

WORLD LINE DANCE NEWSLETTER



Tampa Bay Line Dance Classic 2005

We had a wonderful time at the Tampa Bay Classic this past weekend. The Doubletree Hotel was really nice and when we got there we were greeted with warm chocolate chip cookies in their own little bags. You know I love COOKIES!!! so I knew I was going to have fun. The hotel is much larger than the last one and the rooms were really nice with lots of feather pillows and cool air (or heat if you're like everyone but me and occasionally get cold); there was a Barney's coffee bar with coffee and pastries right at the front door all day long and there was food being served outside the line dance area so you could grab a quick something in the morning or at lunch. I love when that happens. The restaurant had reasonable prices for a hotel and the bar was a great meeting place and they had lots of choices for food there. There's also many places close by that serve food (including a very nice mall with all kinds of places to eat.) The floors in the lesson rooms were great for dancing. The lesson rooms were a good size but as at any event, when there's a dance taught that everyone wants to learn sometimes they were crowded. In the main ballroom (which was VERY large) there were three floors that were each large so there was plenty of room for the nighttime parties and I liked the setup of the floors in that room. All night long people were doing different dances on different floors to the same music or everyone was doing the same dance on all three. It was kind of neat. The weather was really glorious and it's a good thing because many of the dancers had just gotten power back about two days before because of the hurricane and they needed a BREAK!!

I don't know how many people were there but there were a lot. It seemed much bigger than last year to me. The area for dancing is nice because there's kind of a central area where you just tend to see people going back and forth and then Arline and Scott arranged for a large area with tables and chairs so people could sit and eat or chat or practice dances or just relax (this room would have been perfect for open dancing during the day if there wasn't carpet on the floor). There was also a good selection of items by vendors and people seemed to be doing a lot of shopping. I was especially impressed that there was always cold water available from first thing in the morning until the wee hours of the morning. It was nice because a lot of people who don't usually stay up until some ridiculous hour did stay up here (especially Saturday night) and it was nice to be able to cool down from dancing. There were people from all over the world this year and an especially large contingent from the UK and we had such fun with them. I loved meeting Big Dave and his wife, Pauline, and their daughter and Dee Musk and Neville were both so much fun and stayed up and danced until the last of us went to bed. I remember thinking when Dawn Sherlock and Carol stayed with us last year how much fun they were and now I think it might be all of them!! It was fun having a lot of the instructors there to dance with at night and some of them lasted longer than we did!!

I'm putting pictures of the show MC'd by Bryan McWherter (he did a great job keeping it moving and participating in the show with AJ in between!!) on the site and they will speak for themselves. The theme was Tropical Island/Jimmy Buffet and lots of people dressed for the occasion.

I'm going to try to list all of the dances taught from the schedule but I didn't see all of them. I'm just going to mention to ones I saw or heard about or took the lesson and then others who saw others or took those lessons

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will share with us, I'm sure. A lot of the dances that were big I had learned recently because friends had seen them or learned them at other events and I always nag them until they teach them to me.

The pro-am competition was really quite large and everyone was so good that it would have been hard to make a decision. There were quite a few teachers who danced with their students. I liked that they did it in a room big enough for people to watch if they wanted to (and there were a LOT of people watching) but also not in the main ballroom so that things could keep going in case you didn't want to watch the whole thing. I was impressed with how well people did and how much effort they put into this endeavor. I don't know how many events do this but it seems to be quite a success at a couple of places in Florida and I like that it isn't a competition in the sense of "beating" another person but a competition in the sense that you are judged on your performance as an individual rather than being better or worse than another dancer. It's a great way for people to see if they like the experience of competition but have the support of their teachers at the same time. I keep seeing this growing and people excited about doing it so it might be something you would want to consider for your events.

JOHN ROBINSON: CLOUDS IN MY EYES is a really beautiful dance. He used the dance in the show as a tribute to Jo Thompson for all she's done for line dancing and just asked that people wish her the best and it was very touching. I really love this dance and know it will be a big hit soon. GET IT WHILE IT'S HOT was very popular. SOPHISTICATED HULA is a very cute little dance and I was so glad I got to see John do it in full dress garb. He is amazing. I was watching him dance at night and he is just amazing. I think John gets the whole concept of momentum in everything he does. I like to take his classes because he makes them entertaining but at the same time entertains you with what not to do and what to do without getting off track of teaching the dance so the classes fly by. Since I have the attention span of a flea when I want to be dancing, I appreciate that special ability he has to entertain and educate all at once. MARMACITA and DOWN DEEP. I didn't see these two.

