

The Tucson Swing Dance Club's November 2009

Newsletter

This Month

Darian Barrett and Robert Grace are the volunteer dance instructors.

- Thursday, Nov. 5th: Jack & Jill Contest. **Jim Davis** is the DJ.
- Tuesday, Nov. 10th: Board meeting 7 pm at Village Inn, 4245 E Speedway Blvd. All members are welcome.
- Thursday, Nov. 12th: **Scott Miller** is the DJ.
- Thursday, 19th: Evaluations for Jack & Jill Contest. **Scott Miller** is the DJ.
- Thursday Nov. 26th: **CLUB CLOSED for THANKSGIVING!**



*National WCS Champions
Ben Morris & Melina Ramirez
Inspire & Teach at our Fall Workshop*



*"Girls Just Wanna Have Fun!"
Jane and Ellen at the TSDC
80's Themed Anniversary Party*

Upcoming Events

- Sunday, November 8th: Judging Workshop sponsored by the GPSDC. **Jeannie Tucker** will be the instructor.
- Saturday, December 5th: **TSDC Christmas Party at the TCC.** Food, drinks, performances, holiday sparkle and of course, spectacular **DANCING!** Don't miss this special night! Tickets on sale now. See insert for more details.



President's Message

OK, so what were you doing in 1977? Were you part of the original group of dancers who came together to form the Tucson Swing Dance Club? That's right. This club has been going strong since 1977! We are Arizona's



oldest WCS club. A lot of things have come and gone in the 32 years since this club's formation. Businesses have come and gone and so have many local clubs. Music, clothing and hairstyles have all changed over the years. However, one thing that hasn't changed is that TSDC members are still passionate about WCS and still eager to promote WCS.

Our Thursday night classes (along with the club dances that follow) are one way that we promote WCS. Group lessons are a non-threatening, fun, and inexpensive way to learn the basics of WCS. Plus, you get to practice your moves that same night with a roomful of people who will readily dance with you...just ask! TSDC members want you to develop an addiction to WCS...we're all afflicted with it!

TSDC also hosts dance workshops that bring in some of the top WCS dancers in the country to share their expertise with our members. Attending workshops is one of the best ways to improve your dancing. For those of you who attended our October workshop with Ben Morris and Melina Ramirez, you know exactly what I'm talking about. Man that was so much fun!

I want to send out a big thank you to **Sam Fox** for all of her excellent work in pulling that workshop together. She worked her tail off and it showed. It was a well-organized, smoothly run event...thanks to Sam and the others she recruited to help her! **Tom Grubaugh** and **Rosanne Crago** checked participants in at the door and **Jim Davis** helped out by picking up Ben from the airport and shuttling him around. **Deb Burke** helped out with scheduling privates. There

was sensational dancing, inspiring music and delicious food. Thank you to everyone who brought a dish or beverage to share.

Dance parties are another way we have fun at TSDC. Yeah, we love to party! **Eleanor Schrandt** is the club's social director and coordinates these events. Eleanor did an awesome job on the planning and decorations for the Anniversary and Halloween Party.

Thanks to all who dressed up for the Halloween Party. The costumes really gave the evening a special magic. Our Christmas party is coming up on Dec 5th at the TCC. I hope you plan on being there. There will be incredible music, special performances, spectacular dancing and a delicious midnight buffet to enjoy (as well as a bar for those who want a little added "holiday cheer").

We have so many members that work behind the scenes to support the club, but I wanted to give a special thanks to **Jim Davis** for stepping up to fill the position of Contest Coordinator for our Jack & Jill Contests.

So how can you help ensure the future of our club? Become a club member. For only \$30 you'll get the rest of this year and next year covered. As a member, you'll receive a discount on the Thursday night class and dance. You'll also receive a member discount on special activities like our Christmas party and future workshops. Help grow our club and promote WCS by becoming a member of the TSDC today (a membership application is included in this month's newsletter).

My wife and I were not part of that original group of founders in 1977, but we are very grateful for what they started way back then. Some of our best nights are spent dancing at this club. We cannot imagine a future without the Tucson Swing Dance Club and WCS. We are proud members of this club and plan to dance here until our feet can't dance any longer.

Zo Carroll

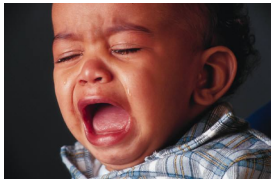
October Jack & Jill Results



Sylvie, Zo, Debra, Matt & Martha

Novice Winners

- 1st – Zo Carroll
Sylvie Morel-Seytoux**
- 2nd – Matt Rounseville
Martha McLeod**
- 3rd – Zo Carroll
Debra Burke**



No Intermediate Division in October...
We missed our Intermediate Dancers!
Hope to see you all competing again soon...



