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[Test] Concordia Ballroom News

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Concordia Ballroom eNews

September 23, 2021

[Click here to receive news and events from the Concordia Ballroom](#)

Staying Safe at the Concordia Ballroom

The Delta variant of COVID continues to cause more serious illness across Wisconsin and the USA. The Wisconsin Department of Health Services [recommends](#) that all people wear face masks when gathering in public. Depending upon infection and hospitalization rates, and county health department guidelines, events at the Concordia could be cancelled or changed, so check our [Facebook page](#) and sign up for this newsletter for updates.

[Here are the current guidelines to help keep you safe at Concordia events:](#)

- Please wear a mask, even if you're vaccinated.

- Don't attend if you're not feeling well, have tested positive, or been exposed to someone with COVID in the last 7 days.
- Don't attend if you are not fully vaccinated (at least 7 days since your last dose of the vaccine).
- Don't attend if you have a severely weakened immune system (immunocompromised).

The Concordia Needs Volunteers

...to help with taking tickets, bartending, and open/closing at events. We're now using an electronic sign-up so everyone knows who's doing what! Click the pink banner below to sign up. (Hint: You will want to [bookmark the site so you can find it again.](#))

- Only licensed bartenders should sign up for the bartender slots (also, bartenders are paid)
- The other tasks - we'll train you
- The QR Code below will also take you there

Thanks everyone!

[Click here to sign up to volunteer at upcoming events](#)





BALLROOM DANCE LESSONS

Ballroom dance lessons with Dave Ford and Melinda Knutson will be held in Holmen, WI via the Holmen Parks and Recreation Department. The lessons will focus on the basic steps to the East Coast swing, foxtrot, waltz, rumba and the samba line dance; a perfect introduction to ballroom dancing for newcomers or a refresher for experienced dancers. Registration includes two admission tickets to any public ballroom dance held at the Concordia Ballroom through May 2022 (\$20 value). Thursdays, October 21 through November 18 (5 sessions), 7 pm. Space is limited, register today!

Details at [Holmen Parks and Recreation](#).

Upcoming Events at the Concordia Ballroom



Gary's Ridgeland Dutchmen

September 26, 2021, 1-5 pm

Tickets \$10 at the door

Get in the spirit of Oktoberfest 2021 by joining Gary's Ridgeland Dutchmen for an afternoon of pre-fest polka music, including Dutch, German, Czech, Polish, and Slovenian style music along with a variety of country, big band, swing, and 50's and 60's music. Gary Brueggen and his son (see the guy on the drums?) will be wearing their new lederhosen! Gary is polka royalty, descended from from three generations of polka musicians hailing from Cashton, Wisconsin. Join us for the best of polka and old time music!



Rhythm Playboys

October 3, 2021, 1-5 pm

Tickets \$10 at the door

Brats and beer available!

Wrap up your Oktoberfest enjoyment at the Concordia by dancing to the great sounds of the Rhythm Playboys. We're rolling out the red carpet for the Festmaster and his entourage, so don't miss your chance to dance with royalty! This band has been providing traditional polka and waltz music for more than 60 years and they still generate energy and excitement everywhere they perform. Bring your friends for an afternoon of fun entertainment!



Ray's Jolly Chaps

October 10, 2021, 1-5 pm

Tickets \$10 at the door

Ray's Jolly Chaps play German and Polish polka music that will get you out on the dance floor. Bring your friends for an afternoon of dancing fun.



Time Travelers

October 15, 2021, 7-10:30 pm

Tickets \$10 at the door, \$5 students with ID (Season tickets will be available, so bring your checkbook!)

7 pm swing lesson; 8 pm dancing

Sponsored by the Continental Dancers

The Time Travelers band provides just the right ballroom dance music, with a little rock 'n roll thrown in. The Concordia Ballroom has a beautiful dance floor for the smooth and elegant ballroom dances like the foxtrot and waltz, high energy dances like the swing, and sultry Latin dances like the rumba, tango, samba, cha cha. Dust off those dancin' shoes and join us for a night of dancing pleasure.



Leather 'N Lace

October 17, 2021, 1-5 pm

Tickets \$10 at the door

Steve Brueggen of Westby and his sister Mary Beth of Cashton have been performing on stage for the past 50 years. With the addition of sister Jean Geier and brother Pat Brueggen, they perform as Leather 'N Lace! With their various instruments - accordion, keyboard, bass guitar, electric guitar, and drums, the group plays a mixture of traditional old-time polkas, waltzes and foxtrots. You'll also hear country and music from the 1950s & '60s. It is easy to see that they enjoy performing for their fans, so don't miss dancing to your favorite tunes by this dynamic group.



Leon Olsen Show

October 24, 2021, 1-5 pm

Tickets \$10 at the door

Leon is an accomplished concertina musician, playing classic concertina music: old time, polka, waltz, and country. Leon and his band, The Leon Olsen Show, have been honored multiple times for their high quality entertainment and they are one of La Crosse's favorite bands for polka and old time dancing. The Minnesota Ballroom Operators Association named the Leon Olsen Show as Band of the Year in 2004, 2006, 2008 and 2010. Leon was inducted into the World Concertina Congress Hall of Fame in 2012 and the Minnesota Music Hall of Fame in 2013. He has multiple recordings and he has passed on his skills to dozens of students who have learned to play the concertina.



The Wendinger Band

October 31, 2021, 1-5 pm

Tickets \$10 at the door

Come to our Halloween Dance with the Wendinger Band; costumes welcome! The Wendinger Band will get you moving to polka and old time music. Peter has received numerous awards, including induction into the World Concertina Congress, the Polka Hall of Fame, and the Minnesota Music Hall of Fame. The band has been captivating audiences for decades with their unique blend of concertina, brass, rhythm, and four-part harmony. Don't be worried; they aren't too spooky!



The Concordia is open for rental for private events.
Bookings for 2021 and 2022 are going fast!

HISTORIC COMMUNITY HALL FEATURES

- Capacity is 240 people
- Space is 40' x 71', fabulous maple dance floor
- A full-service bar and large kitchen
- Stage for music or entertainment
- Lots of parking, plus handicap ramp

What can you do to support the Concordia?

- **Become a member!** Join us and stay informed by becoming a member of the Concordia Aid Society. Memberships are \$30/yr. Approval occurs at the following monthly membership meeting. Send us a membership check or join via our [website](#).
- **Volunteer!** We welcome volunteers, both members and friends. Because there is a lot to do, we need your help!

- **Become a bartender.** Bartending is a great way to meet new people and enjoy events at the Concordia. Get your license and let's talk!
- **Donate!** Consider a donation to the Concordia to help maintain the ballroom. Donate by check or on our website. Memorial donations are a wonderful way to celebrate a someone's life, especially someone who enjoyed dancing or had a special place in their hearts for the Concordia Ballroom.
- **Book the Concordia** for your upcoming events. We have a large facility ideal for wedding receptions, anniversaries, reunions, celebrations of life, and so on. Looking for an elegant space for a dance party? We have the perfect dance floor!

Donations by check can be sent to the Concordia Aid Society, [1129 La Crosse Street, La Crosse, WI 54601](#), or make an online donation via our [website](#). If you are interested in volunteering, sign up via our [electronic volunteer board](#) or email Jenny@concordiaballroom.com to offer your services. All other inquiries can be made via our website or call the hall at 608.782.7049.

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