



BALLROOM, LATIN AND SWING DANCE ASSOCIATION

April 2026



Hello, April.

Let's Go To The Hop!



**LET'S
SWING!!!**

**EAST
COAST
SWING**



**Friday
April 10th**

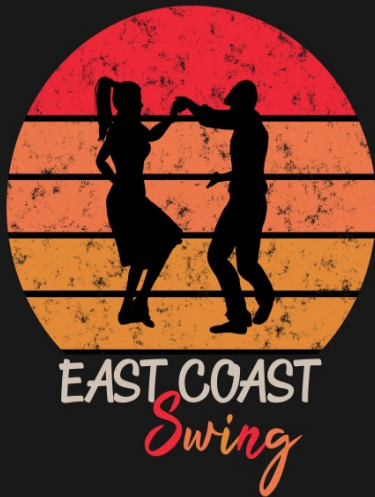


DRESS THE PART!!!!



**DON'T BE
SQUARE
....BE
THERE!**





Did you know?

East Coast Swing is a form of social partner dance. It belongs to the group of swing dances. The dance was created in the 1940s, based on the Lindy Hop. Lindy Hop was felt by dance studios to be both too difficult and too unstructured to teach to beginning dancers, but there was market demand for training in Swing Dance. The dance studios had initially dismissed Lindy Hop in particular as a fad.

East Coast Swing is a standardized form of dance developed first for instructional

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purposes in the Arthur Murray studios. Originally known as "Eastern Swing" by Arthur Murray Studios, the name East Coast Swing became more common between 1975 and 1980.

East Coast Swing is a Rhythm Dance that has both 6 and 8 beat patterns. The name East Coast Swing was coined initially to distinguish the dance from the street form and the new variant used in the competitive ballroom arena (as well as separating the dance from West Coast Swing, which was developed in California).

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East Coast Swing has a 6 count basic step. This is in contrast to the meter of most swing music, which has a 4 count basic rhythm. In practice, however, the 6-count moves of the east coast swing are often combined with 8-count moves from the Lindy hop, Charleston, and Balboa.

Come learn East Coast Swing with us at BLS!

- Information on the history of East Coast Swing was found at wikidancesport.com.

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4th Friday

Dance Party

Friday April 24 2026

Dance Lesson: East Coast Swing at 7PM

Dance Party: 7:45 - 10:00PM

Dance Instructors: Art & Jennifer Hughes

DJ: Art Hughes

**MORE GREAT EAST COAST
SWING DANCING**

&

**BIRTHDAY CAKE TO
CELEBRATE OUR APRIL
BIRTHDAYS!!!**



WE ARE EASY TO KEEP UP WITH.....

FOLLOW & SHARE



BLSDance

f FOLLOW US ON
FACEBOOK

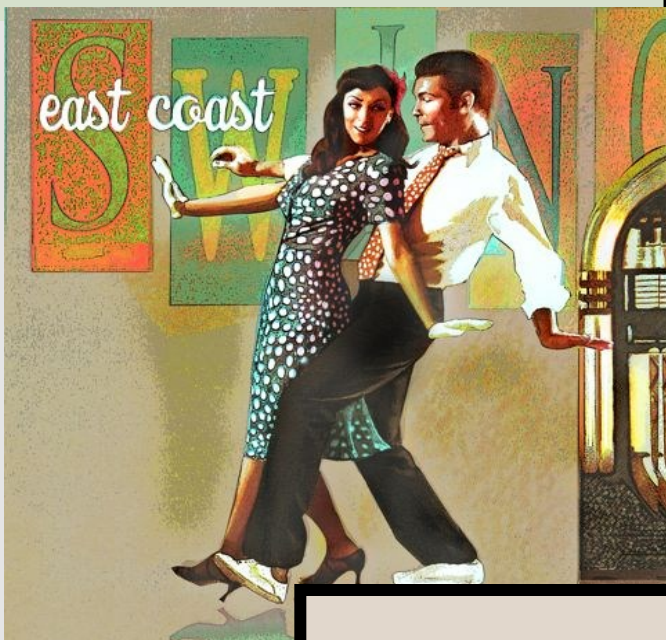
BLS Ballroom, Latin & Swing Dance Association

NEED A UNIQUE GIFT?
CONSIDER GIVING THE GIFT
OF DANCE.....

Buy a gift certificate for attendance at one (or more) BLS dance(s). Buy it for an individual or a couple. Just ask at the door, they can help you.



DANCE OF THE MONTH



4/10/26

DJ & LESSON:
Tim Buffenbarger

4/24/26

DJ: Art Hughes
LESSON:
Art & Jennifer Hughes



Dance Lesson:

7pm-7:45pm

Dance Party:

7:45pm-10pm



Amy Freeman 4/18

David Smith 4/22





The BLS Board strives to responsibly steward the funds and resources of the Club.

