# MINNESOTA

# DANCING TIMES



A publication of the Minnesota Chapter 2011 of USA Dance

March 2010



Inside this month's issue...
Social Dancing, New NDCA Rules, & Monthly Dance Photos



# Dancers Nite Out

- Sa 3/6 Delbert McClinton with guest band Lamont Cranston at Medina Entertainment Ctr, 500 Hwy 55, Medina, FMI: www.medinaentertainment.com or 763.478.6661
- Sa 3/6 "Decade Dance Party" at Tropical Ballroom, 1750 Weir Dr, Woodbury, MN 55125, Costume contest prizes to dress in your favorite decade! 7:30-8:30 pm hustle lesson; 8:30-11 pm ballroom, latin, swing variety dance; \$10; FMI: www.tropicalballroom.com or 651 414 0644
- Sa 3/6 "Saturday Night Fever!" DJ Andy Trawick Retro Ballroom, ballroom/variety dance with Merengue lesson and mixer! 5810 W 36th St, St. Louis Park, MN 55416; FMI: www.retroballroom.com.
- Fr 3/12 NEW "Salsa Fusion" Cinema Ballroom, 1560 St. Clair Ave., St. Paul, MN 55105; 7-8 pm group lesson; 8-11 pm – cha cha, salsa, merengue, cumbia & bachata! FMI: www.cinemaballroom.com or 651.699.5910
- Fr 3/19 "Lucky Shamrock!" Dance Retro Ballroom featuring Retro studio music, Rumba lesson, mixers and minilesson! See ad this issue or www.retroballroom.com
- Fr 3/19 Country/Swing variety dance party! Tropical Ballrm, 1750 Weir Dr, Woodbury, MN 55125, 7:30-8 pm line dance lesson; 8-8:30 pm Night Club 2-step lesson; 8:30-11 pm country & swing variety dance; \$10 admission; FMI: www.tropicalballroom.com or 651.414.0644
- Sa 3/20 **USA Monthly Dance at Cinema Ballroom**, 1560 St. Clair Ave, St. Paul, MN; lessons 7-8 pm; 8-11 pm variety dance **see ad this page for more details.**
- Sa 3/20 American Classic Ballrm Grand Opening! 7-7:45 pm swing lesson; general dance 8-11 pm – FREE with purchase of private lesson or \$10/adults; \$5/students; food, drinks, raffles, door prizes; 550 Market St., Chanhassen, MN 55317; FMI: www.americanclassicdance.com or 952.934.0900
- Fr 3/26 "Spring Fling" Showcase Retro Ballroom! Featuring "Beyond Ballroom" Company, On Your Toes students & instructors! Dance after showcase! See full-page ad this issue or www.retroballroom.com
- Sa 3/27 "Midnight Star Showcase" at Dancer's Studio, 99 N Snelling, St. Paul, MN 55105; FMI: <u>www.dancersstudio.com</u> or 651.641.0777

### American Classic Ballroom

(952) 934-0900

www.americanclassicdance.com, 550 Market St., Chanhassen, MN 55317 (494 west to Hwy 5, right on Market Blvd, right on Market St.)

Arthur Murray Dance Studio (651) 227-3200 534 Selby Avenue, St. Paul, MN. Salsa for beginners and

advanced on Wednesday 8:15 pm/\$15. Date Night variety class for beginners on Friday 6:45 pm/\$25/couple.

Black Dog Cafe & Wine Bar (651) 228-9274 308 Prince Street, St. Paul Argentine Tango night every 3rd

308 Prince Street, St. Paul Argentine Tango night every 3rd Saturday. Lesson at 7:30 pm, dance from 8-11 pm/\$3.

**Blue Moon Ballroom** (507) 288-0556 www.BlueMoonBallroom.net 2030 Hwy 14, East Rochester, MN; Fridays: Latin Night, 7:30 pm - 12:30 am; Saturdays: Live Bands!

Cafe Bailar Dance Club
2nd Saturdays at Tropical Bllrm, Valley Creek Mall, 1750 Weir Drive, Woodbury, MN 55125. 4th Saturdays at Retro Bllrm, 5810 W 36th St, St. Louis Park, MN 55416. Lesson 7:30-8:30 pm. Dance 8:30-12 am. \$10, or \$8 members. Membership \$20/yr. www.cafebailar.com or tricia@cafebailar.com

**DNO** continued on page 23

# Join us for USA Dance's

# March Monthly Dance!



# Saturday, March 20th

7-8 pm Bolero Lesson
Instructor: Shane Meuwissen

8-11 pm Ballroom Variety Dance
Music DJ: Shane Meuwissen

\$7 USADance members • \$10 non-members \$5 Age 25 and under

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# Cinema Ballroom

1560 St. Clair Ave, St. Paul, MN 55105

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

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





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# From the Board

Minutes of the Monthly USA Dance MN #2011 Board Meeting – February 2, 2010. Submitted by Cathy Dessert.

In attendance: Sue Zeller (President), Min Chong (Vice President), Craig Hagensick (Treasurer), Jackie Dalton, Cathy Dessert, Jeannie Hill, Mike Jones, Carol Mayo, Janie Nordberg, Bill Nunn, Adrian Suncar, DeDe Ouren (Guest), Yvonne Viehman (Guest)

**Location:** Byerly's Ridgedale Minnetonka, MN **Call to order:** Quorum established. Agenda approved. January board minutes approved.

### **Organizational Matters:**

**Tea Dance:** The dance will be held April 25, 2010 at the Layfayette Club. Tickets will be sold by mail and available from Board members. Flyer content and budget were approved. Gratitude expressed to Dede and her volunteers for great work on this event.

**Treasurers Report:** The status of the Dance Floor continues to come up for discussion. A subcommittee was formed to resolve the issue with relation to National affiliation. The January Dance was profitable and we gained 2 new members! Craig has an accounting report due to Nationals February 28.

