



DanceCincinnati

Your Cincy Dance Connection

United States Amateur Ballroom Dancer's Association of Cincinnati

Issue 12, July/August 2005

July Dances

July 16

Instructor: Staff, Always Ballroom

DE: Terry Cavanaugh

Lesson 8-9pm: Tango

Evendale Recreational Center

July 30

Instructor: Karen Turner, Arthur Murray

DE: Jack Meinking

Lesson 8-9pm: Samba

Evendale Recreational Center

August Dance

August 13

Instructor: Tracy Kellum

DE: Jack Yaus

Lesson 8-9pm: Samba

Evendale Recreational Center

Instructor Interview with Tracy Kellum

Background: I've been teaching for 13 years. I teach all Rhythm Dances and all American Style Smooth dances, as well as West Coast Swing, Hustle, Salsa, Samba and Quick Step. My new studio, 'Rhythm in Motion', officially opened January of this year and is located just off 275 at the Beechmont Exit.

How did you get started in Ballroom Dancing? In 1992, I was invited to a "Sock Hop" at a church where my friends played in the band. I watched a few couples dancing Jitterbug all night & was so intrigued. I had always loved dancing, but couldn't afford to take the lessons. So I mentioned to one of the guys dancing how much I enjoyed watching them, and he was their instructor! That conversation led to a lot of changes in my life because that instructor was Jeff Bill, who I started taking lessons with, became his dance partner, business partner and his wife. I taught at Dance Club for the next 12 years and have recently opened a studio in my new home.

What is YOUR favorite dance and why? I've always said whatever dance I was doing was my favorite! I do love them all, but I guess if I had to

choose I would pick Cha Cha because of the attitude of the dance. You can be light & sassy and enjoy every beat!

What advice can you give to New dancers about Samba? Don't judge this dance too quickly, it's a tough one to learn – but the rewards are great! Samba music & rhythm is wonderful, it just pulls you onto the floor. So give it a chance, I know you'll be happy you invested the time to learn it.

What advice can you give to more experienced dancers about Samba? Try to not let this dance work you too hard! With all the "bouncing" & "ticking" it is definitely a workout. But if you practice your technique and become comfortable with the body movement, you can really work the Samba rather than it working you!!

Describe the Samba Dance Attitude and characteristics? Samba has a fun feel to it. The rhythm also has a sensuous nature that brings out a bit of flirtation in the dancers. It has a rise & fall characteristic with some latin motion overtones.

Thanks to Tracy for a Great Interview!



You Could Be Dancin'

by Vicki Kluener-Matthews

As the title of this column indicates, my objective is to be both informative and introspective when comes to discussing what transpired at the monthly USABDA-sponsored dances. The hope is that those who did not attend will wish they had and those who did will come away with more insight or perhaps a different perspective when it comes to participation. As always, your input and suggestions are welcomed. I am not always able to attend every dance, and even when I do, I often rely on other dancers to provide me with material for this column. It is especially important to me that the views expressed herein are reflective of you, the reader. So, please feel free to contact me with your thoughts.

As usual, one of the main drawing cards for attending a USABDA monthly dance is the dance lesson, which is included in the price of admission. The May dance included rumba instruction under the direction of Doreen Beatrice. It was noted that sometimes continually switching partners can be a bit of a problem, but Doreen was especially skilled at knowing just how long to keep the same partners together. This enabled almost everyone to pick up the sequence and later be able to execute the moves on the dance floor with various partners. By and large, most attendees at the dance welcome the opportunity to meet new people with whom to dance and this pre-dance lesson provides that opportunity. There are some, however, who would prefer to learn to dance with their significant other or who feel more comfortable, or better able to learn the moves, if they keep the same partner. Either option is permitted. One gentleman commented that he usually switches partners, but for the June dance he remained with his daughter, who agreed to accompany him to the dance for Father's Day. What a nice way for her to "connect" with her father, both literally and figuratively!

The June dance included a waltz routine instructed by Terry and Angie Cavanaugh. Terry and Angie also provided that evening's entertainment by performing a sensuous bolero. One dancer commented that he has previously taken dance les-

sons from the Cavanaugh's and is especially impressed with their focus on "the entire spectrum of dance – including basic and advanced steps along with technique and body positioning." The fact that they are married to each other and have, consequently, danced quite frequently together, added another dimension to their performance. I received several comments that Angie's flexibility, combined with the couple's ability to intuit each other's body positioning and practically mirror each other was quite impressive. Not to mention the skillful execution of "flashy" lifts and dips which are incorporated into their routine.

