

Dayton Area Ballroom Dance News

Published monthly by 76 Dance Club, Dancetonians Dance Club, & Swing 'n' Sway Dance Club

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I want to encourage you to keep your spirits up. There is hope that after several more months we will be able to dance again, now that the vaccine has become available; however it must be used in order to be effective. Hopefully everyone has been practicing the behavior that will keep themselves, their families, and friends well, so that all will be ready to dance when the "Roaring 20's" of the 21st century begins.

Happy Groundhog Day and Happy Valentine's Day!

...WE WILL DANCE AGAIN!!

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History of Dance

1930s

Dear Dance Friends,

No Dances Planned for February

We hope that you are doing well and staying healthy. It is hard to believe that it has been almost a year since we have shared a dance together. Although we are still not ready to return to social dancing, we remain optimistic that better days are ahead.

This month, we will turn our attention to the 1930s and the types of social dances that were popular at that time. Set against the backdrop of the Great Depression, the 1930s was marked by rampant unemployment and economic distress. People turned to movies and dancing as a means to escape their difficult circumstances. The jazz music of the time took on a feeling and style referred to as "Swing" and a rich dance culture emerged from that era. Dance halls were packed because dancing was a relatively low-cost form of entertainment and the fast-paced swing music energized you and made you forget your troubles.

The popularity of social dancing was also driven by a vibrant youth culture and was magnified by Hollywood, which featured amazing dance routines in countless films. Fred Astaire and Ginger Rogers danced America through the Great Depression and the cinemas were dominated by bold, elegant, and beautiful musicals. Here is a link to some of the best dance films from the 1930s. [30s Dance Movies | List of Best 1930s Dance Films \(ranker.com\)](#).

Many of the dances arising out of the swing era in the 1930s drew their names from localities, famous events, or the personalities of the time. Some examples from the 1930s dance scene include:

1. **The Lindy Hop** - The Lindy Hop, also known as the Granddaddy of Swing, grew out of the Savoy Ballroom in Harlem in the late 1920s. The dance was widely popular at the time Charles Lindbergh made his famous nonstop flight from the United States to Europe in 1927.

- [Early Savoy Lindy Hop](#) – Competition/Showcase
- [Lindy Hop Routine - Sondre & Tanya](#) – A Modern Take

2. **The Balboa** - Originating in California, this dance is known for its smooth, tight footwork and intricate variations. Couples stay in close contact as the dance was designed for small spaces and crowded dance floors. The Balboa is ideal for fast tempos and is typically danced to big-band style jazz/swing music. The California Balboa Classic is a three-day event held each year where dance enthusiasts continue to keep traditional Balboa and Southern California Swing dancing alive.

- [CalBal Classic 2015: Competition - Pure Balboa Classic Finals](#)
- [PSSF 2013 Mickey&Kelly Balboa demo](#)



Dance Quiz

Test your knowledge.

1. One of the most popular social dances ever developed was the _____, created in the Harlem nightclubs of the 1930s.

- a) Lindy Hop b) Jitterbug
- c) Foxtrot d) Charleston

2. Which of the following does NOT have its roots in Cuba?

- a) Salsa b) Cha-Cha
- c) Tango d) Rumba

3. In what year was the foxtrot first danced?

- a) 1901 b) 1914
- c) 1929 d) 1943

4. Which is considered to be the oldest of the Ballroom Dances

- a) Bolero b) Viennese Waltz
- c) Samba d) Tango

Adapted from [Ballroom Dance Informa Magazine](#)

The 1930's Dance Scene

3. **The Collegiate Shag** - The Collegiate Shag is a partner dance that grew out of the jazz and swing era of the 1930s. The dance is known for its hopping basic step and high energy footwork. The term Collegiate is simply a descriptive term to explain how the college kids of the day performed the dance. Like most dances, the styles varied by geographic region. This early version of Shag is different from the Carolina beach-style shag which blossomed in the 1940s and is still popular today.

- [Great Collegiate Shag 1937](#)
- [Chanzie & Sailor Mike - Smooth Style Collegiate Shag](#) – Modern Version
- [Old Town Pasadena - Dancing Collegiate Shag](#)

4. **The Big Apple** - The Big Apple, sometimes called the Lindy Circle, is a 1930s square dance version of swing dancing. It consists of individual jazz steps, performed in a circle and called out by a leader. In addition to jazz steps, the Big Apple uses elements from Lindy Hop, Shag and the Charleston and was wildly popular among the young people of the time. The dance was promoted by the Arthur Murray dance school in the late 1930s. The Big Apple looks like a formation and takes a lot of space to perform. Smaller venues could not accommodate the crowd and it was not unusual for small clubs to post a sign stating "Sorry, No Big Apple. Not enough room." Sometimes the crowds were so large that 2nd story dance floors collapsed under the weight of the dancers.

- [Swing Dance 1938 \(The Big Apple\)](#)
- [Whitey's Lindy Hoppers 1939 \(The Big Apple\)](#)
- [Big Apple, 2009 Hawkeye Swing Festival](#) - Modern Version



5. **The Foxtrot** - Of course not all dancing was based on swing during the 1930s. The foxtrot, which made its debut in 1914, remained a popular style of dance, and adapted to the music of the time. Dance studios were instrumental in standardizing the foxtrot, which has become a staple among ballroom dancers around the world.