GUYTON MUNDY: A new one called SHAKE. I was amazed when it was played at night and there were so many people out there doing it and REALLY DOING IT WELL!! I think it's like a thousand counts with arms and the whole bit but Guyton kept saying, "No, It's really not hard!!" Either he was right or his students were brilliant because I was truly surprised at all the people who could do it really well. He also taught LOVER BOY and lots of people like this easy dance. You already know about COCOA PUFFS, Zack Detweiller, but everyone who didn't learn it before, was either taking the class or learning it from friends because more and more people were on the floor when it was done (there is an alternative song for this on the site if you don't like the orig song pick.) It's just a really fun dance for any level and it's fun to watch people interpret this dance and figure out how to do the moves you see on MTV. LOL. I don't know if Guyton taught SURREAL or not because the schedule changed but I hope he brings this one back and some of his earlier dances that people wouldn't attempt before because they were still saying, "What is he doing and why is he dressed that way and?????" but were really good dances. In fact, I think a lot of people should bring back dances they did early in their careers because they were ahead of their time and may have seemed quite difficult or intimidating at the time but would still be big hits today for all the people who didn't learn them or weren't dancing at the time. AH-AH-AH, I had learned this one already but I know it was done quite a bit. He also taught PLAYA (which is one of my favorite dances

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and we did it a lot.) And thank you, Guyton, for finding me every time we did Meltdown so you could tell me which direction to go so I could do that dance this weekend. I could only do it if Guyton was pushing me around. LOL

CHARLOTTE WILLIAMS: JUMP BACK BABY and LITTLE SHIP (two beg dances). WASN'T THAT A PARTY and THE BREEZE, Kathy Brown.

MICHELLE JACKSON: Taught a REALLY cute dance called DOUBLE TAKE. It looked difficult and was easy to learn. I think this dance will be done a lot once people learn it. I love her dances because they always look so fresh and new and like no one else's dances and she does such a great job of teaching you to do things that you know you couldn't possibly do. She also did another really good one called HAVE A BALL but it was at 9 am Sunday morning and since we didn't go to bed until 3:30 I kind of missed that one. Stacy made the lesson though (and she stayed up that late too!!) and she really liked it.

NEVILLE FITZGERALD: TRIPPIN' was on almost everyone's weekend favorites list since I always have to go around asking what dances people liked and that one was mentioned a lot. I really liked it and it fits the music perfectly. You can't sleep through Neville's dances but once you can do them you can do them. LOL. SUDDENLY -- I had heard a lot about this one and liked it. I wish I could have done it a couple more times because it is a Neville dance and I have to think when I do his dances but it was on the favorites from a lot of people I talked with and he taught this one and WAITIN' at 10 after I had stayed up until almost three the night before. It had some interesting patterns that you don't usually do in a night club two so I think you'll like it. Hope you get to meet him someday. He was extra special.

DEE MUSK: I really, really liked Dee Musk's SHAKE YA BODY. It is one of those dances you won't get tired of doing and it just feels great. She didn't teach this one until noon on Sunday so it really didn't get the attention it deserves so I hope you will take a look at it. I promise you will like it as much as I do. She also taught WHEN YOU'RE AROUND on Sunday and this is a beautiful dance that I saw done (we left before it was taught) and people wrote and told me they liked this one. BRING IT ON. I didn't see this one.

PETER METELNICK AND ALISON BIGGS: PIRATES OF DANCE was full and it was fun watching everyone doing this one. I really had wanted to see it so was glad he taught it in Tampa. I also liked DOUBLE XL although I didn't take the class. It looked like a good dance and I like the music. LOVE'S WHISPER. I didn't see this one. PUSH THE BUTTON and WALK BACK TO ME -- I really like this dance. The music is beautiful and the dance is just fun to do and you won't get tired of it in two minutes. WIKKED LIL GIRLS. I didn't get to see this one and I wanted to.

BILL MCGEE: CARELESS WHISPER (this was done a lot and is a MUST LEARN before your next event) and BE STRONG (every time we did this dance to beautiful music people would come up and ask what it was.) I think a lot of people will be taking this one home. He also taught YOU CAN TRY (I had learned this one before and really like it) and SUGAR TRAIN (they choreographed this dance when they were on a cruise and the train got stalled somewhere. It's cute and easy.) Bill's another person who always picks good dances so you can count on learning a good dance in his classes.

