

FOOTSTEPS



August/September 2013

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Upcoming Triangle Chapter Events

Save the Date!

Remember to mark your calendar and reserve these dates for our upcoming chapter dances:

- Saturday, August 17
- Saturday, September 21

At our dances a free lesson, included with admission, runs from 7PM to 8PM, followed by general dancing from 8PM until 11PM. Our lesson at the August dance will be Night Club Two Step. At our September dance, plan to kick off Octoberfest by learning the Polka!

Dancing at the North Carolina State Fair October 26, 2013

The crisp night air, leaves changing color, corn dogs, roller coasters and deep fried Twinkies can only mean one thing -- Ballroom Dancing at the North Carolina State Fair. Once again, our chapter will be participating in exhibition events at the 2013 North Carolina State Fair.

The NC State Fair will run from October 17 through October 27, 2013 and our chapter will be performing on Saturday, October 26. The exhibitions will take place in the morning starting around 9AM, and again in the afternoon starting around 12PM to 1PM. Final schedule is TBD but once it is available, we will announce it at the upcoming dances.

We do have a couple of spots still available and if you are interested in performing and haven't done so, please contact Tess Sharpe at tess.sharpe@yahoo.com or 336-263-6586 after 6PM.

Chapter News

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Meet your board members!

This month's final board member introductions are for Claudia Paren, Board Member-At-Large and Kyle Ross, Newsletter and Communication.

Claudia Paren

Claudia credits "Dancing with the Stars" for introducing her to ballroom and encouraging her to give it a try. In late 2010, after a just few months of lessons, she entered her first pro-am competition in order to gain confidence on the floor. While Claudia considers herself a newcomer still, she hopes to advance and one day compete at higher levels with her fiancé.

Outside of the ballroom, Claudia works as a registered nurse. After finishing graduate school and deciding to remain in the Raleigh area, Claudia was looking for ways to contribute within the community. Triangle USA dance provided the perfect opportunity to combine volunteering with one of her favorite activities. This is her first year serving as a board member.

Kyle Ross

Kyle, like Jonathan in last month's edition, took his first dance class as a gym class at his college in Minnesota. He enjoyed the class immensely, and even took a date to the spring formal where he looked forward to dancing all of his new patterns. Unfortunately, his date left him after two dances because she wanted to dance with someone who knew more steps. But, this experience did not leave Kyle bitter. After taking a break from dance, he started taking lessons again when he moved from Minnesota to North Carolina and has been part of the dance community ever since.

Kyle has been a member of USA Dance for about 15 years. He was chapter vice-president for part of 2000 and the chapter's president from 2001 - 2003. He has also been the membership chair, newsletter mailing coordinator (when the chapter mailed a printed version of the newsletter) and chapter librarian for a short period of time. Currently, he is responsible for the chapter's newsletter and email communication of the monthly dance announcement.



First Night Raleigh December 31, 2013

As has been the custom of our chapter for many years, we will once again be hosting a New Year's Eve lesson and dance as part of Raleigh's 2013 First Night Festivities on December 31, 2013. If you have never been to the dance before, it is held in the ballroom at the Sir Walter Raleigh Hotel. Open to the public, we provide several short beginner lessons to anyone who shows up and general dancing in-between the lessons.

The New Year's Eve dance always provides an excellent outreach opportunity for our chapter. Visitor's love a chance to pick up the basics and dance around the floor on New Year's Eve. In addition, the dance is lots of fun and is generally one of the best attended events on First Night.

We are looking for a few volunteers to help with the dance -- set-up and break down of the music equipment as well as some extra hands (and feet) to help any newcomers dance around the floor. If you are interested in volunteering or would just like some extra information about the dance, please contact one of the board members.

USA Dance News and Events

Are you interested in what happens at a dance competition? Re-runs of the the 2013 USA Dance National DanceSport Championships are available for viewing. Visit the usadance.org website and click on USA Dance Livestream Channel to watch events from the 2013 Championship.

We also will be voting for National Governing officers this fall. Ballots will be mailed out in an upcoming edition of American Dancer. To find out more about the national elections, visit the usadance.org website for more information.



Musings from the Dance Floor

Our chapter is fortunate to have a large and diverse population of dancers. We have a variety of beginner dancers, skilled dancers, strictly social dancers, competitive dancers, and all levels in-between. What this means is that we all have to pay attention to the other dancers around us and practice good floor craft. We want everybody to feel safe comfortable while dancing, and more importantly, to have fun while dancing. While everybody should feel free to try out their latest dance pattern that they just learned, please remember watch out for your fellow dancers.



