



Dinner - 6:30-7:30 PM

Introductions - 7:15 PM

Show - 8:00 PM

Dancer Bios

Gary Hancock is a native of Houston, MS and attended Mississippi State University. He has resided in Tupelo for the past 15 years.

He and his wife, Mary Pat, are members of Tupelo's United Methodist Church.

Gary is a Family Service Counselor at Lee Memorial Funeral Home and Lee Memorial Park.

He was a Celebrity Dancer in 2011 and Celebrity Judge for *Cooking Like The Stars* in 2023. Mary Pat was also a Celebrity Dancer in 2013.

Gary & Mary Pat have two children, Hilary Hancock Dodd and Hayden Palmer and are the proud grandparents of 1 grandson, Hayward Banks Dodd.

Anthony Knight moved to Tupelo from Tennessee three years ago where he says he has met some of the best people who have become a part of his life.

He is a property manager for Bigger Vision Properties - a company in the Absolute Cleaning & Restoration family.

He also volunteers with the Salvation Army and the Annual King Krawl in Downtown Tupelo. Whether it's networking with the Tupelo Young Professionals or attending CDF events,

Anthony says Tupelo offers so much opportunity for growth - both personally and as a leader.

He said he knew he had to participate again because he believes the Boys & Girls Club is truly a wonderful organization.

Shaletha Knox serves as a Benefit Program Specialist with the Mississippi Division of Medicaid in New Albany. She is also a proud Club Parent - her daughter, Caddisyn, attends the New Albany Club!

A woman of faith and purpose, Shaletha is a devoted member of Watson Grove Baptist Church. She serves on the New Albany BGC Advisory Board and is a radiant member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated!

Cheering her on tonight are her daughter Caddisyn, loving family, and special friends. Get ready to feel the energy.

Dr. Gabe Rulewicz is a Shoulder and Sports Medicine physician at the Orthopedic Institute of North MS - soon to be known as Mississippi Sports Medicine and Orthopedic Center. He has called Tupelo his home since 1975.

He is known by many names: including Doc, Major, Bishop, and his favorite title, Dad. We also introduce his 15 year old daughter, Emme, who will be dancing with him tonight. She is a Freshman at TCPS and enjoys cross country, track and volleyball.

We know Dr. Rulewicz as THE GOAT. This is the third time he has participated in this event, dancing in both 2020 and 2021

during the COVID 19 pandemic. Sharing both experiences with his daughter, Lilly.

Thank you, Dr. Rulewicz for your services to our country and community, and for dancing for the Tupelo Clubs tonight!

As the general manager at two Baskin Robbins locations in North Mississippi, **Windy Scruggs** interacts daily with customers offering not only sweet treats but a scoop of inspiration.

She has a heart for volunteerism and helping those in need, so she was willing to say *yes* to a second spin on the dance floor.

Windy has three (3) daughters: Abbie, 26; Hannah, 25; and Daisee, 7; and says they are her ‘whole world’.

A lifelong resident of Tupelo, Windy has continually worked to be a “better community member, and help support her local Tupelo/Lee County community”.

Police Officer **Shad Spight** is truly a renaissance man. He is a current police officer, a part-time mortician, funeral director and choir director, AND a former lab technician, cheerleader and drum major - All in ONE! And as you will soon see, A DANCING MACHINE!

In his volunteer life, he has worked with people of all ages - from the Cub Scouts to elder care; and, of course, the Boys & Girls Clubs.

Since Shad's first performance in 2016, his son LJ became very involved with the Ripley Club, volunteering and sponsoring meals.

Shad thanks all of his family and friends for coming to support him and wants to especially thank his church family from St. James Church of God & Christ!

Jacuana Sykes is the Owner, Personal Trainer, and Fitness Instructor of Selfish Fitness Studio.

Her last performance was during the time of the Pandemic so there was no audience. This time, she is ecstatic to be in front of a live audience shaking a tail feather for our 20th Anniversary show.

Joining Jacuana tonight is her Mother, Father, brothers, sister, nieces, and nephew all the way from Dayton, OH and her Selfish Fitness Studio family.

Jacuana gives a special shout out to her husband, son, daughters, and grandchildren, who remind her daily why she works so hard. She appreciates her sorority sisters of Delta Sigma Theta, and all her sponsors, family, and friends who have been willing to donate to this very special event.

Our Judges

Our first judge is **Phillip Farley**, or Farley, as he prefers to be called. Farley owns and operates Farley's Ballroom of Tuscaloosa, Alabama which he established in 2002. A Fred Astaire National Theatre Arts Champion, Farley teaches social dancing and trains his students to compete in amateur couple and pro-am divisions in ballroom dance competitions. Farley danced as a professional partner in the Dance Like The Stars show in 2010.

Daniel Stevenson grew up in Chattanooga, where, starting in middle school, he learned ballroom dance. When he enrolled in the engineering school at Mississippi State University, because of his level of dance expertise, he was invited to join the staff of The Dance Studio of Tupelo. Over the next four years, he attended school and worked at The Dance Studio, and competed as a professional in three *Dance Like The Stars* events between 2011 and 2014. Today, Daniel lives in Huntsville where he works as a software developer and hobby homesteader. He and his wife, Raeley—whom he met through the ballroom dance club at Mississippi State—are raising three lively children.

Robbie, a familiar face at this event, taught for more than twelve years at The Dance Studio of Tupelo before opening his own studio, Ballroom By The Bay, on the Mississippi Gulf Coast. So, Robbie, who has danced in well over half of our *Dance Like The Stars* events, knows exactly how the celebrity dancers and pros feel when they walk on the dance floor. A

popular instructor throughout the Southeast, Robbie is known far and wide for his superior teaching skills and his creative choreography.

The Dance Studio Of Tupelo

Tammy Wilson, Manager at The Dance Studio of Tupelo, is dancing for her 15th year. She will be dancing tonight with Shad Spight.

Andrew Davis has been performing at *Dance Like the Stars* for the past 8 years. His partner tonight is Shaletha Knox.

With us for her 5th year is **Sara Wood Davis**, who will be dancing with Gabe Rulewicz and Gary Hancock.

Cameron Stevens, making her 3rd appearance at *Dance Like the Stars*, is dancing with Anthony Knight.

With us for his 1st year is **Brice Stone**, who is dancing with both Windy Scruggs and Jacuana Sykes.