

Innovations

Super September 2004 Newsletter



\$250 Jackpot Plus Advanced Jack & Jill! – Saturday, Sept 4th, 2004
Starlight Dance Studio – Dance: 8:00 – 11:30 PM – Jack & Jill around 9:30 PM

Innovations Third Anniversary Party! – Saturday, Sept 18th, 2004
Workshops - Starlight Dance Studio & Buffet Dinner Dance - Mission Valley Marriott

Intermediate WCS Classes Friday Nights! – Instructor Rich Lundin.
Starlight Dance Studio - Fridays 7:15 – 8:00 PM. Free with admission to dance.

Sunday Nights Beginning WCS: 5:00- 5:45 with **Mike Cowlshaw**

The class on Sundays is free. If students want to attend the dance afterward, they are welcome to pay the admission then. Attending the dance is not required to take the class.

\$250 Jackpot Plus Advanced Jack n' Jill

Innovations will run it's first Jack n Jill, Saturday, September 4th. **This will be in lieu of the usual Dancesational workshop on the first Saturday.** Not to worry, there are 4 workshops on Saturday September 18th (see Anniversary Party).

The dance will start at the usual time of 8 PM and the contest will be held during the dance, probably around 9:30. The non-refundable contest entry fee of \$5 is waived for Innovations Annual members. Entry fees collected from others will be added to the \$250 base prize money.

The contest is for Advanced dancers. If you have competed in a WSDC or UCWDC advanced competition you're automatically eligible. Otherwise entry is at the discretion of the contest coordinators. For more information, check out our website www.innovationsdance.org or call (858) 277-1845.

The Magic's In the Music...

By Wayne Peleti

...and the music is in Mary Ann.

Saturday August 7th Innovations Dancesational workshop featured WCS superstar Mary Ann Nunez. I always love it when Mary Ann's in town. Watching Mary Ann teach and watching Mary Ann dance are two of the most pleasurable and educational experiences in dancing.

Some time ago I was taking a workshop on "Hitting the Breaks" by Robert Royston, a super dancer/instructor himself. When Mary Ann's name came up with regard to the more general subject of musical interpretation I remember distinctly Royston referring to Mary Ann as "God's gift to West Coast Swing".

It's been my observation that dancers hear the music, feel the music and interpret the music with varying degrees of success. The really great dancers, like Mary Ann do all three superbly.

In the workshop "Musicality within the Basics" we were given a chance to see, by example, how this process occurs and that it can be done within the framework of the basic patterns for leader and follower.

This was not a pattern class. Patterns are an integral part of dancing, but as Mary Ann pointed out, interpreting the music with a variation of a simple pattern can be more effective than a complex pattern that doesn't interpret the music. Of course, Mary Ann has the luxury of interpreting with complex variations of complex patterns and really wowing an audience, but that's another story.

For the rest of us, Mary Ann cut a 32 beat phrase and worked out simple variations on two basic patterns, the push break and the underarm pass. Leader or follower or both could do these variations and Mary Ann had the class work on all three situations.

One follower asked me about the merit of having the leader and follower do the variations separately. As Mary Ann pointed out, dancing in the real world this is more generally the case. You will usually be partnered with someone whose skill level is different from your own. If you're doing variations it's important to do them in a way that doesn't throw off your partner. If your partner is doing variations that don't affect you it's important that you be able to keep doing your basic or, if you can, to respond with a variation that complements your partners' interpretation.

Perhaps the most important aspect of the workshop was just getting attendees to think in terms of musical interpretation. I've always felt this is the most difficult dance skill to teach and to learn. Before the workshop, I felt it was pretty much a case of either you've got it or you don't. I'm convinced now that it's a skill that can be learned by example, albeit with a lot of practice listening to music.

