

MINNESOTA

# DANCING TIMES



A publication of the Minnesota Chapter of USA Dance

November 2006



*Dean & Mary Constantine  
Receive Award*

*See page 4 for details*

**WE'VE MOVED!**  
Check out our new web address at  
[www.usadance-mn.org](http://www.usadance-mn.org)

**Inside this month's issue...**  
**The Secret Lives of Dancers, Tango Festival, and more**



## Dancers Nite Out



- Fri 11/10 A Nat King Cole Tribute at the Medina Entertainment Center, Highway 55, Medina, 7:30pm Doors Open, 8:30pm Show, 10:30pm Dance; \$10/\$15 in advance. FMI: [www.medinaentertainment.com](http://www.medinaentertainment.com)
- Sat 11/11 4th Annual Gala Benefit Ball and Show of Beyond Ballroom Dance Company! Held at Cinema Ballroom, 1560 St. Clair Ave., St. Paul; 7pm; enjoy dancing, live and recorded music, hors d'oeuvres, silent auction, fabulous preview show of new season! Tickets: \$25; FMI: [www.beyondballroom.org](http://www.beyondballroom.org)
- Sat 11/18 **USA Dance Monthly Dance at The Dance Shoppe**
- Fri 11/24 The Classic Big Band (a 21-piece true Glenn Miller sound band) at the Medina Entertainment Center, Highway 55, Medina, 7pm Lesson, 8pm Dance, \$10 at the door. FMI: [www.medinaentertainment.com](http://www.medinaentertainment.com)
- Thurs-Sun 11/30-12/3: "All Wrapped Up" by MN PerformDance Productions at the Maplewood Community Center. FMI: 651.249.2100, ext.0.
- Sat 12/2 Wedding Reception of Tricia M. Parker & James E. Wood at Shakopee Ballroom, 2400 E. 4th Ave., Shakopee. FMI: [www.triciadancer.com](http://www.triciadancer.com)
- Sat 1/6/07 Minnesota Snow Ball Competition at the DoubleTree Minneapolis Park Place Hotel featuring world champions, Anik Joliceur and Alain Doucet. FMI: [thesnowballcomp@msn.com](mailto:thesnowballcomp@msn.com) or call Donna Edelstein or Paul Botes at 763.557.6004.

**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.

**Babalu** (612) 240-9053  
800 Washington Ave. N., Minneapolis. Monday Salsa Caliente Night; dance from 9pm-1am; cover \$5. Saturday Salsa Live Music Night; free salsa lesson at 9:30pm, dance to live latin music from 9pm-2am; cover \$10.

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

**Cafe Bailar Dance Club** (612) 600-5129  
[www.cafebailar.com](http://www.cafebailar.com) Social dance club specializing in Latin and Ballroom dancing holding dances twice a month at Fosters' Dancesport Studio, 816 1/2 Main Street, Hopkins. 2nd Friday and 4th Saturday every month. Lesson at 7:30 pm, dance 8:30-midnight.

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

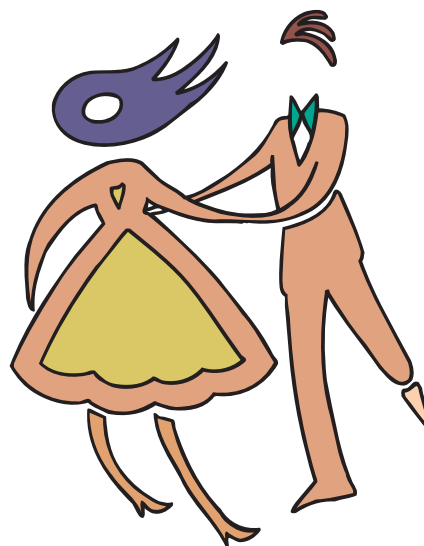
**Cinema Ballroom** (651) 699-5910  
[www.cinemaballroom.com](http://www.cinemaballroom.com) 1560 St Clair Ave, St Paul, MN, Friday Night Dancing at the Cinema! Every Friday evening. Lesson 8-9 pm; Dance 9-12 am; \$10/general admission; \$6/with student ID.

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

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

DNO continued on page 27

# Celebrate Fall with us at USA Dance's November Dance



## Saturday, November 18th

Group class 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.  
Dance 8:00 - 11:00 p.m.

## The Dance Shoppe

2800 Fernbrook, Plymouth, MN  
From 494, West on 55, Left on Fernbrook

Free Lesson with paid admission to the dance!

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

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

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



# Theme of the Month...

## The Secret Lives of Dancers!

### Who Is Mike Jones?

*Submitted by Mike Jones... Who? Mike Jones... Who? Mike Jones!*

If you, or someone in your family doesn't to listen to rap music, then the heading to this article could appear rather strange. You see, there is a rapper who is also named Mike Jones. As it turns out, I personally haven't listened to very much rap music. But my kids had heard it and they bought me a Mike Jones' CD as a present. The title of the CD is "Who Is Mike Jones?". And in many of his songs, the rapper mentions his name repeatedly. "Mike Jones" over and over and over again. Who'd have guessed that rap music could have such an important message?

This month's newsletter delves into the theme "the secret lives of..." So, read on for some inside information about your USA Dance-MN Board members. This also includes me, Mike Jones... Who?

At the last board meeting, I found out that Mark and Karen Tepley donated 62 CD's of some dynamite dance music to USA Dance-MN. Fine tunes from two excellent people, Much thanks. Maybe I should donate my copy of "Who Is Mike Jones?" CD to the chapter ...Or maybe not.

Dan Viehman is leaving the USA Dance-MN Board. For many years, Dan & Yvonne have been tirelessly contributing to our chapter, organizing demos, Dance Extravaganzas and the fabulous "Dancin' the Night Away" shows. Dan says that he wants to spend more time with his "youngin's" instead of spending endless hours working for the chapter. Dan, what happened to your priorities?

The USA Dance-MN Board elections are coming up some and we'll be looking for a few good women (and men). Experience isn't necessary. Open positions will be forthcoming. There will be lots of personal rewards and fringe benefits for Board participants. Someone keeps talking about a subsidized cruise for the Board and/or Committee members. Seriously though, the USA Dance powers-that-be have been discussing positive leadership incentives and other benefits for the leadership participants.

If you haven't already, be sure to check out: [www.USADance-MN.org](http://www.USADance-MN.org) The site is interactive. In other words you, yes, **you**, can add your own information (like to the dance calendar and to the adds and the list goes on). So bookmark it, refer to it and enjoy it often. And that's where you'll also find back issues of this newsletter.

Be sure to check next month's newsletter, because we're going to lay some BIG ideas on you and we want your feedback. ■

### 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 (**high quality pdf or jpeg format ONLY**) or camera-ready artwork to **Cathy Dessert (651-415-0375 or [cathydessert@comcast.net](mailto:cathydessert@comcast.net))** along with payment to **USA Dance MN**. Advertising for charge cards, insurance, or travel cannot be accepted. Ads can be typeset or designed for a small fee, contact Janie or Eileen. Payment to accompany ad.

<b>Full page</b>	<b>7.5" wide x 10" high</b>	<b>\$130</b>
<b>Half page</b>	<b>7.5" wide x 4.75" high</b>	<b>\$80</b>
	<b>OR 3.5" wide x 9.5" high</b>	
<b>Qtr. page</b>	<b>3.5" wide x 4.75" high</b>	<b>\$60</b>
<b>Business Card</b>	<b>3 consecutive months</b>	<b>\$50</b>

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

**DEADLINE FOR ALL MATERIALS:**  
**10th OF EACH MONTH**  
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### The Secret Lives of Dancers from Anne LaTourelle

*The dancing community is small in the Twin Cities. Most of us know (at least by sight) many of the local dancers. Yet, how well do we really know these people? Many times we can tell you who takes lessons with who, or what studio they dance at, perhaps what color dress the lady competes in but beyond that what do we know?*

*Among us we have many interesting folks... in addition to their dancing! Interesting jobs, interesting pasts, some even manage to find some time (shocking, I know) for hobbies outside of dancing! Read on to learn some fun facts about some of your friends and acquaintances, especially our esteemed board members! Enjoy! ■*

## A Lifetime Committed to Dancing

*by Yvonne Viehman*

Dean Constantine has been teaching ballroom dancing in the Twin Cities since 1951. In his 55 years of teaching, he has taught over 100,000 people the basics of ballroom dancing, spreading immeasurable joy through dancing and his wonderful classroom humor.

Dean got his start in teaching at a dance studio in Minneapolis. He was soon asked to teach a class at a local YMCA – thus beginning his long career in community education dance instruction. He has taught at YMCAs, athletic clubs, country clubs, school districts, park and recreation departments, numerous private parties, the home of Hubert Humphrey, and at numerous fundraisers and balls.

Dean's classes have been the genesis of many romances in the Twin Cities. In the 1950s and 1960s Dean was a local dance impresario, bringing top names in dance for Twin Cities audiences to enjoy. He has been voted Best of the Twin Cities for dance instruction by both *Minneapolis St. Paul Magazine* and *City Pages*.

