

The Tucson Swing Dance Club's April 2009

Newsletter

This month

Wendy Miller and James Hood are April's volunteer dance instructors.

- Thursday, April 2nd: **Jack & Jill contest**. Sign up deadline is 8:45pm. L Perez is the DJ.
- Thursday, April 9th: Matt Rounseville is the DJ.
- Tuesday, April 14th: Board meeting 7pm at Village Inn, 4245 E Speedway Blvd. All members are welcome to attend.
- Thursday, April 16th: Scott Miller is the DJ. **Elections** for the 2009-2010 Board of Directors.
- Thursday, April 23rd: Tamra Hood is the DJ.
- Thursday, April 30th: Jim Davis is the DJ. **Jack & Jill evaluations** for new competitors.



Judging the March J&J

Inside

President's message.....	2
March Jack & Jill results	3
On the road	3
Which dancer are you?	4
April birthdays	6
New members	6
Local WCS instructors	6
Ad rates	6
Dance lessons at the club	7
About the TSDC	7
Contact us!.....	7

President's message

This is my last President's message before the coming club election on April 16. I'd like to thank all of the 2008-2009 Board Members for their time and dedication. I am very grateful for the opportunity to work with each and every one of you, and I think we can look back on this year with pride. Some notable accomplishments of the 2008-2009 Board of Directors include:




1. Establishing a workshop committee that successfully planned and executed the first club sponsored workshops in years and broke even on the costs!
2. Improving our sound system with the purchase of new powered speakers.
3. Purchasing a club laptop, financial software, and a member database program to streamline club record-keeping.
4. Improving club communication by establishing a feedback box, Board Member email addresses, and a Club member survey.

As I've stated previously, one of my goals for this year is to offer more ways for club members to improve their dancing. Our November and February workshops were a terrific example of this. At each workshop, participants had the opportunity to fill out a survey on the event. The February workshop survey results were very positive with an average overall rating of 4.6 out of 5. 100% of participants said they would attend future TSDC workshops.

I'm very excited to announce a new dance opportunity for club members. Our new PR Director, Annie Schill, is organizing a TSDC performance team. We're looking for club members who are interested in representing the club by dancing at various special events (TSDC Christmas Party, Pima County Fair, downtown, etc). We're also working on arranging group sessions with a WCS coach to choreograph a routine for the performance team. All levels of dance are welcome. Sign up at the front desk if you're interested in learning more.

I'd like to thank everyone who participated in our club member survey last month. The Board really appreciates your input. We're currently going through the survey results to find out what we are doing well and what areas we could improve upon.

James



"Know Thyself"
anatomy-minded massage

"Your Interactive Owner's Manual"
CARRIE ZAMORA, LMT
14 years experience
Specializing in Chronic Problems Areas

By Appointment
520-247-4110
carrie@kneaditorknot.com



Knead It or Knot
Professional & Do-It-Yourself Massage

Licensed Massage Therapist
Certified Yamuna Body Rolling Practitioner
Reiki Practitioner First Degree

TheraCane Workshops

March Jack & Jill results

- Novice: John Calvo and Stephanie Springer were in 1st place, Matt Rounseville and Kim Condoulis were 2nd, and Daniel Einfrank and Debbie Burke were 3rd.
- Intermediate: Chris McLean and Alex Devine were in 1st place, Tom Grubaugh and Robin Chlad were 2nd, and Robert Grace and Cathy Schreiber were 3rd.
- Advanced: James and Tamra Hood were in 1st place, Jim Davis and Heather McLean were 2nd, and Don Bennett and April Amstutz were 3rd.

On the road

At the Mid Atlantic Dance Jam in Virginia, Wendy Miller placed 4th in the All Stars Jack & Jill.

Desert Garden Design

Landscape Plans and Consultations

Specializing in help for the do-it-yourselfer's & people needing an extreme landscape make over. I design with **YOU** in mind!

Vicki France 519-9324
www.desertgardendesign.com

The swing club is forming a **performance team!** If you are interested in joining the team, look for the signup sheet at the front desk. Everyone is welcome. Let's go out there and have fun!



Stephanie, John, Kim, Matt, Debbie, and Daniel



Chris, Alex, Robert, Cathy, Tom, Robin, and club founder Rose Marie Burrell



Tamra, James, Jim, Heather, Don, and April

Which Dancer Are You?

At a recent dance event, I watched an all-too-familiar scenario that made me cringe. You would know it if you saw it, we've all experienced it at one time or another.



It was that moment when 'Dancer A' looked at 'Dancer B' during the lesson and said rudely, "You're not doing that right". That person then proceeded to walk through the steps as though they were dancing alone while 'Dancer B' smiled awkwardly and tried to get through the pattern.

Unfortunately, that started the usual chain of events. 'Dancer B' fumbled through the pattern with the next person in line, apologized for the clumsy steps, and continued to look troubled until the embarrassment from Dancer A's insensitive remark faded. Luckily, I watched 'Dancer B' get through the pattern correctly while dancing through it with a more forgiving partner after only a few tries.

How often have you been in Dancer B's shoes? I know I've been there, and it ruined the fun night of dancing I was looking forward to.

Dance floor etiquette is one of those things that people cross boundaries on all the time without realizing it. Have you ever been Dancer A? Probably most of us have been unintentionally guilty of it at one point.

I am a firm believer that we all have something to learn from one another. It doesn't matter how beginning or advanced one is, it is possible to have a great dance with anyone if you have the right attitude.

