DANCE BULLETIN

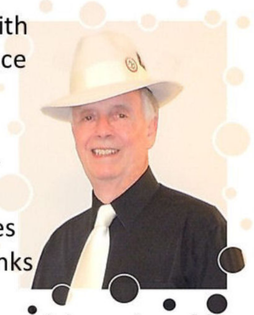
USA DANCER

Where The Beat and Friendly People Meet

www.usadancememphis.com

April 2019 Newsletter

Comments from our President – Robert White



F. Scott Fitzgerald would have been delighted with the atmosphere created for our Great Gatsby Dance at Advent Presbyterian Church's Life Center this month. Fedora hats and Flapper dresses were everywhere as one hundred thirty-nine dancers -- reflecting *images* of a time long past – moved on the floor to the exceptional music of The Edd Jones Orchestra. All the tables including the buffet, thanks to the decorating team, carried the theme with elegant art deco crystal center pieces. This was a special evening of fun for everyone.

Our special thanks to Mr. David Haines of Pyramid Electric, Inc for the loan of his vintage 1933 Auburn convertible for our event. This elegant classic automobile set the tone as we arrived, and provided the backdrop for unique photos of our attendees in their period costumes. Many of these can be seen throughout this newsletter.

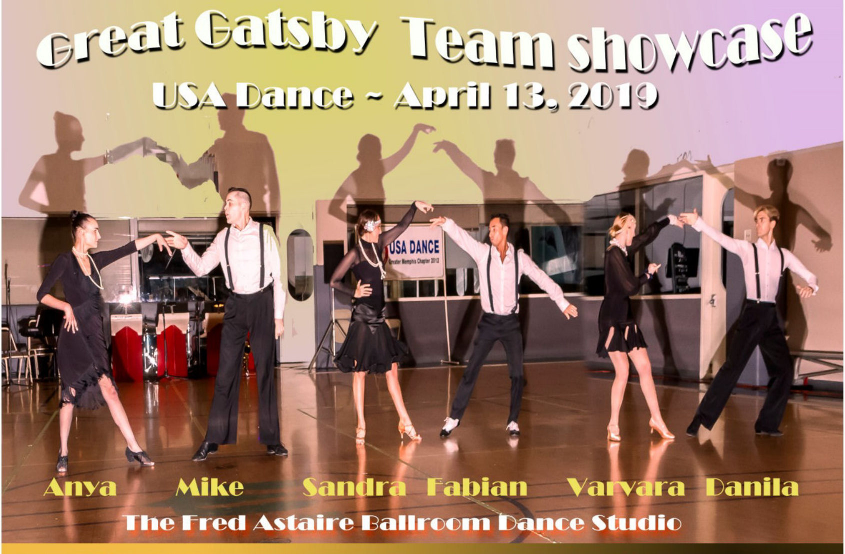
During the breaks, everyone was treated to Showcases by the Fred Astaire Studio's instructors performing a routine choreographed by studio owner, Evan Wellemeyer, to a medley from the music score of the *Great Gatsby*. We thank Sandra Korpitz, Mike McKerlie, Anya Drake, Varvara Zhigulskaya, Danila Dudin, and Fabian Garcia for sharing their time and talent. We also thank Tim Hnat for his expertise with the sound equipment to make possible our entertainment, dance mixers, and announcements during the breaks. We appreciate Tim and Nastasya's talent with the camera, which recorded the fun event. Many of their photos can be seen in this newsletter.

The culinary expertise of our dancers continues to amaze me with the special recipes they contribute to our buffet. Their dishes make our buffet special!

The most important people at our events are the dancers who attend. Without you we could not continue. Thank you for dancing with us.

Mark your calendar now to join us on the second Saturday in May. This will be our Spring Fling dance and we will be celebrating all the joys of springtime. Hope you will join us on May 11.

