

THE LINE DANCE MARATHON 2019 REPORT– AN EVENING IN EGYPT

By Carol Cummings Craven

Well, that was one fun weekend! I hope you were among the 500 plus people who attended this year and enjoyed the longest-running line dance event in the United States and probably the world. The venue is excellent and the hotel staff is friendly and helpful. There is a hotel shuttle that picks you up at the airport and brings you right to the door. They have shuttles running all weekend that will take you almost anywhere you ask within a reasonable radius and come and pick you up again when you call. There is a very nice bar and restaurant with a good variety of food and excellent prices for a hotel and the rooms are comfortable and inviting. There are also some nice restaurants close to the hotel that you can shuttle to. What more could you ask for?

Jean Garr and Scott Blevins go out of their way to make sure everything is planned to the last detail, so the weekend runs effortlessly. There are four or five rooms running all weekend with lessons for all levels. At night there are additional dance rooms other than the main ballroom -- an all-request room, beginner-improver room, and open dance room -- so you could go back and forth between rooms and dance any level you want to. J.P. Potter and Christopher Gonzalez were the DJs in the main ballroom and Mary Kaye Johnson, Tina Foster, and Hal Payne kept the other ballrooms full and I saw and heard really good feedback about them.

The teaching staff this year was incredible, and everyone brought their best dances to teach – in fact, so many best dances that we are all having trouble picking which ones to teach first. See more details about the dances below along with a copy of the schedule.

On Friday the USLDCC Competition Preliminaries were held and I was interested in seeing this because I've watched the competition all year leading up to the final held at this event this year. The finals are rotated among the participating events, so it was something I was looking forward to. All the dances were really good, so I hope you will take a moment to look at them. The winner, Jason Takahashi, was awarded a slot to teach at the World Dance Master's Event in England and the recognition that comes with that. If you are interested in entering this coming year (starting with Fun in the Sun in July in Orlando), you can see the rules at <https://usldcc.com/>. The semi-finalists this year were Rob Holley and Jason Takahashi and the dances danced in the finals were:

WINNING DANCE: Oh Me Gusta/Jason Takahashi:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sKJxl2PitJA>

Get Drunk Get Loud/Rob Holley:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5jsxBVm3dH4>

Love In the Dark/Jason Takahashi:

https://m.facebook.com/story.php?story_fbid=10156022586250919&id=662860918

HERE IS THE SCHEDULE OF EVENTS HELD DURING THE WEEKEND so you can see all the things you can participate in and see:

<http://thelinedancemarathon.com/> (Click on Schedule)

THE STAFF THIS YEAR:

The 2019 Line Dance Marathon All Star Team

NEW TO THE MARATHON

GUILLAUME RICHARD FRA ~ REBECCA LEE MAL

RETURNING

DARREN BAILEY U.S.A. ~ SCOTT BLEVINS U.S.A. ~ KAYLA COSGROVE U.S.A.

DARCIE DeANGELIS U.S.A. ~ CODY FLOWERS U.S.A.

MADDISON GLOVER AUS ~ RONA KAYE U.S.A. ~ RHODA LAI CAN

LYNNE MARTINO U.S.A. ~ BONNIE MATHEWS U.S.A.

LINDA McCORMACK SCOT ~ SHANE McKEEVER IRE ~ ROSIE MULTARI U.S.A.

GARY O'REILLY IRE ~ DEBI PANCOAST U.S.A. ~ HANA RIES U.S.A.

JOHN ROBINSON U.S.A. ~ BRENNAN STITH U.S.A. ~ CHRISTA THOMAS U.S.A.

JOEY WARREN U.S.A. ~ MEGAN WHEELER U.S.A. ~ FRED WHITEHOUSE IRE

JOHNNY 2-STEP ENG

And Our World Class Masters of Music

Main Ballroom

JP Potter ~ Christopher Gonzalez

Beginner Ballroom

Mary Kaye Johnson

All Request Ballrooms

Tina Foster ~ Hal Payne

Sound/Show Technician

Louis St. George



www.thelinedancemarathon.com

WORKSHOPS:

There is no way one person could possibly take all the lessons offered but here is a link to the dances that were taught in the order they were taught.

http://www.thelinedancemarathon.com/_Files/2019/2019WorkshopSchedule.pdf

I did an informal survey of the favorites sent by people who attended the event and here are the results from just a very few days of receiving the votes from a few people. I'm sure you will see in the coming weeks which ones have staying power and which ones will be taught around the world. Thanks to those of you who voted.

