

# SWING TIMES

A Publication of the San Diego Swing Dance Club



July 2024  
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## From Our President Vinh Mines

### Hello San Diego Swing Dance Club Members!



July is upon us, and with it comes a wave of exciting events and opportunities for our swing dance community to thrive.

First and foremost, I want to extend a heartfelt thank you to everyone who participated in our June events. Your enthusiasm and dedication to dancing make our club truly special, your presence and passion have made a significant impact.

As always, I encourage everyone to bring friends and family to our events. Swing dancing is a joyous and inclusive activity that becomes even more enjoyable when shared with others. Let's continue to grow our community and spread the

love for dancing far and wide.

Lastly, I want to remind everyone of the importance of kindness, respect, and inclusivity within our club. Let's ensure that every member feels welcome and valued, both on and off the dance floor. Together, we create a positive and supportive environment where everyone can thrive.

Thank you for being part of the San Diego Swing Dance Club. Your passion and energy are what makes this club so special. Here's to a fantastic July filled with laughter, music, and plenty of dancing!

Vinh Mines

President, San Diego Swing Dance Club

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**It's Independence Day weekend. Please consider wearing patriotic colors to the dance on Sunday, July 7!**



### We Welcome Our New Members:

Donna Long  
Evelyn Coates  
Jordan Taylor  
James Shiner  
Maridale Orpilla

Kim Brown  
Johanna Zerboni  
Mark Dow  
Andrew Barnard

### Upcoming Lessons at the San Diego Swing Dance Club

Join us every Sunday afternoon. Lesson(s) promptly at 1:30, Dance at 2:30

July 7	Large Ballroom	Stephen Showers — Cha Cha
July 14	Large Ballroom	Maria Tee & Larry Clendenin — WCS
July 21	Large Ballroom	Vinh Mines — WCS
July 28	Large Ballroom	Joel Toreson — adv WCS Workshop

Small Ballroom:	Intro to WCS
Small Ballroom:	Intro to WCS
Small Ballroom:	Intro to WCS
Small Ballroom:	No class

## Death of Long Time SDSDC Member Peter Felber

Long time SDSDC member Peter Felber died of injuries of an auto-bus collision near the airport on June 26. We believe he is survived by a daughter that lives in another state, but we don't know how to find her.

Passenger killed in crash was La Mesa man

SAN DIEGO — Authorities have publicly identified a 77-year-old man who was killed last week in a traffic crash near San Diego International Airport.

Peter Felber of La Mesa was a front-seat passenger in a Toyota sedan that collided with a charter bus shortly before 5:30 p.m. on June 26 while traveling west on North Harbor Drive at Harbor Island Drive, according to the county Medical Examiner's Office.

Paramedics took Felber to UCSD Medical Center in Hillcrest, where he was pronounced dead about two hours after the crash.

*City News Service*

tails.

Please contact us if you have additional de-

Peter was always very supportive of the volunteers of the club and I know many of our followers enjoyed dancing with him. He will be missed.



**Peter Felber**



## From Our Dance Director Geoff Burns

### Stephen Showers teaches Cha Cha on July 7



Since 1983 Stephen Showers has won acclaim as a professional dance instructor in Arizona and California. Fred Astaire trained and certified, Stephen is accomplished in American and International styles for all of the ballroom, Latin, Swing and Nightclub dances.

Originally from Tucson, Stephen is one of the few instructors in San Diego who has competed in nearly every style of dance. His experience as a teacher and competitor has helped him develop a unique style of teaching that makes learning to dance easy. So come on out and add a little cha ching to your Cha cha.



### Joel Torgeson—Adv WCS Workshop on July 28

Joel is a dancer, writer and creator who wanders the world. He has competed in The Open Dance Championships numerous times at the champion level. He embodies the full spectrum of teaching from the latest and greatest to the spectacular styles of yesteryear. Joel was born in Minnesota and learned ballroom at

an early age. It wasn't until he moved to San Diego in 2017 that West Coast Swing captured his heart and became his primary mode of dance expression. His teaching style is extremely entertaining and engaging and is guaranteed to bring your dance to the next level. Be there or be square



## Getting to Know Each Other Better Interviews with Meredith Anderson



In order for us to get to know each other better, I'm starting a new article about one member each month. This month it's Adam Sumilong who I believe is our youngest member.

What is your age ?

I turned 23 this past March.

Where are you from originally.  
Does your family live here?

I'm originally from Cohutta, Georgia — a small town in north Georgia. My family is still there and I moved out here to San Diego a year ago.

What got you started dancing?

