

BOP BEAT

<http://www.derbycitybop.com>



July / August 2011

LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY

VOLUME 23, ISSUE 04

If you haven't been to a DCBA Just Dancin' party, you've been missing out on a fun time. Just ask these members or go the DCBA website, derbycitybop.com and take a look at the pictures.



DCBA Club Officers

BRENDA MEREDITH.....502-459-9790
LARRY JOHNSON.....502-245-3198
BETH STENBERG.....502-643-0757
DAN HUDSON.....812-725-1238
MARTHA RINGO.....502-749-1977

WEB EDITOR

Jim Brown Home.....502-499-7873
Work.....502-587-0721

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Nicholas Coleff502-338-7856
Email: N.coleff@derbycitybop.com
Web: http://www.derbycitybop.com

Email Addresses

D.phipps@derbycitybop.com
 B.stenberg@derbycitybop.com
 L.Johnson@derbycitybop.com
 M.hall@derbycitybop.com
 D.brown@derbycitybop.com
 B.meredith@derbycitybop.com

CLUB ADDRESS:

DCBA
PO BOX 43363,
LOUISVILLE, KY 40253-0363



Beth Stenberg
President



Brenda Meredith
Vice-President



Dan Hudson
Secretary



Larry Johnson
Treasurer



Martha Ringo
Director at Large



Donna Phipps
Activities Director

Welcome to the members who joined the DCBA dance club in May and June.



Raymond Atchison
 Carol McGovern
 Sonnie Powers
 Kathy Gootee
 Mike Egan
 Robin Wallace
 Robert Woodman

Chris Boudolf
 Sheleen Knowlton
 Allen Barnes
 Anita McCaughlin
 Rich Erwin

Sunday Dance Lessons at the Moose

Starting July 10th for 4 weeks

Jackie will be teaching line dances
Lessons at 6:pm, open dancing 7 to 8
Price \$20 per person for all 4 weeks



DCBA President's Letter

I can't believe the second year of my Presidency is half over. I wonder who will be the next President. Is it you? What will you do different? My predecessor, Bill Wallace's slogan was "if it ain't broke, don't fix it." And he stuck true to his word and made a great President moving us forward in the same fashion the original founders ran the club so many years ago. As I look down memory lane, a lot has happened, but at least three things have stayed the same – DANCING, GOOD FRIENDS and GREAT MUSIC.

I am proud of the longevity of this organization which began in 1988. DCBA was incorporated in 1990 by the original founders, Bill and Giny Wallace, Brenda Meredith, Herky Meredith, Larry Johnson, Ron and Bonnie Wallace and Liz DeSpain. The longest serving President is Bill Wallace. He described his time as President as fun, aggravating and uh, uh, uh... He could not find the word to describe it. Even after turning the reigns over, he hardly ever misses a Board meeting, Tuesday night at Porters or monthly dances. When a Board member was sick, he told me he would take their place until they returned. And you will not see a day at BIB without seeing Bill Wallace. He truly is the "Daddy" of DCBA. Giny described the experience of founding DCBA as like birthing a baby and then letting it go to be all it can be.

So, who were our presidents?

1990 – Ron Wallace	1996 Jim Brown	2001 – Shirley Sharp	2007 Bill Wallace
1991 – Ron Wallace	1997 Jim Brown	2002 – Randy Mobley	2008 Bill Wallace
1992 – Bill Wallace	1998 Randy Mobley	2003 – Nicholas Coleff	2009 Bill Wallace
1993 – Cal Shaw	1999 Randy Mobley	2004 – Leann Marsili	2010 Beth Stenberg
1994 – Art Smithers	2000 Leann Marsili &	2005 – Tommy Radcliffe	2011 Beth Stenberg
1995 – Art Smithers	Nancy Baxter	2006 – Pam Hudson	

The vast majority of the 13 presidents are still committed members. Out of the 13 presidents listed above, 8 of us were at club Tuesday night! I asked them to tell me what it was like to be President of DCBA. This is what I was told:

Nancy Baxter: It has been a long time since I was president but I did enjoy being president and working with the board and members to make our club the best dance club anywhere. That year we did have an anniversary dance - our 11th anniversary I think and it was held at the Holiday Inn on Fern Valley Road. It began on Thursday and went thru Saturday and as I remember, we had a great crowd both out of town guests and club members. Everyone seemed to have a great time. I was very proud to stand in front of that crowd and welcome everyone to our dance and to introduce the original founding members. We have come a long way since then and still going strong.

