

**April 2016 Newsletter**

**Comments from our President – Robert White:**



There was a strong resemblance to a casting call for *Guys and Dolls* early this month as the crowd began to gather for our annual Great Gatsby event. A host of gangsters and their molls poured through the doors of Covenant United Methodist Church to make up the group of one hundred thirty USA Dance members and their guests in attendance. As the dance floor filled, the melodious cords of superb music from The Edd Jones Orchestra filled the air and the ragtime celebration rolled on to everyone's pleasure.

Two of our group class instructors headed up showcases during both of our breaks for the enjoyment of everyone in the hall. The first was a Charleston production by Jorja Jolly, Michael Wiggins, and Beth Hays followed by a Quickstep performed by Jorja Jolly and Ben Stovall. Both of these excellent performances fit right into the theme of this fun event. Carole Eady performed her special magic on the buffet table center piece and on the tables around the dance floor to bring the class and style reminiscent of the Great Gatsby era to life though out the hall.

A special thanks from the Chapter goes out to Gary and Marilyn Elam of Potts Camp, MS for bringing their vintage 1926 Model-T Ford to our Great Gatsby event. What a magnificent antique center piece that added an element of realism of the era of this USA Dance event. It was the focal point of many of the photos taken during the evening. We also want to thank John and Patsy Wilson of O Dance Shoes in Tennessee for their very generous donation of the Gift Certificate used as a prize for our drawing and for their surprise presentation to our National Volunteer of the Year, Sylvia Rose. Tim Hnat applied his talents with both the sound equipment and camera for this month's dance. His expertise and attention to details are always appreciated for the quality it adds to our operation. Many thanks to those dancers who supplemented the buffet table with their special recipes to the delight of everyone. The wonderful dishes our dancers bring to our events never fail to amaze me.

Next month we celebrate **GENO DEMMO**. South of the Border attire for this dance is encouraged. Why not make your plans now to be a part of the group at Covenant United Methodist Church on May 14 for all the fun.

