

MINNESOTA

DANCER

October 2017



USA Dance-Minnesota Cha-Cha Flash Mob Celebrates
National Ballroom Week at the Mall of America!

Photo by David Chin Photography



DANCER

An Official Publication of
USA Dance-Minnesota Chapter #2011



USA Dance: Who Are We?

We are a nonprofit organization that promotes ballroom dancing. The USA Dance Minnesota Chapter #2011 was formed in 1991. Membership in USA Dance is open to dancers of all levels. USA Dance Minnesota Chapter #2011 sponsors monthly dances and other special dance events. Members receive discounts on admission to monthly dances, as well as other benefits.

The Minnesota Dancer is published monthly by the USA Dance Minnesota Chapter #2011, to provide information and news about ballroom dancing.

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USA CHAPTER MONTHLY DANCES

October
Saturday, October 21

American Classic Ballroom
1495 Steiger Lake Lane, Victoria

Halloween Dance
7-8 pm lesson - Rumba
Instructor: Paul Botes
8-11 pm Variety Dance Music

December
Saturday, December 16

Cinema Ballroom
1560 St. Clair Ave, St. Paul

Holiday Gala Dance
7-8 lesson - Viennese Waltz
Instructor: TBD
8-11 pm Variety Dance Music

November
Saturday, November 18

Cinema Ballroom
1560 St. Clair Ave, St. Paul

6:30 pm - Annual Meeting
7-8 pm lesson - Bolero
Instructor: TBD
8-11 pm Variety Dance Music

\$5 Students under 25 with ID
\$10 USA Dance Members
\$15 Non-Members

If you join USA Dance at a
monthly dance, you attend that
dance for free!

CINEMA BALLROOM
THE
BROADWAY
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OCTOBER 6 & 7

a spectacular variety dance stage show

tickets available for \$17-\$28 at
CINEMABALLROOM.COM/PRODUCTION



1560 ST. CLAIR AVENUE ST PAUL MINNESOTA

USA Dance-MN Chapter #2011 Board Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, August 1, 2017

Submitted by Carol Post

In attendance: Lee Whitney (President), Joyce Thompson (Vice President), Jane Phipps (Treasurer), Carol Post (Secretary), Bonnie Burton (departed 6:30pm. In attendance for vote on items 1-4 and discussion items 5-6), Stephanie Clausen, Marla Heisterkamp, Gary Stroick and Leslie Whitney.

Location: Washburn Public Library, 5244 Lyndale Avenue South, Mpls, MN 55419.

The meeting was called to order at 6 pm.

1. Welcome to new board member Marla Heisterkamp.
2. Agenda: August board meeting: Approved.
3. July 2017 board minutes: Approved.
4. Treasurer Report: Approved. Future reports will include project dance stats section.
5. Communications Report:
 - a. Minnesota Dancer: August issue for release later today.
 - b. Website, Facebook and Constant Contact - no new updates.
6. Special Projects Report:
 - a. Special events: NBDW 15-24 Sept. MOA performance scheduled with invite to participate extended to dance community. Event will include USA Dance flash mob. Lessons begin August 16. Additional practices planned. Music link and choreography available on chapter web site. Monthly and NBDW activities planned by other chapters around the country discussed.
 - b. Update on additional community dance events discussed in June: discussion will resume late 2017/early 2018.
7. Social Dance Report:
 - a. Monthly dances - Aug - DanceLife, Sept - Dance With Us America, Oct - American Classic, Nov - Cinema, Annual meeting, Dec - TBD. Sub-team to develop survey for project dance attendees.
 - b. Tapestry proposal - opportunity to partner events. In discussion.
8. Volunteer Coordinator Report: Discussion on initiatives to boost volunteer base for current chapter activities (MOA, Tea Dance) monthly dances and feasibility of future dance activities, music and venues. National initiative (Social VP committee) to boost volunteer base discussed.
9. College Support: Discussed potential ways to support of colleges based on their needs and goals - in discussion. Latin Dance Club of University of Minnesota - workshop planned over Labor Day. Donation approved to support workshop. Shared-coaching between colleges discussed.
10. Membership Report:
 - a. July 31, 2016 - 310 members.
 - b. July 31, 2017 - 256 members.

Meeting concluded at 7:30 pm.

Next Meeting: 6 pm, Tuesday, September 5, 2017 Brookdale Library, 6125 Shingle Creek Pkwy, Brooklyn Center.

DANCER'S NIGHT OUT

USA DANCE

USA Dance – Monthly - 3rd Saturday Halloween Variety Dance, October 21, at American Classic Ballroom, 1495 Steiger Lake Lane, Victoria. Lesson 7-8 pm and dance 8-11 pm. Lesson - Rumba. Instructor: Paul Botes. 8-11 pm Variety Dance Music. Costumes optional.

Project Dance - October 1, 8, 15 and 22 at 2 pm, at The 'nMotion Dance Center, 7988 University Ave NE, Fridley. Lesson - Beginner Rumba. Instructor: Jennelle Donnay.

WEEKLY DANCES

Awakened Dance (at 'nMotion Dance Center) - Fridays, lesson 7 - 8 pm and dance 8 - 9 pm.

Cinema Ballroom – Wednesdays, Practice Party, 8 – 9 pm.

Dancers Studio – Thursday, Variety Dance, 8- 9:30 pm.