Roger, Jane, Don, Lacey, Brooke & Robert

Advanced Winners

- 1st – Robert Grace
Brooke Schilling**
- 2nd- Don Bennett
Lacey Petterson**
- 3rd- Roger Belasco
Jane Morgan**

National WCS Champions Ben Morris and Melina Ramirez Deliver a Smash Hit!



Workshop Inspiring Even for Seasoned Dancers... *By Bill Garrity*

Is someone who has been dancing for quite a while still able to walk away with something useful from a local workshop? If that workshop is taught by National WCS Champions Ben Morris and Melina Ramirez, then the answer is a resounding "YES"!

When attending workshops, I usually try to get at least one good move that I can actually lead on the social dance floor with a follower who did not attend the workshop and has never done the move before. I call them my \$15 moves because most workshops are about \$15. With Ben and Melina's workshop, I definitely got my money's worth since I got quite a few moves that I will be able to use right away on the dance floor. Often at workshops, much of what I learn is not something I can use in open dancing...this was not the case at our recent TSDC workshop, so my compliments to Ben and Melina.

While I certainly love learning new moves or new ways to move at workshops, the social atmosphere is also extremely important to me. At the dance following the workshop, I had a blast dancing with lots of different dance partners. There was a strong turn out of Phoenix dancers, who are some of the best in the country! It's always nice to dance with great dancers that you might not know very well. It can sometimes even help take your dancing to the next level. So if you enjoy taking classes from National Champions, learning new moves, hanging out with friends or meeting new people from Phoenix, then you don't want to miss the next TSDC workshop. See you there or out on the dance floor!

TSDC Members Rave about Ben & Melina's Workshop



*"I especially loved the **styling** Melina taught...
Unique, trendy moves
that fit great with hip hop!"
...**Sylvie Morel-Seytoux***

*"I so appreciated the way that Ben and Melina focused on technique and the reasons why you do certain moves in certain ways at certain times to respond more appropriately to your partner.
I really got a lot out of the time I spent learning from them."
...**Rosanne Crago***

*"Had a **great** time!
Ben and Melina's moves
and Shawn's music
made it all work."
...**Lon Hood***

*"I love workshops! It's always exciting to learn new movements and/or new perspectives. And it's a blast to rotate around the circle and see new (and familiar) faces."
...**Ellen Colonna***

*"I was very impressed with how much social dancing Ben and Melina did after the workshop. They barely rested!"
...**Scott Miller***



*"This was my first time going to workshops and I enjoyed them very much...the people, the food and the D.J. were all great!
I'll be back!"
...**Barbara Nersesian***

**Workshop photos by
Matt Rounseville**

It's only November, but...

*It's not too early
to renew your TSDC
membership for 2010!*



By
Jim Davis
Membership Secretary

It's still one of the best entertainment deals in town. We've kept the cost steady at \$25 for several years now, and a membership saves you \$2 each time you come to a dance – so it could well pay for itself over time.

And if you're not currently a member, we have a great deal for you: \$30 for the rest of 2009 and all of 2010. Basically you can come to all the dances in the rest of 2009 for just \$3 each, and still save on admission for all of 2010 too.

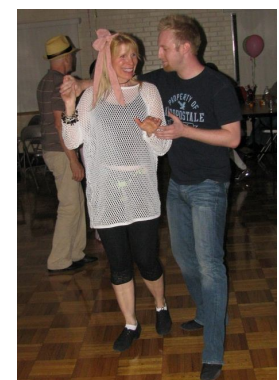
Now one of the member benefits is that you can request a printed copy of the club's monthly newsletter to be mailed to you, but you can also read the newsletter online on the club's website, in color. And while we do sell ads in the newsletter, the income from that has never covered the cost of printing – so one way to help the club keep costs down in 2010 and beyond is to go green, and skip the printed copy option when you do renew.

Top 10 Reasons for Becoming a Member of TSDC *By Zo & Mary Carroll*

1. You can finally compete in the Jack & Jill contests and strut your stuff for all to see.
2. You'll receive a super-cool laminated membership card to flash in front of people you're trying to impress.
3. \$\$ You save \$2 each and every Thursday. That's a potential savings of over \$100 per year (that's a lot of lattes!).
4. \$\$ Our sister club in Phoenix, the GPSDC, will give you member rates on their club-sponsored workshops (still more lattes!).
5. \$\$ Receive discounts (notice a theme here) at our very own TSDC workshops featuring national champions like Ben & Melina.
6. Instantly become a better dancer (well, almost instantly).
7. Become a part of today's hip new "never pay retail" crowd.
8. Hob-nob with stars of the WCS national circuit such as champions Wendy Miller and Cassy Olson (both TSDC members in good standing!).
9. No more trying to sneak in the side doors or slinking by Susan at the front desk.
10. A proud feeling that burns deep in your heart as you know that you are helping the TSDC grow and thrive yet another year (in other words, making dang sure you continue to have a place to dance each week with some of the best dancers in Arizona).