**Liability with Natl Affiliation:** We are an affiliate of a non-profit and need to find out what that means to us as a Chapter. Jeannie suggested we hire a non-profit attorney to help us with this issue. A subcommittee will meet with the attorney and a budget to do this was approved.

**USADance MN Chapter Report to Natls:** Sue Zeller will submit this on behalf of the Chapter.

Regional and Natl Meetings: A budget was approved for Mike Jones to attend the Regional meeting in Chicago. A budget was approved for Jeannie Hill to attend the National meeting in Las Vegas. Half her airfare is being reimbursed by National.

Star of the North: Min has hired an MC. Photos by Jack Yan, same photographer as last year. Mike has 80% of volunteer positions filled. A budget was approved. Non-ballroom community is providing additional marketing/publicity.

**Dance Demos:** Next demo March 20. Yvonne needs most emails and people to do dance demos. Thanks to Yvonne and Dan for the invaluable service they provide!

Chris Trask asked for a cash donation, via the VFW, for the Red Bulls. The Board felt that the demo would best serve in alignment with our mission and thanks Chris for her role in promoting ballroom dancing for our Chapter.

**Fall Dance Event:** Bill Nunn has found the Women's Club in Minneapolis as a possible venue.

Misc: Carol Mayo, as a new Board member, detailed her involvement in Havin a Ball and Krewe Da Walleye.

Meeting adjourned with Youth Outreach and Marketing/Communications tabled for the next meeting agenda.

**Next Meeting:** 

Tuesday, March 2, 7:30 PM Byerly's 13081 Ridgedale Dr. Minnetonka

# USA Dance: Who Are We?

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

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

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

As a member, you'll have fun dancing and meeting many new friends. For more information, call the **USA Dance MN HOTLINE**: 651-483-5467.

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

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

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

## Advertising

DISPLAY ADS: To advertise your event or professional service, submit a digital file (300 dpi pdf or jpeg format ONLY) or camera-ready artwork to Cathy Dessert (651-415-0375 or cathydessert@comcast.net) along with payment to USA Dance MN. Advertising for charge cards, insurance, or travel cannot be accepted. Ads can be typeset or designed for a small fee, contact Janie. Payment to accompany ad.

Full page 7.5" wide x 10" high \$130
Half page 7.5" wide x 4.75" high 0R 3.5" wide x 9.5" high
Otr. 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: <a href="mailto:annelatourelle@comcast.net">annelatourelle@comcast.net</a>

DEADLINE FOR ALL MATERIALS: 10th OF EACH MONTH

2010 USA Dance

## **EDITOR'S INTRO**

# From the Editor By Greg Moore

## Our theme for March is social dancing.

Kind of a no-brainer, really, since most of our readers spend most of their dancing time in a social setting. Even those of us who invest enormous amounts of time, money, and sweat preparing for competitions still manage to get to an occasional dance for a little fun. Having the freedom to cavort around the dance floor without worrying about those darned judges is an exquisitely sweet experience. And I would speculate that most of our local competitors started out as social dancers.

Many social dancers have told me they don't compete because it would spoil the enjoyment of dance for them. This fear may be unfounded, but it is understandable. Turning something we do for pure enjoyment into something we do for achievement is a profound change. In competition, you're always on the meter. You have approximately ninety seconds per dance to demonstrate as much technical perfection as you can muster. And even if you nail it, you still may come in dead last. The social dancer has no such worries. Once you've gotten the hang of a few syllabus figures and can maneuver around the floor smoothly, everything else is gravy. The exhilaration of nicely turned pivot, the surprised smiles (and maybe compliments) from your partner, the satisfaction of spicing up an ordinary figure with a little original body English – all these small spontaneous pleasures are unique to social dancing. This stuff is good for the soul, and the smart competitor will make time for regular doses of it.

# The President's Corner What's USA Dance?

There are many people in our Minneapolis, St Paul and Metro Area who may be interested in dancing, but just don't know how to get started or where to go. How to more effectively communicate with those folks is one goal of the USA Dance MN board every year.

We have a communications committee who work on the content of the messages we want bring to others and also the vehicles in which we bring the message. These include our website, Facebook, marketing materials, etc...

In today's world of internet communications, we have extraordinary ways to bring information to others. So if someone searches for dance, we want them to come to the USA Dance MN website. We have put a lot of effort in taking our website and making it one of the best. We would like to feel confident that what others are looking for, regarding dance, will be found there or on a link to a dance interest.

A picture is worth a thousand words. A dance demo not only is entertaining, but can also spark the possibility in the heart of someone who might love to dance. I'm hoping we see more dancers in the St Paul, Minneapolis and Metro Area out in the community bringing dance to those starving for something more in their lives.

Bringing the awareness of USA Dance to others is just the start. Helping others then to get connected with the fabulous dance instructors our dance community has to offer. Before each of our monthly dances we have a dance lesson included in the cost of a dance. You dancers who attend monthly dances are good at taking someone new around the floor to help them feel comfortable and getting them started at dancing socially.

3 times a year USA Dance MN hosts Double Dances. Double Dances provide an evening of beginner dance lessons in one ballroom and a ballroom/latin variety dance in the other. Our next Double Dance will be in April. This is a great dance to invite people you know to get involved in dancing. Your friends can take lessons to get started and you can enjoy a dance.

Word of mouth is still, after all the advances, the most powerful way to get the message out. For a dancer to tell others about their dance experience will do a lot to get the word out. So dancers, although the USA Dance MN board, committees and volunteers set up monthly dances, special events, dance competitions, a newsletter, dance demo's, a website and marketing materials to attract others, we need your help to spread the word and to keep on dancing.

Sue Zeller, USADance MN President



# Social Ballroom Dancing By Jack Munday

ocial dancing is a nice phrase we hear all the time. It means one thing to one person, another to another, even when the two are dance partners like Fran and I are. I think of the saying one can use about many topics, that when social dancers are gathered together, there are as many definitions of what it is as there are dancers present.