Costa Rica Ballroom – Wednesday, Practice Party, 8:15 - 9 pm.

DanceLife Ballroom– Fridays, Variety Dance, lesson 7 - 8 pm and dance 8 - 9:30 pm.

Ballroom & Latin Dance Club - Fridays, lesson 7-8 pm and dance 8-10 pm.

OTHER DANCES

Argentine Tango Milonga - Second Saturday of each month, October 14 , class at 8:30 pm and dance 9:30 pm - 1 am. See mntango.org for more information.

Café Bailer Dance Club – Saturday Variety Party, October 14 and 28, at Costa Rica Ballroom, lesson 7:30 – 8:30 pm and dance 8:30 - 11 pm.

Cinema Ballroom – Variety Dance, October 20 and 27 (halloween Party), lesson 7 – 8 pm and dance 8 – 11 pm.

Dancing with Jerry O'Hagan and His Orchestra - October 8 and 22, Cinema Ballroom, 6:15 - 10 pm.

Tapestry – Variety Dances, 1st and 3rd Sundays, October 1 and 15, dance 6 – 9:30 pm.

Twin Cities Rebels – WCS and Variety Dance, October 1, 14 and 29, at DanceLife Ballroom, 7 – 10:30 pm.

Dance With Us America - 1st Friday of each month dance, October 6, 7 pm to 9:30 pm, social variety dance.

Cinema Ballroom - Fall Showcase, Broadway, the Production, Friday and Saturday, October 6 and 7 at 7:30 pm.

Minnesota Madness - Oct 15, 2017, hosted by Nathan Daniels and Scott Anderson, Medina Entertainment Center, MN.



HALLOWEEN DANCE



OCTOBER
21



7 pm Lesson / 8 - 11 pm Variety Dance

USA Dance-Minnesota #2011



AMERICAN CLASSIC BALLROOM

COSTUMES OPTIONAL

1495 Steiger Lake Lane, Victoria, MN 55386

DANCE CONTACTS

If you would like to be listed on this page, send your contact information to tcrable3s@gmail.com.

STUDIOS

AMERICAN CLASSIC BALLROOM
1495 Steiger Lake Lane, Victoria, MN 55386
952.934.0900
www.acballroom.com

ARTHUR MURRAY DANCE STUDIO
534 Selby Avenue, St. Paul
651.227.3200

AWAKENED DANCE COMMUNITY
(at 'nMotion Dance Center)
7988 University Ave NE
Fridley, MN 55432
www.awakeneddance.com

BALLROOM & LATIN DANCE CLUB
1103 W. Burnsville Pkwy, Burnsville
952.292.0524
www.ballroom-club.com

BLUE MOON BALLROOM
2030 Hwy 14 E, Rochester
507.288.0556
www.BlueMoonBallroom.com

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1560 St. Clair Ave, St. Paul
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www.cinemaballroom.com

COSTA RICA BALLROOM DANCE
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816 Mainstreet, Hopkins
952.303.3339
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4204 North Hwy 52, Rochester
507.252.1848
www.dahldance.com

DANCE AND ENTERTAINMENT
651.605.5784
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www.danceandentertainment.com

DANCE WITH LOISA DONNAY
3142 1st Ave S, Minneapolis
612.822.8436
www.mndance.com

DANCE WITH US AMERICA
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612.564.5483
www.dancewithusamerica.com

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6015 Lyndale Ave S, Minneapolis
612.345.4219, www.dancelifeballroom.com

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651.641.0777
www.dancersstudio.com

DE Studios
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952.392.9631
www.de-studios.com

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612.342.0902
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[Facebook.com/northstar.dancestudio](https://www.facebook.com/northstar.dancestudio)

RENDEZVOUS DANCE STUDIO
Minneapolis
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www.theplacetodance.com

STUDIOJEFF
701 St. Germain St W, Suite 201,
St. Cloud
320.266.4137
www.studiojeff.com

CLUBS

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www.cafebailar.com

LA DANZA DANCE CLUB
Stillwater, MN
651.439.3152
[Facebook.com/LaDanzaDanceClub](https://www.facebook.com/LaDanzaDanceClub)
Contacts: Mark and Wanda Bierbrauer

LAKESIDE DANCE CLUB
320.763.6432
danceclub@lakesideballroom.org
www.lakesideballroom.org

LATIN DANCE CLUB OF UMN
Email: latindc@umn.edu
sua.umn.edu/groups/directory/group/3713/

LINDEN HILLS DANCING CLUB
www.lindenhillsdancingclub.org

MN WEST COAST SWING DANCE CLUB
763.442.1618
www.mnwestcoastswingdanceclub.com

REBELS SWING DANCE CLUB
952.941.0906
www.tcrebels.com

SOCIAL DANCE CLUB
952.475.0586
billcarlson@usinternet.com

STARDUST DANCE CLUB
stardustdanceclub@gmail.com

SUBURBAN-WINTERSET DANCE CLUB
Woman's Club of Minneapolis,
410 Oak Grove Street, Minneapolis
952.894.1412
www.suburbanwinterset.com

TANGO SOCIETY OF MINNESOTA
612.224.2905
www.mntango.org

TAPESTRY FOLKDANCE CENTER
3748 Minnehaha Ave, Minneapolis
612.722.2914
www.tapestryfolkdance.org

