USA DANCER

DANCE BULLETIN

Where The Beat and Friendly People Meet

usadancememphis@att.net

April 2023 Newsletter

Comments from our President – Robert White

Advent Presbyterian Church's Life Center was lush with flapper dresses, head bands of all types, and Fedora hats as sixty-one Gangsters and their Molls arrived with their dancing shoes for our Great Gatsby event this month. Everyone was blown away by the vintage Motel-T parked at the entrance to the church, which was supplied by Ken Harrel and his wife as a photo backdrop. Their willingness to bring this fabulous auto to be a part of our Great Gatsby event was appreciated by everyone. You will see many photos in the following section that were taken with this special auto. We also want to thank Ken Black who made the contact and arrangements with the Harrel's.

The music that fueled our dance was provided by the exceptional Drew White Orchestra. Our events featuring this very talented group of musicians are always special. The *dancing couples silhouette* art deco table center pieces created by Carole Eady highlighted our theme and can also be viewed in many of the photos that follow. Updates for our Gatsby theme photo booth this year provided a larger backdrop to better accommodate group photos. Many of our attendees took advantage of the booth to record their costumes.

A COVID outbreak concern with the instructors for our showcases at our March event canceled those performances. Re-scheduling them to April was successful, and we enjoyed them immensely. Andrew Davis and Sara Wood, professional instructors from the Dance Studio in Tupelo, MS performed an elegant Foxtrot during our first break. We learned during the introduction of this showcase that this talented pair recently married. We extend our congratulations to them and wish them a long and successful marriage. At the second break we were treated to a dramatic Tango by Andrew and his student, Elizabeth Edwards. A montage of both showcases begins the photo section of this newsletter.

Dance Photos - April Dance

USA Dance - Greater Memphis Chapter, would like to welcome **Lucielle Perkins** as a new member and acknowledge the following who renewed their membership recently: **Natalie Spruell and Linda Westbrook.** Our members are the strength of our chapter, and we appreciate each and every one.

USA Dance Membership Has Many Advantages

There is a long list of advantages attached to membership in USA Dance. Many of them are worth dollars to members. As examples: Members have access to exclusive discounts at DanceSport companies such as DanceVision and DSI London, also Apple, Verizon, Marriott, Disney, and more. An extensive list plus details are available at our national website – www.usadance.org Most importantly, every membership is a major element of support for Social Dancing in the area. We would welcome you as a new member or a renewal. You may join at our monthly dances or via the internet – just use the QR code above to go directly to our membership form. Continuing at our May dance on the 13th, there will be an additional advantage for being a member at Chapter #2012. Don't miss it!

Special Announcement

Most of you are aware that several months ago we considered adding a Line Dance lesson to our monthly dance. Due to low response, the decision was made to withdraw this. We have come across another type of group dance that has become very popular on cruise ships, European dance events, and even at Blackpool itself – ***Sequence Dancing***. We plan to try this at our next monthly dance. There will be no cost involved in your participation, and a partner will not be required. We will be publishing more information about the sequence dance prior to our next event on May 13. If you would like to see an example, click on the link below.

Queen of Hearts Rumba Sequence Dance Instruction

FRANK HOLEMAN

It is with a sad heart we announce that our friend, Frank Holeman, of USA Dance and beloved instructor passed from this life on Saturday, April 8, 2023. Frank started dancing at the age of six and instructed professionally for studios and privately for himself as well as USA Dance when we organized our chapter in 1998. Frank studied with the Arthur Murray studios as well as the Fred Astaire Studios in Ft. Lauderdale, Miami Fl., Memphis and had Performing Arts training from the American School of Dance and Gene Marininacio Ballet Co. of Hollywood. Frank's Ballroom accomplishments include many pro-am and professional Ballroom Championships. Always a smile, a friendly hug and he would dance, dance and dance...So vivacious... a Fabulous Dancer and Friend to all...Mr. Twinkle Toes, himself. We will miss Frank tremendously.

ENTERTAINMENT & NEWS BITS

A Big thank You to Tupelo TBDC & The Dance Studio for returning to entertain us after recuperating from their exposure to Covid. We want to congratulate the Newlyweds, Andrew & Sarah Davis for the beautiful Fox Trot and **HOTCHA** to Andrew & Elizabeth for the fiery Tango…We will look forward to seeing you again in September!

Spring Fling MAY 13

Entertainment Featuring that Fabulous Group ....

KATHY'S KIDS

When You Join USA Dance Greater Memphis Chapter 2012 for only $35 a yr. You get the Best!

USA Dances are the BEST! Your Board of Directors and volunteers, organize and plan to bring you the Best in Dancing throughout the year. **Each dance boasts:** Photos of you at the dances; Dance mixers; Entertainment; Recorded DJ music with strict ballroom timing; the Venue at Advent Presbyterian; a Live Orchestra for your dancing pleasure twice a year; and professional entertainment by the various studios and independent dance instructors of the area. **AND members receive discounts to Local & National USA Dance social dances PLUS a monthly digital magazine, AMERICAN DANCER!**

KEEP-UP-TO-DATE with all the USA Dance NEWS and PHOTOS: **Dance related items may be posted on our FB Group: *Memphis Area Ballroom Dance*; National & Local USA Dance news is posted on FB PAGE: *USA Dance Greater Memphis Chapter 2012.* Visit our Web Site: *usadancememphis.com*** - here you will find information to become a Member of USA Dance Greater Memphis chapter 2012; one of 150 National Chapters. USA Dance is a Non Profit 501c3 Organization! ***Join or Re-new your Membership NOW*** ~ **KEEP DANCE MOVING FORWARD.**

C U On The Dance Floor, Sylvia Rose

Gangsters arrived in tuxedo and top hats,
some even sporting spats.
With a moll on each arm at their edges,
and Tommy Guns as empty pledges.
They walked into Advent with a flair,
to sample the dance floor and music's air.
This crowd of friends set out to dance the night away,
as the Drew White Orchestra started to play.
QuickStep, Foxtrot, and Mambo we did desire,
without disappointment, they set our feet on fire.
Time passed and the evening ended like fireflies bright,
we packed our dance shoes and moved into the night.
As we did, we made a date,
again to gather and Tango late.