**Dance Photos - April Dance**

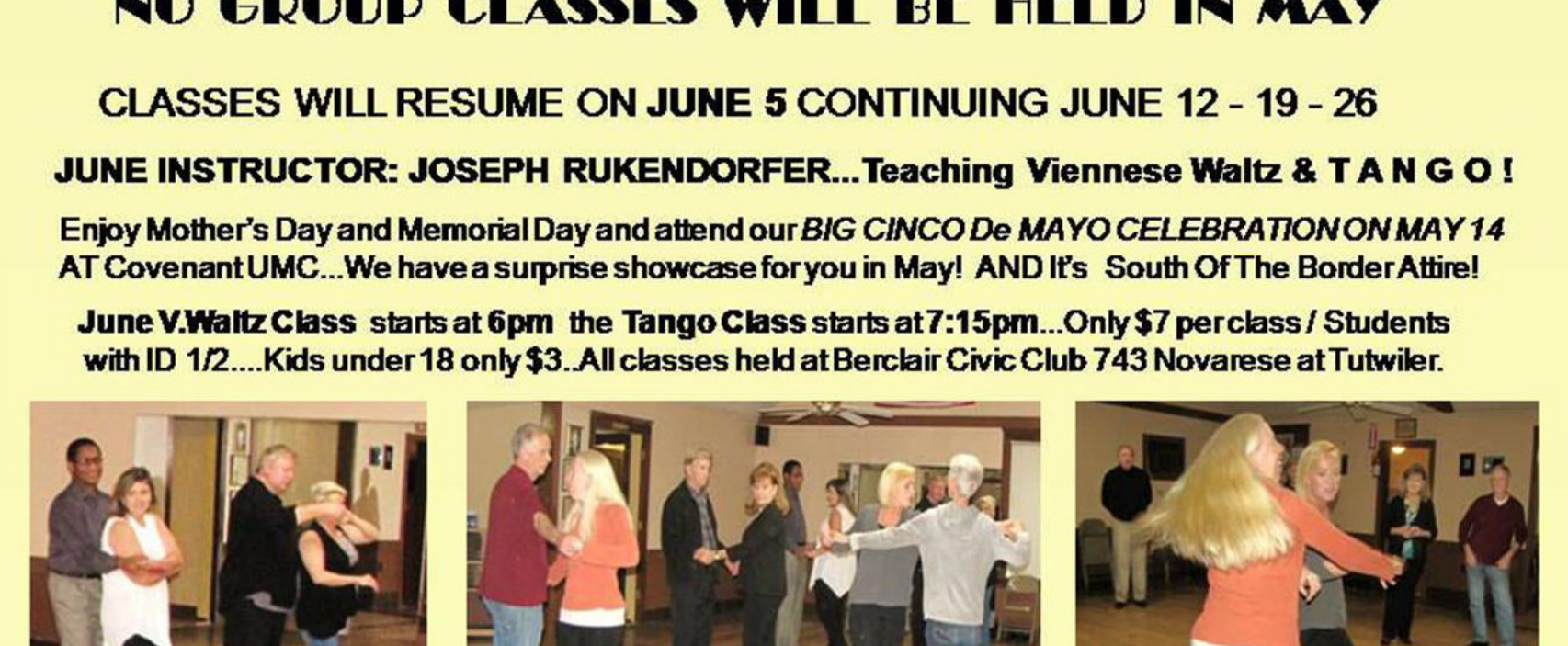
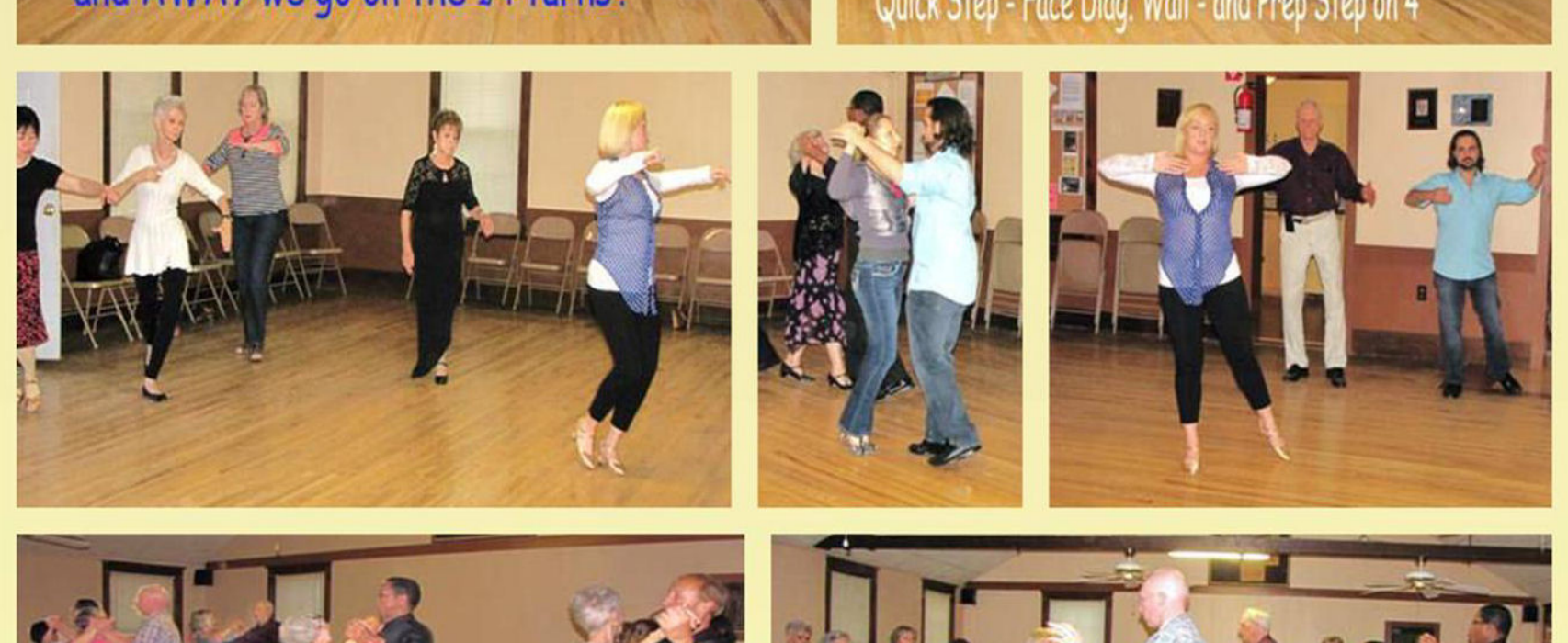
