

MINNESOTA

DANCER

September 2016



Dance Couple Having Fun
at the 2016 Tea Dance.

Photo by David Chin Photography





David Chin

PHOTOGRAPHY

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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.

Executive Editor/Layout: Tom Crable
Assistant Editor: Leland Whitney
Advertising: Tom Crable

Contributions: Articles submitted may be edited for length, clarity, content. Photos should be high-resolution jpg, png, or pdf files. Email submissions to tcrable3s@gmail.com.

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USA CHAPTER MONTHLY DANCES

September
Saturday, September 17

Cinema Ballroom
1560 St. Clair Ave, St. Paul

7-8 pm lesson - Viennese Waltz
Instructor: Grace Peterson
8-11 pm Variety Dance Music

October
Saturday, October 15

Dance With Us America
10 Southdale Center, Edina

7-8 pm lesson - Rumba
Instructor: Elena and Gene Bersten
8-11 pm Variety Dance Music

November
Saturday, November 19

Cinema Ballroom
1560 St. Clair Ave, St. Paul

Annual Meeting - 6:30
7-8 pm lesson - Hustle
Instructor: Spencer Loufek
8-11 pm Variety Dance Music

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

USA Dance-MN Chapter #2011 Board Minutes

Tuesday, June 7, 2016

Submitted by Leslie Whitney

In attendance: Lee Whitney (President), Jane Phipps (Treasurer), Leslie Whitney (Secretary), Carol Post, Joyce Thompson, Karen Maldonado, Dan Fitzgerald and Tom Crable.

Absent: Ed Soltis.

Guest: Gary Stroick.

Location: Lunds/Byerlys, 7171 France Ave. South, Edina.

Call Session to order:

1. Agenda – A motion was made, seconded and unanimously approved to accept the June agenda.
2. Confidentiality – Meeting discussions are confidential. Chapter minutes are posted in the Minnesota Dancer.
3. Minutes – May minutes were amended and a motion was made, seconded and unanimously approved to accept May minutes.
4. Treasurer's Report – Jane distributed the treasurer's report updated to May 31, 2016.
 - a. Budget updates and approval.
 - i. Budgets for the Communication and Election committees will be formalized at the July meeting.
5. Social Dance, Special Projects and Volunteer Coordinator Reports.
 - a. Monthly Dances.
 - i. June – DanceLife, east coast swing.
 - ii. July – Dancers Studio, night club two step.
 - iii. August – Costa Rica, waltz.
 - iv. September – Cinema, v. waltz.
 - v. October – Dance With Us America, rhumba.
 - vi. November – Cinema, hustle.
 - b. Special Events.
 - i. The Chapter #2011 25th Anniversary Event will be held on Sunday, September 25th,

at Dancers Studio.

c. Project Dance.

- i. June – Dancers Studio, night club two step.
- ii. July - Project Dance will not be held.
- iii. August – DanceLife, east coast swing.
- iv. September – Dance With Us America, tango.

d. Dancing Classrooms.

- i. An article written from a parent's perspective will be in the June Minnesota Dance.
- ii. The May 15th Colors of the Rainbow was a success and had media coverage.
- iii. 23 -27 classrooms are committed for 2016 fall semester.
- iv. There is a continued need for classroom teaching assistants. An article in the June Minnesota Dancer will provide information about this position.

6. Communications Coordinator Report.

- a. Due to Ed's absence we will table discussion and formalize this budget at the July meeting.
- b. The University of Minnesota, Twin Cities campus, is forming a Latin dance club and would like to advertise in the Minnesota Dancer. Tom asked that an article be written to inform and invite dancers to their club. A motion was made, seconded and approved to allow a ½ page add to introduce this newly formed club.
- c. Website, Facebook, Constant Contact – Chapter #2011 owns the Constant Contact subscription.
- d. A display poster with the USA Dance logo will be designed and printed to inform dancers of Chapter #2011's website, mission, and activities. This will be placed in the studios.

7. Membership Coordinator Report.

- a. June 30, 2015 – 386 members.
- b. June 30, 2016 – 327 members.

