



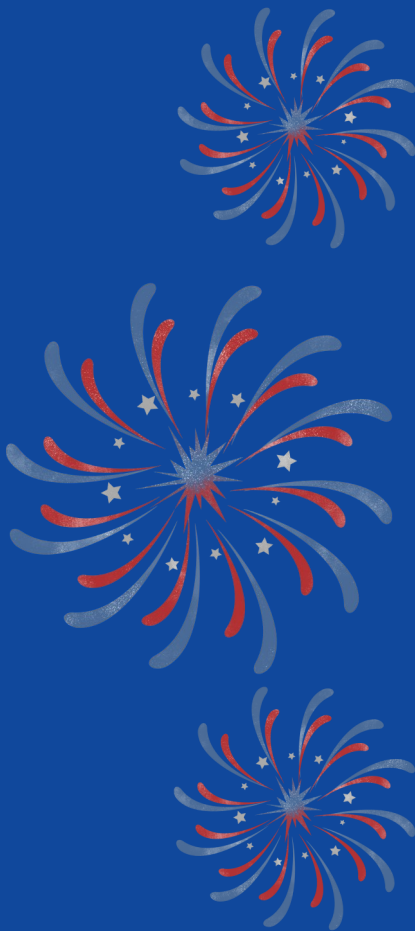
# BALLROOM, LATIN AND SWING DANCE ASSOCIATION

July 2026



M T W T F S S M T W T F S S M T W T F S S M T W  
 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

**JULY 10**



**Red, White, Blue & YOU!!!!**

**JOIN US AS WE CELEBATE OUR NATION'S  
250TH BIRTHDAY.**

**STARS, STRIPES AND SUMMER NIGHTS !!**

**Let's see your STRIPES & STARS**



**TIM ACOSTA  
&  
JORDAN SIMS**



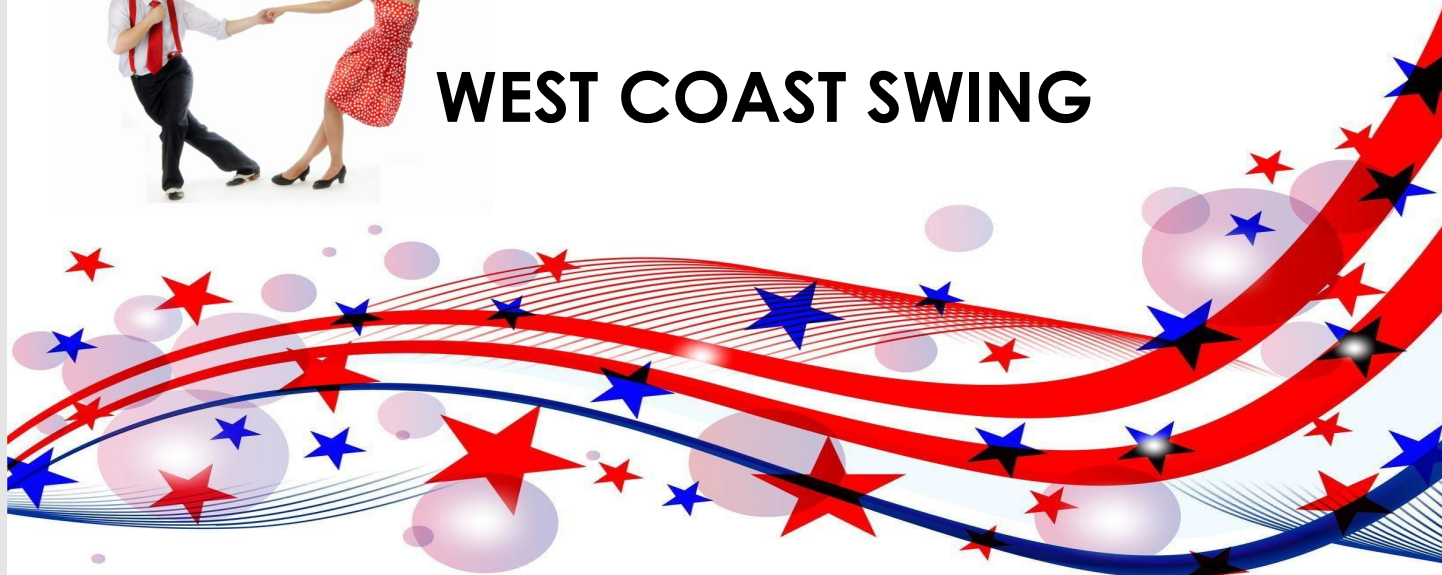
**WHO IS IN THE HOUSE  
FOR THE 4TH FRIDAY  
DANCE?**