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
BALLROOM DANCE CLUB
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CHAPTER 2011
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Mary Rosenstiel	612.720.2584
Char Torkelson	612.709.6399
Lisa Vogel	651.208.0818
James Wood	651.242.2421

COMPETITION CALENDAR

October 27 - 29, 2017

Chicago DanceSport Challenge - 2018 NQE

Hosted by Chicagoland Chapter #2001

Hyatt O'Hare Hotel - Chicago, IL

December 2, 2017

California State DanceSport Championships - 2018 NQE

Oakland, CA

January 12 - 14, 2018

Snow Ball Dancesport Competition

Minneapolis, MN

January 12 - 14, 2018

Manhattan Amateur Classic - 2018 NQE

Jersey City, NJ

February 2 - 4, 2018

Southeastern Dancesport Championships - 2018 NQE

Birmingham, AL

February 16 - 18, 2018

Mid-Atlantic Championships NQE

Hosted by Mid-Eastern USA Dance chapter # 6001, Bethesda, MD

February 16 - 18, 2018

Senior IV National DanceSport Championships

Hosted by MidEastern USA Dance chapter # 6001, Bethesda, MD

LYNNE'S DANCE NEWS

Dance events for every day of the week.
Updated daily.

www.lynnesdancenews.com

Wonderful Ballroom Dance Cruise

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The Queen's Room, Queen Elizabeth



Beginner Rumba

Sunday, October 1 — 2:00 pm
Sunday, October 8 — 2:00 pm
Sunday, October 15 — 2:00 pm
Sunday, October 22 — 2:00 pm

Classes with Jennelle Donnay at



7988 University Ave. NE
Fridley, MN 55432
763.571.6180

www.usadance-minnesota.org
info@usadance-minnesota.org
Follow us @USADanceMN



USA Dance Minnesota offers dance instruction to members for \$3. Non-members pay \$8.

Become a member of USA Dance at membership.usadance.org or fill out a membership form available at class. A different professional instructor teaches a new dance at a different location every month.



PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Leland & Leslie Whitney are preparing to compete at several competitions over the next few months: October – Chicago DanceSport Challenge (NQE); February 2018 and Mid Atlantic Championships (NQE and Senior IV National Championships).

By Leland Whitney, President,
USA Dance Minnesota Chapter #2011

Leland,

Just a brief outline of our Orlando Chapter's social activities:

1. Chapter dances, always with a theme and usually with a charitable cause like Wounded Warrior, Hurricane Relief, Toys for Tots, Food Bank, school supplies and health organizations (American Cancer Society, American Heart Assn, etc.). If financially feasible, include an annual Member Appreciation dance with free admission to chapter members; and/or a Volunteer Appreciation Dance, with free admission (and perhaps a small gift) to chapter volunteers.
2. Community Outreach Performances provide many opportunities: schools, non-profit fundraisers, arts festivals, libraries, senior facilities, churches, TV stations, fraternal organizations, women's clubs, sports events, etc.
3. Chapter could sponsor a Dancing With the Stars type fundraiser pairing local celebrities with pros, either to benefit the chapter or a local charity. An alternative is for the chapter to be a partner or co-sponsor of such an event with local charities, allowing much of the work to be done by the charity, with the chapter helping on dance related tasks, like arranging the lessons, costumes and judges.
4. Dance classes for special populations, using chapter members as volunteer partners for Alzheimers; visually-impaired; disadvantaged youth; veterans; intellectually or physically challenged individuals.
5. Art Contest and/or exhibition, showing depictions of ballroom dancing in drawings, sculpture, photos, etc.
6. Walk/Jog/Bike events ending with a dance.
7. Dances just for youth; just for seniors; just for veterans, etc.

-
8. Outings to other USA Dance chapters' dances and events; to community dances; to sporting events.
 9. Volunteering as a chapter, to participate at various charitable events: charity runs; Feeding the Homeless, Meals on Wheels, hospital visits, etc.
 10. Sponsor special dance workshops, covering subjects that are not covered by studios/instructors in the area, and rotating the workshop instructors to include all instructors eventually.
 11. Maintain a chapter grant fund to help certain subsets of dancers (youth, veterans, disabled, etc) with financial grants to afford lessons, USA Dance memberships, etc. Also maintain an inventory of donated dance shoes and costumes for use by members in the Community Outreach performances.

John Davis
President, Orlando Chapter of USA DANCE

HELP WANTED

Minnesota Dancer Newsletter is seeking a volunteer Design/Layout Editor experienced with Adobe InDesign software to design, create and prepare our 28-30 page monthly ballroom dance newsletter. We would like a creative, knowledgeable individual who is comfortable meeting deadlines, is detail oriented, and is able to volunteer 10 - 12 hours per month. Ballroom dance experience helpful, not necessary. We request a minimum 1-year commitment, position to start January, 2018. If interested, please contact Bonnie Burton, bonnieburton@comcast.net or 952.454.4620.

Cha-Cha Flash Mob Celebrates National Ballroom Week

By Bonnie Burton, District 2 Director |
USA Dance Minnesota Chapter #2011 Board Member

“WANTED! Volunteers to learn and dance a cha-cha routine for a demo to be performed at the Mall of America (MOA) on Sept. 24! If there is enough interest, this demo, and others, will be performed at the MOA in celebration of National Ballroom week.”