8. Abuse and Harassment Guidelines – Gary led an on-going discussion.

9. Location of next meeting.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, July 5, 2016

6:00 p.m.

Washburn Public Library, 5244 Lyndale Avenue S
Minneapolis 55419

USA Dance-MN Chapter #2011 Board Minutes

Tuesday, July 7, 2016

Submitted by Leslie Whitney

In attendance: Lee Whitney (President), Leslie Whitney (Secretary), Carol Post, Joyce Thompson, Karen Maldonado, Dan Fitzgerald and Tom Crable.

Absent: Ed Soltis and Jane Phipps.

Guest: Gary Stroick.

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

Call Session to order:

1. Agenda – A motion was made, seconded and unanimously approved to accept the July agenda.
2. Confidentiality – Meeting discussions are confidential. Chapter minutes are posted in the Minnesota Dancer.
3. Minutes – June minutes were amended and a motion was made, seconded and unanimously approved to accept June minutes.
4. Treasurer's Report – Jane Phipps was absent and the board will wait until the August meeting to formally accept the treasurer's report.
 - a. The board will build into the budget money for the Nominations and Election Committee. Due to Jane's absence this will be formalized at the August meeting.
5. Appointment of chapter Nominations and Election Committee – A motion was made, seconded and unanimously approved to appoint Karen Maldonado, Bonnie Burton and Gary Stroick to be on the chapter's Nominations and Election Committee. Gary Stroick will serve as committee chairperson.
6. Social Dance, Special Projects and Volunteer Coordinator Reports.
 - a. Monthly Dance.
 - i. August – Costa Rica, waltz.
 - ii. September – Cinema, v. waltz.
 - iii. October – Dance With Us America, rhumba.
 - iv. November – Cinema, hustle.
 - v. December - N'Motion Dance Center, bolero.
 - b. Special Events.
 - i. The Chapter #2011 25th Anniversary Event will be held on Sunday, September 25th, Midpointe Event Center, Grand Ballroom.

-
- c. Project Dance.
 - i. August – DanceLife Ballroom, east coast swing.
 - ii. September – Dance With Us America, tango.
 - iii. October - To be announced.
 - iv. November – N'Motion Dance Center, salsa.
 - d. Dancing Classrooms.
 - i. There is a continued need for classroom teaching assistants.
 - ii. 25 classrooms, 10 schools are committed to this program for fall, 2016.
7. Communications Coordinator Report.
- a. Website, Facebook, Constant Contact – Nothing unusual reported.
 - b. A display poster with the USA Dance logo will be designed and printed to inform dancers of Chapter #2011's website, mission, and activities. This will be placed in the studios. Tom and Carol will design this poster.
8. Membership Coordinator Report.
- a. June 30, 2015 – 386 members.
 - b. June 30, 2016 – 327 members.
9. Abuse and Harassment Guidelines – Gary led an on-going discussion.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, August 2nd, 2016

6:00 p.m.

Washburn Public Library

5244 Lyndale Avenue S

Minneapolis 55419

Grand Ball 2016

A Celebration of 25 years

Your invitation from USA Dance –Minnesota Chapter #2011

Join old friends and new ones along with members of the dance community in a celebration of 25 years of dance. Enjoy an elegant evening that includes a sit down dinner, entertainment and dancing. Dress to impress!



When: Sunday September 25, 2016

*Where: MidPointe Event Center
415 Pascal Street N
St Paul, Minnesota 55104*

*Time: 5:00-9:00pm
Dinner served 5:45pm*

*Reserved seating-table of eight \$50.00 per person
Reserved table seating- single tickets \$55.00 per person*

*Dance Only Reserved- \$20.00 per person
At door purchase- Dance only \$30.00 per person (as available)*

For Reservations** contact Sharon Kennedy at sk.dance8@gmail.com or phone: 612-308-9022. Reservations can also be made at the USA Dance monthly dances.

