

Happy Holidays FROM THE MSDA

*You are cordially invited to the
Michigan Swing Dance Association Christmas Dance
on Sunday, December 14th. Lessons at 3, dance from 4 to 8pm.
Santa will be bringing lots of dance presents again this year!*

Phil Dorroll will be in town from December 11 TO 17th and will be available for private lessons and choreography. 615-948-3124 or email him at phil@danceamerica.net

Dance Location: Rhythm-n-Shoes Dance Studio, 2172 Franklin Rd, Bloomfield Hills, MI. Just north of Sq. Lk. Rd.

The Tampa Bay Classic was a Winner!

To enter the Bellair Biltmore Hotel was to step back in time. On Thursday night, I went for a long walk and explored the grounds. After dark, this place was pure magic. The dozens of twinkling lights on the verandas made it look like a fairyland set created by Disney. There were dozens of handsome white wooden rocking chairs on all the porches where guests could sit and sip mint juleps, pretending they were living in a former era. A softly lit waterfall cascaded into one of the pools, creating a soft background song. And the scents! The air held the rich aroma of the deep south..... oleanders, bougainvillea and mock orange bushes coupled with the thick odor of dampness steamed by days and nights of humid heat.

It took me back in time. I could almost see women in long flowing dresses and huge hats, twirling their parasols & wandering along the many verandas and across the grass. The men wore morning coats & top hats or golfing outfits with long argyle socks. Some were hitting croquet balls on the lawn. Yet another private railroad car pulled up, delivering its wealthy owner to his or her vacation destination.

Everything about the place encouraged me to slow down and enjoy each moment, which I did by going to the beach each day. It was a joy to sit at a high top table in the second floor of the restaurant owned by the hotel, with my feet up, alternately reading a juicy book and gazing out at the waves crashing on the beach. I interrupted my reading occasionally to stroll along the beach and walk barefoot in the surf. (...continued on page 2)





And, interspersed with this incredibly relaxing experience, was the high powered stimulation of being with the best swing dancers in the world. The lineup of Pros was the crème de al crème of the dance world, the showcases were mind blowing (**BUY THE VIDEO!!**) and the contests brought out the best in this highly competitive group. Three ballrooms going at one time kept everyone busy when they weren't shopping for shoes, clothing or jewelry. And the pool contests at the barbeque, led by Bill Cameron, where a hoot! Check out some of the clips on YouTube. Search: Tampa Bay Classic Pool Contests.

The hotel will be closed for renovations for the next couple of years so the TBC will be held at the Hilton, on the beach!! The word from the van driver, Carl, is that the Biltmore is being restored to the original condition when it opened in 1897. It will be even more fabulous than it is now. Many thanks to Phil for arranging this event in such a marvelous spot(s)! I'm sure the over 750 attendees loved it.

Sharon Nelson, President, MSDA

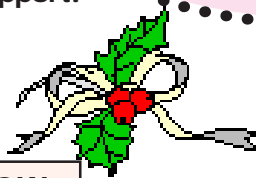


*Check out
YOUTUBE.COM for
clips of pool party
contests with the
Pros.
Search: Tampa Bay
Classic Pool Contests*

NEW MEMBERS

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

**DOROTHY MUCHA
CATHERINE TEIFER**



FUTURE PARTIES

Dec 14

Jan 18

Feb 22

March 15

Please note: Some of the dates may not fall on the 3rd Sunday due to holidays or convention dates.

**HELP OUR CLUB GROW
AT THE NEXT DANCE:**

- ☺ SAY HELLO TO SOMEONE YOU DON'T KNOW
- ☺ LEARN THREE NEW NAMES
- ☺ ASK TWO NEW PEOPLE TO DANCE



HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO OUR
DECEMBER
BIRTHDAY PEOPLE

NORM	PLATT	12/
TERRY	WEYMOUTH	12/1
NANCY	GARNER	12/4
DALE	SVEC	12/6
LUCY	MANOVIC	12/10
RUTH	FARMER	12/16
HAROLD	JOHNSON	12/17
MORRIS	SARTELL	12/19
EDWARD	MORGAN	12/23
TOM	POGROS	12/25

BIRTHDAYS...AN ISSUE FOR SOME MEMBERS.

