

# Swing Times



January 2023

**A Publication of the San Diego Swing Dance Club which was established on May 10, 1970 by Paul Benton**

## Our January Dance Instructors



Our club is excited to announce a workshop in that popular 70s style dance, again gaining tremendous traction everywhere, the Hustle, with Bob Avila and his wife Suzie. Bob recounts that in the late 70s, as a dance instructor at the McVitties dance studio, I was able to work on my favorite passion as a ballroom teacher. I loved to dance all the dances. After awhile I began entering numerous dance contests. I was lucky to win many dance contests at that time throughout Southern California. Later I began to teach the Hustle at various night clubs throughout the San Diego Area. I found that the hustle could be easily incorporated into the West Coast Swing. I am proud to announce to you that my wife Suzie and I will be your dance instructor on Sunday, January 1, 2023. So come out and learn the Hustle as Suzie and I show you the easy tricks to look like you have been dancing the hustle since it first came out.



Polymath is relatively modern term describing a person possessing multiple talents that can be used simultaneously, just such a term describes our current month's dance instructor, Vinh Mines. Vinh serves as our club's current president, DJs bi-monthly, provides much of the club's social-media, and ranks among the best West Coast Swing dancers around. Vinh started his West Coast Swing journey 14 years ago with Michael Kiehm, and attended his first WCS convention a few weeks later with just a sugar push, a left side pass, an underarm, and a thing that looks like a whip. After a hundred or so dances that weekend, he was hooked. From Michael, he gravitated over to Parker Dearborn's and Brandi Guild's workshops and continued to learn from all three for many years. The two years prior to Covid, Vinh studied with Buddy Schwimmer as his teaching coach. After several years hiatus, Vinh will be actively competing in the World Swing Dance Counsel circuit in the upcoming year. Vinh's course will be structured to improve your foundation and fundamentals preparing you for the upcoming year of learning and growth in your dance. So if one of your resolutions for the new year is to "Enhance Your Dance," then make sure you don't miss his classes on January 8<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>, and 29<sup>th</sup>.



Parker Dearborn is our Celebrity master instructor for the 4th week of the month. Dancing since the age of 14, he has competed in juniors at USA Grand Nationals, and has since garnered numerous titles in the Showcase Division. A Champion West Coast Swing Dancer, Parker is best known for his traditional west coast swing style using closed position circular and slotted moves and adding creative footwork.

## January & February Birthdays

### January

01 Craig Helm  
01 Estrella Tarleton  
01 Gloria Mellizo  
01 Lana Hutsell  
01 Maria Wilson  
01 Paul Bukelich  
01 Paul Mckenzie  
01 Paula Perry  
01 Peter Hicks  
01 Roger Sokoloff  
01 Rose Zhao  
03 Eldon H Gloor  
04 Karen Oyanguren  
04 Sheree Willis  
06 Liz Dielke  
11 Dan Harrison  
21 Jody Kravitz  
23 Peggy Shoval  
23 Pranee Biggane  
25 Ron Dunsmore  
26 Linda Schaeffer  
29 Peter Felber

### February

01 Gail White  
01 Larry Grogan  
05 Linda White  
10 Jose Hernandez  
10 Harvey Clark  
15 Bob Avila  
15 Gail Gosser  
16 Angeley Gonzalez  
19 Patty Callan  
26 Wendy Rhodes  
29 Carla Funk



## Upcoming events at the San Diego Swing Dance Club

Join us every Sunday afternoon promptly at 1:30pm for a WCS or other type dance lesson, followed at 2:30pm by open dancing until 5:00pm

January	1st:	The Hustle	Instructor	Bob Avila
January	8th:	West Coast Swing	Instructor	Vinh Mines
January	15th:	West Coast Swing	Instructor	Vinh Mines
January	22th:	West Coast Swing	Instructor	Parker Dearborn
January	29th:	West Coast Swing	Instructor	Vinh Mines