The title of this article has a third word, 'ballroom,' that might help focus on what is valuable to us. Fran and I want to share our experiences on what it is like for us. We all know the pleasure and joy of dancing, and it is helpful, we think, to look at why we are having so much fun.

Fran and I are coming up on our third anniversary of ballroom dancing. Fran wanted to go back to the time in her life when she danced with partners who knew how to lead. I suspect she wanted more than what our social dancing at that time gave her. I didn't lead, danced formlessly, made happy but unstructured movement on a dance floor at a wedding or party or nightclub. We did 'bar room' dancing. She knew better.

Then we went to a showcase, at Cheek To Cheek dance studio. My eyes were open and we took a group lesson the very next day. Within weeks we began private lessons, with Monica Mohn and Harry Benson. We learned some patterns, I was introduced to the concept of joining my frame with the lady's frame, to form a common core that moved in partnership. I say "introduced" because it didn't come easily, or right away.

In addition to dances at studios, we began to attend more formal events, attending our first USA Dance Minnesota Tea Dance after about a year of lessons. I had been warned that it would be intimidating to be on the same floor with so many accomplished dancers. That was an understatement. That evening at home, Fran told me I had to get "down and dirty" with Monica, meaning of course that I had to learn how to lead, because Fran is quite capable of following, and I had to lead more dances. Both Fran and I accepted this as a challenge, but also as an opportunity.

The USA Dance national organization has a section on its website devoted to social ballroom dancing that lists the physical, mental, emotional and social benefits of dancing with a partner on a ballroom floor. It comes with sound advice on the various options one has as a beginner. Besides advocating that one find a USA Dance Chapter like this one, we see advice on the advantages of group lessons and private instruction, with both plus and minus features of each. They also remind us that the learning curve can be a long one.

USA Dance tells us that becoming a good dancer includes instruction, practice and frequent use of what is being learned. We totally agree, and have now found happiness

in social dancing at least once a week at different venues. We dance at USA Dance Minnesota monthly dances when we can, as well as dance parties at Cheek To Cheek and other studios. We attend dances put on by various social organizations such as a local Chamber of Commerce dance for Valentine's Day. Not long ago we were at a bar room dance where we got a bit of attention from our cha cha.

One way that Fran and I have found to improve our social dancing is to participate in showcase dances. One advances by setting goals, and we select different dances each time. We dance at home, practicing those dances. Sometimes I lead a pattern that Fran and I had not practiced. When I do, she says, "Wow!" Recently she added, "Periodically through my life I have had dance partners that had power and gave me that feeling of doing something special. Really dancing. Now you have developed a power that exceeds those informal dancers in my past. "

We refine the technique and add new patterns at our lessons, both private and group. More than doing what we are told to do to be better social ballroom dancers, we experience the joy and pleasure of moving together on the ballroom floor in that special way that is our reward for being dancers. See you on the dance floor.

# Cheek to Cheek Ballroom Dance Studio

With or without a partner we can teach you how to lead or follow

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7:30—Progressive WC Swing lesson 8:30-10:30 PM—General Dancing Private lessons by appointment. See our

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\$30.00\* per person (\$25.00 - student) Tea Dance ticket includes brunch and dancing \$20.00\* (\$15.00 - student) dancing only 1:00 - 4:00 pm paid at the door after 12:30 pm \*Brunch tickets must be purchased in advance by April 22, 2010.

Write check to **USA Dance Minnesota** send to J. Dalton, PO Box 1857 Minnetonka, MN 55345 or

Purchase tickets at USA dances or from USA Board members Jackie 952-934-9554 or Dede 612-554-7029



# What Do You Know In Your Bones? By Debbie Stewart

In the final Leadership Seminar in the Master of Arts in Organizational Leadership (MAOL) program at St. Catherine University, the instructor, Louise Miner, assigns a paper to address the question, "What do you know now about your leadership that you didn't know when you began this program? What do you know in your bones?" My response to that question was framed by research I conducted for my thesis, "Leadership and Followership: Complementary Opposites on the Dance Floor and in the Work Place."

The short version of my response is that leadership is a dance – a dance comprised of leaders and followers interacting around shared goals or a common purpose they mutually want to achieve. I arrived at this conclusion with the help of dancers who responded to a survey posted on the USA Dance Minnesota website and at www.triciadancer.com, through observation and interviews of local independent dance instructors, and through a focus group of six local business leadership consultants.

What I learned and now know in my bones is that in organizations, as on the dance floor, "the real backbreaking work... is done by committed ethical followers, individuals who check their leaders every step of the way and, when necessary, spur them on to new and more creative approaches (Syl Jones, "The Lost Art of Following," Star Tribune, October 7, 2007)." In his article, Jones acknowledges that in our leader-centric culture, "following isn't considered very sexy," but notes that ethical followers "refine, complete and even finish leaders, contributing enormously to successful societies and organizations." I learned that dance is a powerful metaphor for the interactions of leaders and followers because it makes concrete their relative roles, responsibilities and contributions.

Dance makes clear the fact that while it is important for the leader to initiate a movement and suggest a strategy, the strategy alone is meaningless unless the follower responds by implementing and completing it. I learned that dance followers, unlike their business counterparts, are trained not just in the steps and patterns of a specific dance (job skills and responsibilities in the business world), but also in their roles and responsibilities as followers in relationship to the leader. I learned that dance followers have five major areas of responsibility to the leader and to the dance itself:

 Commitment – followers must be committed to the leader and to the dance (or to the vision, mission and values of the organizations they serve). Their commitment must be based on

- mutual trust with the leader
- engagement with the leader and the dance through which they "participate with enthusiasm, intelligence and self-reliance" (Robert E. Kelley, The Power of Followership, 1992)
- accountability to the leader, the dance and the audience
- willingness to be led; ability to let go of their egos and gracefully accept the role of follower
- Willingness to provide resistance
- Ability to implement the strategy
- Ability to provide feedback to the leader
- Willingness to make active choices.

