

# **THE DOWN BEAT**

**NOVEMBER 2009**

**OKC SWING CLUB NEWSLETTER**

IT'S FLU SEASON AND SOME OF OUR DANCERS HAVE BEEN OUT SICK. PLEASE **WASH YOUR HANDS AND USE THE HAND SANITIZER** TO KEEP FROM SPREADING GERMS. IF YOUR ARE SICK, PLEASE **STAY HOME UNTIL YOU ARE WELL**. THE OTHER DANCERS **THANK YOU AND WISH YOU A SPEEDY RECOVERY**.

## ***LESSON TIME CHANGES***

In **November**, we will be **CHANGING the RED class on Sundays to 3**, same time as the **PURPLE** class. All other classes will remain the same.

On **Monday**, **GREEN, YELLOW, & PURPLE** classes will continue to be at **7:00**. **PINK and RED** will meet at **8:00**.

**BLUE** class will continue to meet on **Tuesday at 7** and any **dancers wishing to have help prior to competing at the State dance** are welcome to come on **Tuesday at 8:00**.

Please **sign up on the Yahoo group** so you receive up-to-the-minute changes and notifications from the school, i.e., a last minute cancellation of classes or dance due to weather. Go to the club website, <http://www.okcswingdanceclub.com/>, to get registered.

The **YELLOW** curriculum now has set moves and will be on DVD like the Pink and Purple and available at all times. There will be several Yellow DVDs with different moves, i.e., A, B, C, etc. The second one is available now, with the others to follow shortly. Yellow is now a level that you must test out of in order to move up to Green.

If you've never been to the **RED** class, you should go. **ALL LEVELS** will benefit from attending this class. You will learn footwork, connection, lead, and follow. New dancers will be required to test out of Red class in order to move up to Yellow.

## **FALL SHOWCASE**

Our **Fall Showcase** will be held on Sunday, November 22, from 2-5 pm. Please bring your donations for the Silent Auction to the school office by November 10. We need 5 cakes for the live auction. Please let Mickey know if you will bring one. This is a school fundraiser and **DONATIONS ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE. BUY YOUR TICKETS NOW, \$10**, at the office. Be sure to ask your friends and family to come join us.

**OKLAHOMA KANSAS STATE SWING DANCE CHAMPIONSHIP (OKKSSDC)**

*Dancing Fine in 2009* is the official tag for our 27<sup>th</sup> Annual State Dance, hosted by the Sooner Dance Club of OKC. Tickets are \$40 until October 31 for the two-day event (day passes listed on website) to be held on November 6 & 7 at the Clarion Hotel, 737 S. Meridian, OKC. Check out the website [OKSTATESWING.COM](http://OKSTATESWING.COM) for all the details. Those Swing Club members who compete will also be dancing in our Fall Showcase.

Paul is asking that we all wear **OKC Swing Club tee shirts** or black tee shirts to the **OKSSDC Friday night dance on November 6**. Pick up one at the front desk for only \$10. Come on out and support your club and your fellow dancers!

## **CLUB CALENDAR**

The club calendar is available online and in the entry. Thanks to Al for doing such a great job of keeping us informed. **IF YOU HAVE A SUGGESTION FOR A THEME FOR OUR BIRTHDAY PARTIES, PLEASE NOTIFY MICKEY** or one of the officers. Thanks for your input.

## **BIRTHDAYS**

Happy **November** Birthday to Club members: **Carole Cannon, Joanie Cobb, Linda Fryer, Susan Hilbert, Mary Beth Johns, Mark Kassan, Trish Liscom, Okhwa McBride, Gail Moore, Nolan Stambaugh, Laura Ulmer, John Vaughan, Donna Walker, and Betty Wilson**. Come on out to the Swing Club birthday party and celebrate your special day. This will also be our **Club Thanksgiving Dinner Dance**. If you would like to **donate or cook a turkey or ham**, please let Mickey or one of the officers know.

## **CLUB DECORATING**

We will be UN-decorating the Club after the Halloween dance, so please help out. There are LOTS of decorations to put away from Halloween and we sure could use some extra hands in order to get it all finished in a timely manner.

We will **decorate on November 1 at 12:30 prior to lessons**. This will be a very busy day with new students coming in, so please make plans to come early and give a little time to your club.