On July 23, I randomly posted the above notice on the USA Dance-Minnesota Facebook page to gauge if there was any interest. I had low expectations and was not surprised to see only ten responses, hardly enough to make a decent flash mob. The leaders of USA Dance National had created a cha-cha routine to the music Oye Como Va, by Café Latina, and they wanted local chapters to learn and perform it.

To make this work, I needed an instructor, practice space, and most importantly: people willing to dance.

I asked Twin Cities pro Scott Anderson if he would teach a choreographed cha-cha to a group.

“Sure.” We negotiated a special price for four weekly lessons. Encouraged, I asked a local ballroom owner if she would consider donating space to our group, in exchange for an ad in our local newsletter. “Sure.” Thanks to Marcy McHenry’s generosity, we were able to use Sterling Hall at Dancers Studio for our lessons. Yay!

This project was coming together. The local USA Dance chapter board approved funding for lessons, so I began to recruit dancers in earnest. “Dancers wanted for a cha-cha routine. We will train, no experience necessary, contact me NOW”. My assistant Joyce Thompson and I, both forceful personalities, refused to take no for an answer, and we recruited dancers wherever we could.

Soon, the original 10 dancers had grown to almost 80, mostly beginners and social dancers, many of whom had never performed in public or danced in a formation group. I was thrilled they were

willing to give this a try. Within a month of the original ad, we held our first of four weekly lessons. They were a loud, noisy, excited group of dancers. But I believed in our dance coach: Scott Anderson is particularly skilled in working large groups.

There were obstacles to overcome: for starters, the music was WAY too fast. At 132 beats per minute, it is intended for Pro Latin Cha-Cha, and is impossibly fast for most social dancers. Then, learning new dance patterns can be frustrating. Some dancers felt compelled to express their frustration in emails sent in the wee hours of the night. Many of the dancers had never memorized choreography and this challenge caused some to withdraw and quit.

But most stuck with it, relying on weekly lessons and YouTube video links of lessons sent in my twice-weekly emails. (I was pleased these videos had hundreds of viewings – someone was

watching them, and hopefully, practicing!) Scott's instruction and choreography modifications were impeccable. Rehearsal coaches Jeff Chinn and Gary Stroick were generous with their time, devoting Monday evenings and Saturday mornings to work with small groups. Chapter President Leland Whitney, National Rhythm Champion finalist and 9-dance Champion with his wife Leslie, conducted our last dress-rehearsal practice.



Photo by Bonnie Burton.

On Sunday, September 24, we took the floor at the immense East Rotunda at the Mall of America, the second largest mall in the United States. The music started playing, we listened for our two counts of eight-beats, and started dancing: tap-step-tap-step, cha-cha-cha! The USA Dance-Minnesota Flash Mob demo had over 70 dancers looking good, feeling strong, having fun, and performing like champs!




Photo by Sharon Kennedy.

Any lack of technique was made up for in sheer quantity of dancers. We celebrated National Ballroom week like no other chapter in the nation – dozens of dancers performing a flash mob to the thumping beat of Oye Como Va!

Thank you dancers, for your participation and enthusiasm! Let's do it again! [YouTube video links of the MOA performance for the curious: <https://youtu.be/eMy-iaVXVrR4> and <https://youtu.be/QPvf7YazVYw>.



Photo by David Chin.



USA DANCE-MINNESOTA #2011
Cordially Invites You to Our

HOLIDAY GALA DANCE

December 16, 2017

7:00 p.m. Dance Lesson

8:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m.

Variety Dance

Cinema Ballroom
1560 St. Clair Avenue
St. Paul, Minnesota



Dancers Studio Fall Showcase



*Neli Petkova and Mariusz Olszewski performed a fabulous solo
in the memory of Nick Westlake.*

Photo by Ed Santos.



American Classic Ballroom Is On the Move

By Suzi Blumberg

Author Suzi Blumberg is an avid social dancer and frequent contributor to Minnesota Dancer. She works at Donaldson Company global headquarters in sales.. She is active in her church including dancing with a Hebrew worship dance team, gardening and walking her two bichons.

American Classic Ballroom has moved to a beautiful, larger facility in Victoria! Owners Paul and Natalie Botes are excited to have you come check out their new facility. The previous building in Chanhassen was sold, so they had to move. They're very proud to have relocated their beautiful new studio six miles away in Victoria.

I had the opportunity to see the new facility recently and it's absolutely breathtaking! The new facility is 5,000 square feet and the dance floor is 3,000 square feet. There are beautiful crystal chandeliers hanging from the ceiling and it has a great sound system, as well as a lot of parking. They share space with Enki Brewery.

Every Friday night there is a practice party that starts with a group lesson at 6:15 PM; with a dance from 7-9 PM and after that, pizza and beverages are served. American Classic Ballroom offers

group classes in Ballroom, Latin and Social dance that are listed on their website at www.acballroom.com. Private lessons are available by appointment.

Paul is a Master Instructor and has developed students from the beginner level to national titles. He was a professional competitor in three ballroom dance styles—smooth, rhythm and standard, and he competes in the Pro-Am division in all four styles. He is a

championship certified adjudicator, a popular dance competition emcee, and an invigilator: a judge who is hired to ensure that competitors' dancing in closed syllabus events stay within category.