Finally, what I learned and now know in my bones is that just as in dance, "the best followers are strong, independent partners with their leaders. They think for themselves, self-direct their work, and hold up their end of the bargain. They continuously work at making themselves integral to the enterprise, honing their skills and focusing their contributions and collaborating with their colleagues" (Robert E. Kelley, "How Followers Weave a Web of Relationships," 1993). To the extent that leaders recognize the contributions of followers, elevate their visibility and develop their skills, they will create committed, effective, ethical followers and accelerate the organization's (or couple's) movement toward its purpose.





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## **New NDCA Rules for 2010**

### **Dear Athletes and Professional Members:**

The information that follows is a report of some of the actions taken at the NDCA Meeting in Dallas on January 10, 2010 as they impact Amateur DanceSport.

USA Dance Representatives in attendance: Wayne Crowder, Professional Delegate and Chair of the Certification Committee and Ken Richards, Vice-President of DanceSport.

### **Proposed Rules Changes**

The NDCA Ballroom Director (Lee Wakefield) submitted a change to Rule I.F.1., for the following reasons: (1) to simplify the local competitions rule, (2) to clarify expectations of the NDCA regarding Professional, Pro/Am Student Dancers, and Student/Student competitions.

Note: this multipart rule deals with the limitations the NDCA places on Professional Registrants in organizing and/or judging a competition.

#### **Actions:**

- 1. The first part of the rule revision was passed, thus giving the NDCA the ability to impose a \$500 fine, temporarily revoke or cancel an individual's registration with the NDCA on the first offense.
- 2. The second section serves to define a one-day competition. This was tabled pending a more complete review of the entire competition structure for the June, 2010 meeting.
- 3. The next section provides exemptions to the rule. The rewording of the exemption to the rule with respects to USA Dance events now reads as:
- d. "USA Dance" National Qualifying Events and National Championships, provided these events are limited to Amateur/Amateur competitions. (No Professional, Pro/Am Student Dancer, or Student/Student competitions) as defined in rule II.B.2.

We asked for this rule to be expanded to include all USA Dance Sanctioned events but the modification was not accepted.

### What It All Means:

The NDCA has taken steps to limit the ability of their registered Professionals to associate with a non-NDCA event or to organize a Pro/Am event in conjunction with any event sanctioned by a non-NDCA entity such as USA Dance. At the same time it solidifies the NDCA's commitment to provide officials to our Nationals and NQE events.

As a footnote, later in the meeting, the Ballroom Director stated that 8 individuals were found to be in violation of

this rule by serving as judges at non-NDCA events and they would all receives letters of warning but no fines would be imposed.

# USA Dance, VP of DanceSport proposed a change to Rule II.A.1.b.

The motion was to delete the entire rule II.A.1.b. that was put in place six months ago. The rule makes a competitor a professional if they are "A Staff Member employed by a Dance Studio to teach". The rule further states: "Employed" indicates a full time or part time teacher who is paid by a studio, and for whom the studio arranges lessons/clients and subsequently withholds Federal Income Tax, Social Security and Unemployment Taxes from the employee's paycheck. An employed staff member receives an annual Federal W-2 Form – statement of earnings – from the studio, and uses it in preparing his or her IRS Form 1040."

### Background/Reasoning given for the motion:

There is disparity between the rules for professional and amateur classification. Amateurs can teach, however, this rule forces an amateur that is legitimately employed in a studio to change status and become a professional.

This item adds a twist to the status-determination that does not appear in the amateur definition and forces a person teaching in a school and following the law to be limited in their choice. The rule also hinders a studio operator that wishes to employ or sponsor amateur teachers. These teachers want to work in a professional environment under the tutelage of professional studio owner but do not wish to dance pro/am or pro for the immediate future. The definition of "professional" should not be tied to a person's career aspirations, the type of employment classification or the studio they work in.

### **Actions:**

1. Initially this rule was defeated and a number of professionals spoke out against allowing amateurs to teach. While strong supporters that understood the rule voted in favor, many abstained and the "no vote" prevailed. And then it got interesting... First Jack Rothweiler of Fred Astaire spoke that he wanted to "rethink his vote" and that "it might be a bad thing to limit our country's amateurs". Then I informed all that I would need to issue a press release to all Amateurs warning them that they could not work in a studio and if they did, they should not dance in an NDCA competition. Gary McDonald then congratulated the group for forcing the majority of our top amateur couples to turn pro. These closing comments seemed to change the position of a few individuals.

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- 2. The First Vice-President, Judi Hatton, informed me that she had "changed her mind and vote" and asked if USA Dance could help garner additional support during the lunch break. If so, she would ask to have the vote revisited under Old Business.
- 3. During lunch Wayne Crowder, Gary McDonald and I spoke to a number of the dissenting voters and gained support for the rule change. Judi Hatton asked for a revote and eloquently explained why she was changing her vote on the issue. When the new vote was taken, USA Dance prevailed.

### What It All Means:

Amateurs are permitted to have legitimate jobs in studios and retain their amateur status as competitors. Thank you Judi, Wayne and Gary!

# Proposed Rule Change - Rule II.A.2.a. (Submitted by 1st Vice President)

Revised the Definition of an amateur to now read: "An Amateur is one for whom dancing is strictly an avocation, a recreational activity, or a competitive sport. An amateur competitor competes with an amateur partner."

# Proposed Rule Change #4 - Rule II.A.3.a. (Submitted by 1st Vice President)

### Action: add the text in italics to this rule

The term "Pro/Am" refers to a professional dancer/teacher dancing with their student. In this case the student will be known as a "Pro/Am Student Dancer". A Pro/Am Student Dancer competes with a professional partner.

### What It All Means:

The NDCA has had difficulty at some competitions discerning "Amateurs" from their new category known as "Student". This wording was changed to help them clarify the point.