Mary joined Dean early on in their careers, and together they shared their love of dancing and dance instruction. Mary was already an accomplished ballet dancer and opera singer. She owned the American School of Classical Russian Ballet and is the founder and owner of Celebrity Dance Shoes, Inc.

We asked Dean about his career and why men don't like to dance and he said, "Most guys are afraid to look like fools. They will engage in all kinds of sports, but when it comes to dancing – they don't want to be embarrassed. I tell them that all they need to do is walk and breathe to be able to dance. They don't even need to be muscular to be good (as in most sports). You can teach a guy to dance the waltz in 30 seconds. But when men watch a couple dancing all they see are four feet moving about and they get frustrated

because they can't figure it out. One thing I tell guys is that they can't play football forever, but a couple can dance together all their lives."



When Dean and Mary got their award Dean said, "Here I've been teaching dancing all my life and now I've finally got something to show for it: a trophy!"

Our hats are off to both Dean and Mary for all they've done for the ballroom community for so many years. We appreciate all they've done to keep the art of ballroom dancing in the limelight. Thank you. Thank you. It's a job well done. You can be proud of your efforts.

If you would like to personally thank Dean and Mary, you can. We're gathering notes of thanks on our website. Go to [www.usadance-mn.org](http://www.usadance-mn.org) and click on the link to post your thoughts. ■

**More on MOA and photos** page 22-23

### MADE FOR MOVEMENT BALLROOM COSTUMES TO GO

Used & Off-The-Rack Ballroom Costumes at GREAT PRICES for Men, Women and Kids. Try on lots of possibilities in one easy stop. Partial listings at [www.made4movement.com](http://www.made4movement.com), or call 952-595-0003 for an appointment today.

# National Ballroom Dance Week Reflective

By Erik Pratt

I truly believe that some of you are reading *Dancing Times* for the first time because of National Ballroom Dance Week this past September!

National Ballroom Dance Week is the only time of the year in which local dancing organizations join together to promote dancing collectively – a grand unified effort to get the word out that dancing is fun and accessible.

This was the first year in which USA Dance led the local coordination of National Ballroom Dance Week. The idea began with a small group of USA Dance board members who met earlier this year to plan the week. We reflected on our already fantastic local dance scene and quickly decided that it wasn't necessary to create a full week of special events. Rather, we would focus our efforts on telling the local dance story and encourage people who have never danced before to get out and enjoy the scene.

The theme of the campaign became, "If you've always wanted to dance..." We made posters and put them around town at local coffee shops and other locations. We sent out emails to promote the week and encourage dancers to tell their friends "*if you've always wanted to dance... now is a great time to start!*"

Fortunately, we saw success! At the USA Dance Extravaganza, for example, I met groups of people who came specifically because they saw the posters. I believe these were just a few of the individuals who made their way to local dance studios and dance clubs – people who decided to finally find out what it's like to dance.

One of my happiest moments of the week came when I happened to be talking to a non-dancing friend-of-a-friend. "Isn't this a special week for ballroom dancing?" he asked. "Why yes!" I smiled in reply. "How did you know?" He said that he received an email from someone announcing dance week! So the message came full circle! Thanks to your help, we were able to get the word out to many non-dancers that dancing is fun and accessible. We encouraged them to make their way out to the many dance venues in the Twin Cities.

I have many people I want to thank and recognize for their volunteer help with National Ballroom Dance Week. First,

to my fellow USA Dance board members who were a part of the initial planning decisions: **Jannelle Huff and Min Chong** (who also designed the poster).

I would also like to thank **Dorothy Jones**, who coordinated previous years' promotion of National Ballroom Dance Week and was a big help this year; **Becky Stibbe** for her expert help on public relations; **Rita Stoner** for her ongoing dedication to the USA Dance hotline (651-483-5467!); **Lisa Wu** and **Tom LaTourelle** for their website help; **Jeff Skaalrud**, our D.J., for his Matty B's mix; **Dan & Yvonne Viehman** for all their dedication and hard work to organize USA Dance's Dance Extravaganza and Mall of America demonstration; and all the dancers who participated at the Mall of America and Matty B's dance demonstrations. I would also like to thank **Bill and Cathy Dessert** of Rapit Printing.

And finally, I would like to give a great big thanks to the National Ballroom Dance Week sponsors! These are the organizations that participated with us in this coordinated campaign: **Arthur Murray Dance Studio (St. Paul), Cafe Bailar Dance Club, Chinese American Ballroom Dance Association, Cinema Ballroom, Dancers Studio, Four Seasons Dance Studio, Fred Astaire Dance Studio (Inver Grove Heights), Lois Donnay, Matty B's Supper Club** (and a special thanks to **Sarah Grussing** for our work together on the USA Dance/Matty B's co-sponsored dance), **Medina Entertainment Center, Minnesota West Coast Swing Dance Club, RenêDance Studios, Shakopee Ballroom, Social Dance Studio, Terry & Cindy Gardner of TC Swing**, and the **Twin Cities Rebels Swing Dance Club**.

I'm proud that we could assemble such a list of diverse sponsors and show the world how many opportunities there are for dancing! This was just the first year of our common promotion of National Ballroom Dance Week – to start small and test out some ideas. We look forward to building our campaign and working with everyone again in the future! ■





## I'm not JUST a Dancer! By Andrea Johnson

When you look at the people on a dance floor, who do you see? Dancers, right? Now, think back to some past competition, practice party, showcase, or any place you would see some of our local dancers out dancing. Would you believe that among our local dancers we have: the youngest major ever from the South African army, an engineer, a pastor, a world champion foosball player, and a wildlife rescuer? Well, we do! Now, if you haven't gotten the time to learn more about our local dancers, here is your chance! Then you will see that they are not *JUST* dancers in sparkly ball gowns, tuxedos, wowing us with their dance moves and passion for the dance. They are SO much more than that!

Think back to your senior year of high school. Were you in the majority of students that had a "match the baby picture to the person" section in your yearbook? That is basically how this game works. **Only, this time you will be matching the dancer to their bio.** Good luck!

1 This dancer is a flight attendant who regularly flies to Shanghai and Beijing and is learning to speak Chinese. He used to own and run an organic lawn care business in Portland, Oregon. This dancer's whole family knows how to ballroom dance.

2 This dancer is a Lutheran Pastor at Grace Lutheran Church in Andover.

3 This dancer was the youngest major ever in the South African Air Force. He also writes and plays great country music!

4 This dancer is a chiropractor and avid duck and goose hunter (who used to go 4 times a week!). He also placed 3rd in the world championship foosball tournament.

5 This dancer was a pilot (with at least 1600 flying hours) who left the airline industry and became an attorney.

6 This dancer has a twin brother, and recently started a job selling custom retail fixtures to large national retailers. This dancer's passions include reading, music, gardening, walking, Vikings football, traveling, and owns 2 Portuguese water dogs.

7 This dancer owns horses and volunteers for the Wildlife Rehabilitation Center of MN helping to care for injured or orphaned wildlife. She also saved the life of a dog named Uno who had contracted Lyme disease and gotten so large (171 lbs!) that he could barely get up. Uno is now a trim 85 lbs and the newest member of her family.

8 This dancer used to be a writer and producer. She now writes speeches for fortune 500 companies!

9 This dancer has been sewing since she was 7 years old and makes her own costumes. Every year they go to the renaissance festival with another couple in full costumes that she makes! In highschool she was a cheerleader and a majorette. She loves traveling to foreign countries, creative projects, and playing with "kitty".

10 This dancer uses her attraction to and knowledge of the meanings in gemstones to create beautiful jewelry.

11 This dancer channels her creative energy into making beautiful (and delicious) wedding cakes and desserts. She also waitresses, is a graduate student at St. Thomas, a writer, a personal assistant and a personal shopper.

12 This dancer is a mechanical engineer who leads projects ranging from building construction (wearing a hard hat and safety shoes at times) to six-sigma quality improvement projects in the medical device field. This dancer recently started her own consulting business in project management, called Total Project Consulting, Inc.

13 This dancer's writing has won many awards and been published in a wide range of publications. She was an adjunct professor at Washington University and currently does corporate writing and writes for the *Minnesota Women's Press*. She is also working on a novel, the first chapter of which will appear in *The Kenyon Review*, available in bookstores in March 2007.

14 This dancer is a computer whiz currently working as an independent contractor. This dancer's hobbies include biking (bicycles and motorcycles), gardening, Viking's football, reading, tennis, and traveling.

