-4046**

[www.socialdancestudio.com](http://www.socialdancestudio.com) Club Salsero -1st Friday of every month at Cinema Ballroom. Lesson 8pm followed by Party from 9pm-Midnight, \$15-lesson & party, \$10-party only. \$10/\$6-student.

**Tango Society of Minnesota**

**(763) 576-3349**

[www.mntango.org](http://www.mntango.org) 2nd Saturdays, DanceSport Studio, 816 1/2 Main Street, Hopkins. Introductory lesson 8 pm, Dance 9 pm - 1 am. \$10.

**Tiburon Restaurant**

1201 Harmon Place, Minneapolis **Band:** Salsa del Soul playing Salsa every Friday! Big wood dance floor, reasonably priced late night menu and drink specials and valet parking; cover charge starts @ 9:30 pm.

**Twin City Ballroom Dance Club**

**(651) 735-2233**

<http://twincityballroom.com> 7166 10th Street North, Oakdale (corner of 694 and 10th St. N.). M-W: Lessons 8 pm, Fridays: Lesson 9 pm, Dance 10-11:30 pm, Sundays: Lesson 8 pm, Dance 9-10:30 pm. \$7/\$2 off with Univ. ID.

**Wabasha Street Caves**

**(651) 224-1191**

215 S. Wabasha St., St. Paul. Thursdays are "Swing Night" with big bands! Lesson 6:15 pm, Dance 7-10 pm. \$7 cover charge.



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good on paper.***

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[bill@rapit.com](mailto:bill@rapit.com)**

## DANCE SOUP

### Minnesotan of the Year

*Congratulations to fellow  
dancer, Art Rolnick, who was  
recently awarded Minnesotan  
of the Year by Minnesota  
Monthly magazine!*



- Have something dance related to share? Consider contributing your stories or ideas to the Minnesota Dancin' Times! Call Anne LaTourelle at 763-550-1223.
- We'd love to share your photos with or without an article. Send high quality digital jpeg files with a short description to [janienordberg@comcast.net](mailto:janienordberg@comcast.net) or [eileen@arcilla.net](mailto:eileen@arcilla.net).



MINNESOTA

# DANCING TIMES

A publication of the Minnesota Chapter of USA Dance

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**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**

## Dance Contacts

### Pros

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Nathan Daniels .....	763-545-8690
Wendi Davies.....	973-449-7654
Robert & Jennifer Foster .....	952-938-0048
Donna Frykman, St. Paul .....	651-777-5447
Michelle Haley .....	651-699-5910
David Hanson .....	218-722-0742
Eric Hudson .....	651-699-5910
Julie Jacobson .....	651-261-6442
James M. Krolak.....	763-229-9852
Jay Larson .....	651-699-5910
Monica Mohn .....	612-874-0747
Marusz Olszewski .....	612-242-5159
Eric Remsen .....	612-724-3156
Mary Rosenstiel .....	612-720-2584

### Services

Made for Movement: costume design, production,  
tailoring (Marsha Wiest Hines) .....952-595-0003

Satin Stitches Ltd.: custom designed dancewear  
(Deborah J. Nelson) .....763-323-9507 or 1-800-48SATIN

### Studios

Arthur Murray Dance Studio St. Paul .....	651-227-3200
Cinema Ballroom, St. Paul .....	651-699-5910
Dahl Dance Center .....	507-252-1848
Dancers Studio, St. Paul .....	651-641-0777
On Your Toes, St. Louis Park.....	952-928-7803
Social Dance Studio, Mpls .....	612-418-4046

### Clubs

Café Bailar .....	www.cafebailar.com
MN West Coast Swing Club .....	651-426-8658
REBELS Swing Dance Club .....	952-941-0906
Tango Society of Minnesota.....	763-576-3349
USA Dance, Minnesota Chapter .....	651-483-5467

**USA Dance MN HOTLINE**  
**(651) 483-5467**

[www.usabda-mn.org](http://www.usabda-mn.org)

**Next Newsletter Deadline: February 10th, 2006**