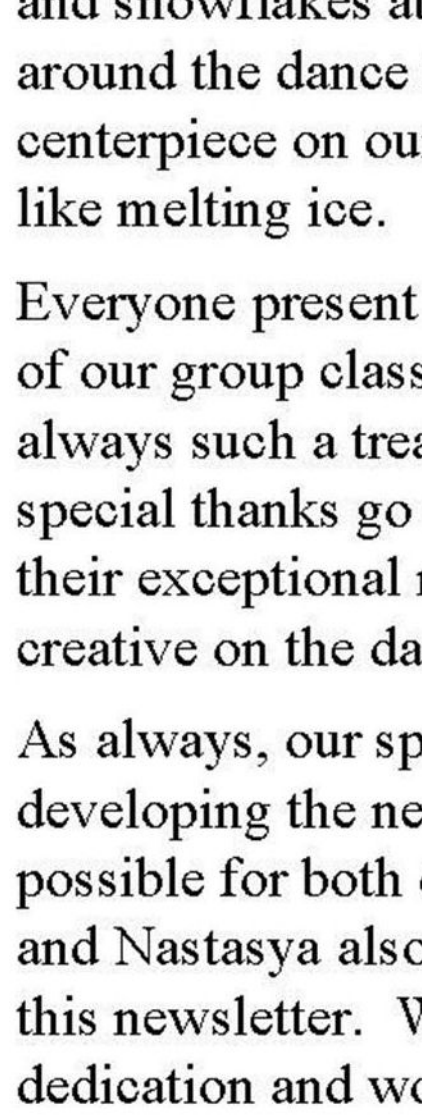


January 2016 Newsletter

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



Happy New Year, fellow USA Dance members and friends! There was no snow when the joyous winter crowd gathered early this month for our Snowball Gala at Covenant United Methodist Church but the warm camaraderie and excitement were everywhere. Eighty-Two USA Dance members and their guests danced the evening away as the new surround sound system filled the hall and floated the ballroom music across the floor from every direction. Even without any snow, Carole Eady created a winter wonderland with crystal towers and snowflakes atop the silver table coverings to project our theme around the dance floor. She also carried this theme to the elegant centerpiece on our buffet table where the goodies seemed to disappear like melting ice.

Everyone present was treated to an outstanding Waltz showcase by two of our group class instructors, Ben Stovall and Jorja Jolly. This duo is always such a treat to watch as they elegantly glide across the floor. Our special thanks go out to everyone who supplemented the buffet with their exceptional recipes. It seems that many of our dancers are not just creative on the dance floor.

As always, our special thanks to Tim Hnat for his expertise in developing the new sound system and making the high quality of sound possible for both our dance and announcements during the breaks. He and Nastasya also manned the camera for most of the photos you see in this newsletter. We cannot thank our volunteers enough for their dedication and work in setting up and taking down our dance each month. Without these special people we would have no dance.

February will bring our Valentine Ball celebration on the 13th. This is always a special dance event! We hope you will join us for more fun on the dance floor at Covenant United Methodist Church.

**Dance Photos - January Dance**



Performing an American Open Waltz  
**Ben Stovall**  
and partner **Jorja Jolly**  
Ultimate Ballroom  
USA Dance - 2012  
Snowball Gala - Jan. 9, 2016

Geeez! Do you never stop with that camera?

Hold on a second and I will Google that dance step for you.

You had better get that camera away from me!

I'm telling you, it was this big!

Did you hear what he just said?!

USA Dance - Greater Memphis Chapter, extends a warm welcome to **Todd Doyle** 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: **Terry Akins, Shirley Akins, Cissy Prestage, Wilk Dedwylder, Kenneth Blankenship, Betty Blankenship, Bob Bostick Jr, Jennifer Bostick, Caren Vitell, John Wasileski, John Linn, and Charles Garrett**

