

Innovations

February 2005 Newsletter



Archie Dawson

DanceSational Workshop

Starlight Dance Studio, San Diego

Saturday, February 5th, 2005 6:30 –7:45 PM
Intermediate Hustle with **New York Styling**
with

Archie Dawson

Dance 8:00-11:30 pm.

DanceSational Workshop Prices - Includes Dance Admission

\$10 Annual Members, \$20 for All Others

Dance Only Prices

\$5 Annual Members, Sister Clubs & Students (with ID)

\$7 for All Others

Want to tune up your hustle? Then be sure and make the Saturday, February 5th workshop with **Archie Dawson** (organizer of the brand new San Diego Hustle Club). For info on Hustle in San Diego visit www.hustlesd.org.

Special Guest DJ Cesar

Cesar will be our special guest DJ at the party after the workshop. **Cesar** is well known for his great Hustle and West Coast Swing music.

Be sure and join us for a great evening of music and dancing with **Archie** and **Cesar**.

Van McCoy Hustle Contest In February

For you hard-core hustle dancers, don't forget that "Gotta Dance San Diego" is hosting the **Van McCoy Regionals** on February 12th at 8:00 p.m. It will be the first time that a Van McCoy Regional Contest has been held in San Diego. Check out their website for details: <http://www.gottadancesd.com/VanMcCoy.htm>.

Starlight/San Diego Dancers Make Us Proud at the World Championships

By Andrea Newall

After the 2005 World Championships in Country and Western dance, Starlight and Innovations can boast of many world champion dancers among their members. This year's competition was held at the Opryland Hotel in Nashville, Tennessee. The Opryland is a spectacular place, with enormous indoor gardens and fountains, a river (complete with boat tour and filled with water from lakes, rivers, and other bodies of water around the world), and a large number of shops and restaurants including (best of all) a Ben and Jerry's.

Dancers who compete in the UCWDC (United Country Western Dance Council) circuit can qualify for the World Championships by participating in at least three other competitions during the calendar year, and must dance at least five dances in each competition. The eight competition dances at the World Championships ("Worlds") include Two-step, Waltz, West Coast Swing, East Coast Swing, Cha Cha, Polka, Nightclub 2-step, and Triple Two-Step. Competitors must also abide by rules concerning costuming, dance steps, and floor craft, among others.

At the highest level of competitive dance are the Masters Showcase and Classic dancers. These are couples who compete in open (non age-leveled) divisions and have earned their status as professionals and champions. **Ronnie DeBenedetta and Brandi Tobias** won the Masters Showcase division again this year, taking first place in each of the Masters categories (Waltz, Two-Step, and Solo Medley).

In couples' competition, dancers have the option of competing in open divisions I (highest, except Masters) through IV, or in age divisions that correspond with each open division. Age divisions are labeled with "jewel" names such as Crystal (age 30+), Diamond (we won't specify the rest), Silver, Gold, and Crown (the age-leveled equivalent of Masters dancers). Following are members of Starlight and/or Innovations who placed 1st – 5th Overall (all scores combined) in the Worlds couples competition:

MASTERS SHOWCASE:

Ronnie DeBenedetta & Brandi Tobias Overall Champion
Aaron & Tiffany Lorenzen 4th Place Overall

MASTERS CLASSIC:

Aaron & Tiffany Lorenzen 3rd Place Overall

MASTERS SOLO:

Ronnie DeBenedetta & Brandi Tobias 1st Place
Aaron & Tiffany Lorenzen 4th Place

CROWN:

David Walkup and Helen Adams 2nd Place Overall

COUPLES OPEN III:

Ken Toy and Heather Gnau 3rd Place Overall

COUPLES DIAMOND III:

Lincoln Brigham & Joan Diener 2nd Place Overall
(They also entered the Open III division and won 2nd place in two individual dances)

COUPLES GOLD OPEN:

Earl & Pennie Davis 2nd Place Overall

Pro-Am dancers are amateurs who dance with professional dancers but are judged as individuals. Among our many champions in these divisions is a husband-and-wife pair (**Anne Callies and Tom Cottrell**) who each won the world championship in their equivalent male and female divisions. How's that for sharing the glory?

