



Southern Oregon Dance News

USA Dance #1011

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www.UsaDance1011.org

THE NEW FACE of SOUTHERN OREGON DANCE

Our Mission: To promote and facilitate dance as a healthful, enjoyable, community-building activity for all ages.

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Advertising Rates:

If you would like your ad to reach dancers, this is your opportunity. Check out the rate card on page 3

Visit our website:
UsaDance1011.org

New Web Master - Check Out Our Web Site!

Want to be in the know about everything that's going on in the dance community in Southern Oregon? Want to know where the best places are to dance? Well, here's the place to go!

Go to www.usadance1011.org to check out our newly revised and greatly improved web site. It has a new look, new feel, and new sound (well, you might have to imagine the sound, but if you try real hard, it's there!)

The new web site is possible thanks to the technical expertise and innovative thinking of Arlen Hatlestad, the new web master for USA Dance #1011's web site.



Arlen is the founder of PCiNet, formerly known as KBB Development Company. PCiNet provides all levels of IT support ranging from designing single workstations to complex networks. The company specializes in IT support services to small to medium city governments, and public safety agencies. Locally PCiNet provides those services to Talent, Phoenix and Central Point. PCiNet provides the unique service of monitoring via a VPN, or virtual private network.

How does all this tie in to USA Dance #1011 you ask? Well, it just so happens that Arlen and his wife are no strangers to dance. They took West Coast Swing lessons at the Evergreen and became big fans of the dance while enjoying the camaraderie that the West Coast Swing group is known for. Rush Behnke tapped into that combination of IT expertise and love of dance to make it possible to create a whole new web site.

Arlen and Rush have a vision for the web site: to be user friendly, up-to-date, contain comprehensive information about dancing anywhere in the Rogue Valley, and always be changing. Some ideas these two great thinkers have include more photographs of dancers and dance events, improved graphics, web site features of youth dancers, and video clips.

For more information about PCiNet, you can go to their web site at www.pc-inet.com.

OK dancers, what are you waiting for? Go right now (well, after you've finished reading the newsletter) to www.usadance1011.org and check out your dance chapter's revised web site!

Word from Your President, Rush Behnke



Where is the time going? It seems like it wasn't that long ago it was snowing, and now the warm weather has graced us with its presence. You know what they say about spring – a dancer's fancy turns to more dancing!

And more dancing is exactly what's ahead for Southern Oregon. A big event for 2009 will be the first Dancing with the Rogue Valley Stars (DWRVS). This event will be held April 18, 2009 at Kids Unlimited. The proceeds will be divided as follows: 1/3 to Kids Unlimited, 1/3 to Sparrow Clubs, and 1/3 to a Rotary "Opportunity fund" for children who have serious needs. We already have four to five celebrities but we are looking for more local celebrities (up to 15). Our "stars" will be paired with local accomplished dancers and the magic will begin. Although we have almost one year to prepare, time will slip away, so we need your help finding sponsors and celebrities. Please send emails to rush@rushbehnke.com if you have information. If you are interested in being on our DWRVS committee Esther Freeman is the Chair of this USA Dance 1011 Committee.

In May, 2009 there is strong talk about having a local dance production at the

Craterian Theater. This could be an annual Fundraiser for USA Dance. This is just too much excitement to handle all at once. I think I am going to Alaska in July to cool down. Yes, Tara and I are going to my childhood dream land---Alaska.

For you Golfers, We are talking about having a USA Dance 1011 golf tournament and dance Luau. Who said dance and golf can't mix? You've got to have good rhythm for a good swing in both. Swing or swing Luau? I never said any of this... Charlene put me up to it.

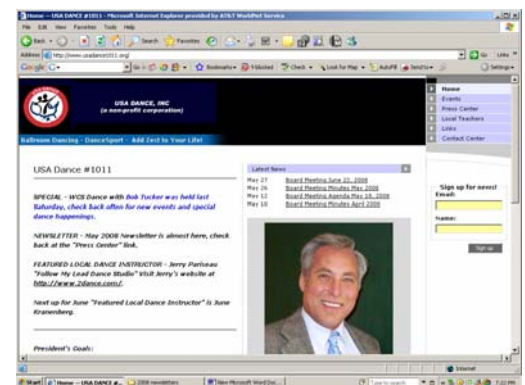
Summer is a busy time for everyone, including Charlene, and a challenge to publish a newsletter every month (maybe we should get her a laptop so she can type while she floats on her pool!). In the interim, (pre-water proof, floating lap top), there will be one summer newsletter, and we will resume a regular publication schedule in the Fall. Remember, fellow dancers, we are your local chapter of a national dance organization. We're here to promote dance in our community, but we need your help. My goals as president are:

1. Demonstrating "service before self", I hope to facilitate an energized Board of Directors to define, activate, and direct the specific committees we need to share the ever-demanding burden of time and resources promoting dance.
2. Maintain the region's most comprehensive dance information website with an up-to-date USA Dance calendar, a monthly USA Dance newsletter, links to instructor websites, and short testimonials.
3. Develop a scholarship program for underprivileged and exceptional young dancers, to assure that future generations can appreciate the joy of dance.
4. Often, take dance out of the traditional ballroom and into our community where people meet.
5. Help promote the first annual Dancing with the Rogue Valley Stars (DWRVS).