Concepts like interpreting the music while you dance and interpreting it with your partner raise the dance experience to a higher level of enjoyment. These concepts also define the "advanced dancer". Mary Ann Nunez takes these concepts and others and creates an art form from them every time she dances. Innovations is grateful to her for sharing her talent and experience with our members and the San Diego West Coast Swing dance community at large. It can only serve to raise our standard of dance. So on behalf of all of us, thank you Mary Ann and come back soon

Intermediate West Coast Swing – Fridays In September



Attention Members! Those of you who have been asking the Board about running an intermediate WCS class please note: in **September the Friday night class will be Intermediate West Coast Swing** taught by **Rich Lundin**. As usual the class is from 7:15 to 8:00 PM and is included with the price of admission to the dance.

Rich is a successful All-Star/Professional competitor. He has turned to teaching West Coast Swing to highly motivated dancers. For social and competitive dancers, Rich shares the knowledge and experience gained by working with top professional dancers and teachers who helped him become a successful dancer. He teaches the "Fast Track" to becoming an excellent dancer and having the most fun you can on the dance floor!

San Diego Dance Community Enriched by Arrival of Super Star



San Diego Dancers will soon benefit from the arrival of Super Star dancer and instructor **Lauren Baldovi**. Lauren is moving from New York to San Diego this September.

Lauren's dance experience is incredible. In addition to winning countless West Coast Swing championships, including the US OPEN, she has been UCWDC Masters Division Champion, and a Broadway stage performer.

Lauren and her partner, **Ronnie DeBenedetta**, will be teaching a performance class at Starlight Dance Studio on Monday nights Starting in September. Ronnie hasn't firmed up all the details yet, but the routine will be danced to Christmas music and the class will perform at the Innovations 2004 Christmas party.

Lauren will also be available for private lessons. For information you can contact her at: laurenbaldovi@yahoo.com.

Please join all of us on the Board in extending a warm welcome to Lauren.

Bulletin Board Soon To Be Available To Members

The Board gets requests from Innovations members for help with buying and selling convention tickets, announcing upcoming dance activities and other dance related requests. To help members communicate with each other, a bulletin board will be displayed in the lobby during our dances and members are welcome to post notices. If you plan to leave a bulletin for more than one night please put an ending date in the lower right hand corner

Innovations 3rd Anniversary Party

Saturday, September 18th 2004

4 DanceSational Workshops Plus Lunch

With Star Instructors

Parker Dearborn

&

Jessica Cox

Michael Kiehm

&

Dawne Haight

Buffet Dinner, Dance & Spectacular Show



Including Super Stars



Anniversary Party Schedule

Day - Starlight Dance Studio, 6505-H El Cajon Blvd.

10:00	Registration Opens
10:30 - 11:30	Intermediate Bolero - Michael Kiehm & Dawne Haight
11:35 - 12:35	Intermediate West Coast Swing - Parker Dearborn & Jessica Cox
12:35 - 1:15	Lunch
1:15 - 2:15	Intermediate Night Club 2-Step - Michael Kiehm & Dawne Haight
2:20 - 3:20	Intermediate West Coast Swing - Parker Dearborn & Jessica Cox

Evening - San Diego Mission Valley Marriott Hotel, 8757 Rio San Diego Dr.

6:30	Doors to Grand Ballroom Open and Dancing Begins
7:00 - 8:30	Italian Dinner Buffet
9:00 - 9:30	Star Studded Show
9:30	Late Night Passes go on Sale (Annual Members \$10, Others \$15)
9:30 - 1:00	Dance the Night away to music by Innovations DJs

\$\$\$ Innovations Anniversary Party Pricing Information \$\$\$

All Day Pass - 4 Workshops, Lunch, and the Buffet Dinner, Dance & Show.

Evening Only - Buffet Dinner, Dance & Show.

	Annual Member*	Event Member
All Day Pass	\$45.00	\$80.00
Evening Only	\$25.00	\$45.00

Workshops may be purchased at the door.

*Annual Membership \$35 per year.

This is an E-ticket event. No tickets are issued. When you sign up your name and information will be entered in our database. No refunds will be available after September 10, 2003.