So what can we do to avoid being Dancer A? Well, besides the obvious, here are some ideas to chew on:

- Smile at the person you are dancing with, and always remember to thank them.
- Do not correct other dancers or offer feedback unless they ask you a specific question such as, "Did I follow that right?". If that opportunity should arise, be nice when you answer. Leave critiquing to the professional instructors during lessons.
- If you are having difficulty dancing with a particular partner, keep your leading or following simple. Don't dance above the person, and it will make for a much smoother dance.
- Be gracious when someone asks you to dance, and be thankful that they want to share that moment on the dance floor with you. If you must say no when someone asks, the polite thing to do is to sit that entire song out and not find a different partner until the next song.
- Don't ever hesitate to ask someone new to dance. Remember we were all beginners at one time, and dancing with someone new can be very inspiring for both people.

Above all, remember that everyone is on the dance floor to have fun. You get out of it what you put into it, so make every dance the best one you've had all night. Your partner will thank you!

Tamra Hood

TSDC Music Director

Thanks to everyone who served on the 2008-2009 Board of Directors!



April birthdays

Members get in free the week of their birthday!

April 1st: David Erhardt

April 8th: Mindy Diamond

April 13th: Vicki France

April 21st: Al Henderson and Jim Davis

April 23rd: Stephanie Springer

April 24th: Harold Beatty

April 26th: Bob Fogelsong

April 27th: Sheri Bootman

April 30th: Cassy Olson

New members

Welcome Steve Langlois, Terri Loveless, Mary Gibson, Lawrence Bonfoey, Jeff Yost, and Tina Moyer.

Local WCS instructors

If you're a current TSDC member and you'd like to be listed here, send your contact information to newsletter@tsdc.net.

- Lawrence Bonfoey: dontdelaydancetoday.com
- Ellen Colonna: 520-548-6777
- Tamra Hood: 520-360-4891, wcsdancers@gmail.com
- Wendy Miller: 520-318-9236, wendymillerdance.com
- Cassy Olson: 602-750-7368
- Jeannie Tucker: jeannietucker.com
- Ro Vaughn: 520-260-2200

Board updates

The Board of Directors has proposed some changes to the Jack & Jill contest rules; the proposed changes will be voted on at the May board meeting. Members can review the proposed changes before then -- check the binder at the front desk, or look on the club website at www.tsdc.net

Ad rates

Email ads to newsletter@tsdc.net and send a check payable to the Tucson Swing Dance Club to TSDC, PO Box 32226, Tucson, AZ 85751.

Issues	1	2	4	6
Business card	\$7	\$13.50	\$25	\$35
Quarter page	\$14	\$27	\$50	\$68.60
Third page	\$19.50	\$37.50	\$65	\$95
Half page	\$25	\$45	\$70	\$100
Full page	\$40			
Single-sided insert	\$50			
Double-sided insert	\$80			

TSDC 2008-2009 Board

James Hood is the President, Heather McLean is the Vice President, Don Bennett is the Treasurer, Robin Chlad is the Membership Secretary, and Cathy Schreiber is the Corporate Secretary.

Debbie Burke is the Event Liaison, Kevin Burke is the Sergeant at arms, Ellen Colonna is the Head Judge, Jim Davis is the Newsletter Editor, Bill Garrity is the Contest Coordinator, Tom Grubaugh is the Dance Director, Tamra Hood is the Music Director, Chris McLean is the Club Photographer, Heather McLean is the Website Administrator, Annie Schill is the Publicity Director, and Eleanor Schrandt is the Hospitality Director.

Dance lessons at the club

Each month the club's dance instructors teach the beginning patterns in West Coast Swing. Students may start the sequence on any Thursday.

- First Thursday of the month: Left side pass, underarm turn, underarm turn with a hand change, and the right side pass.
- Second Thursday: 4-beat starter step, throwout, and closed basic.
- Third Thursday: Sugarpush, tuck throwout, and turning basic.
- Fourth Thursday: Basic whip, whip with an inside turn, and whip with an outside turn
- And in months with a fifth Thursday: Basket whip and variations.

We recommend taking the beginning class for three months before going on to the intermediate class. Intermediate classes teach pattern variations, combinations, and syncopations beyond the basics.

About the TSDC

Founded in 1977 by Rose Marie Burrell, the Tucson Swing Dance Club has dances Thursday night at the Tucson Woman's Club, 6245 E Bellevue Street. There are dances every Thursday night except on Thanksgiving or other major holidays.

Club instructors teach a beginning lesson from 7-7:45pm and an intermediate lesson from 8-8:30pm, with dancing until 10:30pm.

Admission is \$3 for members and \$5 otherwise; annual memberships cost \$25 and run from January 1st through December 31st. Members are also eligible to compete in the club Jack & Jill contests and can choose to get a printed copy of the newsletter. Anyone can read the newsletter online at www.tsd.net.

Contact us!

We now have email addresses for most of the club officers:

President: president@tsdc.net

Vice President: vp@tsdc.net

Membership Secretary: members@tsdc.net

Dance Director: dance@tsdc.net

Music Director: music@tsdc.net

Hospitality Director: hospitality@tsdc.net

Website Administrator: webadmin@tsdc.net

Newsletter Editor: newsletter@tsdc.net

and our mailing address is

Tucson Swing Dance Club
PO Box 32226
Tucson, AZ 85751

Tucson Swing Dance Club 2009 Elections Ballot

Mark an X next to the candidate of your choice, or write in a name on the line provided:

President

James Hood _____

Writein candidate _____

Vice President

Zo Carroll _____

Writein candidate _____

Treasurer

Martha McLeod _____

Writein candidate _____

Membership Secretary

Jim Davis _____

Writein candidate _____

Corporate Secretary

Heather McLean _____

Writein candidate _____

To vote by mail: send your ballot to

TSDC
PO Box 32226
Tucson, AZ 85751

and write your membership number on the envelope -- *not* on the ballot itself.
Mailed ballots must be received by April 16th.