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The ATS flash mob at Tribal Revolution in Chicago, June 27, 2015.

**Welcome New Members!**

*Troupe memberships:*

**Lunasa**

Stacy Hutchens  
 Susan Mitchener

**Jaddat Harr**

Cindy Taylore  
 Betsy Spiegel

**Almas Fi al Kham**

Cindy Taylor  
 Betsy Spiegel  
 Corinne Gates  
 Yvonne Bouchard  
 Deana Mesman  
 Greg Taylor

**Troupe Almas Fi Al Kham:**

Corinne Gates  
 Yvonne Bouchard  
 Deana Mesman  
 Betsy Spiegel  
 Cindy Taylor  
 Greg Taylor

**Troupe Jaddat Harr:**

Cindy Taylor  
 Betsy Spiegel

**Welcome back Troupe Kali-Ma:**

Christine Rhodes  
 Sarah Peake  
 Lisa Young

**Welcome back Troupe Maha Devi:**

Brandie Davis  
 Kelli Westerman



**Welcome new members to Mandali Tribal Sisters:**  
 Sarah Brindza  
 Theresa Lang

*Individual memberships:*

Diane Mullins

*Returning members:*

Isabelle Murray  
 Janet Rapala



At left: shots from the ISAMETD booth at the Broad Ripple Art Fair. Happy drummers and dancers!

<p><b>Reminders &amp; Announcements</b>  <i>EVENTS CALENDAR:</i> Post events, workshops, hafas and parties open to all members/public by submitting them to Jeana (<a href="mailto:editor1@isametd.com">editor1@isametd.com</a>) or go to (<a href="http://www.isametd.com/WEBPROTECT-addevent.htm">http://www.isametd.com/WEBPROTECT-addevent.htm</a>).</p>	<p><i>Individual classes and performances go in the Forums.</i></p>
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**Calendar of Events**

**July 25: ISAMETD Annual Workshop & Show in Ft Wayne – CANCELLED. Not enough sign-ups for the workshops to run, alas!**

**Sept 18-19: Baroness of Blades Workshop with Belladonna in Muncie**  
 Two days of workshops—including advanced sword work—plus a gala show!

<https://www.facebook.com/events/7989843368217> **International Festival NEW DATES: November 5, 6, 7 (Thurs, Fri, Sat, NO Sunday this year), 10am-88/**

**Sept 12: Penrod Art Fair**

ISAMETD will have a booth, and yes, you'll get to volunteer and enjoy the beautiful art fair while dancing for the public!

**9pm**

Stay tuned for more info on how to volunteer at this fun, educational event! It'll be held at a different part of the State Fairgrounds, too.

## **ISAMETD Business:**

**Upcoming ISAMETD meetings for the rest of 2015 (all on Sundays):**

**August 9**

**October 11**

**December 13**

**(Time and location TBA, but go ahead and mark your calendars now!)**

**REMINDER:** MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS ARE DUE JUNE 30! Just a reminder that members whose membership expires June 30, 2015 will be receiving a renewal notice by May 1<sup>st</sup> via email. Please be on the lookout for it. Don't delay; send in your dues right away! If you're not sure when your membership expires, or have any other questions about membership, please contact Heddy Charleston at [heddy.charleston@att.net](mailto:heddy.charleston@att.net). Thank you.

**THE TREASURER SEARCH IS ON!** Heddy has been our faithful treasurer for a number of years and is ready to retire. This person will complete the term of Treasurer through July 2016. Qualified candidates must be detailed oriented, able to balance multiple banking accounts, make deposits, and write checks. Bookkeeping/Accounting experience is preferred. Must attend business meetings held every other month, and prepare Officer's Reports to present at business meeting and for presentation in the newsletter.

Interested individuals should send an email to Lisa at [president.isametd@gmail.com](mailto:president.isametd@gmail.com), and be prepared to attend the next business meeting on Sunday, August 9th.

**NEW WEBSITE!** All members need to sign up all over again to use the website. If you already renewed before July 1, or have a two year membership, you will need a special code in order to gain access to the website. Please send an email to [president.isametd@gmail.com](mailto:president.isametd@gmail.com) to obtain your code.

