



MICHIGAN SWING DANCE ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER



**Advantages of the
One-Hand Basic
by Michael A. Harvey**

When people first learn West Coast Swing, they are taught a basic step with a two hand lead, and/or a one hand lead with a right hand "stop sign" push. There is nothing wrong with either and I use them both. The more I danced, however, the more I disliked the feeling and look of "throwing away" her left hand with my right hand on the push. So when a fabulous instructor introduced me to a one hand basic I immediately liked its look and feel, but moreover her explanation caused a light to go off in my head.

As she explained it, there are five basic moves that she looks for from the man: the left hand lead, the right hand lead, the whip, the tuck turn, and the basket. There are three things that come off of a one hand basic: left hand moves, right hand moves, and whips. And there are two things that come off of a two hand basic: tuck turns and baskets.

As a leader, a one hand basic narrows my universe to only three areas: left hand, right hand, and whip leads. So my confusion level is reduced accordingly. When I reach for the other hand (into a two hand lead) my universe narrows to the remaining two areas: tuck turns and baskets. In this way my brain functions like a computer, having two separate icons on my desktop which I can quickly flip between and access my range of moves.

The really good female dancers know this consciously and appreciate it because it is the same thing for the follower. In a one hand basic, they know that 40% of the universe is closed down (tuck turns and baskets) and so they can more efficiently plan their styling

within the remaining 60% universe. And when the man requests the other hand, 60% of the universe shuts down (left hand, right hand, and whip moves) and she can more efficiently plan her styling within the remaining 40% universe.

What's really amazing to me as a leader, however, is that even if a woman doesn't know this consciously, they all seem to feel it unconsciously. As I'm now learning the following part, I really appreciate a leader who uses a one hand basic and converts to a two hand basic when his next move dictates it. So now I use a one hand basic, throw in a "stop sign" push as a variation, and use a two hand basic when I'm thinking tuck turn or basket.

There is one caveat! Recently, when I was dancing with a national champion and feeling a little insecure, she lifted my spirits by complementing my one hand basic. And just when I started to feel real cool she dropped a bomb by suggesting that I should offer my right hand down by my hip so that she could have the option to use it as a brace for a really cool styling move. And if she didn't need it she wouldn't use it. By leaving it as an option, her box of goodies was completely open. And when she used it to brace herself and "push herself off the wall" I never got the sensation, or that ugly look, of "throwing away" that right hand.

I know that West Coast Swing will become much easier for you if you incorporate the one hand basic into your dancing, You will find that you will remember more of what you know and the ladies will follow faster and more fluently. Good Luck!



NEXT PARTY
OCTOBER 21
at the AMBER HOUSE
Lesson 3 PM
Dance Party 4PM-8PM
*Our parties are at the Cabaret
Ballroom located inside 'The
Amber House, 7012 E Nine Mile
Road, Warren, MI. 810-754-3434*



**Mike gets very involved
with his students!! ☺**


DANCE LESSON
Last month, Mike Leach taught a beautiful, smooth, complete lesson as usual. It's always a pleasure to see Mike's students happily successful after one of his lessons. Welcome back, Mike. We missed you!! ❖

This month, Elaine Marrero will teach sizzling Salsa turns that can be applied to Hustle. Intermediate level and above, please. See Elaine's bio on page 4.

NEW MEMBERS

The MSDA warmly welcomes the following Dancers to the club. Thanks so much for your support!

- PATRICIA ALDRICH
- PERRY LeBLANC
- MARKEL BRIONES
- MARK MORGAN
- JOHN ARMITAGE
- MAURICE O'DONNELL
- CAROLINE VO
- DEBRA FELDMAN

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO OUR
OCTOBER BIRTHDAY
PEOPLE 

The MSDA has a birthday party every month for those with birthdays during that month. We announce the members' names, have a birthday dance especially for them and serve cake. We also have a small gift for those present at the party in their birthday month. Please be sure to open it before leaving the party...it needs to be laminated.

- | | |
|---------------------|-------|
| | 10/1 |
| TOM RUPP | 10/2 |
| CAROLYN HARGROVE | 10/4 |
| TOM TERNES | 10/4 |
| KAREN KEISER | 10/7 |
| SHARON NELSON | 10/8 |
| MICHAEL DERSCHA | 10/8 |
| JEANETTE DROUILLARD | 10/9 |
| JOYCE STOUGHTON-KIM | 10/9 |
| MARILYN CRANE | 10/10 |
| TIMOTHY CARMICHAEL | 10/11 |
| DAVID MICHALSKI | 10/12 |
| LINDA JAWORSKI | 10/14 |
| CATHY KUBICKI | 10/16 |
| ALEX ADAM | 10/16 |
| BELINDA MILLER | 10/25 |
| LEE ROSSANO | 10/26 |
| JOHN MCLAUGHLIN | 10/26 |
| JAY HOLLANDER | 10/28 |




