

MINNESOTA

Dancin' Times



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

July 1997

DANCERS NITE OUT

- Wed. 7/2** Jack Schultz Big Band, Medina Ballroom, Lesson 7 pm,
Dance 8 pm, 478-6661.
- Thu. 7/10** Everett Boyer Big Band, Medina Ballroom, Lesson 7 pm,
Dance 8 pm, 478-6661.
- Thu. 7/10** Big Band Dance Night—Moonlight Serenaders, Wabasha Street
Caves, 215 S Wabasha St, St. Paul, Lesson 6:30 pm,
Dance 7-10 pm, \$5, 224-1191.
(Directions: The Caves are across Wabasha St. Bridge near down-
town St. Paul. The Wabasha St. Bridge is closed for repairs —
go south across the Robert St. Bridge and back to Wabasha St.)
- Fri. 7/11** Dean Olson Big Band, Shakopee Ballroom, Dance 8:30 pm,
445-0412.
- Fri. 7/11** MN West Coast Swing Club, B-Dale Club, 2100 N. Dale St,
Roseville, Lesson 7:30 pm, Dance 8:30 pm, 731-9768.
- Sat. 7/12** The Classics, 50's & 60's, TGIS, Medina Ballroom,
Dance 8:30 pm, 478-6661.
- Sat. 7/12** Minnesota Dance Expo - Dance Party, Dance Shoppe. Dance
8:00 pm, \$8. See info page 3. 431-0936.
- Thu. 7/17** Sammy Jensen Big Band, Medina Ballroom, Lesson 7 pm,
Dance 8 pm, 478-6661.
- Thu. 7/17** Big Band Night—The Nostalgics & Classic Big Band, Wabasha
Street Caves, (directions listed under 7/10 dance), 224-1191.
- Fri. 7/18** 5 Men Swinging Band, American Classic Ballroom,
1628 E. Lake St, Mpls, Lesson 8 pm, Dance 8:30-midnight,
\$8/\$6 students, 338-2674.
- Fri. 7/18** Armond Rezac Big Band, Shakopee Ballroom, Dance 8:30 pm,
445-0412.
- Sat. 7/19** USABDA JULY DANCE, Dance Shoppe. See info this page.
- Sat. 7/19** The Fabulous Hi Tops, 50's & 60's, Medina Ballroom,
Dance 8:30 pm, 478-6661.
- Sat. 7/19** Dancers Studio Summer Spectacular, Macalaster College,
see info page 8. 641-0777.
- Sun. 7/20** Fred Astaire Showcase, Shakopee Ballroom, 445-0412.
- Thu. 7/24** Mel Edisimone Big Band, Medina Ballroom, Lesson 7 pm,
Dance 8 pm, 478-6661.
- Thu. 7/24** Big Band Night—Dick & Janes Big Brass Band, Wabasha
Street Caves, (directions listed under 7/10 dance), 224-1191.
- Fri. 7/25** MN West Coast Swing Club, B-Dale Club, 2100 N. Dale St,
Roseville, Lesson 7:30 pm, Dance 8:30 pm, 731-9768.
- Fri. 7/25** Paul Heffron Big Band, Shakopee Ballroom, Dance 8:30 pm,
445-0412.
- Sat. 7/26** Dancesport July Dance and Showcase, Knollwood Mall,
see info page 11. 938-0048.
- Thu. 7/31** Erv Reutzel Big band, Medina Ballroom, Lesson 7 pm,
Dance 8 pm, 478-6661.
- Thu. 7/31** Big Band Night—Southside Big Band, Wabasha Street Caves,
(directions listed under 7/10 dance), 224-1191.

For a list of weekly dance opportunities, see page 13.

USABDA-MN Presents:



Dance Shoppe

Hyw 55 and Fernbrook
Lane - first left west of 494
and 55 junction



Tango Lesson with
Jay Larson and Julie Jacobson



Lesson at 7:30 pm

Dance from 8:30-11:30 pm

\$6 Members \$8 Non-members

\$4 Students with I.D.

\$2 Group Class



USABDA HOTLINE
(612) 483-5467

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

What Is USABDA? Who Are We?

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

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

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

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

(612) 483-5467

Minnesota Dancin' Times

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

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

\$15 per year

Make checks payable to **USABDA-MN** and send to:
Joyce Thompson, P.O. Box 13873, St. Paul, 55113

ADVERTISING

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

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

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

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

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

DEADLINE

All materials due around the 10th of each month.

