



MICHIGAN SWING DANCE ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER



Just Say "Yes" (Maybe)

© 1997 by Kelly Buckwalter

"Would you like to dance?" These are the five most common words heard at any swing dance, yet for many people the emotions that come up when they speak these words are overwhelming. Face it, no one likes to be rejected. I know from experience when I was in high school and college I was NEVER asked to dance. Since I had the misfortune to have very beautiful roommates, whenever a guy approached me I discovered that he usually wanted the name or phone number of one of my girlfriends. Very humiliating.

So I soon learned if I wanted to dance I would have to ask a guy. So I did. And most of the time they said "No." (They really did! My mother tells me I was just a late bloomer...) Fast forward a few years to my introduction to the swing scene. I discovered that everyone asks everyone else to dance and guess what? Having been rejected all those years I vowed I'd NEVER say no ... well, almost never.

Over the years I've modified my "never" to allow me off the hook under the following circumstances:

1. The person asking me to dance is under the influence of a reality altering substance.
2. The person asking me to dance has hurt me physically or emotionally in the past.
3. I am tired/ill or I've stopped dancing for the night. (Then I ask them for a raincheck and try to remember to

find them the next time and ask them for a dance first).

4. I want to finish watching some incredible dancing (So I ask if they would mind if we waited until the next dance).

5. I can't do the dance they want to dance to the music playing (So I ask them later), or

6. I've already promised the dance to someone else (So I arrange to find them later), or

7. I am on a date and want to spend time with just my date.

I figure it's only about 3 minutes, it can't be all that bad, and maybe I'll make a new friend or learn something new. Besides the more I learn about the dance, the easier it becomes to compensate for both my mistakes

and my partner's mistakes. Since a lot of people have told me they are terrified to ask anyone to dance and they feel like leaving when someone does reject them, I figured if I repeated some of the rejections given me, maybe some of you will realize that if you get rejected, a lot of the time it is more a reflection on the other person than it is on you!

Note: Although obviously I have ...continued on page four.

NEXT PARTY

JUNE 13

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

⊗ NEWS ABOUT

CINCINNATI ⊗

Several MSDA members who've never been to Cincy are making reservations so this will be even more fun than last year. The tickets have gone on sale for the Fall Convention by the Cincinnati Bop Club. The dates are November 10, 11, 12, 13 & 14. Please check out the attached flyer and order your tickets now because they go fast and there is a limit on the number sold. You need to get a confirmation code from the Bop Association before you can reserve a room. It is TOO MUCH FUN so call soon: 1-800-SHAGGER.

DANCE LESSON

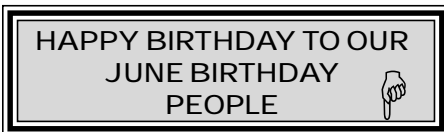
Several new members have requested a beginning hustle class so we are offering it at the next dance, for the first half hour. It will be taught by Amber House owner and MSDAS's favorite DJ, Bill Scheff. Bill has been teaching dance professionally for many years and does a wonderful, smooth hustle. (Try him, ladies!) The last half hour of the class will focus on steps geared for the intermediate level dancer. The beginners are welcome to stay and participate in this section of the class.

Editorial Note: For those of us who are no longer beginners, this will be a great refresher. Unlike some other hustle styles, Bill's hustle basic is unique and provides for a smoother execution of the dance. Check it out!

NEW MEMBERS

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

- Charles Bledsoe
- Lois Enot
- Jerry Fenderso
- Bonnie George
- Merry Jo Hill
- Kathy Novitsky
- Ken Ptak
- Elenita Santiago
- Debra Schultz
- Evelyn Velasco



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.

- | | |
|------------------|------|
| INGE EVANS | 6/1 |
| JUDY SUSSKIND | 6/2 |
| DIANE ANNIS | 6/3 |
| JULIE COOK | 6/4 |
| LINDA BAUER | 6/5 |
| LEO ZABINSKY | 6/5 |
| PATRICIA LLOYD | 6/7 |
| JUNE SMITTERBERG | 6/9 |
| GLEN GULICK | 6/12 |
| SHARON SCHAUB | 6/13 |
| HAROLD FERUS, JR | 6/15 |
| STANLEY KUBICKI | 6/15 |
| MARSHA MILLER | 6/16 |
| GEORGE POWELL | 6/16 |
| ROBERTO DEROCHIS | 6/20 |
| DUANE DOROW | 6/20 |
| GLORIA GONZALES | 6/20 |
| ABBE ROSSMAN | 6/21 |
| JAMES DANIELS | 6/22 |
| SHELLEY HANDREN | 6/24 |
| KEN EAGLE | 6/25 |
| ROGER VINEYARD | 6/29 |



Gallery of Cakes
 10626 W. Warren
 Dearborn, MI
 313-581-5702
Hours:
 Tues - Fri, 10 to 6
 Saturday, 10-2:30
 Sunday, Closed

