



MICHIGAN SWING DANCE ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER



Dance Stinkers

by Mark Van Schuyver

Sometimes it's like a dysfunctional family out there. Just last week I watched two followers advance upon an unsuspecting leader and simultaneously demand a dance. The hapless fellow backpedaled furiously as the followers each grabbed an arm and launched into a tug of war with him as the prize. "He asked me," one woman said.

"I requested this song specifically for him to dance with me," the other declared. The spat lasted several seconds. Only when the leader tried to get out of dancing with both did one lady back down allowing the other to drag the embarrassed man onto the floor.

In 13 years of dancing I have seen lots of "stinker" behavior. Let's take a look at the most common stinker behaviors with the idea of eliminating them.

The Professor

He or she is not happy with the way you dance and begins to give you instruction on the floor. He might be a well-meaning leader trying to help a newbie follower. She might be an experienced dancer frustrated with arm leads or lack of connection. Sometimes it's an inexperienced dancer with an ego problem. "I walked off of the floor when he started lecturing me," one follower said to me a couple of weeks ago.

"Who?" I asked.

"That guy." She pointed discreetly at a big fellow who was dancing off time and out of slot. "He stopped in the middle of the dance to teach me a foot-work pattern he'd just learned. When I told him I didn't want a lesson, he said I had to learn it so my feet would be in the right spot and he wouldn't kick me!"

The social dance floor is not the place for teaching. No one likes unsolicited teaching. Never will you see real dance instructors teaching people against their

will on the social dance floor. It's a no no. The dance floor "professor" is definitely a stinker.

The Goat Roper

Goat Ropers are leaders who treat followers like farm animals. So determined are they to have their lead executed "correctly" that they will slam the follower through the rail if she fails to obey. Goat Ropers are rough and tough. They frequently hurt the follower and they are a general danger to all that dance near them. They convert the idea of lead, follow to follow or die. The irony is that goat ropers do not realize how much they are hurting the followers as most women will suffer in silence.

The Mind Reader

He expects you to read his mind. He's a ghost-leader with no connection. He leads with his arms, if he leads at all. This fellow expects the follower to know what's in his mind as he gives no physical indication whatsoever. Good luck!

The Horse

He or she sweats like a horse! And, does not bring a towel, or extra shirts. The Horse loves to do multiple spins thus splattering as many people as possible with sweaty spray. He likes to lead neck vamps to soak the lady's arm in as much ooze as possible. He always wears short sleeves to maximize the drip. It gets worse if he or she likes to do a lot of stuff in close position.

The Skunk

He or she forgets the bath, toothpaste, and deodorant combo. He or she may use copious amounts of powerful perfume/cologne. This one's a real stinker.

The Chopper

She is tall and has extremely long hair. She loves to do multiple spin thus spanking the daylights out of her shorter leader's face.

The Lobster

He or she has powerful pinchers. He

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THE LINE-UP

We are happy to announce our list of teachers for future MSDA dances.

August 22...Barry Douglas
September 19 ...Cindy Gerald
October 24...Tonia Deliz
November 21...Bill Vogel III & Tandy Zapinski. Plus, Toe to Toe Dance shoes will be back.
December 19...Joyce Stoughton
January...Tim Constant

NEXT PARTY

AUGUST 22

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

Our teacher on July 18 was Michael Finegan, accompanied by his dance partner, Joyce Stoughton. He taught a very interesting and ENTERTAINING lesson involving lifts, twirls and showcasing the follower. One move was even called The Cannonball! The people taking the lesson wore huge grins and seemed to be having a great time trying moves never seen before in our club. Thank you Mike and Joyce!



This month our guest teacher, Barry Douglas, will be teaching us some of the Intermediate Hustle moves that he has collected during his worldwide travels. He will also devote part of the hour to a brief review of the Night Club TwoStep, a really enjoyable dance in which you travel smoothly all around the dance floor. Barry's Bio is on page four.

NEW MEMBERS

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

JAVIER COLON
JUDY SMYK



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.

