

Merry Christmas



Just A Few Words...

Joy, Peace, Glad Tidings To All!

Our monthly dance was steeped with the spirit of the season! We offer continued gratitude for all our regulars, USA Dance Chapter members, and visitors who attend our monthly dances! Your devotion and support keeps us going.

A special thank you to Desiree McCain of Ballroom Dance Life, her student, Frank Elliott, and student performance group, The Memphis Westies, who provided us with a Festive Foxtrot and a very merry West Coast Swing. We were so surprised and very thankful that even Santa was able to stop by and join us!

We hope you enjoy the December dance photos, invitations to future dancing opportunities, and other important member information in this newsletter. Let us always recall; "The Best Things Happen While We Are Dancing," *Irving Berlin - White Christmas*.

Save the Date! We look forward to seeing you in the new year on January 11th, 2025, for our "Black & White" gala.



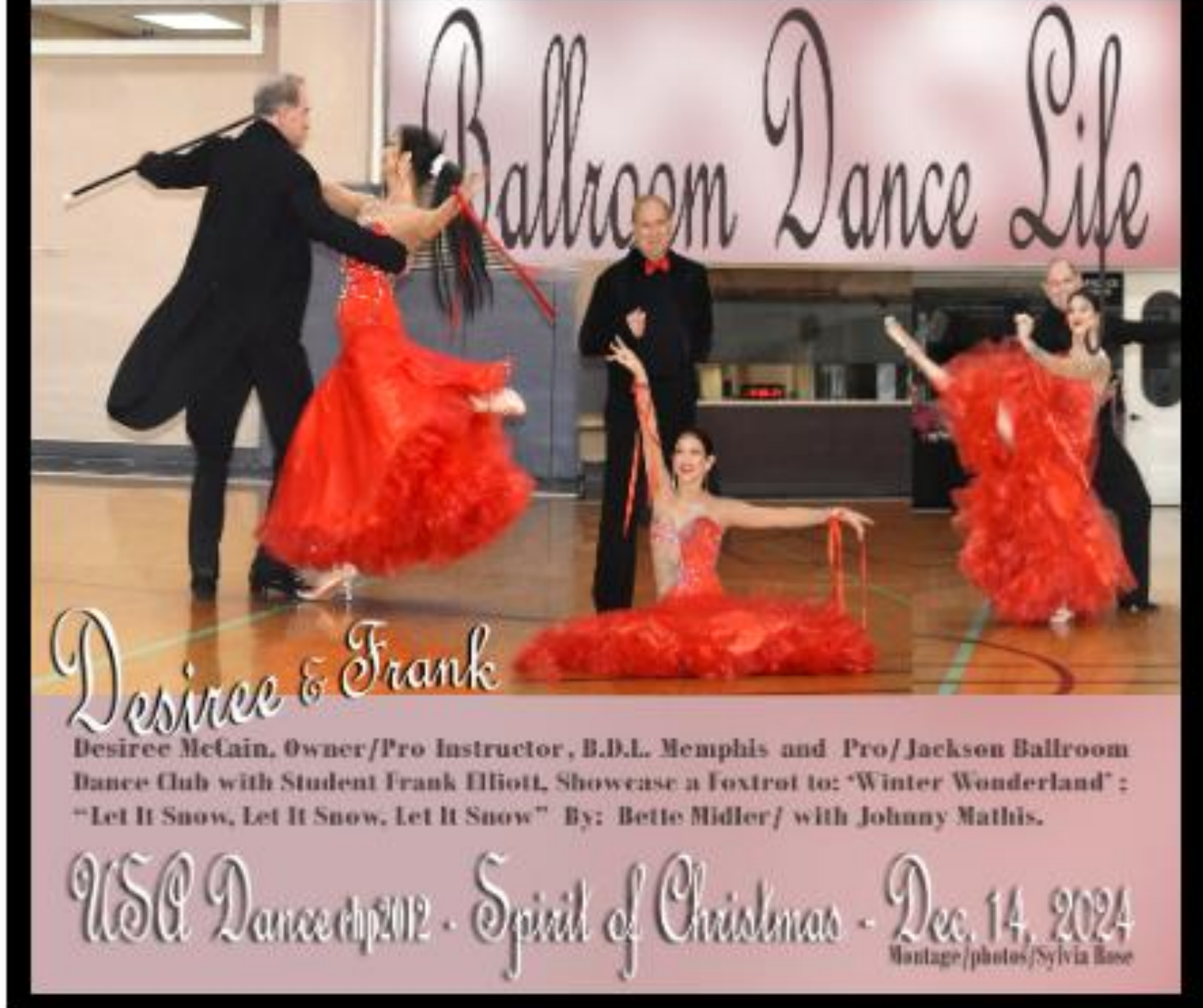
**USA Dance Chapter #2012
2025 Board Members (left to right)**
Don Bashford, Gail Mays, Pam Vaughn, Dena Richardson
Barbara Cook, Jane Rigger, Larry Moore

