

TATD History

Organization of TATD

In March 1930, a form letter was sent out to all Texas teachers of dancing inviting them to meet at the Bonner Studio, San Antonio, to discuss the organization of an association of teachers. The first 25 to accept were to be entertained free of cost by the Bonners.

They began to arrive on Saturday, April 26. Work was given on both Saturday and Sunday by six or more teachers donating their services for the interest of the others. On Sunday, April 27, at a business meeting, the organization of The Texas Association Teachers of Dancing was formed. A Constitution and By-Laws were adopted and the follow officers were elected:

- President: Frank Bonner (San Antonio)
- Vice President: Grover C. Abel (Houston)
- Secretary Treasurer: Dorothy Bonner (San Antonio)
- Directors: Judith Sproule, Earl Cobb and Margaret Grant

At the first directors meeting, there were 22 out-of-town and 15 San Antonio teachers present. San Antonio and Houston were suggested for the next meeting to be held in December 27-28, 1930. Houston was decided upon.

Normal School

The Texas Association Teachers of Dancing, realizing the value of a course to give teachers practical training and newer methods, decided during the 1948 convention to conduct their first Normal School the following summer. The President, Camille Long, accepted the responsibility of arrangements with a faculty consisting of members who donated their services. One guest instructor, fifteen member, seventeen non-members, eleven assistant teachers, and four new members attended the first TATD Normal School at the Barker Hotel in Dallas, Texas, the last week of June 1949.

Ballroom

During the 1954 TATD Convention, the advantages of a separate Ballroom Department were discussed an on the Saturday and Sunday preceding the 1955 Normal School our first Ballroom session was held with 67 teachers registering for the course. Louise Finley was in charge of the most successful meeting. All who attended this Normal School Ballroom Session were invited to become Charter Members of our newly created Ballroom Division with 66 acceptances.

- Funderburgh (Kimble), Helen (1966)
- Kotshonis, B.A. (1955)
- *Phelan, Don (1974)
- Phelan, Dorothy (1974)
- Tharp, George Ann (1974)
- Tharp, Patric (1974)