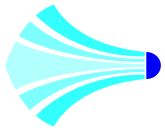




U.S.A.B.D.A



Your Cincy Dance Connection

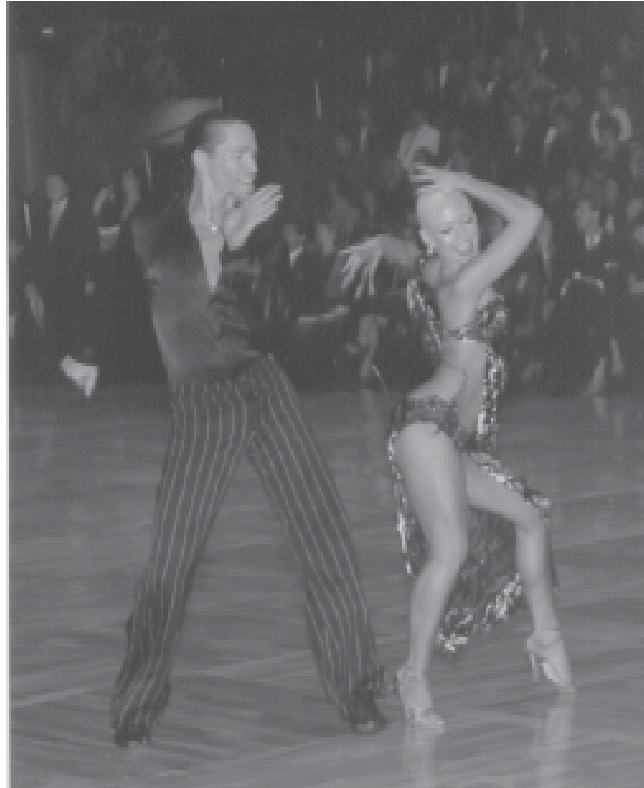
United States Amateur Ballroom Dancer's Association of Cincinnati

Issue 12, January 05

Spring Ball

March 19 - Music Hall Ballroom

Featuring: Brian Jolly and Kristina



8:00pm - Midnight
Jack Meinking DJ
Tickets on sale at dances
or Call 513-737-1120



- Currently Ranked 3rd in the US Open Professional American Rhythm
- 2004 Invitational British Exhibition Championships 2nd Place, Blackpool, England
- 2003 US Professional National Rising Star American Rhythm Champions Emerald Ball
- 2003 USDSC Grand Finalists US National Open Professional American Rhythm Championships 3rd Place
- 2004 USDSC Grand Finalists US National Open Professional American Rhythm Championships 4th Place
- 2004 Invitational Exhibition at the prestigious Starlite Pre-Blackpool Showcase
- 1st Place 2002 Embassy Open American Rhythm Championships
- 2003 World Mambo Championships USDSC 3rd Place
- 2002 Ohio Star Ball Open Professional American Rhythm Championships 3rd Place
- 1st Place 2003 San Francisco Open, Open Pro. Amer. Rhythm Championships
- 1st Place 2003 Place Seattle Star Ball Open American Rhythm Championships
- 1st Place 2003 Millennium Open Pro. Amer. Rhythm Championships
- Invited as star show couple in Thailand and Taiwan
- 2003 Ohio Star Ball Open Professional American Rhythm Championships 3rd Place
- 1st Place Texas Challenge Open Exhibition
- 1st Place 2004 San Francisco Open, Open Pro. Amer. Rhythm Championships
- 1st Place 2004 Open Pro. Millennium Amer. Rhythm Championships
- US National Exhibition Championships 3rd Place, Millennium
- 2004 Ohio Star Ball Open Professional American Rhythm Championships 3rd Place

Ticket Purchase Deadline March 9, 2005

Full time students and under 21: \$10
Before deadline: members \$20, non members \$25
After deadline: members \$25, non-members \$30
At the door: \$30

Next Month:
An Exclusive
Interview with the
Pro's!

From the New Board Members

The 2005 USABDA board is in place. Board members were asked to share their vision/goals for the club. Here are some of the following comments:

President - Pamela Neveu

My goal is to help the board continue offering the same (or better quality) dances to the membership.

