DANCE BULLETIN

USA DANCER

Where The Beat and Friendly People Meet
www.usadancememphis.com

February 2017 Newsletter

Comments from our President – Robert White

The weather cooperated again this month with very un-winter like conditions as we arrived at Covenant United Methodist Church for our February dance. Our Dean of Decor, Carole Eady, again applied her unique talents and transformed the hall into a *Valentine Wonderland* with an array on the buffet table of bright red apples floating in a crystal tube of water with hearts and flowers and heart red candles over mirrors on the tables around the dance floor. Flowing red dresses, shirts, and ties were in abundance as eighty-eight USA Dance members and their guests moved on to the dance floor for the Valentine Ball. With our warmer than normal Mid-south winter in full swing, this crowd of friends danced the evening away as the exciting tempos of Ballroom music floated across the floor.

The crowd was enthralled with the two Showcases performed by our Group Class instructor for the month, Arman Sahakyan. During the first break, he and his student Xiaoyan Zhu performed a beautiful Argentine Tango. For the second break, his student Cathy Liao, joined him for an expressive Foxtrot to the song, *Kiss in the Rain*. We thank them for sharing their talent and time for our enjoyment.

Our thanks also go out to all our dancers who contributed to the buffet. These special dishes each month add to the variety and quality of the delights we enjoy at our dances. Dr. Tim Hnat performed his outstanding work with our sound equipment, for which we are very grateful. He and his wife, Nastasya, took turns behind the camera to record the fun and action on the dance floor. Most of the photos in this newsletter are the result of their outstanding work. We thank you for all you do for the Chapter.

The local Dance Studios and Independent Dance Instructors are the mainstay of Ballroom dancing in the Memphis area. USA Dance sponsors group classes and we hire professional instructors from these venues to introduce new dancers to this fun activity. This group of professionals turn individuals into accomplished dancers. Three area dance instructors (Charles Cox, Joseph Rukendorfer, and Arman Sahakyan) attended our Valentine Ball. We always welcome local instructors and studios when they choose to attend our events. It gives us the opportunity to expose our attendees to the dynamic skills these professionals offer.

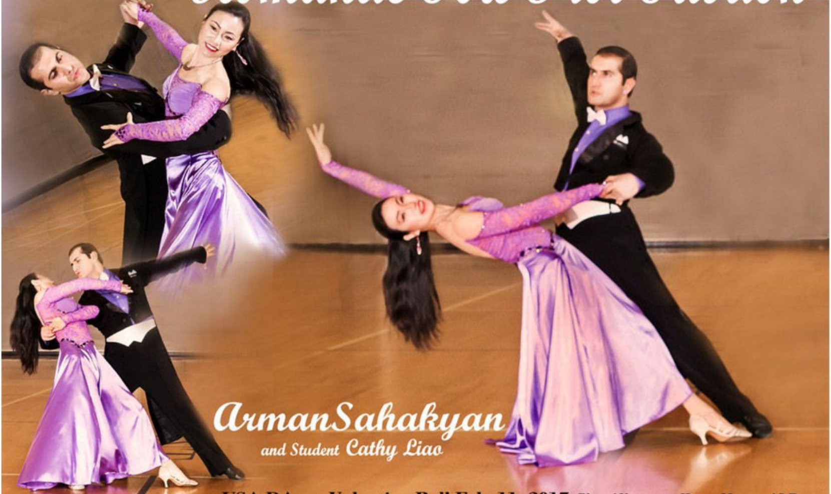
Next month we will celebrate the approach of Spring with a St. Patty Party. No green beer, but you can expect a lot of outstanding music, shamrocks, green attire, and an overall great dance opportunity on the second Saturday of March. Hope you will join us on the 11th for an enjoyable evening on the dance floor.

Dance Photos - February Dance

Arman Sahakyan
The Argentine Tango ~ to Love
and Student Xiaoyan Zhu

USA Dance Valentine Ball, Feb. 11, 2017 Photos by Nastasya Hnat - Montage by S. Rose

Romantic Fox Trot Fustion



ArmanSahakyan
and Student **Cathy Liao**

USA DAnce Valentine Ball Feb. 11, 2017 Photo/ Naastasya Hnat - Montage/ S.Rose

Happy Valentine's Day

Is it warm in here?

That can't be right!

KEEPING LEE COOL

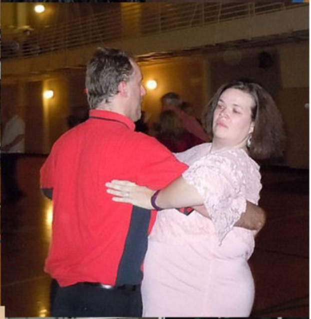
Someone has been messing with my camera!

