

# Milwaukee Steppers and Ballroomers United

October 2009

October 2009 - Milwaukee Steppers and Ballroomers United

Volume 1, Issue 6

## Special points of interest:

- Tuesday Night Steppin and Ballroom class at Garfield's 502
- After Tuesday's classes Remember to stay for the Tuesday Night Throw Down
- Every 2nd Friday is MSBU Monthly Event: Friday After Next @ Shakers 422 S. 2nd street

## Inside this issue:

End of the Year **1**

Etiquette Corner **1**

Help Desk **2**

Event Recap **2**

Know Your Health **3**

Identity Theft **4**

## The End Is Near — Milwaukee Steppers and Ballroomers United

Welcome to the October issue of the MSBU Monthly. As we are nearing the end of the year, 2009 has already shaped to be full of changes, accomplishments, and growth. MSBU will like to thank all who have been instrumental throughout the year through their support and contribution to the many projects, events, and weekly classes. Now it's time to party the rest of the year! A special Happy Birthday goes out to Cynthia Wilson of MSBU. She has been celebrating her birthday the entire month. Garfield's 502, Shakers, and by the time you read this there has been another celebration in Chicago with the Majestic Gents the weekend of the 17<sup>th</sup>. End of month celebration includes a celebration at the Third Annual Mardi Gras Explosion

### Etiquette Corner - Cynthia Robinson

When discussing etiquette the focus is primarily on how to interact while out socially. However, proper etiquette includes business etiquette when dealing with venues and other instructors. One of the most common etiquette missteps deals with solicitation. Do not solicit students at another instructor's class. This one is touchy only because many instructors help/assist at other locations (which is always appreciated). However, to solicit is to seek, or ask. We

Meet and Greet on Friday October 23<sup>rd</sup>, hosted by Deon Farr (Sisters In Sync), Shorty Smooth and MSBU Productions. Visit [www.myspace.com/MardiGrasExplosion](http://www.myspace.com/MardiGrasExplosion) or [www.msbu.net](http://www.msbu.net) for more info. The Margaret Bedford Nutcracker Toy Jam is less than two months away. This annual toy drive benefits the children and families in the local community who are faced with hardship and/or illness. During these economically challenging times, many of us have felt the pinch of not having enough. Please help ease the pinch for those who are less fortunate by donating toys and/or funds that will help bring much needed joy this holiday season. If you or your organization are interested in donating to this worthwhile cause

please email us at [dance@msbu.net](mailto:dance@msbu.net).

**2009 Steppin Demographic Survey.** Be sure to log on to [ChiStepper.com](http://ChiStepper.com) to complete the 2009 Demographic Survey. This survey will provide valuable information about the ever growing Steppin community across the nation. This information will be helpful in documenting the culture, planning events and gaining the notoriety that our communities deserve.



tion. Act responsibly when asked about your personal lessons while at another class. Invest in advertising to ensure exposure to new clientele. Flyers, and Facebook alone will generate new students if marketed well.



### **Hair & Fashion Show – Cynthia Robinson**

MSBU and UMOJA presented a Sexy and Seductive Hair and Fashion Show October 9<sup>th</sup> featuring stylist Theresa of Theresa's Unique Hair Care. The show was entertaining, featured a variety of models and well enjoyed by those in attendance. What is more notable is the collaboration of women who were involved. There was an authentic spirit of sisterhood, support and working together among the cross range of women involved. Too often in the dance and greater urban community, there are cries of fake friends, gossip, and back-stabbing. It was neither necessary or required to ask that we all work together. Once called to action, there was a selflessness that lead the women to reach out to each other to be

helpful in whatever capacity each individual could assist. There was a determination to see that the end result be met with success. When one was in need, insecure, or lacking, there were at least two others to fill the void. It happened without prompting, asking, or compromise. Behind the scenes, all of the women were united with one goal of a successful event. Common phrases heard were "Can I help?" and "Let me do this for you". During the fashion show, each woman involved played her part whether modeling, hosting, assisting, styling, or photographing. Family and friends of those involved stepped in to offer as-

assistance with the common goal of a successful event. No one complained of the role they played, instead they realized their importance to the big picture.



### **Help Desk: Mac or Windows, which one is for me - Peter Robinson**

A friend called me a few weeks ago and while we were talking she told me that she is looking to buy a new laptop and she was thinking about making the switch from her 6 year old Windows machine to a new Mac. Because I knew that she was working irregular hours and money was a bit of an issue I asked her why Mac? She replied that she is a creative person and Mac's seem to be better with visual arts. This has to be a similar thought process many are going through as they make the choice to invest in a Windows machine or a Mac. Are we paying too much attention to what "they" are saying without knowing who "they" are?

