

The Tucson Swing Dance Club's December 2009

# Newsletter

## This Month

**Wendy Miller** is the volunteer dance instructor.

- Thursday, Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup>: Jack & Jill contest. **L Perez** is the DJ.
- Saturday, Dec. 5<sup>th</sup>: **TSDC Christmas Party at the TCC**. Tickets are \$25 in advance and \$35 at the door. 7pm-12:00 am. Late night buffet and tons of fabulous dancing! Don't miss it!
- Tuesday, Dec. 8<sup>th</sup>: Board meeting 7 pm at Village Inn, 4245 E Speedway Blvd. All members are welcome.
- Thursday, Dec. 10<sup>th</sup>: **Jim Davis** is the DJ.
- Thursday, Dec. 17<sup>th</sup>: Evaluations for Jack & Jill contest. **Scott Miller** is the DJ.
- Thursday, Dec. 24<sup>th</sup>: **Club closed for Christmas Eve. Merry Christmas!**
- Thursday Dec. 31<sup>st</sup>: **Club closed for New Year's Eve. Happy New Year!**



*Don Bennett & Jane Morgan rehearse choreography for the upcoming debut of the TSDC Performance Team on Dec. 5<sup>th</sup> at the club Christmas Party*



## **TSDC Performance Team**

*Read all about them inside this issue!*



**Ring in the New Year  
Doing what you love...  
Dancing!**

**New Year's Swing'n Dance Camp**  
Dec. 31<sup>st</sup>-Jan 3<sup>rd</sup> Palm Springs, CA  
[www.peoplewhodance.net/newyears/swing](http://www.peoplewhodance.net/newyears/swing)



**GPSDC New Year's Eve Party**  
Doubletree Guest Suites Phoenix, AZ  
Dinner Buffet Dancing from 7pm-1am  
For Tickets email: [hospitality@qpsdc.com](mailto:hospitality@qpsdc.com)



## President's Message

Season's greetings to all! Holidays are not only a time of giving, but a time to count our many blessings. I've met and befriended so many wonderful people at our club. Dancing here will provide me with a lifetime of great memories. It's like the gift that keeps on giving.



Our volunteers work hard to make our club a fun, friendly place to hang out and dance. We want everyone to feel welcomed and valued. At a recent Thursday night dance, I was speaking to a couple from San Diego who said that they had visited a lot of WCS clubs and found ours to be the friendliest.

Mary and I remember how Rosanne Crago seemed to go out of her way to welcome us when we first started here. She introduced us around which really helped us "fit in." Rosanne is an excellent example of what makes this club so special. She is also one of our most dedicated volunteers.

If you would have asked me a few months back if I thought I would be club president, my answer would have been, "NO WAY." Fact is, my wife and I were approached by James Hood (our past president) who asked us to become more involved with the club. He asked me to run for Vice-President and asked Mary to do the newsletter.

We nervously said yes because we wanted to get more involved and understood the importance of

volunteering. When James left town, I became President and as you can see, Mary is doing a fantastic job as our Newsletter Editor. The key to TSDC's long term success is its volunteers. I encourage you to become one.

If you want the TSDC to continue to be a great place to dance, step up and get involved! One of the easiest things you can do is help spread the word about our club. Grab a few guest passes at the front desk and hand them out to friends to use on their first visit. For those of you who are willing to make a little more of a commitment, we are currently looking for a Corporate Secretary and a Workshop Coordinator. Corporate Secretary is a board position.

Mary and I had only been attending the club for about a year before we assumed our current positions. We didn't know exactly what we were getting into—we just wanted to help out. So, even if you are relatively new to our club, but want to get more involved, DO IT! You will be surrounded by people who will guide you.

By giving the gifts of your time and efforts, you can help ensure that the TSDC will continue to provide great memories for years to come.

See you on the dance floor...

**Zo Carroll**

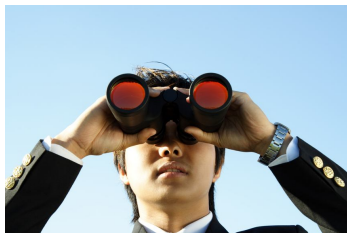
# November Jack & Jill Results



*Zo, Annie, Nick, Tina, Bill, Mary*

## Novice Winners

- 1<sup>st</sup> – Zo Carroll  
Annie Schill
- 2<sup>nd</sup> – Nick Moor  
Tina Mendenhall
- 3<sup>rd</sup> – Bill Ganoe  
Mary Carroll



No Intermediate Division  
in November...