FUTURE PARTIES

October 21
November 18
December 9

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Please note: Some of the dates are not on the 3rd Sunday due to holidays or convention dates.
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The birthday cake for our parties is provided by Dave Michalski. He gives us a great discount and will give any MSDA member a discount too. Dave's shop is located at:

Gallery of Cakes
29457 5 Mile Rd.
Livonia, MI 48154
734-427-9202
Hours:
Tues - Fri, 10 to 6
Saturday, 10-2:30
Sunday, Closed

LOCAL AND
NATIONAL EVENTS 

ARTSPECTRUMS 4TH ANNUAL AMERICAN LINDY HOP CHAMPIONSHIPS

Oct. 25-28, 2001
Stamford, CT. 203-359-1300
FMI: Tickets & competitor information, Paulette Brockington at 313-790-2311 or Email: PauletteBrockington@yahoo.com
<http://Artspectrum.org/alhc.htm>

COUNTRY DANCE

AMBER HOUSE (See attached Halloween flyer for address details.)
Nov 4 4 TO 8 pm **ONLY \$3.**
MSDA members get \$2 discount on food or drink. Great ribs, chicken, & hamburgers. Music by DJ-Smiley Al. 😊

DANCE PARTY

AMBER HOUSE. See attached flyer Sunday, Oct. 28TH 6 to 10 pm \$7 cover. Cash prizes for best costumes. Supported by the Michigan Swing Dance Ass'n.
MSDA members get \$1 discount.

MOVE ACROSS THE RIVER

Et. Mitchell, KY. Nov. 7-11, 2001
Call Paul Hennessey if you have questions. 513-697-6351
NOTICE to Move Across the River Attendees: Bob Campbell will be organizing our third annual Saturday night dinner while we are in Cincy. Please let him know if you would like to attend.

OHIO STAR BALL DANCE Championships

Nov. 13-18 – Columbus, OH
FMI: 614-848-7827 or Email: OHSTARBALL@aol.com

US OPEN SWING DANCE CHAMPIONSHIPS

Nov. 22-25, 2001
Century City, CA.
425-774-9662 or Email: sesdance@aol.com.

<http://www.usopendc.com/>

C.A.S.H BASH DANCE WEEKEND

Nov 23-25, 2001
Hilton Garden Inn, Twinsburg, OH
330-405-4488
\$65 prior to Oct 1, \$75 after
Workshops, dance exhibitions, breakfasts and dinner, WCS and J & J contests. 440-257-3142

NEW EVENT

THE AMERICAN OPEN

December 14, 15, 16
Sheraton World Resort
Orlando, Fl. FMI: 313-790-2311 or <http://artspectrum.org/amopen.htm>
Swing dance competitions and workshops. \$15,000 in cash prizes and awards. Weekend passes begin at \$109
PauletteBrockington@yahoo.com
<http://Artspectrum.org/alhc.htm>
Hotel: 800-327-0303



DISCOUNTS FOR MEMBERS



THE DANCE CLUB classes begin each month at the Amber House in Warren. Schedule: http://amberhouse-danceclub.com/class_schedule.htm. Private lessons available. Mambo, Hustle, ChaCha - Tango - Waltz - FoxTrot - Swing - West Coast. Huge Dance Floor! Amber House, 7012 E. Nine Mile Road (Just W. of VanDyke) Warren, MI

AMBER HOUSE also offers Tuesday lessons with Tim Constant. 7:30 to 8:30 PM for ECS and 8:30 to 9:30 for Carolina Shag. FMI: Call (810).754.3434. **New classes starting soon!** Contact Tim at ninmiller@hotmail.com

STARDUST DANCE STUDIO Discount of \$1.00 for MSDA members for their Friday night parties. Party is from 9 PM to 12 AM. FMI: (248) 356-5678. See attached class schedule. <http://stardustballroom.com>

ROYAL OAK ARTHUR MURRAY Discount of \$1.00 for MSDA members off the \$5.00 charge for Friday night parties. Party..9:15 PM-10:45 PM. FMI: (248) 548-4770.

RHYTHM DANCE PARTIES the 2nd Saturday of each month! October 13. Time: 8:30 -- 11:00 PM 811 N. Main ST., Royal Oak, MI Cost: \$10.00 Per Person (Includes Refreshments) **\$2.00 Discount to members of MSDA.**

TROY DANCE STUDIO They offer \$1.00 discount on every event they hold. Scheduled Theme Parties on Tuesdays. NEW STUDIO: FMI: Elaine Marrero, TDS. (248) 689-3393.

