



June 2020 Newsletter

Comments from our President – Robert White



Months have passed since we have been able to enjoy a dance with our friends, and we are all experiencing a void of the mental, social, and physical benefits due to COVID-19. We want to be on the dance floor again; however, we need to use common sense and proceed cautiously based on recommendations of local health authorities.

We all know **social distancing** does not exist in a social dancing situation and we surely don't want this virus to invade our Dance Community. The first and primary line of defense, as we return to the dance floor, is to insure as best we can, that the virus is not present. As dance events start up in this area, you can expect new measures being taken at all dances to minimize the opportunity for anyone who is infected to enter. All dances will be asking everyone who is planning to attend to stay home if they are ill, running a fever, been exposed to anyone who sick, or just not is feeling well. If you are ill, please keep the rest of the Dance Community safe by staying home!

At our upcoming dance next month:

- You can expect the venue where the dance takes place to have been thoroughly sanitized. Our Chapter of USA Dance has obtained an antimicrobial (Microban®) used by hospitals which provides 24 hours of protection, even after multiple touches. This will be used on all surfaces which are normally handled by attendees in the venue prior to the event's start.
- We ask your indulgence to take your forehead temperature at check-in.
- For your own protection, hand sanitizers and sanitary handwipes will be provided, but feel free to bring your own to all dances you attend.
- In addition to all the efforts aimed at protecting attendees, it is likely dance venues will require contact information from you as you check-in. This will be required should the local public health officials need it for contact tracing.

Things are not the same as they were before the pandemic hit. It really is a **new normal** and it is likely we must live with it for some time to come.

As this is written, dances south of us in Desoto County Mississippi have already reopened and we plan to re-open both our July Group Classes as well as the monthly dance. Following in this newsletter are details of both.

Scheduled for July



FREEDOM CELEBRATION

JULY 11, 2020

Dance - Dance - Dance - 7 to 10pm

Advent Presbyterian Church

1879 N. Germantown Pkw. ~ Cordova

Admission \$10 ~ Non Members \$13 ~ Students/kids \$1/2

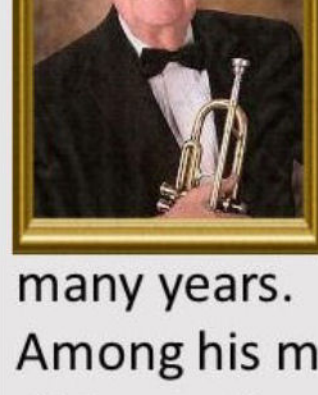
Due to Covid19 regulations as petitioned for events by USA Dance organization's guidelines in holding this active sport event, we kindly ask you to please stay at home if you have any temperature or symptoms of a cold or cough. Hand Sanitizer will be available or bring your own. We ask for your indulgence to take forehead temperatures at 'sign-in'. Seating as usual. Food will be limited to light snacks only. **Showcase, Chair Mixers, Friends and Your Favorite Ballroom DJ Dance music offers a night of FUN!

Information call: 901-619-3720 or 853-1413 ~ Please visit our web site: www.usadancememphis.com and LIKE our Page on Face Book - Thank You.

Around the White house



The strength of our organization is our membership. Please take action to renew your membership with USA Dance during these trying times. Your continued support is needed! If you experience any problems with the online system, please contact the Membership Chairman, Howard Glatstein, (howardglat@comcast.net or call 901-484-3315) promptly so that we can assist before your membership expires.



Dr. Lloyd Edward (Edd) Jones, Jr.

We are all saddened by the recent death of Dr. Lloyd Edward Jones, Jr. Countless ballroom dancers throughout the Southeast and Midwest, including our Chapter of USA Dance, have appreciated and enjoyed the music of the Edd Jones Orchestra (also known as the Little Big Band) for many years.

Among his many accomplishments, Dr. Jones served as President of the Alabama Bandmasters Association, Phi Beta Mu International Band Directors Fraternity Rho Chapter President, and Jazz Educators Association Alabama Chapter President. In 1997, he joined his high school band director, Truman Welch, and his college band director, Colonel Carlton K. Butler, as a member of the Alabama Bandmasters Hall of Fame. Dr. Jones was a founding member of Shoals Area Big Band in 1979.

Edd Jones was a longtime friend of our dance community and he will be missed!