ProAm Female Open Intermediate

Heather Gnau with Ronnie DeBenedetta
3rd Place Overall

Pro-Pro Female Diamond Showcase

Helen Adams with Ronnie DeBenedetta
Overall Champion

ProAm Female Diamond Showcase

Adrienne Harris with Aaron Lorenzen
Overall Champion
Barbara Shuler with Ronnie DeBenedetta
3rd Place Overall

ProAm Female Crystal Intermediate

Heather Gnau with Ronnie DeBenedetta
2nd Place Overall

ProAm Female Gold Advanced

Barbara Shuler with Ronnie DeBenedetta
Overall Champion

ProAm Female Silver Intermediate

Carol Ann Palmer with Ronnie DeBenedetta
3rd Place Overall

ProAm Male Silver Showcase

Michael Cowlshaw with Stephanie McPherson
1st Place Overall

ProAm Male Silver Intermediate

Michael Cowlshaw with Stephanie McPherson
3rd Place Overall

ProAm Female Diamond Novice

Joan Diener with Ronnie DeBenedetta
Overall Champion
Terry Daniels with Ronnie DeBenedetta
5th Place Overall

ProAm Female Silver Novice

Anne Callies with Ronnie DeBenedetta
Overall Champion

ProAm Male Gold Novice

Kent Johnson with Stephanie McPherson
3rd Place Overall

ProAm Male Silver Novice

Thomas Cottrell with Stephanie McPherson
Overall Champion

Also competing in pro-am were Cathy Meyn, B Nuno, and Debbie Cohen, who placed in the top 5 in several of their individual dances. Be sure to congratulate any of our world champions you may see or dance with in the next few weeks.

Free Classes: 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. Friday's class is free with paid admission to the party. **This Month prior to the Innovation's Dance Parties:**

Friday Nights: 7:15 – 8:00 Intermediate 2-Step with Dave Walkup

Sunday Nights: 5:00- 5:45 West Coast Swing with Marc & Carolyn Washington

Innovations

Presents

Super Mario Weekend

April 29 – May 1, 2005

Starlight Dance Studio, San Diego, CA

Featuring our star instructor:

Mario Robau Jr.

- 6 Workshops
- 3 Dances
- Lots of Fun, Food, Dancing, Entertainment



Annual Members - \$50. All Others - \$75.

Tentative Event Schedule

Friday April 29

- 6:00 – 6:30 Registration and Warm up Dancing
- 6:30 – 7:45 Workshop #1 - Intermediate West Coast Swing - TBD
- 8:00 – 11:00 Innovations Dance - Refreshments

Saturday April 30

- 1:30 – 2:00 Registration (if you missed Friday) and Warm up Dancing
- 2:00 – 3:00 Workshop #2 Advance West Coast Swing – “Money Moves”
- 3:15- 4:15 Workshop #3 – Intermediate West Coast Swing - TBD
- Break Time
- 6:30 – 7:45 Workshop #4 - Intermediate West Coast Swing - TBD
- 8:00 – 11:30 Innovations Dance - Refreshments, Fun and Entertainment

Sunday May 1

- 3:00 – 3:30 Registration and Warm up Dancing
- 3:30 – 4:30 Workshop #5 Advanced Hustle - “Money Moves”
- 4:30 – 5:30 Workshop #6 – Intermediate West Coast Swing - TBD
- 5:30 – 8:00 Innovations Dance - Refreshments

This is an E-ticket event! To purchase tickets see Martha Peleti at one of our regularly scheduled dances or mail a check to:
Innovations, P.O. Box 23745, San Diego, CA 92193.

Innovations

DanceSational

Workshops & Events 2005

Saturday, February 5th 6:30 – 7:45 PM	Archie Dawson	Intermediate Hustle
8:00 PM – 11:30 AM	Cesar	SPECIAL Guest DJ
Saturday, March 5th 7:00 – 11:00 PM	Rob “I” Ingenthron	Intermediate West Coast Swing
Saturday, April 2 4:00 – 5:15 PM	Heidi Groskreutz	Intermediate West Coast Swing
April 29 – May 1	Super Mario Weekend Mario Robau	Lots of Food, Fun, Dancing, & Workshops
Saturday, May 7 6:30 – 7:45 PM	Mike Eads	Intermediate Country Western 2-Step
Saturday, June 4 6:30 – 7:45 PM	Carrie Kloss	Intermediate Waltz
Saturday, July 2nd 6:30 – 7:45 PM	Cesar Ricuarte (DJ Cesar)	Tango Fundamentals
Saturday, August 6th 6:30 – 7:45 PM	Wayne & Sharlot Bott	Intermediate West Coast Swing

Workshop Schedule Subject to Change.