On **November 28<sup>th</sup> at 10 AM** we will **decorate the Club for the holidays**. Please come out and join in the work/fun. There will be music and we always have a good time. Come on out and join us. We have a holiday dance that night and it would be nice to have everything finished early. **ALL SCHOOLS OF DANCE ARE ENCOURAGED TO HELP WITH THIS MONTHLY ACTIVITY SINCE WE ALL ENJOY THE BEAUTIFULLY DECORATED CLUB.**

## **SPECIAL CLUB HOLIDAY DANCE**

On Saturday, November 28, we will have a special Holiday Dance at the club. If you feel like dressing up, this is the time to do it. Starts at 8 pm.

### **KIP CURTIS TEA DANCE**

Kip will be playing for our enjoyment on Sunday, November 29<sup>th</sup>, from 2 to 5 PM.

### **APPARREL**

The ladies new jackets are a big hit. With three styles to choose from there is something for everyone and every size. If you don't have yours, be sure to place your order at the front desk. The cost is \$45; for an additional \$5 you can have your first name embroidered on the front. **We are currently taking names and phone numbers of those who wish to buy a jacket. Our minimum order is 12.** We do have a few jackets left from the first order. Ask at the front desk. The shiny black jackets with the pink logo are also available for \$50 each and we do have several on hand.

### **EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITY**

Anyone interested in going to **Branson, MO**, the first part of December should contact **Andrea Anfuso**. She is working on a bus trip/tour that will be 3 days/2 nights and include: dinner on Friday or a possible stop at Silver Dollar City; two shows, *Dixie Christmas Stampede* and *Spirit of Christmas*; breakfast on Saturday and Sunday; dinner on Saturday; hotel accommodations; and transportation. On the way home, there will be a stop at the Lambert Restaurant where they throw rolls.

There will be plenty of time to see the beautiful Christmas lights and even a little time for shopping. Seating is limited, so please contact Andrea if you are interested in this trip. More details to follow.

### **ADDITIONAL PRACTICE PARTIES**

Come join your fellow dancers at the West Coast Practice Parties at Friends on Wednesdays and Chisholm's on Thursdays. The CD fun starts at 7 pm for both these places.

### **WHERE ARE WE GOING?**

Nov. 6 & 7, OKSSDC Oklahoma Kansas State Swing Dance Championships, OKC  
*There is a book at the front desk that describes the different dances and qualifications for entering. Buy your tickets now at the front desk. \$45 for both days after October 30.*

Nov 5-8 Tampa Bay Classic at Tampa, FL; [www.TampaBayClassic.com](http://www.TampaBayClassic.com)

Nov.22 OKC Swing Club Fall Festival (Showcase)

Nov 26-29 US Open at Los Angeles, CA; [www.USOpenSwingDC.com](http://www.USOpenSwingDC.com)

January 29-30, Damon & Lisa D'Amico coming to our Swing Club...more next month!

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

**If you are a Club member and planning to compete at the OKSSDC (the State Dance to be held here in OKC on November 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup>) you are welcome to come to the Club**

on Tuesday, November 3, about 8 pm (after Blue class) for some additional help. There is no charge if you are a current Club member.

## October REVIEW – Were YOU There?

### PRACTICE PARTY 10-09-09

*Submitted by Rick Kiser*

Here's what I saw. Todd wanted his moves recorded for show...to whom, who knows? Girl from Dallas Dance Club was hot and kept busy, dancing with everyone except for me. Pete thought that Za was hot and a good dancer, and I was lucky. Paul told me that I needed to behave, because he knows people. lol David and Renae danced almost every dance with or without each other. Paul said the problem with Crown Royal was that it didn't have a worm in it. Rick had parking lot duty and walked 8 ladies out to their cars. Andrea and James talked about coming to dance party all week but didn't show tonight. Joanie and Marilyn were busy keeping the guys on the West side very busy. Beverly was in rare form and moaned when she was dancing. Lol Ted is new but takes his dancing very seriously. Echo was taking lessons from Rick and Za on how to flirt when she dances...or should I say, how to look at her dance partner while she is dancing. Mickey and Linda did a great job putting out snacks in the kitchen for the under-the-weather people to eat before they drove home. Even Carl and Dottie were dancing...Carl, with one arm, did a great job if you ask me. :) Susan was in a great mood and was smiling all night; of course, she was dancing with Randy a whole lot. Last but not least, Lindsay owes Rick at least 5 dances just because.....because.... This is Rick's report on what he noticed, but now he only had 5 Crown Royal and Cokes....( 5 ) that's all....lol

### SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAY PARTY

The Build-Your-Own-Dessert/Photo Identification/Birthday Party was a huge success with around 100 dancers present.