# Proposed Rule Change - Rule IV.A.9. (Submitted by 1st Vice President)

Action: add a new rule that establishes judging criteria in Pro-Amateur Divisions. The proposed rule would have read as follows:

- 1. PRO/AM SINGLE DANCE DIVISIONS: Competitors in single dance competitions are not to be judged as couples; each student is to be evaluated only against the other students in their heat.
- PRO/AM MULTI DANCE CHAMPIONSHIP and SCHOLARSHIP DIVISIONS: Competitors in Pro-Am multi dance events are to be judged as couples.

The reason given for the new rule: At recent events a conversation on how multi-dance events should be judged was started by an overseas judge seeking clarification. In the first, there were eight US registered judges at the table and party to the conversation, and there was a large divergence of opinion as to how these events should be judged, and a similar situation arose in the second. Therefore, in order to produce uniformity of judging standards, it is in the Councils' best interest to clarify the method to be used by all judges at NDCA sanctioned events.

### Action:

This item was tabled to a committee for further review.

### What It All Means:

The NDCA is now aware that they do not have uniformity in judging of ProAm couples. The proliferation of event types: closed, open, multi, single, scholarship and combinations thereof; has lead to judges forming their own beliefs as to how the events should be judged. After considerable debate, the individuals in the room, representing all the Member Organizations of the NDCA, could not devise a clear rule. They decided to form a committee to look into the matter. Of course this problem does not exist in Amateur competition. The couple is always judged as such with the exception of mixed-proficiency events. If you are an amateur (student) in a ProAm partnership, you may want to advise your professional partner to participate in this discussion through his/her member organization.

Ken Richards, VP of DanceSport

**USA** Dance

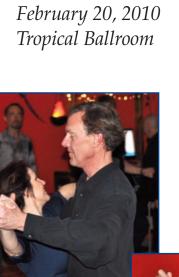
cell: 302.290.blue (2583) studio: 302.984.blue fax: 302.656.5043

email: DanceSport-VP@usadance.org

web: www.usadance.org



# Monthly Dance Photos



















Photography by Cathy Dessert



# AMERICAN CLASSIC BALLROOM GRAND OPENING

American Classic Ballroom 550 Market Street Chanhassen, MN 55317

Phone: 952-934-0900

Fax: 952-934-0911

E-mail:

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# AMERICAN CLASSIC BALLROOM EXPO

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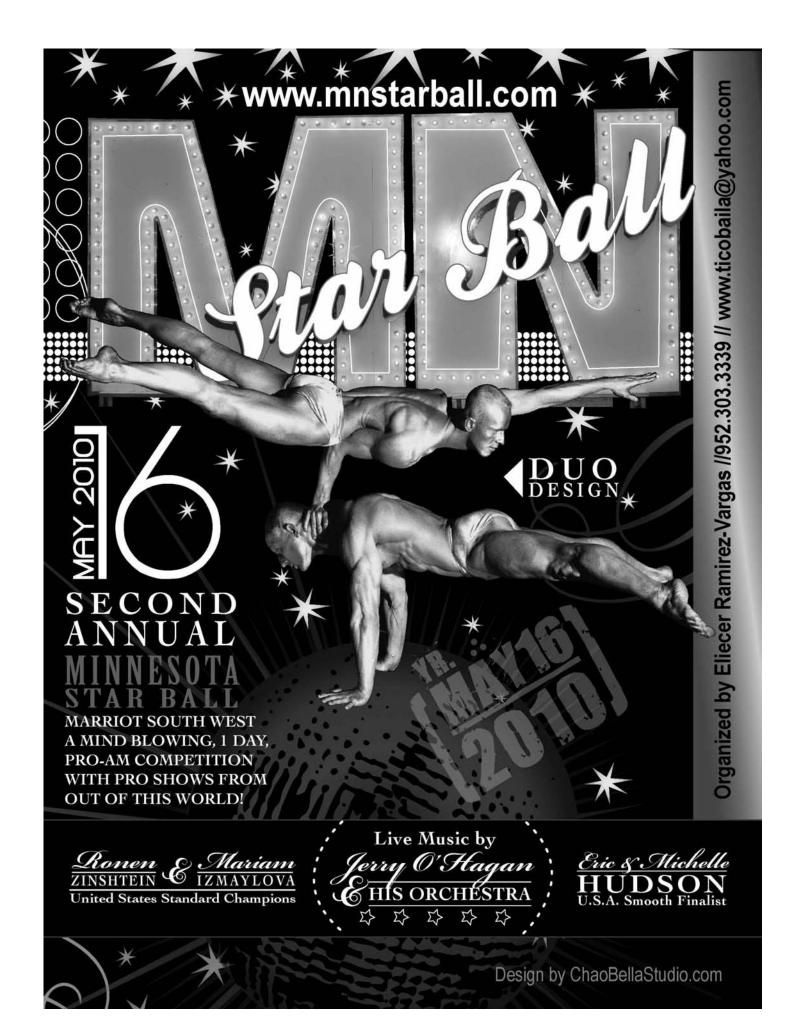
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# Saturday, March 27, 2010 6:00pm to 10:00pm

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## **Introducing: Leonel Linares**

A native of Venezuela, Leonel began his training in Venezuelan Folklorico, Latin Jazz, Hip Hop, Contemporary, and Ballet. He continued his studies with the Joffrey Ballet School in New York City. He is a Choreographer for Dancing With The Stars Latin American version and was invited to dance with Imagine Latina in Los Angeles for the World Salsa Congress.

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Contact Retro Ballroom for Ticket Information \$15 in advance \$20 at the door Retro Ballroom 5810 West 36th Street St. Louis Park MN, 55416 952-928-7803 info@retroballroom.com

# ASK DR. DANCE

Paul Botes and Donna Edelstein are popular coaches and judges. Donna Edelstein is organizer of The Snow Ball DanceSport competition and is owner of Classic Ballroom. Paul Botes is owner of American Classic Ballroom.

My practice partner and I have never competed. I have always wanted to try it, but he's afraid the expense, labor, and stress of competing will take the fun out of our dancing. What can we do?