Admissions Chair - Kevin Kock

My goals as Admissions Chair are to admit people to our monthly dance events in as orderly and efficient a manner as possible consistent with courtesy; to provide an accurate count of attendees and accounting of monies received; to get the monies safely deposited as soon after the event as possible; and to get the deposit information to the Treasurer in a timely manner.

Newsletter Editor - Susan Cappa

My goal as the newsletter editor is to make sure members are informed about upcoming events, events that have taken place and to include articles and columns that are of interest to all levels and types of dancers. Please feel free to email or to approach me at any dance with your ideas.

Scheduling Chair - Vivian Cosio

I schedule the entertainment and DJ for our monthly dances. I also promote all the independent dance studios for the growth, education and health of our growing group of ballroom dancers.

Event Photographer - Tony Hou

February 19 Dance

Mary Ramirez-Cook

Will be Teaching

West Coast Swing

Mark Your Calendars!



January Dance

January 15 Instructor: Bonita Brockert
Lesson 8-9pm : ChaCha

From the instructor interviewer Joan Daniel
As part of the growing process of the USABDA newsletter, we would like to interview each instructor that is teaching at our dances. Getting to know them up close and personal will be interesting reading and might peak an interest to take lessons . Bonita Brockert is our instructor in January.

Background:

- 3 time U.S. finalist, former New England 10 dance champion, champion la Classic du Quebec
- Creative team- Arthur Murray gold & gold bar exhibition syllabus
- Former dance chair, Arthur Murray Northeast Region, 10 years International dance board
- Co writer, Arthur Murray technical manuals (Silver thru Gold Bar)
- Fellow adjudicator in all styles
- International Tour- Peter Maxwell's Ballroom Dance Theater
- Guest artist, Joffrey Ballet & Chicago Symphony Orchestra
- Featured dancer, American Express videos, " Private Dance Lessons"
- Teaches all levels, newcomer thru advanced

How did you get started in Ballroom Dancing? Accidentally! I planned a ca-

reer in classical dance and musical theater. But then I took a "summer " job at Arthur Murray and the rest is history.

What is YOUR favorite dance and why? I can't pick one.

What advice can you give to New dancers about ChaCha? Learn the proper timing and make it stick! Otherwise it will come back to haunt you.

What advice can you give to more experienced dancers about ChaCha? Develop your body rhythm and strong foot and leg actions.

Describe the ChaCha Dance Attitude and characteristics. The chacha is a sassy and playful dance, characterized by staccato foot placement, syncopated timing, and Cuban motion.

Any other comments? The class will be appropriate for all levels. See you then.

USABDA 2005 Dance Schedule

| | | | | |
|--------|-----|-------------|------------------------|-----------------|
| Jan 15 | ERC | Chacha | Bonita Brockert | John Bramhall |
| Feb 19 | ERC | WC Swing | Mary Ramirez-Cook | Tony Rimkus |
| Mar 19 | CMH | No Lesson | | Jack Meinking |
| Apr 23 | ERC | Lead/Follow | Larry May | Jack Yaus |
| May 21 | ERC | Rumba | Doreen Beatrice | Tony Rimkus |
| Jun 18 | ERC | Waltz | Terry Cavanaugh | Jack Meinking |
| Jul 16 | ERC | Tango | Staff, Always Ballroom | Terry Cavanaugh |
| Aug 13 | ERC | Samba | Tracy Kellum | Jack Yaus |
| Sep 17 | ERC | EC Swing | Jeff Bill | Tony Rimkus |
| Oct 29 | CMH | No Lesson | | Jack Meinking |
| Nov 12 | ERC | Fox Trot | Piper Landis | John Bramhall |
| Dec 10 | CMH | No Lesson | | Jack Yaus |

ERC- Evendale Recreation Center, 10500 Reading Road (just north of Glendale-Milford Road) Phone: 513-563-2247 Group Lesson 8-9 PM, General Dancing 9-11:30 PM (Subject to change) Admission: \$7 for member, \$10 for non-members, \$3 for Full-time students and all persons under 21

CMH- Cincinnati Music Hall, 1300 Central Parkway, Downtown Cincinnati Doors open at 7 PM, General Dancing 8 PM – Midnight Admission: \$20 for member, \$25 for non-members; \$5 late fee applies to both \$10 for Full-time students and all persons under 21 (no late fee)

Member Focus - Elisia Getts

By Joan Daniel

When and how did you first become interested in ballroom dancing?

