DANCE BULLETIN

USA DANCER

Where The Beat and Friendly People Meet

www.usadancememphis.com

Retro Fever!

Just A Few Words...

Our October dance was like stepping into a time machine – a celebration of vintage style, timeless music, just pure and nostalgic fun! Thank you to all who attended and played a part in making the groovy night a blast from the past. This month's newsletter is full of great photo memories and information on many upcoming dance opportunities. Please scroll to the end!

What a delightful presentation of the Phantom of the Opera (ft. Ross Mitchell) by Blue Suede Ballroom. Intense and mesmerizing, Gage Wood and Jan McElroy's Tango transported us into a powerful world of passion and obsession through dance.

If you are not yet a member of our Greater Memphis Chapter, we would love to have you as part our USA Dance chapter family. Just ask a Board member about member benefits and how to join. Don't miss the "Save The Date" in this newsletter regarding the USA Dance National Social Dance Celebration.

Save the date, for "An Elegant Evening" on November 8th, 2025.
In Memory of Camilla Wilson, all entry fees are complimentary by a generous donation from her daughter and family.

ENTERTAINMENT & NOTES

Blue Suede Ballroom

"Phantom of the Opera"

(Ft. Ross Mitchell)

Performers:

Gage Wood, Professional Instructor

&

Jan McElroy, Student

Thank you for sharing your talent & love of dance with us!

DANCE PHOTOS

Did she actually say that!?

Yea, I heard her say it exactly that way!

Do you think she really said that?

You heard her say it, didn't you?
STAY groovy

JOIN US ON THE DANCE FLOOR

Bring a Friend, No Partner Necessary!

IN MEMORIAM

Ray Fleming

Wilber Ray Fleming, age 85, of Germantown, Tennessee, passed away on Tuesday, September 30, 2025. Ray was born in Memphis. He received his bachelor's degree from Rhodes College and master's degree from American University in Washington, DC. His work included roles on the Boeing Minuteman missile project, the Saturn/Apollo missions with NASA, research projects with Walter Reed, and computer development with the Navy in Millington. Ray served as president for the Ski Club of Washington and organized volleyball tournaments in Memphis. He is survived by his daughter, Elizabeth Vannucci (Joseph) and two grandsons.

Ray attended Hope Church and hosted highly popular ballroom dance classes there for 16 years. During this time, Ray started a weekly e-mail list to get information out to the dance community about events and classes available in the area. Reaching over 1,000 people, this was a valuable resource as it pre-dated Facebook as public square. Ray was a member of USA Dance and was indeed a force for promoting dancing. He encouraged so many new dancers who started at Hope with basic instruction and moved on to the Berclair lessons sponsored by USA Dance, dance classes at studios and independent instructors. His students attended USA Dance events so they could practice and gain proficiency.

The dance community was greatly enriched by the quiet - yet dynamic force of nature - that was our Ray Fleming.

SAVE THE DATE!

USA Dance National Social Dance Celebration

March 27 – 29, 2026

Registration Opens Soon!

An Exclusive Weekend of Dance, Workshops, and Community

Join dancers from around the country at the USA Dance National Social Celebration in Pittsburgh PA.

Featuring a rich schedule of over 36 active workshops, exciting social dances, community networking opportunities, chapter leadership workshops, the weekend promises unforgettable experiences for every attendee.

Held alongside the USA Dance National Championships; spectator access is included for all Social Dance Celebration participants to watch Championship events for the entire weekend!

https://usadancenationals.org/social-celebration/

USA Dance Membership

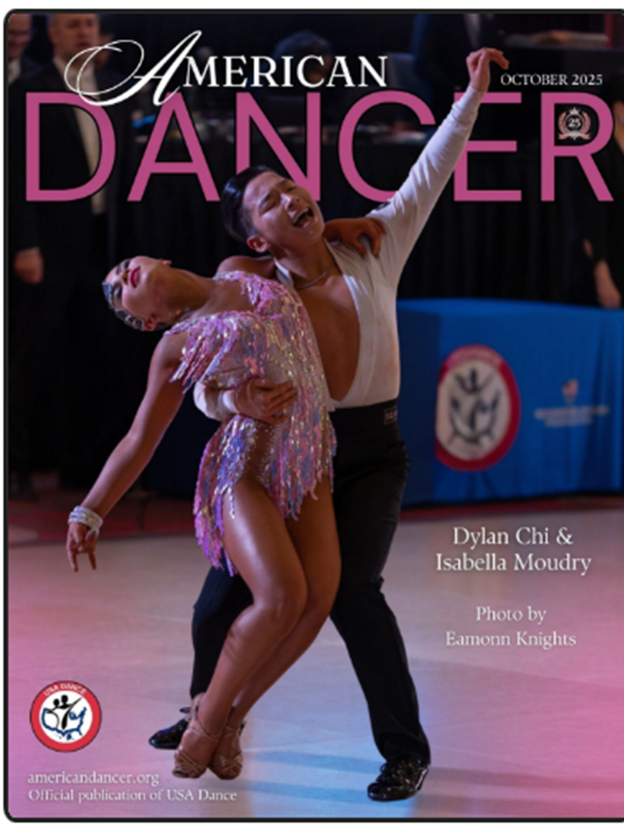
Dancers are generally the nicest and friendliest people you will meet. Attending USA Dance events is one of the best places to meet them. USA Dance has over 100 chapters nationwide and members receive discounts on ballroom chapter events around the country and more benefits!

You may join or renew your membership at any of our dances or online at: **www.usadance.org**. If you have any difficulties with the online system, please contact Barbara Cook, Membership Chairman:

Phone: (901) 292-7782 Email: barbaramimi2@gmail.com.

We look forward,
to sharing a dance floor with you soon!

Feed Your "Love Of Dance" with the latest edition of USA Dance's American Dancer Magazine.
Go to: http://www.americandancer.org



"Final Thoughts"

From our Past - President & Poet Laureate

Robert White

Again, we gathered to have fun for all,
at Advent to dance our way into Fall.
On to the dance floor with nothing back on hold,
with our patterns of bronze, silver, and gold.
Together at the dimming of the light,
it turned into a joyous night.
Like the blooming of an elegant flower,
as we move along from hour to hour.
All could see at a glance,
the swaying bodies in sprightly dance.
The joy together we all felt,
but as the music played, our time did melt.
The tempos were never blurred,
but the ending time we all heard.
After an evening of great delight,
we headed for home into the night.

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