

# AMERICAN *Dancer*



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2009 Nationals in Baltimore

## DANCING WITH THE STARS

Season 7 Line-up Announced

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Season seven all-star line up announced



FROM THE LEFT: FRANK LUARDE-PRESIDENT FORT WAYNE DANCESPORT, MICHAEL FURNISH-PRESIDENT SPECIAL OLYMPICS INDIANA, ROG GREENAWALT-USA DANCE REPRESENTATIVE, STEVE HINKLE-PRESIDENT EASTER SEALS DECLARING THE GAMES OPEN. PHOTO BY DAVID SPENCER.

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INNA BRAVER AND DANCING WITH THE STARS PARTNER, TED MCGINLEY. PHOTO COURTESY OF ABC TELEVISION

# President's REPORT



The great Scottish poet, Robbie Burns, wrote, “The best laid plans of mice and men gang aft agley”. How true! For in my report in the last issue I said that Ida and I would spend Independence Day in the air on our way to Fort Wayne for the Special Olympics event. Well, we got to the airport before she decided she needed the rescue squad, and I got to watch the fireworks from the hospital parking lot! Happily, things are settling down, and she hopes to be at the Embassy with me. A report of the event appears in this issue, and I believe that it was an outstanding success. Thanks to all those good people in Indiana who made this possible.

In January there will be a conference for Chapter officials from all over America in Orlando, Florida. This is a great opportunity to meet with National, Regional and other Chapter officers; to meet old friends and make new ones. There will be workshops covering various aspects of USA Dance’s activities, and it will all be organized by our VP of Social Dance, Jean Krupa.

This year again, the producers of Dancing With the Stars have asked USA Dance to nominate young dance couples in a repeat of last year’s junior tournament. There has been a very short time scale to select the couples, and the choices will have been made before you receive this magazine.

By the time you receive this, we will be on the verge of National Ballroom Dance Week. Many Chapters are arranging special events, and you should work on your local media to get coverage of these events.

Another year, another election. In the 2008 elections there is only one contested position – that of Vice President for DanceSport. I am hoping to see a respectable number of members voting for this position. The VP for DanceSport controls a large budget, and a large active DanceSport Council. The person elected needs to know that their support among members is measured in thousands rather than hundreds. So, please take the small amount of time to take the ballot from the magazine, complete it and return to the Election Committee by the due date.

I am writing this in “Phelps” week – what an incredible athlete this man is! Many of our own athletes will already be in training for next year’s Nationals in Baltimore. They don’t yet get to dance in the Olympics, but that doesn’t mean that they aren’t Olympic quality athletes. Keep the faith!

Baltimore will be a wonderful opportunity to see magnificent dancing in a first class venue. Not only is the hotel outstanding, but the immediate surrounding area is one of the major tourist attractions in the entire country. Programs are being arranged for social dancers, so don’t get left behind! See you in Baltimore!

*Peter Pover*



Member Organization  
of the United States  
Olympic Committee

# A M E R I C A N *Dancer*

## NATIONAL OFFICERS

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## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Please include your name, city and state. Names will appear in full unless specified otherwise.

## CHAPTER NEWS

Please include chapter name and number, contact information and any photos with caption information that you might have.

## PHOTOS

Must be high resolution, print quality digital photos. 300 dpi.  
Send to editorial office:  
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## CONTRIBUTING WRITERS



### DAPHNA LOCKER

Daphna is currently a member of the Greater NY Chapter of USA Dance #3004. For the last year and a half, Daphna has been the Chair of the National Organizing Committee and the registrar for the National Collegiate DanceSport Challenge.



### JEAN KRUPA

Jean Krupa currently serves as the Social Vice President for USA Dance. In 1999 she served as the Regional Vice President for the Daytona Ballroom Dancers Club, which she helped organize in 1990.



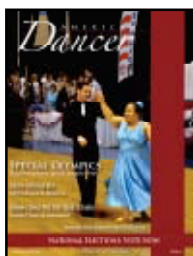
### JACK LEBO

Jack has followed and written about the Big Bands of America for years. His Big Band Report appears in every issue of *American Dancer*. Jack is retired and lives in Levittown, Pa. with his wife.



### J M (MIKE) NELSON

Jack has followed and written about the Big Bands of America for years. His Big Band Report appears in every issue of *American Dancer*. Jack is retired and lives in Levittown, Pa. with his wife.



### COVER PHOTO

Fort Wayne Special  
Olympics Participants  
*Stacy Davis & Jodi Frances*  
Photo by Joe & Sheila Bays

# Qualifying Events for USA Dance 2009 National DanceSport Championships



Pashkov & Brayer / Photo by: Carson Zullinger

Heartland Classic  
USA Dance National Cabaret Championship  
Indianapolis, IN  
September 27-28, 2008

NorthWest DanceSport Championships  
Seattle, WA  
October 25-26, 2008

Manhattan Amateur Classic  
New York, NY  
January 16-18, 2009

Smoky Mountain DanceSport Championships  
Knoxville, TN  
January 30-31, 2009

Southwest DanceSport Championships  
San Jose, CA  
February 7, 2009

Southeastern DanceSport Championships  
Bethesda, MD  
February 28 - March 1, 2009

For more information go to [www.usadance.org](http://www.usadance.org)

# USA Dance National Ballot

All current USA Dance members, 18 years of age or older, may cast their ballot for the 2009-2010 term.



Place Mailing Label Here

## FOR THE OFFICE OF VICE PRESIDENT of DANCESPORT

Please vote for one candidate. Only one vote per member permitted.  
(Candidates below are listed in alphabetical order.)



Mark Garber

or



Ken Richards

## REQUIRED VOTER INFORMATION:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Last Name (Print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
First Name (Print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Membership Number

## IMPORTANT REQUIREMENTS/NOTES:

- Only the original ballot can be used to submit your vote.
- Label from the front of AMERICAN DANCER Magazine must be attached to ballot.
- Ballot must be received by the National Elections Director on or before **October 30, 2008**.
- Ballot must include the member's printed name, signature and membership number.
- Only members with a valid USA Dance membership as of July 1, 2008 may vote.
- Ballots sent by fax, e-mail or other facsimile means will not be counted.
- Only valid ballots will be counted.

Mail completed ballot to:

**Mary Wethington  
National Elections Director  
125 Hillside Avenue  
West Caldwell, NJ 07006**



# VICE PRESIDENT CANDIDATE



MARK GARBER

## *Mark Garber, Sandy Springs, GA*

*Masters of Electrical Engineering – Georgia Institute of Technology*  
*Masters of Mathematics – Georgia Institute of Technology*

Mark Garber is a software developer and has been a member of USA Dance, Inc. (formerly USABDA) since Jan 1, 1992. He holds Masters degrees in Electrical Engineering and Mathematics from Georgia Institute of Technology. He has been an adjunct instructor in computer science/technology at Kennesaw State University and is currently an adjunct math/technology instructor at Lanier Technical College.

He has been a board member of Atlanta Metro Dancesport (AMDS) since 2007 and is currently serving as the chapter treasurer, competition registrar, and webmaster. He has served as registrar for Southeastern Regional DanceSport Championships (2004).

Prior to 2005 he was webmaster for Greater Atlanta Chapter of USABDA. Mark has competed in dancesport competitions throughout the southeast with his current partner, Dr. Judy Stevens.

Mark is the developer of the current on-line membership database. He has donated software development and support to USA Dance since 2002. He has reduced mailing costs by distributing monthly membership reports through the Internet. He supplies competition registration services for sport competitions and is the owner of [www.CompetitorRegister.com](http://www.CompetitorRegister.com).

Currently, Mark is a volunteer working with the national board to deploy a new on-line membership system. You can view his policy proposals at:

*<http://MarkDancesportVP.com>*

Google : Mark for Dancesport Vice President

# DANCESPORT DATES



KEN RICHARDS

## *Ken Richards, Wilmington, DE and Aventura, FL*

*Bachelors Business Administration – Wharton School of Business*

*Masters of Business Administration – Florida International University*

I am seeking re-election as the Vice President of DanceSport. I want to thank our membership for having faith and trust in my abilities to provide our organization and our DanceSport athletes with the best of dance opportunities in our country and abroad.

If re-elected, I will continue to balance the important agendas and relationships with our allied dance organizations and their events – including our relationships with the US Olympic Committee, the IDSF and the NDCA – to ensure that our membership – both DanceSport Athletes and Social Dancers – are well served at all times.

In the past two years as DanceSport VP, I have succeeded in revamping the structure of the USA Dance DanceSport Council to establish functional leadership, instead of the former, and less effective geographical based representation. Having the best and experienced team of volunteers in place is the key to our organization's success. As a result of this, I have been able to bring together a more cohesive, active DanceSport Council with volunteers that are able to soar in their specific areas of expertise. As a result, we have streamlined the management process, saved our organization money and provided a higher level of service to our competitive athletes.

Another accomplishment of my past term was the formation of the Active Athletes Network (AAN), with the assistance of Borbala Gergely-Bunnett. This group has been a helpful sounding board and will play an even more significant role as our organization expands its leadership role as the National Governing Body for DanceSport in the U.S.

I was very proud to have been part of the Nationals Organizing Committee for our 2008 National DanceSport Championships. My role included all the initial ground work for the site selection in Baltimore that became the largest and most prestigious National DanceSport Championships in the history of our organization. This work also included all of the details that provided the Comcast/CN8 Network with the professional venue they needed to produce their Champion DanceSport Series, one of their highest rated sporting events of the year. I was also on-hand to emcee

during the event and assist our athletes and Chairman of Judges when needed.

As the DanceSport VP, I have also worked to form a Coach's Council and a membership database of our professional members and their credentials.

Another milestone of my position was to enhance our organization's role and member relationship with the IDSE, becoming a more important player and asset to the organization's pursuits and management of DanceSport worldwide.

But, my greatest pleasure has been providing the deserved support our athletes need to participate in World Championships. Few know that the process of helping our athletes prepare for international travel and competition can consume as much as 20 hours a week. For me, that has been the joy of being a volunteer. In my role, I have also assisted the publicity efforts of our PR Director Angela Prince to ensure the highest level of member and athlete participation in this great arena of worldwide publicity.