Current list of those who have already purchased their E-Ticket to the Anniversary Event as of 8/23/04

Registered for **All Day Pass** – 4 Workshops, Lunch, Italian Dinner Buffet, Dance and Show

Jene Alan	Joan Diener	Joe Leonard	Edward Rodriguez
Larry Armstrong	Deborah Dyar	Jeff Lorenz	Sylvia Salapski
Nancy Armstrong	Carol Gaul	Caryn Maroni	James Schaeffer
Paunpimon Atkinson	Darrell Gaul	Nancy Martin	Linda Schaeffer
Jone Augustin	Dan Gehlhaar	Susan McKee	Carol Schwartz
Jo Anne Bilodeau	Vera Gutierrez-Clellen	Claire Milner	Mark Sheddon
Faye Blankenhorn	Karen Harnish	Kathy Moore	Danny Thoresen
Rick Blankenhorn	Adrienne Harris	Lynn Moore	Charlie Van Epps
Linc Brigham	Dan Harrison	Roi Mower	Sherry Van Epps
Anne Callies	John Hatch	Peter Murphy	Glenn Walker
Maureen Cassidy	Rita Haverkamp	Diana Newhouse	David Walkup
Lon Clement	Ron Hemme	Juana Page	Mike West
Wendy Cobb	Daphne Higa	Mike Page	Margaret Willette
Tom Cottrell	Robert Holland	Wayne Peleti	Russell Williams
Jill Curtis	Maryellen Huhn	Sara Pike	Mike Wise
Anita Dancoff	Kathy Kelly	Brian Richards	
Earl Davis	Susan Lang	Margaret Richards	
Pennie Davis	L. A. Leon	Julie Rishovd	

Registered for **Evening Only** – Italian Dinner Buffet, Dance and Show

Ted Alexander	Guest Gu	Diane Lynn	Patty Sage
William Bremner	Dawne Haight	Rene Manansala	Gary Schaeffer
Joyce Brungardt	Jane Hance	Dann Marquardt	David Searl
Chris Burger	Jim Hance	Bill Martin	Vanessa Searl
Susan Chesebro	David Huhn	Jim McDowell	Leslie Snow
Mike Cowlshaw	Nick Hyde	Mary McDowell	William Stalzer
Jessica Cox	Penny Hyde	David McKee	Tisha Trinh
Kurt Dahlvig	Margaret Kerns	Stephanie McPherson	Kim Ufford
Terry Daniels	Wendy Khentigan	Gary Mellon	Diane Warren
Amanda Daniels	Michael Kiehm	Harry Miller	Mary West
Parker Dearborn	Mike Kielbasa	Andrea Newall	Alan Whiteman
R. H. Dutcher	Jamie Lewis	Marvin Olsen	Jim Widdecke
David Evans	Aaron Lorenzen	Robert Palladino	Glenda Williams
Joanie Fuller	Tiffany Lorenzen	Vicki Palladino	Sue Winfrey
Carmen Garcia	Denise Lujan	Martha Peleti	
Risa Goldberg	Rich Lundin	Don Piche	
Linda Gu	Linda Lyles	Dan Ross	

Limited number of tickets still available....To Purchase Tickets.....

See Martha Peleti at our dances, email her at membership@innovationsdance.org or phone (858) 277 – 1845.

Innovations Schedule – September 2004

Updated August 19, 2004

Unless Otherwise Noted Dances Are Held At Starlight Dance Studio, 6506-H El Cajon Blvd.

DanceSational Workshops: \$10 for Annual Members, \$20 for Others. Prices include admission to Dance.
Dance Admission: \$5 for Annual Members, Members of Dance Clubs and College Students, \$7 for Others.