No big story here — I got handed a flyer my first year in college to try the ballroom dance club, then went to a separate club's Lindy hop social and by then I was hooked. I competed with the ballroom club then when about a year before I graduated I got introduced to the Westie social scene and the rest is history.

DO you do other dances?

I can do 16-dance for ballroom (American+International style dances, minus Bolero and Paso Doble). I'm also trying to get more involved with the vintage swing dances like Lindy hop, Charleston, and Balboa. Also I'm wanting to get more experience in Zouk.

What do you do in your life outside of dancing? (Work, school, hobbies.)

I'm a software engineer at Qualcomm, and outside of dance I still do a lot of music related things — I play

piano, saxophone, guitar, etc. Otherwise I like axe-throwing and crafting hobbies like woodcarving, watchmaking, leather working, and some other needlework/sewing projects. Basically I despise having idle hands.

What are your dance goals?

Definitely in the short-term I'm wanting to just continue grinding out events to get as far up in the WSDC divisions as possible. In terms of long-term goals I want to just keep on getting more experience in all the other styles of dance, partner or solo, to see what all techniques/philosophies I can gain and utilize in my own dancing. Eventually I also want to maybe begin doing more things as a community leader and just being more involved in the actual Westie community but that's far out in the future, since I'm only just now realizing how much one's community and environment can affect their experience with the dance itself.

What is your competition history?

I competed with my college Dancesport team, but I only started competing West Coast Swing 2 years ago at Atlanta Swing Classic 2022, and I'm currently in the WSDC Intermediate division. Half the fun of the events is the travel in my opinion, so I'm happy that I've gotten to check out places all over the US for these events — Georgia, North Carolina, Texas, SoCal, Washington, and hopefully many more destinations to come!



Thanks to Adam for being our first member.

If you know a member around the club who you think is willing to give us their story, come find me at the club.

See you all on the dance floor.

Meredith

Scan the QR code to see the competition video.





**SAN DIEGO SWING DANCE CLUB, INC.  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
2024-2025  
Executive Board**

President.....Vinh Mines  
Vice President ..... Meredith Anderson  
Membership ..... Cristian Flores  
Treasurer..... Garry Bowman  
Secretary..... Wendy Knight  
Newsletter Editor..... Jody Kravitz  
Activity Director ..... Taylor Frederking  
Dance Director..... Geoff Burns  
Hospitality Director..... Larry Clendenin  
Publicity Director..... Maria Tee  
Past President.....Craig Helm

**Appointed by the Board**

Webmaster ..... Jody Kravitz

Due to endless SPAM attacks, a single email address is now offered for contacting board members. This email box is checked regularly and forwarded to the correct member if it is not SPAM. You may address the entire board also using this address:

[SDSDCBoard@sandiegoswingdance.com](mailto:SDSDCBoard@sandiegoswingdance.com)

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETINGS**  
Generally on the 2nd Sunday of the  
Month at 12 pm at Dance HQ.

**OUR NEXT MEETINGS ARE:**

July 14th 12:00 pm  
August 11th 12:00pm

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.



**New Website  
Feature**

**Virtual Suggestion  
Box**



PO Box 1954  
Bonita, CA  
91908-1954

## July Birthdays

04	Chau Mezher	16	Parker Addison
06	Arturo Rodriguez	18	Adam Snider
06	Don Piche	19	Linda Maize
06	Marlynn Peak	20	Rick Braswell
06	Michele Brannon	21	Christine Wil-
07	Marty Lane		kinson
10	Gary Hincman	21	Rick Jones
10	Mary Hill	22	Gina Floyd
11	Dianna Gilmore	22	Mary Manzella
11	Kate Friedman	23	Margie Stroud
11	Nafisa Bodenstein	25	Diane Ackerman
11	Sherry Roberts	27	Andy Lieber
13	Gary Grewer	27	Steve Sims
16	Cindy Lennon	30	Vicki Palladino
16	Laurie Wenger	31	G Whitman

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY !

The club will provide a cake and supplies to celebrate birthdays on the 1st Sunday of the month.

**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. **No Partner Needed!** Admission is \$10.00 for members and \$15.00 for non-members. Except on the 4th Sunday, lessons are free with paid admission to the dance. On the 4th Sunday, we have a special workshop before the dance for an additional charge. Mid-month Sundays have both Intro and Intermediate WCS lessons that are free with paid admission to the dance. Schedule is subject to change. Lesson is always prior to regular dance.)

(See Flyers posted and/or the website 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](http://www.sandiegoswingdance.com)

**HOTLINE — Voice or Text — (619) 333-6603**