

Swing Times

Redwood Empire Swing Dance Club

www.resdc.org

AUGUST 2008

President's Message

Following

I have been taking Kelly's Wednesday night intermediate class and when there are too few ladies I have been taking the lesson as a follower. In West Coast Swing, many dancers find that learning both parts is an advantage. For instance, I think I am a better leader because I know some of what my follower is going through.

I would first like to apologize to the leaders who have danced with me. I am just learning and I think following is a big challenge. A follower is pretty sure that the first two beats will be "walk - walk" (or similar) but that the pattern is being set up in those beats. The second 2 beats will likely be a triple but it could be straight or turning and there will be clues about whether it is a whip or a standard 6-beat pattern. Then the pattern finishes.

As a leader though, you usually have a good idea of what will happen in the immediate pattern. As a follower, you often don't until you are into it. If you guess as a follower and are wrong, both of you are in trouble. So you need to stay balanced and ready for anything. The best leads are often fairly subtle, so the follower needs to pay attention to connection leads and visual leads/hints. In a class, there is the temptation to cheat a little because you know what is coming and want to help. But it is best to just follow, allow the leader to lead the move, follow what they lead, and practice balanced following.

Because of my height and size, I am a challenge to many leaders. However I know that there are many ladies out there that are my height and many that are only slightly shorter, so learning possible adjustments for height is good. I know I have several adjustments for shorter followers especially if I have a sore shoulder. And "the adjustments for each partner" becomes one of the fun things in this dance.

My point is that following is hard too and leaders should appreciate each and every one. Even if they don't do it very well and have a goatee.

—David Cooper, RESDC President



The Groove Room- A new Kind of Venue

(Ed. Note: RESDC member Ilene Reeve has been very active promoting the new dance venue on Fridays at Ellington Hall. Here she gives us the details.)

We are pleased to introduce a new dance venue in Santa Rosa- It's called The Groove Room, and is held on Friday nights at Ellington Hall (3535 Industrial Drive, Suite B4). Dancing starts at 8:30 PM and goes until at least 10 PM. We will keep The Groove Room open as late as 11:30 PM, based on turn out and interest. The cover charge is \$10, and includes not only The Groove Room but also the Main Ballroom (playing primarily traditional swing music from 8:30-11:30), a drop-in Jitterbug lesson each week (from 7:30 PM-8:30 PM), and a once a month blues dancing lesson (from 7:30-8:30 PM).

Founded by Lindy Hoppers as well as West Coast Swing and Blues dancers, the goal of The Groove Room is to bring these three styles together in one venue. The music is primarily a mix of the best blues, swing, and soul for your dancing pleasure. Many of the songs played will be suitable for several styles of dance. There will be frequent guest DJs providing their flavor of music to groove to. The re-vamped air-conditioning, wood dance floor, and intimate setting make The Groove Room a great place to dance and enjoy the company of other dancers.

For more information, or to find out when the next blues lesson will be, feel free to send an email to clay@higherplanettravel.com, or telephone (707) 843-0895.

—Ilene Reeve

Dance Juniors Scholarship Benefit

RESDC's own Kelly Casanova and her daughter Samantha Buckwalter taught a workshop series for juniors (8 couples) on June 28th at Ellington Hall. All proceeds (\$525) went to the Jack and Annie Junior Scholarship Fund. The fund seeks to recognize and reward young dancers who represent not just skill on the dance floor, but the best of personal integrity and character. For more information, or if you are interested in making a donation to the fund, please contact Kelly at (707) 838-0388, or by email at kellycdancer@aol.com.

RESDC Member West Coast Swing Dance Instructors

California Ballroom

(Formerly Emily's Dance Center)
(707) 576-1318
dan0cctr@pacbell.net www.emilydance.com

Yvonne Benavidez

(415) 897-7976
www.yvonnebdance.com

Kelly Casanova

(707) 838-0388
Kelly@kellydance.com www.kellydance.com

Susan Conway SRJC Instructor

(707) 291-5777 (private lessons)

Tony & Marina Gutsch

(707) 484-4970 or (707) 484-6966
Gutsch@att.net

Edna Lucero & Dick Jensen

(707) 523-4336
ednalucero@sbcglobal.net

Kyoko Morrison

www.resdc.org/flamingohotel.html

Elizabeth Mustaro

(707) 548-4603
www.baywestballroom.com

Dyana Foldvary

private & couple lessons
(707) 887-9480
www.resdc.org/InstDyana2.htm

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reggie@sonic.net

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Deborah Rogers, Fred Loebenstein, Robert Casanova

ERRATA!

**My sincere apologies for misspelling Edna
Lucero's name in the July issue —JDG**

Welcome New Members

Liz deKock Isabelle Duverne

Membership Benefits

- Discounts on most RESDC dances (\$3 off adult rate)
- Discounts on affiliated club dances (Next Gen, Sacramento, Santa Cruz)
- Receive "Swing Times" monthly newsletter
- Borrow dance tapes from our video library (Contact Shelly at: (707) 579-4364. Check out the list of available videos on the web page!)
- Join other club members for Club Night Out (CNO)
- Become an Exhibition Dance Team member
- Obtain tickets to dance conventions at RESDC tables, with preferred seating—Receive early notice of workshops taught by local and national dance talent
- Can apply to serve on the RESDC Board of Directors
- Receive e-mail updates about dances
- New members receive one free dance pass

Contact Denise Suzuki, the RESDC Membership Secretary, at (707) 837-8335, or by email at denisesuzuki@comcast.net.