Natalie loves teaching and competing and has won several United States and World Dance Master titles. She was in the top 48 of the Rising Star Ballroom in Blackpool, United Kingdom. She is an experienced competitor in



all four styles of dance; and she competes once or twice each month around the nation with her current partner Martin Pickering.

The next local USA Dance-Minnesota monthly event, a Halloween dance, will be held at American Classic Ballroom on Saturday, October 21. Paul and Natalie are also planning a grand opening dance party later this year, so watch for the announcement in www.lynnedancenews.com.



Share your talents and experience with the team of
USA Dance Minnesota Chapter #2011 by:

- Writing articles for the Minnesota Dancer.
- Interviewing members of the dance community on topics of interest.
- Graphic Designer.
- Illustrator.
- Publication Distribution.

For more information, contact Bonnie Burton at bonnieburton@comcast.net or Tom Crable at tcrable3s@gmail.com.



Stardust Dance

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WEEKEND GETAWAYS, LUXURY DANCE CRUISES, DANCE DESTINATIONS

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112th Ballroom Dance Camp Weekend

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Deborah J. Nelson is the founder, President, and head designer of Satin Stitches Ltd.

Current Dance Fashion Trends are Trending Now!

By Deborah J. Nelson/
Satin Stitches Ltd.

Trends in dance costumes mirror trends in regular clothing. Fashion is meant to change and naturally moves on to new silhouettes, colors, textures and fit. Trends may last a long time, or they may be short lived, but always, an old trend will be replaced with a new trend. Eventually, you will notice the cyclical nature of trends.

Hemlines go up and then drop and then go up again. Shoulder pads start small, get extreme and then disappear again. Leglines raise and then drop, and then start raising again. Waistlines migrate from the natural waistline to an empire styling to a low-slung hipline and then back again. A very minimal study of fashion will show you the progression of trends.

In the dance world, trends are great to follow (if you aren't already leading them) and can keep your wardrobe looking fresh and can possibly keep you looking

great for several seasons. If you succumb to fads, however, you may find that you will need to replace your dance wardrobe much quicker. Only very confident, daring individuals buck the norm and set new trends. Are you one of our trend pioneers?

Everyone can watch and determine the trends in their competitive dance neighborhood by simply being observant at dance showcases and competitions. Be aware of the fact that, even with the fast paced photo sharing of today's social media, trends in one geographic local could still be different from another. Just because everyone at your dance studio is wearing neon colored fringe, for example, doesn't mean that 'everyone' across the country or the world is keen on neon colored fringe.

If you're in need of stretching your dance costume wardrobe dollars as far as possible, you

should consider the trends that you see at your studio, your competitive region and across the country. In the ballroom world, it also depends on your level of competitive dancing. What is appropriate and stylish for the consummate professional may look over-the-top and garish and overwhelming on a more novice dancer. 'Less is more' is a more appropriate mantra for beginners and nearly 'anything goes' can work for the elite professional or highly competitive dancers.

In thinking about trends, I'm recalling some very unfortunate trends from the past. Remember that just because something is trendy, this doesn't automatically confirm that this is the best choice for you. Didn't our Moms always tell us "just because everyone is jumping off the bridge, doesn't mean you should", right?

I am a firm believer in observing the trends at any given season,

but then considering our own persona, body shape, pocket-book, as well as our personal likes and dislikes of certain colors, textures and silhouettes. Unless you have unlimited funds, you should strive for buying or making costumes that will remain 'in style' for as long as possible, in order to get the most for your money. This is important even if you only plan to wear your costume for one season. Keep in mind that if you plan to sell your costume to someone else, in order to fund new costumes for your closet, your costume will resell much easier and for more money, if it remains 'in style'.

And, do consider a 'classic' look. Classics are given the name for a reason – clothing that is deemed 'classic' doesn't generally follow trends, but rather, they transcend them to remain stylish for many years or seasons. And, with classics, you can update and follow trends minimally, with your accessories or the addition of embellishment.

Be aware that some trends may not be good trends. One recent example, in my opinion, was back a few years when EVERY ballroom costume had a drape or many drapes that attached to the

dancer's wrists or back or wherever. To me, you could no longer see the dancer's silhouette – with so much excessive and redundant pieces of fabric tacked onto the dresses. I am so glad that this trend was finally replaced with more minimal silhouettes.

Another unfortunate trend has been for extremely low-cut skirts, shorts, pants, or briefs. When you are embarrassed to watch, the costumes are cut too low. Of course it goes without saying that only extremely well-toned bodies (no matter what size) could even think of wearing this style of costume. Moving forward, for those who love the low-rise, there are costumes with the same low-rise cut, but then paired with a belt at the wearer's natural waistline. I'm seeing less of this design detail, and I'm happy with that. After many decades, the natural waistline has found a renewed home with dance costumes. Thank goodness!

What is currently trending in the dance world?

1. The continued use of many narrow straps to accent other design features.
2. Textured laces of all types, either plain, with beading or with

minimal or extreme rhinestoning.