All questions regarding the newsletter should be directed to:

Jim Baker
USABDA President
(612) 476-4843

Newsletter Editor: Janis Livingston
Newsletter Layout: Jason Borton and Carolyn Jackson



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



Notes From the Board

by Melanie Helvig
USABDA Chapter Secretary

The Board met on June 3, 1997 and the following items were discussed:

- The May Membership Dance was a success: 40 people renewed, 5 new members joined.
- Reminder: You must renew your subscription to this Newsletter yearly or you will no longer be receiving it. Jim Baker just sent out notices to many current and past members. No response – no newsletter.
- In order to compete, amateur couples must be members of USABDA per agreement between NDCA (National Dance Council of America) and USABDA.
- The next board meeting will be Tuesday, July 1 at Wade Warford's place of employment: Laird Plastics Limited, 7150 Boone Ave N. Brooklyn Park, Phone 535-2118.

Competitor's Column

Includes regional and USABDA events

Sapphire Ball

July 4-6. Red Lion Inn, San Jose, CA.
Contact: Bill Ranells (408) 2247-9464.

Imperial Star Championships

July 10-13. Hilton Hotel, Cherry Hill, NJ.
Contact Lorraine Hahn (215) 491-9696.

Virginia Stat Ballroom championships

July 17-20. Hyatt Regency, Reston, VA
Contact: Rickey Geiger (703) 938-2709

Okanagan Ballroom Classic (all Amateur)

July 19. Trade and convention Center Ballroom, Penticton, BC Canada
Contact: Sara Forsey (604) 228-2170

Mid-Summer Dance Classic (all amateur)

July 26. Rapsody Ballroom. Tampa FL.
Contact: Mike Johnson, Southern Star USABDA chapter (813) 685-1656

Florida State Ballroom Championships

July 29-August 3. Breakers Hotel, W. Palm Beach, FL.
Contact: Larry & Dianne Dean (407) 684-7717

USABDA National Dance Sport Championships

Aug 8-10, Univ. of Delaware, Newark, DE. Contact Vivian Beiswenger, (215) 855-2711.

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

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Minnesota Dance Expo

July 12 & 13 - The Dance Shoppe

Featuring... David Hamilton, Shirley Johnson;
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EXPO WORKSHOP TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

SATURDAY - JULY 12

- 11- Beg. R/C * Interm. W/FT * Gold Standard
- 12 - "Rhythmic Isolations" * Gold Latin
- 1 - Silver Int'l T * Brz Latin * Adv. R/B
- 2 - Silver Latin * Beg. T * "Intuitive Body Sensuality"
- 3 - Interm Sw/WCst * Brz Standard * Adv. T/FT
- 4 - "Partnering Magic"

***"RHYTHMIC ISOLATIONS", "INTUITIVE BODY SENSUALITY" & "PARTNERING MAGIC" ARE TAUGHT BY SCOTT LAPPIN AND ARE OFFERED BOTH SAT. & SUN. @ noon, 2:00, & 4:00. ... THESE CLASSES ARE SEPARATE FROM THE EXPO PACKAGE. THE COST IS \$15 EACH OR \$40 FOR THREE AND ARE PAYABLE TO "SCOTT LAPPIN"

SUNDAY - JULY 13

- Colg. Beg. W/FT * Beg. SW * Silver Standard * Adv. W/V
- Colg. Beg. R/SW * Brz Int'l T * Adv. C/Mam
- Beg. W/FT * Silver Latin * Gold Int'l QS
- Colg. Adv. W/T * Brz Latin * Gold Latin
- Colg. Adv. C/SW * Beg. W/FT * Interm. R/C
- Colg. "Competition Prep" * Interm. T

Cost: \$99 for Unlimited Classes (not incl. classes taught by Scott Lappin) & Dance Party, Sat. 8-10:30 PM

OR \$15 per Class

All Collegiate Classes are \$10 each * Just the Party: \$8

To Register, please complete the information below & send, with payment to: Midwest Dance Promotions, Inc.; 7536 165 th St.; Lakeville, MN 55044

