

# MINNESOTA ***DANCER***

A publication of the Minnesota Chapter 2011 of USA Dance

January 2014



*The Dancers Studio Holiday Showcase , Amateur Couple Jeremy Anderson & Yuko Taniguchi, Photo by Karin Lynn Photography*

Join us for USA Dance Minnesota's

## UPCOMING DANCES

**BECOME A USA DANCE MINNESOTA MEMBER  
AT OUR DANCE AND GET IN FREE!**

Web: [www.usadance-minnesota.org](http://www.usadance-minnesota.org)

### JANUARY

**Saturday, January 18th**

**7-8 pm Rhumba lesson**

**Instructor: Gene Bersten**

**8-11 pm Variety dance music**

**\$7 USA Dance members**

**\$10 non-members**

### DANCE WITH US AMERICA

10 Southdale Center, Edina

### FEBRUARY

**Saturday, February 15th**

**7-8 pm lesson**

**8-11 pm Variety dance music**

**\$7 USA Dance members**

**\$10 non-members**

### CINEMA BALLROOM

1650 St Clair Ave, St. Paul

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# DANCER'S NIGHT OUT

*Want to dance? Dancer's Night Out lists social dance events in Minnesota. Want to see your dance listed here? Email the details to [newsletter@usadance-minnesota.org](mailto:newsletter@usadance-minnesota.org).*

Thu 1/2 Social Dance Studio Late Night Swing 10pm-2am,  
3742 23rd Ave S, Minneapolis, 612-353-4445,  
[www.socialdancestudio.com](http://www.socialdancestudio.com)

Dancers Studio Dance Party 8pm, 415 Pascal St N, St  
Paul, 651-641-0777, [www.dancersstudio.com](http://www.dancersstudio.com)

Fri 1/3 Cinema Ballroom Variety Dance, 7-11, 1650 St Clair  
Ave, St Paul, 651-699-5910,  
[www.cinemaballroom.com](http://www.cinemaballroom.com)

The Blue Moon Ballroom Club Salsa Dance, 7:30-11,  
\$6-\$8, 2030 Hwy 14 East, Rochester, 507-288-0556,  
[www.bluemoonballroom.com](http://www.bluemoonballroom.com)

Sat 1/4 Social Dance Studio First Saturday Swing Dance,  
7:30-12:30, 3742 23rd Ave S, Minneapolis, 612-353-  
4445, [www.socialdancestudio.com](http://www.socialdancestudio.com)

Sun 1/5 USA Dance Minnesota Beginner Jive Class with  
Gene Bersten, 2pm; Free! 10 Southdale Center  
Edina, [www.usadance-minnesota.org](http://www.usadance-minnesota.org)

Social Dance Studio TC Rebels Swing Dance,  
7-10:30, 3742 23rd Ave S, Minneapolis, 612-353-  
4445, [www.socialdancestudio.com](http://www.socialdancestudio.com)

Mon 1/6 Social Dance Studio West Coast Swing Social,  
9:30-11, 3742 23rd Ave S, Minneapolis, 612-353-  
4445, [www.socialdancestudio.com](http://www.socialdancestudio.com)

Tue 1/7 Social Dance Studio Salsa Social, 10-11, 3742 23rd  
Ave S, Minneapolis, 612-353-4445,  
[www.socialdancestudio.com](http://www.socialdancestudio.com)

Wed 1/8 Cinema Ballroom Practice Party, 8-9, 1650 St Clair  
Ave, St Paul, 651-699-5910,  
[www.cinemaballroom.com](http://www.cinemaballroom.com)

Thu 1/9 Social Dance Studio Late Night Swing 10pm-2am,  
3742 23rd Ave S, Minneapolis, 612-353-4445,  
[www.socialdancestudio.com](http://www.socialdancestudio.com)

Dancers Studio Dance Party 8pm, 415 Pascal St N, St  
Paul, 651-641-0777, [www.dancersstudio.com](http://www.dancersstudio.com)

Sat 1/11 Social Dance Studio Club Swing 7-11, 3742 23rd  
Ave S, Minneapolis, 612-353-4445,  
[www.socialdancestudio.com](http://www.socialdancestudio.com)

Sun 1/12 USA Dance Minnesota Beginner Jive Class with  
Gene Bersten, 2pm; Free! 10 Southdale Center  
Edina, [www.usadance-minnesota.org](http://www.usadance-minnesota.org)

Mon 1/13 Social Dance Studio West Coast Swing Social,  
9:30-11, 3742 23rd Ave S, Minneapolis, 612-353-  
4445, [www.socialdancestudio.com](http://www.socialdancestudio.com)

Wed 1/15 Cinema Ballroom Practice Party, 8-9, 1650 St  
Clair Ave, St Paul, 651-699-5910,  
[www.cinemaballroom.com](http://www.cinemaballroom.com)

Thu 1/16 Social Dance Studio Late Night Swing 10pm-2am,  
3742 23rd Ave S, Minneapolis, 612-353-4445,  
[www.socialdancestudio.com](http://www.socialdancestudio.com)

Dancers Studio Dance Party 8pm, 415 Pascal St N, St  
Paul, 651-641-0777, [www.dancersstudio.com](http://www.dancersstudio.com)

Fri 1/17 Cinema Ballroom Variety Dance, 7-11, 1650 St  
Clair Ave, St Paul, 651-699-5910,  
[www.cinemaballroom.com](http://www.cinemaballroom.com)

Sat 1/18 USA Dance Minnesota, 7-11; \$7-\$10; 10 South-  
dale Center Edina, [www.usadance-minnesota.org](http://www.usadance-minnesota.org)

Sun 1/19 USA Dance Minnesota Beginner Jive Class with  
Gene Bersten, 2pm; Free! 10 Southdale Center  
Edina, [www.usadance-minnesota.org](http://www.usadance-minnesota.org)

Social Dance Studio TC Rebels Swing Dance,  
7-10:30, 3742 23rd Ave S, Minneapolis, 612-353-  
4445, [www.socialdancestudio.com](http://www.socialdancestudio.com)

Mon 1/20 Social Dance Studio West Coast Swing Social,  
9:30-11, 3742 23rd Ave S, Minneapolis, 612-353-  
4445, [www.socialdancestudio.com](http://www.socialdancestudio.com)

Wed 1/22 Cinema Ballroom Practice Party, 8-9, 1650 St  
Clair Ave, St Paul, 651-699-5910,  
[www.cinemaballroom.com](http://www.cinemaballroom.com)

Thu 1/23 Social Dance Studio Late Night Swing 10pm-2am,  
3742 23rd Ave S, Minneapolis, 612-353-4445,  
[www.socialdancestudio.com](http://www.socialdancestudio.com)

Dancers Studio Dance Party 8pm, 415 Pascal St N, St  
Paul, 651-641-0777, [www.dancersstudio.com](http://www.dancersstudio.com)

Fri 1/24 The Blue Moon Ballroom Country Cabin Fever  
Country Western Social, 7:30-11, \$6-\$8, 2030 Hwy  
14 East, Rochester, 507-288-0556,  
[www.bluemoonballroom.com](http://www.bluemoonballroom.com)

Cinema Ballroom Salsa Fusion, 7-11, 1650 St Clair  
Ave, St Paul, 651-699-5910,  
[www.cinemaballroom.com](http://www.cinemaballroom.com)

Sun 1/26 USA Dance Minnesota Beginner Jive Class with  
Gene Bersten, 2pm; Free! 10 Southdale Center  
Edina, [www.usadance-minnesota.org](http://www.usadance-minnesota.org)

Mon 1/27 Social Dance Studio West Coast Swing Social,  
9:30-11, 3742 23rd Ave S, Minneapolis, 612-353-  
4445, [www.socialdancestudio.com](http://www.socialdancestudio.com)

Wed 1/29 Cinema Ballroom Practice Party, 8-9, 1650 St  
Clair Ave, St Paul, 651-699-5910,  
[www.cinemaballroom.com](http://www.cinemaballroom.com)

Thu 1/30 Social Dance Studio Late Night Swing 10pm-2am,  
3742 23rd Ave S, Minneapolis, 612-353-4445,  
[www.socialdancestudio.com](http://www.socialdancestudio.com)

Dancers Studio Dance Party 8pm, 415 Pascal St N, St  
Paul, 651-641-0777, [www.dancersstudio.com](http://www.dancersstudio.com)

## 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 [bonnieburton@comcast.net](mailto:bonnieburton@comcast.net) (952-454-4620), along with payment to USA Dance Minnesota Chapter 2011. Advertising for charge cards, insurance, or travel cannot be accepted. 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: [newsletter@usadance-minnesota.org](mailto:newsletter@usadance-minnesota.org)

**DEADLINE FOR ALL MATERIALS:  
10TH OF EACH MONTH**

# USA Dance Minnesota

## Chapter #2011 Board Minutes

Tuesday, December 3, 2013

Submitted by Leslie Whitney

**In attendance:** Bonnie Burton (President), Cathy Dessert (Vice-President), Jane Phipps (Treasurer), Leslie Whitney (Secretary), Zhuojing Liu, Karen Maldonado, Marty Faeh, Leland Whitney

**Location:** DanceLife Ballroom Studio, 6015 Lyndale Avenue South, Minneapolis, MN 55419

**Call to Order:** Quorum established. Agenda approved. November minutes approved.

### ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

#### TREASURER'S REPORT

• **Update of Authorized Signer on Chapter Bank Accounts** – The Board recognized that Jane Phipps, Chapter #2011, is the authorized signer on all chapter accounts. In the case of emergency, the President may sign.