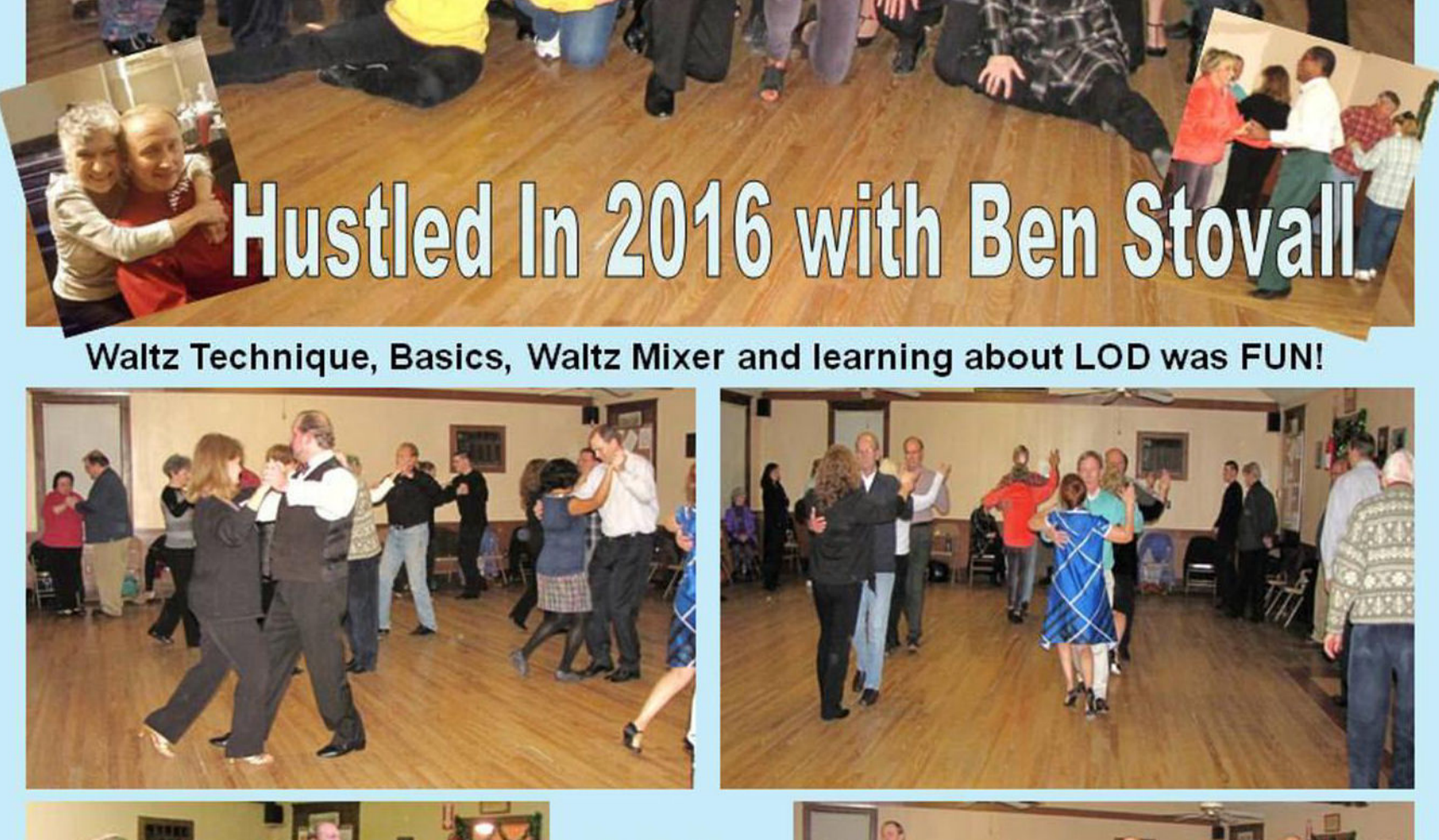
Renewing your membership is a smart money move. The discount on addition to our monthly dances will cover most of your renewal cost over the next year. In addition to the \$3 admission discount, being a member of USA Dance is special and has its unique privileges.

Membership gives you the opportunity to look on the web site, services 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.**

