

SWING TIMES

A Publication of the San Diego Swing Dance Club



Happy New Year, SDSDC Family!



As we welcome 2025, I want to take a moment to thank each of you for being part of our incredible swing dance community. This past year has been filled with so many memorable moments – from our vibrant weekly dances to the

special workshops and events that brought us all together. Your energy, passion, and love for swing dancing truly make this club something special.

Looking ahead, we have an exciting year planned! January is packed with opportunities to dust off your dancing shoes and step back onto the floor. Whether you're a seasoned pro or just starting your journey in West Coast Swing, there's something for everyone. Keep an eye on the calendar for upcoming lessons, social dances, and special events to keep you inspired and improving.

This month, we're also introducing some new initiatives to strengthen our community:

- **Member Spotlights:** A chance to celebrate the amazing people who make our club thrive.
- **Guest Instructors:** We're thrilled to welcome talented professionals to share their knowledge and elevate our dancing.
- **Volunteer Opportunities:** Your contributions help our events run smoothly, and volunteering is a great way to meet fellow dancers and give back to the club.

As we step into the new year, let's continue to support each other, share the joy of dance, and build connections that go beyond the dance floor. Together, we'll make 2024 an unforgettable year for the San Diego Swing Dance Club!

See you on the dance floor,

Vinh Mines

From Taylor Frederking, Your Activities Director



Happy Holidays and CHEERS TO A NEW YEAR!

It's safe to say that 2024 was truly one for the books at SDSDC. From record-breaking attendance to cherished events and countless new memories, the magic of this year was made possible by each and every one of you and the energy you bring to the dance floor. I can't wait to step into the new year with all of you and hear about your dance goals for 2025. Here's a quick snapshot

of our upcoming events and activities:

- February 9 – Super Bowl Potluck AND Valentines Party. Start thinking about your sporty attire and a dish to share... Super Bowl LIX is right around the corner!
- March 16 – St. Patrick's Day Dance. Green attire encouraged!

See you on the dance floor soon!

Taylor, Your Activities Director

Upcoming Lessons at the San Diego Swing Dance Club

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

Jan 5	Large Ballroom	John Nagel — Cha Cha
Jan 12	Large Ballroom	Maria Tee and Larry Clendenin — WCS
Jan 19	Large Ballroom	Maria Tee and Larry Clendenin — WCS
Jan 26	Large Ballroom	Joel Torgeson — Advanced WCS

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

From Our Dance Director Geoff Burns

John Nagel — Cha Cha — January 5

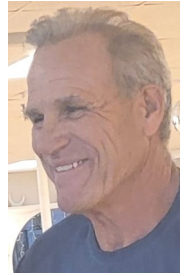


John Nagel is concurrently teaching dance and fitness classes for SDSU, The City of San Diego "Aging Well", The Balboa Park Ballroom Dance Club and the YMCA. He has been teaching partner

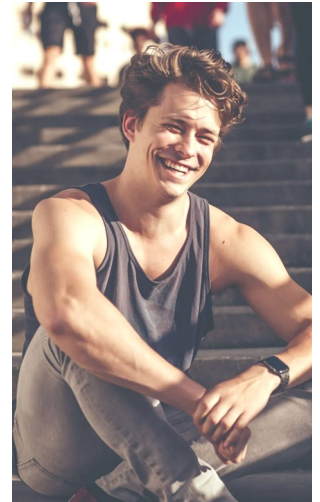
dances for decades. Everything from Cumbia to Country Western Two Step. Despite this very busy schedule the San Diego Swing Club has been able to procure this talent for an afternoon of Cha Cha. So come on out and put a little Cha Cha into your life. It will make you a better person.



Joel Torgeson Advanced West Coast Swing January 26



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



Photos on pages 2 and 4 from our holiday party on Nov 23rd. All photos were posted to Facebook and will also be put on the Website in January.

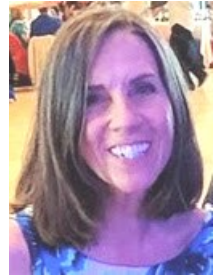
We Welcome Our New Members:

Jun De La Cruz
Virginia Miller
Jeffery Zimmerman
Rita Heller
Julie Lombardi

Chris Lory
Sue Lory
Jason Chen
Alice Chen

Getting to Know Each Other Better Interviews with Meredith Anderson

This month, my interview is with one of our newer members. You've probably seen Don Kuhli around the club, in Parker's classes, or maybe even at one of his gigs around town!



Please tell us about your history and how you got to San Diego.

My life can be generalized as one of music. I was born in Ann Arbor, Michigan, but did most of my growing up in Illinois.

I spent three years in Berkeley, CA, for high school (man, was that an education). I was always in the school band and even served as drum major for the marching band at Berkeley High School.



Then, it was back to Illinois for my senior year of high school. I thought I'd like to become a public school band director one day. I went to college at Northern Michigan University in Marquette, MI (look it up on a map—it's right on Lake Superior). It's gorgeous up there.

I dropped out of college to play rock and roll and moved to Ann Arbor by coincidence—no family ties. I lived and played music there for over 20 years.

My family eventually recruited me to move to San Diego to help my father in his golden years.

I went back to college at SDSU, earned a BA in music education, and got a teaching credential. I taught music at Clairemont High School until retiring in 2017. I'm proud to say I realized my childhood dream.

All this time, I was still playing drums in various groups and ensembles. Lately, I've moved into musical theater, playing drums in orchestra pits. I think I'm up to about 20 different musicals over the years.

What got you into the world of social dance?

When I wasn't playing somewhere myself, I liked to go

out and support fellow musicians by attending their events.

And there I would sit—watching couples dance—feeling like a wallflower.



It was at one of Mercedes Moore's gigs that she told me she teaches beginning East Coast Swing. I attended her classes for about three months and loved it.



Then I saw a notification on Facebook for San Diego West Coast Swing on Sundays. It turned out to be the San Diego Swing Dance Club.

I'm hooked. I love it, and it's really good for me.

I get to meet people, stay active, and learn something new. Win, win, win.

Thank you to everyone involved with the SDSDC and at the Dance Headquarters.

Look for Don at the club and ask him for a dance—or just stop by and say hi.

**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
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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
Member At Large Larry Armstrong
Member At Large Lisa Simmons

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

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

OUR NEXT MEETINGS ARE:

January 12th 12:00 pm
February 2nd 12:00 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.

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.

Virtual
Suggestion
Box



PO Box 1954
Bonita, CA
91908-1954

January Birthdays

03 Eldon H. Gloor	14 Mary West
03 Rebecca Lane	15 Rhonda James
04 Karen Oyanguren	17 Mark Christenson
05 Alan Wright	17 Richmond Meyer
06 Liz Deilke	21 Jody Kravitz
07 Kathy Hord	21 Ron Dunsmore
07 Maggie Shin	22 Lauren Nowack
08 John Croff	22 Lisa Lecko
08 Olga Aleshin	23 Peggy Shoval
10 Kim Fogg	23 Pranee Biggane
11 Dan Harrison	24 Denise Wilhite
11 Eva Meier	26 Linda Schaeffer
11 Olga Lopez	27 Maridale Orpilla

HAPPY BIRTHDAY !

The club will provide a cake and supplies to celebrate birthdays, usually on the 1st Sunday of the month. In January, it will be on January 5th.

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

HOTLINE Voice or Text — (619) 333-6603