**Al O'Dell** won the Photo Identification Contest identifying 12 of the 33 photos. That was HARD to do. Al was a little miffed that he didn't get 98%. **Roger Hoskins, Laura Ulmer, and Mel Hardemann** identified 11 photos. Congratulations!

QuickTime™ and a decompressor are needed to see this picture.

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There was plenty of cake, brownies, ice cream, and topping for our dessert building. If you didn't overload on sugar, it was not because there was nothing there to eat. Thanks to all our members who brought goodies for the wonderful festivities.

QuickTime™ and a  
decompressor  
are needed to see this picture.

Happy October Birthday to: **John Taylor, Tiffany Forest (visiting from Texas), Carolyn Smith, Roger Hoskins, and Neil Craig.** Thanks for celebrating your day with us.

## **TULSA FALL FLING**

*Submitted by Andrea Anfuso and Renae Teague*

October 16-17 was the weekend for the Tulsa Fall Fling in Tulsa, OK. About 25 dancers from the OKC Swing Club attended this function. There were lots of workshops done by Austin & Chelsea, Jason & Sophy, Gary and Csilla.

Friday night we (Andrea, James, Dave, Renae, Bob, & LaTresa) ate a wonderful home-cooked meal at Shiloh Restaurant next to the hotel, and we were even serenaded by a trio of men who were wearing flag shirts and playing clarinet, banjo, bass, and keyboard. It was a very nice way to enjoy the evening. Friday night we had the Jack & Jill competition.

We had a great breakfast Saturday morning with Ward and Margaret. It was very nice just sitting and getting to know each other better. The rest of the day consisted of workshops and the Strictly Swing competition. Several dancers danced until 5:30 or 6 Sunday morning. Of course, that included Ben, Candice, and Ralph, among others.

Prior to the competition, James, Andrea, Bob, LaTresa, Tom, Terri, Ward, Margaret, Ben, Renae and Dave went to Buffalo Wild Wings to watch the OU vs. Texas football game.

Everyone was cheering for OU and yelling to Texas fans, "Texas sucks" (this would be Renae doing this). Oh, and don't forget to ask Tom if he wants to buy a duck. I've never seen Ben laugh so hard. (Editor's note: Texas whipped OU. Hook 'em.)

Would like to have seen more there...maybe next time. Wish everyone could have been there. It was a great experience! Congratulations to all the winners! (Note: All competitors are listed in the Competitors section of this newsletter.)

Bob Laymon and Tom & Terri Whitson won tickets to Meet Me in St. Louis 2010 in the raffle drawing. The workshops and dancing were great. Everyone who put it on was wonderful. Jeannie was wonderful. Great Fall Fling!!

#### REPORTERS NEEDED

DID YOU GO TO A DANCE EVENT? Your help is needed. PLEASE  
Email your comments or thoughts about the dance event for  
publication in the newsletter. Contact  
DottieJett@gmail.com

#### 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 October: **LaTresa Wright, Al and Mickey O'Dell, Linda Jones, Joanie Cobb, Randy Keller, Mike Denny, Jane Kelly, Mark Kassan, Danny Tollison, Sandi Taylor, Gene Merz, Beverly Quick, Rick Kiser, Za Fritts, Scott Appleton, Carrie Spires, Rebecca Biorato, Gloria Connor, Vickie Daniels, Christy Remington, Penny Lazaroff, Sally Shupack, Roxann Hauser, Ted Boyd, Deb O'Toole, James Livingston, Jean Bash, Andrea Anfusio, Carl Wilson and Dottie Jett. Thank you, thank you, thank you. You make the club run.**

**NOTICE: IF WE DON'T HAVE MORE PEOPLE VOLUNTEER TO WORK THE DOOR, DUES WILL BE INCREASED TO \$50/MONTH AS OF JANUARY 1, 2010.** The same people should not have to work the door every month or more than once a month. Please volunteer at the front desk.