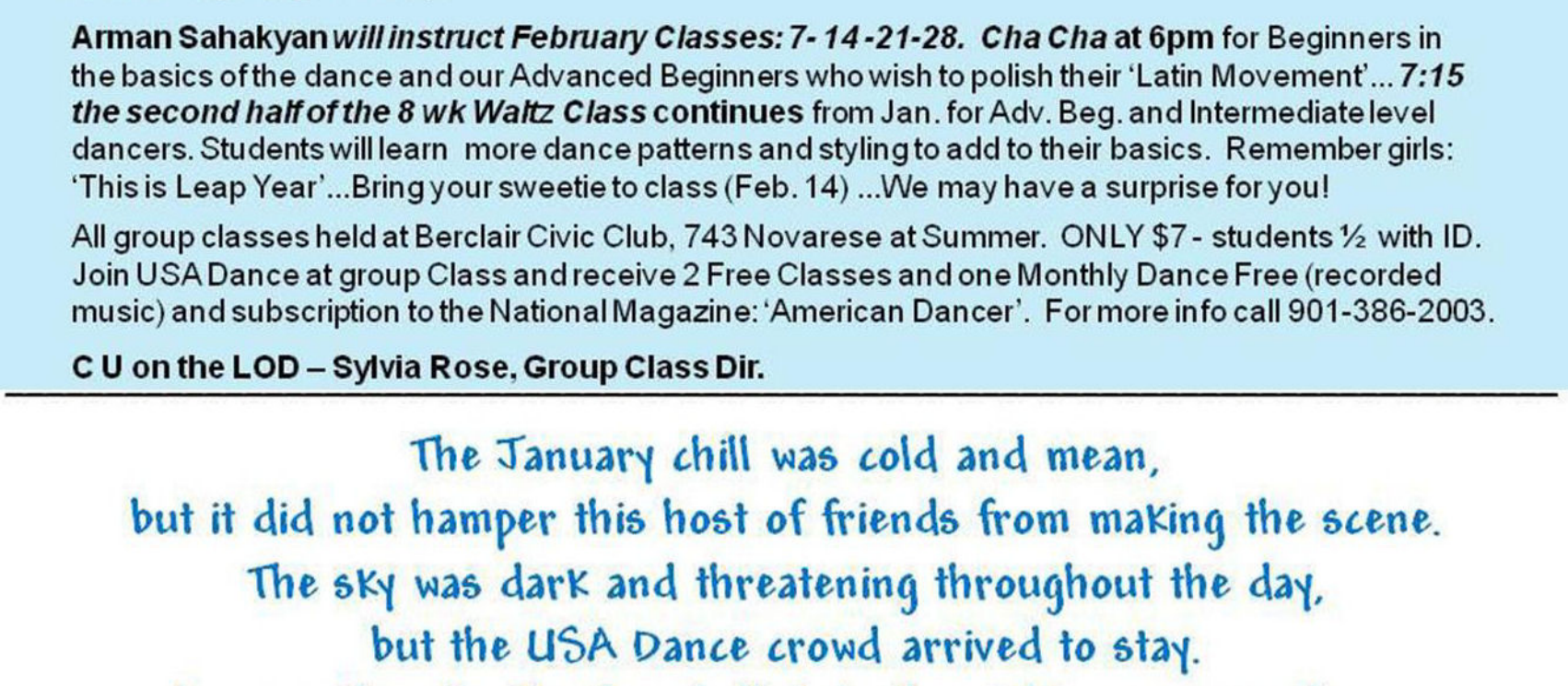
**Please renew your membership before the expiration date. Once your expiration date passes, the National Membership Computer pulls your name from the active member file.** Our members are the strength of our Chapter. If you experience any problems with the online system please let your Membership Chairman, **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.



**Group Class Tid Bits**



**Hustled In 2016 with Ben Stovall.**  
Waltz Technique, Basics, Waltz Mixer and learning about LOD was FUN!



**WOW – THIS IS A RECORD BREAKING GROUP CLASS OF DANCERS!**



Ben demonstrates the: "And One"- syncopation with under arm R. & L. turn.



....and Martha can LEAD!

**Happy New Year to all our Dancers!** Berclair venue was filled with happy feet and happy faces. **Ben Stovall** instructed Basic I, Waltz class emphasizing the proper frame, footwork, technique of body turn, and promenade as well as moving in progression on LOD and under arms turns. At 7:15 the floor was crowded with "Hustlers, beginning with proper timing of 'and one' syncopation then step-step (in place)...There's a lot going on in only 3 beats of music-but everyone accomplished that with a little bit of sassy hip movements as well. We want to thank Ben and partner Jorja Jolly for their Waltz showcase at the "Snowball Gala" on Jan. 9, 2016. Both are instructors for Ultimate Ballroom Studio. All of our instructors participate for Our Chapter in any way when asked and that, my friends, is a trait of a "Professional".

I want to thank Lee Bodeen, Host and members of our Board: Pam Vaughn; Gail Mays; Robert White and Jane Hester who assisted at our desk and kept a watchful eye for partner rotation, making sure all the ladies got to partner-up.

**Arman Sahakyan will instruct February Classes: 7-14-21-28. Cha Cha at 6pm** for Beginners in the basics of the dance and our Advanced Beginners who wish to polish their "Latin Movement"...7:15 the second half of the 8 wk Waltz continues from Jan. for Adv. Beg. and Intermediate level dancers. Students will learn more dance patterns and styling to add to their basics. Remember girls: "This is Leap Year"...Bring your sweetie to class (Feb. 14) ...We may have a surprise for you!

All group classes held at Berclair Civic Club, 743 Novarese at Summer. ONLY \$7- students ½ with ID. Join USA Dance at group Class and receive 2 Free Classes and one Monthly Dance Free (recorded music) and subscription to the National Magazine: "American Dancer". For more info call 901-386-2003. C U on the LOD – Sylvia Rose, Group Class Dir.

The January chill was cold and mean,  
but it did not hamper this host of friends from making the scene.  
The sky was dark and threatening throughout the day,  
but the USA Dance crowd arrived to stay.  
As we gather for the Snowball Gala the nights are never long,  
because this group of friends enjoy each other and a dancing song.