NAME _____	PHONE _____
DAY/CLASSES REQUESTED: _____	

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MEMBER PROFILE -

Wade Warford

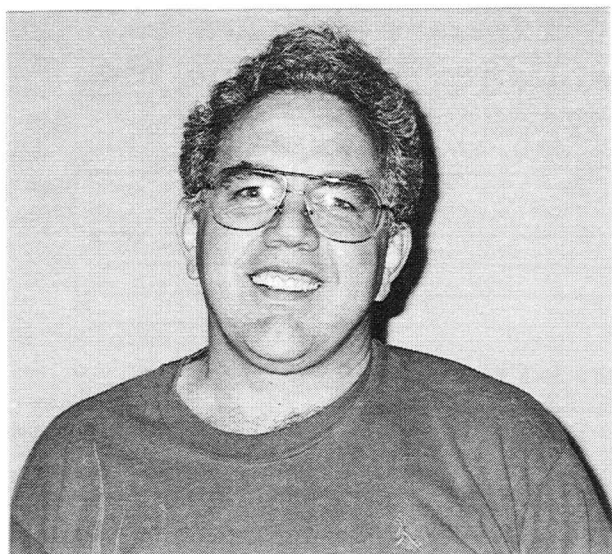
by Janis Livingston

USABDA member, board member, and avid dancer Wade Warford came to the Twin City area in June of 1995 from Newfoundland, Canada. He is a single parent of two children--a daughter age 15 and a son age 13 and he works for a plastic distribution company as a manager. He is a very active member of the board becoming involved in the major project of planning and implementing the Grand Ball for 1997. We also see him participating in the monthly USABDA dances. He is usually busy all evening making sure he dances with a lot of the ladies. He has also danced for USABDA demos on various occasions.

Wade started dancing only about 4 years ago. He says he had always wanted to dance, but never really got the chance. His original goal was to become a good social dancer. He now has his sights on a competition possibly next year. Even though he has never competed in ballroom, he would like to try it out, as long as the dancing still remains fun. He would like to do both Latin/rhythm and Smooth and would love the am/am competitive situation if that became available.

I asked him about how he viewed the future plans of the USABDA board. He says he likes the direction the board is going. He thinks we will have 50-100 new members before the end of the year. The growth of the chapter is so phenomenal that he thinks the board may need one full time paid staff member position to keep things straight, manage the affairs, and use business thinking and sense. The coordination of the affairs of the board is a huge project and gets bigger all the time. Volunteers are always welcomed and needed so he encourages everyone to get involved.

Dancing does take up a lot of Wades time, but he also likes to golf, work out in his home gym, and bike ride. Next time you see Wade at a USABDA event say hello, introduce yourself, and tell him what a fine job he is doing for USABDA. We need volunteers like Wade to make dancing available and fun for our members.



Wade Warford: Avid Dancer and USABDA board member.

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***Simon/Officer Greet Relatives
At 15th Minnesota Open***
by Bill Kroll

The 15th Minnesota Open was marked by strong Amateur support in the featured events. The state's Amateur contingent, which has made its mark on the national scene in the past few years, turned out well in St Paul. National Champions Nels Petersen & Theresa Kimler returned from Blackpool in time to capture the American Rhythm title for the 3rd straight time (for Nels it was the 5th time). Gary & Carol Stroick retained their American Smooth title, and Dale Johnson & Pam Brose captured the International Standard. But it was amateur couples from Edmonton (Alberta), Madison (Wisconsin) and Cleveland (Ohio), who took three of the four Pre-Championship events.

In the professional events, New Yorkers Paul Holmes & Suzanne Phillips won the International Standard, Scott & Amy Anderson took the American Smooth for the 6th straight year, and Jay Larson & Julie Jacobson win the American Rhythm. A new event, Collegiate multi-dance, was well received and will be back next year. Top exhibition couple was Gary & Carol Stroick (97); top man was Jeff Chinn (95); and top lady was Carol Post-Stroick (98). Top Teachers were 1-Nathan Daniels, 2-Paul Botes, and 3-Mary Peterson. Judges for the weekend were chaired by Enrique Ramon and included Lorraine Hahn, Gilbert Wenham, Ron Bennett, Cynthia Long, Robert Long, and Eddie Simon. Jeff Carlsen was Scrutineer.

The show by Eddie Simon and Michelle Officer included a special salute for Michelle's grandmother, Elise, with the U.S. American Style Champions dancing a salutary waltz to "Fur Elise". Except for a CD player that balked at playing, it was perfection. Michelle and Eddie come from Minnesota and Iowa, and about 50 relatives showed up to see them dance, some for the first time.

As we have for the past 15 years, we had a good time meeting old friends and new. The food was very good again, and the hotel rates were unusually low. We look forward to next year and hope to see many more of you here in beautiful Minnesota.