ENTERTAINMENT & NOTES

BALLROOM DANCE LIFE

Desiree McCain
Owner/Pro, Ballroom Dance Life
&
Students
Frank Elliott and The Memphis Westies

Thank you for sharing your talent & love of dance with us!



Desiree & Frank

Desiree McCain, Owner/Pro Instructor, B.D.L. Memphis and Pro/Jackson Ballroom Dance Club with Student Frank Elliott, Showcase a Foxtrot to: "Winter Wonderland": "Let It Snow, Let It Snow, Let It Snow" By: Bette Midler/ with Johnny Mathis.

USA Dance #2012 - Spirit of Christmas - Dec. 14, 2024
Vintage/photos/Sylvia Rose



"The Memphis Westies"

Desiree McCain, pro instructor & Memphis Westies performed a West Coast Swing. Showcase to: "Merry Merry Christmas" by: Koko Taylor. Dancers L-R: Clint Bainbridge/Tina Bergensor, Bill Devore/Dena Richardson, Frank Elliott/Desiree Harper McCain, Don Bashford/Ann Giannora & Doug Insch/Jane Rigger.



DANCE PHOTOS



SANTA DELIVERING GIFTS TO THE DANCERS



INVITES YOU
TO
CELEBRATE
THE NEW YEAR
ON
JANUARY 11, 2025

ADVENT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
1879 N. GERMANTOWN PKW. CORDOVA

ADMISSION: \$10 / NON MEMBERS \$13

PARKING LOT SECURITY 6-10PM ~ FOR MORE INFO CALL - 901-619-3720
FREE DANCE CLASS AT 6:PM ~ ENTERTAINMENT

USA Dance Membership

Dancers are generally the nicest and friendliest people you will meet. Attending USA Dance events is one of the best places to meet them. USA Dance has over 100 chapters nationwide and members receive discounts on ballroom chapter events around the country and more benefits!

You may join or renew your membership at any of our dances or online at: www.usadance.org. If you have any difficulties with the online system, please contact Barbara Cook, Membership Chairman:

Phone: (901) 292-7782 Email: barbaramimi2@gmail.com.

We look forward to sharing a dance floor with you soon!

MEMBER NEWS

CONGRATULATIONS

Neringa Jakstiene

Neringa is not only an accomplished ballroom dancer, but she is also a top competitive senior athlete. She has been named the 2024 USA Track and Field Masters (age 35 and up) Athlete of the Year! (The award was for the best overall including men and women.)

Neringa began competing at age 51, and won top awards in 2015, 2017, 2018 and 2019, in the Senior Olympic arena. She has won gold medals both nationally and internationally. In 2019, Neringa was named the 2019 best female athlete in the world for the 55-59 age group. She broke six world records and was named the World Female Athlete of the year.

These wonderful accomplishments come with a price; she trains for hours every day. Neringa is an inspiration to all of us!



CONGRATULATIONS

Effective January 1, 2025
Chuck Garrett will become
the new National President
and Lee Oswalt will become
the new National Secretary

of USA Dance. This is a First! Never has Memphis had any members to serve as National Officers of our organization. It will be exciting to experience the air of refreshment these two will be bringing to the National leadership of USA Dance as we move into the new year.



Dear Members

I want to thank each one of you for your support,
both during the election cycle and since I was elected president.
Your encouragement has meant a great deal to me;

more than I could ever express.

I am so proud to represent our chapter as President of USA Dance.
As I face each challenge, I will remember that I represent you and our chapter.
I will endeavor to represent us in a manner that will make you proud!