• **Treasurer's report was submitted as of November 30, 2013.** Motion was made and seconded to accept the report.

• **The Board discussed the need for contracts in order to fulfill our financial obligations.**

• **Treasurer's Assistant** – A motion was made and seconded to appoint a Board member to assist Jane with the treasurer's duties at special events.

• **Legal Representation** – The Board discussed the need for the appointment of a USA Dance Board Attorney

• **Leadership Transition** – Appointment of Board Officers Via resolution and motion, the following slate of officers was elected for 2014:

President – Leland Whitney  
Vice President – Bonnie Burton  
Secretary – Leslie Whitney  
Treasurer – Jane Phipps

#### DISCUSSION ITEMS AND PROJECTS

##### • **Special Meeting (Monday, November 25<sup>th</sup>) Recap**

A motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes from the meeting.

• **Dancing Times Newsletter** – The Board discussed the relationship between the USA Dance Minnesota Chapter #2011 Board and the Dancing Times.

• **Project Dance Report** – Karen presented a handout summarizing November/December events. Attendance has been averaging well above 100 participants. January Project Dance will be held at Dance with Us America; Gene Bersten will teach jive. In February, Cinema will host with Nadine teaching rumba.

• **Karen, with additional help is in the process of writing grants to support Project Dance.**

• **Tapestry Monthly Dance Partnership Opportunity** – Tapestry Board of Directors has approached our Chapter offering the opportunity to partner in their monthly Sunday

night ballroom dance series. Donna Francisco, a Tapestry Board Director will be invited to the January meeting to give us details.

• **Storage Locker Update** – We will coordinate a meeting date to bring Chapter items to our storage locker.

• **Star of the North** – The Board invited Star of the North Coordinators to provide an update. They were unable to attend. The Board will continue its efforts to coordinate a meeting to discuss the status of this event.

• **USA Dance/Chapter Membership** – The Board discussed eligibility requirements for serving on Chapter #2011's Board. A motion was made and seconded to develop an application process and solicit applications for new Board members from a wide variety of Chapter members, and the local dance community.

##### • **Additional Business**

Cathy Dessert offered her resignation. A motion was made and seconded to accept her resignation.

#### Next Meeting:

Tuesday, January 7, 2013, 5:30 p.m

DanceLife Ballroom Studio, 6015 Lyndale Ave S, Minneapolis  
612-345-4219

## Special Meeting Minutes, Monday, November 25, 2013

Board Members in attendance: Jane Phipps (Treasurer), Leslie Whitney (Secretary), Bonnie Burton, Marty Faeh, Tracy Frazee, Zhuojing Liu. Others in attendance: Leland Whitney.

Location: Residence at 9650 Waterstone Place, Minnetonka, MN.

Call to Order: A quorum was established.

A special meeting of the USA Dance Board was called to order at 6:00 pm. The Board had determined a special emergency meeting was needed to discuss certain issues and all board members were notified of the intent to meet. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss board members' concerns about perceived unilateral decisions made solely by the Board President that should have been approved by the board as a group. After much discussion, the following actions took place:

1. Marty Faeh withdrew his resignation from the USA Dance Board in accordance with his rights to do so, prior to Board acceptance of his resignation. (*USA Dance By-Laws Article XII, A.2. "Chapter board members may resign at any time but such resignations shall not become effective until presented to and accepted by the Chapter Board of Directors. Prior to acceptance by the Board of Directors, a resignation may be withdrawn at any time."*)
2. Leslie Whitney withdrew her resignation from the USA Dance Board in accordance with her rights to do so, prior to Board acceptance of her resignation, as per above reference.
3. A motion was made and seconded by the Board to hire an attorney on retainer to represent the USA Dance Minnesota Chapter 2011 organization. Motion passed: Ayes – 6; Nays – 0
4. A motion was made and seconded by the Board to remove Daniel O'Connell from the USA Dance Board Minnesota Chapter 2011 for cause; specifically, unilateral decisions made solely by him without required input and approval by the board as a body; completely ignoring many board member requests to call emergency meetings to discuss important and imminent issues; a condescending and rude manner that prompted the resignation of two (2) board members; all resulting in ineffective leadership and obstructionist behavior. Motion passed: Ayes – 6; Nays – 0
5. A motion was made and seconded by the Board to

appoint Bonnie Burton to the office of President of the USA Dance Minnesota Chapter 2011 Board, to fill the vacancy created by Daniel's removal from the Board. Motion passed: Ayes – 6; Nays – 0

6. A motion was made and seconded by the Board to appoint Leland Whitney as a Board Member to fill the vacancy created by Bonnie Burton's appointment to the position of President. Motion passed: Ayes – 6; Nays – 0
7. A motion was made and seconded by the Board affirming the Board's decision that all paid advertising prepared for publication in the Dancing Times will appear as the advertiser desires and not be subject to random and arbitrary exclusions, such as occurred with an advertiser in the December 2013 issue of the Dancing Times. Motion passed: Ayes – 7; Nays – 0

Respectfully submitted by Leslie Whitney, Secretary.

## USA Dance Who Are We?

We are a nonprofit organization formed to preserve and promote ballroom dancing, both as an art and a healthful sport. The Minnesota chapter, USA Dance Minnesota Chapter 2011, 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 Minnesota Chapter 2011 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 Minnesota Chapter 2011 HOTLINE: 651-483-5467.

The Minnesota DANCER is published monthly by the members of the Minnesota Chapter 2011 of USA Dance, providing information and news of ballroom dancing to members and friends.

Editor/Design/Layout: Leland Whitney

Advertising: Bonnie Burton 952-454-4620

Mailing: Committee member

Contributors: Scott & Amy Anderson, Paul Botes, Kate Bratt, Elizabeth Dickinson, Donna Edelstein, Deanne Michaels, Jack Munday, Deborah J. Nelson, Paul Stachour, Leland Whitney

Contributions: Articles submitted may be edited for length, clarity, and content. Photos should be high-resolution jpg, png, or pdf files. Email submissions to: newsletter@usadance-minnesota.org.

Subscriptions: \$22/year. Make checks payable to USA Dance Minnesota Chapter 2011 and send to Jane Phipps, 9650 Waterstone Pl., #402, Minnetonka, MN 55305

USA DANCE MINNESOTA  
HOTLINE

651-483-5467

www.usadance-  
minnesota.org

Call for information on dance events.

Leave a message for membership information.



*Leland Whitney is the president of USA Dance Minnesota and competes nationwide with his amateur partner and spouse, Leslie Whitney.*

# PRESIDENT'S CORNER

*By Leland Whitney*

Leslie, my wife, and I took our first dance lesson at the Dancers Studio in St. Paul in the year 2000. I had purchased a small package of lessons for Leslie's birthday. On the way out the door, before the door closed, Leslie said, "I'll never go back." The experience was simply too intimidating. Three years later, we returned to the Dancers Studio to take our 2nd lesson. We haven't stopped dancing since.

Ten years after our second dance lesson, Leslie and I serve as the Secretary and President, respectively, of the USA Dance Minnesota Chapter 2011. I express my gratitude to the Board for appointment to be President at the Dec 2013 Board Meeting.

We have competed Pro/Am with Michelle Hudson (Haley), Jeff Halverson, Troy Lerum, Scott Anderson, and Kate and Gordon Bratt.

We have competed Am/Am in five National Championships, and hope to return next year.

Dancing, for us, after being married 37 years, has provided a new and exciting way of keeping our relationship strong and continually renewed. Out of a desire to be the best we can be, we argue at times, but when we practice hard and place well in National Championship events, it is our win, our joy, we did it together.

My vision for USA Dance Minnesota Chapter 2011 over the coming year is to Strengthen the Foundation of our community. Let's continue do the good things we have been doing, but let's do them better: get rid of the mold, find and fill the cracks, patch the big holes and add structural support where it is needed.

