



## Why is it Called Ballroom Dancing?

“Ballroom dancing” as a term hails from the Latin word “ballare” which, coincidentally, means “to dance.” Thus, a ballroom is a room in which to dance. Makes sense, right?

Centuries ago, ballroom dancing was primarily for the privileged & well-to-do, while the commoners had to make do with folk dancing; however, these boundaries have since disappeared, leaving ballroom dancing a fun hobby for everyone.

Today, ballroom dancing applies to numerous dances in which a “leader” and a “follower” dance together in close proximity, usually with some degree of physical contact. This closeness is to permit the leader to get the follower to, well, follow along.

The first documented ballroom dancing was in 1588. The Waltz became popular in England in the early 1800s despite initial opposition to the closed dance hold. By 1840, the Polka, Mazurka, and Schottische emerged.

In the early 20th century, ballroom dancing became popular & accepted in

the US thanks to the fabulous dancing of Fred Astaire & Ginger Rogers.

**Ballroom vs. Latin Dances.** Although commonly classified together, there are notable differences. Ballroom dances are “smooth” like the Waltz, Foxtrot, and Tango while Latin dances are more rhythmic like the Rumba, Samba, Cha Cha, and the Mambo.

No matter their “proper” classification, they are all extremely fun and fairly easy to learn.

**Ok, now on to important stuff!**

**The Week of September 19-25 is:**

- Ballroom Dancing Week
- Clean Up the World Weekend
- Guitar Flat-Picking Week
- Farm Animal Awareness Week
- Clean Hands Week
- National Go-Kart Week
- Indoor Plant Week

**Some Celebrations only last a day:**

**19th-**Talk Like a Pirate Day

Butterscotch Pudding Day

**20th-**I.T. Professionals Day

National Fried Rice Day

National Pepperoni Pizza Day

National String Cheese Day

**21st**-National Dance Day  
National Pecan Cookie Day  
School Backpack Day

**22nd**-First Day of Autumn (YAY!)  
Dear Diary Day  
Hobbit Day  
Ice Cream Cone Day  
Elephant Appreciation Day  
White Chocolate Day

**23rd**-National Checkers Day  
Hug a Vegetarian Day  
Great American Pot Pie Day

**24th**-American Frog Day  
Cherries Jubilee Day  
Fish Amnesty Day  
International Lace Day  
International Rabbit Day  
Hunting & Fishing Day  
Punctuation Day  
Save the Koala Day  
Save Your Photos Day

**25th**-Math Story Telling Day  
National Lobster Day  
National Comic Book Day  
National Daughter's Day  
National One-Hit Wonder Day  
National Quesadilla Day  
National Tune-Up Day

Have a great week & call me if you need anything!

***Serving Him & Loving it!***

*Carol*

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### **Things that made me laugh this week.**

- I could never work at a lighthouse. There is a 100% chance I'd get fired for making the Bat Signal!
- Lucy to Linus: "I think there must be a music school some place where musicians go to learn harmony, counterpoint & sarcasm."
- Pilates? O heavens, no! I thought you said, "pie and lattes".
- Prissy to Scarlett O'Hara: "Miss Scarlett, I regret to inform you that I am uneducated in the field of obstetrics."
- Common sense is now an endangered species. Stupidity has taken over the world and unfortunately there is no known cure.
- I don't like making plans for the day, because then the word "premeditated" gets thrown around in the courtroom.
- I never called you stupid, but when I asked you how you spell Mississippi, and you asked if I was talking about the river or the state, it just kind of caught me off guard.
- I'm starting group meetings at my house for people with OCD. Not because I have it, but surely one of them will be bothered enough to clean it.
- The officer said, "you drinking?" I said, "you buying?" We just laughed and laughed. I need bail money!
- I don't make mistakes while playing the piano. I make spontaneous creative decisions.