15 This dancer works for and owns a Zantigos Franchise. Someone to know when you are craving yummy Mexican food!

16 This dancer met his wife while he was a pilot and flying instructor. He currently works in operations for an airline and commutes from another state 4 days a week to dance. He loves outdoor activities including white water canoeing! ■

I'M NOT JUST A DANCER QUIZZ cont. on page 7



Andrea Johnson



Andy Nordberg



Betsy Phillips



Theresa Kimler



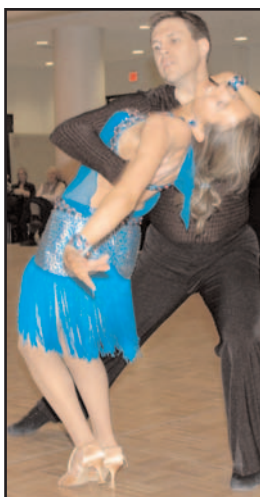
Greg Paul



Donna Edelstein



Tom LaTourelle



Rebecca Kanner



Paul Botes



Jeff Nehrbass



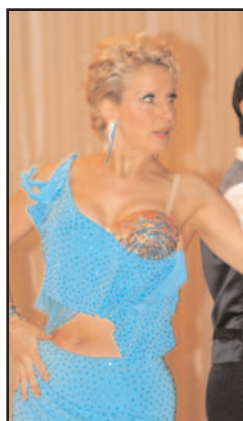
Janie Nordberg



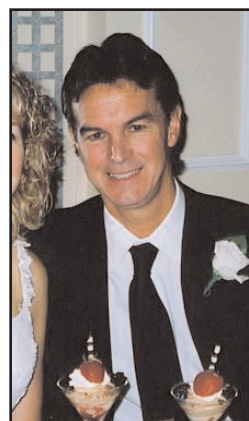
Sheila Paul



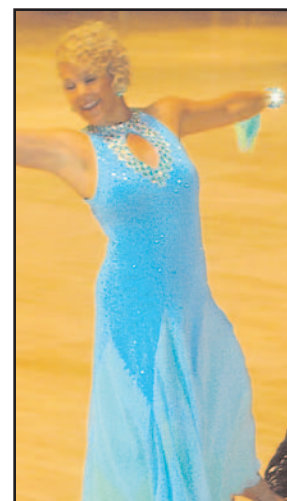
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Terry Tucker



Tom Thornquist



Anne LaTourelle

**ANSWERS TO QUIZZ** on page 27





*Minnesota Perform Dance Productions  
Presents*

# *All Wrapped Up*



*Celebrate the gift of Christmas  
Broadway Style!*

The holiday season shines with the artistry of ballroom, jazz, tap and the debut of the high-kicking Starettes (Starettes sponsored by Dance Spectrum).

Let our dancers and a host of musical guests take you on a holiday romp you'll never forget.

**Nov. 30 - Dec. 3, 2006**  
**Maplewood Performing  
Arts Theatre**  
at the Maplewood  
Community Center

**For Tickets Call 651-249-2100 ext. 0**  
**Tickets: \$15-22**

MINNESOTA  
**PERFORMDANCE**  
PRODUCTIONS





### USA Dance board member

Ever since I succumbed to that addiction we affectionately call competitive ballroom dancing, I often joke that my job as an attorney is my hobby outside the dance studio. All guffaws aside, though, there is a touch of truth to the humor. Given the amount of hours I spend at my studio, Cinema Ballroom, particularly in the run-up to a big comp like TCO... well, suffice to say that, when I learned that this month's editorial theme would feature "the secret lives of dancers" (such as other hobbies), my job popped into my mind almost immediately.

Joking aside, however, I do enjoy another artistic outlet that, fortunately, provides me with a much-welcomed silence to contrast the vibrant noise of life at the studio. For over three years now, I have been taking art classes at The Art Academy, (<http://www.theartacademy.net/site/index.html>), an independent art school just up the street from Cinema, on Summit and Snelling Aves. My course of study is called Drawing and Painting Fundamentals for Adults, and the instruction provides just that: a foundational study of drawing using a variety of media, from pen and ink, to pencil, to watercolor, to oil, to pastel, to charcoal... even vegetable oil (which occasionally finds use as an erasing agent).

I have to credit my sister, Katherine, with "getting me started" in this pursuit. After a lifetime of hopelessly longing to be able to draw subjects both visible and imaginary, I knew very soon that these classes would prove to be a worthwhile investment.

Worthwhile they have been. New students begin their instruction by copying a simple drawing, often a cartoon, and usually in pen and ink. We are introduced immediately to the method of creating a template of our proposed piece by "blocking" it onto a gridded transparency – that is, tracing only the largest, most important shapes onto the transparency. Then, with light grid lines drawn onto our canvas, we reproduce these rough shapes, using the grid to help us place the shapes in a correct relation to each other.

The rest of the process involves refining the image from what at first looks like a map of several political states to a life-like replica of our subject. As we so refine our image, we are constantly looking for and working with unified shapes: first the largest and (pardon the pun) "big-picture" shapes, followed by the more finite details. It is this methodical approach that makes the process – and, ultimately, the product – so accessible, even to those of us with less than virtuoso imaginations.

The picture in this article is one of my simpler but, NOT ironically, more accomplished projects, in pen-and-ink. I am now working on the second of two pencil projects (the first of which I didn't want to smear on these pages... everyone can thank me later). The fiasco of my first attempt at pencil drawing, followed by the success I am achieving with my second attempt, bring Art Academy's philosophy into sharp focus: that the goal is not a gallery of results, but the process itself.

This is never an easy lesson for a competitive ballroom dancer – nor indeed for anyone hoping to create beauty through art – to accept; it is, nonetheless, an invaluable lesson in the benefits of focusing on improving oneself rather than one's competitive or even artistic gains. At Art Academy, the accomplishment is truly in the process, the struggle and the eventual (inevitable) "Ah-ha!" I can only hope that I will eventually heed this lesson on the competitive dance floor... as much for my teacher's and amateur dance partner's respective sanities as for my own! ■



**CHIROPRACTOR**  
**Dr. Thomas Thornquist**  
*Over 20 years Experience*

USABDA Member  
763-780-8249  
9201 Lexington Ave. N., Circle Pines, MN

I completed my Bachelor of Science degree in Dental Hygiene with a minor in biology at University of South Dakota. I currently work for a periodontist, gum disease specialist, and a prosthodontist, oral prosthetic specialist.

I started taking a few extracurricular dance classes during college and various community education dance classes after college. I became a member of the Dancers Studio located in St. Paul, Minnesota in 2001. I took private lessons with Anthony Schaefer and continue to take lessons from Troy Lerum. My favorite dance is the Viennese Waltz. The gracefully elegant twirling and spinning makes me feel like a princess every time I dance.

At the Dancers Studio I developed a network of friends who love dancing and are committed to ballroom dancing. I enjoyed cruising with friends from the Dancers Studio in 2001 and 2005. A dance cruise was the perfect vacation for me because it included sun, sailing, fine dining, ballroom dancing and travel. I hope to go again soon.

I was elected to the board and started in January 2006. I hope my contributions to the board help to preserve and enhance the timeless appeal and enduring quality of ballroom dancing.

As a junior in high school I sang Handel's Messiah with the Minot State University Choir. Years later, a friend asked me to audition to sing soprano with the Winona Oratorio Choir. Our choir director opened an opportunity to all choir members to travel to Europe June 2001. We sang in cathedrals in Rome, Florence, and Venice, Italy, as well as, Innsbruck and Salzburg, Austria, the birthplace of Mozart.



I continue to sing in the Twin Cities. I was invited to join the Woodbury Chorus and Orchestra. This unique all volunteer chorus and orchestra is a non-profit group dedicated to help raise money for area food shelves since 1985.

As a dental professional trained in the biological sciences I have learned to balance work with a great appreciation for the fine arts. I feel that ballroom dancing and singing is a healthy way to artistically express and challenge myself through music. I have found a wonderful community of people in the Twin Cities. ■

### Star of the North 2007!

Preparations are heating up for the **2007 edition of Star of the North**, to be held **February 16-18, 2007 at the Shakopee ballroom**. Planning meetings are underway to make Star of the North an enjoyable event for those new to dancesport, as well as experienced competitors.

What sets us apart from other competitions? We once had a couple dance at Star of the North who had been dancing for only three weeks! We knew we had done something right when they came back the next year. So, find a partner and start practicing. Be a part of one of the most fun dancesport competitions in the country. If you want to learn more about Star of the North, please call **Mike Youngdahl at 763-274-1691**.

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By Anne LaTourelle

**A**rt, you and Cheri have been around the Twin Cities dance community for many years. We see you dancing on your formation team and volunteering at demos around town. We enjoy seeing you dance in group numbers and your various solos at events like Dancing The Night Away and Ballroom Blast! I can still see Cheri tossing off her necklace during your Tango when it came loose.

However... there is a lot more than just dancing going on in your busy lives. Can you share with us some of your "secret life" details?

**Q. Tell the readers about your high profile job.**

Since 1986, I have been the Director of Research at the Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis. Today, my research department is rated one of the top 15 economic departments in the country. We employ 10 full-time PhD. economists, 16 advisors and graduate students from the University of Minnesota, and on average 6 visiting scholars from around the world. One of my star employees is Ed Prescott, the 2004 winner of the Noble Prize in Economics.

