

MINNESOTA

Dancin' Times



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

September 1998

DANCERS NITE OUT

Medina Ballroom (Thursdays, 8pm) 478-6661
Shakopee Ballroom (Fridays, 8:30 pm) 445-0412
Wabasha Street Caves (Thursdays, 7:30pm) 224-1191
MN West Coast Swing Club 731-9768 or 730-4468
Rebels Swing Dance Club 941-0906
Rendevous Ballroom 728-3792
The Manor (Fridays, Saturdays, 8:30pm) 690-1771

Sat 9/5 DanceSport Studio Regular Dance, Lesson 7 p.m.,
Dance at 8 p.m. DanceSport Studio, Knollwood Mall,
Hwy 169 and Hwy 7, 938-0048.

Sun 9/6 Rebels Swing Dance Club, Regular Dance, Lesson
6:30 p.m., Dance at 7 p.m. Everett McClay VFW,
Bloomington, 3127 E. 78th Street, 941-0906

Fri 9/11 MN West Coast Swing Club - Regular Dance, B-Dale
2100 N. Dale St. 731-9768 or 730-4468

Sat 9/12 Swedish Apple Pie Ball Room Dance, Twin Cities
Ballroom, Tango Group Class 8:00 p.m. Theatre Art
Demo, Dancing 9-12, \$10 at the door, Student with
ID: \$5, 695-1582 or 292-8463.

Fri 9/18 Dancer's Studio Showcase, Twin Cities Ballroom, 7-
11 pm., St Paul, \$15 in advance, \$17 at the door.
Call 641-0777

Sat 9/19 USABDA Dance - Dance Sport Studio

Sun 9/20 Rebels Swing Dance Club, Regular Dance, Lesson
6:30 p.m., Dance at 7 p.m. Everett McClay VFW,
Bloomington, 3127 E. 78th Street, 941-0906

Fri 9/25 MN West Coast Swing Club - Regular Dance, B-Dale
2100 N. Dale St. 731-9768 or 730-4468

Sat 9/26 - Rebels Swing Dance Club, Private Lessons

Sun 9/27 Saturday, Timothy Auclair & Michele Wells,
Workshops Sunday, Everett McClay VFW,
Bloomington, 3127 E. 78th Street, 941-0906

Sun 9/27 USABDA Grand Ball, First Trust Center, Dance
6:30 - 10:30 pm. 483-5467

USABDA-MN Presents:

Farewell to Summer Dance

DanceSport Studio
Knollwood Mall
Hwy 169 and Hwy 7

Lesson
\$3

Students
\$5

Samba
Lesson

Members
\$7

Nonmembers
\$10

Saturday, September 19
Group class 7:30 - 8:30 PM
Dance 8:30 - 11:30 PM

Remember the Grand Ball is
September 27th. Don't forget
to buy your tickets.

USABDA HOTLINE
(612) 483-5467

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

What Is USABDA? Who Are We?

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

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

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

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

(612) 483-5467

Minnesota Dancin' Times

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

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

\$15 per year

Make checks payable to **USABDA-MN** and send to:
Carol Post Stroick 3600 France Ave South, St Louis Park,
MN 55416-4735

ADVERTISING

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

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

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

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

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

DEADLINE

All materials due the 10th of each month.

All questions regarding the newsletter should be directed to:

Editor-in-chief: Janis Livingston (612)481-1017
Copy Editor: Greg Moore
Newsletter Layout: Julie Chase
Newsletter Ads: Jim Baker (612) 476-4843



Send address changes to:

Membership
3600 France Ave
St Louis Park, MN 55416



Notes From the Board

by *Melanie Helvig*
USABDA Chapter Secretary

* The meeting was called to order by Gary Stroick, Vice President, at 7:28 p.m. Nineteen people were present.

* The treasurer reported that 52 squares of the floor had been purchased to date --- \$2,860 worth --- with approximately \$18,000 more to go.

* Membership: We have 234 members, 174 subscribers, 51 instructors.

* Grand Ball: Tickets are available. Call Mike Youngdahl 699-4857 or e-mail ek865@aol.com

* Newsletter: Jeff and Cindy Nehrbass donated a computer, keyboard and mouse, John Dickerson donated a monitor. A grateful thank you goes out to them! A printer is still needed.

* Volunteers: Fees for dances will be waived for door workers, beverage person and D.J's

* Discussion about floor payment and need for fundraising will continue in committee. We will hear more later as that is instituted.

* Dances: Sept 19 Dance Sport

Sept 27 Grand Ball First Trust Center

Oct 17 Dance Shoppe

next meeting: Tuesday Sept 1, 1998, 7:30 pm, Teacher Federal Credit Union, Golden Valley.

Competitor's Column

Includes regional and USABDA events

Star of the North 1999

March 19-21. First Trust Center, St Paul. See Julie Chase or Steve Vespested for information. 228-1557

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

FIRST CLASS MAILING

Dancin' Times is mailed bulk rate so it is affordable and stays within the cost budget. However, the post office can take as long as they want to deliver bulk rate mail. You may be not getting your newsletter as fast as you want. Here's a solution: Send Carol Post-Stroick an extra \$6 per year for your newsletter and we will send it out First Class.

