

WORLD LINE DANCE NEWSLETTER



Tampa Bay Line Dance Classic 2004

Well, we survived another great dance weekend. There were so many good dances and I will go through and tell you my favorite of the ones taught by the different instructors but there is only one of me so I can't take every class and I can't remember everything -- but I tried!!!

The Thursday night party was fun as all Thursday night parties are fun -- a packed floor and just dance, dance, dance -- my favorite thing to do. It was fun seeing so many people that we only get to see a few times a year and it was especially fun for me this year introducing Dawn Sherlock and Carol Baker to their first US event and to see Nigel Amon again and have him teach at his first US event. They had a blast meeting everyone and teaching their classes and seeing all the dances that we do here. They all wanted me to thank everyone who took the time to meet them and say hi and there were lots and lots of people who did that and I thank you, too. I already miss Dawn and Carol and Bryan McWherter who was our roomie for Sunday night before he flew home today. It was a busy week for all of us but I wouldn't trade it for anything. Those UK people know how to PARTY!!!!

I already forgot when the demos were done for the Friday classes but they were done sometime and everyone always shows up for those. The demos were done each day and are such a great addition to any line dance event because you can watch with your schedule at hand and pick the dances you think you would like to take and it's just fun watching everyone do their thing. LOL. I won't break the dances down by the day but will do it by instructor and tell you the ones that stood out for me or a little info about the ones I can remember. The choreographers aren't listed on the schedule so if I get some of them wrong, sorry about that.

MARK COSENZA:

Mood Swing by John Dembiec (I/A). This is a really good dance to great music. It's a low int and just is fun to do. It won the choreography competition at the Chicago event and is going to be a hit. I know your students will love it. I do.

Superstar (I) by Mark Cosenza. This was a pick of mine from the first time I saw the video on countryedge.com. It's really a cute dance so take a look at it.

Under The Boardwalk (I)

Givin' It Up (b/I) You can see free videos of Mark's and Glen's dances on countryedge.com so you don't have to listen to me. You can see for yourselves.

NIGEL AMON:

Jet Lag (I). The music for this is kind of esoteric and I didn't take the class so I really don't have an opinion about it yet -- although everyone I listen to likes it.

Don't Want None (I). My note about this one said fast and it reminded me of Fantasy and I love Fantasy but that's all I can remember.

RON KLINE:

I Need Jah (I). I always love Ron's dances. He picks the greatest music and his dances are always those sexy feel-good dances.

Stomp, Swivel (b)

Another Man Done Gone. This was another of my favorite dances of the weekend. The music is so funny and cool at the same time and the dance is fabulous and easy!! I just loved it. It would be a GREAT dance for a demonstration as well as just a dance your classes will love. You HAVE to hear this music and do this dance. I'm telling you that Ron has done some great dances, including Do It Do It and co-choreographed Whatever Happens and he just has not been given the recognition he deserves. I just love doing his dances and I was happy he was invited to teach at this event.

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JANE MARIE DORSEY:

All of the dances Jane taught were really fun, easy beginner dances and she even talked me into doing the Red Hat Dance with a red boa (and I just know I'm not old enough to be doing this) and it's not easy to talk me into doing demos even if I do get to wear a red boa. Jane Marie choreographed two of the Red Hat Ladies Dances and I get a ton of requests for them.

These are the ones she taught:

GI Blues (b/i), Sugar & Pai (b/i) and Go for It (b).

BRYAN MCWHERTER:

Wanna, Wanna (I/A). We've been doing this for a while and it was a floor filler this weekend.

JACKIE & DOUG MIRANDA:

Jackie and Doug's dances always fill the class and we don't have them often in the Southeast so everyone especially enjoyed their classes and dances. They do a great job of meeting people and getting on the floor at night to dance and mingle and are just fun to have at events. They taught

Let It Be (I) to the Beatles classic and this was a nice flowing dance that went well with the music. Too Proud to my favorite song OF ALL TIME, Ain't Too Proud to Beg. You just have to dance when this music comes on and the dance is easy and fun. I think you will like this dance. I did.