**JULY 24TH**

# DANCE OF THE MONTH



## WEST COAST SWING



**7/10**

**DJ**

**&**

**LESSON**

**Tim Buffenbarger**

Dance Lesson:

7pm-7:45pm

Dance Party:

7:45pm-10pm

**7/24**

**DJ**

**Tim Acosta**

**LESSON**

**Tim Acosta**

**Jordan Sims**

**Troy Burns, Jr.**

**7/29**

**Linda Cruce**

**7/22**

**Mark Fredericks**

**7/1**

**Pam Hamby**

**7/14**

**John McClelland**

**7/14**

**Becky Williams**

**7/15**





**West Coast swing** is a contemporary swing dance genre that was developed in the 1960's on the west coast of the United States.

Moreover, it originated from the Lindy hop, a 1940's dance that started at the Savoy Ballroom in Harlem in response to early jazz music with a swing beat. Swing dancing continued to evolve and split into several dances including the East Coast swing, Carolina & collegiate shag, Balboa and jitterbug.

In the 1950's, a smooth form of swing developed in the Los Angeles area that was called *Western swing*. Dean Collins and other swing dancers created a smooth style of Lindy Hop and swing dancing was featured in many Hollywood movies. Ultimately, the name was later changed to West Coast swing. Finally, in 1978, the West Coast swing became the Official State Dance of California.

In the past few decades the West Coast swing has been influenced by several other dance genres. For example, disco, hustle from the seventies, country western dancing in the nineties and salsa in the two-thousands all influenced the West Coast swing.

# WEST COAST SWING HISTORY

## **THANKS IS NOT ENOUGH!**

**But let us say it anyway. THANK YOU WENDY WELLS FOR BEING OUR SOCIAL MEDIA GURU THE PAST COUPLE OF YEARS!!!!**

**Wendy has done a spectacular job in keeping BLS information on Facebook and Instagram. She has grown our presence to over 8,000 followers on FB and we are slowly growing on Instagram.**

**WELL DONE FRIEND!**

**Help us thank-her for ALL the work she has done to keep BLS noticed and our members informed.**

## **HELP WANTED!!!!**

**Sadly, Wendy is stepping down from her role as the BLS Social Media Committee of one.**

**We are looking for another BLS friend or friends to take on this important social media role.**

**It's a great way to get involved and support BLS!**

**Please let a BLS Board member know if you are interested in serving in this capacity.**

# FOLLOW & SHARE

WE ARE EASY TO KEEP UP WITH



BLS Ballroom, Latin  
& Swing Dance  
Association

FOLLOW ON  
INSTAGRAM



BLS Ballroom, Latin  
& Swing Dance  
Association

FOLLOW ON  
FACEBOOK

Check out our latest news & events

# THE FINANCE CORNER

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 JUNE

### MONTH OF JUNE ATTENDANCE

|                |           |
|----------------|-----------|
| <b>6/12/26</b> | <b>41</b> |
| <b>6/26/26</b> | <b>35</b> |

### INCOME

**\$1089.61**

Admissions, New Membership,  
Renewing Membership, Earned  
Interest

### EXPENSES

**\$1204.16**

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

### PROFIT/LOSS

**-\$114.55**

ENDING BANK BALANCE: \$13,663.24

## *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](mailto: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](http://www.facebook.com/arkansasballroomdancing). Email: [photodancer1@yahoo.com](mailto: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](http://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](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://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](mailto: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

Vice-President: Vicki Guthrie

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