Name:

Address:

Phone: (with new area code)

Enclosed is \$6 for First Class Mail of The Dancin' Times

*Your presence is requested
at USABDA's 7th Annual*

Grand Ball

Sunday, September 27

From 6:30 to 10:30 pm

at the First Trust Center

5th & Jackson in St. Paul

*Tickets are \$20 advance
\$25 at the door*

- * Cash Prizes * Fabulous Food*
- * The Best in Music, Dancing & Fun*
- * Dance the Night Away on Our New Floor*
- * Professional and Amateur Exhibitions*
- * Music by Pete Maki & Joyce Thompson*



Semi-formal attire is requested.

*For advance tickets, call Mike Youngdahl prior to September 20 at
(612) 699-4857.*

WORLDANCE '98 Wows the World!

By Yvonne & Dan Viehman

The experience of the WORLDANCE '98 for most of us was nothing short of "our wildest dream come true." The dream that some day, some how, DanceSport would be mentioned in the same breath as Ice Dancing.

During the weeks that preceded the WORLDANCE '98, it was clear the ads were getting the word out to the general public. The excitement was escalating through the tireless efforts of Scott & Amy Anderson, Jeannie LaFavor, Tom Severson, et al.

There were special dance appearances by Scott Anderson & Kathy Rotter and Julie Jacobson & Jay Larson in Ken Barlow's backyard on KARE-11, as well as at the IDS Center

Crystal Court. Radio highlighted the event's coming with a special live interview with Marci McHenry on MPR.

The precursor to the grand Target Center extravaganza was Twin Cities Open DanceSport Competition held at the Minneapolis Convention Center, July 10-12. With double the entries over last year, it seemed that everyone wanted in on the action and excitement. After all, it was the only comp offering live goldfish in bowls as table centerpieces! And the riser-style seating gave just about everyone a good look at the dancing.

The Friday night showcase at TCO featured a "standing-room-only" crowd with many of the finest professional competitors from all around the United States, as well as top-ranked amateur and Pro-Am performances from juniors on up.

.....
"If they
danced
on ice,
it would
melt..."
.....

Memorable TCO Moments

★ "The Unforgettable Award" was presented to Ms. Lotti Allison in grateful acknowledgement of her outstanding contributions to the art and sport of ballroom dancing in Minnesota;

★ The special "Hall of Fame" award presented to Ms. Doris Pease for publishing the largest U.S. ballroom dance magazine, *Dancing USA*;

★ The paso doble and jive routines by two 11-year-olds from Milwaukee, Ashley Hanneken and Josh Murillo wowed the audience with their style and high-energy flicks and kicks. Look out world when they turn eighteen!

★ Carol Post Stroick and Gary Stroick's befeathered theatre arts routine was a real crowd pleaser on Friday afternoon;

★ The semi-final professional rounds nearly set the floor on fire (*smoke was actually seen coming from Jay Larson's shoes — luckily, fire extinguishers were close at hand*). Over 30 of the nation's hottest couples vied for a moment in Saturday's WORLDANCE '98 spotlights.

Candlelights, Elegant Music, and More

"If they danced on ice, it would melt." How true this advertisement was for the WORLDANCE '98. Some onlookers said, "We felt like we'd died and gone to ballroom dancer's heaven..." USABDA's gleaming 50 by 100 foot dance floor at the base of the Target Center, the Duke Ellington Orchestra, romantic candlelighting and white linen-clad tables circled the dance floor. By Minnesota standards, this event was akin to Hollywood's night at the Oscars.

The show opened with the booming voice of Mr. John DePalma, the notable emcee from the PBS Series "*Championship Ballroom Dancing*." Over 100 top-notch dancers from The Dance Shoppe in Plymouth rushed onto the floor to the ever-popular quickstep tune "Sing, Sing, Sing."

(continued on next page)

THE WORLDANCE '98 (continued)

We wanted to jump out of our seats and join in the fun. Their colorful costumes and vibrant energy was a testament to the fact that we were in for the time of our lives! Seven thousand cheering fans roared with applause setting the stage for an action-packed, sequin-studded evening.

During the professional rounds, the audience was invited to match wits with the judges to determine where these couples should rank. As the dances unfolded, the results were quickly tabulated. Representatives from Fraser Community Services presented flowers and trophies to what they thought were the "kings" and "queens" of ballroom dancing!

The audience roared at times so loud that we sat there in awe of the whole event. Jay Larson said afterwards, "It was just incredible...the feeling when Julie and I walked out onto that floor for the first time....we were just stunned...the audience was really in to it. It was great!"

Memorable moments included Eddie Simon and Michelle Officer's "I'm so pretty" number with the mirror; Jennifer Foster's theatrical ride high above the dance floor; and lastly, the fog-spewing Harley motorcycle routine that surprised Bea Beddor more than anyone -- performed by Alain Doucet and Anik Jolicoeur.

Just like many other spectator sports, Twin Citians had the opportunity to root for the hometown favorites of Robert & Jennifer Foster and Julie Jacobson & Jay Larson. That Minnesota spirit paid off. The Fosters took first with their Theatre Arts performance in the "All-Star Challenge" segment and Julie and Jay took a very respectable Third Place finish in American Rhythm.