Sun	M	T	W	T	Fri	Sat
FREE Sunday Class dance admission not required.			1	2	3 Int. West Coast Swing with Rich Lundin (7:15- 8:00 PM) Innovations Dance (8:00 – 11:00 PM)	4 No Workshop Innovations Dance (8:00 PM - 11:30 PM) Jack & Jill (9:30 PM)
5 No Dance	6	7	8	9	10 Int. West Coast Swing with Rich Lundin (7:15- 8:00 PM) Innovations Dance (8:00 – 11:00 PM)	11
12 Intro. West Coast Swing with Mike Cowlshaw (5:00 – 5:45 PM) Innovations Dance (5:30 – 7:30 PM)	13	14	15	16	17 Int. West Coast Swing with Rich Lundin (7:15- 8:00 PM) Innovations Dance (8:00 – 11:00 PM)	18 Anniversary Party Workshops & Lunch Starlight (10:30 AM – 3:20 PM) Dinner Dance Marriott Hotel (6:30 PM – 1:00 AM)
19 No Dance	20	21	22	23	24 Int. West Coast Swing with Rich Lundin (7:15- 8:00 PM) Innovations Dance (8:00 – 11:00 PM)	25
26 Intro. West Coast Swing with Wayne Peleti (5:00 – 5:45 PM) Innovations Dance Country Western Theme (5:30 – 7:30 PM)	27	28	29	30	Friday lessons Free with Paid Admission to Dance.	For more information Check our website at innovationsdance.org

Innovations Elections For Board Of Directors

Attention Innovations Annual Members! Innovations will hold elections for Innovations Board of Directors this October 2nd, 2004. The positions up for election this year are: Vice President and Treasurer. If you are interested in running for either position, please contact **Wayne Peleti** or **Bill Martin** before **September 17**. Candidates for office will be presented at the Anniversary Party.

For a description of Vice President or Treasurer duties, please see last month's newsletter.

September Birthdays -Happy Birthday From Innovations!

1 free dance admission in the month of your birthday. There will be a list of all members who have birthdays in the current month at the front desk. (If you didn't include your birthday on your application form, just show your drivers license.) If you want to take advantage of your free admission on the day of a workshop and you wish to take the workshop, admission is \$5 for both the workshop and dance.

1	Maryellen Huhn	12	Mike West	27	Alyssa Alden
2	Chuck Mirabile	14	William H. Stalzer	27	Jim McDowell
3	Deborah Clemm	14	Tara Yelman	28	Pat Campbell
3	James Schaeffer	15	Kent Johnson	28	Carmen A. Joslyn
4	Randy McManus	15	Robert A. Palladino	28	Pearl Tran
5	Carol Schwartz	19	Charlie Cox	29	Kurt Dahlvig
6	Rosemary Sarsfield	20	Roi Mower	30	Jene Alan
8	Theresa Dover	20	Danny Thoresen	30	Laura Tompkins
11	Elaine Quattro	21	Dennis Mettler		
12	Amber Chesley	24	Joan Diener		

New Members

Amber Chesley
Blake Chesley

Lon Clement
Linda Gu

Vera Gutierrez-Clellen
Sue Winfrey

Innovations Board of Directors

President.....	Luis Leon	Treasurer.....	Kurt Dahlvig
Vice President.....	Wayne Peleti	Membership.....	Martha Peleti
Secretary.....	Julie Rishovd	Hospitality.....	Bill Martin

The next Board of Directors meeting will be held September 9th at the Friars Rd. Fillipi's at 6:30 PM. All Annual Members welcome at the Board of Director Meeting.

Innovations is a member of **National FastDance Association.**

Innovations Dance, Inc.

Phone: (858)277-1845

E-mail: info@innovationsdance.orgWebsite: www.innovationsdance.org**P.O. Box 23745****San Diego, CA 92193**

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DanceSational Workshop Schedule 2004

Saturday, September 4 th Around 9:30 PM	\$250 Jackpot Plus Advanced Jack n' Jill	No Workshop
Saturday September 18 th Day & Evening	3rd Anniversary Party!!!	Daytime Workshops/Lunch Evening Dinner/Dance Mission Valley Marriott Hotel
Saturday, October 2nd 6:30 – 7:45 PM	Tiffany and Aaron Lorenzen	Intermediate Country Western 2 Step
Saturday, November 6 th 6:30 – 7:45 PM	James & Jaana Kunitz	Intermediate Cha Cha

Workshop Schedule Subject to Change.