*****Dinner Reservations close on September 17, 2016***





Beginner American Tango

Sunday, September 11th - 2:00 pm

Sunday, September 18th - 2:00 pm

Sunday, September 25th - 2:00 pm

Classes with Elena Bersten at



10 Southdale Center

Edina, MN 55435

(Bottom floor near JC Penny & Gordman's)

612.564.5483



www.usadance-minnesota.org

info@usadance-minnesota.org

USA Dance offers dance instruction to members for \$3. Members who joined for the first time in 2015 attend free up to their 2016 membership expiration date, after that they pay \$3. Non-members pay \$8. Become a member of USA Dance at membership.usadance.org. A different professional instructor teaches a new dance at a different location every month.

DANCER'S NIGHT OUT

USA DANCE

USA Dance – Monthly, 3rd Saturday Variety Dance, September 17, at Cinema Ballroom, lesson 7-8 pm and dance 8-11 pm. Lesson - V. Waltz. Instructor: Grace Peterson.

Project Dance - Sundays, September 11, 18 and 25, Dance With Us America, 2 pm to 3:30 pm, lesson: Beginner American Tango with Instructor Elena Bersten.

WEEKLY DANCES

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

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

DanceLife – 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 WEEKLY DANCES

American Classic – Sunday Pizza Practice Parties, September 4 and 18, 7 – 8:30 pm.

Café Bailar Dance Club – Saturday Variety Party, September 10 and 24, at Costa Rica Ballroom, lesson 7:30 – 8:30 pm and dance 8:30 - 11 pm.

Cinema Ballroom – Variety Dance, September 2 and 16, lesson 7 – 8 pm and dance 8 – 11 pm.

Cinema Ballroom - Sunday Night Dancing with The Jerry O'Hagan Orchestra, September 11 and 25, 6:15 to 10 pm.

DanceLife Ballroom - 1st Saturday, September 3, lesson 7 - 8 pm and dance 8 - 10 pm.

Tapestry – Variety Dances, 1st and 3rd Sundays, September 4 and 18 , dance 6 – 9:30 pm.

Twin Cities Rebels – WCS and Variety Dance, September 4 and 18, at DanceLife Ballroom, 7 – 10:30 pm.

OTHER DANCES

Argentine Tango Milonga, Second Saturday of the Month, September 10, class at 8:30 pm, dance 9:30 pm to 1 AM, for more information see mntango.org.

Cinema Ballroom, The Production 2016, variety dance show, September 23 and 24, starting at 7:30 pm.

Grand Ball 2016, September 25, from 5 to 9 pm, at MidPointe Event Center. See ad for more information.

Annual USA Dance Showcase, Mall of America in the Rotunda, Wednesday, October 26, 2016, showcase from 7:30 to 8:30 pm. For more information contact Yvonne Viehman, 763-245-7936 or danvman@aol.com.

DANCE CONTACTS

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

STUDIOS

AMERICAN CLASSIC BALLROOM
550 Market Street, Chanhassen
952.934.0900
www.acballroom.com

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

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

CINEMA BALLROOM
1560 St. Clair Ave, St. Paul
651.699.5910
www.cinemaballroom.com

COSTA RICA BALLROOM DANCE
STUDIOS
816 Mainstreet, Hopkins
952.303.3339
www.costaricaballroom.com

DAHL DANCE CENTER
4204 North Hwy 52, Rochester
507.252.1848
www.dahldance.com

DANCE AND ENTERTAINMENT
651.605.5784
tricia@danceandentertainment.com
www.danceandentertainment.com

DANCE WITH US AMERICA
10 Southdale Center, Edina
612-564-5483
www.dancewithusamerica.com

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

DANCERS STUDIO
415 Pascal Street N, Saint Paul
651.641.0777
www.dancersstudio.com

DE Studios
3701 W Old Shakopee Rd, Bloomington
952-392-9631
www.de-studios.com

FOUR SEASONS DANCE STUDIO
1637 Hennepin Ave S, Minneapolis
612.342.0902
www.fourseasonsdance.com