Results from The WORLDANCE '98

American Smooth

- 1st David Hamilton & Olga Foraponova
- 2nd Edward Simon & Michelle Officer
- 3rd Michael Mead & Toni Redpath
- 4th Ben Ermis & Shalene Archer
- 5th Jonathan Roberts & Roberta Sun
- 6th Paul Holmes & Suzanne Phillips

American Rhythm

- 1st Bob Powers & Julia Gorchakova
- 2nd Dan Rutherford & Nicole Collins
- 3rd Jay Larson & Julie Jacobson
- 4th Robert & Jennifer Foster
- 5th Roberto Pagan & Loriann Greenhouse
- 6th Nichy Vegas & Lisa Mancuso

International Standard

- 1st Alain Doucet & Anik Jolicoeur
- 2nd Michael Mead & Toni Redpath
- 3rd Paul Holmes & Suzanne Phillips
- 4th Ben Ermis & Shalene Archer
- 5th Ian Folker & Maria Klubkova
- 6th Steve Brockman & Nancy Covi

International Latin

- 1st Bill Sparks & Kimberly Mitchell
- 2nd Stephan Champagne & Manon Hurteau
- 3rd Donald Johnson & Katarzyna Kozak
- 4th Ingvar Geirsson & Leslie Spearin
- 5th Alain Doucet & Anik Jolicoeur
- 6th Terry & Rozana Sweeney

The All-Star Challenge

- 1st Robert & Jennifer Foster
- 2nd Edward Simon & Michelle Officer
- 3rd Alain Doucet & Anik Jolicoeur
- 4th Bob Powers & Julia Gorchakova
- 5th David Hamilton & Olga Foraponova

A Chance To Give Back

Fraser Community Services** was the charity chosen by Scott and Amy. Fraser received all the proceeds from this gala event. Their beautiful video presentation on the JumboTron helped each of us understand how this unique school teaches, supports and loves kids with special needs.

Amy expressed to us that through this whole process, she was surprised at how many dancers face challenges off the dance floor in raising their special needs kids. "It seems to touch all of our lives in one way or another. It's really a great feeling to be able to give back to those who are less fortunate," Amy said. "If you could have seen the children's faces light up as the awards were presented. It made it all worthwhile," she continued. "It was so much fun! We can't wait to make it even better next year."

After it was all over, one might say that the WORLDANCE '98 was aptly named. This was *the* dance event of the year by far. Some doubted the possibility of filling the Target Center, but not Scott & Amy Anderson. Their determination and collaborative efforts were impeccable. We only hope this event will continue to flourish in the years that follow.

The Andersons have shown us what a thrill it can be to give something back to those in need. Our hats are off to you. Hey Scott & Amy, from what we saw, maybe you should have called it "WowDance '98"!! Congratulations on a magnificent production!

** If you would like to mail a contribution, please write to: Fraser Community Services, Inc., 2400 W. 64th Street, Richfield, MN 55423 or call (612) 861-1688.

Twin Cities Open Scholarship Results

Amateur Open American Smooth Scholarship

sponsored by Don and Ellen Ardery

1. Gary & Carol Stroick
2. Andrew Nordberg & Janie Sorheim
3. Jeff Chinn & Monica Mohn
4. Bill & Bea Beddor
5. Jim & Celeste Gibson
6. Jason Borton & Carolyn Jackson

Amateur Open American Rhythm Scholarship

1. Nels Petersen & Theresa Kimler
2. Andrew Nordberg & Janie Sorheim
3. Tom Sheehan & Elizabeth Smith
4. Jason Borton & Carolyn Jackson
5. Jeff Chinn & Monica Mohn
6. Ramon Pastrano & Michelle Vandesteeg

Amateur Open International Standard Scholarship

1. Nels Petersen & Theresa Kimler
2. Ralf & Petra Greszynski
3. Gary & Carol Stroick
4. Dale Johnson & Pam Brose

USABDA member Joe Hannasch and teacher Meghan Guernsey, Dancers Studio, St Paul, are shown competing at the recent Twin Cities Open. They entered 7 events in the International Standard Open level. They won 6 first places and one second.

Photo taken by Photos by Finn.

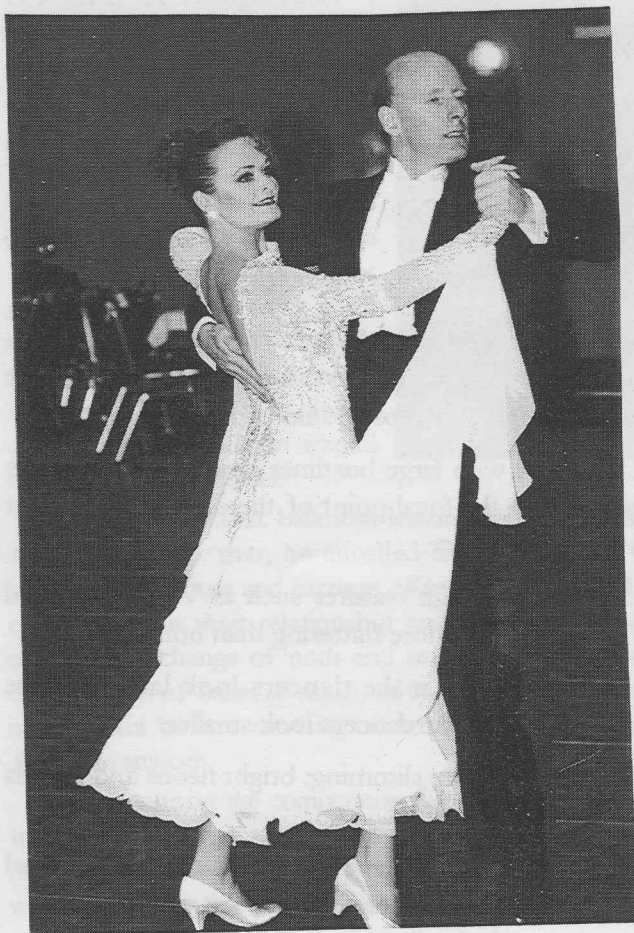


Carol and Gary Stroick winning the American Smooth title. Photo taken by Photos by Finn.

