

PRESIDENT'S CORNER – FALL 2023

This year has been a big financial success. Although we've had some major expenditures with the purchase of a new HVAC system and the required floor maintenance, our parties have been very well attended, our outside rentals have boosted our revenue, and our new Intro and Beginner classes are bringing in new students and new members. I would like to thank everyone for their support of BDC who have contributed to our success.

I would like to send out another big THANK YOU to our wonderful cleaning crew. Susan Groome got us started by organizing a cleaning crew and saving us literally thousands of dollars a year in cleaning expense. Her crew is completely on a volunteer basis. Susan has now handed over the reins to our board member Sue Hennigan, who continues Susan's great work and is streamlining her crews to cover the cleaning duties. Sue welcomes anyone interested in helping on the cleaning crew, and you can see her or any board member to express your interest in helping. Any other board member will pass along your interest to Sue, who will get in touch with you to help answer any questions about the duties.

Election time is coming around again for our expiring board member seats. The deadline to apply to run for the board is October 1. We have three board seats available, and I encourage anyone interested to please see our Election Committee chairman Bob Kohn if you are interested in running for a board seat. He also needs some committee volunteers to help him recruit and coordinate the election. We have seven board seats and hold staggered elections so that there are always experienced board members who can help new electees. Last year we had four seats to fill, and this year we have three seats to fill.

Each board seat serves a two-year term. Please note that nobody is running for a specific position on the board such as President, Secretary, etc. The newly elected board members have a special board meeting on the same day as the election in order to then elect its officers. During the first board meeting in January, I will be turning over my "gavel" to the new president. Serving on the board is an excellent way to support our dance chapter, and without our members who have dedicated their time and efforts to serve on the board, we would not have the beautiful facility we have today. I encourage anyone who has enjoyed dancing in our ballroom to consider helping support our chapter by serving on the board of directors to help keep us dancing.

Another big upcoming event is National Ballroom Dance Week, which is held every year in September. This year, the dates are September 16 through September 23. We will be starting the celebration off this year on Saturday, September 16. In recognition of this celebration, the board has elected to charge only \$10 per person for the Saturday party on September 16 – members and guests alike. Everyone will pay only \$10 for attendance. The purpose is to promote ballroom dancing, and we are hoping to see many to come to this party to help us celebrate the dancing we all love.

In closing, I would like to thank all the volunteers who make it possible for us to keep dancing every week. Many may not realize how much effort goes into maintaining our facility, planning our classes, parties, and events each month, handling the financial aspects that keep our bills paid and our accounting accurate and up to date, and giving up their precious time to volunteer their services like our DJs who keep the music playing for us. BDC has no employees, and the beautiful ballroom we enjoy is maintained completely by our members who give time and effort so that we have a comfortable and inviting place to relax, gather with friends, and most of all, keep us dancing. I encourage all members to thank our volunteers, and if you have time you would like to contribute and become a volunteer, please check with any board member to see how you can help.

Respectfully,
Sharon Keene, President