3. Rhinestones everywhere.
 4. Feathers continue to be an important accent for all types of dance costumes – either minimal touches or with lots of coverage at hemlines.
 5. Embroidered appliques with various amounts of rhinestone and beaded embellishment have made a huge comeback.
 6. Sheer mesh continues as a staple and less expensive replacement for woven chiffon.
 7. Sheer mesh cutouts in bodice and sleeve areas.
 8. Ombre visuals whether created by dip-dyeing or sublimation.
 9. Nude and nude-toned, naked looking costumes.
 10. Blush, light pink colors, along with gunmetal tones with silver and gold metallic.
 11. One-shouldered and asymmetrical styling on bodices and skirts.
 12. Sublimation printing for lots of graphic decoration.
- So, keeping your dance costumes 'trendy' is a good thing if the trend is suitable for you, but only if you can afford to buy new when you feel the need to keep very current on new trends. Otherwise, you will never go wrong with classic looks!

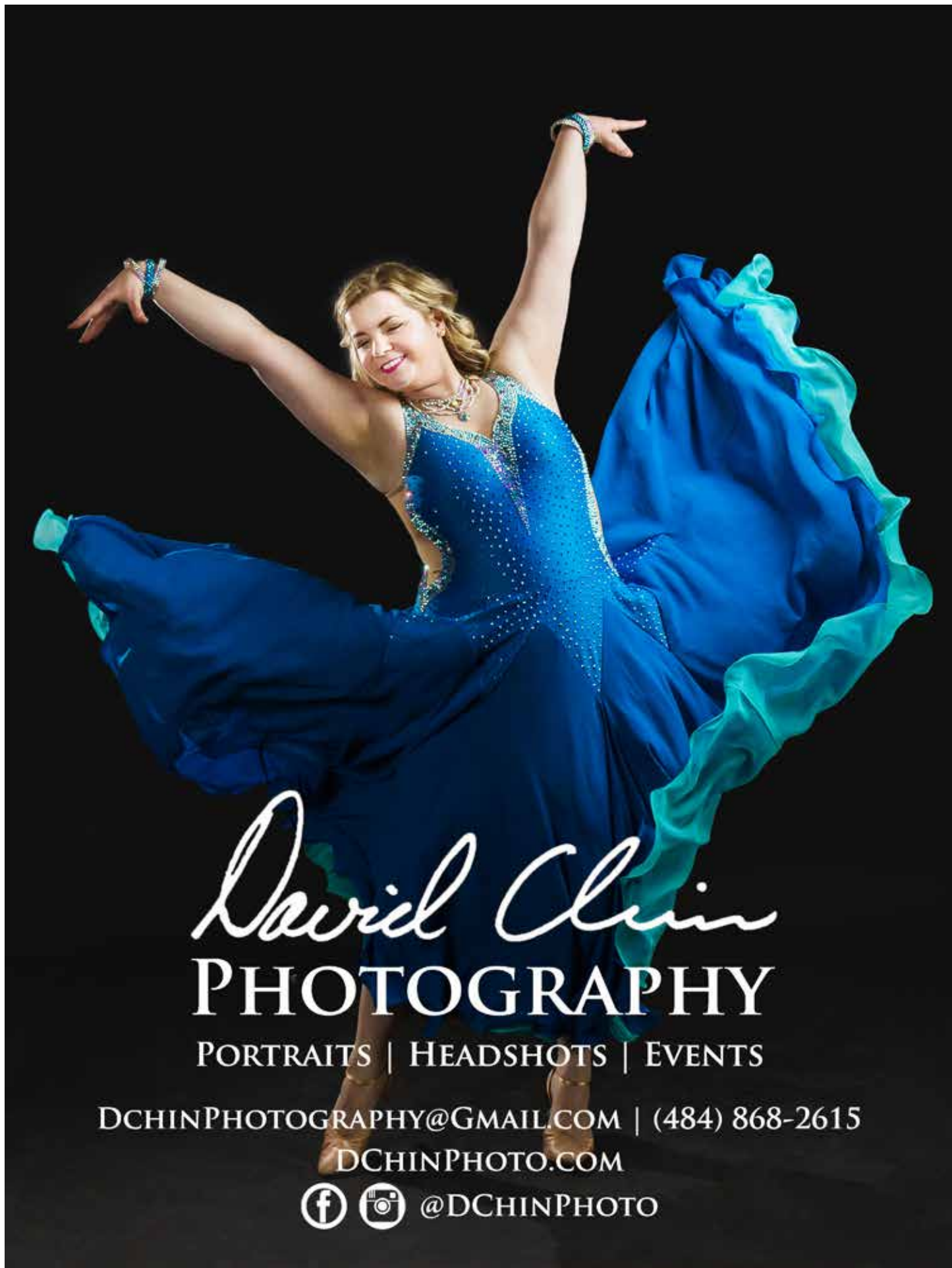


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DANCE DEMO NEWS

Hi Dancers,

Hope you are enjoying these autumn days and getting
in lots of dancing!

Volunteer dancers are wanted to perform in the
following dance demos.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 26: 1:00 pm & 2:00 pm
Rosedale Mall – East Court
Rosedale, MN

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17: 1:00 pm & 2:00 pm
Southdale Mall
Edina, MN

Please contact Yvonne Viehman at 763.245.7936 or
email me at danvman@aol.com
for further details.



Author Suzi Blumberg is an avid social dancer and frequent contributor to Minnesota Dancer. She works at Donaldson Company global headquarters in sales.. She is active in her church including dancing with a Hebrew worship dance team, gardening and walking her two bichons.