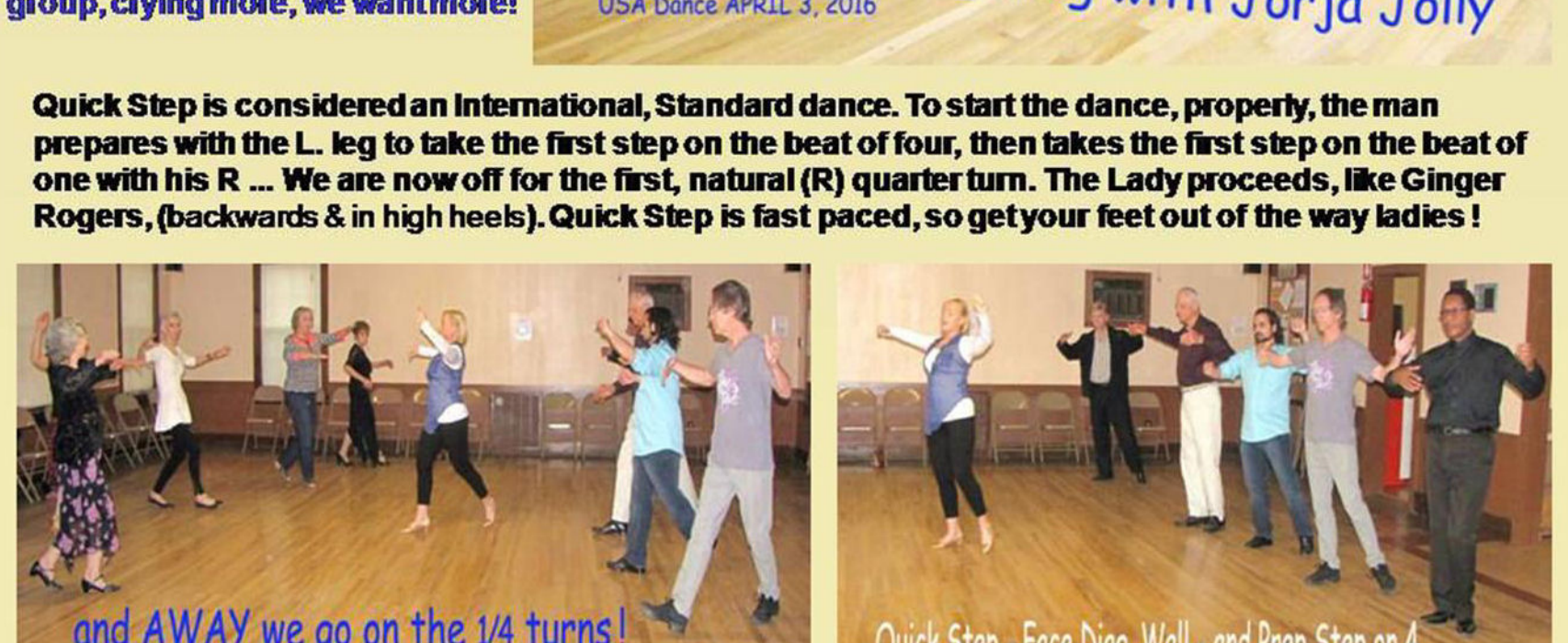
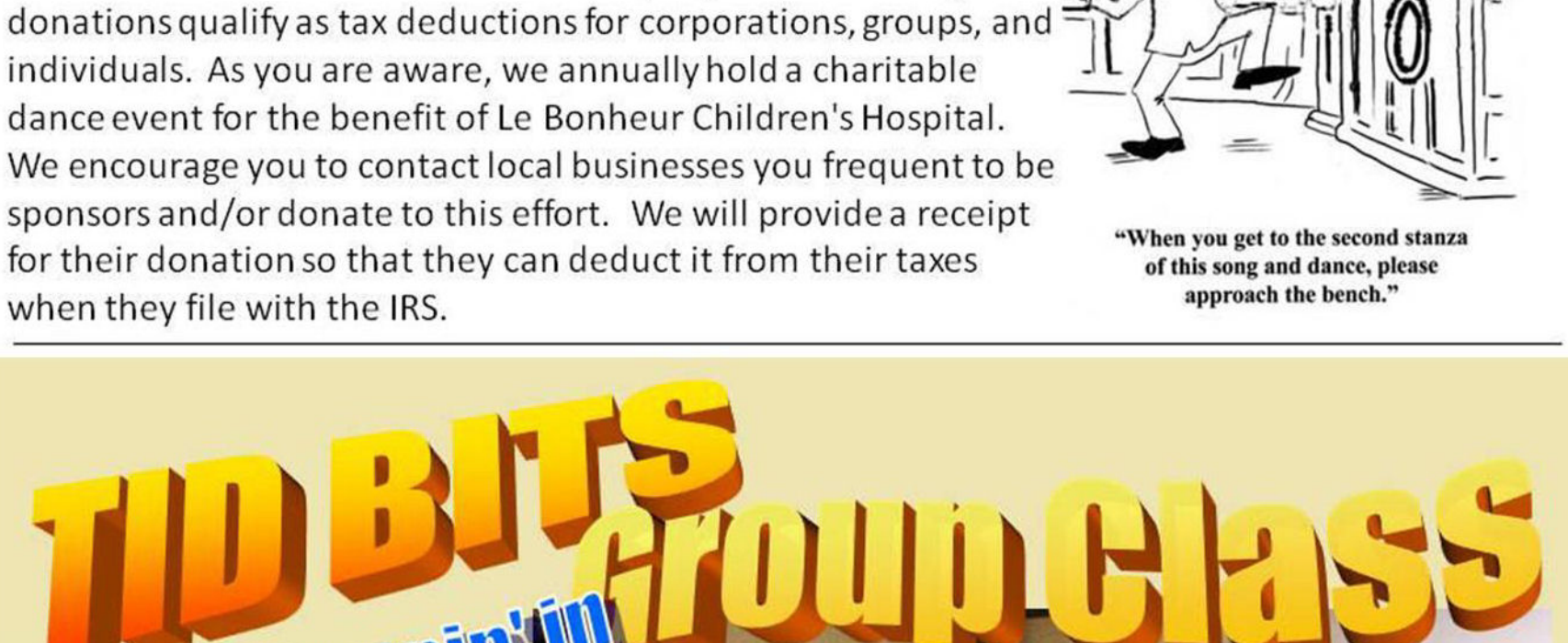
