

TANGO PASSION

**Tango Society of
Rochester**

Your best and only source of Argentine tango in Rochester, Minnesota

Volume 1 Issue X

Newsletter Date: Summer 2010

A Fond Farewell *Yuko Taniguchi*

If you build it, they will come. - with this mission, April and I began building the Tango field in Rochester in 2007. Not only did people come, they stayed and created a community that shared Tango passion through dancing, conversations, and traveling together. My three years on the TSoR board have taught me many valuable lessons, the most important one being what it means to have a warm community that supports the activity we love. Exploring tango alone is fine, but sharing our passion with those who speak “tango” language and can relate to our obsession is simply much more fun and meaningful. When I first begun dancing competitively, I used to wonder why I was dancing, especially when dancing was difficult. Competitive ballroom requires careful management of time, finance, effort and training, and I have given as much as I could to this path of dancing without knowing where this experience would take me. Eventually, I recognized that the point is in the process itself. This training as a dancer resembles my involvement in the TSoR board. I had no expectation how this community was going to grow, yet I was pleasantly surprised by the gift of meeting dancers who also invested their time, finance, and effort for the sake of dancing tango. Thank you all for your courage for joining in this Tango journey. I am grateful for the new board members who have decided to dedicate their time and talent to the TSoR. I am excited by the new board that is already generating fresh energy with new ideas. I look forward to supporting TSoR as a member. Best wishes to you all!

Recent Thoughts On Argentine Tango.

A Word From Our Incoming President, Jeffrey Salisbury

In its essence, *Argentine Tango* is an act of two people, embraced as if gravitationally linked to one another, walking and expressing the emotion and tempo of music. Key to success is for the leader to seize one of the many parallel layers of rhythm that permeate a tango, and to let it guide the dance in such a way as to allow the music to become movement itself. The leader's foot is in constant pursuit to caress the follower's. The follower's movements, guided by the leader, include flourish and embellishments that accentuate not only the beauty, but also the tension of the relationship between the partners.

My Goals as President of TSoR

Our friends in TSoR have bestowed upon me the honor of following in Yuko Taniguchi's most stunning footsteps and to hold the title of President of TSoR here in Rochester. I am certain that we all can agree that getting my feet into those delicate shoes would be a grand accomplishment for anyone, yet a daunting one for the likes of me. While I am humbled by the confidence and frankly anxious about TSoR's expectations, I feel most fortunate for the solid foundation in the organization that Yuko, April Dahl, and the rest of the TSoR Board (Jim Geroux, Nathan Gibbs, and Jeremy Anderson) have established – and particularly for the esprit de corps that they have inculcated into the culture of dancing Argentine Tango in Rochester. We are also fortunate to have Jim and April remain on the Board, and for our new Board members Kyra Anastasiadou, Amy Steinkraus, and Maren Johnson – their dedication and passion for Tango give TSoR its greatest expectation for continued success. From the outset, it is my aim to continue the traditions already established for TSoR and to work to further promote Argentine Tango in Rochester.

In addition to this, I have several specific goals to promote Argentine Tango in Rochester that I would like to achieve while I serve the Society. First, I will work to keep our current community of ardent Tango dancers engaged in TSoR activities – for they are the heart and soul of the organization. Secondly, I will work to draw new dancers, novice and experienced, into TSoR – for to sustain the vitality of TSoR, we must continue to recruit an active membership from across the social and cultural base here in Rochester. My goal is to bring TSoR to an effective steady-state membership of about 80 people in the coming years – about twice our current membership. To do this we will continue what have been our most successful recruitment techniques – including, to perform Argentine Tango demonstrations during regional cultural activities and through word of mouth – and to introduce a vigorous campaign to

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A Word From Jeff Salisbury cont..

Increase awareness within the community through the local media and bulletins. Another and most crucial goal is to place TSoR on a more sustainable fiscal footing. While maintaining TSoR's non-profit status, autonomy, and independence, we will explore the development of new opportunities for sponsorship by individuals and perhaps corporate entities from the community. Currently, TSoR has two very strong sponsors: Sontes Restaurant for which we are extremely grateful. Sontes generosity in providing a dance floor in a stimulating environment makes many of our monthly Milongas possible. And of course the generous support of the Dahl Dance Center, in providing space for board meetings, tango practice and Tango Study Group sessions, and general overall patronage to our membership. Dahl Dance Studio also provides structured Argentine Tango dance lessons, as well as serving TSoR by sponsoring visiting Tango Masters for Tango workshops. In addition to maintaining TSoR's relationship with existing sponsors, we will target the philanthropic community for new and sustaining support for our yearly Grand Milonga and other special activities that help to bring Argentine Tango to the enjoyment of the greater Rochester community, I will work to further promote our already strong and fruitful relationship with the Tango Society of Minnesota (TSoM) and the Tango community in Minneapolis/St Paul. To this end we will work as a Society to encourage participation of our members in Argentine Tango activities in the Twin Cities and likewise their involvement in ours. By promoting cultural exchange of these

