

The Tucson Swing Dance Club's January 2009

Newsletter

This month

Ellen Colonna and Hondo Velasco are January's volunteer dance instructors.

- Thursday, January 8th: **Jack & Jill contest**. Sign up deadline is 8:45pm. Tamra Hood is the DJ.
- Tuesday, January 13th: Board meeting 7pm at Village Inn, 4245 E Speedway Blvd. All members are welcome to attend.
- Thursday, January 15th: Jim Davis is the DJ.
- Saturday, January 17th: Happy Hour at the Maverick, 6622 E Tanque Verde Rd, from 7-9pm.
- Thursday, January 22nd: L Perez is the DJ.
- Thursday, January 29th: Joe Erker is the DJ. **Jack & Jill evaluations** for new competitors.



The TSDC 2008 Christmas Party

Upcoming events

- Saturday, February 28th, 2009: **TSDC February workshop** with Patty Vo.

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President's message

Happy New Year! I hope everyone had a great holiday season. Our annual Christmas party was a fantastic night full of great music, dancing, food, performances, and prizes.



Special thanks to guest DJ Shawn Jessup and our Hospitality Director, Eleanor Schrandt, who spent most of the year planning the event.

As we begin a new year, I'd like to recognize some outstanding achievements of 2008 and also share some personal goals I have for 2009.

In 2008:

- Sam Fox did a fantastic job leading the workshop committee, which successfully planned and executed our club's first workshop in years.
- Our Music Director, Tamra Hood, greatly improved our club sound system with the purchase of new powered speakers.
- Debbie Burke became our club's first Event Liaison, making it easier for members to attend out-of-town dance events.

A big THANK YOU to Sam, Tamra, Debbie, the Board of Directors, and all of our volunteers who continuously dedicate their valuable time for the benefit of the club.

Some personal goals I have as we begin 2009 are:

Increased Club Communication. I'd like to establish more ways for members to communicate with other members and the Board of Directors. In addition to establishing a feedback box, the Board is working on creating a survey to allow members to rate various aspects of the club. The website improvements we're planning (see below) are also in line with this goal.

Website Enhancements. Also in the spirit of improved communication, I would like to see the club website become an online community where members can login, participate in forums, take polls, submit newsletter articles, post comments, etc.

More Opportunities for Dance Improvement. I'd like to continue exploring cost-effective ways for club members to improve their dancing. The November workshop was a huge success and survey feedback indicated members want more. Our club is already planning a February workshop with national champion Patty Vo, and we're looking into additional ways to provide quality instruction to interested club members.

2009 is going to be an exciting year...stay tuned!

James

It's time!

Your 2008 membership expired on December 31st. If you haven't yet renewed, now's the time!

December Jack & Jill results

- Novice: Zo Carroll and Annie Schill were in 1st place, Matt Rounseville and Martha McLeod were 2nd, and Jeff Brucker and Debra Burke were 3rd.
- Intermediate: Chris McLean and Maryanne O'Shaughnessy were in 1st place, Tom Grubaugh and Eleanor Schrandt were 2nd, and Jim Shiner and Alexandra Devine were 3rd.
- Advanced: L Perez and Tamra Hood were in 1st place, James Hood and Heather McLean were 2nd, and Scott Miller and Raquel Montanez were 3rd.

*Jack & Jill competitors, please note that the sign up deadline is 8:45pm. That is a **firm** deadline; the contest staff needs to have a complete list of competitors by then to run the contests on time.*



Matt, Martha, Annie, Zo, Debra, and Jeff



Chris, Maryanne, Eleanor, Tom, Alexandra, and Jim

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Tamra, LP, Heather, James, and Raquel

The TSDC November Workshop

The Club sponsored dance workshop in November was great. This instructional workshop covered many critical elements of lead and follow dancing. Our own National West Coast Swing All-Star Champion Competitor, Wendy Miller, led the first hour. This portion of the workshop helped my partner and I understand more about the elements of body movement as it relates to each of us individually in a partner dance.



Then we were treated to 2-hours of beyond basic pattern variations, which focused on West Coast Swing lead and follow technique presented by Michael and Amber Cross. Michael and Amber are National Dance Champions in many dance venues. They were exciting and fun as they tossed out little secrets to enhance a dancers ability to use more creativity in their West Coast Swing. There was a wealth of information packed into this three-hour workshop whether you are a Novice, Intermediate or Advanced level dancer.

The potluck that followed seemed to be enjoyed by all. Open dancing was still going strong when my guy and I left at 10:30pm. It was an educational, fun filled, cost effective, way to spend a Saturday night.

Keep dancing -- it's good for everything,

Terry Waters



Michael and Amber Cross



Wendy Miller



New Members

Welcome Suzie Schauf, Carrie Zamora, and Alexandra Devine.

January Birthdays

January 1st: Debra Burke

January 5th: Lu Anne Glock

January 11th: Kevin Burke

January 14th: Kim Sundermeyer

January 16th: Jeanie Darnall

January 20th: Lucy Barraza

January 22nd: Cathy Schreiber and Robert Grace

January 24th: Tami Rockwell

January 25th: Kathy Costello

January 28th: Chris Dixon and Harvey John

January 31st: Terri Carter



Local WCS instructors

If you're a current TSDC member and you'd like to be listed here, send your contact info to tsdcnewsletter@gmail.com.

- Laurence Bonfoey:
www.dontdelaydancetoday.com
- Ellen Colonna: 520-548-6777
- Jesse Dickson: jessedickson.com
- Tamra Hood: 520-360-4891,
wcsdancers@gmail.com
- Wendy Miller: 520-318-9236,
www.wendymillerdance.com
- Cassy Olson: 602-750-7368
- L Perez: 520-792-2067
- Ro Vaughn: 520-260-2200

Photos by Tamra Hood



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, 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.

Ad rates

Email ads to tsdcnewsletter@gmail.com and send a check payable to the Tucson Swing Dance Club to TSDC, P.O. 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 Christmas Party 2008



The TSDC 2008-2009 Board



Photos by Vicki Brown

And more of 2008 in pictures



Photos By Chris McLean