FRED ASTAIRE DANCE STUDIO
1975 Seneca Road, Eagan, MN
651.451.6300
www.FredAstaireMN.com

MILL CITY BALLROOM
www.millcityballroom.com

'N MOTION DANCE CENTER
7988 University Avenue NE, Fridley
763-571-6180
www.nMotionDanceCenter.com

NORTH STAR DANCE STUDIO
Bloomington, MN
612.799.4147
Facebook.com/northstar.dancestudio

RENDEZVOUS DANCE STUDIO
Minneapolis
612.872.1562
www.theplacetodance.com

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

CLUBS

CAFÉ BAILAR
www.cafebailar.com

LADANZA DANCE CLUB
Stillwater, MN
651.439.3152
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
bdc@umn.edu
ls.gd/umnbdcc

USA DANCE, MINNESOTA
CHAPTER 2011
info@usadance-minnesota.org
www.usadance-minnesota.org

DANCE INSTRUCTORS

Amy Anderson	612.816.5904
Scott Anderson	612.816.4446
Wanda Bierbrauer	651.439.3152
Rachel Damiani	612.718.6823
Nathan Daniels	763.464.1021
Jennelle Donnay	651.357.2060
Julie Delene	612.598.5355
Donna Edelstein	612.910.2690
Jennifer Foster	952.922.8316
Robert Foster	952.922.8316
Esther Granbois	612.872.1562
Lindsey Rebecca Hall	612.940.9546
Bonnie Inveen	612.978.9371
Julie Jacobson	651.261.6442
Lukas Klotzsche	561.502.2822
Jay Larson	651.387.3886
Kristina Lee	715.821.9039
Deanne Michael	612.508.9255
Monica Mohn	612.874.0747
Mariusz Olszewski	612.242.5159
Mary Rosenstiel	612.720.2584
Char Torkelson	612.709.6399
Lisa Vogel	651.208.0818
James Wood	651.242.2421

COMPETITION CALENDAR

Sep 10, 2016

Kansas City Dance Classic

Organized by Matt & Ellen Pansing, Overland Park, KS

Sept. 30 – Oct. 2, 2016

Carolina Fall Classic – 2017 NQE

Organized by Wayne & Marie Crowder, Charlotte, NC

October 28-30, 2016

Chicago DanceSport Challenge - 2017 NQE

Hosted by Chicagoland Chapter #2001, Hyatt O'Hare Hotel, Chicago IL

December 3, 2016

California State DanceSport Championships - 2017 NQE

Hosted by NorCal Chapter #4004, San Jose Civic - San Jose, CA

January 14 - 16, 2017

Manhattan Amateur Classic (The MAC) - 2017 NQE

Hosted by Greater New York Chapter #3004, Hyatt Regency, Jersey City, NJ

February 3 - 5, 2017

2017 Southeastern DanceSport Championships - 2017 NQE

Birmingham, AL

LYNNE'S DANCE NEWS

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

www.lynnesdancenews.com

Dance address book also on the website.



PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Leland and Leslie Whitney are preparing for National Qualifying Events for the 2017 National Championships.

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

The Chapter's 25th Anniversary! Congratulations to the many members and contributors to USA Dance Minnesota Chapter #2011 who started and maintained this organization for so many years. Please come and celebrate with our founders, Chapter members and supporters at the

Grand Ball 2016, Sunday, September 25

5:00–9:00 PM



A Picture is Worth a Thousand Words by the Grand Ball Committee

Would you like to see you or your dancing friends in pictures? The Grand Ball Committee could make that happen with a little help from you. We are beginning to collect pictures of people, activities and dance events of USA Dance (USABDA-MN) from 1991 through 2016. The pictures will be compiled as a visual history of the chapter. Especially needed are pictures for years 1991- 2004. Your photos will be scanned and shown at the Grand Ball on September 25.

Be part of this project by submitting your photos and join us at the Grand Ball on September 25.

To forward your pictures to:

Carol Post

email: carol.postinslp@gmail.com

mail: Carol Post, 3600 France Ave South, St Louis Park, Minnesota 55416

phone : 952 926 7648 (All hard copy pictures will be returned)



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

Tips on Dance Costume Care

by Deborah J. Nelson/Satin Stitches Ltd.