### He Said:

It is true that in all the added stress of competing we sometimes forget why we started to dance. It may be a good idea to try a showcase first to see if dancing in front of an audience is something that appeals. Validation by applause sometimes is just what the doctor ordered to make you feel on top of the world.

Competing or preparing for a showcase gives one a different focus and to finally perform a dance that took some planning and lots of practice can serve as a reminder of how good it feels to accomplish something that not everyone can do. Being able to dance is an enviable skill to those who have two left feet and if you are a member

of that exclusive club, why not share it with an appreciative audience?



### She Said:

There is no one right answer for each couple. You need to both be on the same page regarding your goals and ambitions. Competition is very different from social dancing. Are you and your practice partner working on competitive material and styling – or are you practicing social dance moves?

If he's in it for fun and low pressure, and doesn't want to spend the money for lessons, coaching, costumes and entries, then he's probably not a good bet for a competitive partner. Perhaps you could try doing demo's through USA Dance and see if he enjoys performing. Meanwhile, keep your eyes open for a guy whose ambitions more closely match your own.

Good luck.



### March Events

1st Friday - Variety Dance

March 5th, 2010 Dance to our studio musicl

2nd Friday - Swingles Club Bonus Dance

March 12th, 2010 With DJ Andy Trawick

3rd Friday - Variety Dance

March 19th, 2010

## Spring Fling Showcase

Friday, March 26th, 2010 at 7:00PM
Featuring Beyond Ballroom Dance Company,
Donna Edelstein, Charlie Hardcastle, Jay Larson,
Jeff Nehrbass and Retro Ballroom Students and Instructors.
\$15 advance tickets, \$20 at the door

# **Friday Night Dancing**

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# Weekly Events

Tuesday

**7:00PM** Silver Waltz/Foxtrot with Jeff Nehrbass **8:00PM** Hustle Plus with Jeff Nehrbass

Wednesday

**7:00PM** Beginning Ballroom and Rhythm **8:00PM** Sodal Dancing 101

Thursday \*NEW GROUP CLASSES\*

7:00PM Technique with Donna Edelstein 8:00PM Silver Rhythm with Jay Larson

Friday

7:30PM Lesson 8:30PM-11:00PM Dance Party



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# **Gentlemen Lead**



by Jack Munday

The progress of a ballroom dancer can take a number of paths, depending on the dancer's interests and goals. That isn't news to readers of this magazine, and since I've not yet been dancing for three years, I'm sure I will have the opportunity to choose from many paths. Some lately have been fun.

At the latest Snow Ball Competition where I danced pro/am with Monica, I had the fun that she and others predicted. All the practice and drilling leading up to performing was now rewarded, not by what the judges did though they affirmed how I danced. The reward came from "that" feeling that I've written about recently, of finding the common core with my partner while feeling the magic that happens when we move that common core together. Fran took some nice photographs of my dancing to preserve the memories.

It also occurred to me that the relationship with one's partner on the dance floor matters. I watched one instructor who danced with ten or more students, and he seemed to relate to each of them to bring out their joy. Another gentleman dancing pro/am in younger bronze level classes with his professional partner looked so good I had to speak with them after their dances.

As we did last year, Fran and I went dancing the evening of the Snow Ball Competition. This time we went to a bar because a friend's band was playing at Fatboys Bar and Grill in East Bethel. Fatboys is a biker's bar, with two custom Harley's full of chrome hanging over the actual bar part of the room. Our friend plays in the contemporary service band at our home church. We greeted other friends and sat with seating made from three regular tables. Introductions were hard to hear because of the noise. We sat so we could see the band when it played.

Someone asked us about dancing because they heard we were at a dance competition earlier in the day. "How long have you been dancing?" a guy asked.

"Almost three years," I replied, not correcting his assumption that Fran and I danced with each other.

The band finally began setting up. The songs were rock music, with only a few numbers that we recognized. Everyone who



danced, other than us, danced like we once did, doing the typical rock dance which seemed like just bouncing up and down, wiggling, and moving the arms as if one is dancing. Ladies danced in groups but individually and not with anyone. Dancers were shouting and making joyful noises, even some singing along with the music.

We danced mambo to some very solid rock. When they played Mustang Sally, we did the triple step swing. Much of the time we danced the night club two-step. We had as much fun as the rest of the dancers. Even if we were the only couple to have "that" feeling because we could move our common core together to bar room music, everyone felt good.

John S. Munday is a writer and lawyer who lives in Isanti County, Minnesota, with his wife Fran. They dance at the Cheek to Cheek studio. Jack is a student of Monica Mohn and Fran is a student of Harry Benson. Jack's most recent book, Cilantro, Not Coriander, is a novel published by Plain View Press in July, 2009.







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Website—www.americanclassicdance.com Email—info@americanclassicdance.com

# **Competition Calendar**

Mar 28, 2010 NJ DanceSport Classic "Spring Fling" Hosted by Wendi Davies & Mario Batista

**Apr 9-11, 2010** 2010 National DanceSport Championships USA Dance 2010 National DS Championships to be held at JW Marriott, Los Angeles at LA Live

May 8-9, 2010 Columbia Star Ball - NQE

Organized by Mark W. Tabor and Tiffanie Rhodes to be held in Portland OR. Qualifying event for 2011 Nationals.

May 16, 2010 MN Star Ball

Hosted by Eliecer Ramirez-Vargas. Held at the Marriott Southwest, Minnetonka, MN, <a href="https://www.mnstarball.com">www.mnstarball.com</a>

**May 21-22, 2010** 2010 Smoky Mountain DanceSport Championships - NQE

Hosted by Greater Knoxville USA Dance Chapter #2060 in Knoxville TN. Qualifying event for 2011 Nationals.

**Jun 25-26, 2010** *2010 Gumbo Dancesport Championships - NQE* Hosted by Louisiana Gumbo USA Dance Chapter #5031 in Baton Rouge LA. Qualifying event for 2011 Nationals.

