



Ballroom Dance Society

Silver Slipper

January 2009

New Years Eve 2008



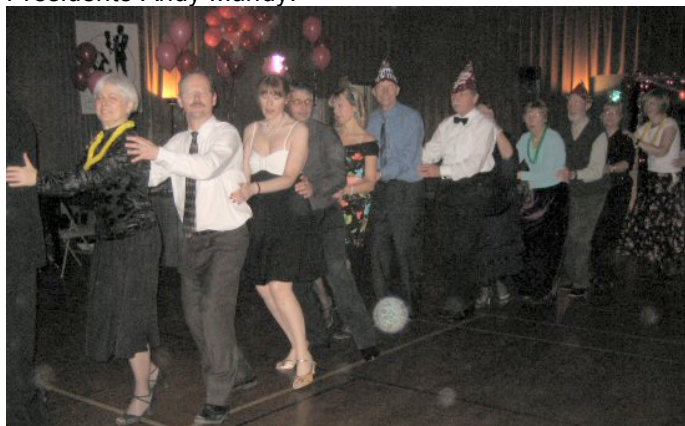
NBDS members and friends had a ball on New Year's Eve! The hall looked fantastic, thanks to Elaine's creative genius and the hard work of many volunteers. This was Elaine's last decorations triumph for a while; after 3 years of spearheading the Nanoose team's decorations she is taking a well-deserved leave for the coming year. Thanks, Elaine!

New Years 2008 was also the debut for our newest DJ, Jeff Bettany. Jeff's



great selections kept us hopping all night, and he set a new standard for precise timing - 12:00 midnight arrived exactly when his very professional playlist said it would! Thanks, Jeff, for wonderful music!

So at midnight we all toasted the New Year, kissed the ladies and joined in the big circle wrap-around dance, then the conga line lead by El Presidente Andy Mundy.



Gerry (left) demonstrated his technique for getting a lady drunk at a New Year's party. Wait – is that sparkling apple juice he's pouring?

Tina (below) has one eye on the clock and proclaims she has had only one glass of champagne, or is that the time - one o'clock?



You will be pleased to know that the Nanoose Committee has already recruited a new decorations chief – Toni Bowen; thanks Toni for keeping the ball rolling.

OLD TIME DANCING

by Dave Stevenson

As many people know Norma and I have been developing the "Old Time" style of ballroom dancing in Nanaimo, for about 6 years and for some of the time we have been struggling to get people interested, but we are pleased to say that numbers are improving, but still very slowly.

The Emmerdale Waltz is an example of Old Time Dancing familiar to many members. There are over 4,000 (yes - four thousand) Old Time Dances of which we have built up a personal collection of 400 different scripts. There are a minimum of 16 different tempos.

There are not scores of steps to learn as there in Standard and Latin styles, but merely a few which can take about 6 weeks to master. Not all of the steps occur in each of the weekly dances that we do. The different steps occur in the various dances irrespective of tempo. If the exponent is interested there is correct footwork and alignments. However if you just wish to enjoy the dance then that is all you need to do.

The majority of dances are danced on an anticlockwise circle around the dance floor. Everyone does the same steps and sequence at the same time. All the dancing is to tunes from yesteryear to modern times. It is good exercise for both the mind and the body. The former makes you think and the latter keeps you moving. Some of the tempos are as fast as the Modern style and you certainly have to be reasonable nimble to dance them. Another requisite is that you need a partner, however two ladies can dance together.

As well as our Wednesday after noon class at the Legion, Norma and I have classes for beginners at the Nanaimo Parks & Recreation Department. These are on Monday afternoons at the Oliver Woods Community Centre and are designed as an Introduction to Old Time Dancing in a 6 week course. It was planned that way so that if people don't like this style of dancing then they are not booked into a 10 week class at more cost. If they do, then they can sign up again for the next class. It will be a little late to book before the classes start by the time this Silver Slipper is published, but if you are interested you could still sign up on a pro rata basis. Further details can be obtained from Norma and myself at 250 751 8669. Try it, you'll like it.

Dave Stevenson.

Instructional Workshops

Workshops are scheduled on the calendar on our web page at www.ballroomnanaimo.ca. The next NBDS pre-dance workshop will be on January 17 at Nanoose when Andy Mundy will teach the quickstep. Nelson Wong will teach a samba workshop at Bowen on February 6, 2009.

Weekly Practice

Practices are scheduled for Tuesday and Thursday evenings at Nanoose, and before each regular dance. Drop-in fees are \$2.50 per person for the weekday practices and pre-dance practices are free. Check the practice calendar on the web site: www.ballroomnanaimo.ca.

Video Library

Videos can be a very helpful aid when practising at home. Videos are available (two at a time) at no charge to current NBDS members for a three-week period. Contact our librarian, Bruce Joiner, to sign out a DVD or video

Calendar Updates

The 2009 dance calendar is now posted on our web site. Don't forget to take a look occasionally to check for updates. The workshop topics and instructors for January to April 2009 are now posted, as are the planned DJs for the regular dances.

COMING EVENTS

Island Fantasy Ball

The IFB will, for the first time, be a 2-day event in 2009. All the details are posted on the IFB web page at islandfantasyball.com. Tickets will be on sale, to members only, at the dance on February 6 starting at 7:00 p.m. in the lobby at Bowen Park, and will go on sale to the public on February 7. Pick up a ticket order form that explains the range of tickets available, then see Dave Stevenson to buy your tickets.

MONTHLY DANCES

Milonga at Norm's Place

Next dance: Sunday January 25, 2009 at 5:00

Cost: \$7

Music: 90% Argentine tango by Gwen

Host: Gwen Spinks (wannadance@shaw.ca)

NBDS First Friday Dance at Bowen Park,

Next Dance Friday, February 6, 2009

7:30 Workshop: Samba by Nelson Wong

8:30 - 11:30pm Dancing

Music: Latin & Standard Ballroom by Ed Hong

Second Friday Dance at Royal Canadian Legion

1630 E. Wellington Rd., Nanaimo.

Next Dance: Friday, February 13, 2009

7:30 – 10:30 pm

Cost: \$5

Hosts: Dave & Norma Stevenson 751-8669

Email: evads@shaw.ca

Valentine's Dance

Forever Yung Dance Studio

Sunday, February 15, 2009 2:00 – 4:30pm

Music: Latin & Standard ballroom by Ken Yung

Cost: \$8 (pot luck)

Host: Ken Yung yungdance@live.ca

NBDS "Second Saturday" at Nanoose

Nanoose Place, 2925 Northwest Bay Road,

Next Dance: Valentines Dance February 21, 2009

7:30 Workshop: West Coast Swing with Gwen Spinks

8:30 – 11:30 Dance

Music: Latin & Standard ballroom by Norm Whelpdale

The Silver Slipper is published occasionally by the Nanaimo Ballroom Dance Society. The editor is John Maher

(johnmaher@shaw.ca). Please send any dance related news that you think would be of interest to NBDS members and guests. If you don't send something, we may have to make something up about you, which could be worse than not sending something in your own words. Please share your stories! Thanks.

PS, if you don't send me your photos I will use the ones I have...
John