

American Vernacular Dance

Reveille 3 at the New Year's Eve Party 2014

December 31, 2014 at the Avalon Ballroom in Boulder, Colorado

\$750 Grant from the Alex "Tink" Wilson Legacy Fund - September 2014

New Year's Eve Extravaganza at Avalon - Largest Event to Date

Report from Jim X. Borzym:



Reveille 3 and the Hot Tomatoes on the Ballroom Stage

The annual New Year's Eve dance party was the largest dance event held in our first ten years at Avalon. With the use of all three dance halls plus the empty East Hall we hosted four styles of social dance, plus a food court in the North Lobby. Lessons in West Coast Swing (WCS), with visiting artists [Javier and Erica](#) from Los Angeles, Salsa with Subo Batchatero, and Sociable Swing were held in the three halls to start the evening, along with a waltz session in Sodal Hall. At 8:30 things started to hop with three DJs playing salsa, batchata, and WCS.

Meanwhile, in the Ballroom, the 10-piece [Hot Tomatoes Dance Orchestra](#) struck it up. They were joined in each of their sets by the [Reveille 3 trio](#) belting out numbers made famous by the Andrews Sisters when they toured with the Glenn Miller Orchestra. By 9 PM the building was alive with energy, while our parking escorts helped people park safely on that dark and frigid night.

Dance performances were given during the band intermissions, starting off with Watch Your Step Vintage Vignettes, a batchata ensemble, a solo salsa, and topped off by an awesome show by Javier and Erica.

The most common remarks heard that evening were that people loved flowing from one hall to another to sample the different dance forms, and that they never imagined that so many people would be there!



Erica and Javier of Los Angeles

A little before midnight dancers surged into the ballroom, picked up a glass of bubbly and heard the countdown to midnight. A cheer, then Auld Lang Syne was played.

We thought that we would be done by 1 AM, but the salsa dancers wouldn't quit, so we cleaned up around them and dancing finally ended after 2 AM.

About 60 volunteers joined in to make this project feasible.

This event was a collaboration between American Vernacular Dance, [Snowhawk Productions](#), and Halina Palmer of Loco Tango, with cooperation by the [Boulder Tango Studio](#) and funding assistance from the Alex Wilson Legacy Fund.

It wasn't over until it was all over, so we came back in and moved dance floors and finished cleaning up the next morning so that BIFD could host their annual New Years Day party. All in all, it was amazing!



Photographs: Rick Thompson