Although the attendance at both of these events was good, some question why the turn out for the semi-annual balls at Music Hall is so much greater? "Why is it," one participant questioned, "that there isn't more effort expended, on the part of the various studios, to encourage attendance at USABDA-sponsored functions?" "People seem to come out of the woodwork to attend the Music Hall Ball," he noted, "but then I never see them again." "Why aren't the monthly dances more well attended," he questioned? It was suggested that this could be due, in part, to the fact that the Music Hall dances are not only highly publicized but also they are much more formal and provide an opportunity to dance in an elegant facility. They also generally bring in nationally and/or internationally ranked performers.


Nevertheless, this expressed concern that more and more dance places are opening up, giving dancers various options each week, and cutting down on attendance, peaked my curiosity. Obviously, lower attendance means fewer choices in dance partners. What do the various dance facilities offer and what is it that entices attendance? Is it the size and maintenance of the dance floor? Is it the music selection? Is it the number of "seasoned" dancers from whom to solicit a dance? Is it the anticipated ratio of males to females? Is it the pre-dance instruction? Is it cost? Is it the intimidation factor – number of trained dancers versus novice dancers? Is it location? Is it the availability of alcohol or cigarettes? Is it

the type of dance highlighted – ballroom versus country versus swing versus Latin versus those offering a wider variety?

It would appear that it entails a combination of these, but it would be interesting to hear what the readers of this newsletter have to say. For instance, does your dance ability contribute to your decision regarding where you like to go to dance? Does the amount of time you spend dancing versus watching factor into your decision? If you would classify yourself as a more-skilled dancer how apt are you to ask a less-experienced dancer to dance? Those of you who are less skilled, do you feel intimidated by the more skillful dancers or would you welcome an opportunity to dance with them? How far are you willing to travel to attend a dance? Does the dress code factor into your decision? Does the climate or cleanliness of the facility matter? Does whether you are single or involved in a significant relationship play a part in where you choose to dance? Are there places you feel more comfortable going to alone, as opposed to feeling compelled to have a partner?

Obviously, the more responses I receive, the more insight we can all have as to how to make our dancing experiences even more positive. I would welcome your input and will include the results in the next column. Please email me directly at vmatthews@fuse.net.

In the interim, *You Could Be Dancin'!!!*



October 29
Music Hall Ball

Gert and Kirstie Roslender
from Indianapolis

Keep checking the website for Pro bios
and dance information



USABDA of Cincinnati Must Change Its Name

Earlier this year, a majority of the members of USABDA throughout the county voted to change the name of our organization to USA Dance. Consequently, our local chapter must change its name as well. To change our name, we must change our bylaws.* The bylaws can be changed only by a vote of our membership.

Recommendation by the Board

Our Board of Trustees recommends changing our name from USABDA of Cincinnati to DanceCincinnati. We felt this name allows us the flexibility to incorporate not only USA Dance information but ALL information that pertains to ballroom dancing and other types of dancing not technically encompassed under the term "ballroom" in the tri-state area.

Petitions by Members

Members of our chapter may initiate a different name change. Any name chosen must be acceptable to the national organization and, preferably but not necessarily, identify the location of the chapter. To be placed on the ballot, a petition for a different name change must have signatures from at least 25% of our chapter (68 of approximately 270 members). Send your petitions to USABDA, P.O. Box 141345, Cincinnati, OH 45250-1345. Petitions for a different name change will be accepted until August 23, 2005.

Voting Process

The ballot to change our chapter's name will be printed in the August 31st Newsletter. Ballots must include your current membership number. Ballots may be returned by mail (postmarked no later than September 20, 2005 or may be dropped in the ballot box at the September 17th dance. Results of the vote will appear in the September 28th Newsletter.

(Footnotes)

* See www.DanceCincinnati.org, My DanceCincinnati, For Members Only, Bylaws

DanceCincinnati Family Album

Can you identify the dance princess in the making from this picture? Check out the DanceCincinnati Family Album on the website!



Email your pictures to www.newslettereditor@dancecincinnati.org with a caption identifying yourself.