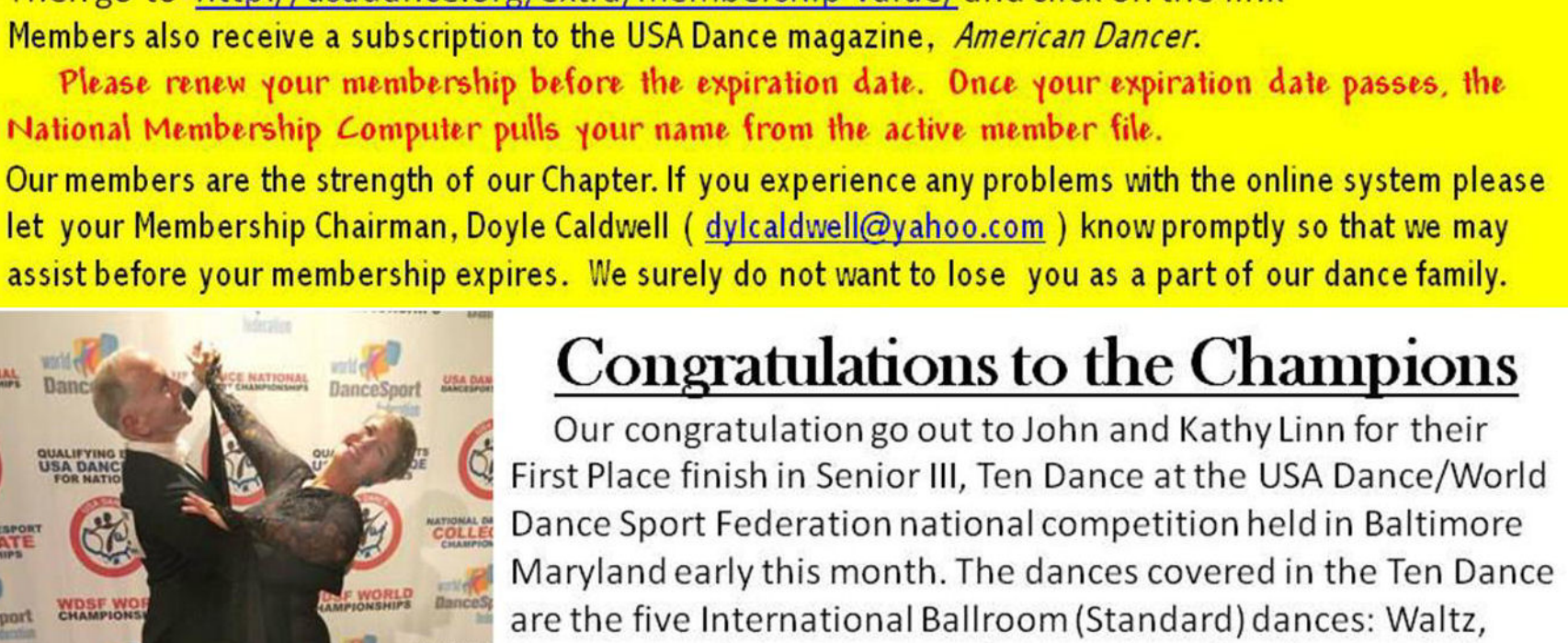
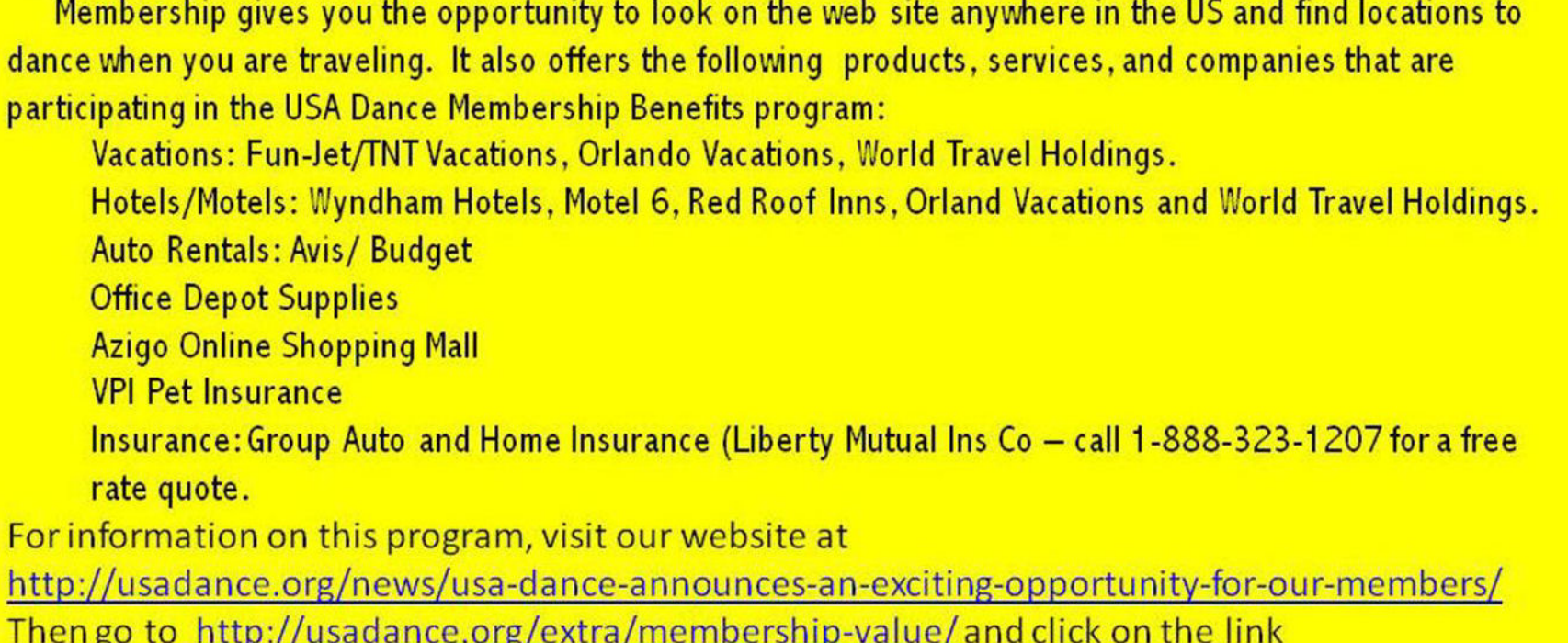
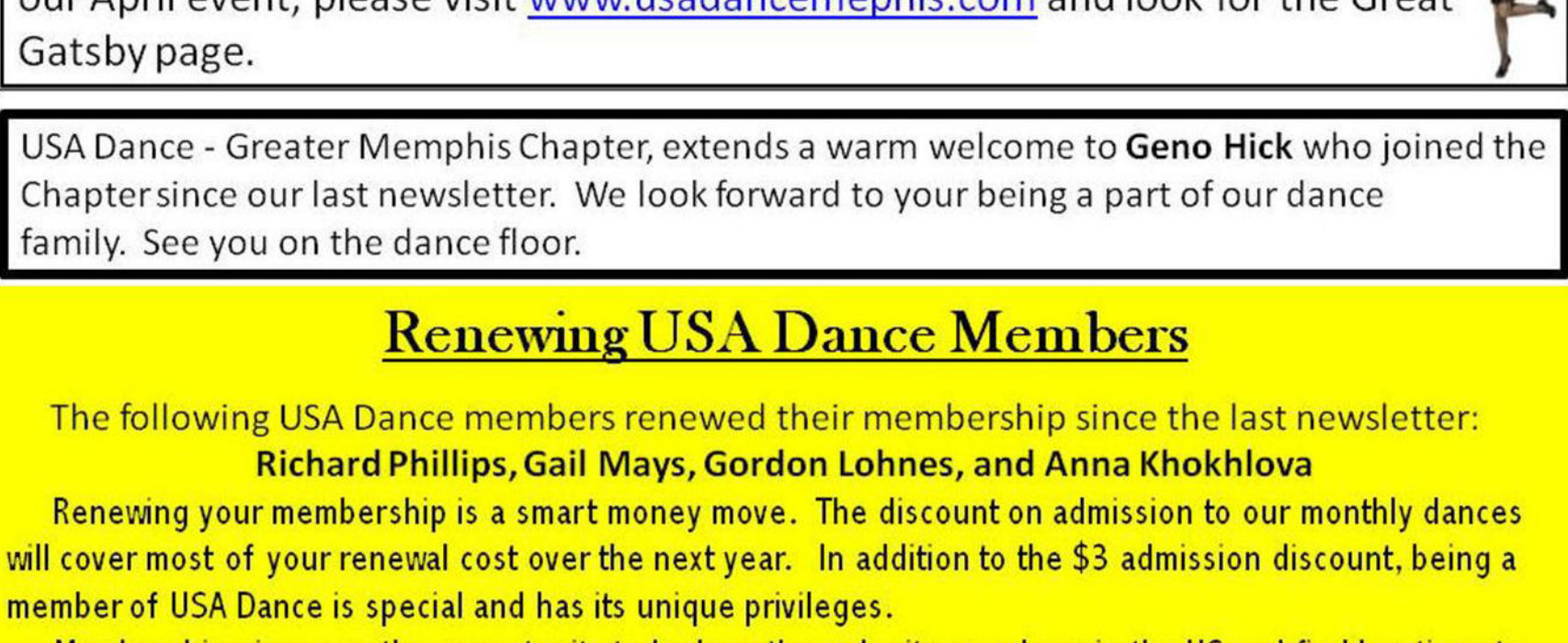
**A LITTLE CHARLESTON - JORJA & TROU** **Jorja Jolly & Ben Quickstepin' it!**



