

The Tucson Swing Dance Club's January 2010

# *Newsletter*

## This Month

**L Perez** and **Brooke Schilling** are the volunteer dance instructors for January.

- Thursday, Jan. 7<sup>th</sup>: Jack & Jill Contest. Sign-up deadline is 8:45pm. **Jim Davis** is the DJ.
- Tuesday, Jan. 12<sup>th</sup>: Board meeting 7 pm at Village Inn, 4245 E Speedway Blvd. All members are welcome.
- Thursday, Jan. 14<sup>th</sup>: **Scott Miller** is the DJ.
- Thursday, Jan 21<sup>st</sup>: **Ron Gonzales** is the DJ.
- Thursday Jan. 28<sup>th</sup>: Evaluations for Jack & Jill Contest. Sign-up deadline is 8:45pm. **Joe Erker** is the DJ.



*Tamra Hood, visiting from Seattle, gets down with Robert Grace in the TSDC Advanced Jack & Jill.*



*Wendy Miller struttin' her stuff with Don Bennett in the TSDC Advanced Jack & Jill.*

## Upcoming Events

- Thursday, February 11<sup>th</sup>: TSDC's Annual Valentine's Party. Dancing is a such a sweet way to celebrate anything!

***Special Thanks to Matt Rounseville for his Jack & Jill Contest Photos!***

# President's Message

## HAPPY NEW YEAR!

I hope that 2010 brings you the best that life has to offer. Can you believe it? 2010? Are you kidding me? Wasn't it just yesterday that everyone was freaking out about Y2K? It's hard to believe that 10 years have passed so quickly. Time doesn't just march on, it hauls butt. This really makes me think about what I want to accomplish during my time on this earth. How about you?



Before looking ahead I'd like to point out a few things that our club accomplished during '09. Huge thanks go out to **Jim Davis** for starting TSDC's facebook site. We already have over 83 members signed on as friends of our club. This is a great tool for keeping up with club activities. Special thanks go out to **Sam Fox** for coordinating two great workshops this past year. We hosted Patty Vo in Feb. In Oct. we brought Ben Morris and Melina Ramirez to town. Patty, Ben and Melina showed why they are WCS champions and top instructors. Next year we will host some more killer workshops. You won't want to miss them! **MaryLou Duckworth** has volunteered to serve as our new Workshop Coordinator. Thank-you, MaryLou.

Thanks to **Eleanor Schrandt** for again organizing a great Christmas Party which saw the debut of our own club **Performance Dance Team**. This was the brainchild of former club president **James Hood**. **Tamra Hood** choreographed the team's dance routines. The dance team put on a great performance at our Christmas Party and later at the swing club. Congrats go out to all team members as they continue to promote WCS (and get the word out about TSDC) throughout the Tucson community.

Board member **Annie Schill** has taken a new job in Las Vegas. Annie will be missed by her

many friends here. We know that she'll have a great time in her new home.

Is it your goal to become a much better dancer this year? It sure is mine. As I see it, here are a few things that we can do to best accomplish that goal:

- 1) **Reserve Thursday nights to attend TSDC group dance classes and club dance.** These classes provide a good way to learn the basics of WCS. Other benefits include meeting great people, building friendships and having a chance to apply what is learned during our club dance that follows the group lessons. These classes are taught by professional instructors who volunteer their time to teach.
- 2) **Practice, practice, practice.** Wherever and whenever. If people stare so what? Someday, we'll be PROs. So there!
- 3) **Take private lessons.** Yeah, they cost money but I don't see how anyone can get really good at WCS without taking privates. Let's say that I want to paint a picture. Group lessons will teach me the broad strokes and hey, I'll be able to paint something but taking private lessons gives me a chance to become a real artist. Being an artist on the dance floor sounds good to me.
- 4) **Attend at least one west coast dance convention every year.** This is one of the best ways to improve dance skills. Conventions are a great place to learn all the latest moves, make new friends and dance all night long. Classes are taught by some of the best instructors/dancers on the planet.

So again, here's hoping that 2010 brings you the best that life has to offer. See you on the dance floor.

**Zo Carroll**

# December Jack & Jill Results



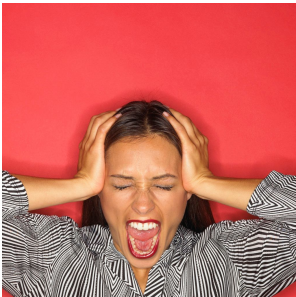
*Tina, Zo, Mary, Deb & Steve*

## Novice Winners

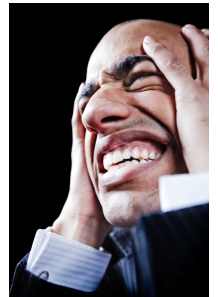
**1<sup>st</sup> – Zo Carroll  
Tina Mendenhall**

**2<sup>nd</sup> – Matt Rounseville  
Mary Carroll**

**3<sup>rd</sup> – Steve Slocum  
Debra Burke**



No Intermediate Division in December...  
We can't take this anymore!  
*Hope to see you all competing again soon...*