Dance Photos - April Dance


Great Gatsby Team showcase
USA Dance ~ April 13, 2019
USA DANCE
Greater Memphis Chapter 2012
Anya
Mike
Sandra
Fabian
Varvara
Danila
The Fred Astaire Ballroom Dance Studio

GREAT GATSBY

USA Dance chpt. 2012 ~ April 13, 2019

'Dream Team'

Of Fred Astaire Ballroom Dance Studio

Photos N.Hnat / Design S.Rose

Quick Step ~ Tango ~ Swing ~ Fox Trot ~ A Group Performance of Roarin' 20's Dancin'

The Edd Jones Orchestra

The Edd Jones Orchestra

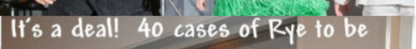
ROOM
USA DANCE
USA DANCE
USA DA
RESTRO

FIRESIDE ROOM
RESTROOMS

OOMS
AEROBICS ROOM

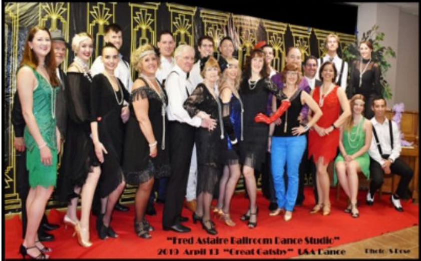
PERIOD
BONUS
BONUS
PLAYER
FOULS
FOULS
FOU

AEROBICS ROOM
DAN

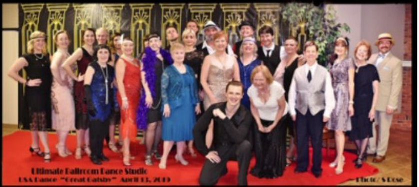

It's a deal! 40 cases of Rye to be

delivered from Canada by Friday night.

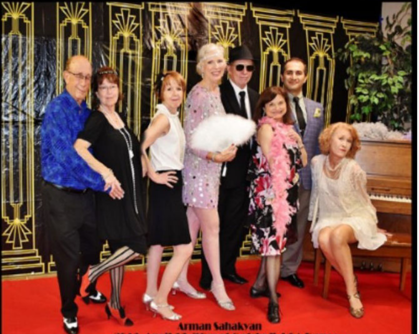
I just start at the top, like this, and pack it all the way down!



"Fred Astaire Ballroom Dance Studio"
2019 Arpil 13 "Great Gatsby" USA Dance Photo/S Rose



Ultimate Ballroom Dance Studio
USA Dance "Great Gatsby" April 13, 2019 Photo/ S Rose



Arman Sahakyan
2019 April 13 "Great Gatsby" USA Dance

Here's Ronnie!

...and the Cops came in and smashed all the barrels of hooch!

he gave his one and only SON,
GREEN ROOM

RACQUETBALL
AEROBICS ROOM
USA DA
BONUS
PERIOD
BONUS
FOULS
PLAYER
FOULS
FOULS
RACQUETBALL
RACQUETBALL

USA Dance - Greater Memphis Chapter, extends a warm welcome to **Jack Kenner** 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

Membership funds the majority of our organization's efforts and provides many benefits to dancers throughout the United States. One of the greatest benefits of membership in USA Dance is simply being an active participant in and supporter of this dynamic and effective leader, promoter, and supporter of ballroom dancing. Many members say that attending USA Dance events and association with the friends they make at those events quickly becomes a significant and very pleasurable part of their life. This applies regardless of age or whether the member is a Social Dancer, DanceSport Athlete, Student, or Junior dancer. Dancers who love to travel enjoy the instant social life they find while on vacation. Your membership in our Chapter also gives you a discount on admission to the dances held by our sister Chapters all over the country. So...when you travel take your dancing shoes and meet some new dancers.

The following USA Dance members renewed their membership since the last newsletter:

Kenneth Blankenship, Betty Burns Blankenship, Christine Allen, Sandra Shinault, and Jim Frommel

As you plan your summer travel - be sure to check out the values on car rentals, hotels and more with the USA Dance Membership Value Program.

As a member of USA Dance, you are eligible to access special benefits and discounts (a full list is on the website) Contact the vendors directly for more information on the items of interest to you and *read more about it on our website at http://usadance.org/extra/membership-value/ Visit other chapters as you travel - visit our "find a chapter" page at http://usadance.org/chapters/find-a-local-chapter/ to see if there is a chapter in an area you will be visiting. Click on the name for an opportunity to email the chapter directly or visit their website. Enjoying dances hosted by other chapters is great way to get new ideas for your own chapter.*

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 can assist before your membership expires. We surely do not want to lose you as a part of our dance family.