It has been brought to my attention that some people **HATE** being called out on the floor for the birthday dance and may even stay home that day to avoid it. Yet I know that others love it. So, please let me know if you don't want your birthday published in the newsletter and/or if you don't want to come out on the floor. I'll be happy to respect your wishes. SN

LOCAL AND NATIONAL EVENTS



MSDA CHRISTMAS DANCE

DECEMBER 14TH

**SANTA IS GOING TO
LEAVE LOTS OF
PRESENTS FOR GOOD
LITTLE DANCERS!**



From Skippy Blair's Blog
<http://skippyblair.blogspot.com/>
**"ANCHORS in
West Coast Swing**



SKIPPY BLAIR:

"We have discovered new insights lately, into the art of "anchoring". Because of so many discussions lately, concerning the new Judging program, I get to talk to quite a few judges.

One young lady seemed way off base concerning one couple in a recent out of state competition. When asked if she remembered why she had given them such low scores, she replied that they never did an anchor. Having observed the couple in question, I felt that both partners have a great connection and anchor all the way through the dance. Second question was - "Why do you think they didn't anchor?" Answer - "She seldom ever does a Triple on 5&6."

Problem solved. **An ANCHOR does NOT require a TRIPLE in order to qualify as an ANCHOR.** An anchor is neither a Foot Position nor a Dance Rhythm. MANY dancers do Triples in 3rd foot position, and yet do NOT anchor their bodies. These are the ones who need the work. **An ANCHOR Is an "away" connection from one partners center to the other partners center. It is achieved by placing one's Center Point of Balance (CPB) BEHIND the heel of the forward foot in order to tighten the partner connection at the completion of a pattern.** It's a silent signal that each partner is ready to proceed to the next pattern.

It is true that TEACHING someone how to do a BASIC anchor is easier if we teach them to do an "ANCHOR Triple, in 3rd foot position." That is a process for teaching someone how to feel the connection in an anchor.

Once felt and achieved, there are numerous ways to get an Anchor Connection, and it can be done with various rhythms. A "Point & a Close" makes a good anchor. Sometimes a follower can hit a back step on the Right foot on "4" and drag the free Left foot slowly back through counts "&a 5&a" and close the Left foot behind the Right foot precisely on "6". The point is this - We need to spread the word that an ANCHOR is an ACTION, not a specific rhythm and not a specific Foot Position.

A recent discovery that explains the lack of action/reaction, is that some ladies "anchor in 3rd foot position" but have their centers over the FORWARD foot. The anchor looks like it is in the right place - but lacks the inter-action it was designed to deliver."





DISCOUNTS FOR MEMBERS



ALL THE STUDIOS AND SERVICES ON THIS PAGE OFFER DISCOUNTS TO MSDA MEMBERS.

Just a reminder: this club was founded with the concept that a valuable benefit to the members are the discounts that they receive from the studios and event promoters in the area. It is possible to save a lot of money by being an MSDA member.

MSDA DANCES

\$4 OFF THE LESSON AND \$2 OFF THE DANCE to MSDA members. You **save \$6 per dance** as a member.

RHYTHM-N-SHOES DANCE STUDIO

Dances on Thursday nights. \$8. 8 to 10 PM. Light snacks served. **\$1.00 discount to MSDA & MSSHD members on Thursday night dances.** Group Lessons: \$13/person or buy a Rhythm Card for \$100 that entitles you to 10 Group Lessons.

2172 Franklin Rd, Bloomfield Hills. 248-334-0299. See schedule on website. RhythmNShoes@aol.com.
<http://www.rhythm-n-shoes.com>
Directions: msda.org/monthly.htm.