Going forward in a second term, I pledge to accomplish the following:

- Work with the Executive Committee and Governing Council to revise our organizations bylaws and streamline the process by which things get done.
- Work with the professionals to formalize USA Dance's membership role in the International Professional DanceSport Council (IPDSC).
- Revise and clarify the DanceSport Rulebook making it easier for everyone to use.
- Assist athletes with training opportunities.
- Work to improve the quality of National Qualifying and Sanctioned Events
- Foster improved relationships with the IDSE.
- Help promote our World Team Athletes for improved results and rankings internationally.

Thank you for your consideration and vote.

# NATIONAL ELECTIONS

*The USA Nominations Committee approved the following candidates for the 2009-2010 term of office. One candidate was approved for the following offices. Each office was uncontested.*

<b>SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT</b>
Lydia Scardina
<b>TREASURER</b>
Esther Freeman
<b>REGION II VICE PRESIDENT</b>
Bobbie Jo Gamache
<b>REGION II DANCESPORT DELEGATE</b>
Roger Greenawalt
<b>REGION VI VICE PRESIDENT</b>
Richard Obney
<b>REGION VI DANCESPORT DELEGATE</b>
Scott Coates

*Two candidates were nominated for the office of Vice President DanceSport. Refer to the USA Dance National Ballot on page 6.*



# NOMINATIONS & ELECTIONS COMMITTEE REPORT



LYDIA SCARDINA

## *Lydia Scardina, Senior Vice President*

Lydia Scardina was appointed Senior Vice President of USA Dance effective January 1, 2007. She is responsible for a variety of administrative duties and also serves as the USA Dance representative to the Multi-Sport Organization Council of the USOC (United States Olympic Committee).

Lydia has been a long-time member of USA Dance, joining the organization in 1985. She competed for many years with her husband, Mark, in both the American Smooth and International Standard divisions. Lydia served as vice president for two years and president for six years of the Nor Cal Chapter of USA Dance, and was a member of the organizing committee when the Nor Cal Chapter hosted the National Championships in 1995, 1999 and 2006. In 1996 Lydia was appointed as Regional Vice President of USA Dance, a position she held for ten years before accepting her current position of Senior Vice President.

In her professional life, Lydia worked for many years in the field of human resources management and labor relations, and was responsible for negotiating a variety of labor agreements for several California cities. Lydia and Mark have twin sons and live in San Francisco.

## *Esther Freeman, National Treasurer*

I am Esther Freeman, resident of Jacksonville, Oregon and a member of USA Dance since June 1995. I have served on the Governing Council since May of 1997, first as National Secretary, then as Senior Vice President, and finally as National President. I am qualified and willing to arrange my life to serve the upcoming two-year term as National Treasurer.

I have been an avid social dancer since August of 1992, when I took my first lesson at an Arthur Murray studio in San Jose, California. My involvement with USA Dance began in the summer of 1995 when I responded to an ad in the newspaper asking for volunteers to help form a local dance club in Jacksonville, Oregon. I am a native of Baudette, Minnesota, a retired owner of a successful California sales company, the proud mother of two adult daughters, and devoted grandmother to delightful grandchildren.

The role of National Treasurer is a demanding one! I understand what is involved and will work to fulfill the varied financial duties and goals set in place by the Governing Council. I have supported the current treasurer as he winds down and am currently serving as Director of Budgets and Finance.



ESTHER FREEMAN



BOBBIE JO GAMACHE

### *Bobbie Jo Gamache, Region II Vice President*

Bobbi Jo Gamache, a committee chair of the Kalamazoo, MI Chapter, has filled the Region II Vice Presidency position since January 2006. She is keen on supporting her local chapter and has filled numerous positions since 1996 with a focus on promoting the chapter. In addition, she has served as the Michigan Area Coordinator and Assistant Vice President of Region II.

Bobbie Jo is a catalyst for increasing local physical activity by supporting the development of a community-wide walking program. She is a USA Track and Field Racewalking Judge. Bobbi Joe is a social dancer and a retired marketing and customer service manager for the US Postal Service.

Bobbie Jo indicates that focus for 2008 is to increase regional support to the chapters, develop the interest of chapter presidents to assume regional leadership positions, and to implement a chapter volunteer recognition program. In 2008, Region II has created and filled two Assistant Vice President positions, as well as two additional Area Coordinator positions. The Region 2 Leadership Team has grown from 6 to 12 volunteer positions and now has an Area Coordinator to guide all 38 chapters in the 14 state Midwest Region.



ROGER GREENAWALT

### *Roger Greenawalt, Region II DanceSport Delegate*

- Founder of the Heartland Chapter in Indianapolis in 1993.
- President of Heartland Chapter 1993-1996.
- Key member of the organizing team for more than 15 Heartland competitions since 1994, including numerous regional championships and the 1998 National Championships in Indianapolis.
- Seven years, Region 2 representative on the Competition committee.
- Five years, Region 2 representative on the Rules and Discipline committee.
- Three years, delegate on the DanceSport Council (DSC).
- Currently DSC chairman of the Competition Committee.
- Championship level dancer competing in Senior I, Senior II smooth and rhythm.

As chairman of the Competition Committee, one of my objectives is to increase the number of competitors nationwide as well as the number of competitions available to our members. One of my goals will be to encourage and help chapters to host small, but successful first-time competitions that can grow over time.

When DanceSport decisions are made it is important to consider the impact on all styles and all age groups. I have always done so and will continue to do so.

As a DanceSport Council member, one of my objectives is to improve the flow of information from the DSC to our competitors.



### *Richard Obney, Region VI Vice President*

I am coming to the end of my first two years as Vice President of Region VI of USA Dance. It has been a wonderful experience and I am seeking another two-year term in the same capacity.

USA Dance is a growing organization consisting of nearly 23,000 ballroom dancers. All officers, from National officers to the local chapter officers are volunteers, and do a wonderful job at all levels.

My time away from the duties of Region VI Vice President are involved in video-taping ballroom dance competitions across the United States. We had the honor of being the video provider for the World Dance Council competition held in Buenos Aires, Argentina in March 2008. What a wonderful event that was, with competitors from all over the world attending.

### *Scott Coates, Region VI DanceSport Delegate*

Scott Coates owns and operates a trucking company and commercial Warehouse in Tampa, Florida. He is involved in several charities, as well as having been past president of the Tampa Bay Transportation Club. He and his wife, Sarah, have run a “Celebrity Dancing in Tampa Bay” fundraiser for the last two years, raising \$200,000 for “The Spring of Tampa Bay,” a non-profit organization that benefits victims of domestic violence.

Scott has been Vice President of the Southern Star USA Dance Chapter in Tampa for the past 14 years, and is heavily involved in running their Annual Mid-Summer Classic competition which began in 1993. Scott and Sarah are five-time Senior American Rhythm Champions. They are now competing in American Smooth at the Championship level, and are presently Southeast Regional Senior III Smooth Champions, and the North Central Regional Senior II and III Champions.

Scott started organizing late night “After the Competition is Over” parties for several of the regional competitors. These organizers now provide suites for these parties as they range from 40 to 60 in attendance.



RICHARD OBNEY



SCOTT COATES

## Chapter Highlight

BY: HANNAH HENNIS

# White Sands

## *Teaching the Next Generation*

The White Sands Chapter mission statement encourages its members to pass on their love of dancesport through outreach and service, and that is exactly what they've done! Their chapter in Sarasota, Fla., is unique within USA Dance as it holds a social dance every week, totaling 52 dances a year. However, the membership is demographically older, if not in spirit, then in age.

The leadership wondered where the next generation of ballroom dancers was going to come from. Former White Sands President Robert Beale was an advocate for youth participation in ballroom dancing, and the board felt it would be a fitting tribute to use their funds to reach out to children.

Dancing For Education was established in 2004 as a community project to train the next generation of ballroom dancers within the public and private school systems. That year, White Sands began fundraising so they could "adopt" elementary and middle school classes through the World Dance Arts Foundation (WDAF) Dancing Classrooms program, to introduce them to the benefits of dancesport.

The WDAF had been teaching their social dance curriculum in public schools since 2000 and wanted to reach more children. The foundation did not have ongoing funding for its pilot program, but the White Sands Chapter did.

"We were so pleased when the White Sands Chapter of USA Dance was the first to step up and offer its assistance," says Anna Smart, WDAF founder. "We are happy to be working with these motivated individuals that have



GOCIO ELEMENTARY SCHOOL STUDENTS

seized this dynamic opportunity to interact hand-in-hand with not only young dancers — but also dance professionals in their area. It is our desire that the partnership developed between the WDAF and the White Sands Chapter in Sarasota and Manatee Counties will serve as a model for future programs in other communities."

In December 2005, White Sands adopted two schools with a total of 285 fifth graders. The culminating Celebration Dances attracted 300 people and the media to see the children exhibit their new ballroom dance skills. Since then, ten schools and over 1,000 students have been adopted, with prior adopted schools continuing the program on their own.

"I have seen the benefits to a school environment and to individuals," says Principal Joe Bazenas. "The cultural capital gained through participation in a dancesport program will have value far beyond any standardized test score."



# Chapter #6012

## *Generation of Ballroom Dancers*

Joining the considerable resources of amateur ballroom enthusiasts with the experienced skills of professional ballroom instructors through the foundation has produced powerful results.

“The cohesiveness of the chapter membership has contributed to making the Dancing For Education program an outstanding success, and it is my hope to provide direction and guidance to chapters interested in establishing a ballroom dance program in their local school systems,” says Region VI Vice President Richard Obney of USA Dance.

As former President Kimberly Ceballos puts it, this is a chapter of the “WE” not of the “I”.

“Having a mission that is big is what inspires people and organizations to grow. Our mission of teaching the next generation of ballroom dancers ... is what inspires us to continue to be a warm and welcoming place,” Ceballos says. “Someday people coming to the weekly dance, perhaps the children we helped to teach ballroom dancing, will be White Sands members themselves, and they will say about us that we made a difference in their lives because we cared about the future and the commitment that we made.” ■



FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: TREASURER CHAKO ISGRO, REC SECRETARY SANDY VOLPE, PRESIDENT ANNIE SUNDEEN, 1ST VICE PRESIDENT RICHARD OBNEY, SECRETARY KIMBERLY CEBALLOS, 2ND VICE PRESIDENT JANE MASON. PHOTO BY KEN JENKINS.

