



MICHIGAN SWING DANCE ASSOCIATION



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 fabu-lous 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. *Continued* →

NEXT MSDA PARTY NOVEMBER 16 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. 586-754-3434*

DANCE LESSON

In October, Fred Beudet continued with really solid lessons on good hustle technique. His commitment to having each student master the basic was evident in his extensive personal attention to each couple. Thanks, Fred!



In November, Tim Constant will teach "West Coast Swing's Greatest Hits 2003". This class will focus on some of the best Swing moves taught this year at workshops by today's hottest dancers and champions.

See Tim's bio on page 4.

JOIN US AT THE NOVEMBER DANCE FOR JULIE GUBB'S FAREWELL PARTY!!! She's leaving Michigan.



Details on page 4.

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!

NEW MEMBERS


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

IRMA DAVALOZ
LINDA LOU WILD

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 NOVEMBER 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 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.

CHERYL	GRANT	11/5
JEREMY	ATCHINSON	11/8
HAROLD	BUELL	11/12
RICHARD	RAMANO	11/13
BECKY	McGEE	11/17
PETER	DISALVO	11/18
CYNTHIA	BARCLAE	11/21
MAURICE	O'DONNELL	11/22
ALICE	STEIN	11/23
SAMMY	REEVES	11/25
LARRY	STAHL	11/26
DONNA	BAKER	11/27
KAREN	LIM	11/29



FUTURE PARTIES


November 16

December 7
January 16
February 20

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:

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 

JIMMY BARRIOS VENUES

COMO'S..SALSA & SWING

on the corner of Woodward and 9 Mile every Tues and Wed night. Salsa, Merengues, Swing, Cha Cha and much more. 9PM till 1AM.

NO COVER CHARGE

MARIOS ON SUNDAYS

Cafe Mario's is located on the corner of Maple (15 mile) and John R. 6PM till ??????. **NO COVER CHARGE.** Drink Specials all night. **PIER 500**

Every Thurs night. Pier 500 in Wyandotte. 8PM dance lessons. Jimmy Barrios DJ starting at 9PM.

NO COVER. 507 Biddle, right on the river. 734-281-0530.

MOUNTAIN MAGIC 2003

Nov. 7-9. S. Lake Tahoe, NV Workshops, Dancing, Contests <http://home.netcom.com/~wcdancer/mmm.html> Telephone/Fax: (415) 585-6282

SATURDAY NIGHT DANCING

Playing All Your Favorite Dance Music at The Amber House 7012 E. Nine Mile Road, Warren 8:00 pm to 2:00 am. Cover: \$7.00 **(Swing Dance Club Members \$1.00 off)** You Must Have A Valid Card For More Info: 586 754-3434

DETROIT PARTY AT PIER 500

Thurs. Nov. 6th at 9PM for the Cast of CUBA. Plenty of Salsa Music and join our CUBAN Cha Cha contest. Winners will receive FREE Passes for the show. Bring your cameras and meet these world renown dancers. 22 Women in the Cast and they will all be at the PIER 500 in owtown Wyandotte. Its Gonna Get "HOT".

2003 TRIBUTE DANCE

In honor of the musicians, singers and songwriters who have passed away in 2003. Sat. Nov. 8, 8pm-1am. Amber House in Warren. DJ Tim Constant. Tickets are \$10. Info: 586-754-3434 or www.whereistim.com

\$2 off to MSDA members and other swing clubs. See attached flyer.

RHYTHM-N-SHOES HOLIDAY PARTY 2003

Thurs. Dec.18th, 8pm to 1am. Live Music by Tom Wash & Friends, Hors d' oeuvres Plus, Desserts, Refreshments. 8:00 – 9:00 pm Group lessons – Beg/Int. E. C. Swing, or Int. Salsa. 10:30pm..dance exhibitions. Snappy casual attire. \$25. **\$2 off to MSDA members.**





DISCOUNTS FOR MEMBERS



THE DANCE CLUB's progressive classes begins every six weeks at the Amber House in Warren. Schedule: <http://amberhouse-danceclub.com/> 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. 586-754-3434

AMBER HOUSE'S New Classes are starting Nov. 4th. **WORK THAT SKIRT, LADIES!!** Paulette Brockington will be teaching 2 classes - a beginners class at 8pm and an intermediate/advanced class at 8:45. Each class is \$5 each. But why just take a class. For \$8 you can take class + dance starting at 9:30. This price is majorly cheap considering.

