

2018  
LET'S  
DANCE  
CLUB  
CALENDAR

- Feb. 24
- April 28
- Sept. 15
- Nov. 10

INSIDE  
THIS ISSUE:

Chairperson's 2  
Message

Making 3  
Reservations

Club Kudos! 3

Finance 3  
Report

Reservation 4  
Form



"Brazilian Bombshell"  
Carmen Miranda & her  
iconic fruit bowl hat!



# Let's Dance Club

NASHVILLE'S OLDEST SOCIAL DANCE CLUB

JANUARY 2018 NEWSLETTER

## You're Invited: Night at The Tropicana

It may be cold outside Saturday, February 24, but it will be a **HOT NIGHT INSIDE** Old Hickory Country Club when Let's Dance Club members and guests enjoy a Latin-themed "Night at The Tropicana"!

Let your imagination run wild as Latin rhythms and ballroom tunes by the **Marino Music Band** (pictured below) transport you to the tropics! (*Forget that the palm trees are fake, the pineapples are real!*)



As seen at the Legendary Tropicana Club in Havana ! (Photo Credit: AP)

And another element of fun, cabaret style, will add to the evening, as a Latin dance performance is promised during intermission. So, even if you do not own a fruit bowl hat in the style of Carmen Miranda, plan to attend for a night full of fun, friends, and surprises!

**RSVP by February 17**

## History of The Tropicana Club

The original Tropicana Club was opened in 1939 in a Havana suburban neighborhood estate, the Villa Mina. Cuban impresario, Victor de Correa provided the food and entertainment while partners Rafael Mascaro and Luis Bulgar operated the casino in the chandeliered dining room of the mansion.

In 1951, Martin Fox, a well connected gambler with questionable underworld ties, bought out

the original owners. The Tropicana thereafter underwent massive renovations leading to the lush paradise atmosphere for which it gained its international fame.

The show girls, "Las Diosas de Carne" became famous around the world for their sequined/feathered shows. Headliners during the 1950's included Tito Puente, Xavier Cugat, Paul Robeson, Carmen Miranda, and

**When:** Saturday, February 24

**Time:** Social @ 6 PM,

Dinner @ 6:30 PM

Dancing @ 7:30 PM

**Where:** Old Hickory Country Club (OHCC)

**Cost:** \$45.00/ person

**Attire:** Dressy Casual

**NEW! NEW! NEW!**

- [Reserve Online](#) (and pay by credit card—an additional fee applies per ticket):

[tropicananight.eventbrite.com](http://tropicananight.eventbrite.com)

**OR**

- Mail checks & reservation form (see page 4 ) to:  
**Madonna Archer**  
100 Bellpointe  
Hendersonville, TN  
37075

Josephine Baker.

Unfortunately, the Cuban Revolution changed everything as all casino and hotel properties were nationalized. The various principal owners fled to the U.S., or were captured and imprisoned.

But, The Tropicana survived and is still in business today, attracting a largely tour group crowd. Cabaret shows take place in the open air salon, weather permitting.

## Chairperson's Message



**From  
Jim Marler,  
Let's Dance  
Club Chair**

*Members are  
welcome to  
bring their own  
wine (only) to  
our dinner  
dances. The  
OHCC corking  
fee is \$10.00.*

***This is my first newsletter as the Let's Dance Club Board Chairperson following your affirmation vote at the November dance. Thank you for your support.*** Additionally, I want to thank Past President **Frank Deeter** and Past Membership Chair, **John Wilson** for their dedication to the club. And I want to thank all members and guests who attended the November 11th Veterans Day "Dance Canteen"! A special tribute was made to our member veterans and the Debbie Bailes Band played many tunes from the 1940's. Thanks go to **Madge and Frank Deeter** for hosting the event.

The By-Laws were changed in September for the office of President to become Chairperson of the Club Board. The other 3 elected Board members are now the Finance Chairperson, Membership Chairperson and the Publicity Chairperson with all four Chairpersons having an equal say in how the Club functions. Members attending the upcoming February dance will be asked to vote on additional By-Laws changes that clarify these board roles.

***As Board Chairperson, my initial focus will be to attract new members.*** The Let's Dance Club was founded in 1982 and a few of the founding members are still dancing with us. However,

there has been a decline in membership and participation to support our dance events.

To make it easier to attract new members, I will pursue a change in the By-Laws to shorten the time it takes for a guest to become a member. Currently, after being nominated by a member, then attending two dance events with the member sponsor, the nomination is voted on at the next dance event. This process to membership could easily take 6 to 9 months or more. The proposed By-Laws change will greatly shorten and simplify this process. With the proposed change, a potential new member who attends a first dance event with their member sponsor can obtain a member application at that time. Upon attending a second dance with their sponsor, they can submit their application, sponsor statement, and membership dues. The guest candidate will then be introduced during intermission as a new club member.

