



Rumba-teer

Mid-Michigan USA Dance Chapter 2043

www.usadance2043.org

October-November, 2009



2009 Board of Directors

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Greetings From The President:

Did summer go by fast or what! It is now officially autumn and we have a great dance line-up for you. First I would like to thank Steve Reynolds for teaching the Night Club 2-Step at our August dance and many thanks to Angela Markle for filling in at the last minute at our September dance and teaching the Foxtrot. We are blessed with many great instructors!

Now for the great dance line up: October 16 Carolyn Wehner will be teaching the Texas Two-Step at the Methodist Church. For this dance you will want to dress in your best country attire. Who knows, you may be the one to win a prize for best-dressed. Our BEST pumpkin grower in the chapter, Dale Zondlak will be donating pumpkins for a silent auction. Bring a few extra dollars and go home with a pumpkin for Halloween. We will also have an appearance of the 'Dancing Divas', a cabaret dance team of ladies that you won't want to miss.

November 20 Terri Herrick will be teaching the Rumba at the Methodist Church. Feel free to dress Rumba ☺. Dolores Porte will be pulling together a silent auction for this evening also.

Our December 11 Holiday Dance is in the works – we are checking on various locations.

I have given you a lot of information for several reasons. We are going through an update with our web site provider so our site will not be up-to-date until we get this changeover completed. If you have questions about the dances, either email usadance2043@yahoo.com or call one of the board members listed in this newsletter. The second reason is the Midland School system may be imposing higher rental fees for Longview School than we cannot afford. We are diligently looking elsewhere for a nice place to hold our dances. If you have checked on a place that may work for USA Dance, let a board member know.

Lastly, we need your participation in the election process. A nomination form will be included in this newsletter, please fill it out and bring it to the October dance.

I look forward to seeing you in your country best on October 16.

Polly Boman, President

New Members

We warmly welcome **Valentina Kuznetsova** and **Soon Oakes** to our chapter. Thanks for joining!

And a big **THANK YOU** to the 20 members who renewed their memberships in August and September!

Silent Auction to be Held at November Dance



To the Tune of: The Sound of Silence:
*Hello Clapper, my old friend
I think the closet's packed again.
I see things in my garage
That the dog won't even reach for with its paws.
So bring in anything, all items will be going
For USA Dance, so enjoy the auction in silence.*

USA Dance will be holding a silent auction at our November 20 dance. If you would to donate any items to be sold, please bring them to the November USA Dance. Items should be like new or unused; clothing is welcome as long as the tag is still on the item. Craft items are also welcome.

Members Welcome at Monthly Board Meetings

Are you aware that any member of USA Dance is welcome to attend our board meetings? Our meetings are held at 6:30 pm at the Grace A. Dow Library the Tuesday following our dances. Please contact any board member or check our website to confirm date, time & location.



October

- 3 Tim Parks
- 6 Sue Park
- 8 Donn deBeauclair
- 15 Vicki Benson
- 18 Joann Hagen
- 25 Patti Hill
- 28 Barb Boman
- 28 Lois Spaulding

November

- 3 Judy French
- 6 Bill Graul
- 8 David Cable
- 13 Ed Stapish
- 19 Barry Carlson

Are YOU a Member of USA Dance?

Our annual membership fee is \$25. One of the greatest benefits of membership in USA Dance is simply being an active participant in and supporter of ballroom dancing. You are also eligible for discounts on admissions for chapter dances anywhere in the country. In addition, we have reciprocal agreements with Michigan Swing Dance Association, Great Lakes Swing Dance Club and Fun & Fitness Dance. Besides receiving the chapter newsletter, you will receive American Dancer, USA Dance's ballroom dance magazine.

To join, you can stop by the Welcome Table at our monthly dance and fill out the paperwork or join online at <http://www.usadance.org>

Nominations for the 2010 Board

In accordance with national and chapter USA Dance requirements, we have included a nomination form at the back of this month's newsletter. Nominations for the chapter board need to be turned in by October 17th for the Election in November.

You may bring your nomination form to the next dance and place it in the box that will be at the end of the refreshment table OR send through the US mail to Joann Hagen, 1924 Isabella St, Midland, MI 48640-4128 or the chapter e-mail Usadance2043@yahoo.com



Please take the time to nominate the people you feel will be an asset to running your local chapter.

And equally as important, take time to cast your ballot in November.



"Dancing with the feet is one thing, but dancing with the heart is another."
Author Unknown

Dance Facility

The board wants to keep the membership of the chapter informed with what is going on with our dance schedule and the facilities where they are being held. The rental fee at Longview School could be increasing substantially, like 350%. This new rental policy for the schools goes into effect at the beginning of 2010, if it is accepted by the board.

We are scouring the countryside looking for something that is somewhat centrally located in the tri-city area along with keeping in mind that our preference is to dance on a wood floor and to have something with a little ambiance conducive to ballroom dancing.

If any of you have any good leads on a facility that would be appropriate, that would commit to a longer term contract for our dance venue, please feel free to mention this to any of the board members.



"Those who danced were thought to be quite insane by those who could not hear the music." Friedrich Wilhelm Nietzsche

If you can't get rid of the skeleton in your closet, you'd best teach it to dance."
George Bernard Shaw

October Country Dance



Coming up at our next dance on October 17th, along with the Texas Two-Step lesson that will be taught by Carolyn Wehner, we are offering a Western theme. Consistent with the October Halloween costume idea, we will be giving a prize to the best costumed man and woman. Wear your best Western garb or a Halloween costume and join us for another fun evening.