- People have a natural yearning to dance. This is the raw material and strength of our community's foundation. Let's continue to feed that craving to dance. As an example, many students walk into a dance studio for the first time because they want to be able to dance at their own wedding. Let's do a better job of marketing to that population.
- Events, publications, dance studios and the Board are the building blocks in our foundation. These are the monthly USA Dances, the Project Dance events, the Star of the North competition, the newsletters, and the local studios. Let's find a way to develop greater synergy between these building blocks. As an example, roughly 150 people are taking advantage of Project Dance every week. The location rotates among several studios on a monthly schedule. At these events, let's do a better job of marketing the monthly dance, the newsletter and attendance at Star of the North.
- Dancing is something people like to do with other people. This is what binds the blocks in our foundation. At any given event, just think of the different types of people that are participating together:
  - ◇ Spectators
  - ◇ New dancers
  - ◇ College dancers
  - ◇ Senior dancers
  - ◇ Pro/Am students
  - ◇ Am/Am competitors

- ◇ Dance studio owners
- ◇ Professional dancers
- ◇ Dance competition judges
- ◇ Dance event organizers.

Let's carefully consider the desires of each type of participant and see if we can come up with better ways to serve them. As an example, I think we could encourage new dancers by introducing a new monthly column to our newsletter that highlights a new dancer or dancing couple.

As another example, in order to better serve the Pro/Am, Professional and Dance event organizer communities, the Board is seeking advisors from those communities to attend and advise at the monthly Board meetings.

- Cooperation among individuals, events, publications, and dance studios provide the structural spanning support of our foundation. Healthy cooperation requires clearly defined functions and levels of authority for each participant. In some cases, it's best to use signed contracts to assure clear definitions. To this end, the Board has temporarily retained legal counsel to provide contract support services until the USA Dance National Board of Directors is able to provide this service for us.
- ◇ As an example, hosting a large competitive dance event is a huge undertaking requiring the cooperation of many people and many types of people. It is normal for such a large task to become somewhat muddled regarding lines of demarcation between the responsibilities of various participants. A written agreement would well serve such an endeavor.

- Stability in the Board's environment is required for a strong and functional foundation. Constantly heaving and shifting ground quickly destroys any foundation. In our specific case, regrettably, the USA Dance Minnesota Chapter 2011 Board has had five presidents in the last 12-14 months. We are experiencing a new upheaval in our environment. On December 14 last month, Nels Petersen delivered via an email a petition signed by 31 members in good standing,

most of them members of the U of MN Ballroom Dance club, calling for reelection of the entire Board within two months. Ironically, this is the same time frame for the Board to provide oversight and support for hosting the Star of the North, which is almost exclusively a collegiate dance competition. In spite of this, I will strive to maintain as much stability and cooperation as we can, and lay a better groundwork for future Boards. ■



*Photos from the Dancers Studio Holiday Showcase*

# HOW TO MAKE GROUP CLASSES & PARTIES FUN & EXCITING FOR ALL!

By Scott & Amy Anderson

---

We are so fortunate here in Minnesota and the Twin Cities area to have such a wide variety of studios, group class offerings, and social dance parties. The opportunities for someone who is just getting into dancing, or someone who has been around for a while are abundant!! We know that it is the most fun when new people come into dancing and begin to enjoy it as much as we all do. However, it can be quite intimidating too!

One thing that is so wonderful about learning to partner dance is the social aspect of it. As professional teachers, we not only try to teach steps and dances, but also good social etiquette in social situations! Here are some suggestions to keep in mind when attending group classes or social dance parties....

In a group class, ***come with a positive “ready to learn” frame of mind.*** Be sure to try a variety of different classes. Even though you may be familiar with the subject matter, there is always something you can learn.

***Encourage your partner!*** In a group class situation, ask the teacher a question if you have difficulty – don’t “teach” each other. Even though it may be difficult for the teacher to get around and watch everyone’s dancing – they do their best. If you really are having difficulty, then you should schedule a private lesson.

***Introduce yourself to each partner and give a compliment NOT criticism about their dancing.*** Nobody

is a perfect dancer, you are all there to learn. Plus, the whole idea of learning to dance, especially if you are single is to learn to dance with a variety of partners, and you don’t want to turn someone off with an unnecessary criticism.

***When you go to a dance party, make sure you notice the people that may be new & ask them for a dance!*** When it comes to ballroom dancing, the absolute hardest thing to do is to ***walk through that studio door!*** If you come as a “couple” you probably want to dance most of the time with each other, and that is fine!! But it is always nice to take time to meet the new people.

***Never “force” a step with a push or pull – dance YOUR part to the best of YOUR ability.*** As a “leader,” this is very important. One of the key parts of leading is to just dance yourself. That is also the best way to follow – just to “react” to the man’s body movement.

***Remember personal hygiene*** – a mint, dab of perfume/cologne – maybe a **long sleeve shirt** if your “hot cha cha is *too* hot! Remember, you want to be someone that is sought after, not someone people don’t want to dance with!

***Bring a friend to class or party to increase your practice partners!*** The studios and various dance organizations try to bring in new people with advertising and special promotions – but the best source of new dancers is YOU! ■



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# NEWSLETTER'S CORNER

By the newsletter MINNESOTA DANCER

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Last month I died; this month I've been reincarnated as the MINNESOTA DANCER.

How did I die?

The people who wrote my words and controlled my advertisements and the people who have responsibility and the authority to control my words and advertisements were not the same set of people.

My cover page always stated that I was "A publication of the Minnesota Chapter 2011 of USA Dance." That means that the people who have the responsibility and the authority to publish me are the full Board of Directors of the USA Dance Minnesota Chapter 2011.

The people who actually wrote my words and

controlled my advertisements, over the last year, and in the end, refused to allow the full Board to exercise due diligence and oversight of my words and advertisements, against the Board's wishes

- My words were used to say bad things about USA Dance National Championships,
- My words were used to say bad things about local professional dancers,
- My words were used to say bad things about USA Dance monthly dances,
- My advertisements were used to punish local professionals by refusing to print prepaid advertisements.

To stop these actions, the Board had to kill me.

To do so, the Board had to make major structural changes in the Board itself.

Now that I am reincarnated, the people who write my words and control my advertisements, are now the same people who have the authority to do so.

For those of you who have questions about these changes, please feel free to reach out to the USA Dance Minnesota Chapter 2011 Board of Directors at 952-454-4620. ■

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## BOARD ELECTION: POWER PLAY?

In mid-December, Nels Petersen sent the USA Dance-Minnesota Board a request for a special election of all board members. The request was a petition signed by 31 (mostly) college students. The petition gave no reason for their special election request. The board believes it was in response to official actions taken at a special meeting held November 25, 2013. (See meeting minutes, page 3.)

A review of the petition signers reveals that many just joined USA Dance. They've been members for about 2 months, yet they're calling for an election! This strongly suggests they're being coached in more ways than just ballroom dance!

Elections to the USA Dance board are required to be held every 2 years. Seven of the eight current board members were elected to office in 2012; the next election is scheduled for November, 2014. A full board is nine members; one member resigned at the last meeting and a replacement is being sought. Oddly, the national rules require the November general election must be held, regardless of any other special elections. Two elections in one year (March and November), severely limits the

USA Dance club's ability to focus on its primary purpose, which is dance! For example, the board is very concerned about the viability of the *Star of the North DanceSport* competition, which is scheduled to occur at the same time. It would require massive effort to simultaneously conduct an election AND a dance competition. This is a volunteer organization and this would seriously strain the volunteer base.

The current board meets in early January and will discuss and plan the next steps required for an election. The USA Dance National office has been contacted to request their assistance and research the rules. We learned the following:

- Elections are normally held every two years, in November. (The next would be Nov 2014).
- If there is a mid-year election, the terms are abbreviated. (Thus, if new officers are elected in spring, they will serve terms of approximately 8-9 months.)
- If a petition for election is received, an election must occur.
- There is conflict in the rules about the

election time-frame. One source shows two (2) months; another shows 4-5 months (to assure active participation; allow enough time to locate volunteer candidates; create ballots; allow adequate voting time; and so forth.)

- An election committee may be formed to impartially administer the election and count votes. The rules state the committee 'must be appointed at least 4 months prior to the election date.
- The election committee would strive to solicit candidates to fill all nine board positions, but is not obligated to place the names of all volunteers on the ballot.
- The committee may make its nominations based on criteria, such as length of volunteer service to the chapter, as well as experience and qualifications for the board.