Results of contested featured events:

Amateur Novice American Smooth

- 1 JASON BORTON & CAROLYN JACKSON, Minnesota
- 2 DON SAMUELS & BARBARA BINIASZ, Manitoba

Amateur Pre-Champ American Smooth (9)

- 1 DENNIS & KAREN McLAUGHLIN, Alberta
- 2 MARK TEPLEY & KAREN KETTLER, Minnesota
- 3 JEFF CHINN & TRISHA FOLLESTAD, Minnesota
- 4 SCOTT & BERNIE OSBORN, Minnesota
- 5 CHARLES RENTMEESTERS & HEIDI ULJAS, Wisconsin
- 6 ROBERT DANIEL & DONNA LEE HEIDENREICH, Wisconsin

Amateur Pre-Champ American Rhythm

- 1 SUTEK & HAIYEE LIE, Ohio
- 2 CHARLES RENTMEESTERS & HEIDI ULJAS, Wisconsin
- 3 MARK TEPLEY & KAREN KETTLER, Minnesota
- 4 JEFF CHINN & TRISHA FOLLESTAD, Minnesota
- 5 JASON BORTON & CAROLYN JACKSON, Minnesota
- 6 ROBERT DANIEL & DONNA LEE HEIDENREICH, Wisconsin

Amateur Pre-Champ International Standard

- 1 DALE JOHNSON & PAM BROSE, Minnesota
- 2 EDWARD KOTTMAYER & STEFANIE PLUSCHKELL, Minnesota
- 3 GEORGE & TRISH ZACHONOWICH, Manitoba

Amateur Pre-Champ International Latin

- 1 FREDDIE MARSH-LOTT & KAREN DILLEY, Wisconsin
- 2 GEORGE & TRISH ZACHANOWICH, Manitoba

Amateur American Smooth Championship

- 1 GARY & CAROL STROICK, Minnesota
- 2 DENNIS & KAREN McLAUGHLIN, Alberta
- 3 ANDREW NORDBERG & JANIE SORHEIM, Minnesota
- 4 MARK TEPLEY & KAREN KETTLER, Minnesota
- 5 CHARLES RENTMEESTERS & HEIDI ULJAS, Wisconsin
- 6 JEFF CHINN & TRISHA FOLLESTAD, Minnesota
- 7 SCOTT & BERNIE OSBORN, Minnesota

Amateur American Rhythm Championship

- 1 NELS PETERSEN & THERESA KIMLER, Minnesota
- 2 ANDREW NORDBERG & JANIE SORHEIM, Minnesota
- 3 CHARLES RENTMEESTER & HEIDI ULJAS, Wisconsin
- 4 SUTEK & HAILEE LIE, Ohio
- 5 MARK TEPLEY & KAREN KETTLER, Minnesota
- 6 JEFF CHINN & TRISHA FOLLESTAD, Minnesota

Amateur International Standard Championship

- 1 DALE JOHNSON & PAM BROSE, Minnesota
- 2 EDWARD KOTTMAYER & STEPHANIE PLUSCHKELL, Minnesota
- 3 GARY & CAROL STROICK, Minnesota

Pro/Am American Smooth (Men)

- 1 JEFF CHINN, Meghan Guernsey
- 2 JIM FLASKERUD, Marcy McHenry

Pro/Am American Smooth (Ladies)

- 1 JANIE SORHEIM, Nathan Daniels
- 2 DIANE GROVER, Jay Larson
- 3 SUE LAKSO, Shinya McHenry
- 4 INGRID BLOOM, David Aanestad
- 5 KATHY TRUMBULL, John Speros

Pro/Am American Rhythm (Ladies)

- 1 JENNIFER LaTOURNEAU, Nathan Daniels
- 2 SUE LAKSO, Shinya McHenry
- 3 LORI THOMPSON, Jay Larson
- 4 HEIDI ULJAS, Michael Argue
- 5 KATY GORHAM, John Speros

Pro/Am International Standard (Ladies)

- 1 SANAE STOREY, Shinya McHenry
- 2 INGRID BLOOM, David Aanestad

Collegiate Beginning American Smooth

- 1 BENJAMIN HRON & JENNIFER ROSENBAUM, Carleton College
- 2 MERVYN DESOUZA & ABIGEHL BONLENDER, U of MN
- 3 SAMUAL ADAMS & ANNIE McCABE, Carleton College
- 4 ERIC BROBERG & ALICE ZHANG, U of MN

Collegiate Beginning American Rhythm

- 1 MERVYN DESOUZA & ABIGEHL BONLENDER, U of MN
- 2 BENJAMIN HRON & JENNIFER ROSENBAUM, Carleton College

Collegiate Advanced American Smooth

- 1 DZUNG NGUYEN & KAREN URBERG, U of MN
- 2 MERVYN DESOUZA & KELLY LAUMEYER, U of MN
- 3 ERIK ISTRE & LISTA HOOVER, Carleton College
- 4 JASON STEWART & JESSICA ALLEN, Carleton College
- 5 BRADEY CARLSON & STEPHANIE KAYNES, U of MN

Collegiate Advanced American Rhythm

- 1 MERVYN DESOUZA & KELLY LAUMEYER, U of MN
- 2 JASON STEWART & JESSICA ALLEN, Carleton College
- 3 ERIK ISTRE & LISTA HOOVER, Carleton College
- 4 BRADEY CARLSON & KRIS SANDERS, U of MN

Tango with the Issues

Your Responses from last month.

