

THE DOWN BEAT

JULY 2009

OKC SWING CLUB NEWSLETTER

COMING UP THIS MONTH

SPECIAL NOTE REGARDING THE JULY CALENDAR

Please examine the July calendar closely as there are some significant changes to our regular monthly program, starting with our first Practice Party falling on the first Friday, July 3, and an extra Practice Party on the last Saturday. Our birthday party is on Saturday, **July 11**, and our theme for the month is **Red, White, and Blue**.

SAM & DENISE MILLER

July 17-19. See the Country Western article in this newsletter for more details.

We will have a **Tea Dance** on the 4th Sunday, **July 26**, from **4 to 6**. For your dancing pleasure, the **Kip Curtis Combo** will be performing live. Ballroom and Swing music will be played so we can all enjoy dancing to this fabulous band. Cost is \$5 for Club members, \$10 for non-members.

BIRTHDAYS

Happy **July** Birthday to Club members: **Robert Blair, Steve Bryant, George Duggan, Skip Leckness, Shirley Moore, Mickey O'Dell, Stuart Phelps, James Royall, and LaTresa Wright.**

CLUB DECORATING

We will be decorating the Club on August 1, so please make plans to give a little time Saturday morning at 10. All dancers (Swing, Ballroom, Country, Salsa, Square Dance) are welcome to come join us.

The **July calendar is available** online and in the Club foyer. Check it out for regularly scheduled classes and dances. If you would like to bring some light snacks for our Birthday or Practice Parties, it would be greatly appreciated. Bring your contribution to the kitchen.

(NEW THIS MONTH!)

COUNTRY WESTERN by *Lynette Ainsworth*

June and waltz just seem to go together. We had a great turnout for our Advanced, Intermediate, and Beginner classes. Advanced dancers still have a love/hate relationship with Donny, but someone needs to keep him in line. Unfortunately, we won't have another waltz class until November. July will start 2-step lessons.

Clear your calendars for **July 17, 18, & 19**. We are excited to bring **Sam & Denise Miller**, 2006 & 2007 UCWDC Masters level World Champions to the Swing Club. In UCWDC, Masters is the best of the best! Sam & Denise are awesome dancers and incredible people. Their "Language of Dance" will help you to improve the efficiency of your movement and action-reaction in the dance partnership. By analyzing movement, they teach partnering through energy and physical connection, which creates harmony within the partnership. Regardless of your chosen dance genre or skill level, you will learn more technique than you ever thought possible.

We only have a few times available for private lessons. Workshops on Saturday, July 18, will begin with 2-step at 12:00, triple-two/shuffle at 1:00, nightclub 2 at 2:00. Then we will take a break until 7:00 when they will teach a West Coast Swing before the dance at 8:00. When registered and paid in advance, each workshop is \$10 or \$30 for the whole day including the Saturday evening dance; or \$12 per workshop on the day of the event. The West Coast workshop and dance are \$15 at the door, \$10 for the dance only or \$40 for the whole day at the door. We hope to talk them in to a waltz and 2-step exhibition.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zCszCYSQUrY>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rFh3kZr3Luc>

For more information or to schedule a private, contact **Donny Ainsworth**, 405-692-5938 or 405-301-4758 or email dla2@cox.net.

ADDITIONAL PRACTICE PARTIES

Come join your fellow dancers at the West Coast Practice Parties at Friends on Wednesdays and Chisholm's on Thursdays. No more last-Sunday dances at Friends until September. The CD fun starts at 7 pm for both these places.

CLUB PICNIC

We're having another picnic this year at Stars and Stripes Park on Saturday, **August 29**, from 2 until 6 PM. Mark your calendars and watch for the flier for details.

WHERE ARE WE GOING?

Grand Prix of Swing, Kansas City, MO, Sept. 13-16, early bird deadline July 8.

<http://www.usaswingnet.com/kansascity/>

Dallas Dance for Labor Day Weekend Sept 3 – 6, \$80 if purchased by mail by August 1 Or \$90 at the door on Friday, <http://www.dallasdance.com/>

Or join the Dallas Push Club by August 1, 2009, and receive a free ticket to the 2009

Dallas D.A.N.C.E. Dues for 2009 are \$75.00. <http://dallasdance.com/miscella.htm>

Swing Niagara Dance Championships, September 23-27, <http://www.swingniagara.com/>

Early bird deadline August 1. Get your passport to go to Canada.

Look for fliers in the foyer and plan a mini-vacation.

Mark your calendars and find a partner with whom you can compete at the State Dance Festival to be held here in OKC November 6 – 8. More details as the event approaches.

REPORTERS NEEDED

Are you on the go and in the know? Your help is needed. You don't have to write an article every month, but if you see or know something, a report would be appreciated. We'll give you credit for the report or keep it anonymous, your choice. Contact DottieJett@gmail.com

JUNE REVIEW – Were YOU There?