**The Edd Jones Orchestra**



**Volunteer of the Month**



We would like to thank Sylvia Rose for the extensive art/editing work she performed on many of the photos used in this newsletter. For more photos of our April event, please visit [www.usadancememphis.com](http://www.usadancememphis.com) and look for the Great Gatsby page.

USA Dance - Greater Memphis Chapter, extends a warm welcome to **Geno Hick** who joined the Chapter since our last newsletter. We look forward to your being a part of our dance family. See you on the dance floor.

**Renewing USA Dance Members**

The following USA Dance members renewed their membership since the last newsletter: Richard Phillips, Gail Mays, Gordon Lohnes, and Anna Khokhlova. Renewing your membership is a smart money move. The discount on admission to our monthly dances will cover most of your renewal cost over the next year. In addition to the \$3 admission discount, being a member of USA Dance is special and has its unique privileges.

Membership gives you the opportunity to look on the web site anywhere in the US and find locations to dance when you are traveling. It also offers the following products, services, and companies that are participating in the USA Dance Membership Benefits program:

- Vacations: Fun-Jet/TNT Vacations, Orlando Vacations, World Travel Holdings.
- Hotels/Motels: Wyndham Hotels, Motel 6, Red Roof Inns, Orland Vacations and World Travel Holdings.
- Auto Rentals: Avis/ Budget
- Office Depot Supplies
- Azigo Online Shopping Mall
- VPI Pet Insurance
- Insurance: Group Auto and Home Insurance (Liberty Mutual Ins Co - call 1-888-323-1207 for a free rate quote.