Tommy Radcliffe - I enjoyed being President of the Bop Club in 2005 and Director in 2006. It was a good experience for me. I saw how the club operated and also participated in the ABA meeting in Nashville. I would suggest more members to seek a position on the Board if nothing else for the experience and to further our clubs endeavors. Betty and I are glad we joined Derby City Bop Association in 1999! We have made so many friends. It's like having another family, and it has changed our life!

Pam Hudson - Being elected President of DCBA was very much an honor. I was surrounded by a great board of directors helping me to take the club to the next level. During my time as President, we had several new events which I feel the club members really did enjoy. It was all about dancing, having a great time and making new friends. Last, but not least, as President I felt a real need to meet as many new people coming to our club, and that's when I met Rusty (5 years & still counting). What a BONUS. I will remember my term as President of DCBA as a very positive experience.

Leann Marsili - Being President of DCBA taught me how to use my computer. All joking aside, Brenda Meredith along with her teacher friends taught me how to use a computer program. Jim Brown also was a teacher of how to use the existing program we had. I traveled to many club parties out of town and met many new friends. I enjoyed attending the American Bop Association meeting in January of each year. When you are president it allows you to get to know your club membership and you are very much involved in all club activities. I enjoyed meeting the individuals that participated in the new dance lessons each week. At the end of their monthly lessons we would have them join in a Jam Session and they would dance with current members allowing them to get to know other dancers in the club. We had our first Boogie in the Bluegrass and all credit goes to Mike Hall as the leader and chairman, and it was a great success and has continued on thru the years. Most of all I enjoyed being a member of the "McGuire Sisters" along with Jackie Bates and Cindy Jewell. What most people do not know is Tom Jewell bought all our dresses at Bacons off a prom dress mark down rack! Randy Mobley was our announcer and Jean Mobley passed out flyers. Later we became the Andrew Sisters and Tom Jewell became our Bugle Boy. We were invited to perform our Andrew Sister act at many out of town club dances. We also were invited to the University of Louisville and most importantly we were invited to Memphis, TN to perform for the military. We all were very honored to accept this invitation and most of all to represent DCBA.




Randy Mobley - I was honored to serve our organization for three terms as its president. It pleased me immensely to see the membership grow during that time, helping to fulfill its mission to perpetuate our music and dance style. Specific proud moments were many...successful dances, special events dances (like the first New Year's Eve dance..thanks Wilma Clevenger.. and helping Ada Lee Kane donate needed funds for the Louisville Deaf-Oral School), creating a first class newsletter that we still enjoy today..thanks again Wilma and Jim Brown, et al. I could go on about accomplishments during my presidential terms, but the proudest thing I reflect on concerning my days as a DCBA member actually occurred during one of my earliest visits to Jim Porter's on "BOP Club Night". That was the night I was introduced to a foxy little nurse named Jean..thank you Don Brown..who was able to follow my somewhat unusual dance style with great ease. Making a long story short, we fell in love and were married in 1996, and still enjoy dancing and teaching our dance style to beginners at Jim Porter's. Thank You Derby City Bop Association

Ron Wallace - I was one of the founders, incorporator and the first President of the DCBA. The first years were difficult as I knew nothing about being President of anything.

We fashioned by-laws and went by them to the letter. I, with the help of dedicated board members, was able to overcome many obstacles that we had never faced before. We moved a number of times due to club closings and lack of dance space. I was instrumental in moving the club to Jim Porters who at the time was not open on Tuesdays and we remain there today.

My finest hour is each week, to see that the DCBA is still thriving after 20 plus years. I am proud to have been a part of it.