NEWS FLASH: Oklahoma City, June 12, 2009. *Al O'Dell reporting*

Nearly 80 club members from all classes and dance abilities undertook the Dance Card Challenge here among much aplomb and enthusiasm. After nearly two and a half hours of dancing, some club members completed two dance cards! Each dance card, color coded for one's dance level, had fifteen spaces for dance partners to sign. Once the card was full it was turned in to go into the drawing bowl. Roxanne Hauser's daughter, Ava, drew two winning names: Andrea Anfuso and Carl Wilson. Each received \$25 gift cards to local eating establishments. A great time was had by all. And, as a side note, Andrea was one of those who completed two dance cards thus doubling her chances for the win. All club members, especially those taking classes, should take every opportunity to practice their moves. See you next time!

BIRTHDAY PARTY

Our luau theme, limbo contest (how low did they go?), bikinis, flowers everywhere, a hula hoop corner to test your skills, big Kahuna (Tim Gestes), a lost sailor from the movie South Pacific (Carl Wilson), grass skirts, coconut bras, getting lei-d, in addition to the fabulous dancing; it was all part of the fantastic June birthday party.

Happy Birthday to our



June members who celebrated their birthdays with us: (front) **Pete Quinones**, (back, left to right) **Jay Neufeld, Bill Ward, Paul Rameriz, Candice Daniels, Tim Gestes, Deb O'Toole, Anne Pixler, Jerry Beasley, and Dave Teague** (not in pic).

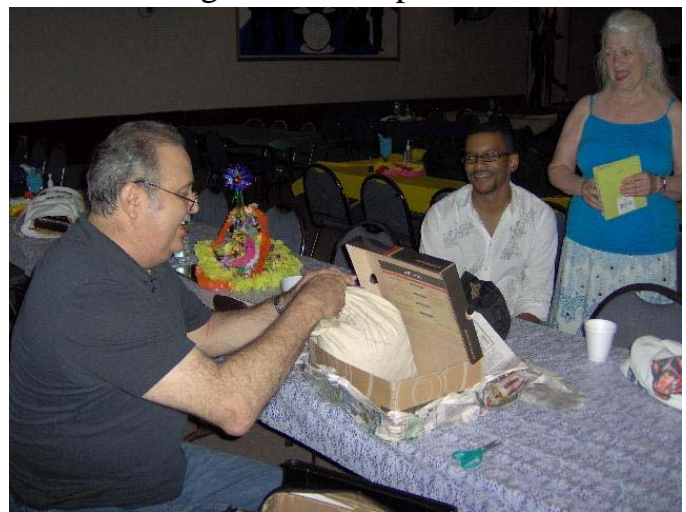
Thanks to **Karen Borum** for the delicious chocolate cake that looked very Hawaiian with all the fruit on top. Talk to her if you need a cake or cupcakes for a special occasion.



From donations collected from the dancers we were able to purchase a 32-inch flat screen television with a wall hanger as a birthday gift for our beloved dance instructor, Paul Rameriz. To say he was surprised would be an understatement.

Neil Craig wanted to give Paul a little something to go with his big TV, so he went to Blockbuster to purchase a gift card. They

were sold out of them. So Neil decided he would give Paul a memorable gift of 6,000 pennies so he



could go rent movies. He had them in a box, wrapped in newspaper, and had to haul the gift in with a dolly. Paul said now

we know why copper is so expensive. A good laugh was had by all present.

THANKS TO OUR DOOR VOLUNTEERS

It is so nice to have so many volunteers to help work the door. If you haven't done it yet, you can sign up on the easel by the front desk. Your help is greatly appreciated and will ease the burden on the few who are always working.. Many thanks to the following dancers who signed up and worked the door in July: **Pete Quinones, Marianne Trigg, Scot & Carol Jahn, Ben Clemons, Christine Poteet, Marc Coffelt, Neil Craig, Rhonda Corley, Dave and Renae Teague, Jane Kelly, Candice Daniels, Cathy Gilbert, Lisa Mitchell, Mike Denny, Sally Shepherd, Randy Keller, Al & Mickey O'Dell, Carl Wilson & Dottie Jett.** PRESIDENT'S NOTE: HEY, FOLKS, THIS IS YOUR CLUB. IT RUNS ONLY AS WELL AS THE VOLUNTEERS WE GET. IF WE HAVE TO PAY TO HAVE SOMEONE WORK THE DOOR – LESSONS AND PARTIES WILL COST MORE, SO PLEASE SPEND SOME TIME – EVERYONE WHO DOES IT FEELS GOOD ABOUT HELPING OUT!!!

CLUB DECORATIONS

Many thanks to **Karen Baumann, Paul Ramirez, Scot Jahn (hope Carol is feeling better now), Rafael Lorenzo, Gail Moore, Danny Tollison, Richard Daniel, Carl Wilson and Dottie Jett** for coming out on Sunday the 28th to decorate the Club before the Kip Curtis Tea Dance.