## **Local Workshop Announcement!**

Belladonna Baroness of Blades Workshops and Gala Show, Muncie, Indiana, September 19-20, 2015. Workshops and show will be held at Cornerstone Center for the Arts in downtown Muncie. ISAMETD members get \$5 cash back at the door for showing their membership card. For more information go to <https://www.facebook.com/events/798984336821788/>.

## **My Second Tribal Revolution**

By Andy Smith

I got a chance to attend the Blue Lotus Tribe's "Tribal Revolution" for the second year in a row, and wow, what an experience! It didn't seem possible, but I think I actually had a better time this year than I did last year. It was three days completely stuffed with Middle Eastern dancing and drumming.

First, let's talk dancing. As those readers who know me may be aware (some of these are more obvious than others): (a) I'm a guy, which means I'm automatically in the minority when I set foot in a belly dance class, (b) I've never been super comfortable with my body or dancing, (c) I don't have any formal dance training.

But, I love Middle Eastern drumming, and I aspire to be the best accompanist for a dancer that I can possibly be. Serious belly dancers often embark on a study of rhythms and drumming so they are better equipped to dance to those rhythms. It stands to reason that a drummer should study dancing so that he/she will be better equipped to accompany, and more attuned to, belly dancers. Or at least that makes sense to me. Let me just say that I am very fortunate the belly dance community tends to be so tolerant and welcoming!

Now, does this mean I'm taking belly dancing classes twice a week? No. Once a week? No. Once a month? No. It's more like once a year at Tribal Revolution (and occasionally at the ISAMETD Winter Bazaar).

Anyway, my first class was Amy Sigil's "Inspiration for Improvisation." I was initially attracted to this class because I'm very interested in improvised dance, especially as it relates to improvised music (in my case drumming), and the interaction between the dancer and the musician. Amy's class was focused on tribal style group improvisations, so not exactly what I thought I'd get, but still loads of fun.

I was the only male student in the class, but this fact was compensated for by the presence of a couple of familiar faces belonging to friends from our own Indy Tribal troupe. And the other participants were pretty tolerant of my paltry efforts.

Amy ran the class in a totally participatory way. She gave minimal verbal instruction, but somehow had us all dancing in no time. The dance segments were long, but always changing. The movements would repeat, mutate, evolve and morph as our vocabularies increased. All the movements were taught using a piece-by-piece process of imitation, repeated until the desired combination had been assimilated by the group. It took me awhile to realize that Amy wasn't teaching us the movements at all, she was teaching us how to teach! This became more apparent when we split up into groups with the assignment of inventing a combination and teaching it to the rest of the class.

My other dance class was beginner level American Tribal Style (ATS). I was interested in this class for two reasons: (a) I have been doing some ATS accompaniment for Indy Tribal and I'm anxious to learn to (at least) recognize some of the moves, and (b) it was taught by Tribal Rev's only male dance instructor! That's right! The teacher, Valizan, was actually the first man to graduate from the Fat Chance Belly Dance teacher training program. He runs an ATS Brother Studio in Toronto.

Valizan turned out to be a very good teacher. He really has a talent for taking a movement and breaking it down into its component parts. His teaching style is more verbal than Amy's, but he kept us moving, spicing things up with generous helpings of almost-but-not-quite-raunchy humor. Overall, another great class.

Now let's talk about drumming. The drum instructor this year was the always-amusing Carmine Guida. If you've never had a chance to take classes from Carmine, or dance to his music, or just meet him, you've got something to add to your bucket list. Carmine knows a lot about Middle Eastern music, and he has a fun, laid back teaching style that makes his classes very enjoyable. Plus he possesses a distinctly Carmine-esque sense of humor.

I took all four of Carmine's classes. Even though I've been playing doumbek for several years now, there's always new stuff to learn; even at the beginner class. Carmine also asked me to play some riq for the Friday evening dinner show, joining him and amazing oudist Igor Houwat, which was a great experience.