- [The Fox Trot in the Jazz Age](#)
- [Fred Astaire/Ginger Rogers from Roberta](#) – Of course, nothing beats a foxtrot danced by Fred & Ginger
- [Ginger Rogers and Fred Astaire](#)

Dance Quiz Answers

1. A – Lindy Hop
2. C – Tango
3. B – 1914
4. B – Viennese Waltz

A word of Encouragement for our Dance Community

Each month we prepare this newsletter and try to make it engaging and relevant to our collective situation. We look for signs to help us determine when we can safely dance again, and we think about ways to connect with our dance family. As if the pandemic was not enough of a challenge, recent events have introduced new levels of uncertainty and potential fractures in how we view the world and each other. No doubt, each of us have unique and differing viewpoints on a variety of current issues. While navigating the current storm of life, remember the importance of our social relationships. We are a community of friends and fellow dancers, connected to each other through our common interest. Until we can be together again, solidified by our common bond, let's not allow our non-dancing differences to divide us. We are **one** dance community, and we are very blessed to be part of a thoughtful and diverse group of fabulous people! Stay well.

No matter
how long the winter,
spring is sure to follow.

- English Proverb



Happy Groundhog Day!

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So sorry to report that dancer, Pat Hathaway passed away in December.

Obituary – Pat Hathaway

Patricia L. Hathaway, 83, of Monroe, died on Tuesday, December 22, 2020 at Ohio Living Mt. Pleasant. Pat was born on August 20, 1937 in Middletown, Ohio to James and Dorothy (Reiner) Lawrence. She graduated from Middletown High School in 1955. In 1959 she married Carl Hathaway and they had three children before divorcing in 1973.

Pat was a lifelong resident of Middletown until her move to Mt. Pleasant in July 2020. Pat's career included several years at the former Barnitz Bank, but the most time was spent at Abilities First as an administrative assistant. She loved greeting families, kids, visitors and staff at the front desk.

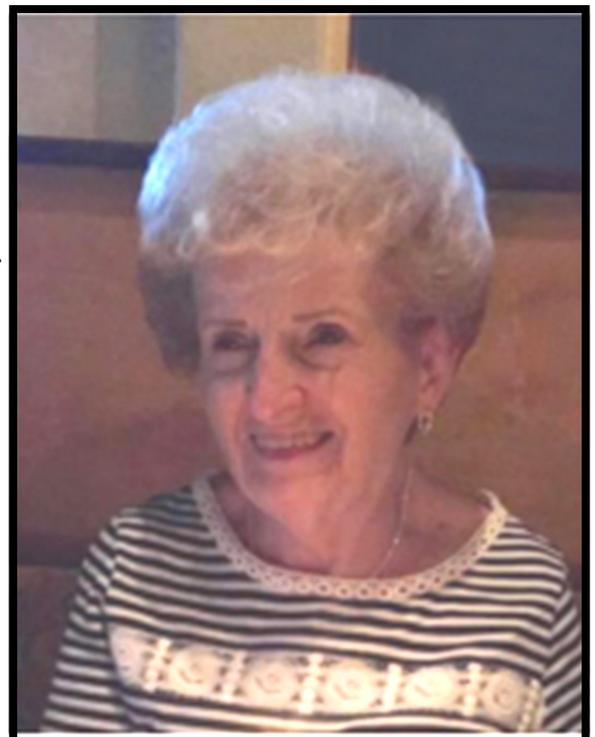
Pat loved to dance and made many friends in the ballroom dance community. She helped organize many of her high school class reunions. She was very active at the First Presbyterian Church, serving as an Elder and member of various committees during her 70 years of membership. She especially enjoyed reaching out to new members and making them feel welcome. She continued to attend church regularly after her move to Mt. Pleasant.

After Pat retired, she enjoyed going to the senior center to play bridge and visit with friends. She also liked watching the Cincinnati Reds games on TV. Pat loved to shop, especially for clothes, and was always very particular about her appearance. She never missed her weekly hair appointment at the Pagoda.

Pat found great joy in tending to her plants both inside and out. She had many African violets inside and each spring looked forward to planting pots of geraniums and hibiscus outside on her patio. The plants followed her to Mt. Pleasant where other residents commented on her beautiful flowers. Because of the restrictions related to COVID, Pat was unable to fully enjoy social life at Mt. Pleasant.

Pat is survived by her three children: Lisa Hathaway of St. Johns, FL; David (Nance) Hathaway of Rockton, IL; Jeff Hathaway of Mason, OH, sisters Sue Harris of Suwanee, GA; Kay Price of Centerville, OH; and grandchildren Tyler, Katie, Parker and Spencer Hathaway. Both Katie and Spencer were a big help to Pat as she declined the past few years.

In mid- December, Pat was moved to the skilled care unit at Mount Pleasant where she declined and entered hospice care. She passed away peacefully on December 22, the exact date of her mother's death in 2011. A celebration of Patricia's life will take place at a later date.



From the Editor

Articles of interest and information are appreciated. Anyone is welcome to submit information about their dances for possible publication. Submissions will be published only on a space available basis, at the discretion of the editor, and may be edited. Dances or other events whose dates conflict with the dates of any of the three clubs' dances will have a one line listing only. In order to be included in the newsletter for the following month, please use the guidelines listed below:
E-mail the information to the address below. Either place the information in your message or provide it as an attachment to the e-mail in Microsoft Word (Other formats may be acceptable). As an alternative, you can mail the information, legibly written, to the editor at the address below. Please include your telephone number and e-mail address, if applicable, for clarification and/or verification of information. This will help to prevent publishing errors. Information published is believed to be correct and accurate, however changes can and do occur, and errors or omissions can be made. Every attempt will be made to prevent this from occurring. Thank You.

Carolyn Buechly, Editor of Dayton Area Ballroom Dance News.

E-mail Address: cmbuechly@aol.com

SUBMIT YOUR REQUESTS FOR INCLUSION TO THE EDITOR IN WRITING BY THE 15th OF THE MONTH

Competitive Dancers

Please report your competition results as soon as possible after the event to the Dayton Area Dance News editor. Thank you.

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