#### CLUB DECORATIONS

Many thanks to **Karen Baumann, Paul Ramirez, Danny Tollison, Scot Jahn, Richard Daniel, Al & Mickey O'Dell, Linda Jones, Bob Laymon, Paul Swenson, Rafael Lorenzo (big and little), Stephen Nilson, Ben Clemons, Shirley Moore, Dottie Jett and Carl Wilson.** Oh, yes....**Tom Rolan** showed up when we were finished just to make sure it had been done right! Besides cleaning and decorating, we also got a new icemaker

installed (including removing a cabinet to make room for the new size), and put up new ceiling tiles in place of the ones that were water stained. We had fried pies (brought by Bob Laymon) and donuts and coffee and music to decorate by. It's like a little party. ALL of your help was greatly appreciated. It only takes a couple of hours to put away the old stuff and redecorate. **Come on out and help us on November 1<sup>st</sup> @ 12:30 and on November 28<sup>th</sup> at 10 A.M.** It would be greatly appreciated!

## **COMPETITORS**

OKC dancers took Tulsa by storm at Tulsa Swing. Here are the results:

### **STRICTLY SWING:**

**Linda Cuccio & Jorge Villatoro, 1<sup>st</sup> Intermediate Strictly**  
**Ben Clemons & Sara Daley, 3<sup>rd</sup> Intermediate Strictly**  
**Josh Luth & Heather Chastain, 3<sup>rd</sup> Novice Strictly**  
**Dave & Renae Teague, 1<sup>st</sup> Newcomer Strictly**  
**Andrea Anfuso & James Livingston, 2<sup>nd</sup> Newcomer Strictly**  
**Candace Daniels & Bill Ward, 3<sup>rd</sup> Newcomer Strictly**  
**LaTresa Wright & Bob Laymon, 5<sup>th</sup> Newcomer Strictly**  
**Jorge Villatoro, 1<sup>st</sup> Female Pro-Am Strictly**  
**Ward Fowler, 10<sup>th</sup> Female Pro-Am Strictly**

### **JACK & JILL:**

**Linda Cuccio, 2<sup>nd</sup> Intermediate J & J**  
**Jorge Villatoro, 2<sup>nd</sup> Intermediate J & J**  
**Sara Daley, 5<sup>th</sup> Intermediate J & J**  
**Jorge Villatoro, 6<sup>th</sup> Intermediate J & J**  
**Heather Chestain, 8<sup>th</sup> Intermediate J & J**  
**Ben Clemons, 2<sup>nd</sup> Novice J & J**  
**Josh Luth, 3<sup>rd</sup> Novice J & J**  
**Ward Fowler, 10<sup>th</sup> Novice J & J**  
**Candace Daniels, 1<sup>st</sup> Newcomer J & J**  
**Dave Teague, 2<sup>nd</sup> Newcomer J & J**  
**LaTresa Wright, 3<sup>rd</sup> Newcomer J & J**  
**Ralph Wheeler, 4<sup>th</sup> Newcomer J & J**  
**Renae Teague, 5<sup>th</sup> Newcomer J & J**  
**James Livingston, 6<sup>th</sup> Newcomer J & J**  
**Andrea Anfuso, 7<sup>th</sup> Newcomer J & J**  
**Bill Ward, 7<sup>th</sup> Newcomer J & J**  
**Bob Laymon, 8<sup>th</sup> Newcomer J & J**

CONGRATULATIONS to everyone! You're all winners just by competing!

**NOTE: ANYTHING HAPPENING AFTER THE 25TH OF THIS MONTH WILL BE COVERED NEXT MONTH.**

MEMBER/NON-MEMBER NOTES

Your membership supports the Club and keeps it running. And YOU save money! We have 4 new members: **Judy Ames, Heather Chastain, Amy Maddox, and Evan Way.** Some of our members have been away a while and are now back and some are paying their renewal dues: **James Benson, Rhaelynn Bonham, Linda Cuccio, Richard Daniel, Linda Fryer, Tim Hawks, Jay Sanders, John Smith, and James Stapp.** 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 the month 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, car keys (how can you leave without car keys???), makeup bags, coats. It's amazing what we leave behind. Please don't take something that does not belong to you.

DVDs are available each month for your dance level @ \$10/each. Many hours go into creating the videos each month. If you are **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.**

For **Yellow** class we have a new set of DVDs that will be available. These DVDs will cover the steps that will be taught beginning with Yellow A for October and Yellow B for November. You can see the steps and get a leg up on the monthly instruction. DVDs for C, D, etc., will be coming out that will cover the instruction for December through January.

### **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, keep your shoes off the tables. 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:** "Desire is the starting point of all achievement, not a hope, not a wish, but a keen pulsating desire which transcends everything."

-- Napoleon Hill

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