I wish everyone of you a Merry Christmas!

Thanks again!

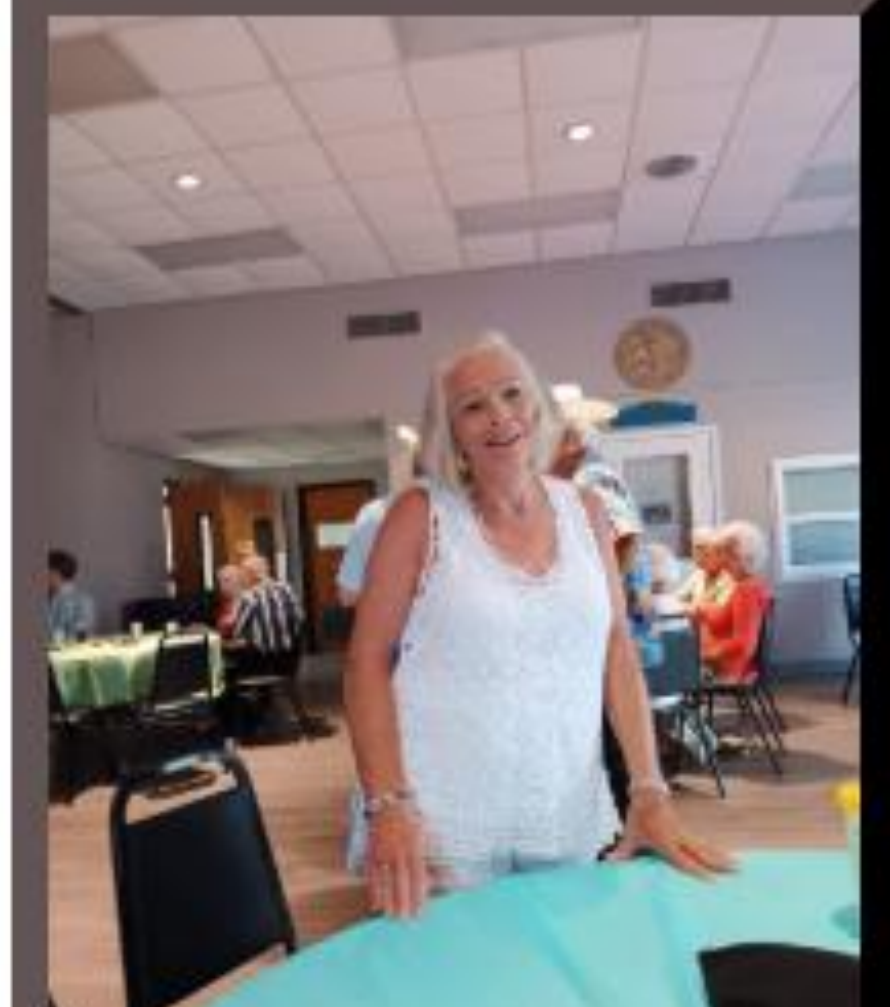
Chuck Garrett, President-Elect, USA Dance

Jean Kae Oldham

We were saddened by the death earlier this month of Jean Kae Oldham. Jean, who once served on the Chapter Board of Directors,

had a zest for life. In addition to her time on the dance floor she enjoyed swimming, riding horses, and traveling. After serving in the Navy, she settled in Millington, TN married and she raised a family. Occasionally she was seen with her young granddaughter at local dances. She seemed to enjoy costumes that fit the occasion, and Halloween was a favorite time for her.

She will be missed by all of us.



Germantown's New Social Dance for Seniors



USA Dance Volunteers

At Work ?

Dance Music for Everyone

Fernando - DJ

The Germantown Parks and Recreation Department's popular senior social dance series, hosted in partnership with USA Dance, continues to attract large crowds. These lively events are led by USA Dance volunteers.

Mark your calendar for the next dance on Saturday, December 28, at the Pickering Center, 7771 Poplar Pike. Arrive early for a free dance class before the event and get ready for an evening of music, laughter and plenty of dancing.

Looking ahead, Germantown Parks and Recreation will host three additional dances in 2025 on January 25, March 22 and June 28, with local favorite Fernando Martinez providing the music.