As Director of Research, I am an associate economist for the Federal Open Market Committee – the Federal Reserve's principal body responsible for establishing national money and credit policies. The committee meets every 6 weeks in Washington D.C., and is chaired by the chairman of the Federal Reserve System, Ben Bernanke.

**Q. What do you like best about your job and do they know that you dance?**

Partly, I like the essence of my job, which is to use economics to enhance the general welfare of our country. But mostly, I like the people I get to work with here and around the country. The Federal Reserve attracts bright, dedicated and engaged people that make my job challenging and rewarding.

And yes my dancing addiction is well-known throughout the system. You might be surprised at how many federal economists have shown an interest in taking ballroom dance lessons.

**Q. Your job has led to many speaking engagements some of which have been out of the country. Tell us about those and your passion for education.**

My most recent research has examined the economic benefits of education, in particular, early childhood education. My colleague, Rob Grunewald, and I showed that one of the best public investments society can make today is providing high-quality, parent-focused early education for at-risk children – starting prenatal.

This has turned out to be a hot topic. Grunewald and I have

now spoken, or have been invited to speak, in virtually every state in the country. As a result of a speech I gave at the World Bank, I received several international invitations. The one I was able to accept was an invitation from the Prime Minister of Turkey to speak in Istanbul. The Queen of Jordan and members of the Saudi Arabian royal family participated in the conference. It was quite an opportunity, and one I will never forget.

**Q. What has been the most interesting or memorable speech and why?**

My most memorable speech was the talk I gave on early childhood education to the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation last year. Shortly after the talk, the Foundation announced a new \$90 million early childhood initiative in the Seattle area.

**Q. You and Cheri also take many exotic vacations can you tell us where you have been in the last few years?**

Besides Turkey, we have been to Japan, China, Portugal, Panama, Morocco, and most recently we took a cruise to the "Northern Capitals of Europe" which included Copenhagen, Helsinki, Oslo, Stockholm, St. Petersburg and Gdansk. We have been very fortunate in our travels. We loved all these trips.

**Q. Some may not know that you and Cheri have 2 sons. Update us on your family!**

Both boys are graduates of the University of Wisconsin, Madison.

Our younger son is a successful financial planner here in the Twin Cities. A few years back he took swing lessons with his mom.

Our older son, who works for the Chicago Tribune, just got married this summer. We are thrilled because now we have a daughter. They asked us to do a dance at their wedding in honor of their marriage. Does it get any better?

**Q. Most people don't realize you play tennis. Tell us about that and any other hobbies you manage to fit into your busy life!**

Tennis has been a passion of mine for many years. I am only an average player, but I love the game and the exercise. Schedule permitting, I play once or twice a week.

I also enjoy reading, mostly history.



**ART ROLNICK** cont. on page 13



# ASK DR. DANCE

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

**Q** *I have been watching **Dancing with the Stars** and these dancers seem to progress so quickly. What are they doing that I could do as a beginner dancer?*

## She Said:

This is a very good question because the stars do progress very quickly. Let's be realistic and look at their backgrounds. The vast majority of the stars come from the performing arts or sports arena. They are experienced at using their body, voice, and facial expressions in their jobs. Many of the actors, models and singers have had previous dance or movement experience – although not ballroom dancing. They are comfortable performing because that is what they do for a living. In addition they have an ability to focus and learn in a compressed period of time because they have lines each week for a TV show, daily for a soap opera – or coaches working with them continually if they are athletes.

Prior to the start of the show they have intensive lessons for 30-40 hours per week for 4-6 weeks. During the show they train 30-40 hours per week. Some of them also do other forms of conditioning like running or aerobics to get in better shape.

Then there is the motivating factor of knowing that they will be seen on national TV. Everyone works harder when they have a goal.

Now let's think about the typical dance student. Probably they have a job that is not performance oriented. Most students take 1 to 2 lessons per week – taking time off for vacations, holidays, out of town guests, business travel and the like. So let's say the average student winds up taking 40 to 100 lessons per year. That is only comparable to the first

2-1/2 weeks of the preparation the stars receive before the show even begins.

Then, the stars are learning how to memorize and perform routines. Presumably you are learning to dance, which involves more skills – following or leading, an understanding of footwork, swing, Latin action, etc. Plus you have to learn performance skills.

Now, the crux of your question... what can you do to progress more quickly?

1. Take a lot more lessons.
2. Practice between lessons.
3. Regularly condition your body with other forms of dance, aerobics, running, etc.
4. Compete often so you have goals to live up to.

## He Said:

I agree 100 percent with Donna and the only thing I can add is the fact that all is not as it appears on TV. The next time you watch the program take note of how little real dancing the "stars" are doing and how much the eye is drawn to the pro. There are some exceptions but for the most part the finer details of technique suffers from lack of experience. There really is no shortcut to learning other than learning itself and the pace at which you learn is directly related to how much sweat equity you earn as you go. ■



## ART ROLNICK cont. from page 12

**Q. Finally, are there interesting tidbits/secrets about your beautiful wife Cheri you would like to share? Where would we be likely to find Cheri when she is off the dance floor?**

When Cheri is not at her favorite place – the dance floor – she is the Associate Director of Research at the Health Partners Research Foundation. Cheri is an epidemiologist by training. She received her PhD. from the University of Minnesota and specializes in women's health issues. Not surprisingly, we often discuss and debate the economics of health care and health research.

But Cheri's real claim to fame came back in our hometown of Detroit, Michigan. When we first started dating, my

mother suggested that she audition for a new, local TV dance show. Hundreds tried out, but Cheri and 10 others made the cut. She filmed a series of shows where she was one of the back-up, go-go dancers to Mo-Town stars such as Little Stevie Wonder. I deeply regret that I do not have clips of Dr. Cheri Rolnick as a go-go dancer to share with your readers.

We all regret it too, Art. Thanks for being a part of "Secret Lives of Dancers" and sharing your life off the dance floor.

**Note:** Do you know someone who has an interesting hobby or career that other dancers would enjoy knowing more about? Pass their names on to the newsletter and watch for future articles on dancer's antics off the dance floor! ■

## The USA Dance Minnesota Board Members!

**W**hat secrets lurk below the surface of our board members? What don't you know about the person you are holding hands with on the dance floor?

In the movie *Strictly Ballroom*, there is an individual who dances but no one in his office knows it. Later they find out that he becomes a different person while on the dance floor... complete with a wig and tight clothing. Now, it is time for us to learn more about the off-floor antics of some of the board members.

### Mike Youngdahl:

*USA Dance MN Past President  
& current board member*

Mike is a recent former president of the board having served for many years. What has he been doing on the board now that he has retired from that position? Old volunteers never go away... they just find something else to spend their time on. Mike is now working primarily on Star of the North and the World Class Dance Floor.

Mike also has a romantic streak as he said that the highlight of his life was "Getting married to my best friend."

What are his other interests:

Bowling – High game 300

Golf – Will gladly take divots out of any course, anywhere.

Sprint car racing – A recent development.  
They turn right to go left.

Writing – Slowly working on a history of enduros in Minnesota.

Fishing – Has been to Alaska



### Steve Vespested

*USA Dance MN  
board member*

For a living I design custom homes for McDonald Construction, as their in-house designer I prepare drawings on computer for 80-100 homes a year ranging in price from 400k to over a million dollars. I also have my own company, "Designed Living" where I design homes, additions and remodels.

In my spare time I do yardwork, our own house projects, taking care of our 3 shelties with my wife, supporting her agility habit, satisfying my John Hardy's Bar-B-Q habit(found only in Rochester) and USA Dance stuff.



### Debbie Thornquist

*USA Dance MN Secretary*

I'm a veterinarian at Kelley Animal Hospital in Lexington/Circle Pines,. My Secret Life includes doing bladder surgery, removing cancerous growths, diagnosing kidney failure and ear infections, as well as a lot of preventative medicine on dogs and cats.

I grew up taking ballet, jazz, tap, and modern dance lessons, and was co-captain of my college dance line for two years, but I didn't discover ballroom dancing until 2000, when I met Tom. We started dancing together and quickly got hooked on competing after our first Star of the North together. We got married last year, and we've been trying to juggle careers, dance, and his kids' busy lives ever since.

Like Tom, both his daughter and son are athletes. They were each on state-winning traveling basketball teams last year. Between basketball, fast pitch softball, and baseball (which Tom coaches), I've logged a lot of spectator time at schools all over the Twin Cities. Now if only we could convince them ballroom dancing was cool...



What about his "9-5" gig? He is employed as a Senior Financial Advisor with Waddell & Reed. He has been here nearly 20 years and has a unique approach to the business.



**BOARD MEMBERS** cont. on page 15



# Secret Lives of Dancers

## BOARD MEMBERS cont. from page 14

### Sharon Kennedy

*USA Dance board member*

For the last year and a half I have been a member of the USA Dance board as one of the Volunteer Coordinators. It's been a fabulous way for me to get to know the dance community.

As for non-dance interests? I'm involved in a very active neighborhood. I belong to the neighborhood book club and am a member of its environment committee. Currently, the committee is involved in inventorying every tree on private property in the neighborhood in order to protect and expand the neighborhood portion of the urban forest. OK, so I'm a tree hugger, also a gardener.