Where, oh, where can those dancers be?

*Hope to see you all competing again soon...*



*Robert, Cameo, Ro, Heather, Don, Cassy*

## Advanced Winners

- 1<sup>st</sup> – Robert Grace  
Cameo Cross
- 2<sup>nd</sup>- Don Bennett  
Cassy Olson
- 3<sup>rd</sup>- Ro Vaughn  
Heather McLean



Sylvie, Matt, Jane, Don, Tina, Tom, Debra, Scott

## TSDC Performance Team by Jane Morgan, Co-Leader

The formation and birth of the Performance Team began back when James Hood was President of the club. The idea was to create a team of dancers that would perform around town, introducing WCS to the masses and getting people excited about coming to our club to learn WCS. Tamra and James choreographed a dance to 3 segments of music, each from a different artist, and began teaching the dances to the team. Just as the team was learning the last moves, Tamra and James were packing for their move to Seattle. Fortunately, they did provide us with video-taped choreography before leaving.

Once Tamra and James were gone, our team felt like babes abandoned in the woods... orphans left to fend for ourselves. Everyone missed the expertise and guidance of Tamra and James. The team soon discovered that in order to get things accomplished, we needed a leader...or in our case, two leaders. Tom Grubaugh and myself, Jane Morgan, were chosen as co-leaders to run practices and make final decisions for the team.



The team dissected and analyzed every count, step, arm movement and body position from those videos. We agreed and disagreed, and then forgot what we had agreed to. The team practiced diligently every Sunday for months. We studied the videos night and day, over and over again. We

practiced, counted, learned the lyrics, practiced, filmed ourselves, reviewed the film for corrections to make and practiced till we couldn't sleep at night. Every spare moment was used to memorize the sequence, the timing and the styling. We lived, ate and drank this choreography day and night, night and day, over and over, again and again.



Each of us had moments of extreme frustration and disappointment. Everyone talking at the same time, this opinion that opinion, feelings got hurt. At times, we wanted to strangle each other. Sadly, we lost many original members along the way, but the show must go on. The eight members that remain stayed committed and carried on.

The journey of the Performance Team was truly a test of endurance, a major time commitment, and often a financial drain (although thankfully the board did help out some with choreography fees and studio fees). And despite the many headaches and problems, the dancing wounded that survived can now hold our heads high, knowing that we met the many challenges we were faced with. Deep satisfaction came as we finally reached a point where we own this 3 minute piece of dance choreography. We are actually able to perform it in front of an audience and not only entertain them, but make our audience want to dance... spreading our passion for WCS and sharing the joy that we all get from this partner dancing social interaction. THAT is why we all chose to do this Performance Team.





## What Are Jack and Jill Evaluations?

by *Ellen Colonna*  
*Head Judge*

In order for members to enter into our monthly Jack and Jill contests, they need to know what division to enter into. That's why we have evaluations on the last Thursday of every month. Typically, five advanced dancers volunteer to dance with the person being evaluated, and then come to a majority decision as to what division that dancer is most qualified to dance in according to our evaluation categories (which are attached to TSDC Jack and Jill Guidelines).

TSDC Jack and Jill Guidelines state, "A dancer who has never competed will normally begin in the Novice Division. However, a dancer may be qualified to dance in the Intermediate Division or Advanced Division."

"Once a competitor has been certified into a division, they will progress through the points system. It is recommended that the competitor accumulate 32 points in their division before asking...for an evaluation to be moved to the next higher division."

Our volunteer evaluators do their best to make this process fun and stress free. So if you are interested in competing now, or in the future, please sign up at the front desk on the next evaluation night (December 17th) and get yourself evaluated!