**July 8-10, 2010** *Twin Cities Open Ballroom Championships* Organized by Scott and Amy Anderson at the Marriott City Center. For more information see the website at <a href="https://www.twincitiesopen.com">www.twincitiesopen.com</a>.

**Jul 9-10, 2010** *IDSF Open Latin & Open Standard Championships* Held at Desert Classic Dancesport Championships in Palm Desert CA

Jul 17, 2010 River City Ball

Hosted by Portland USA Dance Chapter # 1006 in Portland OR

Oct 2-3, 2010 2010 Heartland Classic - NQE

Hosted by Heartland USA Dance Chapter #2022 in Indianapolis IN. Qualifying event for 2011 Nationals.

**Oct 22-24, 2010** *High Point Classic Dancesport Champ. - NQE* Organized by Wayne & Marie Crowder in High Point NC. Qualifying event for USA Dance 2011 Nationals.

**Oct 23-24, 2010** *Northwest DanceSport Championships - NQE* Hosted by Seattle WA USA Dance Chapter #1004 - Qualifying event for 2011 Nationals.





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## **SWAPLINES**

Contact AnnaMaria @ 612-280-6869 or annamariagregerson@comcast.net
Retiring from competitive dancing, selling my gowns, rhythm dresses,

and accessories. Wide variety of smooth gowns and latin dresses. **Princess White Championship Gown**, beautiful white lace one-piece, chiffon layered skirt, multicolored AB stones with flower details, open back, accessories available, Marsha Wiest-Hines designed, asking \$1300.

**Black smooth gown** gives great movement on the floor. Open back, V-front straps, hand-sewn pearls, Swarovski crystals size 6-8, newly offered, asking \$1250.

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

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

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

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

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

Many more showcase gowns/dresses, and evening wear. Sizes 4-8, some 10-12. Gorgeous accessories to help you shine on the floor. AB and Swarovski hair jewelry/earrings, necklaces, bracelets, rings. Affordable.

⊃ Contact Janie @ 763-797-5230 or janienordberg@comcast.net
Black Championship ballgown Size 2-6. Feel luxurious in this gown with
maribu boa hem, collar, and on long sleeves. Beautifully designed wotj
open back - shows off curves. Gown is completely covered in beautiful
AB multicolored stones. Championship dress. Asking \$1200.

**Peach Championship ballgown** Size 2-6. Amazing gown made by Marsha Weist Hines - one of a kind! Georgeous open sexy back, stretch satin skirt with layers add fullness to movement. Fully stoned bodice and elegant gloves to match! Like new! Asking \$1200.

**Black/fiery orange ballgown** Size 2-6. Stunning gown has fiery orange tones and yellows accents on long sleeves, bodice and chiffon layers of skirt, sexy slit shows some leg, beautiful patterned stoning. Asking \$900.

Pink fantasy of color & stones! Size 2-8. Amazing dress - tons of stones, beautiful pearl beading and flirty skirt! Bracelets, necklace, accessories included. A showstopper! Asking \$700.

**Black/fuschia ballgown** Size 2-8. Striking gown with multi-layered chiffon skirt. AB and AB color stoning! Asking \$450.

Gold/rose-red rhythm dress Size 2-6. Beautiful Rose-Red lace overlays shimmery gold, bell sleeves, flare skirt, AB color stones! \$350 obo Brand new gowns to show - may sell for right price! Some gowns available to rent. Payment plans accepted. Call for details.

⊃ Contact Stacie @ 612-251-8108 or SPIERSON0081@yahoo.com
Purchase, rent to own or rental available. Pictures available.
Sea foam green Latin/rhythm dress. Short playful skirt. Includes
matching bracelets, choker and ear-rings. Sizes 0-6. Reduced to \$1,950.
Black Latin/rhythm dress with bugle beads and Abs. Dress worn on
Dancing with the Stars and in movie Take the Lead. Choker braclets
and ear rings included. Size 0-6. Reduced to \$1,850.

Wine color Smooth/Standard Gown. Bodice is all lace with full lace sleeves, open back. Seen in movie Take the Lead. Detachable float transforms into Standard Gown. Size 0-6. Reduced \$2,150

**Royal Blue Latin/rhythm dress**. Full sleeves, open back, short skirt with feather tail for movement. Earring included. Size 2-8. \$2,450.

**Lady Supadance Latin shoe**, 2.5" heel, fits an American 5-6, never worn, style #1066, sell for \$151 asking \$100.

Additional standard, smooth, rhythm/latin dress for sale or rent.

## ⊃ Contact Joan @ 6123864174 or jdazer@comcast.com

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

### ⊃ Contact <u>janislivi@msn.com</u> for the following:

Super sale on many ballgowns. Under 5'3" and 130 pounds? try these: The Millenium Gown, Silver sparkle all over, white sheer netting on sleeves with AB stones, peridot stones, and crystal stones scattered. Zipper entry. hand washable. asking \$300. The Tangerine Dream Gown, neon tangerine color stretch lycra, swimsuit entry, AB stones, floats, hand washable. Asking \$125. The Genesis Gown, neon yellow, orange roses, yellow stoning, yummy to wear, swimsuit entry, smooth/standard floats. hand washable. \$125. May sell Pink Champagne Gown for the right price.

⊃ Contact Theresa at theresakimler@yahoo.com or 651-773-3511 Size 2-6: Ultimate sparkle and elegance...black ballgown. Fox fur cuff on left arm, long sleeves, slim-fit. This dress shimmers on the floor due to the megdose of stones from head to toe. Made by Randall Designs... you've seen his costumes on Dancing with the Stars! Championship dress. \$3000. Other dresses may be available!

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

Lady's smooth shoes, size 36 (american 7). Tan satin, closed toe, strap at ankle. 2.5" heel. 2 pairs available. One pair is new, other was worn for 1 practice session. Both in original boxes. See the shoe style at <a href="https://www.dance-america.com">www.dance-america.com</a>. Dancefeel brand, model F30. Paid \$119. Will sell for \$60/pair. Supadance 1012 court shoe with strap. Flesh satin color, 2-1/2" heel, size 4.5 British (6.5 American). Ideal for Standard or Smooth. Worn for only 4 dances at a competition. New \$149, selling for \$75.