August 18, 19, 20th Cincinnati DanceSport Competition

Holiday Inn - Greater Cincinnati Airport
For More Information
cincinnati.dancesport.com

DanceCincinnati 2005 Dance Schedule

Date	Venue	Lesson	Instructor	DJ
Jul 16	ERC	Tango	Staff, Always Ballroom	Terry Cavanaugh
Jul 30	ERC	Samba	Karen Turner – Arth.Murray	Jack Meinking
Aug 13	ERC	Samba	Tracy Kellum	Jack Yaus
Sep 17	ERC	EC Swing	Jeff Bill	Tony Rimkus
Oct 8	GOC	Lead/Follow	Larry May	Jack Meinking
Oct 29	CMH	No Lesson		Jack Meinking
Nov 12	ERC	Foxtrot	Piper Landis	John Bramhall
Dec 10	CMH	No Lesson		Jack Yaus

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

GOC - Greek Orthodox Church, 7000 Winton Road (between North Bend Rd. and Galbraith Rd.) 513-591-0030 Schedule and admission prices - same as ERC

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

2005 DanceCincinnati Board Members

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Secretary: Barb Alvarez
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Scheduling Chair: Vivian Cosio
Event Photographer: Tony Hou
Promotions Chair: Susan Hoffheimer
Refreshments and Decorations Chair:
Linda McCraig

Want to Communicate to the Board?

All comments and suggestions are welcome by the DanceCincinnati board. You can reach us on www.dancecincinnati.org and then going to the My DanceCincinnati link. All of the board members and their bios are listed along with an email address for your comments. Want to VOLUNTEER - we need your help. Just contact us or talk to us at a dance - help is always needed.

Newsletter Staff

Susan Cappa, Sherry Borchelt, Vicki Kluener-Mathews, Gary Neiheisel, Joan Daniel, Carl Bixel, Kym Preston, Christy Bacon

Next Board Meeting

Wednesday, August 10th, 7pm at Scott Peterson's house. You can email him at webmaster.dancecincinnati.org. 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:
newslettereditor@dancecincinnati.org.



DanceCincinnati

P.O. Box 141345
Cincinnati, OH 45250-1345
Information Line: 513-769-3088

www.dancecincinnati.org

Change Service Requested

Check out www.dancecincinnati.org

Dancin'



Round Town

Moonlight Gardens Memories

By Susan Cappa

by the Discerning Dancer - Gary Neihsel

Cincinnati is fortunate to have two of the most beautiful and grand architectural masterpieces partially dedicated to ballroom dancing. One is Music Hall and the other is Moonlight Gardens at Old Coney Island.

Moonlight Gardens is perhaps the most beautiful dance location in the country. It certainly has the character and history. It has an enclosed bandstand, a ceramic 4800 square foot dance floor under the stars, a two story horse-shoe structure surrounding the dance floor and a spectacular two-story entrance facade designed in the French Colonial style with winding staircases and wrought iron railings. One can stand on the open second story and look out over romantic Lake Como and the beautifully landscaped surroundings and let your mind drift to the memories this magical place holds.

Moonlight Gardens & Moonlight Pavillion
at Old Coney Island

The original Moonlight Gardens was built in 1925 as an open-air pavillion with a roof over the dance floor. During the Big Band era of the 1930's and 40's, it was said that anybody who was anybody in the entertainment field played Moonlight Gardens: Glenn Miller, Guy Lombardo, Benny Goodman, Jimmy Dorsey, Artie Shaw, Count Basie, Stan Kenton, Al Hirt and many more. Cincinnati Doris Day got her start here. When Coney Island was closed after the 1971 season because of the opening of Kings Island, most of the original Moonlight Gardens was torn down. However, because of its grand national reputation, the wrecker's ball spared the French Colonial facade and in 1985 Moonlight Gardens was restored as an outdoor dance hall. Today Moonlight Gardens is a multi purpose facility where there are weddings, receptions, concerts, festivals and dances. For the remainder of the 2005 season there are dances in Moonlight Gardens on 7/22, 8/5, 8/12, 8/19, and 8/26. These

dances go from 8-12PM with the doors opening at 7PM. Live music is provided for all of these dates from some of Cincinnati's best bands. The music is mostly oldies (e.g. 50's, 60's, and 70's) and very danceable. East coast swing, west coast swing, cha cha, hustle, night club two step and American slow dance can all be done to the fun and lively music. The cover charge is \$8/person. For more information concerning specific bands and dates one can call 232-8230 or visit the Coney Island website at coneyislandpark.com.

In 1976, while most of Moonlight Gardens was torn down, the Moonlight Pavillion was constructed as a covered open-air dance hall. It occupies the area that was originally the building used by the Whip, the Dodge Em's and the Cuddle Up amusement rides. Unlike Moonlight Gardens, this facility has a roof over the 3600 square foot ceramic dance floor. It is also open to the atmosphere along the sides. When there is inclement weather that might cancel the dances held in Moonlight Gardens, they are moved to the Pavillion. An additional big band dance on 9/4 will be held in the Moonlight Pavillion. This is a nice facility for a dance but it does not have the character of the Gardens.

Both Moonlight Gardens and the Moonlight Pavillion offer a variety of alcoholic and carbonated beverages ranging from draft beer to wine to mixed drinks. The wine is low quality and the mixed drinks are expensive and watered down. The only food provided are snacks such as pretzels, potato chips, nachos, and sometimes hot dogs and pizza by the slice.

