



Tampa Bay Line Dance Classic 2013

We had a wonderful time, as we always do, in beautiful Tampa. I think I danced more this weekend than I have in a long, long time. The mix of music was really excellent and the dances taught were amazing. It wasn't a matter of what to take but what to choose from all good dances. I would watch one demo and think, "What a good dance," and then the next one would be demoed and I would think, "Wow, what a really good dance," and then the next ... Well, you get the idea. I would have taken so many more classes if there were more than one of me and there was!! The people who teach in our class would kind of get together and decide who was taking what so we could teach them in our class so it worked out well. I'm looking forward to learning them a little at a time and being able to review them for awhile in preparation for those going to upcoming events.

The staff at this hotel is always friendly and accommodating and the check-in process was very efficient. There is a very nice restaurant and also a pub where you can order drinks and pub-type food as well as having two wonderful malls very close to the event. The shuttle will take you to nearby places so you don't even need to worry about transportation. One thing I loved, loved, loved is there is free internet everywhere and I mean everywhere.

Next year, if you stay after the event, there are so many things to do in the Tampa Bay Area. There is miles and miles of beaches and places to stay on the Gulf Coast a little over a half hour away. If you stay after on Clearwater Beach (<http://www.clearwaterbeach.com>) or some of the other beach towns. It is also home to Winter, the Dolphin, housed at the Clearwater Beach Aquarium (<http://www.seewinter.com>). There is a Jolly Trolley (<http://www.clearwaterjolleytrolley.com>) that will take you to Dunedin (a darling little town with lots of shops and restaurants, <http://www.dunedingov.com/>); Tarpon Springs (the largest Greek population in the U.S.) with many Greek restaurants and the famous sponge docks (<http://ctsfl.us>). They also have many shops to visit. There is public transportation that you can arrange which costs approximately \$20 each way to get from the area of the hotel or airport to Clearwater Beach. It's a lovely time of year to visit and many things to do in the area in Tampa and Pinellas County across the Courtney Campbell Bridge from Tampa. Next year, plan to stay an extra day and come to the AFTER PARTY that Diane Poole and I, along with our class, throw Monday night after the event. We always have fun and lots of dances and goodies to eat. They event hotel rate usually remains the same for Monday night so just plan an extra day to stay and get a group and explore the area. There are three very large dance clubs in the area to visit during your stay before or after the event and they all offer lessons. We are so lucky to have so many places to dance here and to have such wonderful clubs and classes to dance in. All of the clubs are PACKED with people young and old later in the evening and all of them have classes earlier in the evening. You would enjoy taking the extra time to visit them. All of the places to dance in the area is listed on the WHERE TO DANCE page on the worldlinedancenewsletter.com site.</p>

The show on Saturday night was really fun and I love the raffle because people can choose from so many passes to take when their number is called. There is also a 50/50 raffle. The theme this year was "Sports" and there were some good costumes. The show was developed using this theme. Jamie Marshall was the DJ for the demos and the show. I was amazed watching her fill in time and was wondering what it would be like to be her

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kid or husband. LOL. I'm sure there is never a dull moment in that household. In case you didn't know, Jamie was the first UCWDC female superstar. She has choreographed some great dances. We still do her Back Street Attitude, one of my all-time favorites. She told me she is working on a NC 2 and I'm looking forward to seeing it. Thanks for being the ball of energy you are from Zumba classes in the morning until closing down the floor at night and just being fun all day long. The DJ's, Louie St. George, J.P. Potter, and Olivia kept the dancing going all weekend with a great new font so you could read the upcoming dances easily. Love that!!

VIDEOS OF THE SHOW (PROVIDED BY STACY J GARCIA)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=maosALPM0gc>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=68A0MmzC9Lw>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TzV6swqKrKo>

Rhoda Lai & Jamie Marshall Zumba

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iJ7Y64Qy5KA>

Guyton Mundy & Will Craig

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OMsyZcGCZF0>

Ruben Luna & Jamie Marshall

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=njDv3dQ_1EA

Wild Roses Dance Team

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vVAyPSBxrSU>

Jamie Marshall Chair Dance

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=77So0hrvpgU>

Tampa Bay Faceoff Part 1

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z9WhfKq5uyc>

Tampa Bay Faceoff Part 2

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sqcU6AX916o>

Tampa Bay Faceoff Final

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SGgnMLjTk7g>

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Tampa Bay Faceoff – Will Craig (youtube blocked it in some countries)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nGsprITApk4>