We are heading into another Fall season, after a (hopefully) relaxed summer. Now is the time to pull out your dance costumes and check on their condition for the upcoming competition season. Do they need refurbishing? Do they need some minor (or major) repairs? Do they need to be deodorized? Do they need to be cleaned?

Custom dance costumes are an investment. You normally don't buy a costume for just one performance, so, in order to wear your gorgeous garments for many performances, you need to take the proper steps to keep them in good repair.

Many problems can occur with the longevity of dance costumes, simply because the wearer doesn't know how to properly care for them and ends up neglecting them. Because I have always wanted the best for our Satin Stitches' custom designed dance costumes, even AFTER they leave our shop, I have published many

articles and blogs to help our clients care for their costumes. Unfortunately, however, sometimes the information is ignored and costumes are neglected. Or if they are group dance team costumes or uniforms, maybe a new person is now in charge of them and hasn't seen our information?

The most important tip I can offer for the caring and laundering of your dance costumes is to treat your costumes specially. Dance costumes are manufactured out of specialty fabrics and trims that are generally more fragile than the fabrics used in your everyday apparel.

Never machine wash and/or dry-clean a dance costume. Generally, dance costumes cannot be laundered by throwing them in the washing machine or sending them to your local dry-cleaning establishment.

Please recognize that spot-cleaning is often the only laundering option for some fabrics. Here is a link to my blog that describes

how to spot clean your dance costume. <http://www.satinstitches.com/blog/bid/188807/Hot-Costume-Care-Tip-Spot-Cleaning>. I have many other blogs that deal with all sorts of laundering/care issues.

To prevent permanent costume damage, take proactive steps to eliminate permanent damage and odors from perspiration in your costumes. Long sleeved dance costumes are particularly susceptible to underarm stains that can affect the integrity of the fabrics and create set-in odors. We have several articles posted to our Costume Care page on our website, including "Girls DO Sweat! Tips for Sweaty Costumes". http://cdn2.hubspot.net/hubfs/127830/docs/Girls_Do_Sweat.pdf?t=1471619569122. An added insight into the laundering of any costume or gown that may have rhinestones or beads that have been glued on...if you don't know what glue was used, you may have a nasty surprise awaiting you, if you take your garment

to be dry-cleaned. Dry-cleaning fluids can disintegrate certain glues, and all or many of your rhinestones or beads could come off. Dry-cleaners may or may not ask you to sign a waiver stating that if this happens, it isn't their fault. And really, no, it isn't their fault.

I trust Loctite® gel super glue – I have tested it with the dry-cleaning establishment that we use, here at Satin Stitches for the permanent attaching of rhinestones and beads. If your dry-cleaner asks you to sign this waiver – be advised that the best plan is to NOT dry-clean your garment!

I have published a “Hot Costume Care Tip of the Month” as part of our Satin Stitches monthly e-News, which can be accessed at <http://www.satinstitches.com/costume-eneews>. Additionally, we have assembled all of these tips and published them in e-Books, ‘8 Steps to Keep Your Costumes Fresh’ and ‘11 Tips for Caring For Your Costumes’. They are free and available for download on our website. Our other e-Books, ‘7 Tips For Repairing Your Costume’ and ‘5 Costume Budget Savings & Planning Tips’, may not directly address laundering issues, but still include information that can help you make wise decisions regarding your repair and costume selection. I welcome you to take advantage of all of this free information, it may help to extend your costume's life! Here is a link: <http://www.satinstitches.com/ebooks>

If you have followed my blogs over the years, by now you should be aware of a product I wholly endorse: FRESH AGAIN®, an odor eliminator that can help to preserve your performance costumes and keep them smelling brand new. I have personally tested it for safeness on all types of costume fabrics and trims and have not once been disappointed!

Bottom line: Don't neglect your dance costumes! Keep them smelling fresh and in good repair. That way, you can retire your costumes when you are tired of them rather than being forced to retire them because they won't last through another performance.



