DANCE BULLETIN

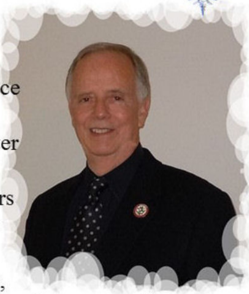
USA DANCER

Where The Beat and Friendly People Meet

www.usadancememphis.com

January 2017 Newsletter

Comments from our President – Robert White



Very un-winter like conditions greeted the USA Dance crowd as they gathered at Covenant United Methodist for the Snowball Gala on the 14th. None of the eighty one USA Dance members or their guests seemed to mind the unusually warm weather as they strolled onto the dance floor for this mid-winter celebration. January has proven to be a month in which our Chapter grows significantly with new members. Three dancers joined at the January dance, plus several joined on-line and at our Group Class this month. We report new members in this newsletter only as they are reported by our National data base, so it is possible not all of these will be listed in this month's newsletter. But all are welcome members of our dance family, and we look forward to sharing a dance floor with them. Any not listed in this month's newsletter will be listed next month.

· Everyone in attendance was treated to an elegant Foxtrot showcase performed by two of our Group Class instructors, Ben Stovall and Jorja Jolly – both are associated with Ultimate Ballroom Dance Studio. This is the same dynamic duo of professionals who appeared in Santa costumes and wowed the crowd at our dance event last month.

Our *Dean of Decorating*, Carole Eady, again performed her magic throughout the hall to project our Snowball Gala theme. From the buffet table to all the tables around the dance floor she created a winter wonderland for all to appreciate. The warm glow of candles inside hurricane lamps on each table reflected light from miniature mirror balls, which radiated in every direction. Carole's creativity is a constant amazement!

A very special thank you to our dancers who supplement our buffet table each month with their special recipes. I am always stunned that so many of our dancers excel in the culinary arts as well as on the dance floor. Dr. Tim Hnat continues to find time for turns around the floor with his wife and other ladies at our events, in addition to taking care of our sound equipment and using his camera to record activity on the dance floor. His versatility and skills are a valuable facet of our events!

Attendance at our dances by the local dance studios and independent dance instructors is a special pleasure for the Chapter and we encourage all of them to be a part of our dances. This month we were honored to have Ben Stovall and Jorja Jolly of

Ultimate Ballroom Dance Studio and independent instructors, Joseph Rukendorfer and Arman Sahakyan attend and take part in our event. Professional dance instructors are the backbone of the dance community and the key to its growth. When you decide to upgrade your dance skills, they are there for you!

Next month is our Valentine Dance, so…why not mark your calendar for the 2nd Saturday in February and make plans to dance with your Valentine around the floor with us. Hope to see you on the 11th.

Dance Photos - January Dance

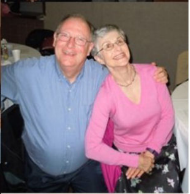
Snowball Gala ~
Ben & Jorja

Ben Stovall and Jorja Jolly of Ultimate Ballroom Fox Trot to: "Sharp Dressed Man"

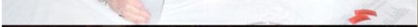
USA Dance Greater Memphis Chapter 2012- Jan.14,2017

Photos by: Tim Hnat
Montage by: Sylvia Rose

DECORATING GENIUS
AT WORK



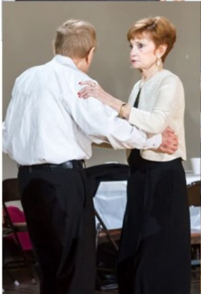
That's Outrageous!



Look! I've got the whole bag right here!!!

And...The Winner Is!

I´m telling you,
that is the way it is!



GUEST
HOME
PERIOD
PLAYER-FOUL
FOULS

OK!...What's going on here?

Yummy good!

USA Dance - Greater Memphis Chapter, extends a warm welcome to **Ellen Heldt**, **Darryl Nowag, Thomas George, and Thomas Simpson** 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:

Sue Evans, Gary Johanyak, Susan Johanyak, Terry Akins, Shirley Akins, Bob Bostick Jr., Jennifer Bostick, Wilk Dedwylder, Linda Westbrook, John Wasileski, John Linn, Kathy Linn, Kenneth Blankenship, Betty Blankenship, Caren Vitell, Scott Vitell, and Stephen Albers,

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.

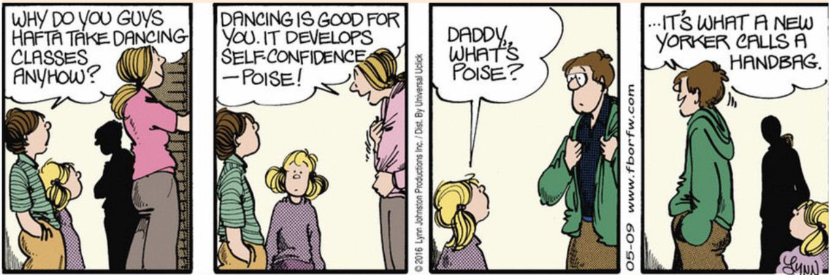
If you purchase office supplies and are a USA Dance member, be sure to use your **USA Dance Office Depot card** (*Not membership card*) at **Office Depot** and get good discounts. Go online to download the card and take it to Office Depot to get it laminated for free!