Dust off your dance shoes and join the fun—you won't want to miss these memorable events!



Free Dance Class for everyone who arrived early.

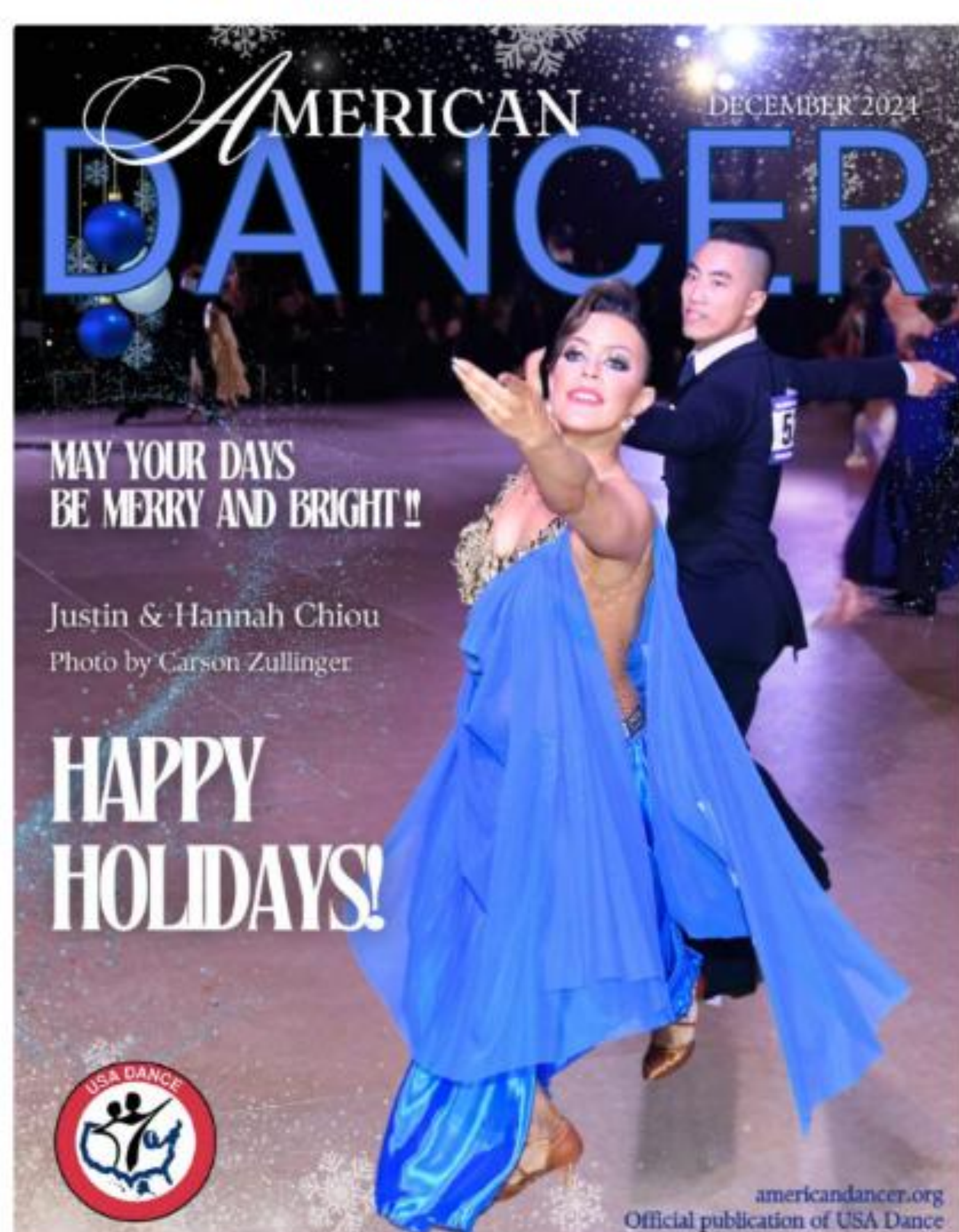


Line Dancers at Play



Feed Your "Love Of Dance" with the latest edition of USA Dance's American Dancer Magazine.

Go to: <http://www.americandancer.org>



"Final Thoughts"

From our Past - President & Poet Laureate

Robert White



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