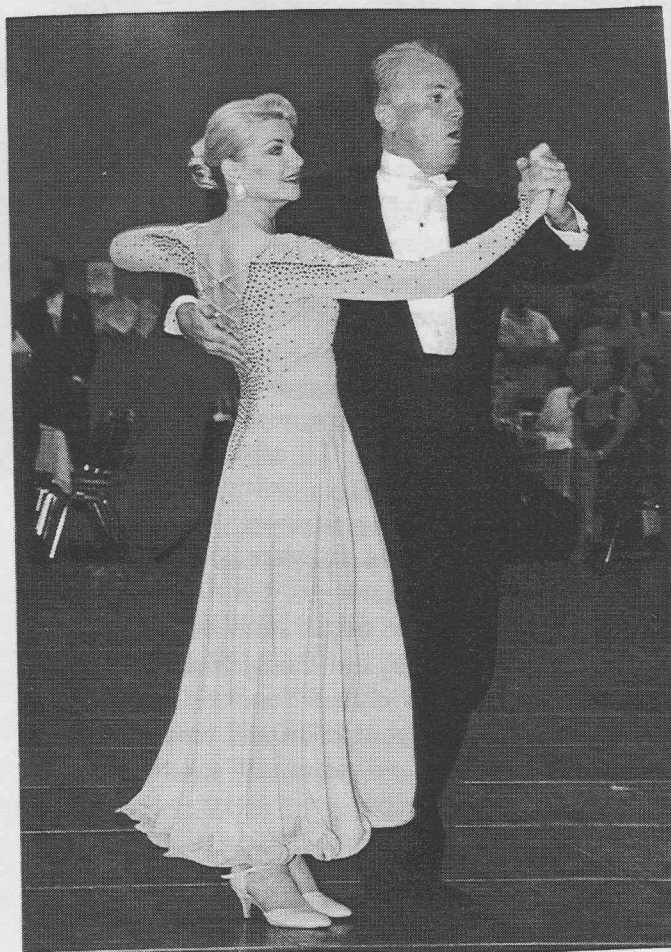




Jeff Chinn and Monica Mohn hamming it up during the American Rhythm competition.



Dale Johnson and Pam Brose competing in International Standard.



Gordy and Linda Davis show off their fancy footwork in American Smooth.

JEFF AND CINDY NEHRBASS RESCUE NEWSLETTER EDITOR

by Janis Livingston

As I walk into On Your Toes, my mind preoccupied with a sense of loss, Jeff inquires as to my glum look. "Is anything wrong?" he asks.

Oh dear... I was hoping I was acting totally normal but he had caught my frustrated, taciturn but animated conversation with Greg over what to do about losing my computer. No resources had worked out for what the newsletter needed and it just wasn't in my personal or USABDA's budget to purchase the equipment. I was going to have to resign and USABDA was going to have to find an editor that already owned the necessary equipment. Bummer!

"What?" Jeff commented incredulously. "We'll lose you as editor just because you won't have a computer!?" "It seems so." I replied. "Well I can fix that!" He said with conviction. "Cindy and I just upgraded all our office computer equipment so we've got a computer we can give to USABDA." "Wow!" Greg and I said immediately looking wide eyed and grinning like two kids talking to Santa Claus. "Really Jeff?" "Yeah, just let me finish some stuff I have to do with it and it's yours. We can't let the best newsletter USABDA ever had end because of this."

I felt vindicated, and sooo grateful!

A day or so later ... double wow ... John Dickerson calls up and offers a computer, too! It was too good to be true. It was raining computers! So along with Jeff's nice Pentium II (much faster than what I had been using), John's monitor is donated to the system. It was looking good for me and USABDA. All I needed now was some galant knight to get it going ... tackle that world of megabytes and drives. And what do you know! In comes Dan Viehman, riding up on his white horse and shining armor, to slay that dragon and get it ALL going for me. Who says being a damsel in distress is old fashioned?

Many thanks to Jeff and Cindy Nehrbass, John Dickerson and Dan Viehman for their rescue and generous donation of equipment and time. I'm sure USABDA members, as well as myself and the Dancin' Times staff, are truly grateful.

**Next newsletter
deadline is
September 10th!!!**



Paid Advertisement

For an appointment call

Tracy Heinze

(612) 792-2322

Tricks of the Trade

Whether you're a social ballroom dancer or a competitive dancer and regardless of whether you choose to draw from your closet or consult a custom designer, the following design tips are good to keep in mind.

Deborah's Seven Flattering Figure Tips: by Deborah J. Nelson of Satin Stitches

1. Dancers with large hips have the opportunity to emphasize a small waist, keeping in mind that gathering over the hips should be minimal.
2. Dancers with large bustlines should avoid designs that feature the focal point of the design on the bust area of the bodice.
3. Diagonal design features such as V necklines and V waistlines are more flattering than horizontal.
4. Shiny fabrics make dancers look larger; matte finish fabrics make dancers look smaller.
5. Dark colors are slimming; bright neons and pastels make you look bigger.
6. It's better to put the emphasis on the neckline and shoulder area rather than at the waist or tummy.
7. Shoulder pads make hips and waistlines look smaller.