***Invite a Friend to  
Experience the TSDC...***

**FOR FREE!**

**Cut out the Complimentary Guest Pass  
on this page and give it to a friend.**

*More passes available at the front desk.*



***Tucson Swing Dance Club***

**Complimentary Guest Pass**

6245 E. Bellevue  
[www.tsdc.net](http://www.tsdc.net)  
745-0255

**Thursday Lessons & Dances**  
7:00pm Basic      8:00pm Intermediate  
8:30-10:30pm Open Dancing

**Courtesy of**



**Sound System Upgrades Completed  
by *Scott Miller*  
Music Director**

The TSDC board approved purchase and installation of an active crossover in our sound system at the club. This was completed for half the budgeted amount and yielded a major improvement! An audio crossover is a device designed to split the sound coming from the mixer into multiple channels, based on frequency. We are using a 2 way crossover, which divides the signal into Lows (under 150hz) and Mids/Highs (above 150hz). Mid/Hi vs Subwoofer levels are pre-set in the rack, assuring that the balance remains true.

The reason a crossover is important is two-fold. First, bass notes require much more power than mids and highs. Second, if a speaker is pushing a lot of bass, it has a very hard time responding to mids and highs. With the crossover in place, you will find that the bass is more solid, less muddy, with much greater clarity in mids and highs.

***Enjoy the new sound quality!***

## December Birthdays

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

December 3<sup>rd</sup>: Carrie Zamora

December 9<sup>th</sup>: Paul Suba

December 10<sup>th</sup>: Albert Banks

December 12<sup>th</sup>: John Goodpaster

December 13<sup>th</sup>: Roy Meng

December 15<sup>th</sup>: Bill Gano

December 16<sup>th</sup>: John Calvo

December 18<sup>th</sup>: Mary Carroll

December 23<sup>rd</sup>: Juan Carlos Ortega

December 27<sup>th</sup>: Dane Armijo

December 27<sup>th</sup>: Lillian Poly

December 29<sup>th</sup>: Susan Wester

December 31<sup>st</sup>: Ruth Bradley

## New Members

### ***Welcome...***

Tanya Bently  
Sara Chambers  
Shauna Fisher  
June Martin  
Mark O'Boyle

***Ask a new member to dance today!***

## On the Road

TSDC was well-represented at **Halloween Swingthing**, a National WCS convention in California.

2<sup>nd</sup> Place Adv. Jack & Jill ....Cameo Cross

5<sup>th</sup> Place Int. Jack & Jill...Robert Grace

***Congratulations Cameo & Robert...***

***You Rock!***

## 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 1<sup>st</sup> through December 31<sup>st</sup>. 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](http://www.tsd.net).

## 2009-2010 TSDC Board

President: Zo Carroll

Vice President: Ellen Colonna

Treasurer: Heather McLean

Membership Secretary: Jim Davis

**Corporate Secretary: Currently Open**

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](mailto:president@tsdc.net)

Vice President: [vp@tsdc.net](mailto:vp@tsdc.net)

Membership Secretary: [members@tsdc.net](mailto:members@tsdc.net)

Dance Director: [dance@tsdc.net](mailto:dance@tsdc.net)

Music Director: [music@tsdc.net](mailto:music@tsdc.net)

Hospitality Director: [hospitality@tsdc.net](mailto:hospitality@tsdc.net)

Website Administrator: [webadmin@tsdc.net](mailto:webadmin@tsdc.net)

Newsletter Editor: [newsletter@tsdc.net](mailto:newsletter@tsdc.net)

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

## Ad Rates

Email ads to [newsletter@tsdc.net](mailto: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 15<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:newsletter@tsdc.net).

- Lawrence Bonfoey: [dontdelaydancetoday.com](http://dontdelaydancetoday.com)
- Ellen Colonna: 520-548-6777
- Wendy Miller: 520-318-9236, [wendymillerdance.com](http://wendymillerdance.com)
- Cassy Olson: 602-750-7368
- L Perez: 520-792-2067  
[www.myspace.com/L\\_Perez](http://www.myspace.com/L_Perez)
- Jeannie Tucker: [jeannietucker.com](http://jeannietucker.com)
- Ro Vaughn: 520-260-2200

### Why Read the TSDC Newsletter Online?

.....Full-Color, Better Quality Photos

.....Environmentally Friendly

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....Saves the Club TONS of MONEY!

*It's easy... just check the box on your membership app!*

Tucson Swing Dance Club  
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Tucson, AZ 85751-2226