The NEXT MSDA dance at Rhythm-n-Shoes will be on December 14.

See details on pages 1 & 4

DANCESPORT ACADEMY OF MICHIGAN

23666 Park, Dearborn, MI 48124
313-724-3262. The studio has Friday night group and open dances, \$10. **\$1.00 off to MSDA members.**
<http://www.dancesportacademy.com>

TROY DANCE STUDIO & BODYWORKS

\$1.00 discount on every event to MSDA members. They hold scheduled parties several nights a week. 4963 Rochester Rd. Troy, MI 48098. Elaine Marrero, 248-689-3393. See their calendar and class list online at
<http://troydancestudio.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>.

Instructors, DJ's, Studios and Bands may advertise for free. You can print out a huge, newly revised list of area dance floors or check out the Information Station at the monthly dance for her list.

NEW ADDITION: Free Dance partner page. Submit a short bio and description of the type of dance partner you are looking for. <http://DanceMichigan.com/dancepartners.htm>

ARGENTINE TANGO DETROIT

A growing tango community in the Detroit Metropolitan area. From beginner to advanced, there are twelve hours of group classes and milongas each week. We also have Salsa on some nights for a little extra fun. You do not need a partner for group or private lessons and even those that think they have two left feet can tango. *New to Tango? Your first introductory group lesson and party are free with purchase! **~MSDA special discounts~** Lori@argentinetangodetroit.com

<http://www.argentinetangodetroit.com>
Argentine Tango Detroit, 7758 Auburn Road, Utica, MI 48317, 586-254-0560

PLEASE REMEMBER

TO TAKE YOUR MSDA MEMBERSHIP CARD WITH YOU WHEN ASKING FOR DISCOUNTS AT STUDIOS AND EVENTS. THEY ARE HAPPY TO GIVE YOU THE DISCOUNT BUT SHOULD NOT HAVE TO TAKE YOUR WORD FOR IT THAT YOU ARE A MEMBER. BELIEVE IT OR NOT, SOME PEOPLE MASQUERADE AS MSDA MEMBERS.

FANTASTIC SAMS OF ROSEVILLE

A full service Salon, 29008 Gratiot at 12 Mile, 4 blocks west of I-94. M-F 9-8 Sat. 9-5. Owner: Basim Abdelnour.

Deep Discounts to MSDA members. Examples: \$4.00 off on Haircuts to \$9.95, \$10.00 off on Hi-Lights to \$55.00, \$15.00 off Cut and color to \$39.00. \$3.00 off Camouflage color for men (semi permanent) to \$12.00. 25% off all our name brand Hair care products, Questions? Basimbasm@aol.com

AMERICAN MATTRESS GALLERY

17825 Eureka Rd., Southgate, MI 48195. 734-282-1300. Anything that a person would need in quality mattresses. Full line of innerspring, visco foam and dual control air mattresses. Large selection of adjustable beds. **MSDA Members receive 10% Discount.**

COULD I HAVE THIS DANCE?

Contact Meagan Woodbury if you are a male dancer between 40 - 70, & you are interested in becoming a gentleman host on cruise ships. **\$5 discount for MSDA members.** 586-775-1933

LYNCH'S

Three Locations: Warren: (586) 751-1780. **15% discount to MSDA members.** They carry various trims for costumes, teachers' shoes, tights, etc.



REMINDER: Show your **MSDA** card at **GLSDC** and **MSSHD** dances to **get in at their member prices** Just show your card and save.

GLSDC ~ club dance every Wednesday in Flint at The Rollerhaven of Flushing. 3464 Ann Drive, Flushing. GLSDCeditor@aol.com.

