Swing Times

A Publication of the San Diego Swing Dance Club

December 2026



JOIN US SUNDAY AFTERNOONS

Warm up at 1:00 PM - Lesson(s) start at 1:30 PM. Social dancing to follow at 2:30 PM.

December 6

- Trish Connery Walkup teaches Single Time Swing
- Meredith teaches Intro to WCS
- DJ: Chris Tan
- December Birthday Celebration

December 13

- Mark Pablo teaches Intermediate WCS
- NO Intro to WCS
- DJ: Chris Tan

December 20

- Mark Pablo teaches Intermediate WCS
- Meredith teaches Intro to WCS
- DJ: Jody Kravitz
- Holiday party - bring a dessert or cookies to share

December 27

- Parker Dearborn teaches Intermediate/Advanced WCS
- Meredith teaches Intro to WCS
- DJ: Parker Dearborn

If we're not supposed to dance,
Why all this music?
--Gregory Orr

Let's Dance



Dance Director | David Walkup

December is here, bringing with it the magic of the holiday season! It's a time for joy, gratitude, friendship, and celebration - and what better way to celebrate than with music, laughter, and a little swing dancing. Let the music lift your spirits, let the friendships warm your hearts, and let every dance remind us that the best gifts are the moments we share together! Happy Holidays!

December 6: Trish Connery Walkup

SINGLE TIME SWING



Trish Connery Walkup is a dancer, teacher, choreographer, and judge with more than 25 years of experience in the Southern California dance community. A passionate partner dancer, she specializes in West Coast Swing, Country 2-Step, Nightclub 2-Step, Hustle, and East Coast/Single Time Swing, while also enjoying Salsa, Cha Cha, and Waltz. Trish is a five-time UCWDC World Champion in multiple divisions, a California Swing Dance Hall of Fame Rising Star, and a multi-year US Open Swing Dance Championship finalist with top placements in Masters Routine, Masters Strictly Swing, and Teams. Trained through Skippy Blair's GSDTA Dance Dynamics Teacher Training Intensives, she has dedicated her career not only to competing and performing, but also to growing and supporting the dance community. She is a co-founder of Southland Hustle and, with her husband and dance partner David Walkup, co-founder of DanceChatter Performance Teams. Above all, Trish loves sharing her passion for partner dancing and helping others discover the confidence, creativity, and joy that comes from dancing.



December 13 & 20: Mark Pablo

INTERMEDIATE WEST COAST SWING

Mark brings a unique edge to the San Diego dance scene, drawing on an extensive early background in hip-hop. This foundation fuels his creative approach to teaching Argentine Tango, Salsa, and West Coast Swing. Whether you're joining him for a private lesson or a group class, Mark's diverse expertise ensures there is always something new and inventive to learn on the floor.

December 27: Parker Dearborn ($10 extra)

INTERMEDIATE/ADVANCED WEST COAST SWING



From an early age, Parker found his calling on the dance floor. He is a teacher, judge, emcee, and promoter of west coast swing with numerous world titles to his credit. Parker's true talent lies in his ability to make the complex feel simple. He breaks down difficult movements into easy segments, making every lesson an educational experience.

NOTES FROM US TO YOU



President | Larry Armstrong

It's hard to believe that the busy Fall holiday season is in midstride. Halloween and Thanksgiving were celebrated and we're coming up on Christmas and New Year's Eve. Club events in November were Halloween, Veterans Day, our annual holiday dinner dance, and the Friendsgiving celebration. Each event had great attendance with enthusiastic members enjoying food, fellowship, and of course dancing to great music.

This month's highlights are Sunday the 6th with Trish Connery Walkup teaching Single Time Swing, Mark Pablo teaching the intermediate WCS lessons on the 13th and 20th, and our own Parker Dearborn teaching the advanced workshop on the 27th. On the 20th we will have a holiday-themed dance. Come on out and make all our events fun for everyone.

At the November board meeting, Liz Deilke was appointed to fill the vacant Member At Large position. Welcome Liz!



Activities Director | Lisa Simmons

Mark your calendars for these upcoming special events:

- December 6 - Celebrating December Birthdays
- December 20 - Holiday party - bring a dessert or cookies to share
- January 10 - Happy New Year Black & White Party (wear black & white)
- Feb 14 - Valentine's Day Party

Dance the Music, Not Just the Pattern

One of the biggest differences between a dancer who knows steps and a dancer who feels great to dance with is musicality. Instead of simply moving through patterns, listen for the rhythm, breaks, accents, and mood of the song. A simple basic, underarm turn, or tuck turn can feel completely different depending on how you match it to the music.

Try paying attention to the singer, the drums, the horns, or the pauses in the song. When the music softens, make your movement smoother. When the music has a strong accent, hit it with confidence. You do not need fancy moves to be musical. Sometimes the best dancing happens when you do less — but do it at exactly the right time.

WHAT'S YOUR SPECIAL TALENT?

WE ARE ALWAYS LOOKING FOR PASSIONATE VOLUNTEERS TO JOIN THE TEAM. IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN HELPING OUT, PLEASE REACH OUT TO A BOARD MEMBER.

www.sandiegoswingdance.com





Fun times at the San Diego Swing Dance Club!
Want to see more? Visit our website



















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Annual Winter Banquet and Dance
Thank you Liz and committee for a wonderful event!
The decorations were fabulous
and the food was delicious!









MEET THE TEAM

SAN DIEGO SWING DANCE CLUB, INC.
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
2026-2027



Executive Board

President..... Larry Armstrong
Vice President ..... Meredith Anderson
Membership Director..... Jody Kravitz
Treasurer..... Marlynn Peak
Secretary..... Kathy Hord
Newsletter Editor..... Debbie Dyar
Activities Director.....Lisa Simmons
Dance Director..... David Walkup
Hospitality Director..... Larry Clendenin
Publicity Director..... Maria Tee

Appointed by the Board

Webmaster..... Jody Kravitz
Member At Large ..... Geoff Burns
Member At Large ..... Liz Deilke

Next Board Meeting: December 6 at 12:00 PM

December Birthdays

1 Arlene Bundy
5 Katherine Keeling
6 Mark Dow
10 Jamie Craig
15 Steve Slepcevic
15 Wayne Allen
16 Mark Siprut
17 Russell Hegyi
18 Sata Folsom
19 Renee Carrington
20 Peter King
25 Debi Reiss
25 Marlene Hunt
26 Parker Dearborn
27 Jon Krause
29 Steve Templeton
30 Daniel Santos

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Join us on December 6 for cake as we celebrate December Birthdays!

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

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Cheryl Kirkpatrick
Steve Slepcevic
Samantha States
William Crocker

MEMBER COUNT: 254

We'd love to hear from you. Scan or click the QR code to leave us your feedback.

San Diego Swing Dance Club Est. 1970

MAILING ADDRESS:

San Diego Swing Dance Club
4231 Balboa Ave #784
San Diego, CA 92117

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