Partner Connection

The responses to "Partner Connection" were very interesting. At first, I got absolutely no response, but when people saw me around and about, they brought up the article and said they liked it very much. During a few discussions about the topic, the conclusion was drawn that it is too personal a problem to discuss specifics and even with a computer set up to match couples, it would not work. The person in control of the service would have a very difficult job. I felt that the discussions I had with people generally led to the idea: "Yes, I want an amateur partner, but I want it to happen naturally without someone or some computer setting it up." "It is the most prized and anticipated reward of learning to dance." "It is always a possibility, but hardly ever a reality."

Future issues of DANCIN' TIMES will continue discussion on partners by using the interview format. We will be contacting current long-term and new partnership couples to give us insight into how they started and what it took to get where they are today and what makes their partnership survive and be successful.

Janis Livingston

THE COMPLETE PACKAGE Or How to Look the Part of a Dancer

by Janis Livingston

Once you can do some steps, what is next? Possibly a USABDA demo? Possibly a competition? What do you wear? Where do you get it? How do those beautifully coifed, made-up, begowned ladies do it? Where do the men get those latin pants and shirts (that always stay tucked in)? How do you keep up with styles that are constantly changing? Should you practice in ballroom quality clothing? Should you buy used or find a seamstress to make your ideal costume that is designed just for you...etc. etc.?

Fortunately, the Twin Cities has a few costume businesses that cater to the ballroom and latin dancer. Over the next few months, we will highlight our local experts in the field.

Our first featured costume expert is Lisa Soldo of Illusions.

ILLUSIONS - Lisa Soldo

Illusions is the name of the business owned by Lisa Soldo and Charlie Hardcastle. Lisa is a costume designer and seamstress for ballroom and latin dancewear. Her customers are both men, women, and occasionally children. She also does make-up artistry and hair for ladies that are competing or doing dance exhibitions.



United States Amateur Ballroom
Dancers Association, Inc.
Minnesota Chapter



Is Proud to Present:

1997 GRAND BALL



6:00 PM to 10:00 PM
Sunday, September 28, 1997
Sheraton Metrodome Hotel



AMATEUR,
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AND PRO/AM
SHOWCASES
THROUGHOUT
THE EVENING

Semi-formal attire requested.

Hors d'oeuvres will be served

ILLUSIONS - (continued)

Lisa has been designing for ten years and doing make-up for five years. She is a self-taught custom tailor that previously ran a shop in Minnetonka doing custom tailoring and alterations. Lisa met Charlie in Florida, about three years ago, they started dating, and eventually, together, using their knowledge and skills, found they wanted to open a business specific to the ballroom consumer. Now the business they envisioned has grown and is expanding.

Lisa tells me that most people do not know what they need, or want, at first, when they come in to see her. Her job is to help them pick out what they really want for themselves. She will design, using colors and details, 4-5 different sketches for the customer to see and discuss. That is the starting point. The goal is to try to make them look the best they can look. She wants her clients to come away thinking this is the best thing that they could have.

The fabric is the next step. They look at swatches of materials, talk about budget (usually a client has a figure in mind) and work within the budget. She buys materials from California and around the U.S. It is a big challenge finding the fabric because there is very little in the Twin Cities that is appropriate. There are very few companies that manufacture this specialized fabric. Next, when the client has picked a design and a fabric, she measures the client, she makes her own pattern, orders the materials needed, and starts the process of putting it all together. Sewing would take anywhere from a day to five days. She would need a month to do from start to finish.

The success of Illusions can be "measured" by the fact that they are currently introducing a new line of practice wear. They will be putting out a catalog in a few months. Dance Sport will have an area or display section for them soon. They are looking for distributors who are interested in having this ready to wear practice wear as part of their business, too.

Lisa says the benefits of practice wear are body line and use of skirt in certain steps. It is important to feel the weight of the skirt and how it moves. She finds designs that feel great when you move--that can be used for dances, showcases, or even use everyday on the street, and she finds fabrics that travel well. The aim is to have competitive prices so that this ready-to-wear line is affordable for everyone.