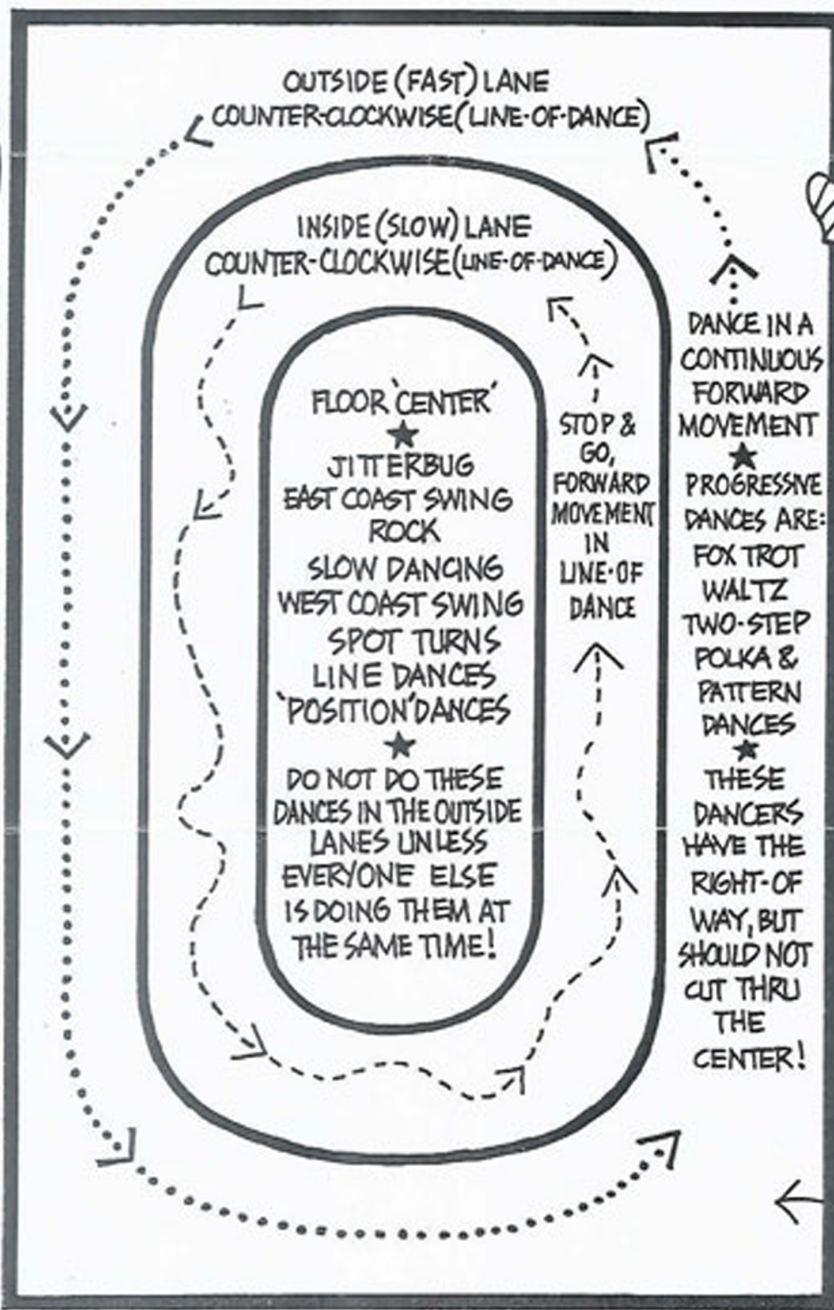
DANCERS! ENJOY DANCING TO THE FULLEST!
Let's All Practice Dance Floor Etiquette!

MANY DANCERS AND MANY STYLES OF DANCING CAN BE ACCOMMODATED ON THE FLOOR AT THE SAME TIME, IF TRADITIONAL DANCE FLOOR ETIQUETTE IS FOLLOWED. LET'S ALWAYS BE COURTEOUS, AND WE'LL ALL HAVE A GREAT TIME DANCING!

GEE, IT'S GETTING ROUGH ON THE DANCE FLOOR THESE DAYS, FOLKS!



WHEN DANCING IN THE OUTSIDE LANES, DO NOT BACK UP, DO NOT DANCE ACROSS THE FLOW. KEEP A LOOKOUT FOR OTHER DANCERS TO AVOID COLLISIONS! IF YOU WISH TO SWING, OR DANCE NON "LINE-OF-DANCE" STEPS, GO TO THE CENTER!



WHEN DANCING THE CHA-CHA OR RUMBA, DANCE IN YOUR OWN SMALL AREA AND IGNORE THE DIAGRAM!



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Editor's Note

Are there specific topics that you would like see in the newsletter? Or, would you like to contribute an article in an upcoming edition of the newsletter? We would like to see your suggestions and ideas. The deadline to submit an article for the August/September newsletter is July 17.

Sincerely,

Kyle Ross

Triangle USA Dance