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Save the Date
26 October 2016
for
Mall of America
Dance Showcase

Date: Wednesday, October 26, 2016

Time: 7:30 - 8:30 pm

Arrive and check-in by 7 pm.

Place: Rotunda at Mall of America

Please let Yvonne know if you are interested in performing any numbers! We're looking for lots of dancers - such as formation teams, as well as couples to perform smooth and/or rhythm routines in costume at silver level or higher to showcase the joy of dancing!

The venue is the wonderful Rotunda at the Mall of America! We ask that all dancers arrive and check in by 7 pm. If you want to forward to other dance friends, please feel free to spread the word as we want to fill the Rotunda floor with lots of dancers!

We are also looking for volunteers to assist with the following: photography, costume assistants and on-deck captains.

If you have any questions, please let me know. It's just three months away, so let's get ready to have some fun!

Thanks so much for sharing in this event.

All the best to you,

Yvonne Viehman
USA Dance-MN Demo Coordinator
Cell: 763.245.7936
danvman@aol.com



Stardust

Dinner & Dance Club



We welcome you to Dine & Dance with us.



Swing



Rumba



Fox Trot

Samba



Mambo



Tango



Cha Cha

Waltz

September 23, 2016

at

The Woman's Club

410 Oak Grove Street ([map](#))
Minneapolis, MN 55403

Cocktails :6:15 p.m. Dinner 7:00 p.m.

Dancing:8-11 p.m. Kico Rangel

Guests Welcome

✂ Please send meal ticket with check

First time guests do not pay Guest Fee.

All other non-members pay a guest fee.

GUEST DINNER ORDER FORM 2016-2017			
Names:			
Address:			
E-mail:		Phone:	
September 23, 2016	Woman's Club	Mail by: September 16	
Cocktails: 6:15 p.m.	Dinner: 7:00 p.m.	Dancing: 8-11 p.m.	
Prices includes room charge, tax & tips		Band: Kico Rangel	
All dinners includes salad, veggies, rolls & beverage			
Herb Crusted Pork Tenderloin w/Dijon Sauce	\$40	#	AMT \$
Mushroom Ravioli w/Pistachios, Tomato Confit & Pecorino	\$40	#	AMT \$
All Non-Members add \$20 per couple Guest Fee First time guests do not pay Guest Fee		#	AMT \$
Make check to: Stardust Dance Club		TOTAL AMT \$	
1006 Hill Ct, Lexington Estates, Shoreview, MN 55126 (Carol Whitman)			

Q:

There seems to be a lot of dancers/teachers with different titles; champion of something or other. What do they all mean? How are championships decided? I'm confused!

Donna says:

Titles can be very confusing to understand. For starters, they come in three main categories -- Pro/Am titles which are for students dancing with teachers, Amateur titles which are for two amateurs dancing together and Professional titles which are for two Professionals dancing together.

To be used correctly, titles should clearly state what division they were achieved in -- Pro/Am, Amateur or Professional -- what level of dancing they were achieved in.

For example: Pro/Ams can achieve United States and some World titles in bronze and silver levels of dancing as well as Rising Star and Open. Professionals can achieve titles in both the Rising Star and Open divisions. Dancers can be Champions of individual Championship competitions, or nationally sanctioned title events. A Professional or Pro/Am Competitor earns a United

States Champion designation only at The United States DanceSport Championships. An Amateur Competitor earns their title at USA Dance Nationals. The two major chain schools, Arthur Murray and Fred Astaire, also hold their own United States Championships closed to members of their organizations.

The NDCA (National Dance Council of America) World title events for Professional American Style and Pro/Am Dancing is held at The Ohio Star Ball each November. Other world events are also held for Pro/Am dancers by other sanctioning bodies.

The top two dancers in our amateur and professional international standard and latin divisions represent our country internationally in world title events. World events change venues each year.

