

THE DOWN BEAT
JUNE 2009
OKC SWING CLUB NEWSLETTER

COMING UP THIS MONTH

SUMMER LESSON SPECIAL *Contributing writer Al O'Dell*

We're having a SUMMER SPECIAL on dance lessons. If you sign up for June, July, & August lessons by the deadline, **June 9 is the LAST DAY**, you will get the Summer Special Price of only \$100. You may pay it out in regular monthly installments of \$40-\$40-\$20. But you MUST sign up at the front desk and commit to the Summer Contract by June 9. For the first time, we will have dance lessons on Sundays in July and August so this is a REAL BARGAIN. Please support your club - we have the same expenses, even more for utilities, all summer. Your monthly dues keep the doors open. If you sign up and decide not to come, you will still owe the \$100, but if you do not sign up for the program by June 9 and then come all three months, the regular member price of \$40/month (\$55 for non-members) applies. Don't lose your dancing progress over the summer by skipping months of lessons. Take advantage of the Summer Special and don't miss a thing!

Our June birthday theme is LUAU. Wear your muumuus, put flowers in your hair, wear your grass skirts, coconut bras, and flower leis. Happy June Birthday to Club members: **Judi Ames, Donna Carter, Danny Castro, Francis Christensen, Charlene Gant, Tim Gestes, John McCarthy, Dave Miles, J. Neufeld, Anne Pixler, Paul Ramirez, Marianne Trigg, and Bill Ward.**

We'll **decorate the Club Sunday, June 28, before** the Kip Curtis Tea Dance. **Come at 2** to help get things ready. It would be great to have a few more people to help. It only takes a couple of hours. Many hands make light work. Thanks to those who come help on a regular basis.

We will have a **Tea Dance** on the 4th Sunday, **June 28, 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.

SPECIAL NOTE REGARDING THE JULY CALENDAR

When it is posted, 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.

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITY

Some of us will be making a trip to Tulsa on Saturday, June 27, to see the outdoor production of OKLAHOMA! There's a ranch dinner for about \$12 and the play is \$20. See the link below for more info. If you plan to go, sign up on the bulletin board where the front desk volunteer list is located. Each person will be responsible for his/her own reservations/transportation, but if we know who is going, maybe some will want to share a ride. If anyone wants to partake in Tulsa's nightlife, there are several good places to dance. Here's the link for the musical:

<http://www.discoverylandusa.com/index.shtml>

The **June 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.

ADDITIONAL PRACTICE PARTIES

Come join your fellow dancers at the 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.

COMING TO OKC in JULY

July 17 – 19 brings **Sam & Denise Miller** of Country Western fame to our Club. As many of you know, West Coast is part of C/W dancing. The Millers will be having a West Coast workshop on Saturday, July 18, before the dance that night. All West Coast and Country dancers are invited to attend. Saturday Swing Workshop @ 7 pm, followed by dance @ 8, cost \$15 at the door or \$10 before July 16. See the flier in the foyer for more information about workshops and dances that weekend, or to schedule a private with them.

WHERE ARE WE GOING?

Miami Dance Magic in July

Dallas Dance for Labor Day Weekend

Niagara Falls the latter part of September

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

MAY REVIEW - Were YOU There?

BIRTHDAY PARTY

There were bouquets of flowers everywhere on everyone at our May birthday party. **Andrea Anfuso** had flowers on her skirt and her shoes. **Linda Jones** got the memo that said 'flour' and she came in a flour sack with lots of flowers on her head. And one big bumblebee (**Tim Gestes**) was pollinating as many flowers as possible in one night. Happy birthday to the following who celebrated their May birthdays at the Club party: **Mel Hardemann, Mike Denney, April Adams, and Rick Kiser**. Marilyn Monroe, aka **Dot**, made a special appearance and sang to Mel, Mike, and April. Rick Kiser showed up a little late so we made a personal dance line just for him. Thanks for sharing your birthday fun with all of us. Thanks to **Karen Borum** for the delicious cakes she provides at our Birthday Parties. Talk to her if you need a cake or cupcakes for a special occasion.



SCHOOL DANCE

Although the turnout was smaller than our birthday dance, those who attended our School Dance got in some very fine dancing, with Stuart Phelps spinning the CDs. We started with a fun Cha-Cha lesson taught by Paul Ramirez, followed by all social dances taught at the school, and some line dancing, as well.

CHA-CHA-SWING (CHA-CHING) WORKSHOP

Paul Ramirez taught us some new ways to get into, and use, Cha-Cha steps in our West Coast dancing at the **Cha-Cha Swing Workshop** taught on May 31. It was a good way to spend our Sunday afternoon since we didn't have regular classes that day.

CLUB DECORATIONS

Thanks to **Karen Baumann, Paul Ramirez, Rafael Lorenzo, Linda Jones, Al O'Dell, Bob Laymon, Carl Wilson and Dottie Jett** for giving up their Saturday morning to decorate the Club. Mickey didn't make it; she was home nursing a ~~hangover~~.....headache. Bob brought us some delicious donuts. Thanks, Bob. James Livingston and Andrea Anfuso showed up (2 hours late) to be sure things had been done properly. Thanks to Andrea for providing the beautiful greeting that is now at the front door. *Note from the president, Al O'Dell: Hey, guys, this is your club – come help us make it beautiful for everyone to enjoy.*

THANKS TO OUR DOOR VOLUNTEERS *Contributing writer Al O'Dell*

It sure makes life, and dancing, much easier when we have other dancers volunteer to help with the door. Many thanks to the following dancers who signed up and worked the door in April: **Ben Clemons, Al & Mickey O'Dell, Candice Daniels, Jane Kelly, Scot & Carol Jahn, Andrea Anfuso, James Livingston, Bailey Thompson, Tracy & Kay Lucas, David & Renae Teague, Valerie Simmons, Carole Cannon, Pete Quinones, Margaret Tambini, Mel Hardemann, Randy Keller, Mike Denny, Ralph Wheeler, Carl Wilson & Dottie Jett.**

Volunteers are always needed to work the door in thirty-minute shifts for the Practice Parties and Birthday Party. Please sign up at the front desk or check the easel in the entry. Your help is greatly appreciated and will ease the burden on the few who are always working. This is your chance to learn the names of club members and give a little back to the club. We are all volunteers who make this club function.

MEMBER/NON-MEMBER NOTES

Your membership supports the Club and keeps it running. And YOU save money! We have 12 new members: **Jean Bash, Lindsay Brown, Brent & Edna Buxton, Belinda, Cliff, and Melissa Gann, Stephen Nilson, Tom & Barbara Rolen, Barry Spears, and John Wilkens. Mark Kassan, Marianne Trigg, Laura Ulmer, and Ralph Wheeler**

have decided to keep dancing with us and have renewed their membership for another year. 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.) Simple: 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 the 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!

RECIPE OF THE MONTH

Here's a **family recipe** from **Mickey O'Dell**. It is a great salsa-type dip.

Phoenix Dip

3 green peppers

24 Roma tomatoes

1 small bottle of green taco sauce

salt to taste

3 bunches of green onions

½ cup mayo

1 cup shredded cheddar cheese

In a food processor process the peppers, onions and tomatoes. Add the rest of the ingredients. Serve with Tostito chips. This makes a very large bowl.

Thanks, Mickey!!

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

LOST & FOUND

Are you missing something? Check the lost & found for shoes, 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. 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: "People of mediocre ability sometimes achieve outstanding success because they don't know when to quit. Most people succeed because they are determined to." George Allen

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