



# MICHIGAN SWING DANCE ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER



**Reprint of a letter written by a reader named Jane to the author of [swingandhustle@topica.com](mailto:swingandhustle@topica.com), David Flynn**

Dear David Flynn, I read your e-mail regarding the need to 'Fix Hustle' and the alarming 6% loss in membership to the West Coast Swing and Hustle conventions and clubs across America with the aging dancers and the absence of young people. Here is the reason why I don't come out dancing anymore.

I am 32, attractive, single and heterosexual. Need I say more? The problem as I see it is that single heterosexual men and women learn to dance in hopes of meeting someone of the opposite sex to have a relationship with and possibly have a future together. I was smart and got out of the club and competition arena when I quickly noticed that it was a 'safe haven' for gays and lesbians to hook up! Gay men who are charismatic and complimentary, dance perfect, wear their spandex T-Shirts and Kippy Belts, dance with women all night long for ten years, compete for 10 years winning numerous awards but never have a real girlfriend or a real wife. The women they are seen with all the time are called 'Fag Hags.' Some women are so dumb that they keep thinking that if they get a boob job or a face lift THEN Mr. Spandex Sparkley Dancer will ask them out. WRONG! They're not interested. Look around. WAKE UP! The Jack N'Jills, 'Book Ends' (for gays and lesbians) contests, women leading women, men dancing with men. Come on people! Wake Up. This is why all the straights stay away. There is real prejudice against the straights directed by the gays and lesbians in a covert method. The sane people got out.

The people that continue to go to the West Coast Swing Conventions and Hustle Conventions are the same people

that went 15 years ago. There used to be cool, attractive, mainstream type men and women (heterosexual) who balanced out the oddities of the gays and lesbians. Now all that is left are the gays and lesbians. Young people get turned off. This is why it is dying and pathetic at best. The fag hag keeps hoping 'Mr. Sparkle-Spandex' will give them a kiss, on the lips. But, he never will. After dancing every dance with you he says good night with a sparkle in his eye and meets Mr. 'Cuban Heels' upstairs in the hotel room. No one is honest. The lesbians pretend their straight, the gays pretend their straight, the old dancers pretend they're above all that and concerned only about the future of dance.

What it boils down to is a dirty little well kept secret. It's a shame to have pushed all the straights out. Now the convention leaders are feeling the harsh blow in their pocket book. Why? Because they took the advice of an Old Lesbian Dance Teacher who seemed like the sweetest grandmother who only wanted to help the dance industry. Yeah, right. Or, the convention leader took the advice of a frustrated Gay Guy who is now over the hill. What has happened is in their own selfishness and prejudice they have alienated the very people who would have and could have kept this dance industry growing for years, taking it Mainstream and making it a legitimate pursuit for everyone without prejudice. It's such a shame how putting the wrong people in power can destroy the very thing you love the most. Sound familiar?

From Jane

Opinions, anyone? I'll print them if you send them to me. SN

## NEXT MSDA PARTY APRIL 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. 586-754-3434*

## DANCE LESSON

Last month, Joann Podleski taught Advanced Beginning and Intermediate West Coast Swing. She led us through how to 'Bump up your Basics with Intermediate Styling'. As usual, it was informative, usable and FUN! Thanks, Joann.



This month, Tandy Zapinski will be teaching Fun Variations in East Coast Swing. She will be introducing some dynamic new material to liven up our repertoire in our old faithful ECS. Intermediate level.



...bio on page 4.

**Just a reminder:** this club was founded with the concept that the main benefits 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.


**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.

**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

Let's all try to remember what it was like to be new to the dance scene. Help keep our reputation as a friendly club alive and well. It pays off in the long run by encouraging new dancers.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO OUR  
APRIL 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.

YVONNE	SCHALES	4/3
TERRY	COUNCIL	4/4
KATHRYN	AUGUSTIN	4/6
CARMELA	VITALE	4/7
MARGARET	ROSS	4/8
JOHN	MCLAUGHLIN	4/9
JAMES	DYSARCZYK	4/9
RIAN	KLEFSTAD	4/9
ROBERT	LEWIS	4/10
RALPH	RAIMI	4/10
MARY	ROLEY	4/11
CAROL	GUIDICELLI	4/12
LEHMAN	ORLUCK	4/17
RONALD	RELLOX	4/18
JOHN	McDOWELL	4/18
MIKE	ETUE	4/20
BRENDA	BARTON	4/26
DON	KEISIC	4/28
LOUISE	CAMPBELL	4/28
RAISA	GOGOSHA	4/29
PAULA	SPORN	4/30

**FUTURE PARTIES****April 13**

May 18

June 22

July

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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 

**SALSA & SWING**

Every Thurs night. Pier 500 in Wyandotte. 8PM lessons with Bill Fields. Jimmy Barrios DJ starting at 9PM. NO COVER. 507 Biddle, right on the river. 734-281-0530.