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BRYAN MCWHERTER: TAKE IT TO THE FLOOR (I learned this awhile ago but then didn't get to do it again) and when I saw it on the floor I remembered how cute and funky it was so took the class again. It's a really cute dance. I'M MOVING ON (Craig Bennett) and you know I love this dance because I keep telling you. Bryan also taught his brand new one on Sunday, WE BE BURNIN', but we left a little early and I don't know the name of it. I had two e-mails and one call last night saying they liked this dance. I'm sure he'll be teaching it in Las Vegas so mark it on your schedule. Another dance he taught that was a big hit was FEELS SO GOOD (the tai chi dance). It was quite awesome to see three floors full of people doing this dance and it was especially awesome seeing "Senorita" Metelnick along with Alison and Vivienne Scott doing it with fans in the show on Saturday!! HOME, this is another beautiful dance that's moving up the survey. And I think Killer, the Chihuahua puppy, should be the mascot every year because he managed to pee on Bryan McWherter during his class just about the time Bryan was telling us how to step over the puppy and pop your knees during TAKE IT TO THE FLOOR.

LINDY BOWERS: HICKETY BICKETY, Maurice Rowe. This is a really cute country dance that your clubs and classes will love doing. I love watching Maurice dance. I think everyone should have him at every weekend because of the sheer energy he brings to the floor. It's like putting gas in the car when you're almost on empty!! When I'm feeling a little tired I try to stand between Maurice and John Robinson and I'm all ready to go again!! WORK IN PROGRESS. I didn't see this one. GET DOWN IN HICKTOWN and MAKE IT UP both beg dances and I think both to country music.

BIG DAVE: NEVER AGAIN, This was a peppy little dance. It was fun having Big Dave as the DJ and he played a good mix of music.

MARK COSENZA & GLEN P.: Mark taught HERNANDO'S HIDEAWAY, which I thought was one of the hits of the weekend. IT IS SO MUCH FUN!!! Once you get past the first 8 counts (16 steps I think), it's a snap. I just love this dance and you have you learn it to do at the next event. Remember when you first learned how to do applejacks? Well, now you can learn to do the Hernando. I will try to get a video clip from somewhere to put on the site so if someone has one I NEED IT!! I think Mark or someone will teach it in Vegas so mark it on your schedule. CALIFORNIA BOUNCE -- This is a fun dance (you can see the video on www.countryedge.com). My crazy husband really liked this one. HANDSOME. Also a cute dance. GET OVER HERE AND INFERNAL. I didn't see these. B SQUARED (you can see the video at www.countryedge.com).

VIVIENNE SCOTT: CLAP YOUR HANDS to everyone on Saturday night before the show to the Russian music choice. I learned it to Boom Boom (I think that's the music) and it's fun to both of those. The floor was full and this is a very cute dance that even your real beginners can learn and your more advanced dancers will have fun doing, too. She also taught JAILHOUSE CREOLE AND GOOD TIMES. SOFT AND SLOW. DON'T LET GO and THUNDER AND LIGHTENING (I didn't see these.)

JUDY MCDONALD: CAJUN WALK -- I heard lots of good comments about this one. HOLLABACK this is cute and looked pretty easy. GET IT POPPIN was another I heard people say they liked. SOMDAY-SOMEWAY and GO ON (I didn't see these)

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JUNIOR WILLIS: What a trooper he was this weekend. He had a sciatic nerve pulled in his back and STILL managed to teach and dance until late and CLOG!!! If you've ever had that problem, you're lucky to stand up from a sitting position. He was amazing. DOUBLE J SWITCH -- this was very popular and I should have taken the class because every time it's played I want to know it. HOT THANG (was done a lot) and DO IT ALL (I didn't see this one). LONG 'N HOT. I wanted to see this one but didn't.

DEBRA CLECKLER: Cool Technique and Hot Styling.

ARLINE WINERMAN: Arline was EVERYWHERE and making sure things were running smoothly. She did a wonderful job and many people commented on how attentive she was to their requests and needs. I loved her "short" hair too!!! and she looked wonderful in her island outfits all weekend. She also taught BAYOU BOOGIE and VICTORY SHOUT. I didn't see these.