I am a member of a wine club. I do not pretend to be an aficionado, but I do know what I like.

I also love to travel. My favorite trips have been swimming with wild spotted dolphins in the Caribbean. To date, I have been swimming with dolphins at least 40 times. They are amazing creatures; much more intelligent than we are and they seem to have a wonderful knack for understanding the human psyche and what it needs. I hope to swim with them again soon.

### Mike Jones *President USA Dance Minnesota*

My business background is real estate and I've been buying, fixing and selling houses. Just recently, I got heavily involved with a company called JYMRSA. I can't describe this stuff in just the length of a sentence or even a paragraph. I should take out an ad and write an article about it. I could call the article: JYMRSA... What? Written by Mike Jones...Who?

Being on the USA Dance-MN Board has been a great way to meet a lot of fellow dancers and further assimilate the



dance experience into my life. It's also been good for me. I have more confidence and find it easier to address groups of people. I went from being somewhat reserved to rather outgoing.



### Lisa Wu

*USA Dance Minnesota board member*

As a new board member of USA Dance-MN since early this year, I have volunteered to be part of new website team.

I am so happy to participate the new website launch and promote National Ballroom Dance week. The website publishing and posting is very time consuming.

There is a great deal of information on there that can help dancers to find a place to dance, take a dance class, post dance accessories for sale and more... Thanks to Tom Latourelle who is our technical support the website. I manage an IT division as my career, this volunteer opportunity gives me interesting experiences that I don't get a chance to do at work.

As a board member for CABDA (Chinese American Ballroom Dance Association) for the past over two years, I also try to promote ballroom dance in Chinese community. I am very proud to see many of my students move on and become better dancers. With busy family life, kids and a full-time job, dance has been the only exercise that I have had for the past three years. Thanks to my husband for his understanding and support!

It is nice to work with group of people has the same hobby, ballroom dancing. ■



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# Chinese American Ballroom Dance Association

By Shannon Yee, Lisa Wu, Jia Luo

**CABDA (Chinese American Ballroom Dance Association)** was founded in January 2004 by a group of ballroom dance lovers from the Chinese community in the Twin-Cities area. The organization immediately gained popularity among Chinese community with monthly ballroom dance parties and active participation in the activities of other cultural organizations in the Twin Cities. Its popularity also quickly extended outside the Chinese community to a broader base of ballroom dance enthusiasts in the Twin Cities area.

CABDA's success gained USA Dance's attention and support at the same time. Many USA Dance members have become CABDA's regular guests and friends. CABDA invites top USA Dance dancers to perform different genres of ballroom dance at its monthly parties, ranging from ballroom, Latin, east coast swing, Argentine tango, salsa, to west coast swing.



At our September dance party, the breath-taking dance performance by Jeanne & David Schmidt created the most splendid moments of the evening. With their extremely graceful costumes, their elegant moves, and enchanting demeanors, they totally conquered the audience and received repeated applause.

We also want to give our special thanks to those who have performed and taught at our past dance parties: Theresa Kimler & Nels Petersen, Janie & Andy Nordberg, Carol Post & Gary Stroick, and Anne & Tom LaTourelle. Their exquisite and exciting performances have thrilled our guests.

CABDA hosts its dance party monthly on Saturday evenings, and has been providing free group lessons before each party (usually 7:00pm - 8:00pm). To support other Chinese Organizations' activities, we try to maintain a flexible schedule and sometimes change our monthly dance dates. We usually take a break during the summer.

CABDA has also been a very active participant and co-organizer of many local cultural events of the Chinese communities, i.e. Chinese New Year Grand Celebration, Yellow River Cantata Concert and most recently, Mid-Autumn Festival Celebration at the U of M Student Center. We are very proud to announce that we have successfully organized fundraising dance parties for China AIDs Orphan Fund for the past two years and have raised over \$1,450 for AIDs orphans in China.



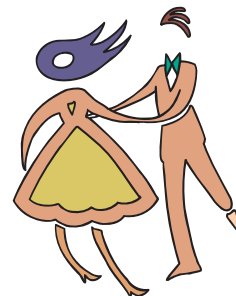
The picture is the CABDA executive committee with a few of our frequent guests. CABDA Board members: Daniel Lai (Left 1), Lisa Wu (Right 4), Shannon Yee (Right 5), Lei Lu (Left 4), Jia Luo (Right 3), Binwen Yan (Right 2), John Zhang (Left 3), Jeff Liu (Not in the picture)... and friends Echo Huang (Right 1), Yanan Guo (Left 2)

Many USA Dance members who attended the monthly CABDA dance parties have spoken enthusiastically about the friendly atmosphere, good choice of music, free bottled water, and the attendance of dressed-up Eastern and Western ladies.

Please come to join us at our December 2nd dance party at Foster's DanceSport Studio! Try to stretch your imagination with a flowing waltz, an energetic cha cha, or a mysterious tango with some oriental flavor...

CABDA is offering ticket discounts for USA Dance members. We welcome you to our dancing party. Please let us know if we can add you to our mailing list by sending your e-mail address to: [danlai888@gmail.com](mailto:danlai888@gmail.com) or [lisa wu us@yahoo.com](mailto:lisa wu us@yahoo.com).

Hope to see you at our party!!! ■





# ON THE TOWN

*with Lois Donnay*



I often have friends ask me for information about one of my dance friends. And, to my great surprise, it is often very personal information that I don't think I can really be expected to know. You know, obscure, intimate information – like his or her name.

I guess I should be expected to know people's names in this close-knit community, but I personally think that's a lot to ask. My excuse for my lack of ability to retain this trivia is that I know a lot of dancers. If you want the phrase "200 of my closest friends" to actually make sense, join the dancing community.

The first thing I know about a dancer is not their name, occupation, hometown, background, hobbies, marital status or other unimportant minutiae.

The first thing I know? What dances they do. Then, maybe, where they go to dance. Oh, yeah – whether or not they'll dance with ME. I mean, you know, the important stuff.

One of the things that always amazes me about the dance community is what a mix of people there is. Bankers and roofers, mechanics and senators, graphic artists and barbers, plumbers, doctors, and car salesman. Yet when we are on the dance floor, none of that is important.

OK, I don't really mean to imply that I know nothing about my friends in the dance community. As a matter of fact, whenever I need any service, the first thing I do is access my "Dancer's Yellow Pages" (go to [HYPERLINK "http://www.mndance.com"](http://www.mndance.com) [www.mndance.com](http://www.mndance.com) and click on Dancer's Recommendations). My plumber, mechanic, insurance broker, masseuse, and electrician are all dancers. I buy plants and tires from a dancer. My floors have been sanded, garage door fixed, and gutters cleaned, all by dancers.

On a final note, I know that I am not alone in my lack of information about other dancers. One might think that our little subculture is full of gossip – who's dating who, who changed jobs, who moved or who went on vacation. Yet, since I got engaged three months ago, I still encounter good friends who haven't heard. The grapevine is just not very strong in dance. Maybe it's because we generally spend three minutes with each other, during which we barely exchange a word. It's like when I'm in Buenos Aires – my lack of a common verbal language does not slow me down a bit on the dance floor!

- The Medina is moving their Ballroom Dance Night from Wednesdays to Thursdays. If you haven't gone for awhile, it's time to go back for a visit!
- Whisky Junction, where we have been known to congregate for an evening of blues and swing dancing, is rumored to be closing. Call before you go.
- Matty B's is a great place to go dancing – watch for great bands like the Christine Rosholt trio.

Lois Donnay

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# First Heartland Tango Festival *Sizzles!*

By Pauline Oo

If you're still dancing at 4:25 a.m.—after slipping on your dance shoes at noon earlier that day—then chances are you're having a very good time. The die-hard Argentine tango dancers were out way past bedtime on Saturday, September 9, the second day of the Heartland Tango Festival and the first of two all-night *milongas*.\*

Yes, Argentine tango dancing hit an all-time high in the Twin Cities September 8-10 when 230 people attended the first-ever tango festival in downtown Minneapolis. Dancers came from all over Minnesota and across the United States—including Texas, New York, Colorado, Chicago, and Portland—as well as Canada, Mexico, and Korea. The event featured three days of classes, *milongas*, and *practices* at Millennium Hotel on the Nicollet Mall.

A host of non-dancers joined the mix, particularly on Saturday evening for the special dinner and tango show. (Two local men at my table had read about the event in the *Star Tribune*. They decided it was a chance to learn about tango and the Argentine culture in preparation for their upcoming trip to Argentina. They left the event inspired and smiling.)

In addition to nightly dances with live and DJ music, the festival offered more than 30 hours of dance classes for

absolute beginners to super advanced, teachers training, and music classes. Festival participants were treated to an international

line-up of Argentine tango instructors—Floencia Taccetti, Cecilia Gonzalez and Tomas Howlin of Buenos Aires, Argentina; Brigitta Winkler of Berlin; Alex Krebs from Portland, Oregon; and Jaimes Friedgen from Seattle—and nationally known Argentine tango DJs Dan Boccia from Anchorage, Alaska; Ramu Pyreddy from Ann Arbor, Michigan, and Robin Thomas from New York.