It is also extremely prestigious to win Blackpool, also known as the Open British Championships. Within most of these competi-

tions there are also age groups. If someone is a youth or Under 21 or Senior champion they should use that designation as well. Former champions should use the word 'former' in front of their title after the year in which they have achieved the title.

Finalists (meaning that they have placed in the top 6) at United States, World, Open British, and other major events will use the Finalist designation.

Hopefully this will help sort of some of the Championship confusion.



Donna Edelstein is a coach, judge and organizer of the Snow Ball DanceSport Competition.

www.donnawrites@msn.com or 763-557-6006

Paul Says:

It certainly can be confusing and she said it all!



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

www.acballroom.com

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Following is NOT Easy by Paul Stachour

Installment 2 of 2

Leader's Observations of Paul as a Follower

Paul Stachour works in software quality assurance for life critical systems. He is a social dancer with bronze-level competition experience. He was trained by Harry Benson in the "Learning to be a Dance Teacher" classes, and has taught dance part-time for five years. He is also DVIDA certified to teach American Style Waltz at the associate (bronze) level.

I know that, for a leader, it can be much more challenging to lead someone who does not yet follow well than someone who can perceive what is being led, and interpret that lead appropriately. To summarize from last month's installment A, I know that I need to work on perception, connection, and rotation in the follower role. However, that is not the full story. What would the typical leader who has danced with me say that I need to work on. They might answer: "Anticipation, Connection, and Displacement".

First, when one is partner-dancing, and dancing in the follower role, one should not anticipate. Unlike competitive or exhibition

dancing, where the moves are choreographed and known; in partner dancing the moves are not known in advance. This is both part of the fun and part of the problem. As a follower, I should not dance before the beat; nor should I anticipate the next pattern to be led. It is easy, especially when beginning in a group lesson setting, to just dance what one knows is coming next. But it is not correct for a follower to do so. I have been accused of anticipating by numerous partners; I have excused myself by indicating that I was not anticipating, that I was just not paying close enough attention. OK, OK. Whether it was anticipation on my part, or lack of perception on my part, the fault is mine.

Allow me to provide an example from Cha-Cha. The leader leads a cross-body lead. When I put my left foot down and rotate on beat two, I must be careful to not put my right foot down; not even the right

foot's toe. If I do, I'm braking the turn/rotation, thus preventing the leader from the option of giving me a longer (whee!) rotation.

The second item is connection. What!? Connection again? Did I not already mention connection? Sigh. It is one thing when I realize that my connection skills are not up-to-par. It is something else when my dance-partner is indicating that I have connection issues. OK, OK. So I do have spaghetti arms. My frame collapses because I have spaghetti arms. I need to learn to hold the arms more rigid, and not let them collapse. In particular, to always keep my arms solidly in front of my body.

Allow me to provide an example from West-Coast-Swing. If I allow the leader to push my arm back towards my body (and hopefully not behind my body, that would be even weaker spaghetti), that means that

the leader cannot turn me properly. That is why it took me about 6 months to be able to do the whip correctly, and why I still often get it wrong, moving as an individual and not as part of a pair. My dance partner accuses me of inattention, and I plead guilty.

Third, how do I explain the displacement comment? Displacement is a vector quantity, with both direction and distance components. The leader might indicate that I rotate slightly more or less than what is led. I am now facing in slightly the wrong direction, which means that my next step will not be in the desired direction. The leader might indicate that I take my steps either too short or too long. Either situation means that we do not get the desired distance, perhaps giving us a choppy look instead of a flowing look.

Allow me to provide an example from Foxtrot. If I am not oriented directionally with my partner, we could wind up further inside, further outside, or misoriented. If I am not moving my feet the right distance, we do don't look good either. Since either of these has us moving to an unintended place, the leader might accuse me of trying to lead. What? Me try to lead? OK, OK. I am preventing the leader from determining what the pair is to do; and have us doing something else. This is described as back leading. Yes, back-leading is leading, even if the movement is unintentional. Sigh.