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:



FUTURE PARTIES



- ❖ July 18 ❖ Anniversary Party ❖
- August 22
- September 19
- October 24
- November 21
- December 19



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



JULY 4 PHOENIX SWING CONVENTION

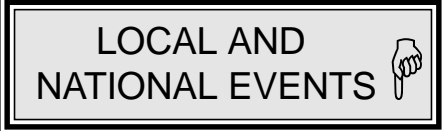
July 2-4 Swing Event
 Scottsdale, AZ
 (800) 598-2538

4TH OF JULY SWING BASH

July 4-6 Swing, Hustle & Country Event
 Ft Lauderdale, FL
 (561) 470-5208

NEW ORLEANS COUNTRY DANCE MARDI GRAS

July 15-19 Country & Swing Event
 New Orleans, LA
 (318) 798-6226



WEST COAST SWING DANCE CHAMPIONSHIPS

July 30-1
 (619) 272-5933
 Sacramento CA

MOTOR CITY JAM

August 13 - 15
 Mini-dance camp. Workshops in Lindy, Mambo, Balboa, Jazz, African, Salsa and other dances. Teachers: Debbie Elkins, Sylvia Sykes, Elena Iannucci and Christopher Yee.
 Varner Hall, Oakland University.
 George Gee and the Make-Believe Ballroom Orchestra plus buffet on Saturday night.
 Event ticket price: \$125
 FMI: Paulette Brockington
 313-869-9385 or hoofer2@ibm.net


"HUSTLEMANIA",

August 6th-8th
 Hustle and Swing Dance
 Fresno, CA
 Competitions, workshops
 Reservations: (209)268-1000.

HUSTLE USA DANCE CHAMPIONSHIPS

September 17th, 18th and 19th
 Sheraton Meadowlands Hotel
 East Rutherford, New Jersey
 Reservations: 1-201-896-0500
 Mention HUSTLE USA
 Info: <http://www.hustleusa.com>

SWINGIN' AT SEA

March 5-12, 2000 
 Caribbean Dance Cruise
 Hosts: Beata Howe, Robet Cordoba, Deborah Szekely
 West Coast Swing dance package. 16 instructors
 Reservations: 800-503-9600
 FMI: Beata: @ 818-500-YEAH
Shall we try to put together a group to go?



DISCOUNTS FOR MEMBERS



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 schedule of classes.** 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 flyer.**

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 new website at:

<http://members.aol.com/dancealert/index.html>.

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

Special Note: Brenda's DanceMichigan list was chosen by Onelist as the list of the week of 4/26/99. Congratulations, Brenda. Please keep up the good work! We all benefit by it.

DAVE & GINNY WOLF AT JD'S MACOMB THEATRE

31 N. Walnut
Mt. Clemens, MI
Sunday Dances June 11th & July 6th.
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, Dave & Ginny anytime

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

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!!!

HOUSE ABOUT A DANCE?
If you are considering buying or selling a home, or you know of someone who is, please contact MSDA member Bob Madgett. Bob is with Century 21 Town and Country and will give you, or anyone you might refer to him, exceptional service. In return, for you MSDA members, Bob has a fabulous dance related offer. Call him today to find out all of the details at 248-642-8100 or 248-901-0237

SPUNKY'S GYM
314 N. Main, Clawson. (810) 589-BODY.
Ladies Gym. Ten percent discount off membership fees to members of the MSDA.



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
20% 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

MSDA DANCE ATTENDEES, PLEASE NOTE:

The white ticket you receive upon entrance to our parties is to be used for a free soft drink or toward an alcoholic beverage. If you choose not to drink one, please turn it in at the bar. This is a direct part of the payment process to the Amber House! Remember: we need to help support Bill through food & drink

CONGRATULATIONS to last months Dance Card Contest winners: Sally Street and Tim Carmichael won free admittance to MSDA dances, Margaret Ross won an MSDA shoe bag, Johnny Mac won a portable minifan and Kathie McGeachy won the latest Cher CD. Tim (Not Again!) Carmichael won \$25 in the the 50/50 Raffle. Must have been that Good Luck ticket. (Ask Tim about it.) :-))

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. Just see Bob Campbell.



*** HOT TIP ***

BE SURE TO FILL OUT A DANCE CARD OR TEN AT EACH PARTY. WE USE THOSE TO CHOOSE WINNERS FOR THE DOOR PRIZES.

been rejected by guys, I assume that people are people, and probably you guys have gotten some of the same responses that I have. My guess is that women reject men just as much as men reject women - what do you think?

Anyway here are the responses for your amusement. By the way, lest you think that once you've been labeled a "good" dancer no one will turn you down or be rude to you, think again. The following responses were said to me after Dominic Yin and I had won the U.S. Open and I had been judging and teaching for over 10 years.