For more information on  
**Dancing For Education**  
visit  
[www.dancewhitesands.com](http://www.dancewhitesands.com)



WHITE SANDS GROUP PHOTO. PHOTO COURTESY OF WHITE SANDS CHAPTER #6012



# chapter news

WE WANT TO HEAR  
FROM YOU, AND SO DO  
OUR READERS!

SEND US THE  
LATEST NEWS FROM  
YOUR CHAPTER TO  
BE FEATURED IN  
UPCOMING ISSUES OF  
*AMERICAN DANCER*.

WHEN SUBMITTING,  
PLEASE KEEP IN MIND  
THE FOLLOWING:

1. HIGH QUALITY,  
DIGITAL PHOTOS  
RELATING TO THE EVENT
2. PHOTO CAPTION, OR  
WHO IS IN THE PHOTO
3. PHOTO BYLINE, OR  
THE PHOTOGRAPHER
4. ARTICLES SHOULD  
BE A MAXIMUM OF 175  
WORDS

SEND SUBMISSIONS  
AND ANY  
QUESTIONS TO  
EDITOR@  
AMERICANDANCER.ORG

## **CENTRAL FLORIDA CHAPTER #6002 CHARITY BALL & ORLANDO ARTS GETAWAY**

**By John Davis, Chapter President**

"Under the Tuscan Moon" was the theme for this year's 12th Annual Gala Charity Ball in June, hosted by the Central Florida Chapter to raise funds for the Shriners Hospitals for Children. More than 200 dancers came out to dine, dance and enjoy a fabulous dance show by world-class pros Rick Elliott and Melanie Sandvig.

Our dancers opened their hearts and wallets at the auction, bidding on donated dance lessons, shoes, costumes, tickets to concerts and plays, weekend getaways at Orlando's resort hotels, and even an autographed Orlando Magic team basketball.

Many members of other Florida chapters attended, making our Charity Ball the focus of a weekend mini-vacation to Orlando and its attractions. The chapters included Blue Springs, Daytona, Heart of Florida, Lake, North Star, Ocala, Southern Star, Space Coast, and Tallahassee.

Thanks to many hours of dedicated effort by our chapter's board and volunteers, the board presented a check for \$6,000 to the Bahia Shrine Potentate for transport and expert orthopedic or burn care of Central Florida children.

## **CHARLOTTE, NC CHAPTER #6029 By Stephen Lucas, Chapter President**

The Charlotte Chapter has been involving our members in a wide variety of activities. For example, we hosted a USA Dance Member Appreciation Dance Party on Aug. 16. The event included a dance lesson with Dan Calloway from 8–9 p.m. and a social dance from 9–11 p.m. Current USA Dance members got in free, although the entire dance community was invited

to come and bring friends. We also began a monthly ballroom dance syllabus on Sunday, Aug. 17, which focuses on International Standard Bronze certification. Dan Calloway, one of the top ISTD coaches in the region, will be providing in-depth syllabus training. Students or dance instructors may take the exam in April 2009 or simply use the course to improve their dance and technique. Understanding proper dance steps, footwork and principles will improve dancing and build confidence at the Bronze level. Participants are excited for this amazing opportunity!

## **PIEDMONT, NC CHAPTER #6019 UPCOMING EVENTS AND CLASSES By Linda Rankin, Chapter President**

The Piedmont, N.C. Chapter is offering a six week introductory ballroom dance class beginning Aug. 18. The class is for — and free to — all members of our chapter who have joined since Sept. 1, 2007, including those who joined through Aug. 18 of this year. Any of these members are invited to come learn about ballroom dance. This event will be on Monday evenings from 8 until 9:30 p.m. for six consecutive Mondays. (We'll let the attendees decide if they would like to reschedule the Labor Day class.) Classes will be in Clemmons at the Kathy Marino Dance Studio.

We've got a variety of other events coming up, including a Black Tie Dinner Dance on Oct. 11, our Holiday Premier Promenade on Nov. 30, and an early New Year's Dance on Dec. 28. In the meantime, as we said in our monthly newsletter, "Remember that dancing is muscle memory. So dance!" ■

# National Ballroom DANCE WEEK

National Ballroom Dance Week will be here before you know it.

It's not too soon to think about how your Chapter will participate in this special, week long celebration of ballroom dancing.

On this occasion, we not only celebrate dance, but we promote dancing in general and USA Dance in particular. It is a great opportunity to increase your membership and dance participation in your community.

Chapters who have never done anything special to recognize this week should try at least one thing, such as free passes to future dances or free admission for anyone who brings a first-time guest.

Many chapters go all out to celebrate with a dance every night, often with each offering a different theme. Chapters can hold exhibitions in malls, community centers, and parks; arrange to have feature articles written in local papers about ballroom dancing opportunities; offer free lessons; and do demonstrations in nursing homes, schools, festivals and other public venues.

Alternative venues could be hotel lobbies, ferry boats, libraries, government facilities, recreation halls, churches, dance studios, college facilities, high school facilities, parking lots, fairs, corporate facilities, streets, community buildings, hospitals — every place the public is.

The time to start is NOW. Make your calls, make your plans, talk to others to share ideas and experience. Bring imagination, dedication, hard work and love for dancing in your city.

Let's Go Dancing!

*Jean Krupa*  
Social Dance VP

**September 19-28, 2008**



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and information visit

**[www.usadance.org](http://www.usadance.org)**

or call

**1-800-332-NBDW**

# Individual | Ken Jenkins

## Spotlight

### Love of Dance- Above and Beyond

BY: HANNAH HENNIS

When it comes to being a dancer — heart and soul — Ken Jenkins of Sarasota, Florida has got it covered.

Twenty years ago at the age of 39, Ken got hooked on ballroom dancing at the Arthur Murray studio in Sarasota. That's how he met his wife, Pauline. He was working at the studio as a dance host, which partly entailed dancing with single ladies and teaching them the basics of ballroom. When he began to "teach" Pauline the foxtrot, however, he was puzzled to find that she danced with an unusual amount of style, expertise and poise — more than he did! It was then that he found out she had been taking lessons for years. They've been dancing ever since, particularly during their 11 years of marriage.

For three years, Ken has served as an ambassador for the White Sands Chapter. He is actively involved in making the chapter's weekly dances a success by welcoming new people and introducing them to dance partners. "Sharing [my love of dance] with others is really important — especially with the young people. It's a great way to serve," Ken says.

He is also the official photographer for the studio and their programs, such as Dancing for Education. He loves the movement and grace of dancesport and captures it in still-life for the world to enjoy. "I'm a naturalist and I love photographing nature, and of course dancing is such a wonderful, natural thing — a way to meet people — and photography is just another entrance to that," he says. ■

In so many aspects of life, Ken is sharing his love of dance with the world. "Dancing is great therapy, even for those like me with health issues," Ken says. "I don't need to keep a membership at the gym anymore, and I'm 59 years old. I look forward to dancing every day."



KEN AND PAULINE JENKINS. PHOTO BY KIMBERLY CEBALLOS.

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# THE TIDEWATER

## ANNUAL DANCE AND WORKSHOP WEEKEND

BY: RAY SMITH

MAYO ALANEN AND LISA VOGEL WILL BE THE FEATURED PERFORMERS/INSTRUCTORS AT THE 2008 EVENT. PHOTO COURTESY OF PARK WEST PHOTOGRAPHY



The Tidewater (Virginia) Chapter is holding its 18th Annual Ballroom Dance/4th Annual Social Dance Camp/Workshops weekend at the Sheraton Waterside Hotel in Norfolk, VA. This year, the activities will run from Wednesday morning, Dec. 31 through Saturday evening Jan. 3. The event will feature dances each night, Wednesday through Saturday. There will also be social dancing daily from 2:15-4:15 p.m..

More than 60 social dance workshops are being conducted during the weekend, starting at 11:00 a.m. on Wednesday and continuing through 3:45 p.m. Saturday afternoon. There are workshops for all levels of dancers and in both American and International Styles. A number of specialty workshops will also be available for Argentine and club tango, country western, west coast swing, and hustle aficionados.

Mayo Alanen and Lisa Vogel will be the featured performers/workshop instructors, along with local instructors Phyllis Harris, Ken Rossel, Alan Hedgpeth and Zhenya and Rebekah Klyukin. West coast swing/hustle Champion Ken Roesel will be conducting workshops in his specialties, including a west coast swing with Argentine tango mix (wingo). Mayo and Lisa will also be conducting a number of workshops on theater arts, cabaret and several styling workshops.



MARGIL COYNER AND LEE MARSHALL DANCE AT THE 2007 EVENT. PHOTO BY MARILYN WALTON



LEFT TO RIGHT: JUDITH KOZIOL, IKE KOZIOL, CHARLEEN WHITEHEAD, NANCY WHITEHURST, JEFF BRIGG. PHOTO COURTESY OF IKE KOZIOL.

Dance partners are not required for any of the workshops. Couples are recommended for the theater arts workshops.

On Thursday and Friday night, there will be open dancing from 8:00 - 11:30 p.m., simultaneously in three or four ballrooms, with a variety of general and theme music and dance opportunities (salsa/mambo, Argentine tango, country western, swing and west coast swing). There will be a number of exhibitions by both amateur and professional dancers in the main ballroom each night. Singles are always welcome for any and all the activities, and the chapter also has dance hosts for the major events on Wednesday and Saturday.

The highlight of the weekend will again be the New Year's Eve dance on Wednesday night starting at 7:30 p.m. In addition, there will be dancing in the other three ballrooms throughout the evening. The main ballroom will feature decorations, favors and noise-makers for all participants, a champagne toast at midnight, continuous dancing throughout the evening to both live and DJ music, and a hotel restaurant-style buffet breakfast after midnight.