Dance Demo News

By Yvonne and Dan Viehman

Summer Sounds

On July 20 at the Calhoun Beach Club, we participated in the Hearing Aide Society of Minnesota's annual fundraiser, Summer Sounds, which provides hearing aids to poor children. Although I didn't catch a glimpse of the "Incredible Hulk" who was supposedly in attendance, we did enjoy the food and festivities! A heart-felt thank you goes to: Carol Post Stroick and Gary Stroick, Monica Mohn & Jeff Chinn, Linda & Gordy Davis, Michelle Vandesteeg & Mike Youngdahl who entertained and danced with the audience, and Pete Maki and Joyce Thompson who provided the music. Many thanks to Mike Youngdahl, director of the Summer Sounds entertainment committee, for inviting us back each year and for their generous donation of \$50.

Editor's Note: We want to acknowledge Susan and Arthur Hellmann who were omitted from the list of dancers in the July *Dancin' Times* article for our Dancin' the Night Away performance on June 5. Our apologies to you both.

USABDA Booth at TCO — Many thanks to those who helped host the booth over the weekend of July 10-12 at the Twin Cities Open DanceSport Competition. These volunteers included: Sue Zeller, Caroline O'Connor, Greg Moore, Susanne Anglo, Jim Baker, and Yvonne and Dan Viehman. Thanks also to Amy Anderson for the opportunity to display our materials at this fantastic competition.

Upcoming Demos

9/16 Pre-Kick Off to National Ballroom Dance Week at the Mall of America (see details at right) 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. Lots and lots of dancers are needed for our Dancin' Around the World Showcase (just like the June 5 Anoka-Ramsey Community College performance);

9/24 State Conference for DAPE (Developmental Adaptive Physical Education — a group of teachers who work with handicapped kids; Camp Courage, Maple Lake (just west on Hwy. 55); 7-8 p.m.; 4 smooth & 4 rhythm couples needed.

10/29 Edinborough Park Plaza — 7700 York Avenue in Edina, 7-8 p.m.; 3 smooth and 3 rhythm couples needed.

Attention: Dancin' the Night Away Dancers — Sept. 16 Is Our Next Performance



Mark your calendars. Our next flight around the world of dance will depart on USABDA Airlines at the Mall of America Rotunda on Wednesday, September 16, starting at 7:30 p.m. until 8:30 p.m.

Come and cheer your fellow dancers on during this exciting 60-minute showcase (including a few surprise dance exhibitions you won't want to miss). Our theme of *Dancin' 'Round the World* will showcase dance exhibitions from Havana, Buenos Aires, Vienna, New York, Hollywood, and much, much more.

The Mall of America showcase will be similar to our June 5 performance at the Anoka-Ramsey Community College Theatre. Come out and support USABDA and see all of your fellow dancers. Why not bring your parents so they can experience the joy of dancing? Here are the details:

Wednesday, September 16, 1998
7:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
Mall of America Rotunda

LOTS of dancers are needed. If you would like to volunteer to dance, you must first be a USABDA member (for insurance reasons). We would love to show off your talents. If you want to volunteer, call Yvonne or Dan Viehman at (612) 553-1202 and tell us which types of dances you would like to perform.

We will have refresher practice sessions to re-acquaint everyone with the choreography for the "Disco Inferno" (hustle) intro and the "Grease" (EC swing) Finale. If you were not in our June 5th performance, that's OK. Come and learn the choreography. It's fun and easy. Just ask those who learned it last June. They all caught on within the first half hour. Cassette tapes and written instructions of the choreography are also available. Start looking for your outrageous 70's costume now. And don't forget that 50's look for the "Grease" Finale.

We're looking for several Las Vegas showgirls to perform as well. If you want to help choreograph, create/locate costumes, or donate feather boas /headdresses, call **Yvonne at (612) 553-1202.**

WEST COAST SWING

at

DANCESPORT

Inside Knollwood Mall (Hwy. 7, just east of Hwy. 169) St. Louis Park, MN – 938-0048

Group Classes for Late Summer, 1998

Taught by Eric Remsen

(You do not need a partner in order to participate.)

Level I/II (Basic/Introductory) —

Wednesdays, September 2nd – October 7th from 7:00–8:00 p.m.

A 6-session course for those who have little or no experience in West Coast Swing.

Level III/IV (Intermediate/Advanced) —

Wednesdays, September 2nd – October 7th from 8:00–9:00 p.m.

A 6-session course for persons with experience in West Coast Swing beyond the basics and who wish to polish their technique while adding new patterns and style variations to their repertoire.

☆☆☆ West Coast Swing for Ballroom and Latin Dancers ☆☆☆

Wednesdays, September 2nd – October 7th from 9:00–10:00 p.m.

This is a special 6-session course for persons who have reached the Silver or Gold levels of Ballroom or Latin dance, and who wish to learn West Coast Swing patterns and styling at an accelerated pace. If you are looking for a fun and challenging new dance to learn, this could be the class for you. If you already have some experience in West Coast Swing, you will learn new patterns and variations while developing the characteristic West Coast look and style. If the dance is new to you, this class will provide you with patterns and styling that will have you dancing it in an authentic and 'non-beginner' manner.

Registration Fee (all Levels) is \$48.00 per person
(space is limited to 12 students per class).

Nationally-acclaimed instructor and performer

MICHELLE KINKAID

is visiting the Twin Cities the weekend of August 28-30.

She will teach three separate 90-minute group classes at Rodeo nightclub in Cottage Grove on Saturday the 29th, beginning at 10:30 a.m. Michelle is one of the foremost performers and teachers in the swing dance world today. She will teach one class in West Coast Swing, one in Hustle, and one in Nightclub 2-Step.