I used to watch my parents Jitterbug at family weddings and it looked like so much fun! I always loved freestyle dancing, but also wanted to learn to dance with a partner. I did square dancing as a kid when we'd go to campgrounds, but since Country music isn't my favorite, I never pursued this style of dance. After I got married, a friend gave me a coupon he had won for a free dance lesson at Arthur Murray. I had seen the Championship Ballroom Dancing on PBS several times and thought it would be so much fun to dance like that. But my husband wasn't interested in taking, so I just posted it on my bulletin board at work and just stared at it every day until it finally expired. (Talk about torturing yourself!) After I had my two children, I needed to exercise to lose the weight I had gained. I tried aerobics, but it was just too boring for me and after 2 months, I hadn't lost any weight either! So I decided to ask my husband if he minded if I took dance lessons without him so I could exercise in a fun way. He told me to go for it and I started taking in January 1995.

What is your favorite dance? I fell in love with Latin music when we played several Corps.-style Latin songs in marching band in high school. It has such a great dance beat, so my all-time favorite dances are the Latin and Rhythm. My individual favorites change over time, however, as I work on different dances. I'd have to say my current favorite is the Quickstep, which I'm currently working on at Always Ballroom.

Tell us something about your family? My husband, Lenny, did eventually take dance lessons for a year, so we go out a few times a year dancing. He takes the basic steps he learned and adds in his own steps and unique style, so I really get to practice my following skills! I have two boys, Mitch, 12, and Chris 10. As of yet, they have no desire to dance with their mother. However, I have hopes that when they start dating, they will realize that knowing how to dance can give them a real advantage!

Where do you work? I work in the Teradata Division of NCR as a consultant. I've had the privilege of working on several customer engagements, which I really enjoyed, gath-

ering requirements for building or enhancing their Teradata data warehouse. I'm currently working on projects developing best case tools and assets for other Teradata consultants to use with their customers.

What do you like best about being a member of USABDA?

My favorite USABDA activities are the Spring and Fall Balls at Music Hall. It's such a wonderful place to dance and it's great to see so many people enjoying ballroom dancing all in one place. And the pro and amateur shows are always emotionally moving and exciting. I also like reading the Newsletter and look forward to more articles providing tips and guidelines for dancing and dance apparel.



Please share something our members may not know about you.

I've had many teachers over the past 10 years and have learned so much from every one of them. I first learned my Cuban motion from Robert Gregory and Matt Wassenich at Arthur Murray. Robert had me practice grounding my steps in Rhythm by putting dollar bills under the ball of each foot and not letting them go as I did a Rumba basic. I advanced my dancing technique ("Point your toes!" and "Turn out your feet!") and performed at local showcases and several Dayton Dance Fairs with Jayson Michaels, in American Smooth and Rhythm. I learned competitive styling and technique ("Strong legs and feet!" and "Don't look down!") from Mario Kraszewski, in American Smooth and Rhythm and International Latin, and with many coaches, including some of my favorites, Tom Slater, Eddie Simon, Dan Rutherford, Chris Ford, and Rufus Dustin. When Jayson returned to Dayton to work for Always Ballroom, I competed with him in American Rhythm. I've also been fortunate to work with other great instructors, including Erminio Stefano and Luana Conte, Italy, and, most recently, Vito, who have and are teaching me the remaining area of dance, International Standard ("Keep your dance frame!", "No foot rise!" and, "Let me drive!"). Oh, yes, and outside of dancing I enjoy gardening, singing in choir, volleyball, hiking, and attending my boys' many activities. :-)

In Memory.....

USABDA President Mr. Archie Hazelwood

WILMINGTON, DE, December 9, 2004 – USABDA regretfully announces the passing of its President Mr. Archie Hazelwood. Archie was 83 years of age and suffered from congestive heart failure. He passed away while attending a Dinner Dance hosted by the Tidewater USABDA Chapter Langley Air Force Base Officers Club. Archie served as USABDA's National President when he assumed the duties from Peter Pover in 1993. Prior to that, he served as Vice President and the National Treasurer.

Professionally, he will be fondly remembered for numerous accomplishments and programs such as fostering tremendous growth of the charter network as well as the work he did to gain National Governing Body recognition from the US Olympic Committee. Personally, Archie will be remembered as a caring kind-hearted individual that could never give enough of himself to his friends, fellow dancers and the cause of USABDA.