Twin Cities tango orchestra, Mandragora, and a tango band from Portland, Ore., Conjunto Berretin also had their share of fans. Both bands played on Saturday night and again on Sunday at Rossi's Blue Star in downtown Minneapolis.



**TANGO FESTIVAL SIZZLES** cont. on page 19



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## TANGO FESTIVAL SIZZLES cont. from page 18

"This is my first exposure to Argentine tango," said Renee Burns. "I take ballroom dancing in Brainerd, Minnesota, and we practice only American tango. [However, at the Heartland Tango Festival] the quality of training was excellent, simple and concise."

"One of the goals of this event was to make tango accessible to more people," said Rebecca Abas, festival organizer and owner of Four Seasons Dance Studio in Minneapolis. "Tango is in, and it's hot. You see it on TV, in the movie theatre, at local cultural events, especially in Argentina and across Europe. Those of us who dance the Argentine tango are drawn to it for many reasons—for example, the embrace, the music and that 'tango moment' when you, your partner and the music become one."

Class topics ran the gamut from body connection and balance to musicality and improvisation. The instructors or master teachers taught in pairs—Floencia and Alex, Brigitta and Tomas, Cecelia and Jaimes. Each of their classes drew between 30 and 50 people.

"In my 10 years of taking dance classes, ballroom and Argentine tango, the musicality class led by Alex Krebs, joined by a live five-piece band was the very best class I've ever taken," said Dan Griggs. "Alex and the band broke down a piece of music in its different parts teaching how we could interpret or dance to its various parts, rhythm and melody. It was the coolest thing!"

Dates for the second Heartland Tango Festival have yet to be confirmed; but the next fun-filled weekend is likely to happen either in September 2007 or May 2008. The Tango Society of Minnesota, Federated Insurance and Wells Fargo cosponsored the inaugural event.

"[The Heartland Tango Festival had] good teachers, crowded classes, great milongas, fantastic staff, cheap price... I will come back," said Vance Rightmire, an Argentine tango teacher from Austin, TX. So would



Festival organizer Rebecca Abas with John MacFarlane, Tango Society of Minnesota board member. – Photo by Rodi.

local swing teacher and tango dancer, Jean Ruona. When asked to summarize her festival experience, Jean replied: "pure pleasure."

To learn more about Argentine tango or for a calendar of monthly events, visit the Tango Society of Minnesota at [www.mntango.org](http://www.mntango.org). ■

*\* milonga is one form of Argentine tango. It is also used to describe a place where Argentine tango is danced.*



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Argentine tango class with master teachers Cecilia Gonzales & Jaimes Friedgen – Photo by Pauline Oo.



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# Thank you from Café Bailar Dance Club

By Tricia Parker

Café Bailar Dance Club picked up the challenge of raising money for a dance floor for an underprivileged youth group. The floor has been successfully installed at Redeemer Lutheran Church's "Peace Palace."

On September 24th, Café Bailar hosted a fundraiser dance at the Shakopee Ballroom. We would like to extend a special thank you to all of our sponsors for donating the following items: Arthur Murray – intro dance lesson package; Beyond Ballroom Dance Company – two tickets to the next Beyond Ballroom show; Cinema Ballroom – one private lesson, two sets of two group classes with two practice parties, Dancers Studio – \$500 off the purchase of a cruise (that Café Bailar bought for the winner); Dianne Hansen – four 1-hour therapeutic massage gift certificates; Donna Edelstein and Paul Botes – one spectator package to the Snowball Competition; ERV Entertainment – two tickets for dinner and six for the Moonlight Ball at Trocadero's Nightclub/Restaurant; Foster's Dancesport Studio – two sets of 5-hour private lesson packages with unlimited group classes; On Your Toes School of Dance – private lessons, group lessons, monthly dance party admissions; Rebels Swing Dance Club – five free dance admissions, two sets of Basic West Coast Swing dance class series; Scott Anderson – five sets of 2 group classes; Social Dance Studio (Joy Davina) – one 10-pack of group classes; Sondra Chan – one hour private lesson; and Todd Paulus – two sets of 2-hour private lesson packages.

Café Bailar sold raffle tickets to win the upcoming Dancers Studio dance cruise for \$5 each. We sold approximately 570 tickets. There was no limit to the number people could buy, and every five bought included a free Café Bailar dance admission. We also had a silent auction and regular raffle drawing. Our expenses included \$500 discounted rental rate of Shakopee Ballroom, \$150 for our D.J., and \$1,400 discounted rate for one Dancers Studio cruise ticket with roundtrip airfare. After all expenses, we raised \$2,315.

On a personal note, I was involved hands-on at the Peace Palace a few different times during the process. James Wood donated a day off work to help install the floor. With another friend, we hung mirrors all along one wall another day. The Peace Palace was not actually open at the time, but a young boy walked in and was very excited. I asked him how often he goes to the Peace Palace. He said afternoons and some nights. I spent some time talking to him and saw the joy in his eyes when he described to me, and then demonstrated to me how to do "his moves!"

They have a group that does a form of karate or martial arts, like tae-kwon-do, among other types of dances that I'm unfamiliar with. Another group of kids do hip hop, and last year they learned a lyrical dance number too! Anyway, the most fun part about this project was going there and seeing everything for myself, and actually meeting a few kids during the process. The project is complete, so thank you to all who volunteered and donated. ■



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info@onyourtoes.org  
www.onyourtoes.org

### Group classes:

#### **Tuesdays** with Soleman Krebs

7:00pm Beginner West Coast Swing

8:00pm Intermediate West Coast Swing

#### **Wednesdays** with James Wood

7:00pm Beginner Salsa

8:00pm Intermediate Salsa

#### **Tuesdays** with Soleman Krebs

7:00pm Beginner Country 2-Step

8:00pm Intermediate Country 2-Step

\$15 per person or

buy 6 for \$60 and mix & match!

No partner required. Walk ins welcome.

# Celebrate! Celebrate! Celebrate!

By Dan and Yvonne Viehman

**O**n Monday, September 18, 2006, members of USA Dance celebrated National Ballroom Dance Week with a special dance demonstration at the Mall of America Rotunda. It is truly a pleasure to perform in such a fabulous place. Over 40 dancers put on a 90-minute show featuring waltz, tango, foxtrot, Viennese waltz, quickstep, cha cha, rumba, mambo, swing, pasa doble, and jive.

Many thanks to all of our dancers who included: Jeanne & David Schmit, Janie & Andy Nordberg, Bridget & Jeff Knickerbocker and Cal & Cleo Knickerbocker, Janis Livingston & Greg Moore, Susan & Arthur Hellmann, Cathy & Bill Dessert, Eileen Arcilla & Mike Jones, On Your Toes School of Dance Gold Formation team: Cheri & Art Rolnick, Bernie & Scott Osborn, Lori & Jeff Goldstein and Karen Boole & Doug Lusher; and Dan & Yvonne Viehman; the Cheek to Cheek Ballroom Dancers: Julie Elholm & Jim Tomlin, Donna Larson & Russ Scott, Janet Campbell & Peter Langworthy and Stephanie Butler & Rob Eliasoff; students from Magic Ballroom: Zhanna Vayntrab & Gene Bersten, Melanie Melnikovae & Allen Bersten, and Melanie Bersten & Aiden Mamedov.

We also want to thank Jeff Skaalrud and Cheryl Colter for being such great music technicians and keeping the music rolling the entire time! Thanks also to Lynne Schultz for all the flyers and information she provided about National Ballroom Dance Week!

During this wonderful event we had a unique opportunity to pay tribute to one couple who have been dancing icons in the Twin Cities community since 1951. USA Dance-Minnesota treated Dean and Mary Constantine to a special "Lifetime Achievement Award" for their contributions in teaching over 100,000 people to dance! We were thrilled to honor them during National Ballroom Dance Week and they were truly touched by all the folks who came up and said, "I took my first dance lessons from you!"