Mac states that their machines are faster and they look cool. Without boring you with technical, benchmark details let's just take that as

being true. But, we also have to admit that Windows has caught Mac with visual design. Windows made the news a few years ago when they suggested that Mac should think about security when developing their systems. Windows being the operating system hit the most with viruses, received a few jokes for their advice to Apple. However, with every good joke there is some truth to it. You would be surprised to note that Mac doesn't pay a lot of attention to security. The only reason they have not been hit as hard as Windows is because people developing for viruses develop to attack the big dog not the puppies. Mac has yet to take a sizable percentage of the market. Windows is hovering around 90% of the computer market to date (I do expect Mac to reach 13-15% of market shares). If you Dig deeper and you have to



ask yourself: what is it that I'm looking for in a computer? If you are looking for a computer to use office applications such as word and excel, email and web-browsing, the two second difference in launching an application may not mean that much to you as the cost difference would. So lets take the average computer customer and price a computer for her/him.

Continued on page 3

## Know Your Health – Cynthia Robinson



According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, visits for influenza-like illness are increasing nationally (dated September 6-12, 2009 [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov)). Proper personal hygiene remains one of the most effective defenses against communicable diseases such as the flu.

In the dance community, we have a broad range of direct contact with a great number of people. The Center for Disease Control advises proper and frequent hand washing to prevent the spread of communicable disease.

This is not intended to be used as a substitute for professional medical advice. Consult your personal physician or health care professional for medical advice.

Words of advice:

If you are not well, stay home and get better.

Cough into your elbow, even if you are just clearing your throat.

If you happen to cough into your hands, wash or sanitize them before dancing again.

Carry hand sanitizer.

Do not touch your eyes, nose, or mouth before washing your hands.

## Help Desk: Mac or Windows, which one is for me - Peter Robinson *cont'd*

Q: What would you be using your computer for?

A: I am basically going to use it for email and web surfing.

Q: Will you be using it for multimedia?

A: Oh, I do want to upload pictures and video from my cell phone, camera and camcorder

Q: Do you watch movies on line or listen to music?

A: I do listen to a lot of music and once and awhile I watch movies off of Netflix

Q: How do you connect to the internet?

A: I use cable at home but at school I connect through the wireless system

The specs that I would recommend are:  
Hard Drive: 500GB | Memory: 2GB  
| Video: 512MB video memory nVidia or ATI video

Removable Storage: Dual-layer DVD±RW / CD-RW Drive | Wireless Card: 802.11a/g/n  
Network Card: 10/100/1000 Ethernet Card

Apple 13" MacBook 2.26GHz:	\$990.00
Memory: Comes with 2GB	\$0.00
Hard drive upgrade to 500GB	\$150.00
Graphics 512 nVidia: included	\$0.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1140.00</b>

HP dv3t series:	\$674.00
Memory: Comes with 3GB	\$0.00
Hard drive upgrade to 500GB	\$20.00
Graphics 512 nVidia: included	\$0.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$724.99</b>

I'm not going to tell you what to buy that is not my job but remember with the Mac you save a few seconds with Windows you save a few dollars.

## **MSBU**

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### **Promoting Milwaukee's Social Dance Scene**

**MSBU is Milwaukee's premiere, social dance group. Offering Tuesday night dance class for Chicago Style Steppin and Detroit Club Style Ballroom. Workshops are available for groups wanting to bring a social dance to their community or for people trying to brush up on their skills**

**You can contact us by email at: [dance@msbu.net](mailto:dance@msbu.net)**

We are on the Web  
[www.msbu.net](http://www.msbu.net)

## **Protect Yourself - MSBU**

### **Protect Your Most Valuable Investment**

We all know what Identity Theft is, but do you know what Property Fraud is? Property fraud can occur when someone illegally uses your property for financial gain. Someone records a fraudulent document in the County Land Records office, making it look like they own your home or property. According to the FBI, Property and Mortgage Fraud is the fastest growing white-collar crime. Your County Land Records office has created a notifications service called Property Fraud Alert. Subscribe free of charge at [www.propertyfraudalert.com/milwaukee.wi](http://www.propertyfraudalert.com/milwaukee.wi). Information provided courtesy of the Milwaukee County Register of Deeds. Check your local land records department for information pertaining to your county.