The exciting World Class Ballroom Dance Competitors Mayo Alanen and Lisa Vogel will be performing three exhibitions during the evening. The attire is semi-formal, but many of the participants dress formally. Dance hosts will be in attendance at the Single's Tables. Reservations are required; no walk-ins for this event.

On Saturday night there will be a Dinner Dance starting at 6:30 p.m., with continuous dancing throughout the night on the 6,800 sq. foot dance floor. Walk-ins are welcome following the dinner. This night will feature a show by Mayo Alanen and Lisa Vogel from New Jersey. Singles are welcome and there will be dance hosts seated at the Single's Tables. Reservations are required for dinner. In addition, there will be dancing in the three outer ballrooms, each playing a different style of music.

Proceeds from the event are used to provide scholarships to youth competitors to assist them with the expenses for competition. In 2007, the chapter awarded \$5,000 in scholarship money and the chapter goal is to increase that amount in 2008. ■

For package, rates  
& reservation information  
contact

*Susan Simms*  
**(804) 746-1090**

*E-Mail: Susan13OS@peoplePC.com*  
*Web Site: www.usadancetidewater.org*

*Tidewater USA Dance, Inc (NYE)*  
*P.O. Box 62321*  
*Virginia Beach, VA 23460*



SEAN ASEFORA & DIANA THIELE

ALLEN CLEMENS & NITAYA LEWIS



# A *Quest* for the GOLD

By Vivian Hans

A dream, a desire and a need collided, creating a partnership that gave individuals with disabilities a chance to take ballroom dance lessons compete in the first Special Olympics Ballroom Dance Competition in the USA.

Steve Hinkle of Easter Seals Arc had a dream to see individuals with disabilities learn to ballroom dance. Vivian Hans of Fort Wayne DanceSport #2046 had a desire to hold a competition for local amateur dancers. Special Olympics Indiana President Michael Furnish wanted to see more Special Olympics activity in Fort Wayne, Indiana. This mighty trio went to work to create the greatest event of its kind: the nation's first Special Olympics Ballroom Dance Competition.

Easter Seals Arc put out the call to its members interested in learning to ballroom dance and possibly compete in the Special Olympics. Fort Wayne DanceSport

started looking for Unified Sports Dance Partners for the new Special Olympics dancers, and plans were started for holding a competition in Fort Wayne, Indiana. USA Dance approved this event as a pilot program and part of the sanctioned ballroom dance competition of the local chapter. Special Olympics Indiana approved this as a pilot program for Special Olympics and authorized the use of its name, in addition to completing background checks and training the volunteers and coaches involved in this new venture.

Fifty individuals with disabilities decided to give this program a try, committing to train in ballroom dancing with the goal of participating in the Special Olympics competition. Group lesson schedules were set up by the end of September, and the minute the new dancers walked into the studio's door, they were ready to dance.

Some dancers took to it right away; others dropped

out for one reason or another. But the news spread through the community of individuals with disabilities, and calls came in from Wells and Elkhart counties to see if anyone could participate in the upcoming competition. A father-and-daughter couple from Wells County and a dancer from Elkhart found a Unified Sports Dance Partner and started training to be a part of this event. Eventually 26 dance couples were ready and waiting for the big day.

On July 5, all 26 couples waited at the door for their warm-up dance time on the big competition floor. The

first dance the dancers took their bows, threw kisses to their family and friends and rushed off the floor so their friends could dance next.

After 16 more heats, medals and ribbon were awarded to all the dancers, who then took the dance floor, and Michael Furnish closed the games and declared the 2009 Special Olympics Dance Season open. All the dancers received a standing ovation and the entire crowd of spectators rushed the floor to congratulate all the dancers.

No one was more proud of this outstanding group



DAVID COLE & SUE KEIFFER



STACY DAVIS & JODI FANCES



excitement lit the faces and voices of the entire crowd. Family and friends came along with these dancers, not wanting to miss a single moment of this day. Silence fell as they entered the competition expo, and one dancer said it all with this whisper: "I cannot believe this is really happening. I am going to dance today."

They did more than dance. One Special Olympics tradition is an Opening Ceremony, and these first Special Olympics ballroom dancers were treated to a fabulous display.

With oaths taken, the ballroom dance torch lit, and all the dancers individually introduced, the first Special Olympics Ballroom Dance Competition Games were declared open. The judges took their places and the first dancers were called to the floor, their numbers barely audible over the cheering of spectators. At the end of the

than the three people watching the most wonderful part of this entire event: the joy and love shared by dancers with family and friends. Where in the crowd were those individuals with disabilities? No one could tell — they were all just ballroom dancers celebrating after a very successful competition. A dream comes true for Steve, Michael and Vivian, who just could not stop smiling at the crowd.

Special Olympics officially added ballroom dancing to its list of sports in Indiana for 2009 and named Vivian Hans the Sports Director of Ballroom Dancing for Indiana Special Olympics. If you are interested in adding Special Olympics Ballroom Dancing to your area, contact [dancenews2@verizon.net](mailto:dancenews2@verizon.net) and Vivian can get you started. ■

PHOTOS BY DAVID SPENCER

# ORLANDO ARTS GETAWAYS

EVENTS + DINING + HOTELS



## CENTRAL FL CHAPTER: AN ORLANDO ARTS GETAWAY

The Central Florida Chapter is proud to announce its partnership with the “Orlando Arts Getaways” (OAG) program, which assembles group tourism packages of arts and cultural events, hotels, and restaurants in Orlando/Orange County, Florida. Our chapter’s monthly ballroom dance parties, attended by 250 dancers and featuring exciting, elegant dance exhibitions, are now on the OAG “menu” of arts/cultural organizations, along with the opera, ballet, orchestra, and main-stage theaters.

If your chapter or any group would like to experience a wonderful arts/cultural vacation that could include ballroom dancing, Orlando Arts getaways can arrange it, including discounted rates at first-class hotels and fine dining. You can make separate plans for extra time at Disney World, Universal Orlando, and Sea World.

If your group’s schedule does not coincide with our chapter’s monthly dance dates, our chapter has information about all of the opportunities to ballroom dance around Orlando, including studios, dance halls, nightclubs, and the Swing, Salsa, and Tango communities.

OAG is administered by the Arts & Cultural Alliance of Central FL, and funded by tourism tax funds. Its mission is to increase attendance and awareness of arts & cultural events like our ballroom dances.

Come join us at our Chapter dance in Orlando/Orange County, where Dancing, Arts and Culture flourish!

For further info, visit [RedChairProject.com](http://RedChairProject.com), call 407.872.2382 or email [sales@RedChairProject.com](mailto:sales@RedChairProject.com)



little red wagons &

# Social Dancing

by J M (Mike) Nelson

**T**he childhood of anyone over 50 probably included the ubiquitous red wagon, likely a Radio Flyer. For those not familiar with this classic red wagon, the handle has a slight bend so that the front wheels can be controlled by a passenger while a companion either pulls the wagon with a rope or pushes it from behind. With this versatile handle, capable of either pushing or pulling the wagon bed and useable from either inside or outside, we mastered a wide range of maneuverability.

The little red wagon was much more than a toy. Mom used it for gardening; Dad used it to haul construction materials; and the children used it to haul each other and heaps of junk, and as a gravity-powered vehicle on any hill with an acceptable terrain – and likely a few without. And most of us survived a few cuts, bruises and broken bones notwithstanding.

After all this abuse, some part of the wagon inevitably broke – usually the handle. We replaced it with a rope – each end of which was tied to one side of the front axle – which limited us to pulling the wagon with hardly the steering capacity of a draft animal.

And that brings us to social dancing.

Like the handle on a fully functioning red wagon, a dancer with a good frame can maneuver with flexibility and precision. In contrast, a dancer without a good frame is like a wagon with a broken handle: he or she can only be pulled in one direction. With a solid handle, the wagon could be

pulled, pushed and steered, but one cannot push a wagon with a rope.

If you are a social dancer, ask yourself: is your dance frame more like the solid handle of a Radio Flyer, or do your arms flop around like pieces of rope, limiting your ability to either lead or follow?

With a good dance frame, you provide the joy and pleasure of the best little red wagon in the neighborhood. Without a good frame, you are like a wagon with a broken handle, and you can, at best, pull or be pulled; those floppy arms cannot be used for much else. So straighten up – you are sure to become a better dance partner, and enjoy the benefits of better frame. ■

To contact the author, email [jmnelson@cloudnet.com](mailto:jmnelson@cloudnet.com).