## Here is a note of thanks they sent us:

*Dear Board Members,*

*We want to express our sincere appreciation to the Board of Directors and to the many members of USA Dance-Minnesota, for their kind thoughtfulness in presenting us with a Lifetime Achievement Award. We are very honored and grateful for your recognition, and for the beautiful engraved crystal sculpture, representing this award.*

*It was a great pleasure to be a part of your National Dance Week Program last week, at the Mall of America, and to have an opportunity to watch the beautiful dance demonstrations. We were particularly happy to see so many talented young dancers. Everyone was so thoughtful and gracious, and it was delightful to visit with so many of our former students and many dancers and friends.*

*We are grateful for this honor and very special award. Thank you so very much to the Board of Directors of USA Dance-Minnesota, to all the members, to all the lovely dancers who participated in the program, and to everyone at USA Dance-Minnesota.*

*Sincerely,*

*Dean and Mary Constantine* ■

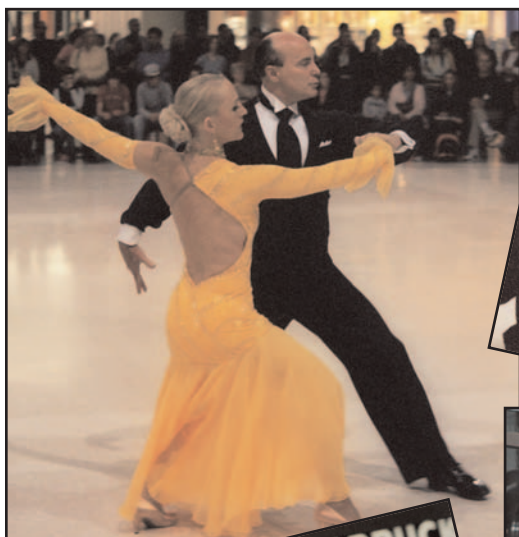




# MOA Demonstration...

Photography by Erik Pratt

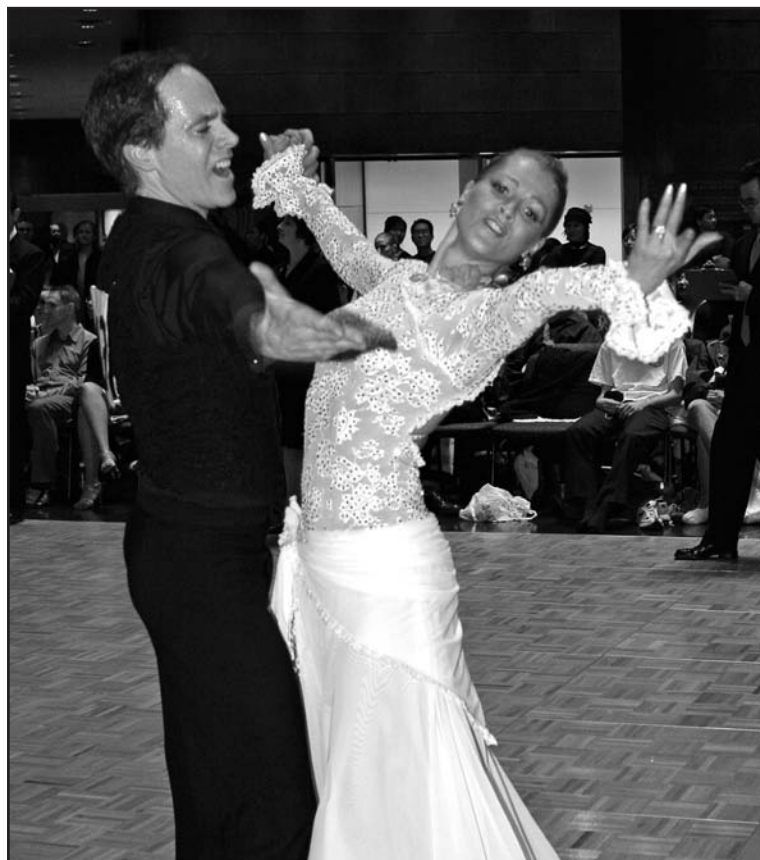
for National Ballroom Dance Week – Sept 18, 2006



# The 10th Annual STAR OF THE NORTH DANCESPORT COMPETITION **February 16 - 18, 2007**

The Shakopee Ballroom  
2400 East Fourth Ave.  
Shakopee, Minnesota

Plan to attend this fabulous event. Larger venue, more scholarships, more prizes, more excitement, and especially more fun!



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



*Sponsored by the Minnesota Amateur Sports Commission,  
USA Dance MN & the U of M Ballroom Dance Club*

## Information

**For more information call the  
USA Dance HOTLINE (651) 483-5467**

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

*(Click on Star of the North)*



# Etiquette of the Ballroom circa 1900

## Etiquette Corner

No phase of ballroom or social etiquette is more important than correct and interesting conversation. Familiarity with the daily news will suggest countless conversational openings. Current books, plays, and motion pictures offer further topics.

The well-bred person conceals boredom, does not indulge in moods publicly, and turns hermit if he is too tired to be agreeable.

The quiet or uninformed person should cultivate a responsive manner. A sympathetic smile, a cordial assent, and a few questions bridge many an undiscovered vacuum so successfully that its owner acquires the reputation of being wise and deep.

It goes without saying that a low, well modulated voice, a happy faculty of expression and a touch of humor add to the equipment of the conversationalist. Even lacking these qualifications, one may make an agreeable if not charming impression by using tact. It is advisable, for example, to avoid discussing religion and politics. ■



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Fri. 11/17 Charmin Michelle  
Sat. 11/18 Christine Rosholt Quartet  
Fri. 11/24 Jason Weisman Quintet  
Sat. 11/25 Arne Fogel Quartet

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***Sunday November 19***

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- Dining room closed and entire floor cleared for dancing. All are welcome!
- Christine Rosholt Quintet's live jazz standards 6:00-9:00 (Swing, Ballroom, Latin).
- \$15 entry at door includes beginners' lesson at 5:15 and complimentary appetizer buffet!

***Going to the new Guthrie or to a game at the Dome?  
Matty B's Urban Bar and Restaurant is now open in  
Minneapolis on Washington and 5<sup>th</sup>!***

☛ **Contact Rhonda @ 952-935-7810**

Assorted Celebrity smooth & rhythm shoes. US 9-10N and split sizes. Practice shoes & 1 pr. Supadance rhythm sandals also available. Best offer.

☛ **Contact Amy at 608-835-5666 or email [albishop@charter.net](mailto:albishop@charter.net)**

**Latin/Rhythm Beautiful dress** by Dancewear Designers by Julia Gorchakova. Size 8-12 for ladies 5' 4" to 5' 9". Unique royal blue dress covered in swarovski stones with fringe angled at bottom of dress. Fringe longest point falls just below knee. Halter straps with open back with built in bra/bodysuit. 1 yr old, worn twice. Originally \$2400 asking \$1800.

**Latin/Rhythm.** Size 8-12 for ladies 5' 2" to 5' 6". Black lycra material with white, gold, black sequins and beads all over dress. The mid section of bodice is open and fringe hangs over open section as well as on bottom of dress. Originally \$200 asking \$70.

**Smooth Size 10-14 black chiffon** circle skirt with one layer of black chiffon lined, elastic waistband. Brand New. Originally \$100 asking \$50.

**Shoes Size 7 1/2 (American)** pair of Diamant Champion round toe 2" latino heel, elastic court std shoes, flesh satin. Brand new. Originally \$110 asking \$50.

☛ **Contact Cheri at [artncheri@aol.com](mailto:artncheri@aol.com) or 763-544-6724**

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

**Aqua and Blue silk and chiffon dress.** Gown in long sleeved with heavily stoned bodice and three tiered chiffon skirt. The dress is soft and elegant. Could be used for smooth or standard. Asking \$1100. Size 2-4.

☛ **Contact Michelle at 651-286-6705 (day) or 763-572-0418 (eve)**

**Sexy Bright Red Rhythm Dress.** Size 4-8. Halter cut top, with stones all around collar. Beading on short flirty skirt moves well on the floor! Luxury Crushed Red Velvet very comfortable to wear. Gently used, in excellent condition - all loose rhinestones replaced by hand. Asking \$400

**Sultry & Exotic Gold Latin/Rhythm Dress.** Size 2-6. This sultry 2-piece costume has lots of straps and fabric pieces that make for great movement. TONS of rhinestones - on the floor it completely shimmers. Comes with: necklace, 2 arm bands, 2 wristbands, and large matching hoop earrings. Looks great on the floor, very sexy All loose rhinestones replaced by hand. Asking \$600

☛ **Contact Stacie at 612-251-8108 or [PIER0081@umn.edu](mailto:PIER0081@umn.edu)**

**Bright fuchsia Dore standard gown.** Can't miss this on the floor. Chiffon skirt & float slowly changes from Fuchsia into purple. Stones throughout the dress. Stretchy material will fit sizes 2-8. Pictures available. \$2,400

**2-Piece white Latin or rhythm dress.** Very playful, has decorative AB accent stones on the skirt, fringes and end of sleeve. The bra is heavily stoned. Material is very stretchy and fit sizes 2-6. Picture available. \$1,400.

☛ **Contact Lynne Schulz at 952-545-2989 or [lynneschulz@cpinternet.com](mailto:lynneschulz@cpinternet.com)**

**Red Satin Pumps with Rhinestones** all over upper and lower heel area - gorgeous!, suede dancing soles, by Celebrity, 2 1/2 in. heel, USA Size 7 1/2 to 8N; great for holiday parties even if you don't dance!, \$50 or best offer.