RECIPE OF THE MONTH

NO-BAKE STRAWBERRY CHEESECAKE

8 oz. cream cheese, softened	1/3 cup sugar
1 cup sour cream	2 tsp. pure vanilla extract
8 oz. prepared whipped topping, thawed	1 prepared graham cracker crust (6 oz.)
1 lb. fresh strawberries, hulled and halved lengthwise	

1. Beat the cream cheese until smooth with an electric mixer. Gradually beat in the sugar. Beat in the sour cream and vanilla until just combined. Fold in the whipped topping. Scrape mixture into the piecrust. (There may be some filling left over. If so, reserve it to be decoratively piped onto the top of the pie.) Chill in the refrigerator for 4 hours.
2. Starting in the center, arrange the strawberries in the circular pattern. Pipe with extra filing, if desired.

Serves 8. Per serving: 450 calories, 48g carbs, 3g protein, 26g fat, and 70mg cholesterol.

Note: If you prefer to make a graham cracker crust, combine 1 ¼ cups graham cracker crumbs with ¼ cup sugar and 1/3 cup melted butter. Press the mixture into a 9-inch pie plate and bake for 8 minutes in a preheated 350-degree oven. Cool completely.

Do you have a favorite recipe you'd like to share? Send it to DottieJett@gmail.com.

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITY

A small but enthusiastic group of dancers traveled to Tulsa to see the outdoor production of Roger's and Hammerstein's *Oklahoma!* It was a very pleasant evening with the weather cooperating and giving us nice cool breezes. The play was lots of fun with singing, dancing, and horses. If you are planning an event and would like to have the other dancers join you, let us know by the 25th of the month and we'll see if we can get it into the newsletter.

MEMBER/NON-MEMBER NOTES

Your membership supports the Club and keeps it running. And YOU save money! We have 17 new members: **April Adams, Mary Albright, Debbi Billen, Martha Clayton, Kyle Daniel, Tommy Davis, Beth Freeland, Roxann Hauser, Jean Kidd, Chris Mackey, Dorothy McCaffrey, Amanda Oehlert, Alisha Quinn, Skye Shephard, Ernestine Shires, Alan Smith, and Lisa Wilson.** Staying for another year are: **Mickey and Al O'Dell, Anne Pixler, and Raymond Smith.** Welcome to everyone. We're happy to have you.

When you start lessons, you get to come for lessons and dance at the two practice parties for the Club member price of \$40 for the first two months. Then we ask you to either join the club for \$50/year and continue with your \$40/month lesson fee, or continue lessons at the non-member price of \$55/month and Practice & Birthday Parties at \$10 each. Dancers who want to save money will join the Club. It's the best deal.

If you are already a Club member and bring two people who sign up for lessons, you get one free month of lessons the next month. So be sure to let the person at the desk know when you bring in a new student. And tell the person you invite to let us know, as well. In order to receive your free month you must be current on your yearly dues when your student enrolls.

Members, if you are not able to come for the full month of lessons & parties @ \$40/month, you can pay just \$10 for one single group class and \$5 for Practice Parties. No need to miss the whole month! The best deal is still the \$40/month plan because it allows you to participate in ALL classes where you are qualified to dance, plus all Practice Parties. You must pay the \$40 fee for the month the first time you come dance that month. You cannot come and pay the Single Lesson fee and then add it up until you get to \$40. The Single Lesson fee is categorized differently. The Single Lesson price applies ONLY to the one lesson. (So if you pay to come to Green, you cannot come to the other classes or practice party that night. The Practice Party would be an additional \$5 for members.) Best deal = monthly fee.

Club members who have attained the dance level where they are happy may pay maintenance dues of \$20/month and that entitles you to all Monday and Friday Practice Parties. Non-members and visitors are always welcome to dance with us and participate in classes for \$10/class or party. If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to ask at the desk. Don't miss out!

LOST & FOUND

Are you missing something? Check the lost & found for shoes (lots of shoes lately!), car keys, makeup bags, coats. It's amazing what we leave behind. Please don't take something that does not belong to you.

T-SHIRTS/JACKETS/DVDs There are t-shirts for sale at the front desk for \$10/each. **Jackets are now available, \$50 each.** Wear your club colors!

DVDs are available each month for your dance level @ \$10/each. If you are Yellow, Green, or Blue, please put your name on the list to let us know that you want a DVD. There are now some DVDs that show a summary of all the lessons taught for several months. Order yours at the front desk. Thanks, Al, for all your hard work.

SCHOOL POLICY

You may bring snacks and drinks to the Practice and Birthday Parties. No popcorn, please. Please take care of the area where you sit. Please dispose of your trash in the trash containers, not in the decorations, and don't put liquids in the trash; push in your chairs; don't tear up the tablecloths. Remember to leave the hall the way it was when you got here. Thanks for your cooperation. Let's keep our Club clean.

Thought for the Month: "*Even if you are on the right track, you'll get run over if you just sit there.*" Will Rogers

Editor: Dottie Jett, DottieJett@GMail.com

Webmaster: John McCarthy

Photos: Al O'Dell