Along with the ready-to-wear, one of Lisa's goals is to make ballroom fashion also affordable for everyone. "You should not be forced to spend \$1500-2000 on a gown." She is able to find something to fit most budgets. If new is out of the question, she consigns or sells used garments for other people. A gown will last 2-3 years before it starts to look dated. She can re-design a ballgown in various ways--change a skirt, add feathers, or alter to fit. "This way you could spend only a couple of hundred on a re-design instead of a couple of thousand on a brand new one."

The fit of a ballgown is important. It should fit so that it makes you stand up straight, but not so tight that you feel cinched in. Men's latin pants also are made to make you stand up straight. The men should really feel their hips, and we should see the hips move. The newer latin pants design is lower waisted. Tight t-shirts were popular for a super-clean line--the idea being to spot-light the woman. Men's shirts are made with an attached brief to keep the shirts tucked in. The latin men's look changes almost as often as women's styles. She can change cuffs, necklines, buckles, etc. The new ballroom look is not as restricted. She does not do tuxedos, but with the less restricted look of European style such as vests and ties becoming more accepted and stylish, she can do these.

Once the costume is done, what about the face and hair? She does this, too. Judges look for the complete package. Make-up is made to enhance a persons features, hide flaws, and make the person look really beautiful. Hair style changes about every 6 months. The cone look is now the softer look to the Evita style or 20-30's style. You need not have long hair--"some people just look better in short hair". She schedules appointments about one hour before a competitor's category starts and sometimes does the hair the night before. People need to book her about two weeks before a competition.

Continuing the complete package idea, Lisa's mother Lorraine does jewelry design specifically for ballroom. Earrings, necklaces, bracelets, cuff links and collar tabs are available. Earrings are clipped and pierced or lever backed so they will stay on the ears.

Finally, Lisa is the costume sponsor for Robert and Jennifer Foster. She is working on a new look for them for when they start competing again. She is planning another fashion show and hopes to make it an annual event.

The last show, held at Dance Sport, was attended by 200 people. There were 31 people modeling in the show, and it was all choreographed to music.

You can see that her vision of providing essentials for the ballroom dancer has blossomed and taken off. She is becoming well-known around the country for Illusions. It seems her energy and expertise is limitless. If you are looking for that special costume, practice outfit, make-up, hair-do, or jewelry give Lisa a call at Illusions 922-8667.

Right - Samples of Lisa's 'Illusions' from her last fashion show.



Paid Advertisement



Summer Spectacular

Date:

Saturday, July 19, 1997

Place:

**Macalester College Grand Ballroom
(S.W. Corner of Snelling & Grand)**

Time:

7:00 pm

Beq/Adv Group Classes

8:00-11:30 pm

General Dancing

Professional Dance Shows

The Dancers Studio Staff &

Perry & Diane Gingrich

Tickets: \$20 in advance/\$25 at the door

For information call the Dancers Studio (612) 641-0777

Summer Spectacular



**General Dancin'
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featuring:

**The Dancers Studio Staff and
Perry & Diane Gingrich**

ON YOUR TOES SCHOOL OF DANCE FORMATION TEAM

by Cheri Rolnick

If you think it is difficult dancing as a partnership, imagine the challenge of coordinating all movement with five other couples. This is what a formation team must do. What a challenge this must be for the team's coach! Yet, each week, Jeff Nehrbass (On Your Toes School of Dance Owner and Instructor), works with us, not only to enhance our movement through our choreography, but also our relation to all others on the floor. When he thought of forming the team, he wanted to recruit six couples with desire to learn and perform on their own and had a committed partnership. He also hoped to interest those who would recognize that by dancing with others, you could create movement where the beauty of the totality is bigger than what anyone could produce independently.

The formation team has always had 12 members. Initially Celeste and Jim Gibson were on the team but work demands took them to Nashville. Current members include: Kathy and Don Grambach, Lori Kozicky and John (Woody) Woodcock, Ellen Neuman and Jack Cain, Bernie and Scott Osborn, Cheri and Art Rolnick and Yvonne and Dan Viehman.

When asked to write this article, we asked team members about what attracted them to become part of a formation group, responses were quite varied. Some felt the group would provide an opportunity to expand their "toolbox of dance steps" or improve their overall dance ability, especially when challenged by other dancers.

Certainly, the choreography is a technical challenge. Many commented on the group aspect of the dances. "One learns to dance as a whole, rather than individually." "We work as a group towards a common goal." After being involved with the group, a different dimension became evident, and that is the closeness of the group, and the support members provide one another. The dance community in general is one area where people can come together from all walks of life and become fast friends due to the enjoyment of a common interest. With the formation group, the feeling is magnified. "We learn from each other. We care about each other. We have a new appreciation of presenting ourselves in a unified manner."