The current board is determined to conduct its elections as fairly and impartially as possible. That means fairness to all groups: social dancers, competition dancers, college students, seniors, pros, studios, and everybody who is a stakeholder in this group. Stay tuned. ■

## *DanceLife Adventures and Shinya McHenry*

### COME JOIN THE PARTY

Over 30 people are already signed up to help us celebrate Mardi Gras in  
Mazatlan, Mexico March 1 – 8, 2014

At the beautiful EL CID CASTILLA BEACH RESORT

Entire Dance Vacation \$1950.00 Per Person/Double Occupancy



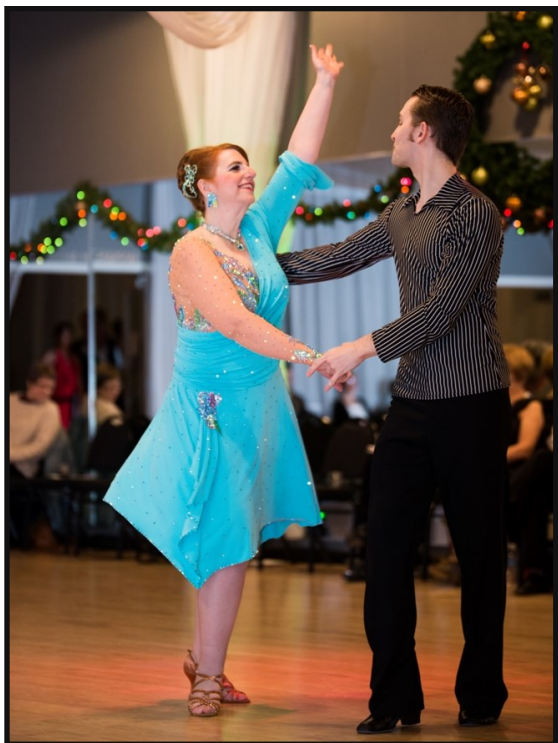
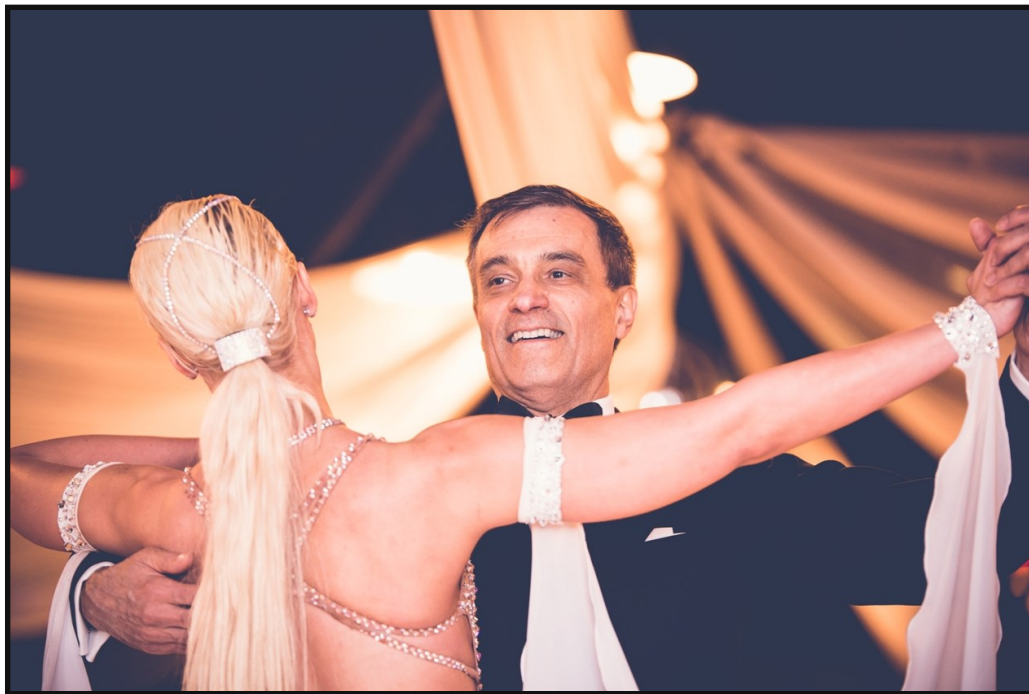
1. 8 days/7 nights
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3. 2 Free Checked Bags
4. All Transfer Fees and Taxes Included
5. Gratuities Included
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# DANCERS STUDIO HOLIDAY SHOWCASE

*All photos by Karin Lynn Photography*

*ProAm couple Kristina Lee  
and David Zaleske*



*ProAm couple Chris Kempainen  
and Darla Miller*



*Pro couple Jeffrey Ringer and Bonnie Inveen*



*ProAm couple Yuen Chow and  
Marcy McHenry*

*ProAm couple Jeff Halverson and  
Julie Goetsch*



# BEYOND BALLROOM DANCE COMPANY PRESENTS ITS ELEVENTH SEASON

*By Deanne Michael*

Beyond Ballroom Dance Company opens its eleventh season with a weekend of performances Jan 31-Feb 2 at The Cowles Center for Dance and the Performing Arts in Minneapolis. Once again the company will also offer a free show Jan 30 for youth and senior groups. We are thrilled to feature our largest cast yet along with two talented guest artists from San Diego and Las Vegas, Tsha Marie and Andrew Winett. Over the past decade the company has become known for bringing the artistry of ballroom dance to the stage. BBDC's productions have challenged the genre by stretching the boundaries of competitive dance and creating original work that uses partnership dance to tell a story. The company's latest production continues this tradition, presenting three pieces that blend comedy, drama, romance, an eclectic soundtrack, and of course – lots of fabulous ballroom dancing!

Following The Cowles Center performance, the company heads to the beautiful Paramount Theatre in St. Cloud. Next year BBDC will offer a fall performance season that brings the company to Staples and Detroit Lakes, MN. We are excited to have an opportunity to introduce ballroom dance to communities across the state, through our productions as well as our outreach activities.

BBDC continues to expand our education programs, recently providing classes for high school students and seniors. We are excited to partner with the Alzheimer's Association of MN and ND to create workshops that share the joy and beauty of ballroom dance with

their early stages support groups. We've also created workshops that highlight the history and heritage of the Latin social dances to teach in high school Spanish language classes. Through the Cowles Center's Distance Learning Program we are able to offer these workshops to students around the state using the theater's video conferencing technology.

As the company moves into its second decade of programming, our goal is to expand our reach and continue to introduce more audiences and students to ballroom dance as an art form. Having the opportunity to represent the company at the Arts Midwest conference in Austin, TX this fall, I was repeatedly asked why other companies aren't presenting ballroom concert dance. I credit our vibrant dance community! Thanks to all of you Minnesota dancers for creating such a rich and supportive environment for the innovative work of BBDC. The company has become a treasured playground for creative dance artists to choreograph, collaborate, and above all...dance! ■



# Beyond Ballroom Dance Company

STRETCHING THE BOUNDARIES OF BALLROOM DANCE

January 31- February 2, 2014

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[www.thecowlescenter.org](http://www.thecowlescenter.org)

[www.beyondballroom.org](http://www.beyondballroom.org)

This activity is made possible by the voters of Minnesota through grants from the Minnesota State Arts Board and the Metropolitan Regional Arts Council, thanks to a legislative appropriation from the arts and cultural heritage fund.

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*Cinema Pro Couple Dustin Donelan with Kirsten McCloskey*

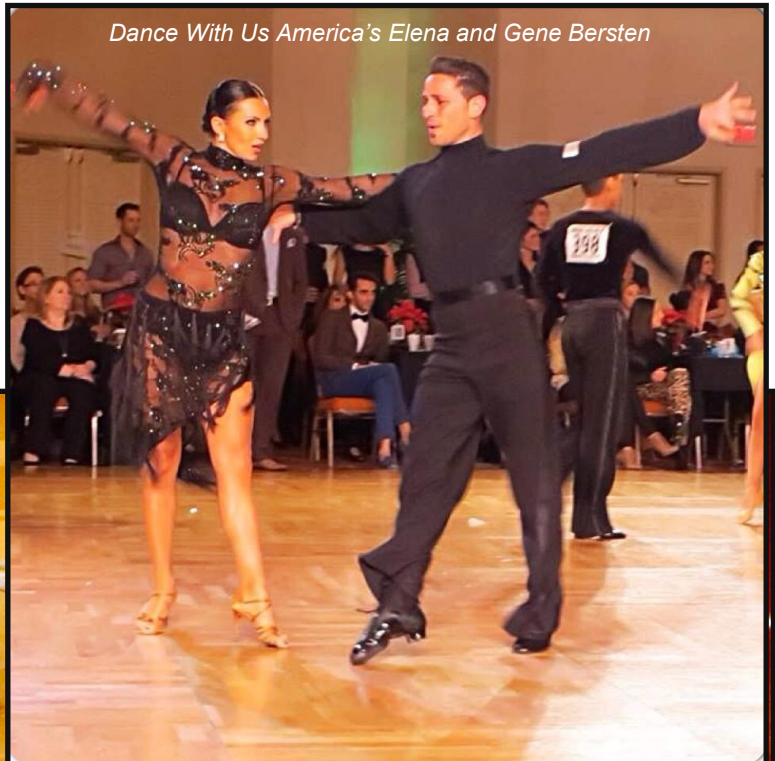


*Cinema Pro Couple Jonathan Chen and Nadine Messenger*

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*Dance With Us America's Elena and Gene Bersten*



