



# The 5th Wednesday Letter

From Sandi & Dan Finch

Wednesday, August 31, 2005

## New Isn't Always Better

Nearly 70 new advanced round dances come into publication each year. We try to teach those that have enjoyable and accessible music, interesting and do-able choreography and have that certain appeal that will put them on the National Carousel Clubs most taught list.

That way, you are spending your workshop time on dances that have a good chance to staying around and that you can do when you travel to weekends across the country.

Our records show we teach an average of 22 new dances a year. To fit them into the program, something has to give.

How do we determine what comes into the program and what drops out? We rely on you to tell us what you like, by dancing it when it is on the program and by responding when we ask for opinions in the Dance Popularity Polls we take periodically.

Just because a dance is new doesn't make it better. That's obvious. Look at the irreplaceable "oldies" we do regularly: *St. Michel's Quickstep* (1984), *Sam's Song* (1982), *And I Love You So* (1987), *Autumn Nocturne* (1981), *Kiss Me Goodbye Foxtrot* (1976), *Roadhouse Blues* (1981), *Memory* (1984), *Rose Tango* (1978), *Love Story Tango* and *Four & One* (1982).

An "oldie" can slip away for many reasons, sometimes from overuse,

sometimes because its choreography was just a bit too novel for its time, sometimes because something was lacking in the presentation the first time around. Sometimes--like love--choreography is just better the second time around.

Last year, we re-taught *Tico Sambo* (1987) and *Till* (1976) at your request. This year, we have reintroduced *You're The Top* (1988), which we taught in all three classes, and *Dancing Quickstep* (1990), which will have been taught in both advanced classes by mid-summer.

We have started adding to the Wednesday Night program some old dances that merit a second time around. If you like them, we'll find a way to fit them into the current inventory. The "oldies but goodies" revisited so far this year are: *Tenderly* (1985), *Boula-vogue* (1989), *Stairway to the Sea* (1981), *Embassy Waltz* (1986), *Almost There* (1992), and *Cheek to Cheek* (1969).

You will find this happening at weekends now too: Roundarama features an oldie teach and the Gosses this year re-taught *Rumba Calienta* at McCloud.

Let us know if you remember any oldies you want to try again, and what you think about those we program on a trial basis.



## Days of Our Lives

### Birthdays:

#### July

Harold Peyton	July 11
Larry Miquelon	July 11
Bill Murff	July 11
John Michaelson	July 14
Lynn Brewer	July 15
Nancy Dufault	July 18
Dee Myers	July 25
Robert Hornsby	July 25
Don Miller	July 29

#### August

Margaret Shirley	August 1
Barbara Evanko	August 1
Marie Marlow	August 3
Svea Larson	August 4
Ray Martinez	August 4
Jean Miller	August 5
Eva Zieg	August 9
Rick de la Torre	August 12
Carol Rhyne	August 15
Judi Nelson	August 23
Mickey Marshall	August 29

### Anniversaries:

Emerson & Jean Beckstead	July 29
Chuck & Fran Rowitz	August 10
Malcolm & Audrey Pecor	August 14
Bob & Lorraine Mahrt	August 17

## Intro to Advanced Class Now In Cypress

The Thursday Night Intro to Advanced Class made the move to the Cypress Community Center this summer, enjoying more room

We welcome *Don Aitcheson*, *Gordon & Jeannie*.

It was nice to have some good friends help with the opening night: *Mas & Aiko Nabata* (just before going back to cAnada for a month), *Dee Langevin*, *Patricia Michaud*, and *Fred Lesh & Colette Weiss and Svea Larson*.



# Ramblings:

*Dee Luna* crewed for the three-day cancer benefit “walk” in Seattle. While she was there, she visited the studio of the artist who made the pink spun glass heart she wears. She also sells the hearts for donations to cancer research.



It continued to be a summer of travel in August for many of us. *Gloria Sedore* went back to Michigan for four reunions, a wedding and a memorial, all in less than two weeks. *Patricia Michaud*, still wearing one boot and one shoe after breaking a bone in her right foot, went back to Missouri to see her mother. *Brian & Alice Scanlon* took three weeks off from dancing for a Scandinavian cruise. *Jim Throgmorton & Margie Moeller* took off a month to go camping in the Grand Tetons and wherever the spirit took them. *Marie Marlow* did a two-week road trip looking for waterfalls up the California coast. *Emerson & Jean Beckstead* spent the month of June in Oregon. *Barbara Evanko* was off to Canada for four weeks in July to see her son and his family. *Gordon Flewell & Jeanne Sammons* also visited Canada, for his niece’s wedding. *Fred Lesh & Colette Weiss* went back to Florida for a rare tree conference, then between visits with her son in Northern California, they toured the Olympic peninsula of Washington State.



*Lynn Brewer* made her annual trip back to Purdue University for the Easterdays’ Round-A-Rama Institute, the only person to have gone to all 31 of the annual events.



*Joe and Dee Myers*, just back from a seven-day bike tour across Georgia, are off to Hyde Park, New York, for another scenic tour on two wheels. *Larry Rhyne* also took to the road on bicycle, entering an event in the mountains around Panguitch, Utah. *Eileen Wade* returned from a cruise to Alaska just as *Howard & Sally Davis* left for an Alaskan cruise.



Katrina’s impact reached all the way to Southern California. *John Hooton’s* wife was scheduled to compete at the national barbershop singing convention in October in New Orleans. *Ed Gaines* is expecting to be on the road soon to Mississippi to help his son recover belongings from his devastated home in Freeport. His son evacuated just prior to the storm hitting.



*Gloria Sedore* is settled into a new home in Seal Beach. *Jean Miller and Aimee Deiter* are recovering from summer surgeries. *Jean & Don Miller* celebrated their first anniversary in La Costa, at an auditor’s conference dinner on Jean’s first day back at work.



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Mark Your Calendars:  
Next  
3rd Saturday Night Dance,  
September 17