Prior to his tenure with USABDA, Archie served as a Chief Warrant Officer-4, with the United States Air Force and worked as National Director of Performance for Blue Cross Blue Shield. He also had his own consulting business prior to his third "retirement" in 1987. He once said, "I have worked harder for USABDA than I ever did for money ... it gets to be your life." In 1999 when asked about his hobbies, he replied: "I used to fish, but my boat hasn't been off the shore in a year. Most things I do center around dancing in some way."



Alas, the Dance Diva has no space this month. Watch for her words of wisdom next month! Have a question? Need advice from the Dance Diva. Email usabdadance-diva@hotmail.com We are here to inform and advise.

Visit us on the www.
dancecincinnati.net

2005 Board Members

President: Pamela Neveu, 937-879-4478
Vice President: Pat Hoffman, wasco274@aol.com, 513-769-0204
Secretary: Barb Alvarez, barb@bmscincy.com, 513-233-2951
Treasurer: Karen Schulte, dancemucho@aol.com
Outreach Chair: Vicki Begley
YCN Coordinator: Gary Neiheisel
Newsletter Editor: Susan Cappa, cappasusan@hotmail.com
Webmaster: Scott Peterson, scott.peterson@zoomtown.net
Promotions Chair: Susan Hoffheimer
Telephone Coordinator: Calvin Pauley
Advertising Chair: Mike Gilkey, mgilkey@gilkey.com, 513-769-4527
Admissions Chair: Kevin Kock, Kjkock@juno.com, 513-772-4772
Ticket Chair: Marcia Nugent -McKenna, 513-737-1120
Hospitality Chair: David Slaughter, cowboycountry@fuse.net
Registrar: Bob Peare
Scheduling Chair: Vivian Cosio viviancincigirl@yahoo.com 513-469-1952
Event Photographer: Tony Hou, tonyhou@acninc.net, 513-489-2688

Newsletter Staff: Susan Cappa, Sherry Borchelt, Vicki Kleuner-Mathews, Gary Neiheisel, Joan Daniel, Carl Bixel, Debbi Kern, Christy Bacon

Next Board Meeting: Wednesday, Feb 2, 7pm at Mahogany Hall. All members are welcome to attend



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Information and items of interest are welcome. In order to be considered for inclusion in the newsletters send requests by email to cappasusan@hotmail.com.



USABDA of Cincinnati

P.O. Box 141345
Cincinnati, OH 45250-1345
Information Line: 513-961-0136

Change Service Requested

USABDA - Your Cincy Dance Connection

COMP-Spot

Competition Styles, Categories and Levels by Sherry Borchelt

Welcome to the New Year! Have you made a New Year resolution to experience Ballroom Dance Competition in 2005? Hopefully, the last issue helped on how to get started! This month we provide insight on competition styles, categories and levels.

Styles: Ballroom has two styles of dance: American and International. Both styles are danced socially and competitively. Both also have a progression system of Bronze, Silver and Gold levels, as well as an organized syllabus (list of steps).

American style is limited to North America. The American style is generally easier to learn and practice with different partners. The International style is danced worldwide to a strict syllabus that originated in the European dance competitions of the early 1900s. It is known to be faster and more competitive. Although each has its own recognizable style, they both have numerous similarities. Both styles usually have an equal number of competitors.

Categories: There are four categories of dance within the two styles: **American Rhythm** – Cha-Cha, Rhumba, East Coast Swing, Bolero, Mambo (Hustle, Merengue, Samba, West Coast Swing are often included in this category); **American Smooth** – Waltz, Tango, Foxtrot, Viennese Waltz; **International Latin** – Cha-Cha, Rhumba, Samba, Paso Doble, Jive; **International Standard** – Waltz, Tango, Foxtrot, Viennese Waltz, Quickstep. The differences of the two styles are in form, technique and sometimes tempo.

Levels: Levels are comprised of both age and dance. Don't let age stop you dancing! No matter if you are eight or eighty there is a place for all. You may dance in your age level range and/or are permitted to dance levels below your age. The age levels include Juvenile, Junior, Youth, Adult and Senior. Within each age level there are associated age ranges (i.e. Adult, may include age ranges of 16- 34, 35-50, 51-60).