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.


WHY DO YOU GUYS HAFTA TAKE DANCING CLASSES ANYHOW?
DANCING IS GOOD FOR YOU. IT DEVELOPS SELF-CONFIDENCE —POISE!
DADDY, WHAT'S POISE?
...IT'S WHAT A NEW YORKER CALLS A HANDBAG.
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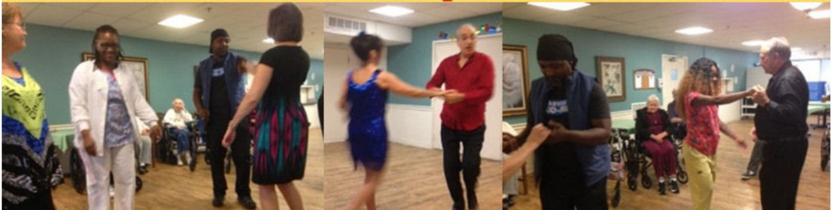
USA Dance Board of Directors - 2017

Jane Hester Robert White Nastasya Hnat Lee Bodeen

Pam Vaughn Doyle Caldwell Gail Mays Carole Eady Sylvia Rose

USA Dance Volunteers at Poplar Oaks Senior Center!

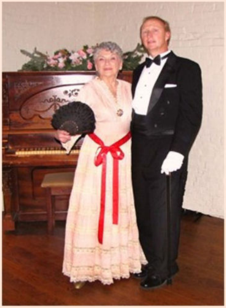


Earlier this month, seven USA Dance members took their dance shoes for a visit to Poplar Oaks Senior Center in Collierville, TN. These volunteers spent an hour dancing for and with the residents and staff of the Center. Everybody had a great time as several of the residents made it known they had danced on a regular basis in their younger days. We even learned that one of the residents had been a competitive Ballroom dancer in past years. This is an excellent Chapter outreach to the community we serve! You may join the effort by contacting our Volunteer Chairman, Jane Hester

(901) 853-1413, for future volunteer opportunities.

Dancing Back in Time

The "Rose Ball", a 149th Birthday celebration in memory of Mollie Fontaine, mistress of Woodruff Fontaine House Museum (part of Memphis' Victorian Village) was held on Jan. 19, 2016. Ballroom Dance Volunteers of Chapter 2012, dressed in Vintage costume, danced to Chamber music in the Parlor and Carriage House which were elaborately decorated to reflect the home's period in time. Our Volunteers were welcomed and greeted enthusiastically by the staff and Jennifer Cooper, Executive Director of the Museum.



Guests, with no dance experience requested to dance with our volunteers. They were amazed that with only a few minutes of instructions, they could actually *dance*. Our Volunteers were filled with hope that some participants would become perspective students for our Group Class and members of USA Dance. Although shivering in the cold pouring down rain as we departed, the 'Rose Ball' proved to be a fun and gratifying outreach event.

USA Dance Volunteers: Ladies: Jane Hester, event coordinator; Judy Cole; Gail Mays; Sylvia Rose and Frederique Zindy. Gentlemen: Lee Bodeen; Stanley Smilowitz; Barry Stanley and Michael Wiggins. *Photos and Article by: Sylvia Rose*

Group Class Tid Bits

JANUARY 2017

The weather was not so delightful but....

WHAT A WONDERFUL WAY TO START THE NEW YEAR !

BEN STOVAL enchanted all the students with his professionalism, winning and easy personality. Not only choreography and new patterns were introduced but my favorite - footwork, technique, connection and encouragement to PRACTICE !

Five NUBEES joined our USA Dance Family at Group Class. Each received 2 FREE classes and One Free Monthly Dance plus other PERKS!
Give our NUBEES a BIG WELCOME!

FOXY TROTTERS & HUSTLERS WITH BEN STOVALL - JAN, 2017 USA DANCE

HUSTLE CONNECTION

Demonstrating HUSTLE with a NUBEE connection! connection! connection! with a very small foot placement using the ball of the foot behind the heel of the other foot for the count…& 1-

and from here… facing Diagonal Center …

U R Ready 4 the "Grapevine"

-to Love in February

Group Class and The "Argentine Tango"

Instructor Arman Sahakyan

USA Dance offers this class for you with Instructor Arman Sahakayn, who has traveled to Argentina many times to study the uniqueness of this dance. The enchanting music and rhythm beckons your soul to Dance!

Los Gitanos

All Group Classes taught at Berclair Civic Club, 743 Novarese at Tutwiler: $7- Students $3: No Partner needed: Beginner classes at 6pm – 7:15 Adv. Beg./ Int.; more info: Sylvia Rose, group class Dir. 901-386-2003

As the USA Dance crowd at Covenant gathered around,
and moved inside to the ballroom sound.
A winter night, far short of ice and fields of snow,
the Foxtrot, Waltz, and Tango did flow.
An evening of joy on the floor to behold,
our dancers all Bronze, Silver, and Gold.
On this evening beneath the winter moon,
our farewell arrived much too soon.