



OVERSEAS CORRESPONDENT

Evelyn Khinoo, San Francisco Bay, USA

Hello to everyone around the globe and to the many of you whom I have met line dancing somewhere! I've been line dancing for 25 years (starting in 1990) and have been teaching line dance classes for 24 of those.

My current classes are held in Palo Alto and Menlo Park, California (located in the well-known San Francisco Bay Area). Classes I teach include Beginner, Intermediate, and Advanced.

I've definitely seen a lot of changes over the years.

When I started line dancing, country music was the only form of music played for line dancing. Now, line dancing of course is done to all forms of music including country (still my personal favorite), pop, rock, oldies rock and roll, a little rap, big band (ballroom), Latin, and so on. Needless to say, instructors, students and DJs have adapted to the flow.

Speaking of DJs, I was also a DJ for 20 years (1994-2014) at regular weekly and monthly line dance venues in the San Francisco Bay Area. My spouse of 10 years, Dennis Harris, joined me in DJing during the latter years. At the end of 2014, we retired from the DJ business. What a fabulous 20-year ride it was. I wouldn't have changed a minute of it. (Of course, my classes have continued as mentioned above.)

Prior to line dancing (I can't believe there was a "prior"), I was a ballroom dancer for about 3 years. I got bored with ballroom, but didn't want to stop dancing. I heard of line dancing, but back then I hadn't a clue as to how to connect with the line dance world. I got lucky. On a Sunday afternoon back in 1990, I saw a country dance program on television, and was definitely intrigued. I continued to watch that program for a few weeks, and tried to pick up some of the dances. I learned the famous Tush Push by following along with folks on the screen. I finally found a line dance class in Palo Alto, CA. So, off I went. I was hooked after the very first evening I took a lesson and never looked back. It was bye, bye ballroom! Don't get me wrong as I do like ballroom. But for me ballroom took a second seat to line dancing.

Toward the end my first year as a student in the dance class in Palo Alto, I was given the opportunity take over that class, and the rest is history. I added subsequent classes in



Redwood City as well as Menlo Park, all in the Bay Area

Throughout my teaching career, I taught at many line dance events across the United States. Also, I've been very privileged to have taught at various international events in New Zealand Australia (my favorite), and Canada, among others. I have choreographed 33 line dances many of which have circulated throughout countries around the world. Several of my dances have won awards at line dance events. Some of my popular dances include Silk & Satin, That's My Hat, Attitude, Dream On Texas Ladies, How Sweet It Is, Tomorrow Will Be Kinder, to name a few.

My professional business career was in Human Resources as Director or Manager in various high-tech companies in the Silicon Valley (here in the Bay Area). During my work career I also attended San Jose State University (night time!), with a major in Human Resources and Psychology. After 45 years in the workforce, I was finally able to fully retire in 2011.

I have lived in California my entire life (except for the first 9 months when I was born and lived in Washington, D.C.). I've only moved 90 miles from my home town of Modesto, CA. For the last almost 50 years I have lived in the San Francisco Bay Area.

After I retired, I decided to create a website which I have dedicated to line dancing (as you will see when you visit www.EvelynAndDenny.com). Teaching line dance classes is still my first passion even after all these years. The very best part of line dancing, for sure, is dancing with all your friends and meeting new folks along the way.



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