*Jane, Scott, Dana, Roger, Tamra & Robert*

## Advanced Winners

**1<sup>st</sup> – Scott Miller  
Jane Morgan**

**2<sup>nd</sup>- Roger Belasco  
Dana Belasco**

**3<sup>rd</sup>- Robert Grace  
Tamra Hood**

## January's Instructors



### L Perez & Brooke

L Perez was born in NYC and raised in the NY metropolitan area. At age 5 his grandmother taught him his first Swing and Salsa steps thereby giving him the chronic case of dance-itis he has today. LP was a dance regular in the first 3 seasons of the TV show ClubMTV in the late 80s. In 1993 LP began his career as a full-time professional dance instructor in Tucson. LP won many Advanced level, national West Coast Swing Jack & Jill contests until 1999 when he was invited to compete in his first national Champion level Jack & Jill contest. In 2005 LP placed 4th amongst a field of top West Coast Swing competitors in a national Champion Jack & Jill competition. He retired from national competition after injuring his knee when taking a false step on the stairway on the way to the floor for the Champion Jack and Jill at SwingDiego 2007.

LP is skilled at all partner dances and since 2001 he has been the head judge of the Some Like It Hot Salsa dance event in Tucson. He has coached dozens of Tucson dancers including some West Coast Swing Champions since opening DANZON! School of Dance, the 400 square foot studio attached to his home in northwest Tucson.

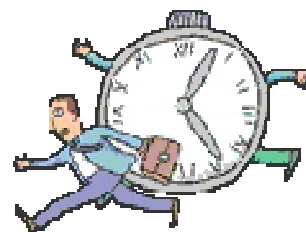
LP coaches and choreographs over 20 different partner dances in all styles (Ballroom, Swing, Latin & Country) from beginner steps to professional choreography at about half the rates of the "big" studios.

Brooke Schilling was born in Ohio and has been dancing WCS since 1999. While working in Boston, she studied WCS with Maxwell Ho. Brooke currently competes at the Advanced level at the TSDC. In June of 2006 LP asked Brooke to partner with him for the Strictly Swing contest at the TSDC. She accepted, though they could not possibly know then what they would soon discover... that as spectacularly as they dance together, they have way more chemistry than their dancing indicates! Brooke and LP now look forward to a long life of love and teaching their future children to dance.

Brooke and LP teach two WCS classes (5:30 beginner and 6:15 intermediate) every Saturday at the Maverick for \$5 per class

You can reach LP & Brooke at 792-2067 or [LPerezDncr@yahoo.com](mailto:LPerezDncr@yahoo.com) or view LP's website at [myspace.com/l\\_perez](http://myspace.com/l_perez)

***It's Time to Renew!***



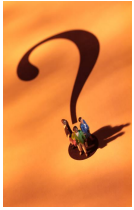
***Your TSDC Membership  
Expired on Dec. 31<sup>st</sup>***

***Please see Susan at the  
front desk to renew.***

**Note from the Editor:**

***I was recently approached by someone wishing to do a dance related question and answer column in our monthly newsletter. This new feature, entitled "Ask the Swing Lady" will debut this month and will continue as long as interest remains.***

***Our "Swing Lady" wishes to remain anonymous, so please email your dance related questions to newsletter@tsdc.net and I will forward them to her.***



## ***Ask the Swing Lady***

*Dear Swing Lady,*

*Often times, people are overly aromatic on the dance floor, and the smell (from either their own personal odor or excessive cologne) makes it hard for me to concentrate on my dancing! What should I do?*

*Crinkled Nose*

Dear Crinkled Nose,

Cleanliness is close to heaven on the social dance floor! While the subject of personal grooming is elementary, it may be useful to remind all dancers of the basics. Social dancing is a quasi-intimate activity where people come into close physical contact. Good

hygiene before and during the dance shows respect and consideration for your fellow dancers. Unfortunately, one can remain unaware of one's bad breath or body aroma. Therefore, before you go to a dance:

- Bathe or shower diligently, so that the sweet aroma of fresh clean soap may assail the nostrils of your dance partners. Use deodorant, and if you use a refreshing aftershave, cologne or perfume, please make sure it's just a hint. Too much cologne or perfume can be just as offensive as bad body odor, so be aware of over-dousing yourself. Those kinds of scents are made to be noticed when someone is close to you, not when you enter the room. A little extra care on each person's part will go a long way towards making the dance experience more pleasant for everyone involved.

- Brush and floss your teeth and be generous with mouthwash or breath mints.
- Take care that the words from your mouth are not scented with strong smelling herbs, garlic, onions, cigarettes, and alcoholic beverages. These smells are very unattractive.

Wear clean clothes that will not make you too hot. No one has ever complained about the smell of April fresh laundry detergent! During a dance, check your grooming periodically:

- Drink lots of water and use gum or breath mints liberally!

- It's not fun to dance with a dripping partner! If you find yourself getting too sweaty (or glisteny if you're a follower), dry yourself off with a towel and cool down for a few minutes.

- Freshen up regularly, including washing your hands, so as not to spread germs from one partner to the next.