☛ **Contact Lynn Kohlasch at 612-243-8800 or [lkohlasch@earthlink.net](mailto:lkohlasch@earthlink.net)**

**Latin/Rhythm Fuchsia & Blue Dress.** Beautifully stoned with sassy short skirt and open back. Size 4-8. Asking \$550.

☛ **Contact Theresa at 651-773-3511 or [theresakimmler@yahoo.com](mailto:theresakimmler@yahoo.com)**

**Size 2-6 Blue Beauty.** Deep royal blue gown with elegant fit and stoning detail on bodice. Effortless movement, latest multi-tonal stones, fabric from London. Designed by LeNique just for USA Dance Nationals. \$2400.

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

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

**Lavender Latin/Rhythm Dress.** Lavender latin/rhythm dress with halter style top, ruffled hem and open back. Entire dress stoned in different

colored stones which will make you sparkle! Dore Designs. Size 4-8. Asking \$2100.

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

☛ **Please call Anne @ 763-550-1223**

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

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

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

☛ **Contact Donna @ 763-557-6004**

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

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

**Sunshine Yellow American Smooth!** This gown will get you noticed! Slinky fabric moves with you. Assymetrical design collar, one full sleeve has bracelet style cuff with matching arm and wrist band, dropped waist belt solidly stoned, multi color AB stoning throughout! Made for Movement. Size 2-10. Asking \$975. Payment plan accepted.

**Black/Fuschia American Smooth.** Striking gown with black stretch lace bodice, 3 layered chiffon skirt, dynamic fuschia chiffon wrap on one sleeve, AB color stoning. Size 2-8. Asking \$675 or BO.

**Orange Flame Latin/Rhythm!** 2-piece dress is "one-of-a-kind" with assymetrical style sleeves & skirt. Sun AB stoning throughout. Beautiful braided detail belt and straps with matching wrist bands, necklace and earrings. Size 2-10. Asking \$875.

**Stunning Red Latin/Rhythm!** You'll feel like a champion in this dress with bracelet-style cuffs on sleeves and AB stoned matching hipster belt. Has full open back and slit in assymetrical skirt. Size 2-10. Asking \$775.

**Gold/Rose-Red Rhythm Dress.** Get noticed in this one of a kind dress! Beautiful Rose-Red lace overlays shimmering gold, bell sleeves and flared skirt add great movement. Light Siam AB stoning adds the finishing touch to this fabulous dress! Rose hair piece. Size 2-6. Steal deal at \$575.

**Fuschia Rhythm Dress.** Gorgeous Rose/fuschia/Ameythst AB stoning, bell sleeves, asymmetrical skirt, low back cut. Has great movement on the dance floor! Size 2-8. Asking \$375.

**Discount Rhythm shoes!** Sz 8W USA DanceSport Capezio. \$40. Worn once.

☛ **Contact Nora @ 651-489-4511.**

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

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

*Swaplines is a monthly feature offering members and subscribers the chance to sell their dance merchandise. Advertisements for partnerships are not published in this column. Please include your area code when submitting advertisements for Swaplines.*



# Competition Calendar

## January 6, 2007 – The Snow Ball DanceSport Competition

The largest single day competition in the US featuring fabulous pro-am and amateur competitions. Pro show by 5-time world champions Anik Joliceur and Alain Doucet. Doubletree Park Place Hotel, Mpls. Contact Donna Edelstein or Paul Botes at 763 557-6004. [thesnowballcomp@msn.com](mailto:thesnowballcomp@msn.com)

## Jan 12 - 14, 2007 – USA Dance Manhattan Amateur Classic Pace University, New York City

Organized by Greater New York Chapter. Sanctioned by USA Dance. For more info: <http://nyusabda.org/mac/aboutmac.html>

## January 28, 2007 – Royal Palm USA Dancesport Championships Coconut Creek, FL

Hosted by Royal Palm Chapter. Contact info: Bernard Matos 561-282-0899 or [brny07@yahoo.com](mailto:brny07@yahoo.com)

## Feb 9 - 10, 2007 – Smoky Mountain DanceSport Championships Downtown Marriott, Knoxville, TN

Organized by Greater Knoxville Chapter. Sanctioned by USA Dance. For more information contact Tim McGhee, 865-386-7843, or [www.usabda-knoxville.us](http://www.usabda-knoxville.us)

## Feb 16 - 18, 2007 – Star of the North DanceSport Competition Shakopee Ballroom, 2400 East Fourth Ave, Shakopee, MN

Sanctioned by USADancesport. For more information, contact Mike Youngdahl at 763-441-0646.

## Mar 17 - 18, 2007

## Heartland Classic USA DanceSport Championships Indiana Convention Center, 100 S. Capitol Ave, Indianapolis, IN

Sanctioned by USA DanceSport. Organized by Heartland Chapter (#2022). For more information, Ron Wright, (317) 257-4954, [rt2dance@comcast.net](mailto:rt2dance@comcast.net), or Nancy Dew, (317) 849-6373, [dewn@juno.com](mailto:dewn@juno.com). Website at <http://indyusabda.org>

## Mar 23 - 25, 2007 – USA Dance NE Regional DanceSport Championships/NJ Dancesport Classic Hackensack, NJ

Organized by Mario Battista and Wendi Davies. Qualifying event for 2007 USADance National Championships. Info: NJDSC or by e-mail at [questions@njdancesportclassic.com](mailto:questions@njdancesportclassic.com) or by phone at 973-325-1399.

**DNO** continued from page 2

## Loring Pasta Bar

[www.loringcafe.com/pastabar](http://www.loringcafe.com/pastabar) Sunday nights have tango or other latin music from 6-9 pm.

## Medina Entertainment Center

(763) 478-6661

[www.medinaentertainment.com](http://www.medinaentertainment.com) 500 Highway 55, Medina. Wednesdays, Big Band Dances, Lesson 7 pm, Dance 8-11 pm.

## MN West Coast Swing Dance Club

(651) 777-5599

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

## Naar Grille Salsa Night

(952) 946-6227

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

## Rebels Swing Dance Club

(952) 941-0906

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

## Shakopee Ballroom

(952) 445-0412

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

## Social Dance Studio

(612) 418-4046

[www.socialdancestudio.com](http://www.socialdancestudio.com) St. Paul and Minneapolis, 1st Fridays-Latin Dance Parties 9-12 midnight. \$5/person.

## Tango Society of Minnesota

(763) 576-3349

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

## Tiburón Restaurant

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

## Twin City Ballroom Dance Club

(651) 735-2233

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

## Wabasha Street Caves

(651) 224-1191

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

## ANSWERS TO QUIZZ from page 6-7

1. Andy Nordberg
2. Jeff Nehrbass
3. Paul Botes
4. Tom Thornquist
5. Sheila Paul
6. Anne LaTourelle
7. Betsy Phillips
8. Donna Edelstein
9. Janie Nordberg
10. Cathy Dessert
11. Andrea Johnson
12. Theresa Kimler
13. Rebecca Kanner
14. Tom LaTourelle
15. Terry Tucker
16. Greg Paul



## December Issue Teaser

Don't miss next month's coverage of...

# "Enhancing Your Dancing"

MINNESOTA

# DANCING TIMES

A publication of the Minnesota Chapter of USA Dance

6130 IVES LN N  
PLYMOUTH, MN 55442-1247

**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**

## Dance Contacts

### Instructors

Jill Ableman .....	651-641-0777
Scott Anderson.....	612-816-4446
Paul Botes & Donna Edelstein, Mpls .....	763-557-6004
Modie Chehouri.....	651-641-0777
Nathan Daniels .....	763-545-8690
Wendi Davies.....	973-449-7654
Joy Davina .....	612-418-4046
Robert & Jennifer Foster .....	952-938-0048
Donna Frykman, St. Paul .....	651-777-5447
Michelle Haley .....	651-699-5910
Christine Hallberg .....	651-641-0777
Jeff Halverson .....	651-641-0777
David Hanson .....	218-722-0742
Eric Hudson .....	651-699-5910
Julie Jacobson .....	651-261-6442
Jay Larson .....	651-699-5910
Deanne Michael .....	612-508-9255
Monica Mohn .....	612-874-0747
Mariusz Olszewski .....	612-242-5159
Eric Remsen .....	612-724-3156
Mary Rosenstiel .....	612-720-2584
Kate VanAlstine .....	651-641-0777

### Services

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

### Studios

Arthur Murray Dance Studio St. Paul .....	651-227-3200
Cheek to Cheek Studio, Coon Rapids .....	763-755-3644
Cinema Ballroom, St. Paul .....	651-699-5910
Dahl Dance Center .....	507-252-1848
Dancers Studio, St. Paul .....	651-641-0777
Foster's Dance Sport Studio, Hopkins .....	952-938-0048
On Your Toes, St. Louis Park.....	952-928-7803
Social Dance Studio, Mpls .....	612-869-2158

### Clubs

Café Bailar .....	612-600-5129
MN West Coast Swing Dance Club .....	651-777-5599
REBELS Swing Dance Club .....	952-941-0906
Tango Society of Minnesota.....	763-576-3349
USA Dance, Minnesota Chapter .....	651-483-5467

**USA Dance MN HOTLINE (651) 483-5467**  
[www.usabda-mn.org](http://www.usabda-mn.org)

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