While I find it a lot more fun to dance with leaders such as Linda, who knows (and leads!) lots of different (west-coast-swing) patterns, I also find it more difficult. There is more to distinguish, making perception harder. The two of us dance

to the faster music, making keeping the connection harder. And she leads patterns with more direction-changing rotations, making my rotation harder. I must maintain my connection with a good dance frame, sharpen my perception skills to a variety of dance tempos, dancing patterns with direction-changing rotations. I am not complaining about the increased difficulty of me perceiving and acting on what is led. But those actions do reinforce my initial statement that following is not easy. Challenging my dance skills has the effect of making dancing more enjoyable for me, and hopefully for my dance-partner as well. Isn't that the goal: to make dancing fun!



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NEWS FROM USA DANCE & THE WDSF:

WDSF GRANDSLAM DANCESPORT COMES TO AMERICAN PUBLIC TELEVISION September/October 2016

USA Dance in collaboration with the World DanceSport Federation (WDSF) are bringing the six-part 2015 World DanceSport GrandSlam Series to American Public Television stations around the country beginning September 6, 2016. This new DanceSport programming for America showcases the world's best Standard and Latin dancers in a six-episode abridged series that covers the two regular legs of the series held in Helsinki, Finland, then Wuhan, China in Hong Kong and Moscow, Russia, progressing to the Finals in Shanghai.



Dmitry Zharkov - Olga Kulikova
-Russia

The first four episodes will focus on the highly competitive semi-final and final rounds for each style and an up-close-and-personal look at the competitors.

The GrandSlam Series will be hosted by dance legend Peter Maxwell. He will be introducing the revolutionary judging system to the American audiences, a system whereby the judges no longer compare one couple with the others on the dance floor, but focus on each couple individually and award points on an absolute scale.

APT Preview & Stations:

<https://www.aptonline.org/...WORLD+DANCESPORT+GRANDSLAM+Series>

(Click on the blue “where to watch” button and enter your zip code to find stations in your area broadcasting the GrandSlam Series. Your city not listed? Contact your APT station and tell them you want to see this program!)

More About Host Peter Maxwell: Peter Maxwell has been principal coach to some of the most successful couples in the history of dancing. He has served as the Chairman of Judges for the Blackpool Dance Festival, as well as the World DanceSport Grand-

Slam Series. He is the Honorary Life President of DanceSport England and the WDSF Professional Division.

WDSF GrandSlam Standard Series - Episode 1

Dancing legend Peter Maxwell invites viewers to leave the confines of a ballroom and to take a look at how true athletes make a challenging sport of dance as they compete in the World DanceSport GrandSlam Standard Series.



Bjorn Bitsch - Ashli Williamson_
Denmark

In a whirlwind tour that brings them from Europe to Asia and back to Europe, top dancers in gowns and tails perform at sporting venues and in front of massive audiences. Provided they make the six-couple final, they

get a shot at good prize money and maximum ranking points at each leg of the Series.

tion - semi-final plus final - and provides a closer look at some of the protagonists.

The biggest names in the Standard dances meet at regular intervals throughout the year and at established locations on two continents for the uniquely sporty and fair match-up between couples.

WDSF GrandSlam Latin Series - Episode 2

Peter Maxwell is the once again host to this hour featuring DanceSport of the kind you may not have seen before. There is plenty of glitz and glamour that surrounds it, but once the world's best face off against each other on the floor, the focus is on the sporting action that combines perfect technique with artistry and outstanding athleticism in a highly aesthetic performance.

WDSF produces the television coverage on all Grand Slam legs jointly with the host broadcaster to ensure that the highest standards are maintained. It brings its own director and other key production personnel to all locations in order to capture the spectacular action on the floor with great consistency.

The six episodes on American Public Television cover the Latin and Standard of the last two regular legs of the Series plus the Finals in Shanghai. Each episode focuses on the decisive stages in the Latin or Standard competi-

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DanceSport Supporter*	\$40	\$	This category of membership is designed for those who are not active competing athletes but who want to show support for the DanceSport initiatives of USA Dance. This would include former athletes, parents or other family members of athletes, and general supporters who would like their voice counted on DanceSport matters.
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