Tampa Bay Faceoff – Lorenzo (youtube blocked it in some countries)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EtbvPC2Su2w>

Sweet & Sassy Dance Team

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SZ0xomcOd-E>

Dances taught: Some dances that were taught and filled the floor during the weekend were: I Hope You Find It, Clap Happy, The Good Life, Shakin' My Head, Wrong Side Slide, Sweet Talking Woman, Shining in the Night, Sarah Beth, Middle of the Road, A Little Party, Hot Stepper, My Light, Coolio, Now or Never, Follow Me, Hips, Girl Power, Trespassing. Guyton also taught a brand-new dance on Sunday morning called Weep and it got lots of good feedback. Here is a copy of the complete schedule <http://tampalinedanceclassic.com/schedule.html>.

and I'm sure some of these dances will be big hits as they are taught around the world. I like to watch the different surveys to see which ones make it after a few weeks out on the dance floors.

One thing I noticed about this event was that there were so many friends having fun together. Some of them came as a group and it was like summer camp all rolled into one weekend. I loved the outfits that the Key West Group wore on Saturday night and there were many others groups that were just having fun laughing and dancing together.

The Pro-Am competition was really fun this year. There were TWENTY ENTRIES!! Arline did a great job organizing this event that happens every year. Here is how it works so you can do it next year. It's not a competition against other people. It's a competition against yourself. Everyone is awarded either a gold, silver, or bronze medal based on how you did the dance you choose. You can ask ANY instructor to dance it with you. We had Frank Trace, Jamie Marshall, Arline Winerman, Rhoda Lai, Larry Bass, Lisa Johns Grose, Marilyn McNeal, Maurice Rowe, Mary Lou Copp, Donna Manning, Wendy Smith, Betsy Courant, and Guyton Mundy dancing with people who asked them to be the pro (at the event but it's even better if you ask them before you get there.) Ask your instructor where you dance to dance with you. You do 90 seconds of a dance and are judged on how you dance the dance as well as your appearance and showmanship. The awards are handed out on Saturday night. It is always a crowd pleaser and I hope you will think about doing it next year. You don't even have to do it alone. There can be up to three people dancing together with you with a pro. There are pictures of the award presentation if you click on * above. I'm not sure of all the spellings so please excuse me. There are five judges who judge the pro-am.

(Please excuse any spelling errors of names)

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GOLD MEDALS:

Jillian Lamberty
Liza Kazazian
Diane Torres
Jennifer Decker
Dave Lightfoot
Ruth Goldstein
Roger Neff

SILVER MEDALS:

Jennifer Decker
Mr. and Mrs. Bob Bonett
Min Lee
Jennifer Decker
Nancy Bodyjuski
Lilli Senesac
Sherry Cain
Dawn Musgrave
Danielle Meeks

Brooks Besacou

Ciera Hudwell

BRONZE MEDALS:

Sherry Cain
Dawn Musgrove
Min Lee
Monika Geiss
Leanne Semeister

Thank you so much, Jennifer and Jason Cameron, for another fabulous weekend and bringing us two new upcoming stars, Fred Whitehouse and Rhoda Lai, as well as Marilyn McNeal, Ruben Luna, Joey Warren, Larry Bass, Zac Detweiller, Will Craig, Lorenzo GoLo Evans, Frank Trace, Guyton Mundy, Doug & Jackie Miranda, Max Perry, Kathy Hunyadi, Bracken Ellis-Potter, Kathy G., Lisa Johns-Grose. They were both such wonderful dancers, stayed up late and danced every night, and were so sociable and friendly. I truly was impressed with both of them. I loved doing Trespassing with Fred. What explosive energy he has. Everyone loved his classes as well as Rhoda, who is great at teaching her great hip technique. I hope to see lots more of them in the future and I'm sure I will. Tampa has always been an event that makes it a point to bring brand new people and so far they have a great track record and I hope it continues for a long time. These two were definitely winners. They also pitched in, along with other instructors, to fill in for Shaz who had to cancel at the last minute.

I can't wait until next year and hope to see many of you there. We love having an event in our "home town" and love sharing the beautiful Florida weather with all of you.

Carol Craven