

Shall We *Dance*?

by Carter Coleman

As I stood apprehensively in front of the nondescript storefront that is Alberto's, I wondered: Is it possible for a white man with two left feet to learn salsa? Would a salsa club even let me in? Would my neighbors ridicule me? That's what I wanted to find out.

With trepidation I went through the red velvet curtains into the world of Alberto's at 736 West Dana. The whirlwind that is Pantea, the vivacious Latin dance teacher, was rushing by, and I stopped her. "Pantea! My wife calls me a dancing board! Is it possible that I can learn to dance?"

"Of course!" said Pantea. "Your wife will not believe it."

"But I have no Cuban motion!" I cried. Cuban motion is the subtle hip movements for men, and not so subtle hip movements for women.

Pantea tells me that "students can make an amazing amount of progress in just one month of Salsa lessons. However, to make really good progress, a student must be diligent and attend a couple classes a week for the entire month."

Was Pantea just telling me this to rope in another student? Suspicious, I sought to verify her assertion, and I went to John Inks, Mountain View City Council member and avid social and ballroom dancer.

John advised, "It may take a couple of months to feel comfortable on the dance floor. However, in a month of diligent practice you can have a lot of fun and get an excellent grasp of the basics."

I also consulted Juan Aranada. Juan has been teaching salsa, cha cha and bachata in Mountain View for many

SALSA LESSONS

Tuesdays and Thursdays

7:15 PM Beginner
8:15 PM Intermediate
9:30 Social Dancing

Fridays: 2nd & 4th Fridays every month (*additional charge if there's a live band*)

8:00 PM Beginners
9:00 PM Intermediate
10:00 PM Social Dancing
& Live Band



years. Juan's advice "Why wait? You don't need to be a pro to have fun."

So if you ever wanted to learn salsa, **now's the time.**

Men of Old Mountain View,
I throw down the gauntlet.

Come and learn salsa.
Women of Old Mountain View,
you know you want to dance!

We've made special arrangements with Alberto's to lower the cost of learning salsa for Old Mountain View residents. Starting **today through Friday, April 9**, you can get into Alberto's for **just \$5 for the night**, culminating in a dance party on April 9.

To help all of my neighbors, I've tested the waters, and I can report that it is great fun.

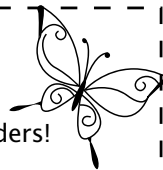
No partner is needed to participate. During the lesson you rotate often so that soon you know everyone in the room.

If you want, you can just go to the beginner lesson, or if you already know how to dance, drop in for the intermediate lesson later.

All ages and degrees of expertise are in a class. There's no need to feel awkward, because everyone is out on the floor trying. No matter how bad you are, I guarantee that someone will be worse.

50% Salsa Lessons

Discount for Old Mountain View Newsletter readers!



Bring this ad with proof of residency and start to salsa, on **any** or **all** of these days!

Tuesdays: March 16, March 23, March 30 & April 6

Thursdays: March 11, March 18, March 25, April 1 & April 8)

Fridays: March 12 & April 9

Offer good through the OMVNA Dance Party on Friday, April 9, 2010, for lessons and dance.

Albertos

www.albertos.com
736 West Dana Street
Mountain View
650-968-3007

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Learn to Salsa

salsa studio & ultra lounge