*Zhuojing Liu, Elena Bersten, Gene Bersten, Mary Murphy*




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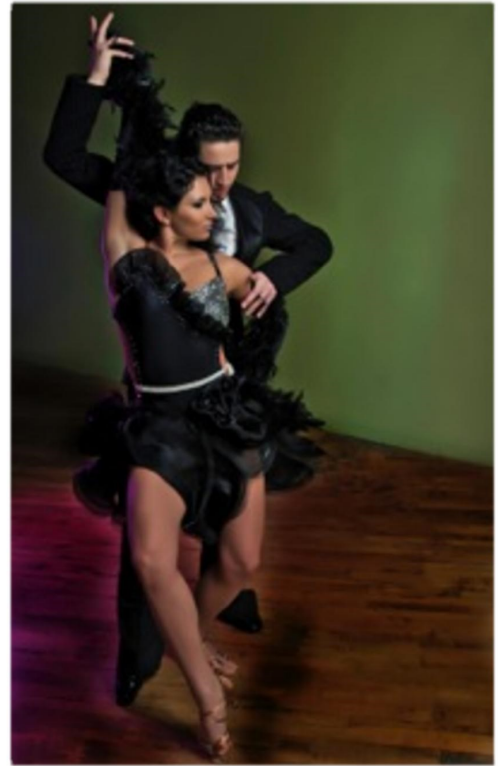
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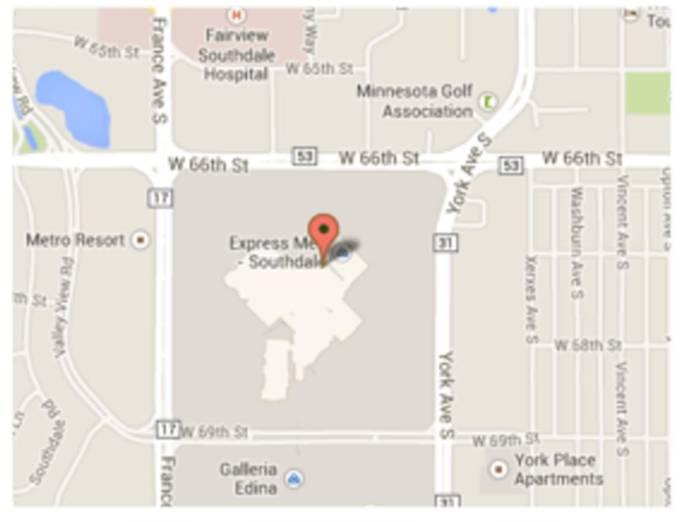
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*Elizabeth Dickinson is a life/executive coach and amateur ballroom dancer. If you enjoy her writing and would like to receive her weekly emailed coaching newsletter, please send an email to [elizabeth@pursueyourpath.com](mailto:elizabeth@pursueyourpath.com).*

# THE DANCING LIFE

## The Rhythms of Life

*By Elizabeth Dickinson*

Sometimes I just can't hear a song's rhythm. Even if I pick out the melody line, there are competing harmonies that throw me off. In a closed hold my teacher can either lead me into the rhythm (or worst case, he changes the song!)

It's not an option to change the song at social dances. Some men I dance with have the same problem hearing the rhythm. We've all seen (or been!) the couple that starts dancing last because they can't hear the rhythm. It seems particularly problematic in the Latin songs---there are so many unfamiliar instruments competing for attention.

A teacher observed once in a group class that most couples were just using the music as background, since no one seemed to be counting.

While I've gotten better at counting, it continues to be problematic at the higher levels. There are so many alternate rhythms choreographed into my dances that it seems all the old 'rules' for each dance have been thrown out.

Recently I was dancing with a gentleman who was fine with the basics steps, but every time he turned me, he'd completely lose the beat. He was even counting out loud, but his steps weren't

aligned with the rhythm he was counting.

He was emphasizing and valuing the choreography over the rhythm.

As a follow, this felt chaotic and at times, dangerous. You simply can't follow steps if the rhythm of a song isn't being obeyed.

There is a rhythm to life, too, and when we don't heed it, life too can feel chaotic.

When we don't eat when we're truly hungry, sleep when we need rest, or act when our higher intuition guides us, we're disobeying our own internal rhythms. If we continue to do this over time, we can become stressed, ill, or depressed. Worst case, life becomes chaotic and we become dangerous to ourselves or others.

Even if you're doing your life choreography 'right', it's not going to benefit you if you're out of step with your own internal rhythm of when to take (or avoid) action.

In this new year, I hope we all can find the correct external beat in dancing, and follow our own internal rhythm in our life. Blessings on us all!





*Deborah J. Nelson is the founder, president, and head designer of Satin Stitches Ltd. See more costuming tips at [www.satinstitches.com](http://www.satinstitches.com)*

# GLUE AND YOUR COSTUMES

*By Deborah J. Nelson*

A couple of weeks ago, a local ballroom dancer brought in a couple of professionally made, ballroom costumes for refurbishing. Their designs were beautiful. One costume had scores of rhinestones missing from the front midriff area, but otherwise was in really good condition. It was an older costume that had been worn for many performances.

Apparently, the glue used on the back of these Swarovski rhinestones had given way, and with friction from a partner's hand or arm, had wrenched off. Most likely these stones were glued on, with an unknown glue. I don't believe that they were 'Hot Fix' rhinestones, which are rhinestones that are manufactured with a glue on their backs that is activated with heat or ultrasonic waves, to permanently adhere to fabrics (if properly done). At Satin Stitches, this is our glue-option of choice. All the other rhinestones on this dress seemed to be permanently attached.

We were tasked with filling in the area with the missing stones, and we used both Hot-Fix and plain

colors of Swarovski rhinestones in sizes #20 and #34. But size #30 colored stones were used (in addition to the size #20) and this size is NOT available as a Hot Fix stone.

So what did we do? We got out what I believe to be the best, yet most inexpensive super-glue option. We use a product from Loctite®. It is Super Glue/Gel Control (no drip/easy application) that works well on just about anything. It is sold at most hardware stores, in addition to other stores that sell glue. I have found the best price at Menards® and I stock up, whenever I'm there. It is much less of a mess than working with the older super glues, causing less chances for nasty drips left on costumes. Hold the stone tightly in place, with some pressure until it dries for maybe 15-30 seconds as recommended on the packaging, causing a permanent bond.

I have never had any patience with the more common glues that don't dry instantly. We have no time for costumes to sit around to dry. Even better, is when we can use Hot Fix rhinestones to embellish costumes during production, where we can

use ultra-sonic waves to adhere size #20 rhinestones to a single layer of fabric, prior to adding linings and seams. The glue adheres to the fabric in a split second, and only takes as long as it takes our ultra-sonic rhinestone attaching machines' laser beam to show where the next stone will be dropped. We usually count 2-seconds for each of these stones, drastically speeding up the rhinestoning embellishment, and making much more affordable!

For using Hot Fix stones on several layers of fabrics and/or elastics, we heat them up and the same 15-30 seconds is needed per stone to permanently heat-press the stones in place (but with no chance for the glue mess).

The second dress that our ballroom dancer brought in for repair, was a well-known exclusive ballroom designer's gown, with feathers that had come unstuck. With closer examination, it was clear that all the feathers on this costume had been glued on with hot-glue. HOT GLUE!!!! Oh, my...hot glue (a crafting glue stick) should NEVER be used on costumes, unless in a pinch, for a one-time use only.

These feathers kept lifting off on our dancer's dress, and coming loose. I'm not surprised. What did we do? We stripped off the hot glue whenever possible and hand-tacked (with thread) the feather embellishment in place. Once the feathers were secured, we then used a mini-

mum amount of our Loctite® Super Glue to add a second layer of security, to keep the feathers permanently in place. Our dancer was thrilled and should be able to continue to wear this expensive, exclusive competition gown for years to come.