Even though the food and drink are below average, Moonlight Gardens still provides the most enjoyable dance experience in all of Cincinnati.

Overall Rating (scale 1-5):



In an era where single, divorced moms were rare and June Cleaver was the role model for stay-at-home moms, taking your kid to Moonlight Gardens to a big band dance was sort of "not the norm". Protocol or lack of a dance partner did not stop my mom however as she packed up me, grandma and grandpa in the car for a trip to Coney Island to hear the likes of Guy Lombardo, the Ames Brothers and Andy Williams (along with the Ozman Brothers).

Of course being a kid, I was not thrilled at first to attend these dances and I can remember my mom leading me in a basic foxtrot step before I went. I do remember too my impressions of the original Moonlight Gardens dancefloor and the open air part where you could dance under the stars if you wished. It seemed glamorous and very grown up. My mom used to laugh about the time I was right in front of the Guy Lombardo band just listening to the singer and lost in another world of dreamy music and track of time. She had the lead singer get my attention in front of everybody and tell the awestruck little girl it was time to go home. I stomped away - angry at not wanting to leave and mortified that "my mom" had to tell me it was time to go home!

The results: I have great memories of my mom, can appreciate the music when I ballroom dance and was one of the few kids in my high school class that could sing the words to most all the 40's swing music!



Dayton Dancing

Arbor Hall -

2150 Arbor Blvd. Dayton, OH.
Ballroom Dancing 8:00PM - 11:00PM.
\$10 per person.

76 Dance Club.

August 6, Jack Meinking

Dancetonian Dance Club

August 13, John Bramhall

Swing N Sway Dance Club

July 23, John Bramhall

August 27, Tony Rimkus

Local Studios

A-Mrika

Sharonville - Mary Ramirez-Cook 769-0409

Always Ballroom

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

Arthur Murray

Florence, Ky
Karen Turner - 859-371-1151
amdstudio@aol.com
www.florencearthurmurray.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

Golden City Ballroom

Kettering Town Center
Vitaliy & Irina Kozheva - 937-643-4050
goldencityballroom@sbcglobal.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

COMP-Spot *By Sherry Borchelt*

What Being a Champion Means To Me!

Competitive dancing offers both challenges and opportunities to learn more about oneself. The Challenges include both physical and psyche limitations. The opportunities connect both the physical and psyche because as we grow in our dancing ability so we can grow as a person.

I asked Jozsef, the Pro I compete with what did I need to do to be like the Champions I watched win at competitions? His response was to ask me to contemplate, "What Being a Champion Means to Me?" He said when you understand this you will understand the way of the Champion.

I thought how hard can it be to answer this question. It turns out the journey led me deeper into what is important in my life than I anticipated. Only after reading a book called The Four Agreements was I able to collect thoughts into words. So here goes, I humbly share with you "What Being a Champion Means to Me."

A *Champion* sees through the crippling and limiting strategies of ego (self) by gradually developing trust in their innate strength and inherent wisdom (true nature). The "Way" is perfect like vast space where nothing is lacking and nothing is in excess. To return to the root is to find meaning, but to pursue appearances is to miss the source.

A *Champion* embraces a virtuous life through the practice of honesty, patience, nobility, integrity, faith, hope, generosity, discipline, happiness and tranquility. A virtuous life leads to inner coherence and outward harmony. The Buddha taught that accepting and relaxing with change in every area of our lives is the path to awakening. A Champion understands that everything is forever changing, and accepts this impermanence as universal law.

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

A *Champion* knows that what really matters is who they are inside and who they are becoming and follows a path of four agreements:

1. They are impeccable with their word by speaking with integrity, using the power of their word in the direction of truth and love.
2. They don't take anything personally. They are immune to the opinions and actions of others.
3. They don't make assumptions. They find the courage to ask questions and to express what they really want.
4. They always do their best, realizing their best is going to change from moment to moment. By simply doing their best, they avoid self-judgment, self-abuse, and regret.

A *Champion* strives to harmonize actions with the way life is. They put their principles into practice, and decide to be extraordinary and do what they need to do. When they imagine the possibilities, their vision expands, they capture their dreams, and their life is full. They reach out and touch the limits of their being.



*Light as a Butterfly
I will Dance My Dreams
Moving Gently like Water
Trickling in a Stream
Weaving a Magical Spell
For All to See
That a Champion Simply
Means Being Me*



Inspired by Jozsef, a Master of Dance
Written by Sherry, a Student of Dance
December 16, 2003