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| CINDY COCHRAN | 8/1 |
| JOHN LALKA | 8/5 |
| DOROTHY LESPERENCE | 8/6 |
| CHARLES BLEDSOE | 8/6 |
| BILL SCHAUB | 8/7 |
| EVELYN SCHUSTER | 8/11 |
| EMILIO TORRES | 8/12 |
| RONALD KONOPKA | 8/13 |
| MICHELLE RESKA | 8/14 |
| MARY LAZOEN | 8/15 |
| PATRICIA KIRKPATRICK | 8/17 |
| OSCHE VELASCO | 8/18 |
| JAMES GAMBLE | 8/20 |
| DAVID KAZMIROWSKI | 8/21 |
| JIM SAFFOLD | 8/21 |
| RENA MCGEE | 8/22 |
| BETTIE DEMARS | 8/22 |
| SANDY KOMENDERA | 8/23 |
| TOMMY WHISMAN | 8/26 |
| RON DICKSON | 8/26 |
| LANNA BUBER | 8/29 |
| FREDERICK NASEEF | 8/29 |
| ROSEMARY BALDARELLI | 8/29 |
| TONY WALKER | 8/30 |



FUTURE PARTIES



- September 19
- October 24
- November 21
- December 19

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

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:



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BEATA HOWE WORKSHOP

Sat. Aug. 7th
 1:15 - 2:45 Night Club Two Step
 3-4:30 Salsa
 4:45-6:15 Lindy
 At Dorian's Dazz Dance 540 Avis Farms off South Main Street, South of Ann Arbor
Sun. Aug. 8th
 10:30-12 West Coast Fundamentals
 12:15-1:45 Intermediate West Coast
 2:00-3:00 Lunch
 3-4:30 Hitting The Breaks
 4:45-6:15 Cool Moves Beata style
 *****Classes will be held Sunday at a different location:
 Ann Arbors Dance Classice 4029 Carpenter Rd. US 23 to M 17/ Washtenaw Ave. East (toward Ypsilanti)Right on Carpenter (first



street)2 miles on left (across from Showcase Cinemas)
 To register or FMI:
 Joyce Stoughton-Kim
 (734) 973-2575 or
 jas.amdance@juno.com
 More info - call Joyce 734-973-2575
 Classes are \$25.00 per person or 4 classes for \$85.00
 Dance Club Members discounted rate 4 classes \$82.00. (with card only)

MOTOR CITY JAM

August 13 - 15
 Mini-dance camp. Workshops in Mambo, Balboa, Jazz, African, Salsa, St. Louis Shag, Airsteps, Swing era Jazz, Dips and Tricks, Shim Sham, The Madison, and different styles of Lindy. and other dances. Teachers: Debbie Elkins, Sylvia Sykes, Elena Iannucci and Christopher Yee.
 Location: Workshops and dorm space are at Varner Hall, Oakland University.
 Friday and Saturday night activities take place at the Lafayette Grande, One Lafayette in Pontiac, Michigan. The Lafayette Grande is located at the intersection of Lafayette and Saginaw, north of Huron. George Gee and the Make- Believe Ballroom Orchestra plus buffet on Saturday night. Event ticket price: \$125.

FMI: Paulette Brockington
 (313) 869-9385 or Hooper2@ibm.net or check out artspectrum.org. You can register online.

HUSTLE USA DANCE CHAMPIONSHIPS

September 17th, 18th and 19th
 Sheraton Meadowlands Hotel
 East Rutherford, New Jersey
 Reservations: (201) 896-0500
 Info: <http://www.hustleusa.com>



DISCOUNTS FOR MEMBERS



NOTICE: THE DANCE CLUB HAS MOVED FROM THE GREAT SKATE TO THE AMBER HOUSE. Bill Scheff will be holding his dance classes at the normal times on the schedules.

STARDUST DANCE STUDIO offers our members a discount of \$1.00 off the admission fee for their Friday night parties. Everyone is welcome. Party is from 9 PM to 12 AM. FMI: (248) 356-5678. **See attached class schedule.** 10% discount to members.

DANCE AVENUE DANCE STUDIO offers MSDA members a discount of \$1.00 off their Thursday night parties. FMI: call Dance Avenue at (313) 565-3329. **See attached class schedule.**

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.

TROY DANCE STUDIO They offer \$1.00 discount on every event they hold. They have so much going on, you almost need to stop in to keep informed! They have scheduled Theme Parties on Tuesdays. Theme parties have hors d'oeuvres and drinks included. Open House for new students includes free group lessons the last week of each month. FMI: Elaine Marrero, TDS. (248) 689-3393.

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? E-mail Brenda at dancealert@aol.com and visit her updated website at: <http://members.aol.com/dancealert/index.html>.

Check out our Information Station for her list of **Dance Floors** in the area.

MICHIGAN DANCE CLASSIC

World Fast Dance Championships
August 13,14 & 15th, 1999
Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort
11 contest categories
25 hours of social dancing
Ask about discounts for MSDA members
FMI: Bob or Beverly Budzynski
810-694-7625 or bbudzyn@tir.com

DAVE & GINNY WOLF AT JD'S MACOMB THEATRE

31 N. Walnut
Mt. Clemens, MI
Sunday Dances Sept. 19, Oct. 17, Nov. 14 and Dec. 12. No classes in July or Aug.
Swing lesson 2:30 to 3:30 P.M.
Swing Dance from 3:30 to 7 PM
Hottest & latest dance music by DJ Dave
Hosted by "Just A Swingin'" Dance Club
\$1.00 off to MSDA members showing membership cards. \$7 per person includes lesson and dance. FMI: (810) 796-3868. Call Dave & Ginny anytime.