Call Eric Remsen at 724-3156 for further information and to register.

Paid Advertisement

PARTNER CONNECTION

by Greg Moore

KSENIA RUDENSIUK and MARK LEE

Stop by the Twin Cities Ballroom some Thursday evening. You'll probably see a young couple on the floor, sailing along confidently amid the rapids and whirlpools of fleck rolls, double reverses, and triple pivots. It's International rounds night, and Mark Lee is leading Ksenia Rudensiuk (ks-EN-ya rude-en-SYUKE) through their five routines. This is fun for them. And they take it very, very seriously.

They've each danced for many years. Since partnering up in April 1997, however, they have found something that was once missing in their dance, something that has given them special satisfaction. For Mark, it is a sense of competence: "I used to do American smooth, and I always enjoyed the open work ... but now that I'm doing International I feel like I'm becoming a much better dancer." Ksenia is a student of ballet, and has discovered a joy in ballroom that many of us may take for granted: "In the ballet studio, I'll dance a set of figures from one corner to the other, and then I'm done. Now I can dance continuously, around and around the floor. It's wonderful."

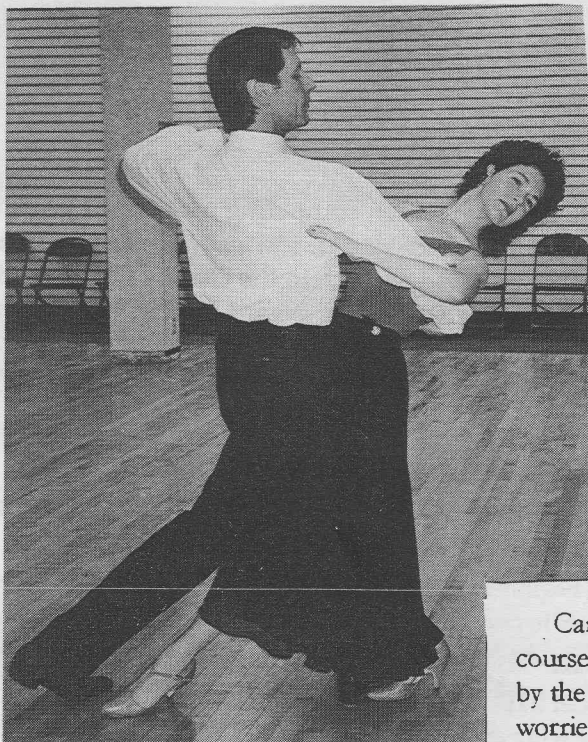
Mark took his first ballroom lessons about ten years ago. Soon after that, he enrolled in a ballet class to improve his posture and carriage. Ksenia was one of his classmates, but their relationship was no more than an occasional exchange of nods and smiles. Mark enjoyed the challenge of ballet so much, he stuck with it for seven more years before moving on to competition-level American smooth.

After a year on the competition floor, he decided to try International: "I figured it would give me the technique I needed." He also went looking for a partner. "... someone who was new to ballroom, someone I felt I could grow with." He was drawn back to the ballet studio.

He stopped by one afternoon, just after his old class had ended for the day. He was chatting with a former classmate about his new plans, when Ksenia approached

them. She barely had time to say "hi" when the mutual friend/classmate asked her if she wanted to be Mark's new partner. She was intrigued. A week later, they discussed schedules, costs, and long-range plans. They decided to give it a try.

For the first month, Mark was the instructor. Using videotapes of world-class dancers and a stack of note cards, Mark carefully showed Ksenia some basic positions and moves. Then they embarked on a few months of group classes. Soon they were ready for a big move: private lessons.



Working with Donna Edelstein and Paul Botes, they put together a plan. "We decided to spend at least one year with each level," explains Mark. "We wanted to make sure we really understood the basics before we tried doing any hard stuff." So far, their strategy is working: they enjoyed a string of wins at Star of the North last March, and are now working on silver routines. And they're having the time of their lives. Wistful, far-away expressions come over their faces when they hear the word "Blackpool."

Careful planning is important, of course. But a partnership is powered by the interplay of personalities. Mark worries and fusses, whether it's next year's comp or a not-quite-perfect whisk, and his tenacity can sometimes grind him down. Ksenia is philosophical and broad-minded. She looks at the big picture. Her even-tempered manner and encouragement have helped Mark to become less self-critical. His ambitions and perseverance have opened new doors for her: "Competitions are so exciting, so make-believe ... like a Hallmark Christmas!"

They have learned that a partnership demands dedication, both to your art and to each other. "Ballroom is incredibly tough on a partnership," says Mark. "but we've learned to really trust each other." "When I dance for myself," says Ksenia, "I don't always give 100%. But with Mark I always do my best ... we just want to be beautiful." Such commitment keeps their work on track and gives it the kind of meaning that a roomful of trophies could never express.

twin cities **Rebels** SWING DANCE CLUB

Proud members of the World Swing Dance Council

Present...

Tim Auclair and Michele Wells

St. Louis, MO.

September 27, 1998.

Tim Auclair and Michele Wells have been competing for several years around the country, and rank as top competitors in the Swing Dance world. *Tim and Michele* were the 1996 NASDE Winners, and finished 3rd in 1997. They placed 2nd and 4th in the Classic Division of the U.S Open in 1996 & 1997, and were recipients of the coveted Feather award for Crowd Appreciation. Both Tim and Michele have accomplishments too numerous to mention here. Mark your calendars now!

Tim Auclair and Michele Wells will be available for private bookings.