NEW STUDIO: TDS WEST 6750 Orchard Lk. Rd., W.B. 248-538-4343. See attached flyer. elainemarrero@home.com <http://troydancestudio.com>

WEST COAST WEDNESDAY By Dance Fanatics: **The Amber House.** 7:30, 8:15. Lessons by Tera Gehrking-Vitale. Dancing 9 -11 PM. **\$1.00 off to MSDA members** every Wednesday. (810)-446-8888 or visit <http://www.DanceFanatics.com>

DANCE ALERT

Want to receive the latest e-mail news on dance related events in Michigan? Want to know where the hottest dance floors are? To subscribe free to all the latest dance news, visit her website at: <http://dancemichigan.com>.

NEW PAGES have been added: **Instructors, DJ's, Bands and Event Coordinators may advertise for free.** Also, check out our Information Station for her list of Dance Floors in the area.

RHYTHM N' SHOES DANCE STUDIO

\$1.00 discount to MSDA members on Thursday night dances. 8:30 to 10:30 PM. DJ..Suzie Brecht. 2172 Franklin Rd, Bloomfield Hills. (248) 334-0299. RhythmNShoes@aol.com. See attached schedule.

ARGENTINE TANGO DETROIT

7758 Auburn Road, Utica FMI: (810) 254-0560 **\$1.00 off all events to MSDA members.** <http://www.argentinatangodetroit.com> LnBrtn@compserv.net

DANCESPORT ACADEMY OF MICHIGAN

23666 Park, Dearborn, MI 48124 313-724-3262. The studio has Friday night open dances, \$10.00 per person. **\$1.00 off to MSDA members.** <http://www.dancesportacademy.com/>

TOMMY MAC'S EAST

Swing and Salsa Night. Tuesday nights. Cover: \$4. 8:30 til 1 AM 5491 e. 12 Mile Rd between Ryan and Mound. DJ Jimmy Barrios. Dinner and appetizers available. <http://tommymacs.com>. **\$1.00 off to MSDA members.**

DANCE ART COLLECTIBLES

By Linda Jaworski: A large collection of wonderful dance related art and collectibles. **10% discount on unframed posters and 15% off framed posters to MSDA members.** 33228 West 12 Mile, Suite 138, F. Hills. For more info: 248-488-0244 or ljaworski@aol.com.

REMINDER: Show your **MSDA** card at GLSDC and MSSHD dances to **get in at their member prices** Just show your card and save. the GLSDC schedule is at: <http://danceaway.com/GLSDC/calendar.html> They have a club dance every Wednesday at Bugsy's in Flint. MSSHD is on the 2nd Sunday of the month at Walli's Supper Club: bbudzyn@home.com.

COULD I HAVE THIS DANCE?

Meagan Woodbury, MSDA member, is the lady to contact if you are a male dancer between 40 - 70, & you are interested in becoming a gentleman host on cruise ships. Meagan works for Loretta Blake & has been interviewer, trainer & tester for MI; Ca; Oh. areas 10 years. **\$5 discount for MSDA members.** (313) 886 -9394.

PERSONAL TRAINER

Muscle toning, strength & balance training to increase your dance endurance & poise. At your gym. **10% discount per session to MSDA members for first 5 training hours.** Madelyn Kleitch, ACE certified. (313) 882-5422.



Two MSDA members led several ladies from a business woman's convention through the basics recently at a Novi location. Basim Abdelnour and Fred Beaudet were the charming instructors.

SPECIAL OFFER FROM TROY DANCE STUDIO EAST & WEST

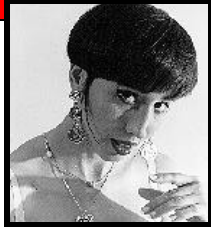
For the month of October, the Troy Dance Studio is offering a week of free classes at the West Bloomfield location to anyone joining the MSDA or renewing their membership this month. This includes Hustle with Barry Douglas, Salsa with Elaine Marrero, Rumba with Billy Howell, Hustle with Darryl Maggio, plus an assortment of other Merengue, Cha Cha, Smooth, Lead and Follow and Mambo classes.

DON'T MISS OUT. SIGN UP NOW. YOU MUST SHOW YOUR MSDA CARD.

TDS gives MSDA members a \$1 discount on all classes and events.

**GUEST INSTRUCTOR
ELAINE MARRERO**

At Troy Dance Studio since 1993, Elaine has been teaching since 1982 consistently. She was originally trained by Bart and two very well known dance chains. She teaches from 10:00 AM - 11:00 PM any and every day.



Elaine's area of expertise lies in promoting events and teaching - getting the message across of how to lead and follow. Where the student creates a comfort within themselves to get up and dance (either Club style or Ballroom).

TDS is currently offering Private Lessons, Group Lessons, Parties and Social Events. **For all new MSDA members that register in the Month of October - one full week of free group lessons up to 40 classes a week - at Troy Dance Studio East and the new Troy Dance Studio West inside the Power House Gym in West Bloomfield.**

MAJOR CONTEST AWARDS: World Salsa Championship First Place Winner with Victor Ortiz. Top Studio Award for 2 consecutive years at the Ohio Star Ball. Many Top Teacher Awards in Ballroom Competitions.