For information on this program, visit our website at <http://usadance.org/news/usa-dance-announces-an-exciting-opportunity-for-our-members/>. Then go to <http://usadance.org/extra/membership-value/> and click on the link. Members also receive a subscription to the USA Dance magazine, *American Dancer*.

Please renew your membership before the expiration date. Once your expiration date passes, the National Membership Computer pulls your name from the active member file.

Our members are the strength of our Chapter. If you experience any problems with the online system please let your Membership Chairman, Doyle Caldwell ( [dylcaldwell@yahoo.com](mailto:dylcaldwell@yahoo.com) ) know promptly so that we may assist before your membership expires. We surely do not want to lose you as a part of our dance family.

**Congratulations to the Champions**

Our congratulation go out to John and Kathy Linn for their First Place finish in Senior III, Ten Dance at the USA Dance/World Dance Sport Federation national competition held in Tallamore Maryland early this month. The dances covered in the Ten Dance are the five International Ballroom (Standard) dances: Waltz, Foxtrot, Quickstep, Tango, and Viennese Waltz, along with the five International Latin Dances: Rumba, Samba, Paso Doble, Cha-Cha, and Jive, as defined in ballroom dancing. Excellence in this arena is no small feat.

We applaud your accomplishment and look forward to again being treated to a Showcase of your championship style at one of our local dance events soon.

**USA Dance - The Charitable Organization**

USA Dance is a tax-exempt non-profit organization. We are classified as a 501c3 charitable organization by the Internal Revenue Code, which means the organization is tax exempt because of its established missions and purpose. Monetary donations qualify as tax deductions for corporations, groups, and individuals. As you are aware, we annually hold a charitable dance event for the benefit of Le Bonheur Children's Hospital. We encourage you to contact local businesses you frequent to be sponsors and/or donate to this effort. We will provide a receipt for their donation so that they can deduct it from their taxes when they file with the IRS.



**TID BITS Group Class**

**Quick Steppin' in**

"YES SIR, THAT'S MY BABY" Don't mean maybe... Under the expert guidance of Jorja Jolly, all these Beginners danced their quarter turns and lock steps great in just one hour!

AND "Swinging on down the Avenue", Jorja introduced a new tuck/throw-out-circle your partner trick, to the delight of the advanced group, crying more, we want more!

Quick Step is considered an International, Standard dance. To start the dance, properly, the man prepares with the L. leg to take the first step on the beat of four, then takes the last step on the beat of one with his R ... We are now off for the first, natural (R) quarter turn. The Lady proceeds, like Ginger Rogers, (backwards & in high heels). Quick Step is fast paced, so get your feet out of the way ladies!



Jorja is a professional in all aspects of her life and personal approach to dance instruction. She is currently teaching at Ultimate Ballroom. Jorja and Ben Stovall, who both performed at our Great Gatsby Dance and have instructed for USA Dance many years. They're always enthusiastic offering their support and help to USA Dance and the dance community. Thank You!

**NO GROUP CLASSES WILL BE HELD IN MAY**

CLASSES WILL RESUME ON JUNE 5 CONTINUING JUNE 12 - 19 - 26

**JUNE INSTRUCTOR: JOSEPH RUKENDRIGER...Teaching Viennese Waltz & TANGO!**

Enjoy Mother's Day and Memorial Day and attend our **BIG CINCO De MAYO CELEBRATION ON MAY 14** AT Covenant UMC. We have a surprise showcase for you in May! AND It's South of the Border Attire!

**June W. Waltz Class starts at 6pm The Tango Class starts at 7:15pm...Only \$7 per class / Students with ID 1/2...Kids under 18 only \$3. All classes held at Berclair Civic Club 743 Novarese at Tutwiler.**



**C U on the LO D ! Sylvia Rose, Group Class Director - For more information call 901-386-2003**

The dance floor on this special April night was full of light, as the Edd Jones Orchestra floated the music across it crisp and bright. With Quick Step, Waltz, and Swing to cure our winter pains, and send dance fever through all our veins. Together the fun times this USA Dance crowd did bring, as we danced with all the joy of spring.