Then there were the late night jams. I think we played until at least 1:30 am in the hotel's downstairs hallways all three nights of the event! At one point on Saturday night/Sunday morning, there must have been 50 ATS dancers crammed into the hallway all dancing as a single group! It looked like an ATS flash mob!

Tribal Rev is famous for its shows. There are three of them and I got to perform in all of them (I may have been the only person who could make that claim, but I was unable to confirm or refute this)! I played for the ultra-talented Gabrielia (aka. Gabi, aka Kelly Marshall Riddle) on Thursday, and for Jeana Jorgensen's wonderful Indy Tribal ATS troupe on Friday. On Saturday I played with one of Carmine's classes.

Of course some of the big names, such as Zoe Jakes and Rachel Brice, delivered spectacular performances, but I was also wowed by many artists I didn't previously know of. I continue to be impressed by the high quality of the talent in the Tribal Rev shows, and the addition of a semi-professional emcee this year really took things up a notch.

After coming home from Chicago, I was basking in the glow of this event for the next week at least. Now, as I write this...uh...write up, one thought solidifies in my mind: I can't wait 'til next year!



Another glimpse of the Tribal Rev ATS flash mob. Maria's smile lights up the room as always! Photo by Grace of [easternfirebellydance.com](http://easternfirebellydance.com)

## **Blast from the Past**

*This month we'll share a feature by Beth Braun from the May/June 2000 ISAMETD newsletter.*

Dancers, Brace Yourselves!

I make it a habit whenever I scavenge at the thrift stores to look for old, tarnished bracelets. I like to get as many as I can on my arms as I think the bulky metal bracelets look authentic for a tribal fusion, Bedouin, Gypsy, or Fellahin look. I like to mix up the widths, colors, metals, styles, and allow the metals to age with tarnish. I enjoy the rattle they make when I dance or just move about. But what if you want to return the metal back to its untarnished glimmer? Try using silver polish first, especially if you do not know what type of metal it is. I have heard people speak of taking an old tooth brush and toothpaste to their jewelry. For the cheaper brass bracelets you may use the Revere Ware pan cleanser or Tarnex. In a pinch, soaking it in simple vinegar or lemon juice [they are acids] will also remove the tarnish. But never use these cheaper brass cleaners or fruit acids on the softer silver, pearls, enameled bracelets, or other good jewelry as it will remove part of the metal, dissolve your pearls, and make pock marks in the metal or paint.

Once your [cheap] bracelet is cleaned, to prevent it from tarnishing again, simply spray it with clear polyurethane, or rub on a thin coat of polyurethane floor wax. One can also use car wax or the polyurethane bond for car finishes, but I find it is almost impossible to rub the blue or white haze out of the tiny crevices.

What if those ethnic but cheap bracelets cause your skin to turn green, itch, or give you a rash? You can protect your skin by either painting the inside of the bracelet with the polyurethane clear spray paint, or glue a felt strip inside. The cushion of the felt also helps fit the bracelet better and feels nice to the skin and prevents the bracelet from sticking to your skin [a risk when painting the inside].

## **Letter from the Editor**

**by Jeana Jorgensen**

Summer's in full swing! Dance events are happening almost every weekend, which is a mixed blessing here in Indiana. On the one hand I'm incredibly grateful to live somewhere with such a lively dance community, and on the other hand I curse every time I look at my calendar because I can't make it to everything that's happening. Is there a belly dance version of FOMO (Fear Of Missing Out)?

I had the pleasure of attending Tribal Revolution in Chicago the last weekend of June, and it was a fantastic event. I took 15 hours of workshops over the course of 4 days, and somehow was still walking at the end. I guess teaching dance classes and doing rehearsals multiple times a week has kept me in good shape! There were a number of dance styles represented at Tribal Rev, as you'll see in Andy's write-up of the event in this issue. I was thrilled to grace the gala show stage with my troupe, Indy Tribal, and we've now got our performance up on Youtube if anyone's curious what ATS looks like to improvised drumming (improvised dancing to improvised drumming – how hard could that be? Bwahaha!).