It surely doesn't feel like February?
It feels a lot more like July!

Yes, it's up there!
The formula is actually...
$\{az^{2} + \surd \tfrac{1}{2} sa^{2\wedge}+pi\}$
?
Yea! They're right. It's Hot in here!

!
If that camera flashes,
I'll stick this fork
in your ear!
Here's what I think
of that camera!

And then she said...



PLAYER-FOUL
MATCH

USA Dance - Greater Memphis Chapter, extends a warm welcome to **Ann Taylor, Jean Hayden, Martha Jones, Ross Phillips and Katie Harrison** 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:

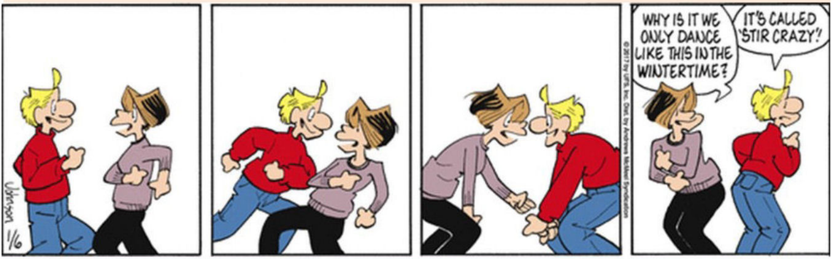
Roy Moseley, Josie Howser, Leo Koulogianes, Einir Valdimarsson, Debbie Sterbin, Sherry Bright, Howard Glatstein, Jack Taylor, Sandra Shinault, and Charles Solis.

USA Dance Membership Has Some Impressive Benefits

Renewing your membership is a smart money move. The discount on admission to our monthly dances alone 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.
For information on these and other programs, 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 or 901-355-3297) 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.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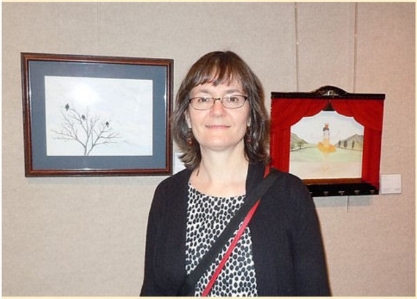
WHY IS IT WE ONLY DANCE LIKE THIS IN THE WINTERTIME?
IT'S CALLED 'STIR CRAZY'!

USA Dance Members off the Dance Floor



All of us have a life away from the dance floor and our lives and talents are as unique and varied as our faces. Frederique Zindy is no exception. Early this month, Frederique demonstrated that in addition to being an accomplished dancer, she is an accomplished artist with her part in the show *Collaborations* at the Shainberg Art Gallery, which is located at the Jewish Community Center on Poplar Avenue in Memphis. This was a special showing of art created by twenty-three artists, members of TN Craft Southwest, who work in partnership with other artists working in different media to create exceptional collaborative pieces.

Her fellow USA Dance members give Frederique a rousing round of applause for her talent both on and off the dance floor.

It's Love & Class Tid Bits

Arman's Super Argentine Tango Bowl Dancers ~

In Love with Rumba

'Dancing out of the Box' with Instructor ARMAN Sahakyan! USA Dance sponsored Argentine Tango, offering a new experience to expand the knowledge base of Social Ballroom Dancing. A little challenge, a little change, nothing ventured-nothing gained!

Arman travels extensively bringing a unique feeling of expression to the music and style of ethnic and Ballroom dances to our group classes from his studies in Argentina, Cuba and Russia.. Instructing as an 'Independent', Arman teaches all American and International styles of dance as well as specialized dance forms. Thank You Arman for sharing your Talents!

March brings us Jorja Jolly, instructing SALSA at 6pm and Waltz at 7:15pm. Offering you SALSA: another 'Dancing Out of the Box' dance experience for Beginners and Thrill Seekers.

A Thank You to our Assistant, Lee Bodeen & to Peggy Jones who always helps when needed.

Join USA Dance at group class and get a BIG PERK: 2 Free Classes! All Classes Taught at Berclair Civic Club, 943 Novarese at Tutwiler; $7 per class, Students $3; USADancememphis.com – Sylvia Rose, Group Class Dir.; 901-386-2003

The absence of winter chill as we gathered at Covenant was a fright,
but when this crowd of friends began to dance all was right.
The red dresses and ties with hearts hinted that Valentine's was near,
the romantic tempos of Waltz, Foxtrot, and Rumba were there for all to hear.
Our time together is enjoyment we will never forget,
as we all move along the dance floor without regret.
For this time, together the USA Dance crowd does always long,
but we know the fleeting evening will much too soon be gone.