CHANGE OF PACE CLOTHIERS

Located at 2045 Orchard Lake Road,
Sylvan Lake, MI
248-332-1811. 10% discount offered to all MSDA members. They have men's & women's clothing, shoes & accessories! Wonderful quality, everything from funky to elegant. They also do expert alterations! Check out their wonderful sales rack. No discount there, but none is needed. Great buys on dance clothing!!!

LYNCH'S

Three Locations:
Warren: (810) 751-1780
Dearborn: (313) 565-3425
Wyandotte: (313) 281-8108.
15% discount to MSDA members.
They carry various trims for costumes, teachers' shoes, tights, etc.

HUBER & BREEZE

30% discount on all Rentals, Sales, Repairs of New & Used Disc Jockey Equipment. Musical instruments & vocal lessons also available.
33540 Groesbeck Hwy.
Fraser, MI (810) 294-3950

Just a note to nominate Peter DiSalvo as the Party Giver Extraordinaire. What a wonderful time we had in the pool, on the dance floor and in the kitchen. But the P.D. hustle was the best part. BRAVO, PETER!



CONGRATULATIONS to last month's numerous prize winners. We gave away 22 dance packages, a \$100 Gift Certificate from Change of Pace Clothiers, a certificate for 10 free music lessons from Huber and Breeze, a large floor lamp from Bill Fields/Deal America, a gift certificate from Lynch's, 3 sets of AMC movie tickets, four embroidered "dance moisture" towels, and assorted smaller items.

The Anniversary part was a huge success thanks to the efforts of many MSDA members and friends. The music was dynamite, as usual, thanks to Bill Scheff, our favorite DJ. The food was awesome. Special thanks go to Roger Vineyard who arrived early with a whole trailer of gourmet food that was immediately consumed by very appreciative party goers. And to all the other contributing members, especially Sally Street for all the food she brought. The special dance exhibitions put on by some of the members were WONDERFUL! It was obvious that much thought and practice went into the exhibitions, making it a special occasion for the viewers.

We also kept Linda Jaworski of Dance Collectibles busy. Her display of dance related art work was extensive and delightful. She held a raffle and gave away a special prize to the lucky winner.

And the many people who experienced nirvana at the hands of our friendly masseuse, Becky Aninos, were able to dance much more comfortably and joyously because of her efforts.

All in all, it was better than we ever expected, thanks to our terrific members. We look forward to a second year of growth and dancing fun. Thanks everyone!!!!!!!

Sharon and Bob

BE A JACKPOT WINNER! REMEMBER THE 50/50 RAFFLE.

At each party, you can buy an arm's length worth of tickets for \$5.00. The raffle drawing is at 6 PM. Just see Bob Campbell for tickets.



GUEST TEACHER
❖ BARRY DOUGLAS ❖

Barry Douglas is an international performer with more than 1000 appearances in seven countries. He is one of the most vibrant, versatile dancers to ever light up a dance floor. Audiences of all ages enjoy his Latin, Adagio, Jazz and especially, his original version of the Street Hustle. His years of dance training have led to numerous regional and United States Championships in Latin, Swing and Hustle. His fast paced, high-energy production incorporates several dance styles which will keep you on the edge of your seat!

Barry is certified with National Dance Council of America, Dance Masters, and Dance Educators of America. He is a Master Jazz Choreographer and a Certified Gold Bar Ballroom Instructor.

Barry held the Michigan State Hustle Championship for 18 years and the Michigan State Swing Dance Championship for 6 years. He is the current Virginia State Hustle Champion and the 1995 US Hustle Champion.

Barry is currently teaching locally at Dance Avenue in Dearborn and at the American Dance Center in Flint. Most weekends find Barry out of town giving workshops in cities from Washington State to Germany. Also, check out Barry's new TV show in Louisville, KY!!

DANCEART, YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD DANCE
 MAGAZINE CHANNEL 70 SATURDAY @ 3:30 PM.

Barry Douglas
 PO Box 562
 Keego Harbor, MI 48320
 Phone: 1-888-I-HUSTLE
 Email: i-hustle@usa.net
 Website: www.i-hustle.com

.....Continued from Page 1.
 squeezes tight upon her delicate fingers as she attempts multiple turns. He presses down hard into her hands with his thumbs during push breaks. She grabs hold of his spotting finger during turns thus wrenching joint from socket.

