

July 2019 Newsletter

Comments from our President - Robert White

The summer heat and humidity, which is common to Memphis in July, was felt in abundance as seventy-one USA Dance members and their guests arrived at Advent Presbyterian Church's Life Center to *Celebrate America* and the freedoms we enjoy. Red, White, and Blue in the form of stars and stripes dominated the fashion of dress for the evening as the group expressed their appreciation for the service of all military veterans in attendance.

The Decorations Team spread the theme of the evening's festivities with American Flags in red, white, and blue decorative bases on each table and the buffet. Examples of these can be seen throughout the photos taken by Tim and Nastasya Hnat which follow in this newsletter. Their expertise with the camera is always appreciated, as well as Tim's handling of the sound equipment for our announcements and floating the music across the floor.

Not only do we have dancers with exceptional talents on the dance floor but many also excel in the culinary arts, as evidenced by the outstanding dishes contributed to our buffet. It is these donations which make our breaks between dances such a delight. We thank each and every one for your generosity.

Those who choose to attend our dance each month are the life blood which keeps us going. Without your support we could not continue. Our very special thanks to you!

Next month, on the second Saturday, is our annual Ice Cream Social event. You can expect generous scoops of ice cream on our buffet along with all the fixins' to make yourself a custom sundae. Why not mark your calendar to join us on August 10 for a fun evening of dancing -- punctuated with delicious side trips for ice cream treats.



Dance Photos - July Dance



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 dancers renewed their membership since the last newsletter:
Marilyn Kerr, Bill Beck, Ray Fleming, and Larry Moore

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.

Our members are the strength of our Chapter. If you experience any problems with the online system please let your Membership Director, Doyle Caldwell (dycaldwell@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.

New Derks for Membership Help Your Chapter recruit New Members

1. When a member brings or gets someone to join as a member of USA Dance, that member is granted free entry into one of our non-band dances.
2. When a member gets a member, who has been inactive for longer than 12 months, to renew their membership, that member will be granted free entry into one non-band dance.
3. When someone joins our Chapter they receive free entry into one non-band dance after their membership is confirmed from the national database plus they receive two free lessons at our Sunday Group Classes at Berclair Civic Center.

Did You Know

The Viennese Waltz is the oldest of all the ballroom dances, danced at the fast tempo that characterized the first waltzes. Later versions, such as the French and Boston waltzes, are much slower. The golden age of the Viennese waltz in Europe was the early 1800s, when Johann Strauss was composing. Its popularity has gone up and down, but it has never gone out of style. It is what we commonly call one of the "traveling dances," in which the couples travel counterclockwise around the floor. Viennese Waltz is classic "old-school" ballroom.

Information Source: Winepedia

The USA Dance crowd gathered in July, in celebration of our freedoms we enjoy thereby. The summer is well established, its solstice past, we know the longer days, they will not last. But Tango, Foxtrot, and Rumba were found, by this joyous group of friends by Ballroom bound. On evenings such as this we never lull, for the fun together is never dull. 'Tis hard to fathom its already July, and half the year we have now danced by.