⊃ Contact Shannon <u>xin9264@hotmail.com</u> (651)230-8901(c)

Design Dress by Vesa, One-of-a-kind dress yellow stretch velvet drapes elegantly in front and back. Covered in crystal and citrine rhinestones. Large citrine rhinestones and other decorative beads accent shoulders and part of trent and back, beneath the waist. Also large gold pallettes on the

Large citrine rhinestones and other decorative beads accent shoulders and panel at front and back, beneath the waist. Also large gold pallettes on the panel. A fringe skirt in front and back creates movement. Sides open to show off lines. Matching wristband, headband, feather hair accessory inc. Worn once by British prof rising star. Fit 0-6, 5'1"-5'5". Asking \$950.

- ⊃ Contact Cathy at <u>cathydessert@comcast.net</u>. Stunning, eye-catching, not to be missed! Chrisanne standard gown, silvery blue, tons of tulle and rhinestones. Former Pro dress. Sz 0-6. Gently worn. photo available. \$2500.
- ⊃ Wanted: Tailsuit. College student looking for a used men's dance suit or tail coat set, 6'0" 150#, approx. size 37L. Contact Andreas at 651-983-5348 or amantius@comcast.net
- ⊃ Several custom made Smooth & Latin dresses available. All professionally made, one of a kind costumes, competition quality. CHEAP all priced between \$50 \$400. Located in Edina for easy try on's. Some not worn at all, some worn by professional only once or twice. Call 651-436-4110 or email wilkinson0985@msn.com
- ⊃ Contact Sherri Earley at 651-271-7690 or <a href="wwp2005@gmail.com">wwp2005@gmail.com</a> Red salsa or Latin beginners dress. Can fit anywhere from a 2 to 6. Adorned with black, silver & gold disc bangles. Comes with matching earrings & arm bands. Email for photos. \$75/obo.

**Black beginners Smooth gown**. Fits a ladies size small/2-4. Skirt is 3 layers. Red and silver stones. Optional black gloves can be included, \$10 extra. Email for photos. \$75/obo.

- ⊃ Contact Janet @ 763-389-9038 or <a href="kneadmyspace@yahoo.com">kneadmyspace@yahoo.com</a> for photos Gently used International latin dance shoes, size 7.5, dyed beige strappy heels. Great deal at \$40 plus will throw in a free pair of fishnet tights! Many dance instructional tapes, mainly West Coast Swing but other styles too. \$5 each.
- Champion dance dresses, Jennifer Foster at 952-938-0048
- ⊃ Contact Lisa Wu at 651-278-4434 or <u>lisa wu us@yahoo.com</u> Green & blue rhythm dress sz. 4-10 green body & skirt with blue belt, lots of rhinestones all over, matching arm/wrist bands. Great for new competitor! \$300 nego.

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

## ○ Contact Eileen @ 651-636-6306 or eileen@arcilla.net

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

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

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<b>DNO</b> continued from page 2	continued f	rom page 2
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Dancers Studio (651) 641-0777 www.dancersstudio.com 99 N. Snelling Ave., St. Paul 55105

**E.R.V. Dance Studio** 952-303-3339 816 Mainstreet, Hopkins, MN 55343, <u>www.ERVdancestudio.com</u>

Fred Astaire Dance Studio 651-451-630 5300 S Robert Trl, Inver Grove Hts, MN 55077, www.FredAstaireMN.com, invergrovemn@fredastaire.com

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MN West Coast Swing Dance Club (651) 777-5599 www.mnwestcoastswingdanceclub.com B-Dale Club, 2100 N. Dale St., Roseville. Dances 2nd & 4th Fridays. Lesson 7:30 pm, Dance 8:30 pm. \$5/WCS members, \$8/non-members.

Naar Grille Salsa Night
11528 Leona Road, Eden Prairie. Every Friday is Salsa Night from 10 pm-2 am.

On Your Toes School of Dance (952) 928-7803 1st Sat & 4th Fri Ballroom Dances. <u>www.onyourtoes.org</u> and <u>info@onyourtoes.org</u> 5810 W. 36th St., St. Louis Park, 55416. Jeff and Cindy Nehrbass.

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

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

Social Dance Studio (612) 418-4046 www.socialdancestudio.com New location: 3742 23rd Ave. S., Minneapolis, 55407 – open as of April 1st!

**Tango Society of Minnesota** (763) 576-3349 www.mntango.org Location for 2nd Saturday dances: ERV Dance Studio, 816 Main St., Hopkins; Lesson 8 pm; Dance 9 pm – 1 am \$10.

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

# **Dance Contacts**

Instructors	
American Classic Ballroom	952-934-0900
Paul Botes, Andreas Mantius, Natalie Palmer	
Scott Anderson	612-816-4446
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Alyssa Kark, Shane Meuwissen, Martin Pickering	
Dancers Studio	651-641-0777
Jill Ableman, Modie Chehouri, Christine Hallberg, Jeff Halverson, Kate Bratt, Gordon Bratt	
Nathan Daniels	763-545-8690
Wendi Davies	
Joy Davina	
Jennelle Donnay	651-357-2060
Donna Edelstein	612-910-2690
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Eliecer Ramirez-Vargas, Rebecca Dahlquist-Eckhoff,	
Rachelika Mishiev, Ěda Lazaro-Marsháll, Andy Perez Donna Frykman	651,777,5447
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LaDanza Dance Club Stillwater	651-439-3152
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Fred Astaire Dance Studio	
On Your Toes, St. Louis Park	
Rendezvous Dance Studio	
Social Dance Studio, Mpls	
Tropical Ballroom, Woodbury	651-414-0644
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MN West Coast Swing Dance Club	
REBELS Swing Dance Club Tango Society of Minnesota	763-576-2340
USA Dance, Minnesota Chapter	651-483-5467

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