DANCE BULLETIN

USA DANCER

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

March 2017 Newsletter

Comments from our President – Robert White

The traditional *Wearin' o' the Green* was evident as ninety-three USA Dance members and their Guests gathered for our annual St. Patty Party at Covenant United Methodist Church. Green dresses, jackets, ties, hats, and shamrocks were abundant in all directions and the blarney flowed from every lad and lassie in the ballroom. No Irish Jigs on the dance floor, but several Irish Waltz's whetted the ballroom appetite of this joyous group.

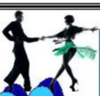
The festive mood was highlighted by a magnificent Gaelic-themed display on the buffet and the tables around the dance floor - created by our Duchess of Decor, Carole Eady.

All the lads & lassies in the hall were treated to two exceptional Showcases. During the first break, our Group Class instructor for March, Jorja Jolly, and student, Doyle Caldwell, performed a Waltz to the song *Serenade to Spring*. At our second break, Jorja and Ben Stovall, demonstrated the Salsa to the song *La Bamba.* Both Jorja and Ben are instructors with Ultimate Ballroom in addition to introducing new dancers to the joys of ballroom at our Group Classes. Doyle is also a member of your Chapter's Board of Directors.

Our gratitude is extended to all the dancers who supplemented the buffet table with their special recipes. It is obvious that many of our dancers excel in the culinary arts as well as dancing. Our Master of Sound & Photography, Tim Hnat, again demonstrated his expertise by floating the music across the floor as well as recording much of the action in photos that you see in this newsletter.

Local dance studios and independent dance instructors are the mainstay of the dance community in our area. It is these professionals who develop the skill of individuals to the level of competency and confidence necessary for them to enjoy ballroom dancing to the fullest. We always feel it is an honor when these professionals attend our events and bring their students. At our March event we were privileged to have representatives of Ultimate Ballroom Dance Studio, Jorja Jolly & Ben Stovall, and independent area instructor, Joseph Rukendorfer.

We have a very special dance coming next month – our annual Great Gatsby dance. This is quickly turning into a regional event with dancers from far and wide attending. This year it will be held at a location different from our regular venue, so…make note of this new location. We don't want you and your gang to arrive at the wrong place. The Great Gatsby dance will take place at: Crossroads UMC, 9315 E. Shelby Dr., Collierville, TN. We look forward to sharing a dance floor with you on April 8.



Dance Photos - March Dance

BEN & JORJA
SALSA with a bit of IRISH FUN

JORJA JOLLY & BEN STOVALL
Ultimate Ballroom Professionals

Turn up the Dance Heat with "La Bamba"

USA Dance ~ St. Patty Celebration ~ March 11, 2017

Photos/ N.Hnat Montage/ S.Rose

A Serenade to Spring

Jorja Jolly, Instructor with 'Ultimate Ballroom' and Student, Doyle Caldwell

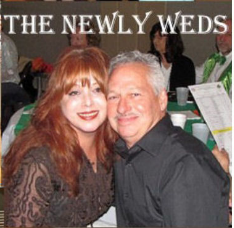
Showcase a Waltz to 'Serenade to Spring' - USA Dance 'St. Patty' Celebration, March11, 2017

Photos/ Tim Hnat Montage/S.Rose

USA DANCE
Greater Memphis Chapter 2012

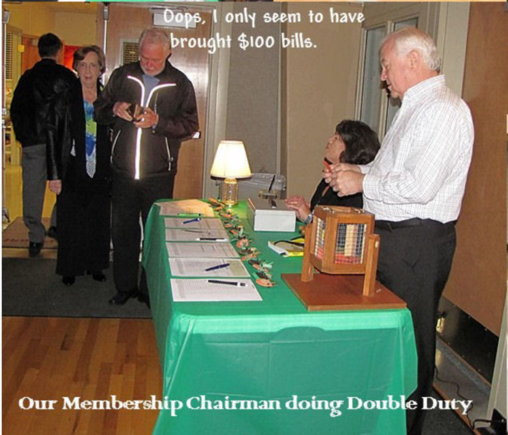
Master of Music at Work

THE NEWLY WEDS



FOULS
PLAYER-FOUL
FOULS
POINTS

I really like what you've done with your hair.



Oops, I only seem to have brought $100 bills.

Our Membership Chairman doing Double Duty

You know, I've never seen green coffee before!

THAT FINAL ARTISTIC TOUCH

GUEST
PERIOD
FOULS
POINTS

Is he pointing that camera this way!

Now Look Here! I´m only going to say this one more time!
Oh! Did he really say that!?

Get that camera away from me!

USA Dance - Greater Memphis Chapter, extends a warm welcome to **Regina Gillenwater** 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:

Camilla Wilson and Christine Allen

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.

Watch for an additional Membership Benefit being announced in the April Newsletter

LIZ AND I ARE GOING DANCING
www.facebook.com/garfield
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OH, I FORGOT!
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CHA-CHA-CHA!
THE WOMAN'S A SAINT
JIM DAVIS 9-14

Editors Note:
This is the seventh anniversary of this newsletter. If you are interested in seeing the very first issue, or any of the issues over the past years, you may do so by going to our website. You might find it interesting to view who attended our March 2010 dance and how much people/things (including this newsletter) have change in just a few years. All are welcome and we surely appreciate everyone who chooses to share a dance floor with us at our events.

We are expecting an unusual gathering of gangsters and their molls to be present on April 8, 2017 for the USA Dance Great Gatsby event at Crossroads United Methodist Church. Rumor has it that hit men and their entourages may be coming into town from surrounding states to join this unsavory gathering of *ne'er-do-wells* on the dance floor. This is one of our signature events of the year - so...mark your calendar, grab your Tommy-gun, and plan an exceptional evening of dance featuring the EDD JONES ORCHESTRA.