SURVEY:

- 16 Get Wild, Maddison Glover/Jo Thompson-Symanski
- 11 Down to the Roots, Scott Blevins and Fred Whitehouse
- 10 Boys – Scott Blevins and Joey Warren
- 9 Simply The Best – Rachael McEnaney-White & Maddison Glover
- 9 The Show, Guillaume Richard
- 8 L.I.L.Y., Darren Bailey
- 8 Dance on My Island/Gary O'Reilly & Shane McKeever
- 8 Wiser and Older/Joey Warren
- 7 Break The Internet - Joey Warren
- 7 Fire on Fire, Romain Brasme & Marlon Ronkes
- 6 Mad Crazy Love, Gary O'Reilly
- 4 Everything I Have/Gary O'Reilly & Maggie Gallagher
- 4 Gorgeous, Darren Bailey & Sarlemijin
- 4 In the Six, Joey Warren & Shane McKeever
- 3 Apple Juice – Scott Blevins & Paul James
- 3 Black Dress Red Shoes, Linda Pink
- 3 Dancing with a Stranger, Johnny 2 -Step
- 3 Fall So Fast, Jo T. Szymanski & Kerry Maus
- 3 If I Can't Have You, Rosie Multari
- 3 Nothing Without You, Amy Glass
- 3 Reverse, Shane McKeever and Devlin
- 3 Shot of Tequila, Fred Whitehouse
- 3 Tai – Want Love, Debbie Rushton & Simon Ward
- 3 California, Whittaker and Vane
- 2 Can't Ya See, Joey Warren
- 2 Drop Snap, Vane & Madge
- 2 Give Me Love/Fred Whitehouse & Nicola Lafferty
- 2 Good Vibes Good Life, Hana Ries
- 2 Hurts So Good, Cody Flowers
- 2 Hypnotized Cha, Simon Ward
- 2 Lonely Blues, Maddison Glover
- 2 Something That You Want, Darren Bailey & Amy Glass
- 2 The Afterbeat, Lynne Martino
- 2 We Love It, Rhoda Lai
- 2 When You Walk In - Warren/Stith
- 2 Wonderland, Rebecca Lee

Abu Dhabi, Daniel Trepatt & Rebecca Lee
All I Am Is You, Julia Wetzel
All I Need to Know, Gary O'Reilly & Maggie Gallagher
Baby Madda, Shane McKeever
Burden, Shane McKeever
Country Bump - Darren Bailey
Don't Think About You, Neils Poulsen
I Can't Stop, Fred Whitehouse
Keep On Smiling, Lynne Martino
Knockin' Boots, Hana Ries
Left right left, Will Craig
Mad Crazy Love, Gary O'Reilly
Native Tongue, Rosie Multari & Jennifer Jones
Never Love Again, Guillaume Richard & Paul Snooke
Nobody, Jessica Devlin
Remember You Young, Guillaume Richard
Rocket Man, Guillaume Richard
Satisfied, Amy Glass Bailey
Sushi, Rebecca Lee
Tearin' Me Up - Rona Kaye
Tell The Truth, Lynne Martino
This is Us, Fred Whitehouse and Rebecca Lee
5:15,

HERE ARE MANY VIDEOS FROM THE EVENT DONE BY STACY GARCIA (IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER) AND ALSO SOME FROM JESSIE CHAN AND JODI HARMON. There are lots of videos posted on Facebook, also. Thanks for sharing, everyone.

<http://www.worldlinedancenewsletter.com/stacyj2019/2019-marathon-videos.pdf> (from Stacy)

https://m.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLI8JfO3LRVWOKM_ocJMWbCOTfjo3D2UZ5 (from Jessie Chan)

<https://vimeo.com/showcase/6043892> (Some videos from open dance from Jodi Harmon.)

You can order the OFFICIAL VIDEOS from 7 Arrow Media and they will have a walk-through of every dance by each instructor.

The highlight of the weekend, as always, is Saturday night's show and this was a GREAT ONE. I can't believe all the time and effort that must have gone into this presentation. Great performances, great costumes, a real script, and just an amazing job, everyone. There are many videos on Youtube and you can order the show as part of the official videos from 7 Arrow Media if you would like to see the entire thing.

Saturday night was also the night that many people wore amazing costumes to celebrate AN EVENING IN EGYPT. There are lots of photos on Facebook if you are on Facebook and lots were shared on the World Line Dance Newsletter Group on there so enjoy looking at all the festivities.

I left on Sunday morning but the entire day was filled with more Marathon and ended with a Pizza Party and from what I saw dancing continued until the wee hours. I think there is a reason they call it the MARATHON!!!! We had class last night and most of us were zombies because we hadn't recovered from the weekend yet. LOL.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR NEXT YEAR! I will tell you I saw the tee shirts and they are adorable so get your registration in early enough to get one and also get the step books as part of your registration to ensure you get a room in the host hotel. The step book this year also included the entire history of Egypt and I learned way more than I ever knew about Egypt before. Good job for the person who did that. It was a lot of work!

Thank you, Jean and Scott, for a wonderful weekend and to all the staff who make this event so special, you deserve a standing ovation! Can you see me standing and clapping? Well, I am! LOL.

SAVE THE DATE!!!! The theme for next year is THE LINE DANCE MARATHON PRESENTS DR. SEUSS -- May 28th – May 31st, 2020.