



Tuscaloosa Ballroom Dance Club

eNewsletter March 2026

Books Come Alive Dance

at McAbee Center

(3801 Loop Road, Tuscaloosa 35404)

Saturday, March 21, 2026

Music: *Chekmates*

7:00 p.m. - 10:00 pm

ADMISSION (cash, check, or venmo)

Members: \$8

Non-members: \$15 (\$25/couple)

Students: \$8

Sustaining, Bronze, Silver, Gold, & Platinum Members: *Prepaid!*

Members and guests must be at least 18 years of age.

Attire: Dressy Casual/Book Character Costumes

Co-sponsored by PARA4Life

Books Come Alive Dance: Saturday, March 21, 2026

One of the most original themes TBDC and PARA4Life has ever presented . . . Books Come Alive Dance will delight and capture the imagination of all those who attend. Be prepared to be amazed! And to make the evening even more interesting, you are invited to dress up as your favorite book character! Prizes will be awarded with extra points given for bringing your book with you. It promises to be an evening of fun. To add to your listening and dancing enjoyment, the Chekmates will be there! After a year-long hiatus, Anthony Marino will bring the regrouped version of the Chekmates to Tuscaloosa for its debut. Anthony reports that the band will offer much new music for ballroom dancing. So, mark your calendar and plan to join us for this unique evening.

Doors open at 6:30 p.m. Dancing begins at 7:00 p.m. and ends at 10:00 p.m.

Attire: Dressy Casual /Book Character Costume

Admission (cash, check, or venmo): \$8/TBDC member, \$15 non-member (\$25/couple), \$8/student. TBDC's sustaining members are prepaid!

Bring a wrap: Most dance clubs keep their dance spaces a few degrees cooler than normal for the comfort and well-being of their active dancers. So, if you are cold-natured or tend not to dance as much as others, please bring a wrap to all TBDC dances.

Snacks. Water is provided. TBDC invites our regular dancers to bring an item for the snack table.

McAbee Center (3801 Loop Road; Tuscaloosa, 35404): The entrance to McAbee Center's parking lot is at the intersection of Loop Road and Veterans Memorial Parkway. (The VA Hospital is located behind and to the right of McAbee Center.) There is no access to McAbee Center's parking lot from the hospital campus, so please avoid the hospital's main entrance. For a map, click here: [Map](#).

From Birmingham, take Interstate Exit 79 for University Blvd. At the end of the exit ramp, bear right onto University Blvd. After 4.6 miles, turn left at the traffic light onto Veterans Memorial Parkway. In ½ mile, turn left onto Loop Rd and immediately turn left again to access McAbee Center's parking lot.

Mardi Gras Dance

"Way Down Yonder in New Orleans" was the opening number by the great Drew White Orchestra, and it set the tone for the whole evening! Attendees arrived dressed for the occasion -- bright colors, masks, and beads! The decorations, expertly provided by Carol and Tom Russell, were perfect in every way. Festive displays of artfully arranged masks and beads adorned the tables and photo backdrop. Purple, green, and gold were the colors of the evening. Everyone got into the spirit of Mardi Gras, and a great time was had by all!

The refreshment table was full of delicious treats brought by members and guests. There was even a homemade King Cake baked by Scott Hestevold (Regina Noland found the baby)! In addition, there was a cake to celebrate a 56th Wedding Anniversary. Thank you all for your wonderful dishes! Two door prizes were given away at the break -- a lovely picture frame donated by our Emerald Sponsor, Barkley Buick GMC Cadillac (brought by Bonnie Porter). The second was a gift certificate and a t-shirt donated by City Cafe.

Once again, we thank these hardworking people:

Lewis Cotton - excellent publicist and photographer,

Kathy Cotton - dependable and pleasant attendance table manager, and

Kim Brown - always happy to help venue manager.

Spring Dance Lessons

We are at the mid-point of our introductory dance lessons. Everyone is doing very well, and we love seeing the students show up at our TBDC dances!