MARILYN MCNEAL: RUN FOR THE ROSES and SIMPLEMENTE. Marilyn always picks good dances to teach and the local teachers were very good at picking dances that people could take back to their beg/int classes and these were those kind of dances. She also taught BACKSTREET BLUES (I didn't see this on the schedule or I would have taken that class!!!) and THE WORLD, which is moving up the survey. I had a lot of people comment on how many dances the Florida dancers know and that's because we have the greatest teachers in the world, I think. We are so lucky that they manage to find and teach the best dances so we know so many when we go to the weekend events.

STELLA CABECCA: Stella is another good dance picker (we have lots of good dance pickers in Florida) and she taught READY TO RIDE and LITTLE BIT OF BALLROOM. BOMBALERO and NO PLACE TO GO. I didn't see these but I'm sure they were good dances because Stella doesn't pick dances that aren't good and she makes her classes FUN!!!

KATHY G: Taught the 1st and second place winners from the Windy City Event. AFTER PARTY by Maurice Rowe. This is an easy West Coast Swing-type dance that can be done to any west coast music and lots of people liked it. She also taught Johanna Barnes' dance THAT'S LIFE (I think it's also called C'est La Vie) and it was beautiful on the floor and lots of people were doing it in open.

NANCY MCDAVID: WILDWOOD ROSE which is country and GET 'N BY, both good beg dances and I think both were country. MONTEREY WALTZ and CORINA CORINA (I didn't see these).

I hope I didn't miss any dances or instructors but I know you -- you'll let me know!! LOL.

INTERESTING DANCES THAT I SAW

KEEP UP, DON'T LOSE YOUR BREATH by Roy H. This is going to be big with the adv dance crowd. Very nice.

MILLIONAIRE, Lady in Black, very fun to watch the UK crowd do and I've heard a lot of about this dance -- this is the one that Pauline (Big Dave's wife) just does justice to. LOL

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LAST MAN STANDING by Lady in Black (another one that Nigel told me about awhile ago)

I saw Bill McGee doing BLACK ICE (I think it's spelled differently) in the pro-am with his student and I forgot that I love this dance!!

MORE DIFFICULT DANCES DONE A LOT THAT WEREN'T TAUGHT

Cha Cha Tonight (I wish I knew this one and Cha Cha Rueletta)

Street Soul (I learned it again before this weekend)

Spoiled (wish I could do it)

Speechless (wish I could do it)

Poetry in Motion (can stumble through this one)

Invitation to Party (I could do it!!!)

Right To Be Wrong (wish I could do it)

Meltdown (I can almost do it)

Freaks to the Floor (can do this one)

Replay (can do this one)

Whatever Happens, Liz Bogan and Ron Kline (I have to reprogram my brain with this dance at every event but it's worth it!!)

Soluna

Black Horse

Well, that's all I can think of right now but I want to thank Arline Winerman and Scott Hucks for allowing us to have a great weekend. It was well organized and both of them listened to your comments from last year and I'm sure will listen to them this year. I hope you will take a moment to write them and thank them as I hope you do after every event and will take a moment and write me and let me know the dances and instructors and other things you especially noticed. We'll save the reports and put them on the website also like we did for Windy City so you have other people's perspective other than just meeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeee.

Louie and Big Dave were terrific and kept the party going all day and all night and Olivia Ray kept the requests moving along in the room that catered to beginner requests but would play whatever if the majority requested that. (The floor in the beginner room was kind of bumpy so I didn't stay in there as much as I would have if it had been a different floor.) They couldn't have done it without the volunteers (and, you know, events always need volunteers and many of them will give you a free pass for helping them so don't be afraid to ask them if they need help. Putting down the floors is always a particular nightmare and most people will welcome the help and they need people at the doors and helping with all kinds of things so if you think you can help, just ask the directors and they will tell you if they have enough help or what they need.) Thanks, everyone for helping Arline and Scott get everything done and on time. The prizes were REALLY GOOD. I didn't win but I wish I had. Event directors always welcome your donations to the drawings so don't be shy!! I'm sure Arline will write about that later but thank you, everyone for letting us hope we won. WAHHHHHH I DIDN'T or I might have because I couldn't find my stupid ticket in my purse until I got home. LOL. Okay, I'm gonna pretend I won. I hope I didn't forget anyone or anything but there are a whole bunch of you who can fill in the gaps and I hope