Be prepared to buy that Halloween pumpkin for your front porch. Like last year, we will be holding a silent auction on pumpkins generously donated by Dale Zondlak.



Volunteer Opportunities

Please consider being a volunteer to help put on our monthly dance. Contact any board member to help with the following:

Chapter dance set-up or clean up after
Bringing a dish for the refreshment table
Contributing an article for the newsletter
Join the Publicity committee
Help maintain the literature table
Finding new location for Chapter dance

Please contact us if you would like to help in any way. Our success depends on the enthusiasm of our members.

History of the Texas Two Step

The 'Collegiate foxtrot' was the parent of the Texas Two Step. The Collegiate dances were basically simpler, rougher and/ or wilder version of the other dances such as the Foxtrot done with plenty of pep and abandon. Once a rather simple "barn dance" consisting of a basic walking step, the modern two step danced in Country-Western dance competitions has borrowed figures from foxtrot and swing.

There are several variations of the Texas Two Step, which is known for its quick, quick, slow, slow tempo. One of the most popular variations is the Dallas Two Step, which is more like a step, step, shuffle pattern.

The challenge of the Two Step is to lift your feet off the ground, just barely, so you glide smoothly across the floor. Inexperienced dancers are identified by their bouncing gait instead of smooth steps. Try to make the dance appear effortless.

Tips:

- Don't bounce as you step.
- Pass your feet especially on the second quick.
- Don't look down.
- Men should take short steps and women need to take large enough steps so the man can make adequate forward motion.
- Dance somewhat close to your partner.
- Find your place on the dance floor depending on the speed of your forward movement.

Respond to the dance floor conditions. Dance with smaller steps if the floor is crowded. You can dance big if there are few people, but it's not a good idea to mix in swing moves or to dance using long strides if the floor is at all tight.

OTHER DANCES

<p style="text-align: center;">Rick Popp <u>Monday & Tuesday</u></p> <p>Midland Community Center Beginning and Intermediate Ballroom Lessons</p> <p>832-7937; x2264 www.mymcc.org</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Blast From the Past Dances <u>Monday</u></p> <p>Oct. 5, Nov. 2, Dec. 7 Potluck at 5:15 (Bring a dish to pass and your own table service) Dance from 6-8 Live music 989-832-7937; x2270 www.mymcc.org</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Great Lakes Swing Dance Club <u>Wednesday</u></p> <p>Rollhaven of Flushing Every Wednesday 6 – 7 Lesson 7 - 10 Open dance 810-664-7894</p> <p>www.greatlakeswingdance.com</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Mr. Z Dances <u>Wednesday</u></p> <p>Midland Community Center</p> <p>Oct. 21, Nov. 18, Dec. 16 6:30 – 9 pm Dancing Bring a snack to share 989-832-7937; x2270 www.mymcc.org</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Angela Markle Dances <u>Thursday</u></p> <p>Lesson & Dancing Ballroom Lesson 7:15-8 Dance 8-9:30 pm Serenity Spa Lower Level 1600 Midland Road (M-47) Saginaw 989-921-0262 Call for additional class information</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Carla Nemeth Dances <u>Thursday</u></p> <p>Call for start-up date 989-245-7843</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Mid-Michigan USA Dance <u>Friday</u></p> <p>First United Methodist Church 315 Larkin St., Midland Oct. 16, Nov. 20 7-8 Lesson; 8-10:30 Dancing 989-631-5166 www.usadance2043.org</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Fun & Fitness Dances <u>Friday</u></p> <p>Midland Elks 3622 N. Saginaw Road 989-284-5266; 989-430-6666 Dance Every Friday except USA Dance Nights Lesson 8-8:40; Dance 8:40-11:30 Check website for lesson schedules www.funandfitnessdanceyahoo.com</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Kalamazoo USA Dance <u>Saturday</u></p> <p>Bolero's, 6136 S Westnedge Ave, (behind Southland Mall) in Portage Oct. 17, Nov. 21, Dec. 19 7-8 Lesson; 8-10:30 Dancing 269-720-4877 www.kalamazoodance.org</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Central Michigan USA Dance <u>Saturday</u></p> <p>Central United Methodist Church 215 N. Capitol Ave, Lansing 3rd Saturdays (October 18 Dance 4-7) Nov. 21, Dec. 19 7-8 Lesson; 8-10:30 Dancing 517-712-6674 or 517-484-3340</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Vivian Stafford</p> <p>107 Northgate Dr Midland, MI</p> <p>Call or email for class dates and detailed information 989-631-1495 vstafforddance@sbcglobal.net</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Midland Traditional Dancers <u>Contra Dancing</u> <u>Saturday</u></p> <p>Midland Community Center 2nd & 4th Saturdays September to May 6:30 – Welcome Session 7:30-10 pm Dance www.folkmusicociety.org</p>

Future Dances and Lesson

Our dances are held the third Friday of each month, unless otherwise noted
at First United Methodist Church, 315 Larkin St., Midland, Mi 49640

October 16 – Texas Two-Step with Carolyn Wehner

November 20 – Rumba with Terri Herrick

Future Dances: December 11, 2009, January 22, 2010

Check-in starts at 6:45

Lesson from 7-8

Open dancing 8-10:30

Light refreshments and snacks available

Non-members \$10

Members \$5

Students with ID/\$3

Sue Zyonse, Joann Hagen - Newsletter Editors
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