After nearly two years, Jeff views the team as the "crown jewel of the On Your Toes program." He feels the team reflects the core values of the studio. I asked him to elaborate on what that meant to him. Jeff stated he "sees the group as creating something beautiful. Nobody else does what we do. No other formation team is attempting to do choreography at this level. We have also become part of a process where peoples lives are interwoven together in special ways." We would all agree, the formation group experience has been valuable in all our lives. Our dancing is great fun, our bonds to one another are even more enriching.

The formation team has danced for both competition and exhibition. Performances have included USABDA functions, dancing at various malls, The Twin Cities Open, The Wisconsin State Open and the Viehman's wedding.



The On Your Toes School of Dance formation team: (from left to right) Jeff Nehrbass (instructor), Cheri Rolnick, Bernie Osborn, Lori Kozicky, Kathy Grambach, Ellen Neuman, Yvonne Viehman, Dan Viehman, Jack Cain, Don Grambach, Art Rolnick, John (Woody) Woodcock, and Scott Osborn.



DANCESPORTS

July Dance

Saturday, July 26th

Group Class 8PM

Dance 9-12PM

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Dance Demonstrations

by Yvonne M. Viehman

USABDA Dance Demonstration Coordinator

Celebrating the Years

On Wednesday May 14, Jim Eagan of the Epiphany Catholic Church of Coon Rapids organized a celebration for church members who had been members for the longest time. In conjunction with this grand celebration, he requested a 15 minute demonstration. The following people helped them celebrate: **Lisa Hamilton** and **Wade Warford** danced American Rhythm and **Tricia Follestad** and **Jeff Chin** performed American Smooth. Many thanks to each of you for your efforts and for emceeing in my absence. Also, Mr. Lagan provided a \$50 donation!

25th Anniversary Party!

On Sunday, May 18, the Little Brothers - Friends of the elderly celebrated 25 years of volunteer service to the elderly! The Prom Expo was the site and the event featured a dinner and dancing. The Wolverines were there to get everyone in the right spirit and we provided a 30-minute demo and danced with many of the young and old who attended. It was a great pleasure to have the following people join in the demonstration: **Donna Buchholtz & Wally Wilsey**, **Noel Blair & C. R. Barragan**, **Mary Jean Lundeen & Jim Aubrecht**, **Janis Livingston & Greg Moore** and **Dan & Yvonne Viehman** who showed off their social rhythm talents and **Carol Post Stroick** and **Gary Stroick** who left us breathless by performing Waltz, Tango, Foxtrot, Viennese Waltz and Quickstep! Actually Carol was probably the breathless one because not only did she perform these dances with Gary, she managed to change gowns four times to add an extra flare! The audience was thrilled as evidenced by the following notes I received from two of the guests that attended:

Dear Yvonne,

June 2, 1997

On behalf of all of us here at Little Brothers - Friends of the Elderly, I'd like to thank you for the wonderful dance exhibition you provided at our 25th Anniversary party at the Prom. You were a huge hit! Since the party, I've had so many comments from our elderly friends about how much they enjoyed your performance. It was nothing less than dazzling! We also appreciate the time that you spent dancing with our elderly guests. It was a real treat for them! Some have not danced in years! It was not unlike Cinderella at the ball! You truly added excitement, energy and enthusiasm to our event. Thank you so very much!

Sincere regards,

Carol J. Bishop, Executive Director

Dear Little Brothers - Friends of the Elderly,

May 26, 1997

Thanks you so very much for inviting us to your 25th Anniversary Celebration on May 18th. It was very nice - the whole thing! The Dance exhibition by the U. S. Ballroom Dance Association was very pretty.

Ann & Woodrow

Thanks too to Pete Maki and Joyce Thompson for their musical efforts. Also, Sandy Navin, who is a volunteer for the Little Brothers, connected me up with Carol Bishop to organize this event. Thanks Sandy.

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Upcoming Dance Demonstrations

Paid Advertisement

by Yvonne Viehman

07/15 "Summer Sounds" for the Minnesota Hearing Aid Society at the Calhoun Beach Club, Lake Calhoun -- come and dance, eat and bid at the auction! 3 rhythm and 1 smooth couple needed - dancing time depends on schedule that night - approximately 8:00 - 8:30 pm.

09/17 Pre-Kick-Off to National Ballroom Dance Week, Rotunda at Mall of America

Remember this is the "Dancing through the Ages" program so pick your era -- 1920's, 1930's, 1940's, 1950's... and your dance, costume and partner and call me to reserve your spot on the floor as people are already signing up! (Pro/Am couples also welcome).

Call Yvonne Viehman at 553-1202 and identify which demo, which dances and with whom you'd like to dance.