Thursday and Friday Dances at the Northport Community Center

Dance! Dance! Dance! holds dances every Thursday and Friday from 6:30 p.m. to 9:15 p.m. Come and enjoy live music and dancing with friends! *Attire:* casual. *Admission:* \$7/person.

Looking ahead: Enchanted Forest Dance on Saturday, April 18, 2026

TBDC and PARA4Life invite you to step into a world of enchantment . . . an Enchanted Forest, to be exact. Be prepared to enter a magical place and enjoy an evening filled with friends, music, and dance. The great band, 5 of A Kind, will be there to keep you dancing! We hope you will join us!

TBDC's Sponsors

Ruby Sponsors (\$100-299)

Emerald Sponsors (\$300-499)

Barkley Buick GMC Cadillac: 3575 Skyland Boulevard East, Tuscaloosa, AL 35405
<http://www.barkleygmc.com>

Sapphire Sponsors (\$500-999)

Budget Mini-Storage, in memory of Don Wright: 9331 Hwy 69, Northport, AL 35473
(205) 330-9098

SWEN Chinese Restaurant: 1130 University Boulevard, Suite B2, Tuscaloosa, AL 35401
(205) 391-9887 and 3420 Hwy 69 N, Northport, AL 35473 (205) 333-8886
Facebook: [Swen Chinese Restaurant](#).

TBDC's 2026 Sustaining Members

Sustaining Members: Carolyn and Gary Bishop; Bruce Evans; Carol and Jim Hill; Bonnie and Scott Porter; Diana Secor; Janet and John Weber.

Bronze Members: Kathy and Lewis Cotton; Carol and Tom Russell.

Silver Members:

Gold Members: Regina and Butch Noland; Nita and Scott Hestevold; S. Zegler, LLC; Ken Lee.

Platinum Members: Melody and Wayne Roberts.

TBDC's 2026 Dance Schedule

	Band/CD	Theme	Decorators
Jan 17 (Sat)	5 of a Kind	Black and White Ball	Nita and Scott Hestevold
Feb 21 (Sat)	Drew White	Mardi Gras Dance	Carol and Tom Russell
Mar 21 (Sat)	The Chekmates	Books Come Alive Dance	Tricia Schuster
Apr 18 (Sat)	5 of a Kind	Enchanted Forest Dance	Diana Secor
May 16 (Sat)	The Chekmates	Senior Prom Dance	Ken Lee
Jun 20 (Sat)	Drew White	Anniversary Dance	Janet and John Weber
Jul 18 (Sat)	5 of a Kind	Picnic Dance	Bruce Evans
Aug 15 (Sat)	The Chekmates	Disco Fever Dance	Kathy and Lewis Cotton
Sep 18 (Fri)	Drew White	Tailgate Dance	Regina and Butch Noland
Oct 16 (Fri)	5 of a Kind	Oktoberfest Dance	Nita and Scott Hestevold
Nov 20 (Fri)	Drew White	String of Pearls Dance	Janet and John Weber
Dec 19 (Sat)	Ain't Misbehavin'	Christmas Dance	Xan and Dennis Fields

Attire: “Ball” designates a dressy event (with semi-formal wear or formal wear invited), and “Dance” designates a dressy-casual or theme event.

In Case of Severe Weather...

When a severe-weather alert has been issued for the evening of any TBDC event, TBDC will decide by 4 p.m. whether to proceed with or cancel the event. By 4:30 p.m., TBDC will notify friends and members by email and with a post on its Facebook page. *Note:* As a rule, TBDC cancels events only when tornadic or winter weather poses a serious safety concern; a mere rainstorm does not stop the sun from shining on the dance floor!

Monthly Listings...

TBDC's email address: TBDC.91@gmail.com

- **Facebook:** For announcements, last-minute information, and photos, visit TBDC's Facebook page [Tuscaloosa Ballroom Dance Club – Community Organization]. In the top box, click “Like” to be notified by Facebook when information and photos are posted.
- **TBDC's website:** www.tbdc.org [webmaster: Lewis Cotton]
- **Instagram:** tusc_ballroom_dance_club
- **Tuscaloosa Patch:** Look for our announcements.

Janet Weber (TBDC.91@gmail.com)