

Sunny Linedance

October 29th through November 11th, 2011

Puerto Rico, Gran Canaria (Canary Islands)

“Ain’t going down ‘til the sun comes up, ain’t givin’ in till they get enough “(Garth Brooks). This was the general theme, when once again an international dance community met in Puerto Rico, Gran Canaria. There was a showing of dancers from around the world i.e. Denmark, Sweden, The Netherlands, Great Britain, Germany, Spain and even the United States. It was a sell-out event.

The mornings began early, after breakfast, with Zumba. After the spirit was brightened and the body was willing, the morning continued with a series of new dances being taught by various international choreographers. The featured instructors were: Tenna Severinsen (Denmark), Roy Verdonk (Netherlands), Pim van Grootel (Sweden), Darren Bailey (Great Britain), and Raymond Sarlemijn (Norway). The workshops began with the easier dances and then progressed to the more advanced. These dances were repeated in the evening before the dance free-for-all began.

The afternoons were designed for fun and to allow the dancers to relax, swim, see the sights or whatever one wanted to do. There were also various days off that left room for larger adventures and/or relaxation.

The hotel arrangements were well organized. The rooms consisted of individual apartments that could house up to 4 people and included a personal kitchen. If you didn’t want to cook for yourself, there was a half-board arrangement with the hotel restaurant that was more than reasonable. As for the weather, just “google” the Canary Islands and you will see for yourselves what we enjoyed on a daily basis, i.e. sunshine, sunshine, and more sunshine.

The “Late Part Day” began at 8.30p.m with an initial review of the dances learned. Afterwards, it was time for party dancing. Requests for dances could be made and the residing DJ was fair in letting everyone get their favorite dances in.

I am “No Superman”, but I still can get around the “Cow in the Road”. “Ami Oh”, while I was “Playing with my Friends”, under the “Bright Lights”, I still felt like “One in a Million”. With a little “Soul Lovin”, I wasn’t “Stuck With..” anybody and even though “This is a Man’s World”, one could “Dry your Eyes” and feel like you were “Born to be Country”. So just “Bring me Sunshine”. I don’t want to be “Somewhere Else” or “Clinging to You”. “In the Middle of the Night”, I was dancing like a “Caribbean Queen”. It was “Unmistakable”, there was “Voodoo” in the air. “Si o no”, our feet were pounding the dance floor and “Johnny got a Boom Boom”. The event was as right as rain, or as “Red on a Rose”. It didn’t matter if you “Got a Woman” or were looking for an “Gypsy”, there was something for everyone.

*Note “ “ are the dances that were taught.

So much incredible dancing fun!
From beginning to end, we were on the run!
So many dancers out on the floor!
Not wanting to leave, just wanting “one” more!
Laughs were heard throughout the crowd
A great success! You did yourselves proud
Workshops, Zumba, and dancers galore!
I will come back next year, I want more!

I just want to say thank-you to all of you whom had a part in organizing this event. It was a hit.

Keep on dancing and smiling. Follow and Lead, this is the wisdom of life.

Janice Reithmayer