All these people have given of their time, talent and money to make DCBA the best dance club in Louisville. My swan song will come in the November/December issue when I hand off the clipboard to someone else. So, are you our next President? Elections will be held for Board members in the fall. Search your heart and your talents and decide if you want to be our next President – or one of the other Board members. It truly is my honor to serve you. All these people have given of their time, talent and money to make DCBA the best dance club in Louisville. My swan song will come in the November/December issue when I hand off the clipboard to someone else. So, are you our next President? Elections will be held for Board members in the fall. Search your heart and your talents and decide if you want to be our next President – or one of the other Board members. It truly is my honor to serve you.

July		August	
Membership Meeting Monday 11th. 6:30pm. Ramada Inn Hurstbourne Parkway	Tue. 5th. Jim Porters DJ Mike Hall	Membership Meeting Monday 8th. 6:30pm. Ramada Inn Hurstbourne Parkway	Tue. 2nd. Jim Porters DJ Mike Hall
	Tue. 12th. Jim Porters DJ Jim Brown		Tue. 9th. Jim Porters DJ Jim Brown
Dance Lessons Intermediate 6:30 pm. Beginners 7:00 pm.	Tue. 19th. Jim Porters DJ Eric Evans	Dance Lessons Intermediate None Beginners 7:00pm.	Tue. 16th. Jim Porters DJ Eric Evans
Dance Instructors Beginners Randy & Jean Mobley	Tue. 26th. Jim Porters DJ Tom Goff	Dance Instructors Beginners Dan Hudson & Laura Whitfil	Tue. 23rd. Jim Porters DJ Tom Goff
Intermediate Instructors Tom Corder			Tue. 30th. Jim Porters DJ Mike Hall



Happy Birthday!
Here is a list of members having birthdays.



July Birthdays 01 Joyce Ramey 01 Carolyn Williams 02 Ken Beeler 03 Robert Smedberg 03 Carol Bowman 04 Mark Flesch 07 Bev Miller 08 Linda R. Harrison 09 Laura Wohrle 09 Van Zipper 10 Ernie Waford 10 Austin Wilde 13 Ramona Schmidt 15 Beth Stenberg 17 James Abbott 17 Randy Mobley 20 Susie Jefferies 20 Julie Fowler 21 Bill Jordan 23 Estell Cochran 24 Charlie Brown 25 Johnny Davis 26 Laura Whitfil	26 Mark Richardson 27 Marty Haydon 28 Charles G. Harrod 28 Ron Hashfield 29 Renita Bernat 30 Bob Wolford 31 Peggy Dudley 31 Sandra Renfrow	August Birthdays 01 Betty Pettyjohn 01 Peyt Talbott 02 Connie Tate 04 Ellen Douglas 04 Edward Horton 06 Brenda Drexler 08 Chris Boudolf 11 Cindy Jewell 11 Tamara Perkins 12 Joseph Hutt 14 Carol Lete 14 Raymond Atchison 16 Lisa Ritchie 17 Robert Woodman 20 David Robinson 20 Betty Leonhardt 22 Kerry Carr 24 Mary Stirsman 25 Alma Leisten 26 Robin Wallace 27 Kathleen Poole 27 Jo D. Clifton 29 Barbara Powers	30 Cal Shaw 30 Kevin Fallon 31 Ronnie Braden
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Saturdays, July 9th & August 13th.

Moose Lodge, Fagenbush Ln.

Lessons, 6:30

Dancing 7 to 11

July DJ's Eric Evans & Tom Goff

August DJ's Mike Hall & Jim Brown

Members \$5 Non-Members \$10



As you can see from these pictures from the last Just Dancin', member Louis Diehl has made a great recover after being out for a while with a major health problem. Just goes to show that you can't keep a devoted dancer off the dance floor.



Lead 'ContraSwing' Versions of Your Favorite Moves

. . . and increase your versatility as a dancer!