One Dream (I). This is one that Dawn absolutely loved and is taking back to the UK. I missed the class but it's a really pretty either Waltz or Country Two-Step. I forgot which.

Staying Alive.

All Out Of Love (I)

Little Patch of Heaven (I)

GLEN POSPIESZNY:

Evercool (I) I gave this one stars and loved the music.

ARLINE WINERMAN:

Buy Me a Drink (B). Cute beginner dance

I'm Walking (B) I had seen this one by Mark C. and it's an easy, cute dance.

VIVIENNE SCOTT:

Vivienne is always meeting and talking with people and taking pictures and she always has good, easy dances to take back to your classes. She taught:

Still Waters (I)

Good To Me (I)

About You (b/I)

PETER METELNICK AND ALISON BIGGS:

Round, Round Baby (i/a) This is a fun dance for your intermediate classes and has been getting quite a few votes. It's fast and then changes to a waltz so it's two parts but it's not too difficult and it's fun to do. It took them almost the entire time to teach so it's one you should allow a little time to teach but it's not hard once you get the general idea.

Make Your Mind Up. This is of my favorites of the weekend. I think this is going to be a big hit. I love the freeze move in the dance and it's just fun, fun, fun.

Bad Mood on the Rise (I)

Better Life (I), Country, Keith Urban and I gave it stars.

Unlock My Heart (b), Bye Bye Love (b), Come On and Dance (b) , Party 4-2 (I)

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SCOTT BLEVINS:

What It Is. I really like this new one and it's a Scott Blevins 32 counts (equals 108 of anyone else's -- LOL). As with all of Scott's dances, you wonder if you'll ever get them and then once you do, you wonder why you couldn't get them in the first place. I think it's his best one in a while and I predict it's going to be a hit.

Funkalicious. Another huge hit and one of my top picks of the weekend. The music is great, the dance is easy enough for everyone to learn and it is going to be big!!!

L8er (I). This one was done a lot and it was an opportunity for people to learn it that hadn't learned it already. I'm a Scott fan so I've never really done one of his dances I didn't like.

Party Til Dawn (I/A). I like this one too.

DANCIN DEAN:

Days Go By, this is a nice country track to Keith Urban and you just can't help looking good dancing to Keith Urban music so I think your classes are going to like this one.

Wicked Wish. I meant to take this class and missed it. I made a note that it would be good for a club int night.

Street Soul (I). This was a very popular dance on the floor and Dean did a good job teaching it. You know I always love having Dean around to teach and dance with. Plus that, he brought me some candy!!!

JUNIOR WILLIS:

Santa Maria (Adv). This dance really brings Junior's clogging background onto the dance floor and everyone was buzzing about this one. I was totally brain dead by the time he taught this because I was going to take it but knew I was a hopeless case at that point. There were lots of people telling me how much they liked it and I liked it when I saw him demo it. Of course, Junior can just stand there and I would like the dance. LOL.

Car Wash (I). The class and floor were packed for this one.

Junkie (I). We've been doing this in Tampa for a while and it's one of my favorites of Junior's. It's just one of those funky, feel-good dances that you think you're going to forget but the music comes on and you remember it. Junior's dances are always deceiving. You watch them and think, "Oh, that's easy," and then you get up to learn them and somehow they are always more challenging than they look. I think Junior's years of clogging gives a special flavor to the timing of his dances so they just feel good to do.

Dance All Night (I). Another of the ones I like to do of Junior's.

Move Baby (I). I didn't see this one.

GLEN POSPIESZNY:

Every Little Step (I/A). Glen and Mark both taught some good dances from the Chicago Event and also some of the favorites on the Chicago Scene.

DAWN SHERLOCK:

Sharkbait(I). This is a really good dance to the song Car Wash. Most people had already heard about Junior's dance to this song but this is another really good, upbeat dance to that music so I think you should learn them both!!!