Workshops

Sunday September 27th

11:00am - 12:00(noon) Techniques of West Coast Swing

Price: \$10 Rebels members, \$15 nonmembers

This class is for everyone from beginners to instructors! Tim and Michele will focus on the importance of the leaders and followers parts to one another, the movement within the slot, and much much more!

12:10pm - 1:10pm Intriguing Whip Variations

Price: \$10 Rebels members, \$15 nonmembers

If you know your 8 count basic whip and your 8 count basket whip then you are ready to take this class and learn new and interesting variations of these basic patterns. Rebels Basic I and II students, this class is for you.

1:10pm - 2:00pm Lunch Break

2:00pm - 3:15pm Spins and Turns Techniques for West Coast Swing

Price: \$13 Rebels member, \$18 nonmembers

Not your usual class in "dizzy" spin drills. Tim and Michele will teach fun patterns that incorporate spins and turns, and show you the techniques needed to execute them smoothly.

3:30pm - 4:45pm Hot New Moves in West Coast Swing

(including wildly unique whip patterns)

Price \$13 Rebels members, \$18 nonmembers

This is the stuff that gets everyones attention - cutting edge choreography with the latest in style. Experience the award winning choreography of Tim Auclair as you learn new and truly original whip patterns.

^^^^^^

Special Package pricing is available for purchasing ALL four workshops

\$40 Rebels members, \$60 nonmembers

Call the Rebels HOTLINE 612-941-0906

twin cities **Rebels** SWING DANCE CLUB

Twin Cities Rebels Fall Class Schedule

Everett McClay V.F.W. - 3127 E. 78th Street, Bloomington, MN.

AAAAAAA

Introduction to West Coast Swing

Sundays, 4:30-6:30pm

Aug. 30 & Sept. 13, 20

Wednesdays, 7-9pm

Sept. 23, 30 & Oct. 7

This class is for beginners with no prior West Coast Swing experience.

Prerequisite: None

Prices: Rebels members \$36, nonmembers \$50. Repeat students \$20

AAAAA

Basic I - Fundamentals

Sundays, 4:30-6:30pm

October 11, 18 & 25

Wednesdays, 7-9pm

Oct. 21, 28 & Nov. 4

The fastest way to improve your look on the dance floor. Strong emphasis on technique.

Prerequisite: Some knowledge of W.C.S.

Prices: Rebels members \$36, nonmembers \$50, Repeat Students \$20

AAAAA

Basic II - Fundamentals

Sundays, 4:30-6:30pm

November 8, 15 & 22

Wednesdays, 7-9pm

Aug. 19, 26 & Sept. 2

An embellishment of Basic I patterns with additional patterns. Strong concentration on technique.

Prerequisite: Rebels Basic I class

Prices: Rebels members \$36, nonmembers \$50, Repeat students \$20

AAAAA

Special Interest Classes

Price: Rebels members \$10, nonmembers \$15

Night Club Two Step, Wed. Sept. 16, 7pm, Jason Barnes

Basic Latin, Wed. Nov. 18, 7pm, Kathy Gamble

Hustle, Wed. Dec. 2, 7pm, Neil Otey & Lynette Schwickerath

NO ONE ADMITTED AFTER WEEK ONE -- NO REFUNDS AFTER WEEK ONE.

REGISTRATION WILL TAKE PLACE 30 MIN. PRIOR TO THE FIRST CLASS OF EACH SESSION

AAAAA

Remember to check the **Hotline 612-941-0906** frequently for updates and changes.

The Twin Cities Rebels are proud members of the World Swing Dance Council and the Rythm & Blues DJ Association.

AN INTRODUCTION

by Ned Kottmeyer

My name is Ned Kottmeyer. My partner, Celia Mullen, and I turned professional about three months ago with the intent of competing in the Theater Arts/Cabaret division of ballroom dance. We are in something of a unique position for a professional competing couple in that we intend to teach ballroom on a limited basis while maintaining our professional careers independent of the dancing. This lends itself well to our style of competition, which involves lifts and drops, where a lack of concentration or fatigue can have somewhat more serious consequences than for the other styles. By not teaching dance full-time we can maintain a very high energy level for both practicing and teaching.

From a teaching point of view we both want the opportunity to show what we have learned over the past several years with what is already one of the top amateur ballroom dance communities in the United States. I believe my experience teaching college combined with my college athletics and years of ballroom dance gives me an advantage in explaining and breaking down concepts that are otherwise very difficult to communicate and very often neglected. Celia's extensive formal dance training in ballet and jazz along with her years of ballroom training and competitive experience make her an ideal choice for anyone at any level who wishes to raise their standard of dancing. We are both continually studying and taking additional training to further enhance the quality of our teaching. We both have set a personal goal of taking the professional international standard medalist exam given by the Imperial Society of Ballroom Dance this year.

From a competitive point of view we want to bring something entirely different to our style of dance. In everything from our choice of music to the types of lifts we perform to the imagery and story we are attempting to convey, we intend to exceed the audiences expectations and, hopefully, give them something entirely unexpected.

MEMBERSHIP

We welcome the following new members to USABDA and subscribers to the newsletter:

Charles Hartel, Mary Baker, Jeanne Hewitt, John Zander, Kathleen Poeliot, Portat Cooks, Shiri Cooks, Karen Boole, A. Cathrine Coats, and Thomas Frasen.

We welcome you to the wonderful world of ballroom dance.