At a recent dance, I watched the participants of the Basic Swing class wander back into the main ballroom from an adjoining room where their class had just ended. As usual, a few of them continued around the perimeter of the dance floor and exited the building opting to dance another evening when they felt more self-assured; and the rest, more confident with their new skills, made a beeline for their tables where they would roost with the certain knowledge that they were going to have a fun evening of dancing. Their instructor must have given the female students the "it's OK to ask guys to dance" speech at the end of their session because as the last of the class entered the room, one of the ladies walked up to me and confidently popped the question. I graciously accepted, anticipating an enjoyable but unremarkable dance, but I was wrong. The dance was not only enjoyable but also very enlightening because my partner asked me an interesting question which caused me rethink many of the swing moves that I have learned over the years.

I could tell by the way that she initially gripped my hand and joined me in the closed position that she had made the right decision to take the Basic I class. After I led her into an initial "Tuck and Turn," it became apparent that her virtually nonexistent footwork could use a little remedial work. Not wanting to offend her, I asked if she would like me to briefly review her footwork or if she would prefer that we just continue enjoying the dance. She opted for my help and quickly learned how to step around proficiently when I turned her. It was at this point that she asked me a very fundamental question that challenged my understanding of the dance: "when you raise your hand above my head to turn me, how do I know which direction to go?" As a dance instructor, my first inclination was to tell her that in a "Tuck and Turn" the male dancer (or 'leader') always leads his partner (or 'follower') into a clockwise turn into the open position; instead, I answered: "you should always rotate in the direction that your partner leads you." We finished our dance and agreed to get together again later, but as I left the dance floor I couldn't help pondering her innocent question. Every swing dance club in St. Louis teaches the "Tuck and Turn" in their classes exactly the same way: the male dancer always 'tucks' his partner counterclockwise in front of him and then he 'turns' her clockwise into the open position. Suddenly I realized what was troubling me...since my new partner, who may never have heard of a "Tuck and Turn," was not anticipating the usual clockwise turn after her tuck, why couldn't I, as the leader, rotate her around the opposite direction into the slot using the ContraSwing version of this move? The answer is that I could have but I didn't in this instance because leading my partner into an inside turn would have been inappropriate for her experience level; however, her question did cause me to think more creatively about the mechanics of the moves that I lead.

We swing dancers habitually perform our favorite moves the same way every time because the repetition has conditioned our reflexes; it's a phenomenon called 'muscle memory.' If we would step outside of our comfort zones occasionally and lead our partners into the ContraSwing versions of these familiar moves, where we either lead them down the slot on our op-

double the number of moves in our arsenal. The ContraSwing version of the traditional "Tuck and Turn" that incorporates a woman's clockwise (outside) turn into the open position now becomes a modified "Tuck and Turn" that incorporates a woman's counterclockwise (inside) turn into the open position. The opposite (or ContraSwing) versions of other popular moves include, for example, substituting a right side 'throw-out' down the slot (two-hand, overhead lead into a wrap) for the more common left side 'throw-out'; substituting a counterclockwise 'come-around' (male dancer leads his partner around him in the slot), for the clockwise 'come-around' and finally leading our partner past us in the slot into a crossover on our left side instead of on our right side. Experienced leaders routinely perform certain moves like the "Straight Jacket/Reverse Straight Jacket" and "Continuous Right/Left Waist Wraps" in both directions, but 'mirror moves' like these are the exceptions and they have no ContraSwing versions. In retrospect, I am really glad that my partner was listening when her instructor told the class that "it's OK to ask guys to dance" because she helped me realize that I know a lot more moves than I thought!

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One thing about DCBA presidents, past and present, they support their club. They love to dance and you'll see them at most of the dances.



Derby City Bop Feedback and Suggestion Form

Derby City Bop Association Current Members Only Please

Name: _____

Address: _____ City, St. Zip: _____

Phone with Area Code: _____ Email: _____

Comments or suggestions: _____

Please give this form to a Derby City Bop Association Board Member or mail to:

Derby City Bop Association, PO Box 43363, Louisville, KY 40253-0363.

You may also use our "Feedback" page on our web site at: <http://www.derbycitybop.com>