Lesson to learn? Never hot glue embellishments to costumes, as this is not permanent. If you want permanence, use my personal favorite super glue, Loctite® Gel Control. My advice is to stop by your favorite glue store and stock up on a 4g bottles and keep one in your purse and one in your dance bag at all times.





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# STUDIOS VS INDEPENDENT INSTRUCTORS

By Kate Bratt

When (notice I didn't say "if") you're going to take private lessons for ballroom dancing, there are two main choices you have to make: studio (a location with several employees) or independent instructor (someone who is self-employed and is not directly affiliated with one particular studio).

I took my first lesson at a studio, I taught my first lesson at a studio, I left that place, took many lessons from an independent, danced pro-am with that independent, danced am-am while taking lessons from a studio, taught at that same studio, left that place, currently dance pro, and am an independent. I have seen the pros and cons to both, so here's the lowdown:

## Yay For Studios!

- **Community.** With multiple employees, and the students that come with them, you are guaranteed a community of like-minded individuals. Granted, your only shared interest might be dancing, but dancing is fun and awesome and you need at least one other person to do it with, so the bigger the pool, the better.
- **Welcoming Committee.** Besides your teacher, when you walk in the door, there's probably a smiling face to say hello. There might be a receptionist, or manager, or some sort of support staff whose job it is to *help you*. Whether it's taking a payment, scheduling a lesson, helping you sign up for a competition, or whatever, you don't have to do that during your lesson time. And that means *more dancing*.
- **Extras.** With a higher volume of staff and students, group lessons, free practice space, and parties happen all the time. Often, they're included in lesson packages and are a great way to meet potential friends and duh, practice dancing.
- **Support.** The instructors? It's *their job* to be motivating and inspiring. While your teacher might be the greatest, having 2-8 other people with a compulsory (don't read "fake", just "required") CAN DO attitude is AMAZING. And with all these friends you're making, you're building an enthusiastic (and sometimes

competitive) group to encourage your progress.

- **Training New Teachers.** This might not be a plus for most students, but almost every instructor alive started at a studio. Many studios offer great training programs for wannabe teachers. I think it's fun to watch the newbies grow into accomplished dancers and teachers. You can always say, "I knew 'em when..."

## Boo For Studios

- **Cost.** Employees, leases, taxes, benefits, staff certification: all these things cost money. There are very obvious costs associated with owning a studio and those costs need to be covered. The more overhead, the more someone has to charge.
- **Insulated.** The aim of studios to keep money in-house. They're not going to tell you about the awesome \$2 swing dance down the street or the huge competition that's nearby because *they want your money*. They want you to go to *their* swing dance and do *their* competition. And you know what? The dance world is HUGE and full of talented people. Even outside your studio.
- **Kool-Aid.** I have never met a student who said, "My studio sucks." Everyone thinks their teacher is the best teacher in the world and their studio is the coolest ever and everyone else sucks. You're drinking the Kool-Aid, man. (See above.)
- **Turnover.** Your teacher is probably going to leave. Whether it's because they're going to continue grad school, opening their own franchise, had a job offer from another studio out of town, doesn't have any room for advancement, or found the perfect partner a couple states away, it is going to happen.
- **Atmosphere.** Every studio has a vibe. If you don't like that vibe, you're not going to change it. It's a big machine that revved up before you got there and will be there after you leave.

## Yay For Independents

- **Quality Instruction.** MOST independent instructors are highly-qualified, certified, accomplished dancers and teachers. Often they are champions, judges, or travel to coach nationwide, and are well-known in the ballroom industry.
- **Focused.** You walk in the studio, get your shoes on, and dance. You are dancing with this person because you *know* that they are very good at American Rhythm, Argentine Tango, or Lindy. You saw them teach a workshop or heard of their stellar reputation and went to them to learn that specific skill.
- **Cost.** Since independents don't have all the overhead that studios do, they are more likely less expensive per lesson.
- **Personal.** Back in the days of "land lines", my teacher's S.O. knew my voice when I called. I *still* think that is cool. You probably are friends with them on Facebook. You might text them to let them know you're running late to your lesson. You probably know their favorite basketball team. It adds a nice dimension to the drill sergeant who controls your lesson time.
- **Flexibility.** Independents often teach at more than one location and have flexible schedules. Want a 6am lesson? I know people who do that. (It's not me.)
- **Dance World.** You might know and feel comfortable at a lot of different venues and events, since you're recognized as a student of your instructor. Independent students seem to have a cult-celebrity status at many shindigs.

## Boo For Independents

- **Self-Motivated.** *You* have to schedule your lessons, *you* have to find group classes, *you* have to seek out dances, *you* have to put yourself out there to find friends who dance. Your instructor can help you, but you have to actually do it.
- **No Frills.** Group classes and parties are not offered or attended by most independents. Having "paid their dues" for years before, they leave it to the newer (and often younger, family-free) teachers to take their place.
- **Introverts Accepted.** Since there's no weekly group events, taking lessons from independents is often social-free. You might run into another student on your way out of your lesson, but they're going *into* their lesson, so there's not much time to talk.
- **Homeless.** Want to hang out and chat with other students? Only if you're at a bustling studio open to many independents where there's space to chill and not get run over. Want to spend a couple hours practicing? You'll have to pay for studio time, just like everyone else.

In summation? Studios and independents are both great, but you should know what you want and what each one offers.

Don't like what you're getting at your studio? Try another studio.

Don't like your instructor anymore? Try another instructor.

Find the place and teacher that makes dance fun *and* challenging for you. ■

# DANCE PARTNER WANTED ADS

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---

► **Vee Hammond 651-206-9890** [vee.hammond@comcast.net](mailto:vee.hammond@comcast.net)  
Follow, 5' 2", seeks practice partner for bronze/some silver-level Latin and smooth styles. Takes private lessons periodically. Loves to perform. Possible lesson sharing, showcases, or competitions.

► **Jane Phipps 612-859-5245** [janep1951@gmail.com](mailto:janep1951@gmail.com)  
Follow, 5' 5", seeks practice partner for bronze/silver competition-level smooth and rhythm. 3 years' dance experience. Takes lessons regularly. Any practice location okay.

► **Justin Sundberg 612-964-1741** [justin@jdsundberg.com](mailto:justin@jdsundberg.com)  
Lead, 5' 10", 28, seeks practice partner for smooth, rhythm, and WCS. Open to all styles and possible lessons or competition. 3 years' experience. Will provide floor time at a major studio.

Q • •

**I love to dance and have been a ballroom social dancer for years. Some of my friends compete and I think I would like to try this, too. Do I need a special teacher? What should I do to get started?"**

## Donna said:

Congratulations on your decision to compete. How exciting!

Competition dancing is different than social dancing in that you are on the floor with a group of competitors in your age group and proficiency level.

You can compete as an amateur couple with your partner, as part of a pro-am couple with your teacher – or both ways

Teachers and coaches that have had a competitive career themselves, or are currently competing will be able to provide the proper guidance in technique, choreography, performance, and choreography.

One way to find a coach or teacher is to attend local competitions and see who is on the floor and judging.

I hope that you can attend my competition, The Snow Ball, January 11 and 12, 2014. It would also be wise to attend or participate in The Minnesota Star Ball in May, and the Twin Cities Open in July.

Good luck in your competition career.

## Paul says:

You do not need a special teacher, although a teacher with pro-am experience is recommended. Talk to your friends who compete, research all of the local professionals to see who might be available or has room in their cadre of dancers for an additional competitor. If you try to compete in a specific age/division and the pro already has a few competitors vying for a spot, chances are it will not suit your needs.

Ask about costs, including hidden cost such as expenses and whether some costs are shared between competitors. Perhaps a smaller event like a local showcase or an event like Twin City Open or Minnesota Madness will serve to get your feet wet before you commit to an out of town competition.

Competition dancing is a different experience and it will serve to improve your dancing while opening your eyes to a whole different world that is exciting to be a part of. Good luck! ■



*Donna Edelstein is a coach, judge, and organizer of the Snow Ball DanceSport Competition.  
www.donnawrites@msn.com 763-557-6006*



*Paul Botes is a dance instructor, coach, choreographer, and judge. He is an owner of American Classic Ballroom, located in Chanhassen, MN.*

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# GENTLEMEN LEAD

By Jack Munday



John S. Munday is a writer who lives in Isanti County, Minnesota, with his wife, Fran. Together, they found ballroom dancing at Cheek to Cheek Studio. Jack is a student of Monica Mohn, and his book, *Beauty in Partnership, A Memoir of Ballroom Dancing*, is available at [www.Johnsmunday.com](http://www.Johnsmunday.com) and several dance studios.