Mostly, it was wonderful to get to learn from such talented instructors as Jill Parker, Amy Sigil, Valizan, Ariellah, and Ashley Lopez, while dancing alongside earnest and hard-working belly dancers from all around the Midwest. Let's keep our community growing and thriving!

## ISAMETD Business Meeting Minutes

For updates and to suggest changes please visit the Secretary's Blog (<http://www.isametd.com/apps/blog/categories/show/740696-secretary>)

**Date:** June 14, 2015

**Location:** Franklin Road Public Library

**Minutes taken by:** Mechele Henderson, Secretary

**Attendees** Lisa Warner, President; Jenny Smithson, Vice President; Mechele Henderson, Secretary (minutes); Heddy Charleston, Treasurer; Jeana Jorgensen, Newsletter (via Google Hangout); Sue Powe, Member; Tonya Bowley, Member; LaDonna Starkey, member

**Call to Order:** The meeting was brought to order by President Lisa Warner 2:02pm.

**President's report:** Working on website migration to be complete next week. When we roll out everyone will have to sign up again. There will be a registration/member number. Adam has a few minor questions regarding how we want to handle new members: rolling membership or annual renewal drive? The website can automate renewals. Will poll the membership regarding rolling membership.

Adam will also do a Google Hangout Session learning session with us for a Site Tutorial.

Signed up the ISAMETD.president@gmail.com email address for future use.

Business Meeting Location- Possibility was discussed of moving the meeting to Playground Production Studios. Library representative is extremely difficult to reach at the branch(es) we would like to use. PPS is more centrally located and cost-free. In addition it may encourage better attendance at the Indy Doumbek and Dance gatherings which financially benefit the association. Adam will get back to her when he returns from Arizona.

**Vice President's Report:** : Google Hangout offers up to 10 attendees (per device) for free meetings. Will post notice on website that this is an option for members to attend meetings. Only 2 performer requests, so far, for the July Gala Show. They have been unable to pay yet, waiting on website activation.

**Secretary's Report:** The Board, having previously read the minutes, accepted the minutes of the 4/12/15 Business Meeting, taken by Mechele.

### ISAMETD Treasurer's Report

June 14, 2015

(for April 12, 2015 through June 13, 2015)

#### CHECKING

Beginning Balance \$237.82

#### Income:

Membership dues 312.00

Indy Doumbek donation 61.00

Transfers from PayPal 300.00

673.00

#### Expenses:

Extra Space Storage (May,June) 102.00

Broad Ripple Art Fair admissions 75.00

Dues refund 12.00

New Website Provider 250.00

Website domain registration 119.40

(558.40)

Ending Balance \$352.42

#### SAVINGS-REGULAR

Beginning Balance \$8,501.04

Interest	.10
Ending Balance	8,501.14
<b>PAYPAL ACCOUNT</b>	
Beginning Balance	\$219.28
International Festival booth fee	(110.00)
Transfers to checking account	(300.00)
Member dues	302.62
Ending Balance	111.90
<b>COMBINED TOTAL</b>	<b>\$8,965.46</b>

**Membership Report:** 90 Memberships (50 Active and 44 renewals remaining.)

**Newsletter Editor Report:** Requested Andy to write a Tribal Revolution Retrospective article for the newsletter. Let's encourage membership to submit content to the newsletter. The publishing goal for each issue is the 10<sup>th</sup> to the 15<sup>th</sup> in Odd months. Newsletter archive will not be automatically migrated to new site. Lisa and Adam to work on this. Jeana will post the ones she has done. Discussion of mailing hardcopy newsletter. Let's phase this out.

**Old Business:**

Broadripple Art Fair: Great Show!! Good turnout in the booth. No feedback yet from venue. Penrod: Sat 9/12/15 Set-up by 3:00 pm in Friday. Heddy has application and will be sending check.

**Journey from the Orient:**

All instructor and venue contracts signed, hotel being finalized. Registration not live yet. Raq The Rivers confused by ISAMETD memberships, forming Umbrella RTR Troupe for ISAMETD membership. Clarified that any member who has paid for a workshop is eligible to perform. Several Vendors have inquired. \$20 non-members/Free for members. Lisa will post flyer to website and facebook with registration information. Jenny will run music and do program. Sue will have an article in the local paper about both this event and Aida the following day.