Tip-off...If you are challenged as you enter the *Speakeasy* on that evening, the pass word is *"USA Dance".*

USA Dance Volunteers visit Heritage at Irene Woods

Late last month, seven USA Dance members (Stanley Smilowitz, Barry Stanley, Gail Mays, Kathy Linn, Robert & Marilyn White, and Jane Hester) took their dance shoes for a visit to

Heritage at Irene Woods-Rose Senior Living facility in Memphis. These volunteers spent an hour dancing for and with the residents and staff of the Center. We promptly learned that several of the residents were dancers and they joined in eagerly. One of the ladies reported that in earlier years she had been a student of Joseph Rukendorfer, one of the local professional dance instructors who regularly teaches at our USA Dance group classes. It was a rewarding and pleasant experience for everyone involved.

This visit was 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.

Let Us Think About What Makes The "USA Dance Difference"

Thoughts for our Members and Friends

Reprinted here with permission of the author: Donald L. Davenport – President Southwest, FL Chapter #6049

USA Dance Inc is organized and operates exclusively for charitable and educational purposes and is approved by the Internal Revenue Service as a Section 501c(3) nonprofit organization.
What Does That Mean To Us?

Well, there are many Section 501c(3) nonprofit organizations in our great Nation. Most tend to the needs of unfortunate folks with a hard life and no resources or assistance. Many of us contribute to these organizations without thinking twice. There are organizations for veterans, such as the American Legion and the Veterans of Foreign Wars, that stand up for those who are presently or have served our Country. As a veteran of several years, I as many of you contribute to these worthwhile organizations. Honestly I can't name the many nonprofit organizations that do so much for our Nation.

So, what does this have to do with Ballroom Dance? Why get involved, why volunteer when somebody takes care of this stuff anyhow - it's there if you want it. While many dance organizations, studios, clubs, professional organizations provide social dancing, dance lessons, music and recreational dance activities, the public seldom gives this a passing thought. If they feel like dancing they select a venue and dance because it makes them feel good. Seldom do they look at dance as a life long healthy hobby!

The USA Dance experience is different, promoting the social, physical and mental benefits of dance through a National Volunteer Force that brings both the social and competitive aspects of dance to the local communities it serves and opens the doors to a lifestyle many people do not realize exists.

What can we do through this form of community volunteering?:

1) Introduce a healthy, social lifestyle to our friends in the surrounding area.
2) Provide economical beginner/Intermediate dance lessons for members/friends
3) Through outreach programs bring the joy of dance to those in retirement, assisted living and community programs to introduce dance to various age groups and others.
4) Sponsor/Host showcase and medalist programs for dancers that wish to improve their skills and bring dance to the attention of others.
5) Offer venues to serve members and friends of dance that are comfortable and non-intimidating for social activities.

HOW ABOUT YOU? Right now we do lots of stuff with few dedicated volunteers. Think about joining our "Happy Feet" program to dance at festivals, community activities, senior living facilities, charitable events etc. Maybe volunteer some time toward setting up or taking down furniture and equipment for chapter activities. Serving on the Hospitality Committees, maybe monthly, quarterly or even annually to make events go smooth with out overtaxing our volunteer force.

We hope to have committees to do many community involvement activities, the chamber of commerce, media events and more to bring ballroom dance to the forefront as a healthy, happy lifestyle for all to enjoy throughout the years of their life that may also be shared with family and friends. THINK ABOUT IT!

WHATEVER YOU DO, CONTINUE "Dancing for America"

Group Class Tid Bits

SALSA for Irish Thrill Seekers and Waltz Class with Jorja Jolly March 2017

WALTZ TECHNIQUE – SHOWS GOOD STRETCH AND FRAME

FUN WITH TRIPLE TURNS !

SMALL STEPS for SALSA

Faith n' Begorra – twas the month of green, the Irish Waltz and Irish Salsa? AND Jorja gave us a demo of the Salsa with the Irish Twist and the beginners did the Triple Turns!

It seems that everyone had FUN with this alternative dance (Salsa) offered in place of the Mambo. Jorja Jolly of Ultimate Ballroom, began teaching the technique, progressing slowly, then up to speed, which is fast, fast, fast. Jorja, emphasizing, said: "Take very small steps & stay close". We got a little dizzy learning the Triple Turns (lady turns underarm, man turns, crosses hands behind his back continuing to turn, then lady turns underarm). *If you don't fall over you have made it!*

APRIL - Sunday CLASS DATES!

April 2 & 9 (NO CLASS Easter- April 16) resume April 23 & 30

Desiree' McCain, of Blue Suede Ballroom will instruct: Beginner Quick Step at 6pm and W.C.Swing for all level dancers at 7:15pm.

All Group Classes held at Berclair Civic Club, 943 Novarese at Tutwiler - $7/ students/kids $3 - No partner needed. Our Beginner classes begin at 6pm sharp! Join USA Dance (only $35 a year) at Group Class (G.C.) and receive 2 Classes of 'your choice' FREE, a free monthly dance (recorded music) and the national magazine "*American Dancer*". What a deal !!! ***Come Join our G.C. family of "Nubees"!***

Sylvia Rose, Group Class Director. 901-386-2003

As the blowing March winds outside threaten mild destruction,
the USA Dance crowd gathered at Covenant for the tempo's seduction.
From the cool smooth Foxtrot pace to the gyrations of Mambo's fire,
they are always this group of friend's desire.
An evening when all that's seen,
is green, green, green!
The St Patty Party fun goes across the dance floor into the night,
and in its delight, the world seems bright.