Messing With My Mind (I). Dawn picked all weekend dances that I like because they are all dances that flow from one move to another and all of hers were like that. They all had interesting combinations I hadn't done before and this one was no

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exception. I like dances that make you automatically move in the direction and pattern that feels natural so you don't so much memorize as you dance naturally from one pattern to another and this is one of those dances.

Somewhere To Cry (I). This is a beautiful waltz choreographed by Dawn. She loves waltzes and this one is really a lovely dance and feels perfect to the music. The class chose a country track so even your country music lovers will like this one.

Fulfilled. Another of the solid intermediate dances that Dawn brought over.

Rollipop. This was choreographed by Robin Sin from Singapore and Dawn Sherlock when she went to teach there last month and was one of my favorites of the weekend. It's really easy and fun and the club dancers will love it as well as the classes. The music is great and it's just a really good, easy dance.

SANDI S: (Because I will never know how to spell her name but she is a good friend and teaches at the Watering Trough and I promise to learn to spell it by next year. LOL.)

In a Moment (I) and Why Wouldn't Ya (someone was talking to me during this time so I didn't get to see the demos).

STELLA CABECCA:

Cuando La Noches (I) (they were still talking to me)

The Twist (b/I). Even though I didn't see them, I've never seen Stella NOT pick a good dance so I recommend them.

Zest Appeal (I) This is an easier Int dance by Michele Perron that we did in Tampa a while ago but since Michele is one of my favorite choreographers I've never done a dance of hers that I didn't like so you won't go wrong with this one, either.

Dancin Fools. My notetaking ability always diminishes as things go along so I didn't take notes during the next few dances. Sometimes I think I have the attention span of a flea. Duh.

BILL MCGEE:

Hot Fudge. I love this dance. Everyone was having fun doing this one and it's upbeat and just a really good dance.

That Kind of Girl (b/I). I know you're sick of hearing this but this is a REALLY GOOD DANCE and you NEED to learn it. It's fun and energetic and just a dance that everyone needs to learn. The music is great and the dance just moves on the floor and it's not even difficult to learn. I've been telling you about it for months so don't let it get away without teaching it to your classes. It was one of the best dances of the weekend. Bill's class was packed for this one and also for the other he taught this hour, Jacksonville (I), another one that your classes will like.

GUYTON MUNDY:

Lose It (i/a). This was a really good name for this dance because that's what I did. Not really. I actually did do it later in the evening and amazed myself. It was a fun class and a fun dance.

Can't Get It Back. I had learned this one earlier. It is fast and challenging and I didn't take the class again because I thought I would remember it. WRONG!!!

Sum'm Sum'm (I). This was my favorite of Guyton's this weekend. It's to really good music that I love and is a very teachable and doable dance and was done quite often this weekend. I think this one will be a hit for people under and over 30.

Whatever You Want (i/a). I wanted my arms to move in the same direction as everyone else.

JOHN ROBINSON:

Summerlove (I). This is a newer dance of John's but I didn't get to see it. Quite a few people just told me they liked it a lot

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and liked the music. I always enjoy having John at events just to watch him being John and doing any dance. He amazes me. He does three dances in one at LEAST!!!

Dangerous. This is a blast from the past and I am so happy that events are bringing back some of the greats from the past. To see John and Jackie Miranda do this dance together is something else. If you weren't around for the first time this dance hit -- and I mean HIT the dance scene, I hope you got to learn it this time because it will be around forever and deserves to be.

Sizzling Hot (I). This is another one that looked fun and I heard good reports about. Again. Another new hit for John.

Mean Woman Blues, by our own Millie from Florida. This is a super easy fun dance that John has been teaching. Dare 2 Love (i) and Next Dance (i).

KATHY G:

Under Your Spell. Well, you know I've been telling you about how much I loved this music for months and I was happy that the dance is as GOOD AS THE MUSIC. It was one of my top picks for the weekend and I hope you love it as much as I do. It's an awesome waltz and was done a lot this weekend and Dawn is taking it back to the UK to teach.

Latin Spice. This is to the music about bringing your mother and your brother and everyone else somewhere and I always get interested in who's coming where and forget to look at the dance. It's getting lots of votes, though.