2017 Unforgettable Award Winners: Mother-Daughter Duo Bernice Mattke and Lynne Schulz

By Suzi Blumberg

Each year, the Twin Cities Open Ballroom Dance Championship competition is held in the Twin Cities. Since 1993, Scott and Amy Anderson, event organizers, have awarded an Unforgettable Award in acknowledgement of outstanding contributions to the art and sport of ballroom dancing in Minnesota. Some of the past recipients include Marsha Wiest-Hines; the trio of Anna Reed, Virginia Dietz and Mille Cucia; Eileen Arcilla; Tom & Ann LaTourelle and Mark & Karen Tepley of "LeTep" dance duo; and Ha Tuong, to name a few.

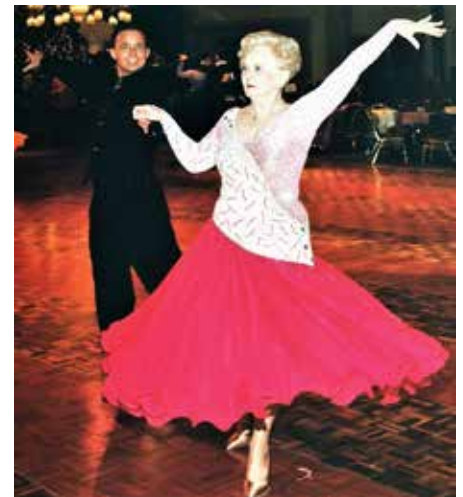
This year's award went to the mother-daughter duo of Bernice Mattke and Lynne Schulz. Bernice has been a competitive and social dancer in the Twin Cities since 1983. Her daughter Lynne Schulz, has also been active in the dance community for many years as the writer of Lynne's Dance News: a weekly website that lists all the available social dance ven-

ues.

Bernice started taking dance lessons when she was 58. Her kids were grown and out of the house. She thought it would be something she and her husband could do together. They began taking group lessons with Dean Constantine. Bernice fell in love with the sport but her husband wasn't that crazy about it. So Bernice took private lessons with Nathan Daniels and competed with him locally. They won lots of competitions mainly, she says, because she was the only one in the senior dance category!

She continued private lessons with other local instructors: Scott Anderson, Jeff Nehrbass and Harry Benson. She remembers competing in all over the United States, including the Ohio Star Ball. She had many competition ballgowns made by local designer Marsha Wiest-Hines.

She loved competing because of the challenge of learning the routine, memorizing it, and then dancing it in competition. Bernice competed until she was 82 years old! Her last competition was here in Minneapolis at the Twin Cities Open. Daughter Lynne also danced in this competition in a different category.



Bernice Dancing With
Scott Anderson

At 82, after competing for many years, Bernice started social dancing. She loves the people she meets and the music. Now that she's 92 years, she and Lynne go together to each dance because Bernice doesn't drive at night. She loves watching ballroom dance competitions on TV and tries to attend the Twin City Open and Snow Ball competitions each year.

Bernice says dance has kept her moving and active, that it's great exercise and so much fun! She says it seems like the social dancers are better dancers than before because more people are taking lessons. When she started dancing, she enjoyed the Medina when they had live bands. Now she likes DanceLife Studio and Scott Anderson's dances. She appreciates the men who ask her to dance and always enjoys dancing with them.

Daughter Lynne Schulz started dancing in 2000 and quickly became addicted. She took group lessons almost every night at many studios. Her instructors were Dean Constantine, Jeff Nehrbass, Eliecer Ramirez, Shinya McHenry, Michael Bang, Troy Lerum, Jill Johnson, the Hudson's, and others. She's competed at Twin Cities Open and the Snow Ball, and has danced with formation teams.

In 2008, Lynne fell in love with Argentine Tango: it has become her favorite dance. She flies to Buenos Aires every February for

a month and is consumed with, and in love with, the dance culture. She dances every night of the week when there, and says there are 10 to 15 different places to go each evening.

She loves the warmer weather and dances with partners from all over the world! She dances six hours every night starting in 3" heels and switches to lower heels later in the evening. She ices her feet when she gets home so she can get back out to the dance floor the next evening. She also takes many lessons from the local instructors while she's there.



Congratulations Bernice Mattke and daughter Lynne Schulz! They received the 2017 Unforgettable Award at the Twin Cities Open Competition. The award is given to acknowledgement of outstanding contributions to ballroom dancing in Minnesota.

Lynne's Dance News is what I most appreciate about Lynne (www.lynnesdancenews.com). Each week, Lynne updates activity on the local dance scene, from ballrooms to local bars. Lynne has been doing this for years and I don't think there's a week that goes by that I don't check her website to see where I want to go that evening.

Congratulations to this dynamic mother-daughter dancing duo on receiving their Unforgettable Award!



Dance Camp at BYU

Paul Stachour works in software quality assurance for Life Critical Systems. He is a social dancer with bronze-level competition experience. He has taught dance part-time for 5 years. He is also DVIDA certified to teach American Style Waltz at the associate (bronze) level.

By Paul Stachour

This was my second year at the Brigham Young University (BYU) Adult Dance camp. I was smarter than last year, when I took too many classes too soon, and was exhausted on Thursday, thus missing both the afternoon and evening activities. I knew that the camp would be a good bargain: total cost for the camp, including dance-instruction, lodging at a residence hall and eating at a buffet-style university cafeteria, was \$710: \$530 for the camp, \$95 for lodging, and \$85 for food. This compared to nearly \$1700 (dance-only) for other dance-camps I considered.