# BOOK REVIEW

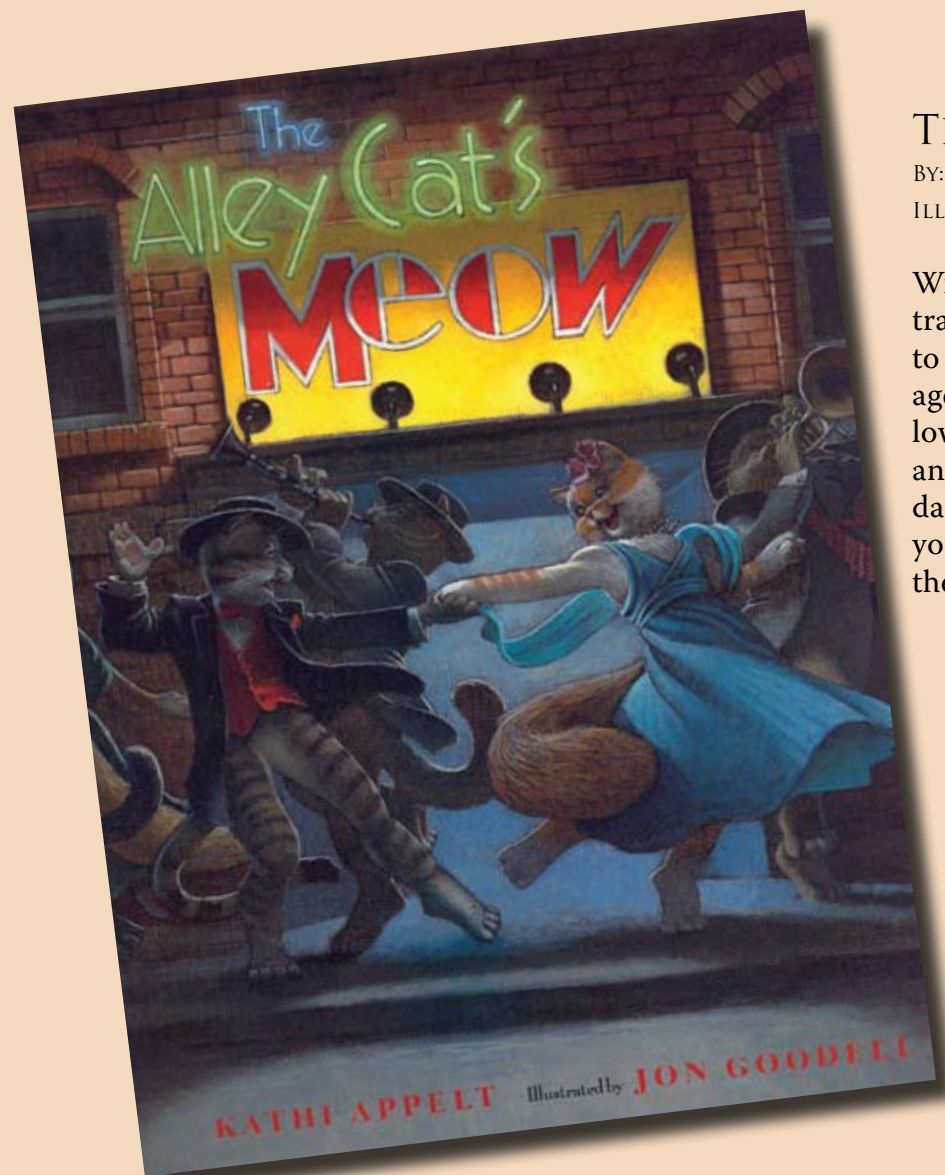
## THE ALLEY CAT'S MEOW

BY: KATHI APPELT

ILLUSTRATED BY: JON GOODELL

With rhythmic words and vivid illustrations, The Alley Cat's Meow is sure to capture the heart of dancers of all ages. This creatively written tale follows two alley cats who find both love and adventure through their zeal for dance. You're certain to be tapping your toes and getting ready to dance the samba by the turn of the last page.

Lindsey Hymas  
Production Director  
American Dancer  
Magazine



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## ESTHER FREEMAN highly recommends KEN RICHARDS for DanceSport Vice President

*Ken is the incumbent running for a second term as our DanceSport Vice President. He has made great strides in his first term as DanceSport VP and continuity of his excellent leadership is so important to the overall success of our organization and for our athletes. I would like to personally encourage every member to vote in the upcoming election and I can't stress enough how important it is that we elect Ken to a second term so we can continue making strides not only locally but also on the international dance scene.*

*For years I have put my time, my talents and my efforts into the USA Dance organization as we strive to promote the quality and the quantity of dance in the United States. When it's time to vote, please help elect Ken Richards to a second term as DanceSport Vice President.*

*This message is paid for by Esther Freeman, USA Dance member since 1995, Past National President, Past National Senior Vice President, Past National Secretary, Past Chapter President, Past Chapter Secretary, and Past Chapter Vice President.*



# FRED RADKE

## FRED DELIVERS TRUE JAMES SOUND

BY: JACK LEBO

Since the passing of Harry James in 1983, the band has continued the tradition of mellow arrangements and fine rhythmic playing that first made it famous, and is now under the direction of Harry James' lead trumpet virtuoso, Fred Radke. The Harry James Orchestra plays in the major venues of the nation, including many engagements in Las Vegas and Disneyland, and tours extensively throughout the world.

Radke, trumpeter, conductor, educator, recording artist, composer and arranger, was born in Oakland, California, where he began playing trumpet professionally at age fifteen. By the time he was eighteen, he had worked with Marlene Dietrich, Burt Bacharach, and Johnny Mathis. He furthered his education by attending the college of San Mateo, and worked as featured guest trumpet soloist and musical director of The Lancers.

Fred's career has included touring as lead trumpeter with the Harry James Orchestra and with the Glenn Miller Orchestra, led by Ray McKinley. Harry wrote of Radke, "Fred has gained an outstanding reputation throughout the U.S. and Canada, as a great trumpet soloist, conductor, and educator of music." It has been noted that Fred's style of trumpet playing is so similar to Mr. James, that listeners often cannot discern the difference. He was the first choice to lead the James Band because of his unique talents, and broad area of expertise.

Fred Radke has recorded with Harry James, vocalist Gina Funes and his own band. He has appeared on the

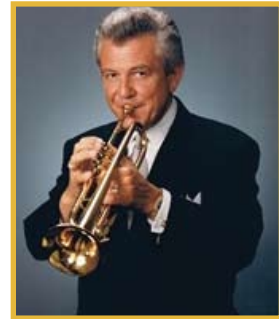
## BIG BAND REPORT

CBS, NBC, ABC, and CBC television networks and has performed for such heads of state as President Richard Nixon and Olaf, King of Norway. The Seattle Symphony Orchestra and the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra has featured him as guest soloist. In addition, he was lead trumpeter for Johnnie Ray, The Pied Pipers, The Modernaires, Pat Boone and numerous other entertainers. When Fred isn't busy leading the James Band, he is a full-time member of the Music Facility at North Seattle Community College, and is Musical Director for the Four Seasons Olympic Hotel in Seattle.

I recently caught Fred Radke and the Harry James Orchestra in concert at the Sellersville Theatre in Pennsylvania, and am happy to report that the band and Fred are everything as advertised. He delivered an enjoyable, solid 90-minutes of pure swing, as it should be played to an overflow audience. Vocalist Barbara Rosene performed several flawless vocals, ala Helen Forrest style. Radke currently has four exciting CDs available entitled, *Fred Radke & his Swinging Big Band*. All four discs are subtitled, "Reminiscing Harry," dedicated to the legendary trumpet man. Of course Fred includes every one of James' original charts, including his theme, "Ciribiribin," "Shiny Stockings," "Undecided," "I've Heard That Song Before," "Two O'Clock Jump" and dozens of others. ■

In addition, Radke has included many newer arrangements of more contemporary items. Every James fan will stand up and cheer after hearing these. They are available directly from Fred at the following address:

CONTACT: P.O. Box 821, Mercer Island, WA 98040,  
(206) 232-3692, [info@harryjamesband.com](mailto:info@harryjamesband.com).



**Fred Radke**

### **Contact Jack Lebo**

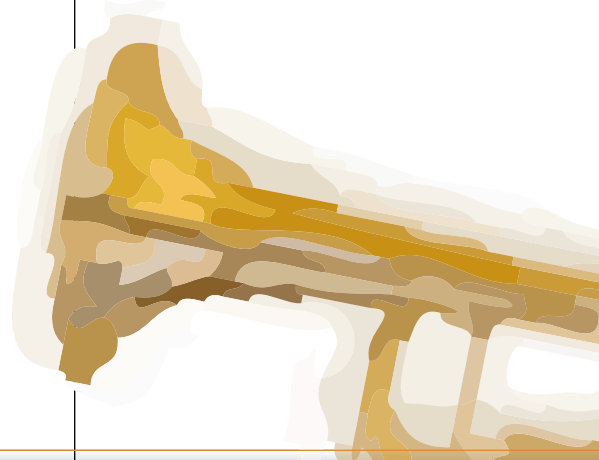
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[jlebo@earthlink.net](mailto:jlebo@earthlink.net).

### **Let's Hear from You...**

There are hundreds of bandleaders, vocalists and musicians throughout the nation who have never appeared on these pages of AMERICAN DANCER. We'd like to tell our readers about you and your musical activities.

### **Erica Colvin**

[editor@usadance.org](mailto:editor@usadance.org)



# The Public Eye

We are in the News! Go to these links to read more!!

by: Andrea Knight

## CNN *American Morning* takes a glance

The *Wall Street Journal's* recent attentions comprised only the first ray of ballroom dancing's newfound media limelight.

CNN's *American Morning* broadcast a piece on USA Dance Thursday, July 3. The broadcast included interviews with USA Dance President Peter Pover and dancers Eugene and Maria in their Brooklyn studio, in addition to several shorter interviews with USA Dance couples.

They also attended and filmed a qualifying event for USA Dance 2009 Nationals, NE Summer Sizzler Dance Competition, which was organized by Wendi Davies and Mario Battista.

Thank you, CNN!

## Reach Out with the USA Dance Commercial

As one member of the Boise, Idaho Chapter put it, "Ballroom's not just for snobs anymore." Reaching out to the community is a huge part of getting the word out about ballroom dancing — and about USA Dance in particular. For example, several chapters have set up community programs that pull people of different dance tastes and backgrounds together to share.

But to reach out past chapter communities, USA Dance has released a commercial that was aired to the nation on the Comcast network. This commercial explains that, in addition to spreading the love of social ballroom, USA Dance's aims include "supporting DanceSport athletes' journeys to excellence and bringing to all Americans the highest quality level of ballroom dance."

To view this commercial or add it to your chapter's Web site, see

<http://www.youtube.com/usadanceinc>.

## ESPN Columnist supports our cause

ESPN's Patrick Hruby argued for ballroom dancing's inclusion in the Olympics in his Aug. 15 column, "Game on! Ballroom dancing should be an Olympic sport." Instead of focusing on DanceSport's athletic value, he instead commented on ballroom dancing's popularity, making the following observation:

"Ratings-wise — and if you think anything else really matters, perhaps I can interest you in this 250-mpg SUV? — ballroom dancing would kill."

As Hruby points out, a sport's Olympic eligibility is partially determined by its ability to draw a crowd. Thank you, Hruby, for helping us get the attention we need to help our Olympic hopefuls.

To read Hruby's full article, see <http://sports.espn.go.com/espn/page2/story?page=hruby/080813>.

## Inna Brayer on *Dancing With the Stars*

After years of competing for hundreds, one of USA Dance's top amateurs has a whole new reason to get starry-eyed: the chance of a lifetime.