At our recent TSDC Anniversary Party, L.P. kept the dance floor packed as he played hit after hit from the 80's (Who knew the 80's had such great WCS music?). Madonnas abounded, along with Flashdance inspired outfits. The mood was festive and fun, fueled by gnarly food, bodacious dancing and awesome music! As Mr. T. would say, "I pity the fool who missed it!" Special thanks to Eleanor for the 80's decorations...perfect!

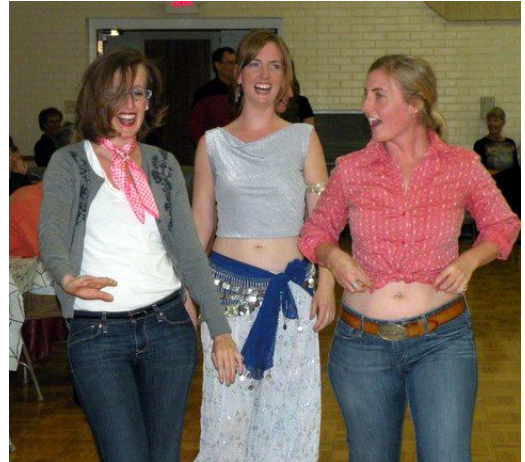


**Anniversary Photos By
Chris McLean**



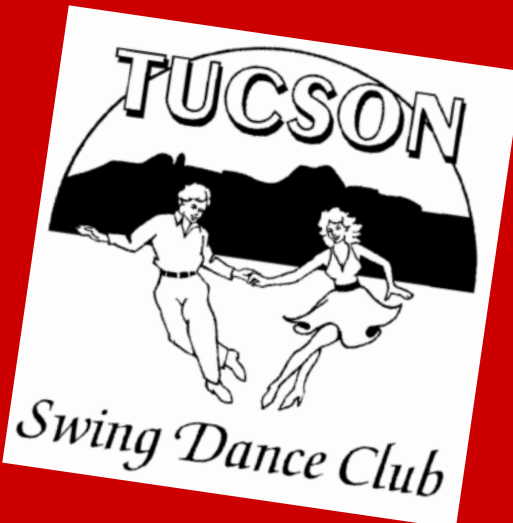


HALLOWEEN at the TSDC



Photos by Matt Rounseville & Chris McLean

Tucson Swing Dance Club Christmas Party!



A party that comes but once a year with DJ Shawn Jessup and DJ Scott Miller playing only the best music. Buy your ticket early and only pay \$25 or purchase tickets at the door for \$35. Parking is free and a late buffet dinner is included with every ticket purchase. Come and support your dance community!

Highlights

- Food
- Drinks
- Performances
- Great music
- ...And lots of dancing!

TUCSON SWING DANCE CLUB ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY!

Tucson Convention Center
260 S Church Street

Contact Eleanor Schrandt for tickets (hospitality@tsdc.net) or inquire at the front desk.

Time: 7:00 pm - 12:00 am

Date: December 5th, 2009



November Birthdays

Members get in **FREE** the week of their birthday!

November 3rd : Steve Slocum

November 4th: Sam Fox

November 11th: Joey Barrios

November 13th : Laurence Bonfoey

November 17th : Giuliana Donnelly

November 17th : Art O'Mara

November 19th : Juliana Evans

November 23rd : Tracey Anderson

November 25th : Alexandra Devine

November 29th : Rosanne Crago

November 29th : Alla Enderla

November 29th : Pamela Laub

November 29th : Michele Rappoport

New Members

Welcome...

Sandra Torres

Tyler E.

Scott King

Mary Lou Duckworth

Steve Slocum

Juan Carlos Ortega

Ann Marie Ida Hacae

Leighton Skov

Ask a new member to dance today!

On the Road

Congratulations, Scott!

TSDC member **Scott Miller placed 3rd in the Masters Division at Boogie by the Bay**, a National WCS Convention held in San Francisco, CA on Oct. 8th -11th.

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 every 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.

2009-2010 TSDC Board

President: Zo Carroll

Vice President: Ellen Colonna

Treasurer: Martha McLeod

Membership Secretary: Jim Davis

Corporate Secretary: Heather McLean

Event Liaison: Debra Burke

Sergeant at Arms: Bill Garrity

Head Judge: Ellen Colonna

Newsletter Editor: Mary Carroll

Contest Coordinator: Jim Davis

Dance Director: Tom Grubaugh

Music Director: Scott Miller

Club Photographer: Chris McLean

Website Administrator: Heather McLean

Publicity Director: Annie Schill

Hospitality Director: Eleanor Schrandt

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

Mailing Address: Tucson Swing Dance Club
PO Box 32226
Tucson, AZ 85751

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. Deadline for submission is the 15th of each month.

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			

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
- Wendy Miller: 520-318-9236, wendymillerdance.com
- Cassy Olson: 602-750-7368
- L Perez: 520-792-2067
www.myspace.com/L_Perez
- Jeannie Tucker: jeannietucker.com
- Ro Vaughn: 520-260-2200

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