It is our desire to provide stronger communication to the membership regarding BLS finances through “The Finance Corner.”

Month of March

Attendance: 3/13 48 3/27 29

Income: \$1095.50

Admissions, New Membership, Renewing Membership, Earned Interest

Expenses: \$1292.96

DJ, Dance Instructor, Rent, Storage, Decorations, Refreshments, Licenses

Profit/Loss: **-255.46**

Ending Bank Balance: \$14,065.67



LET’S TALK BREAK EVEN!!!

What does it take for us to break even at a BLS Dance? Our monthly overhead (minus food/drinks) is: \$503.00 per month.

We need to have an attendance of 35 BLS members at each dance.

$$35 \times \$15 = \$525.00$$

We typically have a mix of members and guests. Bottom line, we need to bring in a minimum in admission fees of \$503.00 each dance. We have worked very hard to keep our expenses as minimal as possible—that would be on the refreshments/decorations. We will continue to make choice to ensure we are running as efficiently and effectively as possible and protect the funds we have available to provide great dances to our membership.

YOU JOB — COME AND DANCE AS OFTEN AS YOU CAN!!

WHERE DO YOU GO TO LEARN MORE.....

Louie Bianco: Teaches Ballroom, Latin and Swing Dancing and specializes teaching the Argentine Tango. 501-868-4160 or Email: louietango@hotmail.com for details.

Tim Buffenbarger—Let's Dance Studio: Group and individual classes. No partner required; \$10 per class. Call 501-663-7724 for more information on weekly or monthly lessons or to schedule private lessons.

Sandra Casado—AR Dance Scene: Private Lessons, Group Classes, Dance Parties (fun, beginner friendly & interactive). 1st Dance Wedding Choreography, DJ Services and more! (949) 209-7441. FB Group Page—www.facebook.com/arkansasballroomdancing. Email: photodancer1@yahoo.com

Mark Counsell-Short—Rock City Ballroom: Former Two time USA Rising Star finalist with of over 35 years year passion for dancing: teaches individual, group, wedding, event, showcase and "Healthy Body & Mind" mobility exercise dance. Call or text 615-403-7436. Follow on FaceBook @ Rock City Ballroom LLC or www.rockcityballroom.com.

Andy Davis: Teaches private and group lessons, specializing in Salsa and Argentine Tango. Argentine Tango class and practica most Sundays. Call 501-837-0509 or email: littlerocktango@gmail.com

Daniel Felts: Teaches Ballroom and Country-Western dances, available for small groups and private at Let's Dance Studio. Call or text: 501-349-7633 or email: dncrdan@aol.com.

Lisa Kirkpatrick: Teaches social style Ballroom, Latin, Swing and Country Western. Private and Group lessons. Call 501-680-7151.

Eric & Stacy Marcotte: Teach private and group lessons. Call 501-658-2797 or 501-658-2767.

Leah Patterson: Internationally recognized, dancing professionally for over 15 years. Currently teaches in Little Rock. <https://www.leahpatterson.com/leahs-school-of-latin-dance>. Website: www.salsalittlerock.com. 501-420-4332

Jordan Sims & Tim Acosta—Little Rock Westies: Jordan and Tim champion the active group of West Coast Swing dancers in central Arkansas. From Sunday evening parties to competitive dancing, follow this group on FaceBook to find out about joining the fun.

Adam Richardson. Providing professional instruction in ballroom, latin, C & W, wedding and social dance. jivemandancing@gmail.com 501-258-7776



*...be part of Fun regular
classes and Social Dance...*

BALLROOM, LATIN AND SWING DANCE ASSOCIATION



BLS MISSION STATEMENT

To promote ballroom dancing in Central Arkansas by providing quality social dance opportunities in a welcoming, enthusiastic atmosphere.

BALLROOM, LATIN & SWING DANCE ASSOCIATION

P.O. BOX 21083

LITTLE ROCK, AR 72221

www.blstdance.org

We dance on the 2nd & 4th Fridays of each month at:

LET'S DANCE STUDIO

7509 Cantrell Rd.

Little Rock, AR

BLS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President: Vickie Wingfield

Secretary: Elizabeth Sotallaro

Treasurer: Vicki Guthrie

At-Large: Andrew Gillespie

At-Large: Michelle Kordell

At-Large: Pam Hamby

Membership: Tom Pope

Newsletter: Vickie Wingfield

Facilities: Pam Hamby & Suni McClelland

Social Media—Wendy Wells