**First Sunday of the month we will normally teach another dance. This month it will be the West Coast**

**SAN DIEGO SWING DANCE CLUB, INC.  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
2022-2023  
Executive Board**

**President**

**Vinh Mines**

Email.....vinhmines@gmail.com

**Vice President**

**Larry Clendenin**

Email.....larryclen@yahoo.com

**Membership**

**Angie Gonzalez**

Email.....jajozar1@gmail.com

**Treasurer**

**Garry Bowman**

Email.....swingtreasurer25@yahoo.com

**Secretary**

**Chris Leavy**

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**Newsletter Editor**

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**Dance Director**

**Meredith Anderson**

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**Hospitality Director**

**Maria Tee**

Email.....getupanddanceml@yahoo.com

**Publicity Director**

**Olga Lopez**

Email.....olgalopez1958@yahoo.com

**Past President**

**Craig Helm**

Email.....craigswingdance@yahoo.com

**Appointed by the Board**

**Music Supervisor**

**TBA**

**Librarian**

**TBA**

**Parliamentarian**

**TBA**

**Sergeants-at-Arms**

**TBA**

**Members-at-Large**

**TBA**

**Webmaster**

**Jody Kravitz.....Jody.kravitz@gmail.com**

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETINGS**

**NEXT MEETINGS ARE:**

**January 22nd: 12:30 pm**

**February 26th: 12:30 pm**

**Location: Dance Headquarters**

5035 Shawline St  
San Diego, CA 92111

**All members welcome.**

If you wish to address the Board you must be on the agenda one week prior to the meeting. Members may approach any of the Executive Board members to be placed on the agenda.

**A Few Words From Our President Vinh**



Another year has come and gone – and what a year it has been! This year has not been without its obstacles to overcome, but there have also been many great accomplishments. And I believe that 2023 will present more opportunities for growth for the San Diego Swing Dance Club and the dance community alike.

I am thrilled with the work that we've been able to accomplish in the second half this year. I'm thankful for the passionate and wonderful board members who show up with such enthusiasm and open hearts to do this transformational work. It's a year in which we strengthened our club even further, growing our ranks by welcoming new members and rolling out initiatives that will help guarantee our continued success in the future.

Traditionally a New Year is a time when we reflect on the past and look ahead to the future. It's a time when we perhaps set some resolutions for the near or long term. Some are more sincere and those are the ones we really intend to meet to make a positive change that we see as desirable or necessary.

Gratitude is important every day of the year, but at this time, it's more important than ever. Last year showed me how fortunate I am to work with a team that refuses to give anything less than 110%.

On behalf of the Board Members, I thank you once again for being with us in 2022 and we look forward to even more success next year in 2023! May you and your families have a safe, healthy, and very happy holiday.

Appreciatively,

Vinh Mines--

**Angie Gonzalez, our Club's Membership Coordinator**



Welcome New and Renewal Members:

New Members: Kathy Desmarais, Carol Schwartz, Martha Peleti, Mike West, Mary West, Elliot Gersh, Lynne Foltz, Judy Wilson, Irena Fischer, JT Holland, Margo Rodriguez, Edna Fugazzi. Renewals: Dave Gonzales, Kathy Fennel, George Ludwig,

If we misspelled your name, or have your birthday recorded incorrectly, we are sorry. Let us know and we will make the correction.

If you do not receive information acknowledging your renewal, new application, or information regarding our activities, it is because we do not have your email address.

"Thank you" - Angie

**FROM YOUR ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR MARY**



Happy New Year to all the Wonderful Dancers of the San Diego Swing Dance Club!

As your Activities Director, each month I will share with you the special exciting monthly event that the Board and I have scheduled to enhance your Sunday dancing experiences.

First, we will be dancing on New Year's Day so come and celebrate the New Year with us! Jody will be your DJ.

Also, this month we have designated January 15th, the 3rd Sunday, as Country Western Day. We encourage you to wear your finest country attire. Jody, our expert in country music, will DJ and play some of the most popular country songs for West Coast Swing, Country Two-step, Nightclub Two-Step, Cha Cha, Waltz, Jitterbug, etc. Yeehaw! Of course, expect some blues and pop songs as well for the WCS. A great time is expected for all!

