

SWING



TIMES

A Publication of the San Diego Swing Dance Club

SEPTEMBER 2025

"There are shortcuts to happiness, and dancing is one of them."

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 	2	3	4	5	6 Swing Night Out (Oceanside)
7 	8	9	10 Westie Groove @ Infinity	11	12 DanceDiego @ DanceHQ	13 Vintastic Dance Party @ Studio K
14 	15	16	17 Westie Groove @ Infinity	18	19 Friday Night Corral @ DanceHQ	20 WCS Dance @ Starlight
21  Maria T & Larry	22	23	24 Westie Groove @ Infinity	25	26	27 WCS Dance @ Starlight Vintastic Dance Party @ Studio K
28 	29	30				

JOIN US EVERY SUNDAY AFTERNOON

Lesson(s) start promptly at 1:30 PM. Social dancing to follow at 2:30 PM.

BIG BALLROOM

Sept 7 – Jerry Morrison: Country Two Step
Sept 14 – Maria T and Larry: Intermediate WCS
Sept 21 – Maria T and Larry: Intermediate WCS
Sept 28 – Jade Bryant: Intermediate WCS

SMALL BALLROOM

Sept 7 – Intro to WCS
Sept 14 – Intro to WCS
Sept 21 – Intro to WCS
Sept 28 – No Intro to WCS Class

NOTES FROM US TO YOU



President | Meredith Anderson

Happy September! August flew by but was filled with dancing fun!

Our guest instructors were amazing. John Nagel taught a great NC2 class the first Sunday! Next we had our fantastic pot luck Aloha party with Fatima leading a fun hula follow along. David Walkup taught a great WCS workshop on the 4th Sunday and on the 5th Sunday Mercedes taught a single step swing class and The Mercedes Moore band played after! Whew!!! If you missed any of this you are missing out!

Tell your friends how they could be spending their Sundays! We love new dancers. Remember beginner classes are on every Sunday except the 4th Sunday of the month. We look forward to seeing everyone there!



Activities Director | Fatima Zaki

I'd like to thank the members who came to the Aloha party and those who brought all the food and desserts for everyone to enjoy. You are all truly a delight. We are also thankful to those who helped with clean-up. I believe the consensus is that attendees were pleased with the party atmosphere. The studio was so skillfully transformed that we felt transported to Hawaii the moment we stepped in. Well, hold on to your knickers (wink), we are already preparing for the next party theme. **On Sunday, September 21st is the 50s/60s party.** We are looking forward to seeing which era you choose to represent.



WELCOME NEW SDSDC MEMBERS

Kent Thiele
Joe Moriarty

Maria Luisa Ramirez
Marsi McGurn

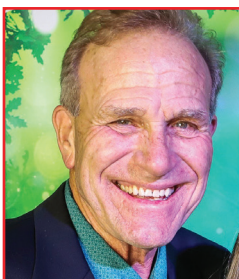
TOTAL MEMBER COUNT

256



Newsletter Editor | **Taylor Frederking**

It was SO fun seeing so many of you during my visit! I love that SDSDC offers such a variety of dance styles – I had the best time brushing up on my West Coast Swing, Two-Step, Hustle, Nightclub Two-Step, and Waltz. Thank you for all the wonderful dances! Wishing you a beautiful close to summer as we head into fall... I'm already looking forward to seeing you again later this year! Until then, you can catch all my adventures at **travelingdancers.com**.



Dance Director | **Geoff Burns**

September 7th: Jerry Morrison

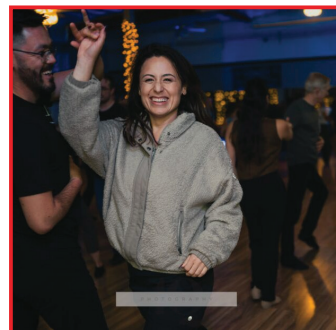
While living in Alaska for 30 years, Jerry became hooked on dancing and teaching dance. His next adventure took him to Central Florida where he taught dance for 10 years at the Melbourne Ballroom and the Melbourne Moose Lodge plus several other places. Since arriving in San Diego, Jerry has become a regular at the San Diego Swing Dance Club, including teaching the beginner class. On the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of the month Jerry can be found teaching and DJing at the Kearny Mesa Moose Lodge. His dance features Country Two Step & West Coast Swing. Jerry is known for his friendly and easy to follow teaching style. Lesson will start promptly at 1:30 PM.



September 14th & 21st: Our very own **Maria T and Larry** will be teaching the intermediate West Coast Swing Class.

September 28th: Jade Bryant

Jade started dancing at 3 training in jazz, tap, ballet and hip hop. At 17 she was introduced to partnership dancing and started training at Fred Astaire Dance Studio. After 3 years she started competing in American Smooth and Rhythm as well as West Coast Swing. Now Jade is an Independent Instructor that teaches all over San Diego county as well as across the United States. Currently she competes in the All-star division for West Coast Swing and won the Top Follow in the NASDE circuit for 2017. She also competes Pro- Am for West Coast Swing, American Smooth and American Rhythm. When Jade is not traveling she is helping the local dance scene teaching private lessons, group classes and DJing at local events.