Russian-born dancer Inna Brayer, 21, is now a professional coach on Season 7 of *Dancing With the Stars*, which premiered Sept. 22. "I'm very excited — it's an amazing opportunity," Inna said. "I'm really not worried about anything because I'm just going to give it my all."

Inna is paired with TV star Ted McGinley, who's made his mark with roles in such programs as *Married ... with Children*, *The West Wing*, *Happy Days*, and in the films *Pearl Harbor* and *Revenge of the Nerds*. "He is so hard-working and super-duper funny," Inna said. "It helps when the person you're teaching is so talented and motivated. Some competitors are starting out slow; [Ted] started out putting in long hours from the beginning, and he's still going full-throttle."

Inna and her competition partner, Pasha Pashkov, placed 9th at the 2008 World Cup in Vancouver and 11th at the 2007 World 10 Dance Championship in Tokyo. The partners have represented the United States at six world championships and are three-time U.S. Amateur Champions, according to Inna's DanceSport tournament record.

To catch more of Inna's moves, search for Inna Brayer on [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com).

For more on Inna's tournament record, see [http://dancesportinfo.net/Couple/Pavel\\_Pashkov\\_and\\_Inna\\_Brayer\\_12053/Results.aspx](http://dancesportinfo.net/Couple/Pavel_Pashkov_and_Inna_Brayer_12053/Results.aspx).



INNA BRAYER, WITH PARTNER, PASHA PASHKOV. PHOTO BY MARVIN MOORE.

# Dancing With the Stars

**USA DANCE PROUDLY SUPPORTS** former amateur members, now professional celebrities on ABC's *Dancing With The Stars*. Many of the celebrity professional dancers from the hit TV show were once successful amateur ballroom competitors and active members of USA Dance before starting their professional careers. Highlighted on these pages are this season's selected *Dancing With The Stars* coaches, who were once members of USA Dance.



## Corky Ballas

[www.corky.com](http://www.corky.com)

Mark Alexander "Corky" Ballas Sr. is a retired but still active ballroom competitor. Corky has coached several *DWTS* pros — including his son, Mark Ballas — and he is now joining their ranks. He and his partner Shirley Ballas were 1996

Open to the World International

Champions and seven times undefeated United States International Latin Champions. Corky is dancing this season with actress Cloris Leachman.



## Inna Brayer

Russian-born Inna Brayer has won many national competitions and represented the United States with partner Pavel Pashkov at several international events. For more on Inna Brayer, see page 31, and keep reading *American Dancer* as the season continues for updated interviews with Inna. Inna dances with actor Ted McGinley this season.



## Mark Ballas

[www.markballas.com](http://www.markballas.com)

Mark was born in Houston, Texas, to Corky and Shirley Ballas, two of the biggest names in dance. At age ten, Mark became the British Juvenile Ballroom and Latin American Dance Champion.

Mark's dance partner, Julianne Hough, was trained by Mark's parents, as was Mark himself. They all became close friends and remain so to this day.

Mark will be partnering actress and model Kim Kardashian.



## Cheryl Burke

Cheryl is the only two-time winner of *Dancing With the Stars*. Cheryl and her partner, singer Drew Lachey, stole the show on Season 2 and sensationally won the competition. Season 3, Cheryl

was partnered with football legend Emmitt Smith.

At four years old, she began ballet lessons and performed throughout the San Francisco Bay area. It was at age ten that she discovered that ballroom, "wasn't just for old people" and decided to change her focus. She then began training in both standard and latin. By age 13, Cheryl was competing and traveling all over the world.

Cheryl is going for gold with Olympic gold medalist Maurice Greene.



## Maksim Chmerkovskiy

<http://maksimchmerkovskiy.com/content.php>

Maksim Chmerkovskiy – ranked second in the U.S. in Latin – was faced with many obstacles and through perseverance and training has become one of the country's

most successful dancers, choreographers and coaches. His love for ballroom dance began in the Ukraine where he was born and started dancing. Maksim now owns a production company that organizes performances worldwide; Rising Stars Academy, a studio that trains hundreds of our top amateur couples; and two social dance studios called Dance With Me. His partner this season is Olympic gold medalist Misty May-Treanor.



## Alec Mazo

[www.alecmazo.com](http://www.alecmazo.com)

Alec Mazo has been dancing since he was five years old. He moved to America from Russia with his family at age 12. His mother ran a dance studio, and

today Alec runs the largest youth ballroom dance school in California.

Alec and his partner Edyta Sliwinska only turned professional in the last few years, having been successful amateur Latin competitors for the five years before. Alec and Edyta married on Sept. 1, 2007.

Alec's celebrity partner is R&B and Broadway star Toni Braxton.



## Derek Hough

<http://www.derekhough.net>

Derek hails from Salt Lake City, Utah. At age 12, he moved to London, where his passion for Latin could best be nurtured.

Derek has danced at a professional level with Polish dancer

Aneta Piotrowska, who has competed on *Dancing With the Stars* Poland.

Derek's celebrity partner is actress Brooke Burke.



## Edyta Sliwinska

<http://www.edytasliwinska.com/>

Edyta is the only professional dancer to appear on all five seasons of *Dancing With the Stars*. On the debut season of *Dancing With the Stars* in June 2005, Edyta partnered boxing

champion Evander Holyfield. For Season 2, she was paired with actor George Hamilton. In Season 3, her partner was actor Joey Lawrence.

This season, Edyta will partner comedian Jeff Ross.



## Julianne Hough

[www.juliannehough.net](http://www.juliannehough.net)

Julianne Hough started her formal dance training in Orem, Utah. She moved to London at the age of ten, where she trained with world Latin Dance Champions

Corky and Shirley Ballas. She became the youngest and only American to gain the titles of Junior Blackpool World Latin Champion and International Youth Champion. After graduating from high school in Utah, she relocated to Los Angeles. She is now the youngest professional dancer to compete and to have won *Dancing With the Stars*.

Julianne is cutting a rug this season with actor Cody Linley.



## Lacey Schwimmer

A dancer since the age of six, Lacey Schwimmer knows how to compete for the United States' affections: She was one of the Top 4 Finalists on the 2007 season of *So You Think You Can Dance*. She comes from a hard-core dancer family, including her father, the West Coast 'Swing King'

Buddy Schwimmer, and her brother, Benji Schwimmer, the *So You Think You Can Dance* Season 2 winner.

Lacey's celebrity partner for this season is pop star Lance Bass. ■

WRITTEN BY ERICA COLVIN

PHOTOS FROM ABC UNLESS OTHERWISE MARKED



# COMPETITION CALENDAR

september **27-28, 2008**

**Heartland Classic- NQE and USA Dance  
Cabaret National Championship**

Heartland Chapter #2022. Indianapolis, IN  
<http://www.indyusadance.org/>

october **25-26, 2008**

**NorthWest DanceSport Championships- NQE**

Seattle Chapter #1004. Seattle, WA  
[www.usadanceseattle.org/nwregional/](http://www.usadanceseattle.org/nwregional/)

november **8, 2008**

**2008 USA Dance NorCal California State  
DanceSport Championship**

NorCal Chapter #4004. Oakland, CA  
[www.usabda-norcal.org/statechamps](http://www.usabda-norcal.org/statechamps)

january **16-18, 2009**

**Manhattan Amateur Classic- NQE**

Greater New York Chapter #1004. Manhattan  
Center, Grand Ballroom  
<http://nyusabda.org/>

january **30-31, 2009**

**Smoky Mountain DanceSport  
Championships- NQE**

Greater Knoxville Chapter #2060. Knoxville, TN  
[www.usabda-knoxville.us](http://www.usabda-knoxville.us)

february **7, 2009**

**Southwest DanceSport Championships- NQE**

NorCal Chapter #4004. San Jose, CA  
<http://www.usabda-norcal.org/regionals/>

february **21, 2009**

**Chicago DanceSport Challenge  
Championships**

Chicagoland Chapter #2001. Chicago, IL  
<http://usadancechicago.org>

february **28 to march 1, 2009**

**Southeastern Championships- NQE**

MidEastern Chapter #6001. Washington, DC  
[www.usadancedc.org/comp.html](http://www.usadancedc.org/comp.html)

april **3-5, 2009**

**USA Dance 2009 National DanceSport  
Championships**

Renaissance Harborplace Hotel. Baltimore, MD

august **14-15, 2009**

**Derby City DanceSport Championships- NQE**

Greater Louisville Chapter #2021. Louisville, KY  
[www.lousabda.org](http://www.lousabda.org)

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# SouthernStar

By Michael Nolan

# MidSummer Classic

The MidSummer Classic is the longest running (and friendliest), all-amateur dance competition in the South, and this was the 15th edition of said competition. The core group of the organization has been intact for the entire 15 years, and because of this continuity, the event (almost) always runs smoothly.

We are able to boast that the competition draws couples from as far away as New York, Massachusetts, Minnesota and Louisiana and as close as Georgia to the one day event. This year 41 couples signed up, with quarterfinals needed in 4 events, and the largest event of the day had 21 couples. This event was one of our 'free for all' SouthernStar Challenges and was open to all age groups and all levels of dancers.

With differing skill levels on the floor together, these events give everyone the opportunity to improve their floor craft and to develop their floor presence. The extra floor time these events provides makes them crowd and dancer favorites.

Our panel of judges this year was comprised of a former World Champion, a former New Zealand champion, a renowned author of books on dance techniques, a current professional competitor, and a producer of dance technique videos.

With out-of-towners drifting in for the weekend, the Friday evening 'Meet and Greet' gives everyone a chance to get together and practice a bit and to get acquainted before they have to hit the dance floor in earnest on Saturday morning. We find that we have many couples attending a USA Dance competition for the first time, and this Friday night get-together allows them to orient themselves to the venue and the friendly, relaxed USA Dance atmosphere.

Because of the time constraints of a one day competition, the dancers had to stay on their toes, and the day's events raced by. Although we always try to arrange the heats so the couples do not have to dance back-to-back heats, there is always a couple or two who enter every event in the world, and that makes it tough to schedule. This year's marathon dancers were Rick and Cindy Pellin from Georgia, who dance all four

disciplines, and two age groups. They danced in every event they qualified for and took home lots of loot for the day. These guys are the Eveready Bunnies of the dance world and they did well.