JANIS GRAVES:

Hoochie Mama (b) This one is as much fun as the music. Easy and fun.

I Love a Rainy Night (b). Just picture the music in your head and you will be able to see what this looks like. It's just one of those dances you can zone out and enjoy.

BRYAN MCWHERTER:

GET ON THAT (I/A). This is Bryan's new dance and I heard nothing but good reports. I had to come home and check on Lucy Bird and missed this class. Everyone I talked to loved it. Lucy was really happy to see me though and get out of her cage and have some grits. LOL

Dipstick. This would have been the WOW dance of the weekend if it had been taught earlier. It is SO MUCH FUN!!! and Bryan did a really wonderful job of teaching something that LOOKED impossible feel easy. It is really a fantastic, fun dance. It would have filled the floor the entire weekend and will be filling the floors at future events because it's just one of those WOW dances. I loved it. If you can teach it as well as Bryan did, any of your more advanced beginners up could do this dance. It's Irish music with Irish moves but it won't wear you out and it fits the music just perfectly. Judy definitely has a hit on her hands with this one and Bryan outdid himself teaching it. I think every single person in the room got it and if you had seen it done, you would have said to yourself, man, that looks hard!!!

Okay, that's all the dances (I think) and I'm getting tired but I wanted to mention just a couple of other things. Arline and Scott did a wonderful job organizing this event that has had a huge growth spurt from last year and they coped with it wonderfully. For an event in its second year to fill two hotels is quite an accomplishment. The level of dances taught and the quality of instructors was truly one of the highest I've seen at any one event I've attended. Everyone was just excellent and the dances were excellent as well. The difficult part was just choosing which dances to take because there were so many I wanted to learn. I really liked that Sunday some of the dances were reviewed or retaught and I would like to see this trend continue. It serves two purposes: Either you heard about a dance you missed or you learned one you really liked and wanted to be sure you got it and this is a great way to do that.

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Oh, and the show was just the right length and we had everything from the Strange People done by Bill McGee and his group with such fabulous costumes with some members on STILTS dancing, no less. I had no idea who it was and they were absolutely fabulous!!!

Junior Willis did a clogging routine to Cajun Music that was awesome.

The Mirandas did what the Mirandas do best -- truly do a performance choreography help of Jo Thompson and they were awesome.

Dean did Zydeco Lady and invited the audience to join him -- now THIS is a dance I would like to see revived. What beautiful music and I've always loved that dance.

Guyton and his crew of dancers did a really good medley of dances and I'm hoping he's not going to be teaching me to lie down on the floor for his next dance but they looked good doing it. LOL.

I really can't do justice to what Peter and Alison did but it was something else and I think will be coming to a city near you soon. LOL

The Honky Tonk Stompers from New Orleans did a performance with a parade and beads aplenty and a variety of dances and they always leave everyone wanting to PARTY!!! Stella, the bead lady, was a special addition to their party.

I know I forgot lots of things but I figured you were most interested in the dances and just an overview of the event which had a Mardi Gras theme. The decorations were really lovely and there were some great prizes raffled off including passes to the Line Dance Showdown and the Masters Event in Ft. Lauderdale and it was a nice gesture from the Mirandas that when their name was drawn they gave the prize back to be raffled again. I'll send the complete list in tomorrow's newsy because I was bemoaning the fact that I didn't WIN!!!! WAH!!!! And I HAVE to give a standing ovation to Bryan McWherter for being a truly wonderful MC for the show. He was so funny and so relaxed and was just terrific!! We had a great time before the event having Dawn and Carol as guests and the house seems REALLY quiet now and we miss our afternoon "teas" and evening lagers (yuk) -- I just watched that part -- and after the event having Bryan come tune up my computer and entertain us. I hope all of you will put the Tampa Bay Classic on your calendars for next year. The weather is perfect and the event is exciting and Arline and Scott promise to just keep getting better. We're lucky to have an event of this quality in our own back yard!!! Thanks to everyone who taught and volunteered and worked hard to make this the event it was this year.

Carol Craven