Mary Manzella  
Activities Director

**From the Webmaster**



The SDSDC website should be your "go to" address for up-to-the-minute information about upcoming SDSDC events. The top-center section of the website always contains the latest information that has been posted. The most recent newsletter is available by clicking on the Newsletter banner in the center section or by selecting the "Newsletter" tab at the top where older newsletters are also available. If you are on a mobile device, the sections of the website can be selected from the "Hamburger" -- the stack of three horizontal lines near the top of the screen.

I am continuing to add features to the website. The website's "Photo Gallery" tab is now active. There are links to Mike Lock's extensive historical photo archive, as well as links to the SDSDC Facebook page and Maria Tee's Facebook page which always have LOTS of current photos. Over the next few months, I'll enhance the photos section so that going to an external website is no longer necessary.

Please consider sharing a link to the website with friends that might be interested in attending an event.

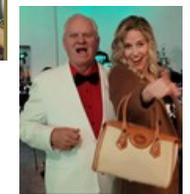
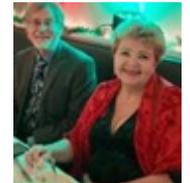
Go to <https://www.sandiegoswingdance.com/> or use this QR Code on the right.



As always, your input on improving the website is welcome,  
Jody Kravitz  
Webmaster

**2022 Swing Dance Club Annual Christmas Gala**

The 2022 Annual Swing Dance Club Christmas party was held on Saturday, the 3rd of December. This much loved annual celebration grows yearly, with this year being no exception. Some of its highlights included a spectacularly decorated dining and dancing hall, photo booths, expanded menu selections, as well as high-profile performances by solo performer Justin Ly and the Argentine Tango virtuoso Katia Diamond and her partner Martin Almiron, an Argentine Tango Maestro and 5 time Argentine Tango world finalist and is currently the lead dancer in "Evita" on Broadway. Revelers at the party dazzled one another in an anthology of style, and in celebration of dance; what an evening!



We are pleased to announce that we will be having a beginner class offered in a separate room, and we'd like to clarify that it will be "syllabus" driven course. A syllabus driven class will offer new dancers a higher degree of success and at a much faster rate.



Our club treasurer Garry Bowman recognizes the outstanding efficiency of our front desk worker Chris Crawford in awarding her a token of our appreciation; way to go Chris!

We lost several dear friends from our SDSDC this year, they will be sorely missed: long time members and friends Jan and Jim Gleason, and Bill Hebert.



Before our uncertain futures, we all have chosen to meet illness, adversity even death with strength, courage, and hope, then to dance through all our fears.



PO Box 1954  
Bonita, CA 91908-1954

**About SDSDC:**

The San Diego Swing Dance Club is a private, non-profit organization. Its specific and primary purposes are to enjoy, promote, preserve, encourage, and teach West Coast Swing. Members receive discounts to weekly dances and special events and each issue of *Swing Times* newsletter. If you haven't been to the Club dances in a while, stop by soon so you can continue to enjoy the dancing, fun, and friendliness that makes SDSDC so special.

**The San Diego Swing Dance Club Inc.**

The SDSDC meets on Sunday afternoon and is open to the general public. You may come with or without a partner. Admission is \$10.00 for members, and \$15.00 for non- members. 1st Sunday is a free Lesson in a Non-WCS dance. Mid-month Sundays are free WCS lessons. The 4th Sunday, we have an intermediate workshop. (Lesson and workshop Schedule is subject to change. Lesson is always prior to regular dance.)

(See Flyers posted of workshops for further information)

Classes: Sunday - . . . . . 1:30 - 2:30 P.M.

Dances: Sunday . . . . . 2:30 - 5:00 P.M.

Dance Headquarters  
5035 Shawline St.  
San Diego, CA 92111

SEE WEBSITE FOR  
MAP & DIRECTIONS  
www.sandiegoswingdance.com

**HOTLINE PHONE (858) 274-6422**

**Membership Application**

To join the San Diego Swing Dance Club Complete the information below and mail to:  
San Diego Swing Dance Club Inc.  
P.O. Box 1954, Bonita, CA 91908-1954

- New member . . . . . \$35
- Renewal . . . . . \$35

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Birth date (month/day) \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Newsletter:  email

How did you find us \_\_\_\_\_