See attached flyer.

**AMERICAS' CLASSIC CHAMPIONSHIPS**

April 17-20. Dallas, TX  
\$25,000 in cash and prizes.  
www.AmericasClassic.com  
3 day package: \$89. Westin Galleria. 800-228-3000

**USA GRAND NATIONALS**

May 22-26. Atlanta, GA  
Renaissance Waverly Hotel  
Biggest Shag/Swing competition in the country. Over \$35,000 in prizes. Workshops, competitions, vendors, plus two ballrooms open all weekend. 770-512-7848  
<http://www.usagrandnationals.com/>

**FREE CONCERT & DANCING**

Thursday, April 24 Morris Lawrence Building, Washtenaw Community College, Ann Arbor, MI. Performance of the Ypsilanti Community Band in the Dow Theatre in the Morris Lawrence Building from 7:30 to 8:30 PM. The Riverside Big Band will play ballroom dance music in the lobby of the Morris Lawrence Building at 8:30 until 9:30 or for as long as the dancers last.

<http://www.wccnet.org/aboutwcc/maps.php>

**SUMMER BOOGIE BLAST**

May 22-25, Nashville, TN. Hosted by Music City Bop Club. Location: Nashville, TN. Cost: \$40.00 before May 1, 2003, \$50.00 after May 1, 2003. Hotel: Millennium Maxwell House Hotel 615-259-4343. Contact: Sandy Brown 615-859-0251 or email [dsb2djs@aol.com](mailto:dsb2djs@aol.com). Flyer available at <http://www.musiccitybopclub.com>.

**CHICAGO DANCE CHALLENGE**

April 25-27, Rivers Dancesport, Villa Park, IL. Full weekend: \$85. Contact: Jim Becker, 312-719-3117. <http://www.chicagodancechallenge.com>.

**FIRST ANNUAL INDY SWING CLASSIC**

June 27-29, Indianapolis, IN. 765-522-3251, Tim Tillotson, [TimsMail@tds.net](mailto:TimsMail@tds.net)  
<http://www.indyswing.org/indyswingclassic/>

**THE AMERICAN OPEN**

June 20-22, Lake Conneaut Park, PA. Dance parties, classes and contests. Multiple dance floors, Art Deco ballroom, vintage amusement park on site. Fun in the sun, on the water, in the park and on the dancefloor! <http://artspectrum.org> or [info@artspectrum.org](mailto:info@artspectrum.org) or 313-790-2311. Paulette Brockington. \$79 for the whole weekend by 5/5.

**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 starting!! Night Club 2 Step, Basic & Beyond With Ken Ptak. 6 Week Session - \$40.00 / Per Person. Classes Meet 1 Hour Each Week. New classes in Swing, Hustle and Cha Cha starting soon.

**STARDUST DANCE STUDIO**

Friday Night Dance Parties 8:00 PM - 11:00 PM. FMI: 248-356-5678. **\$1 discount to MSDA members.** See attached class schedule. <http://stardustballroom.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

**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.

**DANCESPORT ACADEMY OF MICHIGAN**

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>

**ARGENTINE TANGO DETROIT**

7758 Auburn Road, Utica FMI: 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](mailto: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.

**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](mailto:RhythmNShoes@aol.com).

**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 [ljjaworski@aol.com](mailto:ljjaworski@aol.com).

**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](mailto:delizdance@aol.com)

**DANCE ELITE BALLROOM STUDIO**

6315 Haggerty, W. Bloom. American and International Ballroom Dancing. Group and private lessons for all ages. Maros Reves, Professional Dance Instructor. Competitive dance coaching. Friday nights: 8PM. dance lesson, party from 9 to 12. 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](mailto:matt@ceovideo.net), 586-596-5240. <http://www.ceovideo.net/>  
(He also knows of some Golden Retriever puppies who need a home. :-))

**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](mailto: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. The GLSDC schedule is at: <http://danceaway.com/GLSDC/calendar.html>. They have a club dance every Wednesday in Flint at Buggy's. MSSHD is on the 2nd Sunday of the month : [bbudzyn@comcast.net](mailto: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 TANDYE ZAPINSKI