Once in a while dancing comes into one's life in an unexpected way. Back on October 4, a Friday, we spent a day in Paris. Of course we went to the Louvre Museum, one of the best museums in the world. The Louvre has a delightful collection of the old masters, and yes we were able to get as close to Mona Lisa as the ropes allowed. Delightful. There were several paintings by Rembrandt, including one I am using in my novel in progress.

That was in the morning. In the afternoon after lunch in a sidewalk café across the Seine River, we entered the Musée d'Orsay, which features a collection of paintings of impressionists such as Monet with his water lilies, and of course other modern painters. As we walked through the galleries, we came upon two delightful paintings by Pierre Auguste Renoir—of couples dancing! As you can see from the photograph Fran took of me standing between the two paintings, dancing was more formal then, probably around 1900, plus or minus a few years. The painting on the right is titled *City Dance* and the one on the left is titled *Dance In The Country*. The artist gives us a delightful contrast.

The couples are obviously enjoying the romance of intimate dancing and the country boy has even lost his hat but she has not. Gentlemen, does that sound familiar? In the *Dance In The Country* couple, the gentleman seems to be whispering to her and the lady

shows that the words are pleasing. She is wearing heavy tan gloves and he has no gloves at all. Is that a country thing?

The *City Dance* couple are both wearing white gloves, with hers reaching almost to her elbows. The train on her dress reminded me of wedding dresses but without the bustle. The lady seems to be waiting for him to whisper sweet nothings in her ear. Gentlemen sometimes do that, I'm told.

I looked up other paintings by Renoir. One, called *The Promenade* shows a gentleman, with his hat, leading a lady by one hand up rock stairs. His painting *Dance At The Moulin De La Gulette* shows ballroom dancing as well as people sitting at tables with drinks. Is this the French Tea Dance? I also found a painting of the same country couple dancing with other people around them. He still had his hat but they were as intimate. Renoir lived from 2/25/1841 to 12/3/1919. He loved to paint so very much that in his old age when arthritis virtually crippled him, he painted with the brushes tied to his wrists!

The Hotel Du Louvre was close to the museums and offered many nice features, the best of which was a bar with music and a dance floor. Of course we danced, and danced. And danced into the land of grace and beauty. The next morning as we left for the airport, we were rested and relaxed, certainly in part from the evening's dancing. ■

# REPORT OF DANCE OUTREACH TO LAMBERTON MINNESOTA

*By Paul Stachour*

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At the request of Anita Runck, of Anita's Conservatory of Dance in Lambertton, Minnesota; Bonnie Snell, Kathy Hornemann and I did an adult partner dance outreach to Southwest Minnesota. This outreach was held on a dance-floor in the Lambertton Community building (a WPA project built in 1939).

With Bonnie and Kathy's assistance, I taught a 40-minute basic foxtrot class and a 30-minute basic waltz class to 15 students (14 pairs and 1 individual). I had previously requested support in the form of handouts and free passes to their events from 10 different dance organizations. Those which provided me with material and/or promotional passes are listed below.

Following the class, a series of drawings were held and those passes were given away, along with promotional material about the organization which had provided the pass. In addition, I spoke about the mission of USA DANCE

(increase the quantity, quality, and variety of partner dancing). I provided each pair/student with a copy of the "Minnesota Dancing Times", also the pages (excepted and printed in color) about "Project Dance Minnesota" for the current West-Coast-Swing promotion, and Dance Minnesota's continued availability in 2014; and about the "Star of the North Dance Competition", thus inviting them to come and see great amateur partner dancing on March 1&2, 2014.

This award-time was followed by a 1-hour dance. I had prepared a CD with a variety of dance music, with about 1/3 foxtrot songs, 1/3 waltz, and 1/3 other dances. As well, I provided a handout sheet (similar to this note) listing the various dance organizations, and how one can gain information about their dances and classes, inviting the dance students to check out those organizations. I noted the sponsorship and support. No further plans or commitments were made by me or anyone else at this time.

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## **DANCE Ballroom & Studio, Sioux Falls**

[www.lakesideballroom.org](http://www.lakesideballroom.org), [info@danceballroomandstudio.com](mailto:info@danceballroomandstudio.com), 605-332-3700

## **Lakeside Winter Dance Club, Glenwood**

[www.mnwestcoastswingdanceclub.com](http://www.mnwestcoastswingdanceclub.com), [info@MNWestCoastSwingDanceClub.com](mailto:info@MNWestCoastSwingDanceClub.com), 612-788-4272

## **St. Cloud Ballroom-Dance-Club**

[www.stcloudballroomdanceclub.com](http://www.stcloudballroomdanceclub.com), [info@stcloudballroomdanceclub.com](mailto:info@stcloudballroomdanceclub.com), 320-558-6611

## **Tango-Society-of-Minnesota, Twin Cities**

[www.mntango.org](http://www.mntango.org), [mntango@mntango.org](mailto:mntango@mntango.org), 612-224-2905

## **Twin Cities Rebels Swing Dance Club, Twin Cities**

[www.tcrebels.com](http://www.tcrebels.com), [info@tcrebels.com](mailto:info@tcrebels.com), 952-941-0906

## **USADance South Dakota, Sioux Falls**

[www.facebook.com/usadance2090](http://www.facebook.com/usadance2090), [USADance2090@gmail.com](mailto:USADance2090@gmail.com), 605-332-3700

# COMPETITION CALENDAR

*Jan 11–12, 2014*

## **The Snow Ball**

Hosted by Donna Edelstein at the Hilton Minneapolis / St. Paul Mall of America. Contact Donna at 612 910-2690.

[www.thesnowballcomp.com](http://www.thesnowballcomp.com)

*Jan 17–19, 2014*

## **Manhattan Amateur Classic – MAC – NQE**

Hosted by Greater New York USA Dance Chapter #3004 at Manhattan Center. Qualifying event for 2014 Nationals.

*Jan 31–Feb 1, 2014*

## **Southwest Regional – NQE**

Hosted by Orange County, CA, USA Dance Chapter #4018 in Culver City, CA. Qualifying event for 2014 Nationals.

*Feb 15–16, 2014*

## **Mid – Atlantic Championships – NQE**

Hosted by Mid-Eastern USA Dance Chapter #6001 in Bethesda, MD. Qualifying event for 2014 Nationals.

*Mar 1–2, 2014*

## **Star of the North DanceSport Classic**

Hosted by USA Dance Minnesota Chapter #2011 at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in St. Paul, MN, [www.sotncomp.com](http://www.sotncomp.com)

*Mar 28–30, 2014*

## **2014 National DanceSport Championships**

To be held in Baltimore, MD.

*May 18, 2014*

## **Minnesota Star Ball DanceSport Competition**

Hosted at the Medina Ballroom in Medina, MN.

[www.MNstarball.com](http://www.MNstarball.com)

*Jun 7–8, 2014*

## **NJ DanceSport Classic – Summer Sizzler – NQE**

Organized by Mario Battista & Wendi Davies at Rogers DanceSport Center in Hackensack, NJ. Qualifying event for 2015 Nationals.

*Jun 27–29, 2014*

## **Gumbo DanceSport Championships – NQE**

Hosted by Louisiana Gumbo USA Dance Chapter #5031 in Baton Rouge, LA. Qualifying event for 2015 Nationals.

*Aug 1–3, 2014*

## **Derby City DanceSport Championships – NQE**

Sponsored by Greater Louisville USA Dance Chapter #2021 in Louisville, KY. Qualifying event for 2015 Nationals.

*Set 6, 2014*

## **Kansas City Dance Classic**

Organized by Matt & Ellen Pansing in Overland Park, KS. This event will not accrue proficiency points and may not follow all rules in the rulebook.

*Sep 15, 2014*

## **New England DanceSport Championships – NQE**

Date is tentative. Hosted by MASSabba USA Dance Chapter #3002 in Danvers, MA. Qualifying event for 2015 Nationals.

*Sep 15, 2014*

## **Northwest DanceSport Championships – NQE**

Date is tentative. Hosted by Portland, OR, USA Dance Chapter #1006. Qualifying event for 2015 Nationals.

*Oct 3–5, 2014*

## **Carolina Fall Classic – NQE**

Organized by Wayne & Marie Crowder in Charlotte, NC. Qualifying event for 2015 Nationals.