HERE'S THE SCOTT FITZGERALD HERO STANDING BY THE PUNCH BOWL "TRYING TO LOOK CASUAL AND UNINTERESTED IN THE DANCERS"

Did You Know

Quickstep was developed during the *Great Gatsby* era in New York City and was first danced by Caribbean and African dancers. Its origins are based upon a combination of slow foxtrot united with the Charleston, a dance which was one of the precursors to what today is called swing dancing.

One of the defining characteristics of the Quickstep is the static position of dancers from the waist up during its performance. Source: Wikipedia

Charles W. Cox

Charles Cox was a long-time member in the dance community, and we were saddened by his recent death. Charles received his dance training from Arthur Murray Dance Studio in Houston, and he taught there and in Memphis. He was a charter member of United States Amateur Ballroom Dance Association Chapter #2012, now called USA Dance. Charles served as VP on the USABDA board in 2002 and later, in 2014, he served on the Board of USA Dance.

Charles was an avid Duplicate Bridge player and a model train enthusiast. He also played saxophone in the Navy Band and as a teenager, in the Shrine Band. He participated in the original Memphis Cotton Carnival activities of years past. He was this year's *2019 King of the Grand Krewe of Phoenix of Carnival Memphis,* a charitable and social organization. He will certainly be missed!

TID BITS & Gatsby

EVAN & OUR HOTSIES
April is the Month for the 'Greatest Gatsby Dance on Earth' and all of these Happy Kids were getting ready for the Roarin' 20s Tango and hot Rumba. I was at my usual job, taking pictures for memory CDs but I got in the swing of things with this Fab Auto. ***HOTCHA!***

Evan Wellemeyer
Fred Astaire Ballroom Dance Studio, Germantown

We welcome **Evan Wellemeyer** to the USA Dance roster of Instructors. Evan is Owner of the Fred Astaire Dance Studio in Germantown as well as Glastonbury, CT. At age 20, he began competing professionally; later placing in Top 10 'Finalist' (6 of 65) in Pro/Am Bronze to Open at Ohio Star Ball and the Manhattan Amateur Competition and Ball. Evan Coaches Professional Couples, Teaches Beginners, is a Choreographer and is studying for exams to be an Adjudicator with NDCA. Evan strives to create a very high standard of quality for his instructors and students, saying: "It's not about the money and winning competitions, it's about dancing and all it has to offer an individual." **WELCOME !**

As the saying goes: "You had to be there" ! Body positions, 'the walk', the attitude and the in-depth instruction of technique while dancing syllabus patterns paid off. Students danced 'Tango' and learned about hip movement (what not to do in rumba) but how to do the correct weight change for Latin movement! The lessons were not just lessons but a 'mini workshop'. Everyone was seriously beaming with enthusiasm.

JUNE GROUP CLASS SCHEDULE: JUNE 2 - 9 - 23 & 30th

(WE WILL SKIP CLASS ON FATHER'S DAY, June 16)

ARMAN SAHAKYAN WILL INSTRUCT AMERICAN SMOOTH WALTZ AND ARGENTINE TANGO ! You won't want to miss these classes ~ Find the thrill of dancing the TANGO as danced in Argentina!

All Group Classes taught at Berclair Civic Club, 743 Novarese at Tutwiler; $7 per class/ students $3; no partner needed; EVERYONE WELCOME ~ Beginners and all level dancers. JOIN USA DANCE AT GROUP CLASS AND RECEIVE 2 FREE CLASSES OF YOUR CHOICE, PLUS 1 MONTHLY DANCE (recorded music only). JOIN US AND DANCE !

Sylvia Rose, Group Class Director ~ phone 901-386-2003 for more information

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With anticipation of tempos by Edd Jones throughout the day,
we gathered at Advent to dance all our cares away.
Such pure delight from Rumba, Tango, and Waltz is sent,
they bring to our soles such rich content.
With shades of Great Gatsby in the air,
our modern joy on the dance floor does compare-
We always seek to tarry there.