In the By-Laws, Article II, "Membership", it states the two requirements for Membership are: 1., Persons who have a good basic knowledge of ballroom dancing shall be eligible for membership, and 2., Any person considered for membership in this club must be nominated by a member in good standing. The requirements for membership are unchanged. But it will now be

the responsibility of the sponsoring member to vouch for his/her member candidate's basic dance knowledge. The need for an affirmation vote is thus eliminated.

In the past year, the Board has successfully responded to member suggestions to improve the menu and the dinner service provided by Old Hickory Country Club, our dance venue for the past 10 years. Also, there is a different band for each event plus one DJ per year to allow dancing to a variety of music selections. The fixed costs for each dinner dance are the band and the rental for the OHCC ballroom. Getting sufficient attendance at each dinner dance to cover these fixed costs is critical to the future of the Club. If your membership lapsed but you are now interested in attending, contact Madonna Archer. Or, simply send in the attached reservation form. The club would love to see you again!

***I strongly encourage members to attend the February 24th dinner dance and to commit early so plans can proceed.*** I also challenge each member to bring one or more guests. Guests with or without a dance partner are welcome. And guests are welcome to apply for membership if they enjoy their experience. ***A bottle of wine will be awarded to the member who brings the most guests!***

# Important Changes When Making Let's Dance Club Reservations!



From

**Diane Sackl,**  
**Publicity Chair**

The financial world is rapidly changing. And one significant benefit is the ability to do your banking online.

Most venues and reservation services recognize that the majority of people no longer use checks to make payments for much of anything.

Let's Dance Club is embracing this change by giving you the option of conveniently making your dance reservations, and paying for them, online! Or, optionally, you still can make reservations in the traditional club way with the attached reservation form.

You now have two options:

1. Reserve and pay online at [tropicananight.eventbrite.com](http://tropicananight.eventbrite.com)

(A small handling fee is added to your final online payment.)

2. Or, continue as in the past, to mail the attached reservation form (page 4 of this newsletter) along with your check to the club treasurer.

**ALL reservations, whether by mail or online, are due 7 days before each dance event.** Let's Dance Club hopes you will try this optional service and find it easy as well as convenient!



Stay  
connected  
to your club!  
News and  
Updates are  
always  
posted on  
our  
[Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/letsdanceclub)  
page.

## Club Kudos!

- Frequent Club guests, Mike Campbell and Marilyn Redick, are getting married February 24th! Happy wedding wishes from us to them!
- We also extend a warm welcome to our newest members:
- Barry Lawson is a frequent guest at Let's Dance Club events, Belle Meade NDC, and a friend of long-time member, Inez Copass.
- Jay and Ellen Clayton are Vanderbilt professors, friends of Jim and Linda Marler and love to dance! They also dance regularly at Belle Meade NDC.

## Attention Single Dancers!

Let's Dance Club welcomes you to our "**Night at The Tropicana**", partnered or not, to enjoy good food, live dance music and other friendly dancers eager to dance with you!

If you know a member, contact them or contact Madonna Archer at [maarcher22@gmail.com](mailto:maarcher22@gmail.com) if you would like to be attend as a guest on February 24th. **We invite you to be part of our friendly dance community!**

## Club Finance Report



Submitted by  
**Madonna Archer,**  
**Finance Chair**

41 attendees were present at the November Dinner/Dance, comprised of 30 members and 11 guests.

The Club currently has 47 paid members.

The current bank balance is \$2,215.30, after paying the

Club's liability insurance premium due January 1, 2018.

Paid cost for the November dance was \$2,360.52, a shortfall of \$515.52 after deducting reservation income.

The shortfall and insurance are examples of monies used from dues collection.

It's never too late  
to join or renew  
your membership!

Contact Madonna:  
[maarcher22@gmail.com](mailto:maarcher22@gmail.com)



# LET'S DANCE CLUB

*The Oldest Social Dance Club in Nashville*

"Life may not be the party we hoped for,  
but while we're here, we should dance."

- Author Unknown



**Reserve by Feb. 17**

## RESERVATION FORM

[Click Here to  
Reserve Online](https://tropicananight.evenbrite.com)

<https://tropicananight.evenbrite.com>

Please fill out, print, and mail to:

**Madonna Archer (Treasurer)**

100 Bellepointe • Hendersonville TN 37075

Make checks payable to "Let's Dance Club."

Dance Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Member 1 Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Fish      Vegetarian      Beef      Chicken

Member 2 Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Fish      Vegetarian      Beef      Chicken

Guest 1 Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Fish      Vegetarian      Beef      Chicken

Guest 2 Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Fish      Vegetarian      Beef      Chicken

Total People Attending: \_\_\_\_\_ X \$45/person = Total Remitted: \_\_\_\_\_

Your Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**DEADLINE FOR MAILING IS ALWAYS 7 DAYS BEFORE EACH DANCE**