two complementary groups we will both benefit through sharing of our strong mutual interests, and expand our opportunities to dance Argentine Tango. Finally, I have several ulterior motives for serving TSoR – First among them is to increase the time I devote to dancing Argentine Tango with Jania, whose elegance on the dance floor makes my dancing appear respectable. Secondly, I wish to develop my own unique Argentine Tango persona - as individual style in the dance requires birth of what presently lies latent in my character. Finally, I will take full advantage of the wonderful teachers and mentors in Argentine Tango that we have here in Rochester, the Twin Cities, and those who come to us from out of the region to refine my own dancing ability.

We can all be grateful for the opportunity to interact with a diverse group of fascinating people of all ages whose passion for sharing the dance floor make TSoR a uniquely enjoyable social and highly contagious practice. I look forward to playing, even a small role, in cultivating enthusiasm for TSoR as a vibrant and rewarding experience for all its members.

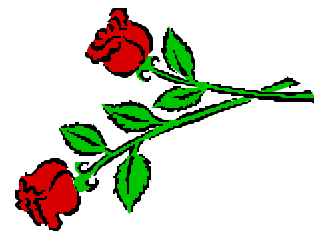
De la oficina del jefe de la.



New TSoR President, Jeff Salisbury with his beautiful wife Jania



Special Spring Tango Moments...
May milonga at Sontes and Cinco De Mayo on the Plaza.



MORE TANGO TANKA

To the edge and back,
a tide of tango rhythm
Across the dance floor.
Feel the gentle current flow,
Lost in the ebb of music.

Tango souls of night,
Draw your toes across the floor.
Escape to moments
Spent in sassy gracefulness.
Tango nights are always young.

Walking poetry.
Molinete and gancho,
A pause to connect.
Expressions in an embrace
Composed in a tango beat.

-submitted by Maren Johnson
TSoR Board Member

Meet Amy Steinkraus...
TSOR incoming Secretary

As the new secretary for TSOR, I'm looking forward to interacting at a deeper level with a group I've come to know and enjoy so much since we moved to Rochester almost two years ago. At that time, my husband and I had just returned from an intense and fascinating three year overseas assignment in Japan with the Air Force, and I was searching for a way to connect with an interesting variety of people. Having been involved in dance since 2001 (flamenco while stationed in San Antonio and salsa in Okinawa), I was surprised and pleased to find that Argentine tango was alive and well and living in Minnesota. Apparently, I'm particularly attracted to Latin dance forms! Even better, the members of TSOR are such a fine group of varied, passionate folks from all over that I quickly became enamored. Learning the intricacies of the dance has proven to be a bigger challenge than I realized, but my philosophy is to stick with a new dance for at least a year, and then decide if we're compatible. Indeed we are, and I continue to grow more confident with each passing month (and the help of some patient and talented teachers and dance partners). As secretary, I anticipate organizing further intriguing study groups during my tenure. And I'll be reaching out to existing and potential members in our community, encouraging them as I have been encouraged to learn ever more about this captivating dance form.



Want to be a TSOR member?
Amy will be happy to help!

Meet Kyra Anastasiadou...
TSOR Practica Coordinator

I am Kyra Anastasiadou, and I have been dancing Argentine Tango for two years. I am fascinated by this dance. I love the music. It is rich and interesting. You can dance tangos, waltzes, and milongas. I also like Argentine tango because it is based on improvisational movement. The fact that the same piece of music can be interpreted differently by different dancers makes Argentine tango a very exciting, full of novelty dance. As a new Board member of TSOR my role is to help promote Argentine Tango in Rochester by planning and organizing practicas that are held once a month at a member's house. Being a great admirer of Argentine tango I would love to see Tango Society of Rochester grow and become an important part of the Rochester community.



Watch for Kyra working on all her tango moves as the new TSOR practica coordinator!

Wanted : Your Thoughts!

We've got the space and you've got the ideas! What would you like to see printed here? TSOR Newsletter is looking for passionate tango dancers who want to share their thoughts with Rochester! Any subject : food, music, shoes, etc... What makes you think tango? Articles or ideas can be submitted to the editor at :
dahldance@msn.com

We look forward to hearing from you!



The TANGO DICTIONARY....
Learn the Language of the dance
you love.

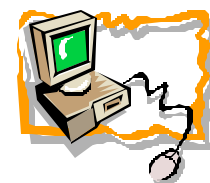
"Molinete"

Windmill; wheel: A figure in which the lady dances a grapevine on a circumference around the man, stepping side-back-side-forward using forward and back [ocho](#) technique and footwork, as the man pivots at the center of the figure.