With scholarships totalling \$1305.00 on the line for 24 different events, the competition turned out to be very profitable for PreAdult competitors Connor MacGregor and Daria Kopylova and New Yorkers Niklas and Yvonne Manz. Connor and Daria are a new partnership, and they used their youth and height to great advantage in both Latin and Standard. Niklas and Yvonne are former members of the World Champion Standard Formation team from Germany and are so smooth. They never seem to get into trouble on the floor and always seem to be enjoying themselves. Results and pictures from the day's competition can be found on our website at [www.southernstarusabda.org](http://www.southernstarusabda.org).

With all the competitive events, a buffet dinner and an evening dance with the day's big winners performing for the audience, we managed to completely fill the day from 8 a.m. til 10 p.m. Everyone went away tired, but hopefully happy and fulfilled. ■

NIKLAS & YVONNE MANZ



PHOTO BY SCOTT COATES

# Seattle's 2008 Quest For the Best Competition Series

By Laurel Preston

For over 15 years, the Seattle USA Dance Chapter #1004 has hosted a three-competition scholarship series we call the Quest for the Best. We award placings at each event, and scholarship winners are determined by points accumulated over the course of the three events.

**In the beginning.** Our Quests were inspired by reports of smaller UK comps frequently held at low cost — sometimes the prize was a bag of cookies or a shake of the hand. It was the perfect opportunity to debut a new partnership and polish competitive skills. Local audiences were very supportive, especially for newcomers. This original formula remains intact, but our Quests have added features.

**Totally wired.** Several aspects of our Quest series are computerized, thanks to the o2cm competition management system USA Dance member Mark Tabor developed. (Mark is a former Microsoft programmer and debugger.) This system includes a formatted event listing, a detailed schedule on the Web and printouts for the emcee, and it allows judges' marks to be input and tabulated quickly. Events across the United States and Canada use this system, but it debuted and was tested at our Quests. Thanks, Mark!

**Team Heroes.** We brought in a new team to run this year's competitions. Michele Boyer and Daryl Schmidt co-organize them and will also head the Northwest DanceSport Championships in October. Jeff Meaders now manages our computer system at the Quest for the Best, filling in for Mark Tabor, who has moved to Portland and turned pro. Mark will be our scrutineer at the NWDSC. Alannah Sinclair continues to coordinate our judging panel. Chapter President Sharon Wolf is our registrar and treasurer for the event. Julia Bruk and Laurel Preston also helped create this program.

**Challenges for organizers.** Costume rule conformity has been a challenging policy to implement throughout our comps. Using some creative problem solving, co-chair Michele Boyer brought spare clothes in case some syllabus dancers didn't have the correct attire. At the July competition, she even loaned her own skirt to a competitor because all the spares were already being used.



DAVID CRAWFORD & AMANDA MOORE

Another challenge has been ensuring that all competitors are USA Dance members. Membership Chair Pat O'Toole e-mails competitors early, reminding them to join. She also handles last-minute membership applications at most comps.

**March 22nd Quest.** This first-in-the-series competition went well, with 117 participants competing in 60 events. Erik Fortune acted as DJ, using Michele's music. The very experienced and capable Mike Wachal and Denny Balascio emceed.

**July 26th Quest.** Ten dance schools from Washington and Oregon supported the competition, as well as competitors from Alabama, Idaho and British Columbia. All together, 98 dancers competed in 61 events. Many people were on vacation and many youths in a dance camp in Russia, but our team still brought in at least three new schools. John Allen and Michele worked together on music, and it was terrific. Mike Wachal and Chris Gresio emceed excellently.

Join us at the Nov. 15 Quest. It looks like it will be even larger than its predecessors, with a formation team competition in the works and all of the young adults back from vacation. Scholarships will be awarded for the series.

We would like to thank everyone who attended, competed and especially volunteered. To see the results of these competitions, go to [www.o2cm.com](http://www.o2cm.com). To find out more or register, go to [www.dancequestforthebest.org](http://www.dancequestforthebest.org).

To find out more about the Northwest DanceSport Championships — a USA Dance Nationals qualifying event to be held Oct. 25 and 26 — please visit [www.nwregional.org](http://www.nwregional.org). We hope to see you there! ■

PHOTOS BY BARNEY CHIU

# DanceSport Athletes Go for the Gold

**A**s I sit here watching the 2008 Olympics I can't help but think about America's dedicated DanceSport athletes who are already training and preparing for the 2009 USA Dance National DanceSport Championships, where the very best dancers earn the right to call themselves our champions and represent the USA at competitions around the world.

These athletes will now have an even bigger dream. DanceSport is an officially recognized sport by the International Olympic Committee and USA Dance is the sole recognized governing body for DanceSport in the US, which means that by 2016, you could be watching some of our current pre-teen and junior champions represent the USA at the summer Olympics!

The 2009 USA Dance National DanceSport Championships is being held the first weekend in April, 3, 4 & 5, 2009, when it will return to the luxurious Renaissance Harborplace Hotel at Baltimore's Inner Harbor. This competition will select our world representatives for over 10 IDSF World Championships, award titles to our USA champions in over 25 events, and showcase hundreds of senior, adult, and child athletes dancing at all levels, from Bronze to Open.

In order to compete at the 2009 Nationals, dancers will first have to compete in one of nine official National Qualifying Events. Our National Qualifying Events are held throughout our six regions and provide an opportunity to meet this basic requirement from June 2008 thru the end of February 2009. For the 2009 Nationals and beyond,

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*Incredible Food*

*Good Friends*





The DanceSport Council and the Competition Committee are working on developing an NQE circuit. This circuit will provide opportunities for couples to win special deals to our National Championships. Please stay tuned to our website and watch for special announcements from the DanceSport Competition Committee.

With the help of the great feedback we received from many of you after last year's Nationals, this Nationals promises to be the best ever, with no details overlooked. We have overhauled the fee schedule, new events have been added, workshop topics are even broader, and more scholarships will be awarded. Our social events, which were a huge success last year, will be even better. We've even changed the seating plan to make your seats easier to find!

If you're planning to join us this year, remember that the hotel was at sold out capacity last year. While we have increased the number of rooms that are reserved, we still expect to have a sold out event, so please make your reservations

early. In addition, since all evening session seats will be assigned and numbered this year, we strongly recommend that you buy your tickets early to make sure you can sit with all of your friends. Of course, there will be special discount packages for spectators and competitors. Finally, don't forget that the Baltimore Inner Harbor offers multiple family entertainment options including the IMAX theatre,

Baltimore Aquarium, several museums, and cruises and boating in the Inner Harbor. The 2009 USA Dance National DanceSport Championships make a great long weekend or even a week-long trip, with all the rewards of a vacation -- great dancing, good friends, incredible food, amazing entertainment, and lots and lots of fun. What more could you ask for?

For additional information about Nationals and about the Baltimore area, please go to [www.usadancenationals.com](http://www.usadancenationals.com).

See you all in Baltimore!  
*Daphna Locker, Chair*  
 2009 National Organizing Committee

*...this Nationals promises to be the best ever, with no details overlooked.*

## Amazing Entertainment

## Lots and Lots of Fun



# COLLEGIATE COMPETITION CALENDAR

**October 18, 2008**

**University of Connecticut Ballroom Dance Competition Hosted by UConn Ballroom**  
**Registration Deadline - TBD**  
<http://www.uconnballroom.com/comp/>

**October 2008**

**20th Annual Dancing Illinois Dance Sport Invitational**  
**Hosted by University of Illinois at Urbana - Champaign Ballroom**  
**Registration Deadline - TBD**  
<http://netfiles.uiuc.edu/ro/www/DancingIllini/>

**October 18, 2008**

**6th Annual Berkeley Beginners' Competition**  
**Hosted by Berkeley Ballroom**  
**Registration Deadline - TBD**  
<http://ucbd.org/classic/>

**October 25, 2008**

**Harvard Beginner's Competition**  
**Hosted by Harvard Ballroom**  
**Registration Deadline - TBD**  
<http://www.harvardballroom.org/competitions/beginners08/home>

**November 1-2, 2008**

**DCDI (DC DanceSport Inferno)**  
**Hosted by University of Maryland - College Park**  
**Registration Deadline - TBD**  
<http://www.ballroomatmaryland.com/dcdi/>

**November 2008**

**Brown Competition**  
**Hosted by Brown University Ballroom**  
**Registration Deadline - TBD**  
[http://www.brown.edu/Students/Ballroom\\_Dance/comp/](http://www.brown.edu/Students/Ballroom_Dance/comp/)

**November 14-16, 2008**

**Purdue Ballroom Classic**  
**Hosted by Purdue Ballroom Club**  
**Registration Deadline - TBD**  
<http://classic.purdueballroom.org>

**November 22-23, 2008**

**National Collegiate DanceSport Championships**  
**Hosted by USA Dance - YCN**  
**Registration Deadline - TBD**  
<http://cdcusabda.accessdance.com/>

**December 6, 2008**

**2008 Yale Ballroom Dance Competition**  
**Hosted by Yale Ballroom Dance**  
**Registration Deadline - TBD**  
<http://yaleballroom.org/comp/>