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- Americans need financial education.
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- It's important to set realistic expectations.
- We should teach our children to save.
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Andy Nordberg and Janie Sorheim demonstrate winning form as they dominate the American Smooth Division at Virginia State, a large Regional Competition.



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DanceSport's
September Dance
Saturday, September 5th



**Summer's
last
hurrah!
Don't
miss it!**

**Note New
Time!**

Group Class at 7:00 pm.

Dancing from 8:00-11:00pm!

Cost; \$10

**Call us at 938-0048 for more info
on privates and our new groups!**

Comments From Our Readers:

* "I really like the humor that comes through in the newsletter articles. It's so fun to see what you come up with next."

* "World Dance was fabulous! A treat for the eyes. I didn't want to leave my seat for anything. I was afraid I'd miss something."

Dance Notes:

* The newsletter still needs a printer. If you can donate one please contact Janis Livingston 651-481-1017. We are slowly getting there!

* Order your tickets for the Grand Ball by September 20 and it only costs \$20. It will be \$25 after that date. So call Mike Youngdahl now, 699-4857!

* Floor squares are still for sale. Take a moment to consider how important a dance floor is to your dancing and help us pay off our USABDA loan. Also watch for some fun fund raising activities coming soon.

* Volunteers are needed to staff the check-in desk at the USABDA dances. Can you help?

Swaplines

**** Simple yet elegant American gown.** Coral-red w/minimum stoning, high neckline, full arm pieces. Size 2-6. Asking \$575. Call Stacie at 467-2090.

**** 2-piece American gown.** Black skirt w/beaded white and black top. Great for someone starting out. Size 2-6. Asking \$225. Call Stacie at 467-2090.

**** Blue rhythm,** knee length w/slit up to thigh for movement, unique upper back on dress. Earrings included. Must see. Size 2-6. Asking \$375. Call Stacie at 467-2090.

**** 2 attractive Theatre Arts dresses.** One short, one longer, (both above the knee) Flowing, some stoning. Size 8. \$100 each. Call Andre' for details at 381-1954.

**** Elegant, beautiful, black and gold gown.** Lots of stoning on the front, some on the back. Feathers on hem. Unique design. Size 8. \$350. Call Andre' for details at 381-1954.

**** A striking magenta colored, off the shoulder, American style gown** with elegant stoning by Marcia Wiest-Hines, size 4-8, soft chiffon double skirt with stretch velvet bodice that has chiffon floats. Earrings and "Titanic"-look necklace to match. Worn in three competitions. Like new. Asking \$1100. Janis 651-481-1017.

**** Exquisite professional standard gown.** Size 2-6. Orchid and pale blue, newest one layer style, as seen on Nostalgia TV USDSC episode. Custom made in March 1998. Asking \$1400. Call Donna at 612-404-1617.

**** Call Carol Post-Stroick for the following ads at 926-7648.**

Standard gown size 4-6, loaded with 80 gross AB stones over a Coral and White gown, new style. \$800.

Apple Green American gown, sleeves and bodice lattice work, loaded with large Ab stones. Attention getter on the floor. \$600. Size 2-6.

Standard gown, traditional style, feathers, floats in sunglow & yellow, size 2-6, \$400.

**** Call Hub Nelson for the following ads at 225-8554.**

Simply elegant silk ballgown - size 2-4. White with black square neckline, mesh arms and upper back. Emphasis is on clean line: princess seaming, no feathers or floats (dripping sleeves show movement). Give it a whirl! \$900.

Standard gown - Size 4-6. Classic design, unusual colors! Seafoam green over sunglow orange. Feathered hem, lace bodice, and symmetrical floats. \$900.

Beautiful gown size 2-6, soft pink with hot pink, Jessica McClintock lace over bodice which is also covered with AB stones, worn in two comps, mint cond. \$1,200, Joanie 484-4562.

Lt Green Ballgown. Sz 8-10. Feathers on bottom. Asking \$550. Call Ellen at 521-8745.

**** Call Janie for the following ads at 232-5896(w) or 537-6743 (pm)**

Hot Lime Green & Black 2 Piece Rhythm! Sz 4-8. AB stoning throughout. Shimmery lycra spandex, skirt moves great. Asking \$200 or BO.

Beautiful Midnight Blue Rhythm! Sz 4-8. 1 piece. Panne stretch velvet. Moves great and very comfortable too! AB stoning along neckline, built in dance trunks. \$200/ BO.

Elegant Red Rhythm! Sz 6-8. Flared skirt with AB stoning on kris-kross spaghetti straps and bodice. Matching dance trunks. Asking \$150 or BO.

**** For the Following ads contact Tracy at 792-2322**

Glowing Yellow Standard Gown, Elegant neckline and distinctive stoning. Absolutely a steal at \$1000.

Glamorous, Yet Simple American Gown. Hard to Part with. Halter style in the truest of reds with minimum stoning. At only \$600, you can make it "yours"!

**** Popular lavender two-piece** - size 2-6. Halter-style top with armbands and earrings and plenty of rhinestones. Bottom is asymmetrical cut. Latest comfort stretch material. Blackpool dress. \$600. Call Theresa at 704-4405.

**** Black one-piece mini rhythm dress** - size 2-6. Fringe beading to give extra movement. Black rhinestones throughout body. Tan halter straps for a sleek look and sexy neckline. \$650. Call Theresa at 704-4405.

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

MINNESOTA

Dancin' Times

USABDA-MN

12530 58th Ave North

Plymouth, MN 55442

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TCO Results



Partner Connection

Mark Lee and

Ksenia Rudensiuk



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