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RESDC Calendar — August, 2008

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>☼ Means new dance venue—see "New Venues!" section for details</p> <p>* Means lesson before or during dance</p> <p>☞ Means RESDC Club Night Out</p>	Instructor contact information on page 2		7/31-8/2 Swinging Dance Camp/Palm Springs, CA	8/14-18 Grand Pacific Dance Championships/ San Jose, CA www.grandpacificdance.com	1 Two Left Feet/ Danville 8:00-12:00* ----- The Groove Room, Ellington Hall, Santa Rosa 7:30-11:30 ----- Monroe Hall ☞ Santa Rosa 7:15-11:00 CNO	2 TNGSDC Dance/ Emeryville 6:00-late ----- Hospice of Petaluma Benefit Dance ☞ Monroe Hall/ Santa Rosa 7:30-?*
3	4	5 Flamingo Hotel/ Santa Rosa 7:00-11:00* ----- Monroe Hall/Santa Rosa 7:15-9:30*	6 Top of Beardsley's /San Mateo 7:00-11:30*	7 San Rafael Community Ctr./618 "B" St. 6:30-11:15* ----- Allegro Ballroom/Emery- ville 7:00-10:00* ----- Bay West Ballroom/San Rafael 7:30-10:30*	8 Two Left Feet/ Danville ----- The Groove Room, Ellington Hall	9 BLSDC WCS Dance/Reno 7:00-11:00*
10 Kelly's Dance Santa Rosa 5:00-10:00* ----- Michelle's Dance/Redwood City 6:00-10:00*	11	12 Flamingo Hotel/ Santa Rosa 7:00-11:00* ----- Monroe Hall/ Santa Rosa 7:15-9:30*	13 Top of Beardsley's /San Mateo 7:00-11:30*	14 San Rafael Community Ctr ----- Allegro Ballroom ----- Bay West Ballroom	15 Two Left Feet/Danville ----- The Groove Room, Ellington Hall ----- Bay West Ballroom/San Rafael 8:00-?*	16 Capitol Swing Dance Club/Fair Oaks 5:30-10:30*
17 Bayside Swing/Oakland 6:00-10:30*	18	19 Flamingo Hotel/ Santa Rosa 7:00-11:00* ----- Monroe Hall /Santa Rosa	20 Top of Beardsley's /San Mateo 7:00-11:30*	21 San Rafael Community Ctr ----- Allegro Ballroom ----- Bay West Ballroom	22 Two Left Feet/ Danville ----- The Groove Room, Ellington Hall	23 RESDC Dance/Odd Fellows Hall/ Santa Rosa 7:00-11:00* ----- Santa Cruz SDC/Santa Cruz 8:00-12:00*
24 Bayside Hustle/Oakland 6:00-10:30*	25	26 Flamingo Hotel/ Santa Rosa 7:00-11:00* ----- Monroe Hall/ Santa Rosa 7:15-9:30*	27 Top of Beardsley's /San Mateo 7:00-11:30*	28 San Rafael Community Ctr ----- Allegro Ballroom ----- Bay West Ballroom	29 Two Left Feet/ Danville ----- The Groove Room, Ellington Hall	30
31 Country & WCS @ Monroe Hall/Santa Rosa 5:00-9:30* every Sunday	Other Events: 8/23-24 Seafood, Art & Wine Festival/ Watts Ranch, Bodega Highway www.winecountryfestivals.com	8/1-3 Swing Fling /Washington D.C. www.swingfling.com	8/22-24 Summer Hummer/Boston, MA www.dancepros.net	8/28-31 Dallas Dance/Dallas, TX www.dallasdance.com	8/29-9/1 South Bay Dance Fling/ San Jose, CA	For full listing of conventions, go to www.swingdancecouncil.com



Redwood Empire Swing Dance Club
 Post Office Box 83
 Santa Rosa, California 95402

August Club Nights Out

Friday, August 1

Monroe Hall
 1400 West College Avenue, Santa Rosa
 Lesson 7:00-8:00
 Dancing 8:00 until closing
 \$1.00 off admission with RESDC Card

Saturday, August 2

Monroe Hall — Music Throughout the Decades
 Benefit for Hospice
 1400 West College Avenue, Santa Rosa
 NCS2 Lesson 7:30-8:30
 NC2S, WCS, & Jitterbug Dancing 8:30 until closing
 Minimum Donation \$10.00 — 100% goes to Hospice

August Birthdays

Deborah Butterfield Kelly Casanova
Lauri Deits Ursula Gardiner
Rick Keefer Terriann McGowan
Robert Sanchez Catherine Sevenau

Conventions & Events

For a listing of conventions, and general WCS information go to: www.wcs-dancer.com.

For a full list of World Swing Dance Council (WSDC) registry dance events & location information go to: www.swingdancecouncil.com.

Other Web Links

Sonoma County dancing connections and information available through Yahoo groups at: groups.yahoo.com/group/northbaydancers/

AUGUST CLUB DANCE

Join us on Saturday, August 23 at the Odd Fellow's Hall in Santa Rosa for our monthly club dance. Dancing starts at 7PM and continues until midnight with DJ Rachael Baumgartner. There will be a beginning WCS lesson at 7PM. Details are on the enclosed flyer, and on the club web site: www.resdc.org.



The Redwood Empire Swing Dance Club (www.resdc.org) is a social non-profit incorporated club dedicated to the promotion and preservation of Swing Dancing, and in particular the California State Dance, West Coast Swing. For this purpose, we hold monthly dances, special dances, parties and sponsor workshops throughout the year. Membership dues are \$30 per year. Club members receive the RESDC "Swing Times" and receive discounts at RESDC events and events sponsored by other swing dance clubs.

If you are not already a member, join today! Contact Denise Suzuki at (707) 837-8335.