See you on the dance floor, Rush

Check out our web site at
www.usadance1011.org.

We are featuring Jerry Pariseau, from Follow My Lead, this month.



Advertising in the Southern Oregon Dance Newsletter

Here's your chance to spread the word about your business and help support your local dance chapter at the same time! It's a win-win situation. Check out the first ads in this issue.

Advertising Rates:

USA Dance Member rates:

Business card - \$7.50 per issue

¼ page - \$12.00 per issue

½ page - \$20.00 per issue

Full page - \$34.00 per issue

Non Member Rates:

Business card - \$11.25/per issue

¼ page - \$18.00 per issue

½ page - \$30.00 per issue

Full page - \$51.00 per issue

Please send files to

charlene_100@msn.com or hard copy to Southern Oregon Dance, PO Box 1750, Jacksonville, OR 97530

Name the Chapter Contest!

It's time to choose a new name for USA Dance 1011, currently known as Southern Oregon Dance. Members are being asked to help choose the new name, so be sure to cast your vote! The nominations for new names include:

- ✚ Rogue Valley Dance
- ✚ Rogue Valley Dancers
- ✚ So..... Dance
- ✚ Rogue Valley Dance4Life

It's your dance chapter, and your chance to have a voice in the name. If you have a suggestion for a name you would like to be considered, be sure to send it in. Send your votes to Rush Behnke at rush@rushbehnke.com.

Tips from the Pro's

International Latin Dancing Tina Ferris



This is the first of a regular series that will offer readers tips on various dance-related topics from local instructors. This month's column features Tina Ferris, owner of The Dance Factory, located at 1257 No. Riverside Ave., Medford. Tina's topic is International Latin dancing.

Tina has been teaching, dancing and performing in Ballroom, Latin, Swing and Country dance for over 17 years. She worked professionally out of the Starlite Ballroom in Sunnyvale Ca. for three years where she competed with students at events around the country. While working at Starlite, she also received coaching from some of the top competitors and coaches in the country. She lived in Arizona for several years where she worked at the Kyote Ballroom and received extensive training in International Latin style dance.

Known for its sensual hip action and flair, Latin dancing is gaining popularity on dance floors everywhere. Movies about Latin dancing, ones that portray the beauty of the art of Latin dancing seem to be favorites among dancers and non-dancers alike.

International Latin dancing consists of five dances: Cha cha, Rumba, Samba, Paso Doble, and Jive. Each of these dances have their own unique characteristics: Cha cha is energetic and sassy; Rumba is known as the "dance of love"; Samba is a lively Brazilian dance; Paso Doble is a march-like dance with significantly less hip movement; Jive is a variation of the Jitterbug, and is fast with precise foot work.



Southern Oregon Dance Newsletter (SODN) visited Tina at her studio, The Dance Factory.

SODN: What's the difference between American style and International dancing?

Tina: International Latin dancing is more precise, polished, and requires attention to the high-level technique. It can be a social dance, but for some dancers, it's a hobby that they gladly devote more time than they might to other dances. People that are drawn to International Latin dancing tend to take dance more seriously than others.

SODN: Of the five International Latin dances – Cha Cha, Rumba, Samba, Paso Doble, and Jive, do you have a favorite?

Tina: I would have to say my favorite is International Rumba. I enjoy teaching it, as well as dancing it. It has a lot to offer dancers who want the opportunity to experience all that Rumba is.

SODN: Can you tell us more about what makes Rumba your favorite?

Tina: I like the music Rumba is danced to, and the mood of the dance. The dance is sultry and playful, with nuances that tell a story about a man and woman. The woman

entices the man, then rejects him, and then accepts him. And so goes the dance of love.

SODN: What do you consider important characteristics of Rumba for a dancer to master?

Tina: I think an important technique to master in Rumba is the connection between the partners, which is both physical and visual. This essential connection conveys the love story of anticipation, hope, rejection, and then it starts all over again with never-ending hope.

SODN: How does a dancer learn to transition from American style to International Latin?

Tina: Both partners need to learn the way that their hands indicate the solid connection between them. It's the principal signal that communicates body leads through body weight and is

a big part of what gives the Rumba that smooth and sensual look. Good posture is crucial, and is the foundation of performing any dance well, but with Rumba, it's the difference between doing it well and just going through the motions.

SODN: What advice would you offer to someone thinking about taking an International Latin dance class for the first time?

Tina: If you have a good foundation in American Rumba, including good posture, you can master International Rumba. Be aware of your body, and how to center over the ball of the foot. Enjoy learning! The "Rumba walk" is based on hip placement, releasing the foot, and creating a straight leg. It's a wonderful dance and as easy as learning to "walk"!

The International Rumba class at the Dance Factory has been going on for a couple of months, but you can still join. Tina is covering the Bronze syllabus and will touch on some of the Silver syllabus.