WOULD LIKE TO TELL ALL OF MY STUDENTS: To always have an open mind. Even though they think they are dancing with the best teachers, there will always be a new teacher that they will learn from too. Sticking with instructors that have only good things to say about other teachers is your best bet.

FAVORITE DANCE MEMORY: Winning the World Salsa Championship. Dancing in the Bacardi Salsa Congress. Teaching ballroom dancing on the Channel Four TV, on the program "Party Time". Being part of choreographing for Sony Records; Latin Stars, music videos and concerts. Stars like Gilberto Santa Rosa, Deddie Romero, Giselle, Mayra Mayra, Celines, Wilkins, Danny Rivera, Francheska, Vico C., etc. Of course, my favorite has been dancing with my son, Travis Staton, in the Ohio Star Ball.

ABOUT TROY DANCE STUDIO: We expanded to 2 locations to serve you better. It is simply the best and most knowledgeable studio in Michigan. The staff speaks for itself. Over one hundred years of dance experience and knowledge is available from our staff: Mark Brock, Yvonne Bouche, Billy Howell, Art McDuffy, Suzy Sutton, Darryl Maggio, Elaine Marrero, Victor Ortiz, Barry Douglas, Tony Canu, Leanna, Isabela, Draython Savoy, Sandra Lauer, Jesse Staton, Dawn Staton, Arlene Marrero, Charles

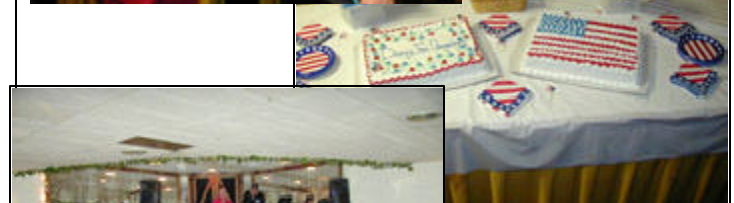
Velazquez, Terry Hasting, Mary Ellen Olejnickzak. The best coaches walk through the doors of our studios to train our students and teachers. If you have never heard about the Troy Dance Studio come in for a **ONE WEEK FREE TRIAL PERIOD**. Then make your own decision in which studio you should be in. Nothing to lose, everything to gain. Try us out!! **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:** We are open seven days a week from 10:00 AM thru 11:00 PM Monday - Friday, Saturday and Sunday, subject to events. We offer private and group lessons, parties, coaching and special events throughout the year. We also rent the facility for private parties and for teachers who need floor space. We are always looking for more full time and part time teachers with experience.

Monday: TDS West - Over 50 Social Party 1:00 - 3:00 PM
Tuesday: TDS East - Social Party 9-11 PM



Judy and Ken...the major organizers of Dance for America.

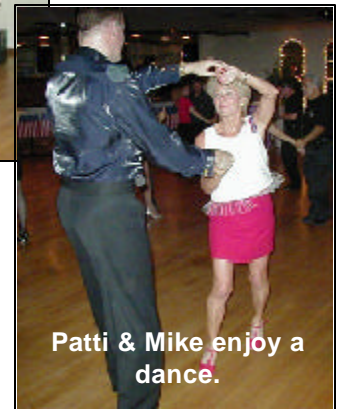
**DANCE
FOR
AMERICA**



Dance For America! to support the Red Cross was a success!!! We collected \$1610.00 to give to the American Red Cross and it was matched by Comerica, so we donated \$3220!!!

There were 158 people who came out to support the Red Cross and everyone had a great time both inside and out with great feelings and tired feet.

People to Thank...
Bill Scheff for providing the Amber House banquet facility,
Tim Johnson from Dance



Patti & Mike enjoy a dance.

Fanatics for his DJ services, Suzy Brecht and Ken Ptak for their workshops, Dave Michalski from Gallery of Cakes for his cakes, Country 99.5 for promoting it on the air, and, most of all, the people who donated their time to put this event together. Thank you one and all. Let's all do whatever we can to help in any way we can. **God Bless America !!!**



Thursday: TDS East - Over 50 Social Party 1-3 PM,
TDS West - Social Party 9-11 PM
Friday: Volcano Grill - The Best Latin Dance Party 10 PM - 2 AM
FREE Salsa Lesson at 9:30 PM

MICHIGAN SWING DANCE ASSOCIATION
SHARON NELSON
2152 SHANKIN
WOLVERINE LAKE, MI 48390
<http://msda.org>
sfnelson@att.net



**HEY, YOU GUYS!!!!!!!!!!!!!!
THE PARTY IS SUNDAY,
OCTOBER 21, 2001!!!!**



THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!!!