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# DANCE CONTACTS

*A collection of businesses and clubs of interest to Minnesota dancers. If you'd like to be listed on this page, send your contact information to [newletter@usadance-minnesota.org](mailto:newletter@usadance-minnesota.org).*

## STUDIOS

**AMERICAN CLASSIC BALLROOM**  
550 Market Street, Chanhassen  
952-934-0900  
[www.acballroom.com](http://www.acballroom.com)

*Instructors:*  
Natalie Palmer Botes, Paul Botes  
Whitney Irene, Benjamin D. Wagner

**ARTHUR MURRAY DANCE STUDIO**  
534 Selby Avenue, St. Paul  
651-227-3200

**BALANCE POINTE STUDIOS**  
5808 W 36th Street, St. Louis Park  
952-922-8612  
[www.balancepointestudios.com](http://www.balancepointestudios.com)

*Instructors:*  
Cindy Nehrbass, Jeff Nehrbass

**BALLROOM & WEDDING DANCE STUDIO**  
1717 42nd St E, Minneapolis

*Instructor:*  
Tom Larson

**BLUE MOON BALLROOM**  
2030 Hwy 14 E, Rochester  
507-288-0556  
[www.BlueMoonBallroom.com](http://www.BlueMoonBallroom.com)

**CINEMA BALLROOM**  
1560 St. Clair Ave, St. Paul  
651-699-5910  
[www.cinemaballroom.com](http://www.cinemaballroom.com)

*Instructors:*  
Jonathan Chen, Dustin Donelan,  
Eric Hudson, Michelle Hudson,  
Kirsten McCloskey, Nadine  
Messenger, Shane Meuwissen,  
Martin Pickering, Dipendra Thakur,  
Douglas Wallock

**DAHL DANCE CENTER**  
4204 North Hwy 52, Rochester  
507-252-1848  
[www.dahldance.com](http://www.dahldance.com)

**DANCE AND ENTERTAINMENT**  
651-605-5784  
[tricia@danceandentertainment.com](mailto:tricia@danceandentertainment.com)  
[www.danceandentertainment.com](http://www.danceandentertainment.com)

*Instructors:*  
James Wood, Tricia Wood

**DANCE WITH US AMERICA**  
10 Southdale Center, Edina  
612-564-5483  
[www.dancewithusamerica.com](http://www.dancewithusamerica.com)

*Instructors:*  
Elena Bersten, Gene Bersten

**DANCELIFE BALLROOM**  
6015 Lyndale Ave S, Minneapolis  
612-345-4219

*Instructors:*  
Shinya McHenry, Laia Oliver

**DANCERS STUDIO**  
415 Pascal Street N, Saint Paul  
651-641-0777  
[www.dancersstudio.com](http://www.dancersstudio.com)

*Instructors:*  
Etta Berkland, Jeff Halverson,  
Bonnie Inveen, Chris Kempainen,  
Troy Lerum, Marcy McHenry

**E.R.V. DANCE STUDIOS BALLROOM & DANCESPORT**  
816 Mainstreet, Hopkins  
952-303-3339  
[ERVdancestudios@yahoo.com](mailto:ERVdancestudios@yahoo.com)  
[www.ERVdancestudios.com](http://www.ERVdancestudios.com)

*Instructors:*  
Rachelika Baruch, Sayoni Haldar,  
Tchad Herderson, Aiden Mamedov,  
Eliecer Ramirez, Rebecca Rae  
Ramirez, Alex Spencer

**FOUR SEASONS DANCE STUDIO**  
1637 Hennepin Ave S, Minneapolis  
612-342-0902  
[www.fourseasonsdance.com](http://www.fourseasonsdance.com)

*Instructors:*  
Bruce Abas, Rebecca Abas

**FRED ASTAIRE DANCE STUDIO**  
1975 Seneca Road, Suite #700,  
Eagan, MN 55122  
651-451-6300  
[www.FredAstaireMN.com](http://www.FredAstaireMN.com)

**MILL CITY BALLROOM**  
2382 Hampden Ave, St. Paul 612-562-2733  
[www.millcityballroom.com](http://www.millcityballroom.com)

*Instructors:*  
Kate Bratt, Gordon Bratt

**NORTH STAR DANCE STUDIO**  
Bloomington, MN  
612-799-4147  
[Facebook.com/northstar.dancestudio](http://Facebook.com/northstar.dancestudio)

*Instructor:*  
Michael D. Bang

**RENDEZVOUS DANCE STUDIO**  
711 W Lake Street, Suite B,  
Minneapolis  
612-872-1562  
[www.theplacetodance.com](http://www.theplacetodance.com)

**SOCIAL DANCE STUDIO**  
3742 23rd Ave S, Minneapolis  
612-353-4445  
[www.socialdancestudio.com](http://www.socialdancestudio.com)

*Instructors:*  
Joy Davina, Todd Paulus

**STUDIOJEFF**  
701 St. Germain St W, Suite 201,  
St. Cloud  
320-266-4137  
[www.studiojeff.com](http://www.studiojeff.com)

*Instructor:*  
Jeffrey Ringer

## CLUBS

**AQUA GLIDERS DANCE CLUB**  
612-869-3062

**CAFÉ BAILAR**  
[www.cafebailar.com](http://www.cafebailar.com)

**COTILLION DANCE CLUB OF STILLWATER**  
P.O. Box 102, Stillwater, MN 55082  
651-388-1231  
[paynter@charter.net](mailto:paynter@charter.net)  
*Contacts:*  
Scott and Maggie Paynter

**LADANZA DANCE CLUB**  
Stillwater, MN  
651-439-3152  
[Facebook.com/LaDanzaDanceClub](http://Facebook.com/LaDanzaDanceClub)  
*Contacts:*  
Mark and Wanda Bierbrauer

**LAKESIDE DANCE CLUB**  
320-763-6432  
[danceclub@lakesideballroom.org](mailto:danceclub@lakesideballroom.org)  
[www.lakesideballroom.org](http://www.lakesideballroom.org)  
*Contacts:*  
Barbara Benson

**LINDEN HILL DANCING CLUB**  
Lake Harriet United Methodist  
Church,  
4901 Chowen Ave S, Minneapolis  
952-412-7230  
[www.lindenhillsdancingclub.org](http://www.lindenhillsdancingclub.org)

**MN WEST COAST SWING DANCE CLUB**  
B-Dale Club, 2100 N Dale St.,  
Roseville  
651-487-6821  
[mnwestcoastswingdanceclub.com](http://mnwestcoastswingdanceclub.com)

**REBELS SWING DANCE CLUB**  
952-941-0906  
[www.tcrebels.com](http://www.tcrebels.com)

**STARDUST DANCE CLUB**  
Dine and Dance  
[stardustdanceclub@gmail.com](mailto:stardustdanceclub@gmail.com)

**SUBURBAN-WINTERSET DANCE CLUB**  
Woman's Club of Minneapolis,  
410 Oak Grove Street, Minneapolis  
952-894-1412  
[www.suburbanwinterset.com](http://www.suburbanwinterset.com)

**TANGO SOCIETY OF MINNESOTA**  
612-224-2905  
[www.mntango.org](http://www.mntango.org)

**TAPESTRY FOLKDANCE CENTER**  
3748 Minnehaha Ave, Minneapolis  
612-722-2914  
[www.tapestryfolkdance.org](http://www.tapestryfolkdance.org)

**UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA BALLROOM DANCE CLUB**  
[bdc@umn.edu](mailto:bdc@umn.edu)  
[ls.gd/umnbd](http://ls.gd/umnbd)

**USA DANCE, MINNESOTA CHAPTER 2011**  
651-483-5467  
[www.usadance-minnesota.org](http://www.usadance-minnesota.org)

## SERVICES

**MADE FOR MOVEMENT**  
952-595-0003  
[www.made4movement.com](http://www.made4movement.com)

*Contact:* Marsha West Hines

*Services:*  
Costume design, production and  
tailoring.

**OH SEW SPECIAL**  
7300 South France Avenue, Suite  
323, Edina  
952-746-5539  
[www.ohsewspecial.net](http://www.ohsewspecial.net)

*Contact:* Susan Richardson

*Services:*  
Tailoring, alterations, and redesign

**SATIN STICHES LTD.**  
11894 Round Lake Blvd NW,  
Minneapolis  
763-323-9507  
1-800-48SATIN  
[www.satinstiches.com](http://www.satinstiches.com)

*Contact:* Deborah J. Nelson

*Services:*  
Custom-designed dancewear

## INSTRUCTORS

Scott Anderson.....	612-816-4446
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Robert Foster.....	952-922-8316
Esther Granbois.....	612-872-1562
Lindsey Rebecca Hall.....	612-940-9546
David Hanson.....	218-722-0742
Julie Jacobson.....	651-261-6442
Jay Larson.....	651-387-3886
Kristina Lee.....	715.821.9039
Deanne Michael.....	612-508-9255
Monica Mohn.....	612-874-0747
Mariusz Olszewski.....	612-242-5159
Karin Rice.....	612-242-2188
Mary Rosenstiel.....	612-720-2584
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