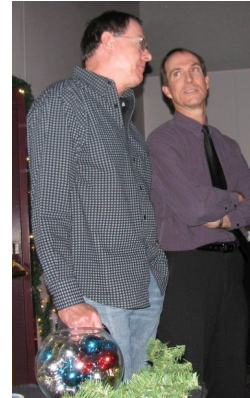
- Carry an extra shirt (or two) with you to the dance, in case you need to change. Your partners will thank you for it!

Good luck on the dance floor,

## **The Swing Lady**

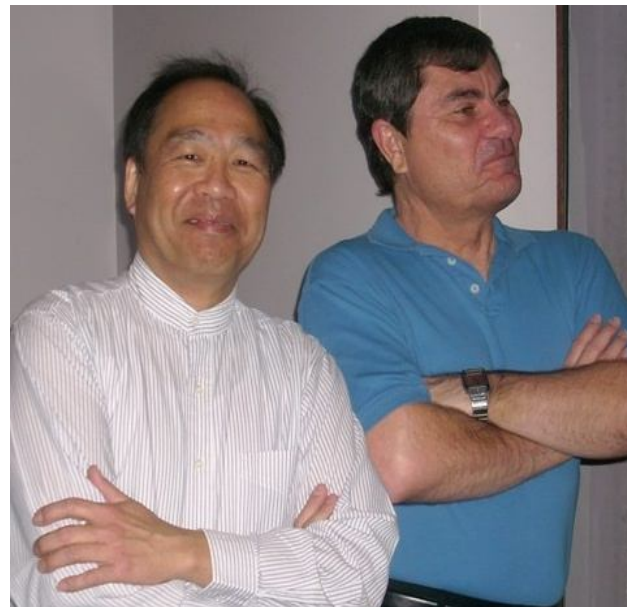
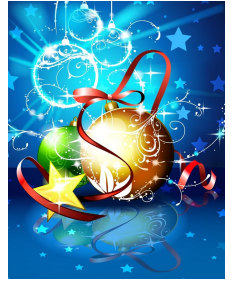


# *TSDC Annual Christmas Party*





*Tis the Season...*  
*For friends in fancy clothes, rocking DJ's, excellent dancing, delicious food, festive decorations, and a special performance by the TSDC Performance Team!*  
*Happy Holidays to All!*





*Special Thanks to  
Chris McLean, Ellen Colonna & Jim Davis  
for sharing their Christmas Party photos!*



*Eleanor, Bill, Ellen, Debra, Zo, Mary, Jim, Tom, Heather, Scott*

***2009-2010 TSDC Board***

*Not Pictured Chris McLean, Annie Schill*

## Coming in February... New DJ Night!

**By Scott Miller  
Music Director**



Calling all people interested in trying a hand at DJing a TSDC club dance! We are going to be having a "New DJ Night" in February so four people can try playing a half-hour set of music for the dancing and listening pleasure of our members.

What you will need is a list of songs of 25 to 30 minutes you wish to play and a means of playing them. You can play from your Ipod, your laptop computer, or one or more CDs. Your playlist should have a variety of music styles and tempos that will make people want to get out of their chairs and dance. If you would like to have your list reviewed before you play, feel free to email it to [scottm@swingnut.org](mailto:scottm@swingnut.org).

If our first new DJ night is successful, we can plan on scheduling more nights like this in the future. Since we only have 4 slots available, we'll be booking the slots on a first-come first-served basis. Contact Scott Miller to book your time. You can talk to him in person at dances, by the email above, or by calling 318-9236.



**Not only a talented DJ, Scott placed first in the December Advanced J & J with Jane Morgan.**



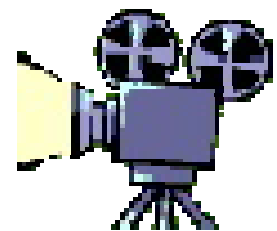
## Lights, Camera, Action...!

## TSDC Jack & Jill Contest DVDs Only \$5

- \*Review your technique.**
- \*Get new styling ideas.**
- \*Preserve precious memories.**
- \*Relive your glory!**

**Recent contests available at desk. Past contests available on request.**

**See Susan at the front desk to purchase.**



**A very special thanks to Bill Wieboldt for videotaping all of our club contests!**

## January Birthdays

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

January 1<sup>st</sup> Debra Burke

January 14<sup>th</sup> Charlene Gaubis

January 22<sup>nd</sup> Robert Grace

January 22<sup>nd</sup> Cathy Schreiber

January 24<sup>th</sup> Robert Prater

January 25<sup>th</sup> Kathy Lussier

January 28<sup>th</sup> Chris Dixon

January 31<sup>st</sup> Terri Carter

## New Members

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

Mary Eibs

James Kirkman

Charlene Gaubis

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

Vera Tucker  
Has volunteered to be our new  
**Corporate Secretary....**

**Thanks, Vera!**

## 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: Vera Tucker

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: Currently Open**

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

....Receive Your Newsletter Faster

....Saves the Club TONS of MONEY!

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



Tucson Swing Dance Club  
PO Box 32226  
Tucson, AZ 85751-2226