**Date TBD**

**Intercontinental Dance Camp & Festival**

**Date TBD**

**Dance Revolution 2009**

**Hosted by TBD**

**Registration Deadline - TBD**

**February 2009**

**University of Michigan Ballroom  
Dance Competition**

**Hosted by University of Michigan Ballroom**

**Registration Deadline- TBD**

<http://www.umich.edu/~umbdc/home.htm>

**Date TBD**

**Stony Brook University**

**Ballroom Competition**

**Hosted by Stony Brook University Ballroom**

**Registration Deadline - TBD**

<http://www.ic.sunysb.edu/Clubs/ballroom/ballroom/SBU%20Comp.html>

**February 2009**

**8th Annual Boston University Terrier  
DanceSport Competition**

**Hosted by Boston University**

**Registration Deadline - TBD**

<http://people.bu.edu/ballroom/index.htm>

**March 14, 2009**

**10th Annual Holy Cross Ballroom**

**Dance Competition**

**Hosted by Holy Cross**

**Registration Deadline - TBD**

<http://hcballroom.com/competition/>

**February 21, 2009**

**9th Annual Berkeley Ballroom Classic**

**Hosted by Berkeley Ballroom**

**Registration Deadline - TBD**

<http://ucbd.org/classic/>

**March 2009**

**Caltech - Dance of the Roses**

**Hosted by Caltech**

**Registration Deadline - TBD**

<http://ballroom.caltech.edu/comp/>

**February 2009**

**Clover Star Classic**

**Hosted by University Pennsylvania**

**Registration Deadline - TBD**

<http://dolphin.upenn.edu/~ballroom/>

[CloverStarClassic/](http://dolphin.upenn.edu/~ballroom/CloverStarClassic/)

**April 4, 2009**

**Irish DanceSport Gala**

**Hosted by Notre Dame**

**Registration Deadline - TBD**

<http://www.nd.edu/~ballrom/ndcomp08.htm>

**Look for future event updates on**

**<http://www.usadance.org/youth-and-college-dance/ycn-events/>**

USA DANCE

National Collegiate

# DanceSport Challenge

at the Ohio Star Ball

Columbus Convention Center Columbus, Ohio

November 22-23, 2008

Organizer: **Andrew Pueschel**

[ycn-vp@UsaDance.org](mailto:ycn-vp@UsaDance.org)

Registrar: **Daphna Locker**

[nationals-chair@UsaDance.org](mailto:nationals-chair@UsaDance.org)

Register at [www.o2cm.com](http://www.o2cm.com)



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for more information go to <http://cdcusabda.accessdance.com>



# Independence Day

# Ball

By Sara Kenney

Championship Dance Camps  
Dance Camps in Washington DC and Orlando

The 2008 Independence Day Ball dance camp was a tremendous success. High school students to senior citizens gathered at the Rockville Hilton for five days of workshops and socializing.

Among this year's instructors were Victor Fung, Victor Kanevsky, Anna Mikhed, Karina Smirnoff and Glenn Weiss. One of the week's more popular workshops was the Performance workshop taught by Wendy Johnson, whose students performed their routine at the Saturday night social dance. Pontitango, an Argentine tango group, and Don Herron and Whitney Brooks, a west coast swing couple, also performed.

Perhaps the most popular event annually is the Pizza with the Pros party. The organizers like to stress the importance of dance instructors being approachable. The Pizza with the Pros party allows participants to ask a panel of instructors any question they wish — within appropriate boundaries, of course!

The Independence Day Ball is hosted by Championship Dance Camps, which also hosts the New Year's Day Ball, another world-class dance camp. The New Year's Day Ball will feature the same level of workshops and social events, plus an exciting New Year's Eve social dance and professional performance in Orlando, Fla. The New Year's Eve Ball camp will be held Dec. 31, 2008, to Jan. 4, 2009. Please visit [www.championshipdancecamps.com](http://www.championshipdancecamps.com) for more information. ■



DEREK WINKLER AND MARLA LUTHER



INDEPENDENCE DAY BALL STAFF



ANNA MIKHED



MEMBERS OF WENDY JOHNSON'S PERFORMANCE CLASS

PHOTOS BY CHAMPIONSHIP DANCE CAMPS

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www.dancedresser.com

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Flint MI 48507  
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Email: toetotoe1@comcast.net

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## PHOTOGRAPHY

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### Marvin Moore Photography

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Look for a new, enhanced design of this section in upcoming issues.

## SMOOTH GOWNS

Professional ballroom competition gown. The gown was custom designed and only used twice. It will fit a size 4-7, with a height of 5 to 5.5 feet. At the neck it is a soft pink, which fades out into a soft blue at the floor feathers. Full skirt with elegant rhinestone work and stitchery. Contact vpoobear@cox.net [1]

Two quality gowns by well-known designer, both in EXCELLENT condition. Ideal for lady who is 5'7" - 5'9" (size 8 - 10). One gown is teal with floats; the other gown is black and heavily rhinestoned. \$2,000 or both for \$3,500. Pictures available. Contact DancingLady11@aol.com or 708-227-4288 [2]

Size 2-6 white ballgown: Current style gown showing open back. Slimming design with cutouts to thin the waist. Multi-sized stoning pattern through bodice and extending down skirt. Airbrushed background for added pizzazz. Bracelets, too! Pics available, price reduced. \$1400. Contact Theresa at 651-773-3511 or e-mail at theresakimler@yahoo.com [2]

Size 10-12 beautiful, light-purple Lorie Chambliss smooth gown with high neck and long sleeves and loaded with Swarovski stones. Upper stretch bodice has large purple and fuchsia stones on both front and back. Excellent condition. \$1100. Pictures available. Call Ann at 423-899-6703 or e-mail qfoxtrot@aol.com [1]

## STANDARD GOWNS

Size 2-6 Chrisanne gown. Black dress with white, stoned appliqué design throughout. Amazing flowing skirt. Floats of silk that fade from black to gray to white. Slimming back line and slim through hips. All the glamour and details you expect in a Top 6 lady's gown. Pics available. \$3000. Contact Theresa at 651-773-3511 or e-mail at theresakimler@yahoo.com [2]

Size 2-6 chocolate-brown ballgown. Detachable float makes this dress functional for both smooth and standard. Rich, elegant, fitted look. Long sleeves, high neck, tobas color stoning through neck, bodice, and waist, zip-up back. Effortless wear! Pics available. Price reduced. \$1400. Contact Theresa at 651-773-3511 or e-mail at theresakimler@yahoo.com [2]

## MEN AND WOMEN SHOES

Brand new ladies Latin dance shoes. Never worn! Both pairs are size 8.5 M with 2.5-inch heel. One pair is silver leather w/silver glitter and the other is nude satin with rhinestone buckles (adjustable for easy fit) and wrap-around ankle strap w/rhinestones. Asking \$100 for both or \$60 each. Photos available upon request. Please call 401-263-8400 [3]

Lady's smooth shoes, size 36 (American 7). Tan satin, closed toe, strap at ankle. 2.5-inch heel. 2 pairs available. One pair is new, other was worn for 1 practice session. I waited too long to return them. Both are in original boxes. See the shoe style at www.dance-america.com. Dancefeel brand, model F30. Paid \$119. Will sell for \$60 a pair. Contact Theresa at 651-773-3511 or e-mail at theresakimler@yahoo.com [2]

Lady's smooth shoes, size 7 to 7.5 American. Tan satin with crossover strap at ankle. Slightly smaller than 2.5" heel. Will fit a 7.5 medium width and 7 wide width. DSOL brand. View this shoe at www.danceshoesonline.com under Ladies Pumps, model 682103. Paid \$75. Will sell for \$35. Contact Theresa at 651-773-3511 or e-mail at theresakimler@yahoo.com [2]

Supadance 1529W. 2.5-inch heel, size 5W (English). Sandals. Great for wide feet. Style discontinued in U.S.: Black satin. Worn twice.

\$70. Gold coag. Never worn. \$85. Flesh satin. Worn once. \$70. Also custom shoes from Art's Dance Shoes. I sent him a pair of 1529W size 5.5W (English) and asked him to duplicate the shoes with a 1.5-inch heel. There's extra cushioning in the shoes so room is slightly less than in the Supadance shoes. Black leather. Never worn. \$85. \$250 for all 4 pairs. Carol. cbs999@hotmail.com or 423-782-8134 [1]

Lady's ballroom shoes, 2 pairs of International ICS round-toe, single-strap with Diamante buckle, both fresh satin and 2-inch flared heel. 1 pair brand new, UK size 6 W; another pair UK size 6.5 W, worn for 1 practice session; both are in original boxes with shoe bags. See the shoe style picture at <http://www.dancesport.uk.com/shoes/index.htm>.

Will sell \$50 for the brand-new pair and \$30 for the one worn 1 practice session or \$70 for both. Paid \$120 each. Please contact Grace at 646-209-3857 or gfu@eisnerlubin.com [1]

## LATIN/RHYTHM GOWN

Size 10-12 Latin/rhythm professional, light turquoise, high neck with long sleeves. \$500. Heavily stoned at neck, wrist and asymmetrical hemline with scattered stones throughout the bodice. Pictures available. Call Ann at 423-899-6703 or e-mail qfoxtrot@aol.com [1]

Brand new "Designs to Shine" Latin/rhythm by Maria McGill. One long sleeve and the other short. Size M. \$2400. Original cost \$3500. This eye-catching dress is turquoise and heavily stoned. Pictures available. Call Ann at 423-899-6703 or e-mail qfoxtrot@aol.com [1]

## DANCEMART

DanceMart continues to serve members of USA Dance as a free space to advertise and sell personal costumes, shoes, etc., or search for a partner.

To be included in DanceMart, please limit your classified ads to 50 words. You must include your membership number and name to ensure compliance with the free space for members only. ww

Classified ads will run in *American Dancer* for two issues. If you wish to run it longer, you must resend the ad. To place or renew an ad, please send it to:

ad-editor@usadance.org

## PARTNERS WANTED

Slim retired gentleman seeks a ballroom dance partner (International Style Standard) for practice, lessons and dances. Charlottesville, VA. Please reply to Kuntz at 434-975-7358 [1]

Female, 47, who is relearning ballroom steps known in her 20s and 30s and really wants to dance to her fullest potential. Searching for dance partner from beginner of 1 year or higher to embellish skills. Lets see how good we can get. Louisville, KY. Contact Melva 502-254-3493 melva@netscape.com [3]

Athletic male dancer competes in international standard in a senior category, looking for a female partner to take lessons, practice and compete at the open gold and pre-champion level. Call Alex: 416-484-0504@Home or 416-635-8200@Office or 954-935-2664@Florida [3]

Female dancer, 38, looking for a partner to compete in either smooth, rhythm, or Latin. Looking for a male partner to take lessons, practice, and compete at open gold and pre-champion level. Located in Orlando, FL. Please contact Sara at xanthdancer@netscape.net or 321-947-1997 [2]



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