



BALLROOM, LATIN AND SWING DANCE ASSOCIATION

August 2026

Welcome
AUGUST

May this month bring you
satisfaction, peace and joy.

May all the desires of your
heart be granted.

May this be the beginning of
new things in your life.

Stay strong, be positive and
fulfill your dreams

Happy new month friends!



The background of the poster is a vibrant display of multi-colored laser lights (red, orange, yellow, green, blue, purple) crisscrossing against a dark night sky. The lights create a sense of movement and energy. In the upper center, the words "SUMMER DANCE PARTY" are written in a large, blue, outlined font. Below this, four diagonal banners in different colors (magenta, yellow, blue, and light green) contain event details. The overall aesthetic is festive and modern.

SUMMER DANCE PARTY

AUGUST 14

SUMMER DANCE BINGO

RELAXED DRESS CODE

LESSON & TUNES BY TIM BUFFENBARGER

**4th
FRIDAY**

**AUGUST
28**

DANCE



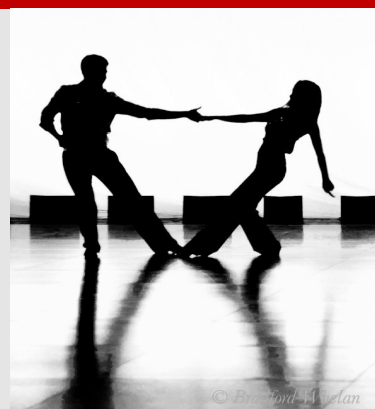
LET'S MOOOVE



**LOOK WHO IS IN THE
HOUSE WITH LESSON
AND TUNES!**



DANCE OF THE MONTH



Louis Bianco 8/28
Robert Brewer 8/24
Kay Ewart 8/27
Katherine Friend 8/21
Hollye Jackson 8/28
Richard Owings 8/22
Stefano Santamaria 8/30
Diane Seager 8/24



8/14

**DJ
&
LESSON**

**Tim
Buffenbarger**

Dance Lesson:

7pm-7:45pm

Dance Party:

7:45pm-10pm

8/28

**DJ
Tim Acosta
LESSON
Tim Acosta
Jordan Sims**



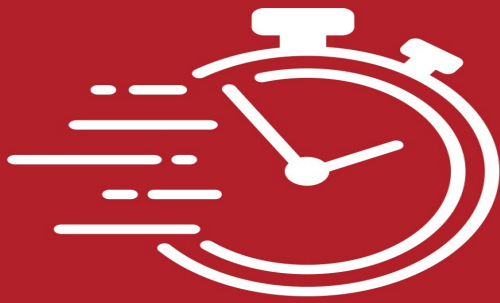
West Coast swing is a contemporary swing dance genre that was developed in the 1960's on the west coast of the United States.

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



SEPTEMBER

It's Time to Renew Your
Membership

LET'S TALK MEMBERSHIP

Last year, BLS moved to an annual membership renewal date of September. We will begin the renewal process next month.

The BLS Board appreciates your input! As we begin planning our next year, we want to know what is working well and what could be improved. Your opinion matters and only you can provide that feedback.

During August a BLS Board member will call to ask your opinion and remind you of our membership renewals.

And, during September you can renew your \$50/couple or \$30/ Individual membership at the door at a dance or mail it to Ballroom, Latin & Swing Dance Association. P.O. Box 21083, Little Rock, AR 72221.

Let's keep BLS dancing for many years to come. Help us re-kindle the magic, wonder, excitement, fun, and benefits of dancing, right here with your BLS friends (since 1992!)

PHOTOS AND VIDEOS

We love seeing the photos and videos you take at BLS dances.

Please share them with us so we can feature them on our website and the BLS Facebook page.

We want potential visitors and current and former members to see the great dancing and fun we enjoy.

You can send them to Vickie Wingfield, she will get them posted.

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 JULY

MONTH OF JULY ATTENDANCE

7/14/26 41

7/24/26 34

INCOME

\$1040.11

Admissions, New Membership,
Renewing Membership, Earned
Interest

EXPENSES

\$1020.97

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

PROFIT/LOSS

+19.14

ENDING BANK BALANCE: \$13,682.39

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 classes. No partner required; \$10 per class. Call 501-663-7724 for more information on weekly or monthly 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



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