The Conductor

This one literally marches to a different drummer. With no connection or concept for the music, the conductor may lead wonderful moves, but he leads them off -time. The conductor would do well to learn the difference between down-beat and up-beat. Beats 1, 3, 5, and 7 are down, 2, 4, 6, and 8 are up-beats. Always start off on a down-beat. If still confused, contact our guru Skippy Blair at once!

The Contortionist

You will need the skills of Houdini to get out of the arm locks and body wraps that the contortionist will put you into. Such moves are wonderful if lead correctly and very dangerous if done with force or with disregard for the way joints turn.

DANCE SITE OF THE MONTH
<http://www.i-hustle.com/>

Visit Barry's site. It's eye-catching and you can order his videos, check on his schedule, sign his guestbook or e-mail him about lessons.

The Solo Artist

She or he dances all alone. Leads are an inconvenience for the solo artist follower. She does not interpret leads she avoids them. The solo artist has no concept for he-shines/she-shines. The musical equivalent would be a band in which the guitar player riffs all the time never letting the singer sing. (Or, have you ever been positioned so that your partner can watch himself in the mirror during the whole dance? I have. S.N.)

The Mule

Typically the leader will begin the lead on the "a" that begins before the One. It goes like this on "a" he preps to lead then on the One count he executes the lead. Thus both leader and follower step on one. A follower who does not respond in time by delaying her anchor can keep herself off time and pull the leader back with her. It is as if she sits down like a stubborn mule rather than follow the lead. This is what is sometimes referred to as being heavy.

The Greyhound

This is the follower who coaster steps rather than anchor at the end of patterns. This is the follower who steps forward on count six or count eight. She does not anchor and she does not wait for the lead. She forfeits connection and rushes the lead at the end of every pattern. This is not really a behavior trait, but I just can't resist mentioning it.

The Linebacker

He or she does not understand contra body. He blocks the slot like a linebacker forcing his partner to run back, or run around. Contra body motion means step forward with one leg while pulling the same shoulder back.

The Rogue

He's never had a lesson and he's proud of it. He learned it all by watching from the bar. He is the most dangerous animal on the floor, even more dangerous than the Goat Roper and the Contortionist.

The Fly Swatters

They do beautiful, broad sweeping arm and leg styling anywhere, anytime, all the time. Their arms jab out, fingers extending sometimes right into the eyes of unsuspecting dancers on either side. The use of big-sky styling in tight social dance settings is dangerous and highly irresponsible.

The Princess

The Princess (or prince) is simply too good to dance with the common folk. He or she has attained a fair level of skill and has no time for the little people. One wonders who danced with him or her when they were coming up?

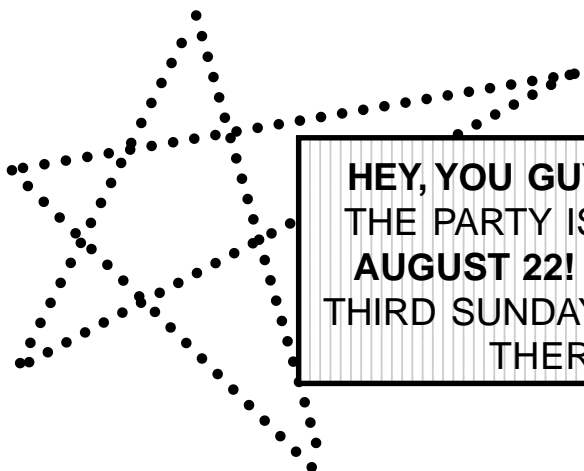
The Don Juan

He's a lover in love all by himself. He gets real close and does the bump and grind body-touching moves with complete strangers and or people that would rather eat seal vomit than touch bodies with him. He's a groper, he's a dope, he is a pariah amongst the ladies. Don Juan is the dance floor definition of sexual harassment.

Conclusion

I'll bet, if you've been dancing for a while that you might share a bit of guilt as well, and I know that you see these things happen from time to time. How can we make it better? We can lead by example and thus inspire our sometimes-dysfunctional dance-family members to behave a bit better. Think it over next time you find yourself in a tug-of-war.

MICHIGAN SWING DANCE ASSOCIATION
SHARON NELSON
2152 SHANKIN
WOLVERINE LAKE, MI 48390



HEY, YOU GUYS!!!!!!!!!!!!!!
THE PARTY IS **SUNDAY,**
AUGUST 22! (NOT THE
THIRD SUNDAY).SEE YOU
THERE.



**MANY THANKS TO OUR MEMBERS
FOR YOUR SUPPORT!!!**