For more information about this and other classes offered at The Dance Factory, and class schedules, you can check out the web site at www.dancefactoryinfo.com or call Tina at 531-2214.



2008 Medford Jazz Jubilee



The first Medford Jazz Jubilee was held in October 1989 with success and much to do about community, music, worldwide musicians and spreading the joy of the true American art-form, Dixieland music. Just eight bands appeared that first year and the festival has grown over time to include as many as 18 bands and additional youth-oriented programs.

The Medford Jazz Jubilee is truly a musical event for all ages. Over the years the festival has stayed true to the Dixieland roots, but has broadened the community and audience appeal by including Zydeco, Swing, Jump-Jive, Big Band and other music that is period-contemporary with the traditional jazz era.

This year's Medford Jazz Jubilee will take place October 10-12, 2008. This year's event will feature a special venue that will cater to dancers. (Yayyyy – that's us!) The plan is to feature dancers with short exhibitions, and the Jazz Festival Board is looking for dancers and groups of dancers who would like to perform at various times on Friday and Saturday.

There will also be a dance contest on Saturday afternoon with prizes. At this time many of the details are still in the planning stage. The planning committee would like to get feedback and find out how many dancers might be interested in participating.

There will be four contests: An open Waltz for all ages, Swing, which will include all styles: West Coast Swing, East Coast Swing and Lindy Hop.

The age groups are: 12th grade and below – Combined age below 80 (add ages of both dancers) - Combined age above 81 (add ages of both dancers)

This is a dance contest, not a competition. Dancers are encouraged not to feel intimidated even if you don't think you are the best dancer. The dance judges will consider the following aspects of the dancer's performances: 1) Timing, 2) Strength of Lead & Follow, 3) Technique, 4) Dance Appeal, a. Smile, b. Eye Contact, c. Partner Interaction

If you or your group is interested in participating contact Jerry Pariseau via email at fml2dance@hotmail.com or call Darcy at 773-8568 at your earliest convenience, as there is limited space for demonstrations.

Letter from the Editor



Charlene Stewart

Spring is in the air – and in the feet of dancers!

As the flowers and trees show off their “dance of spring” by competing for the most vibrant

color, nature reminds us that beauty is all around, as it offers a regeneration of mind and spirit.

Dancing offers that same renewal of spirit. It transports you from your every-day world to another place - and you're in the moment. Specifically, you're in **your** moment.

What better time to take stock of what dancing has done for you, or if you are new to dance, or still thinking about trying it, than the warm days of spring and the even warmer days of summer!

Dancing knows no seasons – it's multiseasonal (OK – I think I made that word up). Dancing transcends the seasons and gives the dancer Christmas in July, or Independence Day in November – your choice.

So, while people are planting flowers, uncovering their barbecue grills, setting up their swimming pools, and having outdoor parties, there are always dancers elsewhere in the moment. It could be a Foxtrot moment, or a Tango moment – or Swing, Salsa or Samba, oh my! That's how dancers renew their spirit each spring, summer, fall or winter – by being in their moment.

As the season's change invokes a resurgence of the dancer in all of us, take advantage of the abundant opportunities in the Rogue Valley to learn a new dance, dance your favorite dance(s), meet new people, and make new friends. Celebrate your own holiday as you hear the music, feel the rhythm, see yourself moving across the dance floor. Be part of the “dance of spring”. Maya Angelou said, “Everything in the universe has rhythm. Everything dances”.

It's your turn to be in the moment – **your** moment.

Let's get dancing, Southern Oregon
Happy New Year
Charlene

“Dance first, think later. It is the natural order.” Samuel Beckett

This newsletter is sent via email to all members with an email address and a copy is mailed to members who do not have an email.

YOUR ADVERTISING CAN BE HERE.

DO YOU HAVE PRODUCTS OR SERVICES FOR DANCERS??

Chapter NEWS

Monthly Board Meetings are held at Marie Calendars. Call Rush for details.

Marilee Grimm will chair the newly formed Scholarship Committee. A fund has been set up for the purpose of assisting youth with dance related expenses.

Don't forget to keep your membership current. Renew on line at UsaDance.org

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USA Dance #1011 - Individual Membership Application

Please print clearly

Name _____ Date of Birth _____

Street Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Email: _____ Phone(s) _____

Is this a renewal application? No ☐ Yes ☐ If Yes, Member # _____ # _____

Additional Information:

Profession and/or hobbies: _____

Are you willing to help USA Dance as a volunteer? Yes ☐ No ☐

If yes, at what level? Chapter ☐ Regional ☐ National ☐

How are you willing to help: _____

Name of chapter I wish to be assigned to: Southern Oregon #1011 (or other) _____

Individual Membership Categories:

Ballroom Dancer	\$ 35	\$ _____
Social Dancer	\$ 25	\$ _____
Social Youth	\$ 10	\$ _____
Social Instructor	\$ 50	\$ _____

Make Check payable to:

USA Dance #1011

Mail to: POB 1750 – Jacksonville, OR 97530

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