Innovations Schedule – February 2005

Updated January 28, 2005

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 Introductory Class Sunday		1	2	3	4 Inter. 2-Step with Dave Walkup (7:15- 8:00 PM) Innovations Dance (8:00 – 11:00 PM)	5 Dancesational Workshop Inter. Hustle Inst.: Archie Dawson (6:30 PM -7:45 PM) Innovations Dance (8:00 PM - 11:30 PM)
6	7	8	9	10	11 Inter. 2-Step with Dave Walkup (7:15- 8:00 PM) Innovations Dance (8:00 – 11:00 PM)	12
13 Beg. West Coast Swing with Marc & Carolyn (5:00 – 5:45 PM) Innovations Dance Country Western Theme (5:30 – 7:30 PM)	14	15	16	17	18 Inter. 2-Step with Dave Walkup (7:15- 8:00 PM) Innovations Dance (8:00 – 11:00 PM)	19
20 Beg. West Coast Swing with Marc & Carolyn (5:00 – 5:45 PM) Innovations Dance (5:30 – 7:30 PM)	21	22	23	24	25 Inter. 2-Step with Dave Walkup (7:15- 8:00 PM) Innovations Dance (8:00 – 11:00 PM)	26
27 Beg. West Coast Swing with Marc & Carolyn (5:00 – 5:45 PM) Innovations Dance Country Western Theme (5:30 – 7:30 PM)	28				FREE Friday Class With Paid Admission	For More Information Check our Website at innovationsdance.org

February 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 driver's 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.

	Paul Ferguson	16	Ned Schnorr
1	Frank Giorgio	18	Ron Devriendt
2	Helen P. Higgins	19	Susan McKee
2	Jeff Lorenz	20	Patrick Staley
2	Russell Williams	21	Barb Shuler
3	Cheryl Ribley	22	Howard Bossert Jr.
4	Debbie Wright	23	William Bremner
5	Penny Hyde	25	John L. Jordan
14	Faye Blankenhorn	27	Diane Warren

New Members

Friendly Reminder To New and Current Members: Please don't forget to show your Membership Card at the Front Desk when you check in. Thank You.

Michele Serra

P.S. Innovation's prides itself on being a friendly club. We need your help. If you see a newcomer at a Dance, please ask them to dance. Your kindness will be greatly appreciated. After all, we were all new once upon a time Hugs to All

Innovations Board of Directors

President.....	Luis Leon	Membership.....	Martha Peleti
Vice President...	Misty Frank	Hospitality (de facto)	Bill Martin
Secretary.....	Julie Rishovd	Webmaster.....	JT Holland
Treasurer.....	Carol Schwartz	Newsletter (de facto)	Martha Peleti

The next Board of Directors meeting will be held Thursday, February 10th, 7pm, at Marie Calendar's in Clairemont.

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

Innovations Dance, Inc.
P.O. Box 23745
San Diego, CA 92193

Phone: (858)277-1845
E-mail: info@innovationsdance.org
Website: www.innovationsdance.org

President's Message

Happy New Year to everyone. All of you made 2004 a wonderful year sharing your time with your club. I just wanted to wish you a happy New Year and I look forward to seeing you at your club, Innovations. By the way, I should let you know, if there is anything we can do to improve our club please write a note and give it to me or any board member. We're always looking for ways to improve our club. Our goal is simple, to bring together all West Coast Swing dancers and dance the night away.

As you know, we have a lesson prior to open dancing, we have snacks, a safe place to park, and good company. We would love to hear from you on what you love about your club or what you would like to change.

I also want to take this time to say, "Thank You" to EVERYONE who said a prayer for me last year when I was recovering from my injury. You were wonderful and I believe it made a difference.

People ask me what happened to me. I don't know. All I do know is I went to San Jose and danced Friday night. Saturday I went to the library and went back to my room. My roommate said I just went to bed because I was tired. The next day my head was hurting and my roommate called 911. It took me months to recovery from my head injury but the humanity that you showed was outstanding. It is good to be back with the living.

We have a list of great instructors for you each month to show you some great new hot moves. You're always welcome to come and bring a friend to share the wealth. Your board members are here to serve you. Please see us if you have any concerns or praise.

Have a great day,
Luis León, President

What's Happening in San Diego

Monday Night Performance Class

Many people have asked us about Night Club 2-Step classes. Well here is your chance to learn a great dance in a fun environment.

Laureen Baldovi and Ronnie DeBenedetta are starting a new performance class for the months of February and March. It is only a two month class and it will be Night Club two-step.

We are hoping the class will perform for Innovations on Saturday at Super Mario.

10th Annual Dance by the Shores

Collegiate Dancesport Championship
March 5th, 2005

A wonderful competition is planned this year, as well as an amazing professional show. **Bob Powers & Julia Gorchakova** are teaming up with **James & Janna Kunitz** to do a spectacular showcase.

For more information contact
Peter Edwards at (858) 268-4011 or
check the website:

<http://recreation.ucsd.edu/sports/teams/dancesport/>