NEW!! Dances every Sat. Night.



STARDUST DANCE STUDIO

Friday Night Dance Parties 9:00 PM - 12:00 PM. FMI: 248-356-5678. **\$1 discount to MSDA members.** See attached class schedule. <http://stardustballroom.com>

TROY DANCE STUDIO

\$1.00 discount on every event to MSDA members. They hold scheduled Theme Parties on Tuesdays. 4963 Rochester Rd. Troy, MI 48098. Elaine Marrero, TDS. 248-689-3393.

RHYTHM -N- SHOES DANCE STUDIO

\$1.00 discount to MSDA members on Thursday night dances. 9 to 11 PM. Suzie Brecht is the manager of the studio, as well as a teacher and the DJ. 2172 Franklin Rd, Bloomfield Hills. 284-334-0299. See attached schedule. RhythmNShoes@aol.com. <http://www.rhythm-n-shoes.com>

ARGENTINE TANGO DETROIT

7758 Auburn Road, Utica 586-254-0560. An instructor from Deliz DanceSport is teaching Salsa & Swing on Mondays! **\$1.00 off all events to MSDA members.** lori@argentinetangodetroit.com <http://www.argentinetangodetroit.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 list of area dance floors or check out the Information Station at the monthly dance for her list.

DELIZ DANCESPORT

231 Eureka Road, Wyandotte, MI 48192 734-281-1969. M-F, 1pm-10pm, Sat. by appt. 734-281-1969 or delizdance@aol.com

DANCESPORT ACADEMY OF MICHIGAN ****

The studio will be closed from September 1st through September 7th for the United States Dance Championships in Florida!! **** 23666 Park, Dearborn, MI 48124 313-724-3262. The studio has Friday night open dances, \$8. Sat night dances are \$10. **\$1.00 off to MSDA members.** <http://www.dancesportacademy.com>

ROYAL OAK ARTHUR MURRAY

Friday night parties every Friday. Call for dates. 9:15 -10:45 PM. \$5. **Discount of \$1.00 for MSDA members.** 811 North Main Street, Royal Oak. FMI: 248-548-4770

DANCE ELITE BALLROOM STUDIO

6315 Haggerty, W. Bloom. American and International Ballroom Dancing. Group and private lessons for all ages. Jacob Reves, Professional Dance Instructor. Competitive dance coaching. Barry Douglas teaches Hustle classes Tuesday nights. Saturday night dance parties, 9 to midnight, \$10. **\$1.00 off to MSDA members.** 248-926-8522. <http://eliteballroom.com>. See attached schedule.

NEW!!! CEO VIDEO

Still and video photography services. "Documenting precious, once-in-a-lifetime, loving memories of special occasions. **\$50 off the Diamond Wedding Videotaping Package (5% of \$1000), 5% discount on any other services.** Matt Trupiano. matt@ceovideo.net, 586-596-5240. <http://www.ceovideo.net/>

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. <http://personaltrainermk.com/> 313-882-5422.

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

DINING WITH SINGLES

Now you can join other available, like minded, single people for evenings of fine dining and dinner theater. It's fun, it's affordable and it's without the social pressure of one on one blind dates. **\$20 membership discount to MSDA members.** Type MSDA in the comments form. <http://www.diningwithsingles.com/>

SWING TIME STUDIO/DANCE HALL

G-4510 VanSlyke Road- Flint Swing, Ballroom, Latin, Country & Social. Group Classes & Private Instruction available. 2200 sq. ft of Floating dance floor. **\$1.00 off any workshop or Dance party to MSDA members.** Instructors: Terri Sweet-Tim Johnson-Tim Constant-Dave Wolf. Contact Terri at (810) 762-0101. swing42@sbcglobal.net