This is a very common figure in tango which challenges both the man and the lady to maintain good posture, balance, and technique in order to perform it well. It is one of the central codes of tango.

Meet Maren Johnson...
TSOR Webmaster

I am a native of Minnesota. Grew up in Silver Bay, a small town on the north shore of Lake Superior. I am married with kids out of high school. My daughter is finishing college soon, and my son is currently contemplating joining the Navy after 2 years in college. I have a masters degree in nursing and have been practicing for over 20 years. It has been a fabulous, rewarding career! Outside of work, I am involved and busy with lots of different things. I love gardening, camping, and reading the paper on the deck. For several years I was very involved with the martial arts and gained valuable skills and friendships. I also love to travel and am always up for an adventure- which brings me to a new favorite pastime- dancing Argentine Tango! I never realized what I was getting in to when I went to my first Milonga. Fascinating! Some day I hope to dance without thinking so much- to just melt into the rhythm of the music.



Tango Passion staff

Editor: April Dahl

Contributors: Yuko Taniguchi,
Jeff Salisbury, Maren Johnson,
Kyra Anastasidou,
Amy Steinkraus, Rosebud and
Lewis Roberts

The editor reserves the right
to alter any contribution to
reflect considerations of
content, style, or space.

E-mail: dahldance@msn.com
to comment or contribute
stories and photos.

2010 TSoR Board:

Jeff Salisbury, President
April Dahl, Vice President,
James Geroux, Treasurer
Amy Steinkraus, Secretary
Committee Members: Kyra
Anastasidou, Maren Johnson

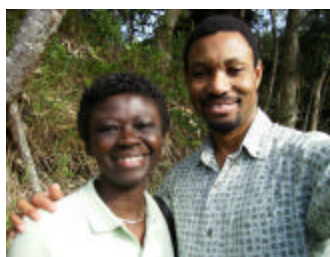
TSoR website: www.tangosocietyofrochester.com

2010 Future Events:

- **TSoR June Study Group & Practica** Sunday, June 27th, 2010
Study Group at Dahl Dance Center 5 pm—6 pm **TSOR members only**
Practica— 7 PM to 9 PM—**Open to all**
Location: Russell's Cost: \$3 (non-members), Free (TSoR members)
- **NO JULY MILONGA at Sontes—Happy 4TH!**
Join us for the Annual Garden Milonga on July 17th, 2010
Hosted by Jeff and Jania in Pine Island
[check the TSOR website for more information](#)
- **TSoR July Study Group & Practica** Sunday, July 25th, 2010
Study Group at Dahl Dance Center 5 pm—6 pm **TSOR members only**
Practica— 7 PM to 9 PM—**Open to all**
Location: TBD
- **TSoR August Milonga.** Saturday, August 7th, 2010
8:30 PM—9:30 pm (lesson), 9:30 PM to 12 AM dancing
Location: **Sonte's**, 4-3rd St SW, Rochester.
Cost: \$10 (non-members), \$7 (TSoR members)

Special Rochester Tango Weekend—September 25th & 26th 2010

Workshops, South American cuisine and amazing music at new tango venue! Mark your calendars!



Rosebud and Lewis
Roberts

Our Members

Names :

Rosebud & Lewis Roberts

Originally from:

Ghana, West Africa; we
moved to the United States in
1986

Professions:

Lewis is a gastroenterologist
and does research in liver can-
cer. Rosebud is an
epidemiologist who studies
risk factors for Alzheimer's
disease.

Why did you take up tango dancing?

Rosebud had always wanted to
learn to dance. When our older
two kids left home, we de-
cided to take some lessons
through Community Ed. We
were out of town and went to

what we thought was an Ameri-
can Tango class, but it turned
out to be an Argentine Tango
practica. We just loved it, and
decided to find out if there was
a group in town. We joined
TSoR and began taking lessons
at DDC, and love it.

What are some of the challenges you've met in your learning experience?

Finding time to practice;
remembering what we learned
at the last lesson or class, or
how to execute the notes we
wrote, feeling as though I will
never get it (Rosebud).

What has been your favorite dancing moment?

We can't think of one specific
moment, but when we feel we
are in sync with each other and
with the music, it is wonderful.

What do you feel are the benefits of learning to dance together?

It has helped us with our balance
and coordination, it is relaxing,
and it provides a sense of
oneness in doing something we
both enjoy.

How would you encourage a new couple in their tango journey?

It's worth it; practice when you
can; eventually, some steps that
seemed impossible to ever figure
out will become 'like second
nature' to you.

TSoR

Tango Society
of Rochester