Dance levels start with the Bronze syllabus steps, and progress to Silver level which includes Bronze and Silver syllabus steps.



You Could be Dancin'

by Vicki Kleuner-Matthews

December 11, 2004 marked the first, hope-to-be-annual, USABDA Winter Dance held in the Music Hall

ballroom. As the title of this column indicates, those of you not in attendance missed a marvelous opportunity to kick up your heels. It is estimated that between 240 – 260 dancers, adorned in glitz and glamour, graced the dance floor; despite the fact that two additional well-popularized dance events were going on simultaneously – including the monthly dance at Arbor Hall in Dayton, Ohio. Generally, scheduling conflicts of this nature are avoided but, in this case, unfortunately, it could not be helped.

Being relatively new to the dance scene myself, I was amazed at how far individuals, who share this passion, are willing to travel, for both lessons and events. The level of expertise also varies, as does the age-range of attendees. This evening, participants as young as 19 were waltzing down the floor with partners as old as eighty! One student from Ohio State University's dance team in Columbus commented that USABDA events

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COMP-Spot continued....

Gold level includes all syllabus steps. Generally the most experienced competitors fall into the Gold level category. Finally, there is Open Level (open choreography with no syllabus adherence required). This is often referred to as Pre-Championship and Championship levels in the amateur division. Whether competing as an amateur couple or Pro/Am your instructor will help you determine when to progress into the next level.

To close this issue, we extend hearty congratulations to competitors representing the Greater Cincinnati area at the prestigious 2004 Ohio Star Ball Championships. Exceptional performances were turned in by all!

February's Comp-Spot - "What to Expect When You Arrive at a Competition." I sign off with words from a wise philosopher, "first say to yourself what you would be; and then do what you have to do!"

are on his must-attend list. "Where else do you have an opportunity to dance in a facility as beautiful as Music Hall," he said? And dance they did! I was in awe.

This Holiday dance attracted veteran dancers and those new to ballroom dancing as well. One gentleman drove down from Dayton for the first time, primarily to catch the entertainment portion of the evening. "I'm really not into the ballroom scene, he stated, and if it hadn't been for the fact that Fiesta was performing, I wouldn't be here." Ironically, he stayed until the last dance and commented that Music Hall was the most beautiful facility in which he had the pleasure to dance. Not only is the dance floor itself spectacular, but the decorations were exquisite and added a touch of enchantment to the ambiance. Other attendees I spoke to that evening had come primarily to support the entertainers. Despite their lack of ballroom experience, they too, danced the night away.

Speaking of the Fiesta Dance Company, it was difficult to obtain an unbiased opinion of their performance, undoubtedly due to the fact that I am a member of the group. Although only half of the members were able to participate (7 of the 14), word on the dance floor says their presentation was definitely worth the price of admission! "It was nice to see something entirely different," one attendee commented, "and the costumes were wonderful!" The Fiesta Dance Company performs regularly at the Meadows restaurant in Cincinnati and at various festivals, fairs and private dance functions around the Tri-state and beyond. Their repertoire includes a variety of non-conventional partner, individual, and line dances including a combination tango-cha cha. That evening they performed their non-ballroom style dances: The Cuban Pete, Mambo #5, YaMaMa, Copa, and a Christmas kick line. You can check them out at www.thefiestadancecompany.com.

If you are reading this newsletter then you are well aware of the joy of dancing. Therefore, I would suggest that you not rely on this column to see what you missed. Instead, be a part of the action, and motivate others to do the same! I hope to see you on the hardwood.

Take Care. Vicki

USABDA Regional Competitions - The Region 2 Championships are being held in Louisville on April 1 and 2, and the Heartland Classic is being held in Indianapolis on April 30 and May 1. www.USABDA.org for more details.

Introducing our new dance column!