Notes from the Staff

- ✍ Historically the newsletter becomes rather lean in the summer months, let's make this summer different. There are many dance activities happening, so a few paragraphs and some pictures from the event will let other USABDA members know what you are up to and help make our newsletter a success! So please, as you go dancing this summer, don't forget to tell your dancin' buddies about your experiences through the Dancin' Times!
- ✍ Don't forget to send your pictures and articles to: Janis Livingston 2354 Matilda St. Roseville, MN 55113. To get your event in the Dancer's Nite Out, contact Dorothy Jones and for advertisements please call Jim Baker.
- ✍ Our deadline is the 10th of each month.

Swaplines

Exotic White Rhythm! Sz 4-6. Full length sheer design, stones throughout, leather trim with gold buttons, one arm bare. An elegant showstopper from all angles. \$450. Call Theresa at 490-1669.

Fun 2-Piece Black Rhythm Costume, Sz 2-4. Two hip-hugger skirts with top. Good for younger dancer or athletic figure. Asking \$125. Call Theresa at 490-1669.

Championship white mini rhythm, Sz 2-4. Pale blue and silver stones throughout, beaded fringe on skirts adds to movement. Incredible shine on the floor. \$350. Call Theresa at 490-1669.

Black sequin latin dress, Sz 12-14. Asymmetrical fuschia ruffle, low back, AB rhinestones. Worn in only 3 competitions. \$750. Mary, 788-4182.

Exquisite Doré ballgown, Sz 4-8. Elegant black gown w/halter style bodice, drop waist, black sheer gloves, latest trend from Blackpool. Worn only a few times. \$2300. Nels, 784-5179.

Sexy, Sexy, Sexy! Sz 4-6. 2-piece latin gold coin outfit w/short leather skirt. Moves great, makes lots of noise! Brand new. \$650. Lisa 922-8667.

Eye Catcher! Sz 8-14. Neon pink latin. This is a fun dress with lots of silver beaded fringe and AB stoning. Moves great! New. \$450. Lisa 922-8667.

Purple 2-piece rhythm, Sz 6-12. Bright purple fringe short and top with beautiful blue stoning. High energy costume! New, only \$350. Lisa 922-8667.

Neon Yellow 1-piece rhythm, Sz 2-8. You wont be overlooked in this costume! Sexy panne velvet w/diamond shaped fringe and lots of stoning. Worn 3 times. \$700. Lisa 922-8667.

Simple and Elegant, Sz 6-8 Assymtrical Black rhythm gown. Decorated with beautiful aurora rhinestone swirl pattern. Excellent condition - worn only twice. Asking \$950. Marian 541-9147.

Swaplines is a monthly feature offering members the their dance merchandise. Advertisements for partnerships are not published in this newsletter.

Thank You

USABDA-MN would like to thank Gordon Lee and Phil Schloss for all of their support. Gordon Lee has been a tremendous help in promoting USABDA and Ballroom Dancing. Gordon was responsible for the Channel 9 News coverage of the Tea Dance and for several advertisements of USABDA events in several newspapers, including an ad for this months dance in the City Pages! Phil Schloss has helped by managing USABDA-MN's database. Thank you Gordon and Phil your efforts are greatly appreciated!!

Send Submissions to:

Janis Livingston
2354 Matilda St.
Roseville, MN 55113
481-1017

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Weekly Dance Opportunities...

Wednesday

- ☛ *Free West Coast Swing Lesson*, Camp Snoopy, Mall of America, 9:30-10:30 am.

Thursday

- ☛ *Four Seasons Dancing*, 6:30 pm, Int/Adv Latin Lesson and FREE Latin Dance Party, Mpls. 342-0902.
- ☛ *Medina Ballroom*, 8pm, bands vary, 478-6661.
- ☛ *Big Band Night*, Wabasha Caves, 215 Wabasha St, St. Paul, Lesson 6:30pm, Dance 7-10pm, \$5, bands vary, for directions see *Dancer's Nite Out*, 224-1191.

Friday

- ☛ *Shakopee Ballroom*, 8:30pm, bands vary, 445-0412.
- ☛ *Four Seasons Dancing*, 7:30pm, Ballroom Lesson and FREE ballroom practice party, Mpls, 342-0902.
- ☛ *Everett McClay VFW*, Bloomington, 8pm, bands vary, 561-0206.

MINNESOTA

Dancin' Times

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Jeff & Cindy Nehrbass, St. Louis Park.....	928-7803
*Northwest Health Clubs, Minneapolis.....	546-6554
*On Your Toes School of Dance, St. Louis Park	928-7803
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