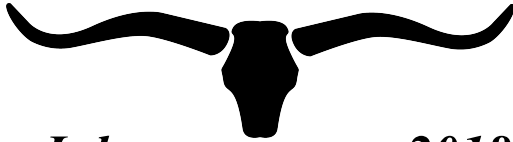


See our website: [www.texandudes.com](http://www.texandudes.com)

**T D L D**

Texan Dudes Line Dancing



**July**

**2018**

## **Wanted Poster**

**Would you believe it, we are starting the second half of the year! Gulp!**

**We are about to go to New York as I write this newsletter and we can't wait. We hope to tick a couple of things off our bucket list by running in Central Park and going to a Broadway show. This will still leave lots to do I suppose we will just have to return. Not too sure going during Gay Pride week was the best idea but it could be very entertaining!**

**Our dance at Cheshunt Rugby Club went well and we will return but with a slight change. The hall is not that large and so we will have to make the dances at Cheshunt Rugby Club All Ticket events.**

**We can't risk over 100 people turning up on the evening so at this venue there will be no paying on the door on the night.**

**In the mean time our next dance is being held at Friern Barnet School so we have no problem and it will be pay at the door on the evening. The next two dances**

**Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> July 2018**

**Friern Barnet School**

**Parking & Entrance- Crescent Road, N11 3LS**

**This is our next dance and we return to our old stomping ground of Friern Barnet School. The theme has yet to be decided so if you want to make a suggestion we will happily listen to it.**

**Pick up a leaflet as soon as available.**

**AND**

**Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> August 2018**

**Charity Dance In Aid Of Prostate Cancer  
Cheshunt Rugby Club- ALL Ticket event  
Kathi, Rita & Chris are arranging this charity event. Tickets on sale late July.**

## **Line Dancing Is Dead Long Live Line Dancing**

*It occurred to me that as each year passes we lose more and more 'old' line dances. We as a club have our 'old' favourites, County Line, Walk The Line, Shania's plus many others. We introduce these into the beginners classes to teach steps as well as teaching these dances as 'classics', but how much longer will that happen?*

*At Friday morning class a few weeks ago it occurred to me that I couldn't remember the last time we danced the Tush Push. This thought led me to thinking, how many of the current class had actually learned the Tush Push? Certainly the dancers who have been dancing up to fifteen years or more would know it but would that mean the majority wouldn't know it? This dance was THE dance that everybody knew. It was the fallback dance when any music was played which was fast and furious. Another dance which historically is known as the line dancers anthem is called Hooked On Country. How many current dancers know that dance?*

*A few years ago whilst in a Las Vegas bar we witnessed lots of young twenty year old Americans dancing Water Melon Crawl and the Tush Push. This was the equivalent of us doing the Okey Cokey on New Years Eve, ie: It was just part of their culture.*

*In this disposable world of ours it is such a shame to be losing what is the heritage of line dancing in this country.*

*I am positive that there are clubs out there who continue with tradition and include these dances in their classes or events.*

*These clubs are probably soaked in the tradition of Country & Western music but what of other line dance clubs?*

*I wonder. Is there a chance that by using disposable music ie; in the charts one week out the next, there will there be no chance to establish new classic dances? Just a thought.*

## **More Natter News**

**Last month I spoke about my 'natter' with Lynda Pilling of the BWDA and promised more of the same. This is the 'gist' of another area which we discussed.**

One area of concern for me related to chocolate(unchoreographed turns) being done 'willy nilly'!**Honest, I am not against freedom of expression on the dance floor!** I said that, in my opinion, this practice seems to stem from three sources and I wanted to check on one area whilst speaking to her and that was the teacher training by the BWDA.

Before doing that my first area of concern was that of dance scripts. They have changed and are not doing what they should. A dance script is just that, a manuscript of what steps 'Should' be done. The practice of giving an alternative 'trickier' step should not be given. (Because it could easily alter the 'level' of the dance) We should all be able to follow a dance script. If the choreographer feels a dance does require a turn then it should be written that way. If there HAS to be an alternative step given it should be an easier option. (Personally I think this suggests we teachers are idiots and can't work it out for ourselves) As we all know, the steps, as well as the number of turns and changes of direction will dictate what level a dance is. I was heartened to hear that during the teacher training by the BWDA they insist the trainee follows the script to the letter. I then asked why do I constantly hear from dancers that 'That's the way I was taught it!'. Even when the script is correctly written it seems some, even with that training, choose to ignore it. Unfortunately it also seems that some teachers have never been properly trained.

You would think that, in an ideal world, no one should be able to teach unless trained and qualified to do so. AND There should be a clear set of rules that everyone should know and should adhere to, be they choreographers, teachers or dancers.

Amongst these rules there should be a rule that says teachers should be able to teach a dance, in class, and, once confident everyone knows it, be that after one teach or more, we can accept free style, ie Chocolate. (After two walls of course!)

Lynda also made the valid point that just because 'chocolate' can be done doesn't mean that it is appropriate.\*

**I should say again that I personally love 'chocolate'. I want everyone to be able to express themselves on the dance floor. This is what makes dancing such a joy.**

But this brings on to the dancers who have a responsibility to those other dancers around them. We should always consider the other dancers around us, always!

I should say that I have a lot of sympathy for dancers who would not know when they have been taught a dance incorrectly.

There is a lot of frustration in the industry when someone decides to teach without adequate thought or training. They see a triple step on a step sheet and immediately teach the dance with a triple full turn.\* They see a step sheet with a walk R, walk L, and immediately teach it with a full two count turn. By doing this you can see that the 'level' of the dance could easily change and the 'Two Wall Rule' goes out of the window. All of which may be fine **IF** dancers do not dance anywhere else! But we know lots do! We try to employ dance etiquette on the dance floor, lots of clubs do, many do not. What is really needed is a code of practice for choreographers, teachers and dancers. This is long overdue in line dancing. And so endeth this months sermon !(OK, Nag!)

**\* \* Before I Sign Off \* \***

A reminder, there are NO classes between 23<sup>rd</sup> & 30<sup>th</sup> of June. (New York, Yippee!) and No classes on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> July. I am going on a once in a life time experience. I'll tell you all about it when I get back!

**Happy Stomping  
Dance Like No One Is Watching  
Lavinia & Mick**

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