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to hear from you and especially those of you who attended this as a first weekend event. I always love to hear your first impressions. See you in Tampa next year and remember to look on the site under the WORLD EVENT CALENDAR for all the other weekend events coming up so you can go and have as much fun as I do. I'll let you know when the pictures are on the web site. I wanted to get the report on as quickly as possible since I know how I always want to know every little detail when I don't get to go. Just remember -- Tampa is a great place to dance and also to visit. We have Busch Gardens, a huge aquarium, Ybor City (which is like Bourbon Street in New Orleans), Pro every kind of sport, golf courses galore and of course our beautiful beaches, Tarpon Springs (a Greek village and still the largest sponge docks in the US), and wonderful restaurants and a beautiful airport with good specials. Lots of people were staying over a few days to leave on a cruise from Tampa the following week so don't just come to dance, come to play. I keep a whole list of things to do in the area for your family members who don't want to dance but you want them to come along with you. See you in Tampa next year.
Carol

TAMPA BAY CLASSIC VIDEOS

FROM: SCOTT HUCKS

The 2005 Tampa Bay Linedance Workshop Videos are available for sell. They should be shipping within 2 weeks. If you couldnt make it to the workshop this year then you will definitely want this video as there are numerous new dances that have not been taught elsewhere in the USA available. A full list of dances included on the videos are listed following this information.

I have also had numerous requests for the dinner show video which I did tape also. The dinner show tape does have about 60 seconds missing as my camera malfunctioned, but it only a small amount missing. I have decided that I will make these videos available for those of you who would like just the workshop dances or the workshop dances and dinner show together. All of the performances were awesome, but everyone should see the Tribute Dance that John Robinson did for Jo Thompson.

Prices are as follows and include shipping to USA, (please contact me for shipments elsewhere): Workshop Video Without Show (please specifiy DVD or VHS) of 84 dances taught in Tampa, \$35

If you wish to pay by PayPal click on the below link, and if paying by check or money order, please send to Scott Hucks, P.O. Box 3482, Greenville, NC 27836.

Workshop Video with Show (please specify DVD or VHS) of 84 dances plus Dinner Show, \$45. Same payment info as above if not using PayPal.

If you wish to just add the Dinner Show to your order that you have prepaid for, then the addtional cost for the Show would be \$10. Either pay by sending payment to above address or use the PayPal info below:

Please note that the videos will be sent out in the order that they were ordered, so the faster you send in your payment, the faster you receive your videos.

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Now for the amazing list of dances included on this video:

Vivienne Scott: Jailhouse Creole, Good Times, One Bad Day, Soft & Slow, Clap Your Hands, Don't Let Go, Thunder & Lightning,

Mark Cosenza: California Bounce, Handsome, Get Over Here, B Squared

Bryan McWherter: Take It To The Floor, We Be Burning (new), Feels So Good, Home, I'm Movin' On,

Glen Pospieszny: Hernando's Hideaway, Infernal

Guyton Mundy: Playa, Loverboy, Cocoa Puffs, Ah-Ah Ah, Surreal, Shake (new)

Kathy Gurdjian: That's Life, After Party

Bill McGee: Sugar Train, Careless Whisper, Be Strong, You Can Try

Marilyn McNeal: ,Run For The Roses, Simplemente, The World, Backseat Blues

Dee Musk: When You're Around, Bring It On, Shake Ya Body

Stella Cabecca: No Place To Go, Bombalero, Ready To Ride

Lindy Bowers: Get Down In Hicktown, Make It Up, Work In Progress, Hickety Bickety

Neville Fitzgerald: Trippin', Suddenly, Waitin'

Charlotte Williams: Jumpback Baby, Little Ship, The Breeze, Wasn't That A Party

Nancy McDavid: Get N' By, Wildwood Rose, Monterey Waltz, Corina, Corina

Junior Willis: Hot Thang, Long 'N Hot, Bombshell Stomp, Double J Switch, Do It All

Big Dave: Never Again

Michelle Jackson: Double Take, Have A Ball

Judy McDonald: Eleven '01, Cajun Walk, Someday-Someway, Hollaback, Get It Poppin' , Go On

Peter Metelnick & Alison Biggs: Double XL, Pirates of Dance, Wicked Lil Girls, Love's Whisper, On The Straight & Narrow. Push The Button, Walk Back To Me

Arline Winerman: Bayou Boogie, Victory Shout!,

John Robinson: Get It While It's Hot, Mamacita, Down Deep, Sophisticated Hula, Sinful, Clouds In My Eyes

Wow! What a deal for so little money!

Scott Hucks

Co-Event Director