The USABDA Newsletter is pleased to introduce Gary Neiheisel's monthly report on local night-spots. Emphasis will be on the atmosphere, size and quality of the dance floor, type of music and suitability for dancing, quality of entertainment, smoking and ventilation, nightly schedule of events, food and drink availability, location, and overall enjoyment rating. Occasionally he will review dance spots beyond the local area as an added bonus for you world travelers. You've heard of 5 star ratings? Gary will rate each venue with the appropriate number of dance shoes! What a great addition to the newsletter staff... editor, Susan Cappa

Dancin' Round Town

by the Discerning Dancer - Gary Neiheisel

This month I want to highlight Dante's Restaurant and Tavern. This combination restaurant and nightclub is located on the west side of Cincinnati at the Harrison/Rybolt Road Exit from Interstate 74 (exit 11). It sits on a hill overlooking the exit from I-74. The restaurant has been a landmark on the west side for over 40 years with a dance floor and occasional light entertainment. In December, 2003 the Tavern area was completely renovated to a very upscale environment. The entertainment and dance floor were improved dramatically. There is now a live band every Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday night. The bands play from 9:30PM - 1:30AM. There is taped music playing before the band starts. The music is very danceable with an emphasis on hustle, west coast swing, east coast swing, and cha cha. The bands are good with an occasional great band such as Soul Pocket, H Bomb Ferguson, or Leroy Ellington & The E Funk band. On Tuesday and Thursday nights DJ Tony Carpenter plays from 8-12. Tony is very accommodating to dance people and will play a wide range of dance music including east and west coast swing, waltz, fox trot, cha cha, hustle, salsa, rumba, bolero and merengue. If you tell him about some additional music you would like, he will try to obtain it for the next time you go there.

The 1800 square foot dance floor is a dark hardwood. It is a dancer's floor, but occasionally it becomes sticky; the management has been alerted to this problem and has

been working to keep the floor well maintained. The management is generally very good at keeping people with drinks and cigarettes off the dance floor. The ventilation system is very good so even though smoking is allowed, it is not unpleasant.

The age range of patrons is from 20's to 70's with the majority in the 35-55 age group. The crowd is well dressed and well behaved. The dance floor is usually full on Friday and Saturday nights, but there is adequate room to dance. Fridays have more singles and are generally more crowded than Saturdays. Occasionally it becomes overly crowded, but this

This month
**Dante's Restaurant
and Tavern**

is usually when one of the top-rated bands is performing.

If you decide to have food, you can have a formal dinner in the restaurant area or a more casual snack in the tavern area. The restaurant serves from 5-10PM and entrees range in price from \$14 to \$29. Reservations are recommended. (513-574-6666) I have had dinner here and found it to be very good. The tavern serves lighter fare from 11AM to midnight. Alcoholic beverages run the full gamut from wine to liqueurs to mixed drinks to beer. 8 different types of wine are available by the glass. The beer choices are also extensive.

Overall Rating (scale 1-5):



This is a great place to go for a complete evening of dinner and dancing.

Local Studios

A-Marika

Sharonville - Mary Ramirez-Cook 769-0409

Always Ballroom

Elizabeth Apesos - 937-256-2626
alwaysballroom@aol.com
www.alwaysballroom.com

Bernice DuBro Dance

East Dayton - Bernice DuBro
(937) 435-9099 or 254-6442
artmay@aol.com calsn.net/bdance

Brockert Dance Studio

Bonita Brockert - (513) 851-8101
geneb@one.net

Copacabanna

Fairfield, Cinti Mills
www.Copacabanna.com 513-719-7200

Danse Royale Ballroom

West Chester
Veronica Rocco (Homme) (513) 779-0500
DanseRoyaleBallroom@fuse.net
www.danseroyaleballroom.com

Dance Club

Withamsville - Jeff Bill 753-5265

Elegance In Dance

Miamisburg
Terry & Angie Cavanaugh (93) 885-0108
acavanaugh@earthlink.net

Larry May Dance Studio

Dayton/Cincinnati
Larry May 937-219-4612

Mahogany Hall

Evendale
Nancy Farrell (513) 769-3262
nancysbk@fuse.net

Rhythm in Motion

Tracy Kellum (513) 688-1662

Step-N-Out

Covington- Doreen Beatrice
stepnoutstudio.com

The Best of Ballroom

Blue Ash- Piper Landis (513) 984-6222
thebestofballroom@yahoo.com

Top Hat Dance Studio

Hamilton and Fairfield - Peggy James (513)
896-4287 - ecurbsemaj@juno.com

Wissel Dance Studio

Lebanon - Dave Wissel (513) 932-3349



Bad Weather Policy!

Wintertime brings potential driving hazards. In case of inclement weather, tune in the local TV station for cancellation notice of USABDA dances. You can also call the hotline 513-961-0136.