MSSHD ~ monthly dances on the 3rd Saturday, at American Dance Center, 2321 Corunna Rd. Flint MI. Take I-75 or US 23 N. to Corunna Rd exit. Go East 1 mile to the studio. Please park in back. FMI: call 810-694-7625 - Bob or Beverly

CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

If you would like to be an official "Dance Host or Hostess", or would like to volunteer to help with set up, food or clean up, or would like flyers to pass out, please let us know at msda@att.net or 248-390-0515.

MANY Thanks to all those who helped make the dance a success!

Guest Instructor Phil Dorroll

MSDA CHRISTMAS DANCE DECEMBER 14, 2008

Phil Dorroll

Instructor

Event Director for the
Michigan Classic
& Nashville Classic

www.danceamerica.net



Phil Dorroll is available for Private Lessons prior to the activities on both Saturday and Sunday. To make an appointment, call Phil at 615-948-3124 or email him at phil@danceamerica.net

PHIL WILL BE IN TOWN FROM DECEMBER 11 TO 17TH AND WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR PRIVATE LESSONS & CHOREOGRAPHY

MSDA Christmas Party - Sunday, December 14, 2008

Lesson with Phil Dorroll:

3 PM ~ Dance Etiquette & Social Do's and Don'ts
(Free to members)

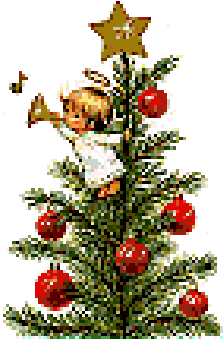
3 PM ~ Beginner Class for Newcomers

4:00 – 8:00 pm - MSDA Dance

(See <http://msda.org/monthly.htm> for details)

(*** 3PM Class free to members, \$4 to non-members)

*****FREE
CLASSES*****



All workshops and dance will be held at Rhythm 'N' Shoes, 2172 Franklin Rd., Bloomfield Hills, MI 48302

PHIL'S BIO

Phillip Dorroll resides in Clearwater, FL, and Nashville, TN, where he is the owner and operator of *Dance America Productions* and *Dance Connection Dance Studio*. Phil is a full time dance instructor and promoter teaching workshops and privates in the Mid-South and Mid-West region. Phil teaches dance, promotes and organizes various dance events and weekends across the country, including the Tampa Bay Classic, Michigan Classic, Brickyard Boogie, and Summer Dance Party.

In November of 2005 Phil received the Star Award and was inducted into the National Living Legends of Dance. In addition, to teaching workshops at national conventions and local clubs and studios, Phil has competed in many competitions on the swing circuit during the past few years and some of his accomplishments include...

- US OPEN - 4th Place Masters, 2001
- KC Swing Challenge – 1st Place Masters, 2001
- Heartland Swing – 3rd Place Open, 2002
- Swing Fling – 3rd Place Sophisticated Swing, 2002
- KC Swing Challenge – 1st Place Showcase, 2002
- Heartland Swing – 1st Place Masters, 2003
- Heartland Swing – Advanced Jack & Jill 1st Place, 2003
- Swing Fling – 3rd Place Sophisticated Swing, 2003
- Atlanta Summer Swing Jam – 1st Place Adv J & J, 2003
- Atlanta Summer Swing Jam – 2nd Place Adv S. Swing, 2003

Associations and Memberships: World Swing Dance Council, Masters Swing Dance Tour, A.A.N.C.E. Swing Tour All Swing DJs, National Association of Rhythm & Blues DJ's, National Fast Dance Association

Mission Statement

Bring quality dance instruction, competition, and social dancing together in an environment that people will enjoy as they develop life long friendships and memories.

MICHIGAN SWING DANCE ASSOCIATION
SHARON NELSON
PO BOX 1125
WALLED LAKE, MI 48390
<http://msda.org>
msda@att.net
248-390-0515

**NOTE: This is NOT
the third Sunday.**

**HEY, YOU GUYS!!!!
THE PARTY IS ON SUNDAY,
DECEMBER 14
AT RHYTHM 'N' SHOES
DANCE STUDIO.**



<http://msda.smugmug.com>