My questions: "Would you like to dance?" The responses:

"Nah-I'd rather smoke a cigarette."

"Ask me next year."

"Only if you can follow."

"No, I haven't seen you dance yet."

"Are you any good?"

"Only if you're in the next contest."

"I don't dance with people who don't take from X."

"Only if you've been dancing longer than a year."

"As long as you don't try to lead."

"No, I think X is going to ask me to dance."

"Not now, come back later and I'll see."

"Maybe, where are you from?"

"No, there are too many good dancers here I want to dance with."

"No, you'll make me look bad."

"How come you're asking me?"

"I don't like to dance with locals at conventions."

(EEK! I think I've been guilty of uttering this one too! Mea culpa! Oh well, no one's perfect ...KB).

"Are you sure you want to dance with me?"

"No, I learned from someone else"

"Does this mean you want to sleep with me?"

"No, not until I've finished my (pick one) drink/cigarette"

"Well, I guess so."

"Maybe, who's your teacher?"

"Might as well, there's no one good here tonight."

"No, I was just going to ask X to dance."

"No thanks, I'm tired and I'm saving myself to dance with the good dancers."

"I don't dance with (pick one) teachers/students/competitors."

"I'd rather dance with X."

"Only if you'll tell me the name of that woman over there"

"Only if you're single"

"Maybe, how long have you been dancing?"

And last but not least, my all time favorite: "I don't know." (What the heck does that mean?).

So what's a good response to the questions. "Would you like to dance?" Well, here are some of my favorite responses:

"I'd love to."

"Thanks I was hoping you'd ask me."

"Of course."

"Sure."

"I was just going to ask you!"

"I'd be delighted."

"Yes, thank you."

"I've been waiting all night for you to ask me!"

And remember folks, use common sense. Ask the people who look like they want to be asked (I think those NGSDC "Ask me" buttons are a fantastic idea!) Don't go for the lovers in the corner or the person involved in an intense conversation. If I see a woman I don't know with a good male dancer, I always ask her first if I could ask her partner if he could dance with me. This happened to me and when my partner said sure, the guy just took my hand and pulled me onto the floor. When I asked him why he didn't ask me he said, "Why? Your partner said it was ok, didn't he?"

TRAVEL PLANS?

We have a listing of clubs, associations, studios, and dance events in other cities throughout most of the United States. If you would like to check out the dance action in a city you're planning to visit, call or e-mail either Sharon or Bob. We'll try to hook you up. 248-926-5484 or sfnelson@worldnet.att.net
313-937-9262 or danceman@globalbiz.net

DANCE SITES OF THE MONTH

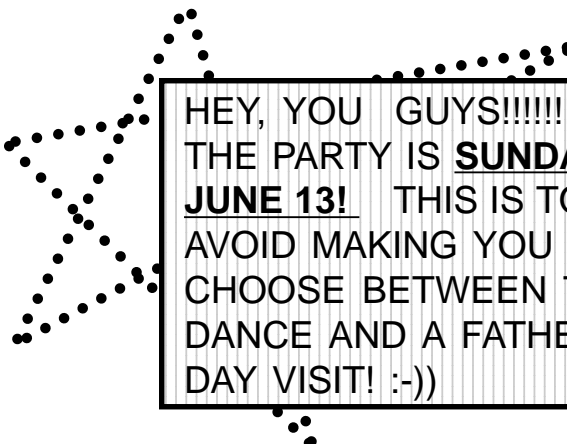
<http://www.ballroomdancers.com/Dances/WCSwing/Default.htm>

This is a very interesting and well organized site for ballroom dancers. The video clips are clear and may be played over and over as you watch the instructors execute the moves. "We now have 10 new video clips of the basic figures, starring U.S. Swing Dance Champion Melanie Roberts with assistant Allan Uy. In the future, there will also be complete step descriptions in chart form, step-by-step photos, history and general description. Enjoy!"

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

Want to go on a free cruise and meet lots of wealthy, admiring women? Are you male, single and over 45? Read on. "Gentlemen Hosts™ are single gentlemen, 45-70 yrs, who are refined socializers and cultivated dancers. Our Volunteers are great human beings and very outgoing, with high moral ethics." Not male or over 45? Then try a different category. "Destination Speakers, Dance Instructors, Youth Directors are the current categories of Volunteer Presenters being considered. "

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



HEY, YOU GUYS!!!!!!!!!!!!!!
THE PARTY IS **SUNDAY,**
JUNE 13! THIS IS TO
AVOID MAKING YOU
CHOOSE BETWEEN THE
DANCE AND A FATHER'S
DAY VISIT! :-))

PLEASE NOTE
THAT THE
PARTY IS **NOT**
THE THIRD
SUNDAY.



MANY THANKS TO OUR MEMBERS
FOR YOUR SUPPORT!!!