REMINDER: Show your **MSDA** card at GLSDC and MSSHD dances to **get in at their member prices** Just show your card and save. They have a club dance every Wednesday in Flint at VFW Hall, G-4138 Corunna Road, just 1/2 west of I-75. GLSDCeditor@aol.com. MSSHD is will be the third Sat in July : bbudzyn@comcast.net <http://www.michiganswing.com/>

HUBER & BREEZE

30% discount on all Rentals, Sales, Repairs of New & Used Disc Jockey Equipment. 33540 Groesbeck Hwy. Fraser, MI (586) 294-3950

LYNCH'S

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

GUEST INSTRUCTOR TIM CONSTANT

Tim Constant is a highly experienced dancer, choreographer, teacher, and competitor and has won numerous top teacher and competitor awards. Tim specializes in Swing, Shag, Latin, Hustle, and Ballroom dancing and believes in the important perspective of fusing dances together to create exciting new moves and styles. Tim was the long time resident dance instructor for The 24 Karat Club and The Token Lounge as well as an instructor for the Center for Creative Studies and numerous dance studios in Detroit, Cleveland, Grand Rapids, and Chicago. He currently teaches for Rhythm N Shoes Dance Studio, Plymouth Canton Community Education, and Ann Arbor Parks & Recreation. Tim's main focus is teaching the mastery of social dancing and to promote the development of individual dance styles in his students.

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JULIE GUBB IS LEAVING MICHIGAN!!

Julie Gubb and Butch (Arnold) Logan

Julie has enjoyed dancing all her life. Tap, jazz, and ballet as a child, and weekend dancing with her girlfriends after college. She had always wanted to take ballroom dance lessons, but it wasn't until a colleague **dragged** her to Diamonds and Spurs (East) that her interest turned serious. After going to a few competition weekends as a spectator and discovering Diamondback Saloon, she decided to try competing. After competing for three years on the Pro-am country circuit, she became interested in learning more west coast swing and ballroom dancing. She has done local ballroom competitions in american rhythm, and enjoys attempting jack and jill competitions in west coast swing and hustle. But more than the competitions, it has been the many friends and wonderful people that Julie has met that gives her the greatest pleasure in dancing.

Julie met Butch at Christmas three years ago, when he was in Detroit from California, visiting his sister, Debbie, who has been a close friend of Julie's for over 15 years. He wanted to take his sister dancing and Debbie called Julie to suggest a place. Julie told them to go to the Volcano Grill and at Debbie's request, met Butch and his sister and her husband there for the evening. Julie was pleasantly surprised when Butch insisted she show him how to salsa and merengue. Since Julie already had plans to have Christmas dinner at Debbie's house, Butch and Julie had another

opportunity to visit. Since then, they have been involved in a three-year long distance relationship which has taken them on many cross country visits to see each other.

They will make their home after Nov 17 in Palm Springs, California. Julie will start a new job in infection control and epidemiology at Eisenhower Medical Center in January and Butch will continue his current position as general manager for a large window and mirror company called Palms to Pines. Butch and Julie will probably spend quite a bit of time exploring southern California on Butch's new anniversary edition Wide Glide Harley-Davidson. They also plan to continue to dance as much as possible. Butch has been taking lessons in west coast swing and is anxious to learn more dances, including night club two step, hustle, and cha cha. They will be back in Michigan next summer for an August wedding. **Julie and Butch hope that in the future they will see their many friends from Michigan visit the Palm Springs area for some of the southern California dance events.**



Butch will be coming to Michigan that weekend to support Julie with her move out to California, so everyone will be able to meet that Lucky Guy at the dance. Julie is leaving the very next day, Nov. 17. :(

MICHIGAN SWING DANCE ASSOCIATION
SHARON NELSON
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WALLED LAKE, MI 48390
<http://msda.org>
pres@msda.org



HEY, YOU GUYS!!!!
THE PARTY IS SUNDAY,
NOVEMBER 16, 2003!!

Have a Happy Thanksgiving



Thanks for all your support!!