Again this year, my wife Fran, spent her week in the Latter-Day-Saints (LDS) genealogy library in Salt Lake City while I was at dance-camp in Provo. It was a 3

day, 1,320 mile drive across MN, SD, WY, and UT. We did a walk (volksmarch) in Mitchel, SD; where we toured the Corn Palace. Travel cost (gas, food, and lodging) for the 2 of us was \$728, or \$364 apiece.



Corn Palace

Arriving late Sunday afternoon, I learned there would be about 160 people at the dance-camp. Again I shared a room with Ron Blewitt from Lakewood, Colorado. His primary focus on dance was also American Waltz, and his primary dance partner was Marisa Marinac, from Arvada, Colorado.



Ron and Marisa



Therese and Paul
MN Attendees



Paul and Linda

There were only two from Minnesota: Therese Meszaros (her 14th dance-camp), and me. The primary showcase dance that both of us were focusing on was American Waltz. As there are five different levels of instruction, we had different instructors: mine was Dawid Schultz; and my waltz partner was Linda Danifur. The other showcase dance was International Samba, where my dance partner was Jennifer from Billings, Montana; and my instructor was Jonathon Roberts.



Paul and Jennifer

Let's get into some details about the BYU dance-camp. Looking at the schedule for Monday, there was an orientation to help us understand the camp and choose our dance-levels. They distributed a list of patterns for each of the five full-program dances that would be taught; each organized into five levels from 1 (beginner) to 5 (advanced-2). Level 1 was for those students whose experience was similar to DVIDA bronze-1 &2, while level 5 was for those who compete at the championship level. I placed myself into level 3 (intermediate-2) for American Waltz, and 1 (beginner) for International Samba. Those placings turned out to be appropriate. Monday was Waltz (3), International Samba (1), and two "you-pick" dances. I chose American Tango (2) and West Coast Swing (2), where my instructors were Natalie Schulz, and Lee Wakefield, who was also the facilitator for the whole thing.

In the evening, I skipped the 1-hour lecture, but took the opportunity to learn a fun-dance (hustle patterns), and 1 hour of practice-time to work on what we had been taught in the daily lessons.



Dawid and Paul



Jonathon Roberts and Paul



Natalie and Paul



Paul and Lee

On Tuesday, after attending the Waltz and Samba classes, I chose West-Coast-Swing (2) and an American Tango (2) from the 'you-pick' set. The five program dances are progressive classes throughout the week, while the 'you-pick' ones are each individually set up. I took four of the six class-periods that day, and that was a validation that I was choosing the right level of effort for me. In the evening, there was a two-hour social dance.

On Wednesday there were again six lesson times scheduled; I went to four: Waltz, Samba, then Rumba (2) and Tango (2) from the 'you-pick' set. In the evening there was a dinner, and also a demonstration by one of the BYU formation-dance-teams during a break in the two-hour practice time that followed.

Thursday was the high intensity day. There were seven class-periods scheduled, and only a 1-hour lunch break (as compared to the usual 2 hours for lunch and 2

hours for dinner) before the evening practice time began. As was the situation last year, I was somewhat concerned that I would not be able to memorize the waltz showcase dance sequence of 27 different pattern elements, but the instructor was right and the memorization came together on Thursday. After the Waltz and Samba classes, and the 'you-pick' classes of Rumba (2) and Tango (2), I went back to my room and took a short nap. In the evening, I practiced the showcase choreography with my dance partners, and with several other individuals whose dance partners were fatigued and thus not there that evening. It brought back to me the motto "You never really know something until you know it well enough to teach it to others", as I assisted those individuals who were really struggling, and for whom my explanations were quite helpful.

Friday I felt weary, but was also anticipating the performance as we went through the waltz showcase sequence again and again and again, with Dawid encouraging us as our patterns got tighter and tighter. My waltz partner dropped out, and I was assigned the student teaching assistant as my showcase partner. The 'you-pick' choices were West-Coast-Swing (2) and Paso Doble (1). First Paso Doble class ever, taken from an instructor (Izabela) for whom it was announced during the professional part of the showcase "had recently won a Latin sequence at the Championship

level at Blackpool!"

Friday night at 6 pm was the banquet, the student showcase, the teacher-showcase, and then open social dancing until 11:30 pm. The waltz sequence went very well, even though I'd only had a total of 10 minutes to practice with the TA. My cousin's son Joel joined the banquet as a spectator.

Given that this was my second time at this activity, why did I choose to return? Each year the featured dances are different, so it was not just-more-of-the-same. I like the way the instructors teach, especially Dawid and Natalie. I had learned how to manage my time and energy to get more learning from the same one week time duration. I knew what to expect, so it was easier to make the choices as to what to do and what to skip. Lastly, I had made some friends in 2016, whom I was looking forward to meeting and dancing with again.

Bottom-Line: Was it a good buy for the money? I think so. Did I learn a lot? Yes. Was it fun? Yes. Would I go again? As of now, I'm planning to go again next year. Do you want to sign up together and ride along or meet me there at BYU on July 30th, 2018? If you have any question about the dance camp, ask me when you see me, or give me a call.

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