Since the age of five, Tandy Zapinski has been passionate about dance. Her first exposure to ballet classes captivated her imagination and led to more classes in jazz, hip-hop and then funk. By high school, her experience and enthusiasm landed a spot dancing with the Marching Band's "Dancing Dolls." She performed winning routines with them across the U.S. during her freshman through senior years. Then it was on to Oakland University, where she majored in dance and joined the O.U. Repertoire Company. A year later, she switched to the O.U. "Images" Dance Team, which performed more often. During two fantastic years with "Images," she competed against some of the top dance teams in the U.S., such as Michigan State, Ohio State and the University of Michigan. With Tandy's help, "Images" won major events including the Michigan Dance Invitational at Cobo Hall in Detroit, and the College UDA Invitational at the University of Milwaukee in Wisconsin.

In 1997, Tandy began working for the Arthur Murray Dance Studio in Royal Oak, Michigan, where she continues to teach. Thanks to the inspired tutelage of owner Candy McKenzie, she discovered a great love for partner dancing and ballroom competition, especially in the Rhythm category. A very patient instructor, Tandy has successfully transmitted her love of dance to many singles and couples who enjoy her style and positive attitude. She also competes all over North America in many dance Showcases and Pro Am contests. The Showcases provide her students excellent opportunities to exhibit the skills they've learned from her, and they usually finish in the top 2 percent of contestants. Currently, Tandy is looking for a professional partner to join her in the Pro Am American Rhythm competitions. Her next goal is to own an Arthur Murray studio of her own within five years. In her spare time, Tandy loves to dance socially at local clubs, where she can express in motion the beauty – and passion – of all she's learned. Tandy Zapinski truly lives to dance.

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**NOTE:** I send all notices out via an online community known as eGroups. It has recently been changed to Yahoo! Groups. If you try to access the site, you will need to create a Yahoo! username and password to get in. There's a link to it from the home page of the MSDA site <http://msda.org>, or you can go directly to <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/MSDA/join> and join there. If you want to send an e-mail to the group, you can do so using this e-mail address: [MSDA@yahoogroups.com](mailto:MSDA@yahoogroups.com). Yahoo! has added some useful features including a customizable chat room in which you can log on with fellow MSDAers and discuss who's going where and when. Very handy.

S.N.

### ANOTHER READER'S RESPONSE TO THE QUESTION: WHY AREN'T THE YOUNGER DANCERS JOINING US?

Dear dancers, As a Latin Hustle, and New York Hustle dancer, instructor and competitor from the 70's, I can say from experience that the hustle hardly resembles the dance it once was. Not that I don't believe in evolution, but the dance resembles the waltz and it is done with such a foreign style it is as if the hustle came out of post revolutionary France of the late 18th century. The dance is done so slowly so as to not put a cardio vascular strain on those who are still able to do it. It is as if the New York hustle was never danced to disco music with more up tempo beats 127-142 bpm; which is the best part of the dance.

This Hustle's pedestrian beat is the reason that younger people are gravitating to salsa; which adopted the look of the Hustle with its prevalence of the cross body leads and fast turns. Look at the way mambo was done before disco and the way it is done now and it is easy to see where the evolutionary path has advanced from hustle. If it were called Hustle or disco, it would not have the sex appeal that salsa currently enjoys. In recent years, when the Lindy was once again popular, the west coast swingers and hustle dancers did not mix with them. Why? because they couldn't keep up. Now that these older dancers are in control of the Hustle, there is no way that they will give up their stranglehold they have on the dance. If young people are to be attracted, they need to be exposed to hustle with the faster beats of new house and techno to get the energy back into this once exciting dance.

I would love to see the dance done as David does it, dynamic and exciting. That is in my opinion, the only way the dance will attract younger people and once again thrive. (Reference is to David Flynn, author of [swingandhustle@topica.com](mailto:swingandhustle@topica.com), [swingandhustle@aol.com](mailto:swingandhustle@aol.com))



#### 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 usually around 6 PM. Anyone can enter. You must be present to win.

MICHIGAN SWING DANCE ASSOCIATION  
SHARON NELSON  
PO BOX 1125  
WALLED LAKE, MI 48390  
<http://msda.org>  
[msdapres@msda.org](mailto:msdapres@msda.org)



HEY, YOU GUYS!!!!  
THE PARTY IS SUNDAY,  
APRIL 13, 2003!!

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



Thank you for  
you support!!