USA Dance WELCOMES

Anthony Parks

Independent Ballroom Dance Instructor

Owner of Prestige Ballroom of Memphis

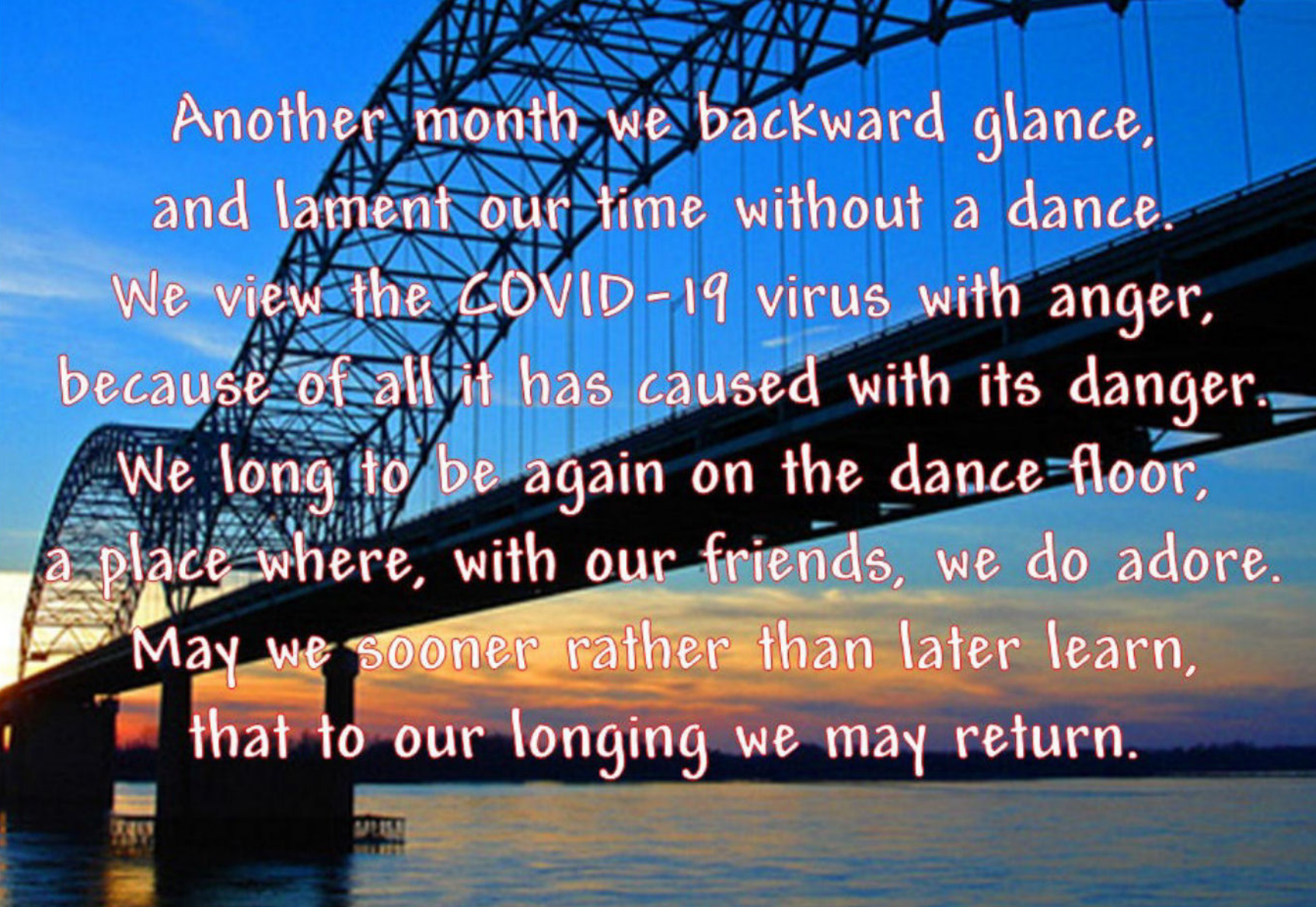
TO OUR ROSTER OF PROFESSIONAL

BALLROOM DANCE INSTRUCTORS

As a youth in Texas, Anthony was encouraged in sports but dancing was not a family activity. He is a decorated combat Marine Veteran of 'Operation Iraqi Freedom'. Anthony became interested in Ballroom Dancing at the age of 23 for its value as a 'life sport'. For 13 years Anthony has devoted his passion, energy and athletic ability to Ballroom Dance. He is a certified Independent Instructor, teaching American Smooth and Rhythm; Choreography; Specialty Performances and Dance Competitions. He is the only Ballroom Dance instructor in this area holding a 'Triple Crown Championship'. Residing in Memphis for the past 11 years, Anthony says: "Ballroom Dancing is unlike anything out there, it can change you and how you see yourself forever"

Anthony will instruct our 'Freedom to Dance' group classes beginning July 5, teaching Hustle and Foxtrot. Come join us at these special "Welcome Back" classes.

S. Rose, Group Class Dir.



Another month we backward glance,
and lament our time without a dance.

We view the COVID-19 virus with anger,
because of all it has caused with its danger.

We long to be again on the dance floor,
a place where, with our friends, we do adore.

May we sooner rather than later learn,
that to our longing we may return.