**New Business:**

International Festival: First weekend in November, conflicts with Great Lakes. This will be a much shorter and smaller event. They have dropped Sunday and changed buildings as well. We will have a triple size booth this year. Winter Bazaar: Jan 30<sup>th</sup> chosen, with a back-up date of Feb 13<sup>th</sup> or 20<sup>th</sup>. Membership Chair: Our Vice President, Jenny Smithson, has volunteered to be the Membership Chair for ISAMETD. Heddy will transfer the cards, clings, list, etc. to her. Lisa mentioned the idea of a discount for new membership at our Café Press store. Beth Braun had a computer crash and is rebuilding the historian files. Our condolences to Leila Gamal and her family on the loss of her mother.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:35

ISAMETD IS A NOT-FOR-PROFIT CORPORATION WITH THE MISSION TO EDUCATE THE PUBLIC ON MIDDLE EASTERN DANCE AND TO PROVIDE EDUCATIONAL AND PERFORMANCE OPPORTUNITIES FOR ITS MEMBERS. IT DOES NOT ENGAGE IN POLITICAL DISCOURSE. THE ISAMETD BOARD OF DIRECTORS CONSISTS OF ELECTED OFFICERS SERVING A TWO YEAR TERM, NAMELY THE PRESIDENT, VICE PRESIDENT, TREASURER, SECRETARY, AND NEWSLETTER EDITOR(S)/PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICER(S). THE ORGANIZATION IS ENTIRELY VOLUNTEER AND ITS OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS RECEIVE NO MONETARY REWARDS OR GIFTS FOR THEIR SERVICES. THE DULY ELECTED NEWSLETTER EDITORS HAVE BEEN GIVEN THE AUTONOMOUS CHARGE TO SELECT AND ASSEMBLE RELEVANT INFORMATION AND TO COMMUNICATE IT TO THE COMPANY'S MEMBERS VIA A BI-MONTHLY NEWSLETTER AND REGULARLY-UPDATED WEBSITE.

NEWSLETTERS ARE ONLY SENT VIA AN EMAILED LINK TO [WWW.ISAMETD.COM](http://WWW.ISAMETD.COM) WHERE YOU CAN VIEW THE NEWSLETTER ONLINE BUT ALSO DOWNLOAD A PDF. HARD COPIES ARE MAILED TO THOSE MEMBERS WHO DO NOT HAVE AN EMAIL ADDRESS OR INTERNET ACCESS. YOU ARE ENCOURAGED TO SUBMIT YOUR PICTURES, CARTOONS, JOKES, RECIPES, ARTWORK, ARTICLES AND PHOTOGRAPHS TO ONE OF THE NEWSLETTER EDITORS (KAT LEBO - [EDITOR1@ISAMETD.COM](mailto:EDITOR1@ISAMETD.COM)). PLEASE SEND ARTICLES WITH ANY OF THE FOLLOWING FILE EXTENTIONS: .DOC, .ODT, .PDF, .RTF AND .TXT. ISAMETD WILL NOT PUBLISH ANONYMOUS LETTERS. DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS ARE THE 15TH OF THE EVEN MONTHS. ENTRIES RECEIVED AFTER THE 15TH MAY NOT BE INCLUDED IN THE NEXT NEWSLETTER ISSUE. PLEASE VERIFY SPELLINGS AND PROPER GRAMMAR. SUBMISSIONS ARE SUBJECT TO BEING EDITED FOR LENGTH AND CONTENT.

ADDRESS CHANGES AND NEW/RENEWAL MEMBERSHIP FORMS AND FEES ARE TO BE FORWARDED TO HEDDY CHARLESTON: [TREASURER@ISAMETD.COM](mailto:TREASURER@ISAMETD.COM). MEMBERSHIP DUES ARE \$18.00 A YEAR RUNNING FROM JULY 1 THROUGH JUNE 30.