GETTING TO KNOW EACH OTHER BETTER

Interviews with Meredith Anderson

SEPTEMBER FEATURE: **Patty Dalton**



This month I had the opportunity to interview Patty... if you see her in the back by the door at the “reserved” table stop and say hello:

I was born in 1938 in Newark, New Jersey, the day after Thanksgiving. My mom used to joke that she couldn't tell if it was labor pains or too much turkey dinner. A big snowstorm had hit, and she claimed we went home from the hospital in a milk truck, though I'm still not sure if that part was true! What I do know is that my two older sisters were waiting for me with excitement.

I grew up in a lively Italian-Irish-German household where music and dancing were just part of everyday life. My parents were wonderful ballroom dancers, and from them I learned to Waltz, Foxtrot, Rumba, and even the quirky Peabody. Trips into New York City were common – we'd drive through the Holland Tunnel to visit family, see museums, shop, or catch a show at Rockefeller Center.

By the time I was in grade school, dancing was already in my blood. In 4th grade I had art classes, and by 5th and 6th grade, we were learning dances like the Lindy Hop and Jitterbug. I loved it! At my all-girls high school, there was a jukebox in the gym, and we danced every lunch period. Thanks to my dad teaching me to lead, I could dance with anyone. Wednesday and Saturday nights were spent at the church dances, where I even won a dance contest. After graduating with high honors, I was offered a job at the Vietnam Veterans Hospital. At just 17, I had my own office on the medical floor and worked closely with my boss to care for our veterans. It was an incredible responsibility at such a young age, and it gave me confidence that has stayed with me my whole life.



I married young and went on to raise six children: two boys and four girls. Life was full of school field trips, lunchroom duty, and endless activities. My husband was a police officer for 26 years, and when he thought about retiring, he dreamed of moving to the Jersey Shore or even a farm. But I was a city girl at heart! When two of my sons moved to California (one to UCLA and another flying for FedEx) we visited and immediately knew it was the right place for us. Before long, California became our new home.

When my husband passed away, my daughter Tracey encouraged me to join a Widows & Widowers group in La Mesa. That group gave me friendship, healing, and, eventually, a way back into dancing. Together, Tracey and I started with line dancing and square dancing, and then moved into tango. One day, I noticed West Coast Swing being taught by Robert Palladino, and I decided to give it a try. I took both the beginner and intermediate classes, and before long I was even helping to lead and assist.

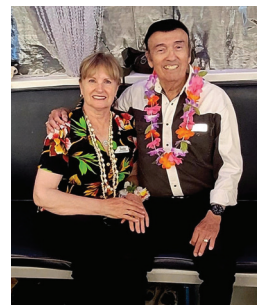
Dance has been a golden thread throughout my life: from the ballroom with my parents, to jukebox dances at school, to church halls and formal dances, and now to the vibrant community I've found in San Diego. For me, dance has always been about connection, joy, and saying "yes" to new experiences.

I like to think I've never stopped embracing new adventures. For my 60th birthday, my daughters Tracey and Patty took me to a Rolling Stones concert in the pouring rain. It was wild, it was loud, and it was unforgettable. That same year, I also got my driver's license and my ears pierced... because why not? Life is meant to be lived, no matter what age you are.

And here I am today, still dancing, still learning, and still saying yes to the joy it brings.



MORE PHOTOS FROM THE ALOHA PARTY: SUNDAY AUGUST 17, 2025



MEET THE TEAM

SAN DIEGO SWING DANCE CLUB, INC.
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Member At Large Lisa Simmons

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

01	Gloria Mellizo	13	David Finegold
03	Jim Schaeffer	15	Robert Palladino
03	Linda Gu	17	Arthur Beltran
06	Meredith Anderson	18	Lisa Simmons
08	Art Gallo	23	Kent Thiel
08	Helen Martinez	24	Joy Lopez
09	Paula Fialkoff	25	Garry Bowman
10	Kathy Grauer	27	James Bounds
10	Liz Holston	28	Sylvia Goebel
12	Michael West	29	Margaret Fazio
13	Cathie Beliveau		

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

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



MARGARET SAYS:

If you love to dance as much as I do, do it as much as you can while you can because **you never know when you're not going to be able to.** OK, so go get to it!

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 dance in a while, stop by soon so you can continue to enjoy dancing, fun, and friendliness that makes the SDSDC so special.

For more information please visit
www.sandiegoswingdance.com

VIRTUAL FEEDBACK FORM:



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THIS NEWSLETTER WAS
MADE WITH LOVE BY TAYLOR
IN SAN DIEGO.