DANCE
BULLETIN

USA DANCER

Where The Beat and Friendly People Meet

July 2014 Newsletter

Comments from our President – Robert White:

The USA Dance event this month, Red White & Cool, was an outstanding success as we celebrated the United States of America. The July heat did not hinder the one hundred thirty-five members and their guests at Covenant United Methodist Church as we honored our military veterans with a rousing round of applause for their service and our freedoms they have protected. We were privileged to have three USA Dance members from sister chapters in Florida, Massachusetts, and Arizona join us on the dance floor this month.

The theme of our event was well displayed on every table around the dance floor and the buffet table by Carole Eady's creative use of the flag with corresponding red, white, and blue ribbon and decorative bags atop mirrors. Many compliments were heard from the dancers about the improved sound quality at this event, and we thank Charles Cox for his work toward making this happen and to Tim and Nastasya Hnat for the excellent program of dance music they created for the event. Many thanks also go out to our dancers who contributed their special recipes to the spread of delights on the buffet table.

During the break we held a drawing, won by USA Dance member Valerie Brondo, for the gift certificate so graciously donated by John and Peggy Wilson of Dance Shoes of Tennessee. John and Peggy were in attendance at our event and Peggy drew the winning ticket for us. Check out the dance photos below for a photo of the presentation to the winner.

Our dance next month is again scheduled at Covenant United Methodist Church for August 9. This will be our annual Blue Bell Ice Cream Social Dance. Besides the *make your own ice cream sundaes* and other delights that make this event special, the dance itself will afford you some unique opportunities. Earlier in the day, prior to our dance event, there will be a District Meeting of representatives from USA Dance chapters over the southeast plus some from USA Dance national in Memphis to attend. Many of them will be staying over to attend our dance, and this will give you a unique opportunity to meet them as you share a dance floor and a scoop ice cream.

A Big
Ice Cream Party

This dance event has grown in popularity each year since it started and now has become a highlight dance in Memphis. Mark your calendar so you will not miss out on all the fun.

Dance Photos - July Dance

The winner is...

And another thing!!

Our Music and Sound Team hard at work.

Welcome to new friends from sister USA Dance Chapters

The Newly Weds
Welcome New

Members

That is a RED TIE with some *CLASS*!

Someone needs to find this lady a date that can stay out past 9 p.m.!

One of these will be the winning ticket.

USA Dance - Greater Memphis Chapter, extends a warm welcome to **Tim and Ginger Thompson, Niklas Yli-Piipari, and Saray Yli-Piipari** who joined the organization since our last newsletter. We look forward to your being a part of our dance family. See you on the dance floor.

Renewing USAD Members

The following USA Dance members renewed their membership since the first of the month:

Carolyn Fletcher
Marilyn White
Robert White

The discount on admission to our monthly dances will more than cover your renewal cost over the next year.

The strength of our Chapter is our members. Please renew your membership as soon as you receive your renewal notice. If you experience any problems with the online system please let us 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.

USA Dancers Seen at Hope Presbyterian Caribbean Night

"Hey Mon" - Hope Presbyterian hosted a fun Caribbean theme dance with all the trimmings, Leis, food, grass skirts, fellowship, a Rumba lesson and happy music.

Arman & Diane;
Gail & Jerry;
Woody & Pam;
Sylvia, Ed &
Larry; Pam &
Caribbean Ben.

Thank you "Hope"

ANNA KHOKHLOVA'S PASSION FOR DANCING

There are short-cuts to happiness,
and dancing is one of them

ANNA'S PASSION FOR DANCING

(a note from Anna's dance instructor and partner, Sami Yli-Piipari)

One year ago, Anna contacted me and expressed her interest to learn international ballroom technique. This would be the beginning of a journey to master gold level skills and techniques in five of the international dances as presented in IDTA and ISTD (*USA Dance Techniques*) syllabi.

Throughout the year, Anna showed incredible dedication and determination to learn the gold patterns and to execute the proper technique for all the international dances. Her natural ability and her ear for music were a great asset during learning process.

Finally, in June 2014, we beautifully performed all the gold level routines in ENGLISH WALTZ, TANGO, VIENNESE WALTZ, FOXTROT, and QUICKSTEP.

Well done and congratulations on your accomplishments, Anna!

Sami Yli-Piipari.

Note from the Editor: Anna Khokhlova is a long time member of USA Dance Memphis and Sami Yli-Piipari, in addition to also being a member of USA Dance Memphis, is a USA Dance Sport Official. We join in congratulating Anna on her accomplishments.

Group Class Tid Bits

ON VACATION !

In the good ole summer time everyone is headed to the lake, farm, beach, mountains and streams but we can always find a few dancing friends in America on the internet: www.USADance.org.

If you are not a member of USA Dance we would like you to join our wonderful, friendly family of dancers. Our Greater Memphis Chapter offers inexpensive group classes to beginner & intermediate dancers taught by local, professional instructors on Sunday evenings. We are currently on vacation through August but we'll start classes again September 7, for social dancing.

The current issue of *American Dancer* highlights social dancing and all the benefits of just having fun, and that's what our classes are all about. The first class of each month introduces you to the dance and basics then each Sunday thereafter builds your knowledge and dance skills. By the 4th week, you are dancing the dance. Each month we offer different dances and instructors, giving you a choice to continue with group classes or seek private instruction to refine your technique and patterns of all the American style dances. Everyone was a beginner sometime, so let's dance anywhere, anytime.

Group Class Fall Schedule: **September**, Waltz & Mambo, Leigh Ann Bishop - **October**, Quick Step and FoxTrot, Joseph Rukendorfer - **November**, Samba & Tango, Arman Sahakyan. Please be advised that this schedule may change, Updates will be on www.usadancememphis.com

Attend the Ice Cream Social on August 9, 7pm at Covenant United Methodist Church. Do we have a treat in store for you! Two showcases will be presented with Jorja Jolly & Ben Stovall performing a Fox Trot and Kathy and John Linn performing a Latin number. **CU on the LOD, Sylvia Rose, Group Class Director.** Phone 901-386-2003 for more Group Class information.

USA Dance Group Classes are only $7 per class. Membership in USA Dance is $25 a year which offers benefits of discounts to all our monthly dances and to dances at all chapters of USA Dance around the country, and you will receive the national magazine, *American Dancer*. USA Dance is part of World Dance Sport Federation and Olympic Multi-Sport Organization.

Here it is July already and about it, it's hard to speak,
it seems our new year's dance just started the other week.
It's hard to grasp it's already July,
and half the year we have now danced by.
We've all looked forward to July and knew,
that dancing was fun in such a month as you.
The USA Dance crowd moves across the floor in lively strokes,
and we all enjoy being with this pleasant crowd of dancing folks.