

Ballroom Beat

Official Monthly Publication of Piedmont NC USABDA, Chapter 619

Vol. 9, No 4 April 2002 Marcia Barney, Editor (336) 712-8183

Send News and Views to the Editor at PiedmontNCUSABDA@aol.com



Your Pres Says



Members and Friends,

Recently a group of friends and I were discussing how much fun we always seem to have while dancing. It occurred to me that we should not hide this fact from those who do not know the joy of ballroom dancing. What a marvelous thought that you might bring someone out of the boredom of the winter months into a world of friends and fun! No matter how down and out I might be because of a bad day (usually a rainy Monday), dancing seems to rejuvenate me and put those gloomy thoughts behind me.

Coming up this month is a wonderful time for dancers to learn new techniques and how to dance even better. Dan Calloway will be at the Grange in Greensboro on the 27th to instruct, inspire, and demonstrate the technique and steps of the waltz and rumba. My advice to you is to sign-up if you haven't already and tell a friend.

Thanks to all who have made this a great start into another wonderful year of dancing.

See you on April 14, 27, and 28!

Ellis Pardue

2002 Condensed

Tea Dance - Every second Sunday 4:30 – 7:30 PM at the Grange in Greensboro
Tea Dance – Every fourth Sunday 5:30 – 8:00 PM (Except Dec) Skateland, Clemmons
April 27 – Workshop – Grange, Greensboro
August 31 – Showcase of Ballroom Dancers
Sept 15–22 – National Ballroom Dance Week
September 21 - Black Tie Dinner and Dance
Benton Convention Center, Winston-Salem
November 24 – Holiday Premier Promenade – Skateland, Clemmons – 5:30 – 8:00 PM
December 8 – Christmas Party, the Grange
December 29 – Pre-New Years Party, Officers Installation - 5:30 – 8:00 PM
Skateland, Clemmons, Semi-formal dress

Calloway Is Coming

As announced last month, Dan Calloway, one of the outstanding ballroom dance instructors in the U.S., will be offering a Workshop locally on April 27. The seminar will be held at the Grange for the unbelievable price of \$25 per person. This seminar is sponsored by our Chapter and will cover the Waltz and the Rumba (one hour each.) The class is over half full. See the back page for registration information.

Pre-Dance Lessons Changed

In March your Board of Directors voted to make the time of all pre-dance lessons 30 minutes. This is not a change for our fourth Sunday Tea Dance, but does reflect a change for the second Sunday dances. That means we'll get more concentrated information during the lesson with more practice during our "General Dancing". The Music Committee will be asked to provide at least 2 numbers of the dance taught during the lesson in the first set of music.



April Appointments

On April 14 –Grange in Greensboro:

Hustle Lesson by Tim Saunders – 4:30-5:00 PM
General Dancing: 5:00 – 7:00 PM, Lib's music

On April 28 – Skateland USA of Clemmons

Cha Cha - Wayne & Marie Crowder 5:30–6 PM
General Dancing – 6:00 – 8:00 PM-THE floor
Music by Marcia (more Gunter Noris emphasis)

Inside

- Workshop Registration Details (p.4)
- Dancing With Duncan at Swing 1000
- Goodbye to a Friend
- Directions to Grange and to Skateland
- New Members & Guests
- National Ballroom Dance Week alert
- **Questionnaire** (enclosed)

Directions to the Grange from Interstate 40: Take Exit 213 (Guilford College Rd). Go N app. 1 mile, cross Market St. Turn left onto Lindley Rd., Turn rt. onto Guilford School Rd. Grange is on the right.

Directions to Skateland: From I-40 on the west side of Winston-Salem take the Clemmons exit. Go south into downtown Clemmons. Turn right onto Cephis Dr. at the "Bronze Plaza" sign beside Dockside Seafood Restaurant. Turn left onto Neudorf Rd. Skateland is just ahead on the right.

Welcome New Members:

Lucy Chambers, (r) a long time friend from Winston-Salem decided to join us in March.



Corbett Jones, a newer friend from Winston-Salem



also joined us in March.

Margaret Norton, Joan Hester's sister who lives in Thomasville, is now a member.

Mike Townend, (l) a CPA from High Point, became a member in March.

Joseph and Yvette Zannini, (at right fine tuning a swing step) friends of Al Mora and Chattie Byrd, from Haw River are our newest couple.



Welcome Guests

Please come again!

Janice Bergman, from Greensboro, visited us on March 10 for the first time.

Stan Everett and **Georgia Hobbs**, (rt) from Conover and Florida visited us on March 24. Former member **Lynn Messik** stopped by on March 24.



John Dorosk was a welcome guest on March 10 and on March 24.

Marvin and **Brenda Weatherman**, USABDA friends from Hickory, were back on March 24. It was great to see **Jerry Evans**, a USABDA member from Arizona and friend of Martha Plyler, again on March 10.

Joe and **Ellie Dolata**, USADA members from Buffalo, NY, also visited us on March 10.

Virginia Vaughn visited again on March 10.

Dancing With Duncan

by Glenda MacKeen

"Fine Dining and Dancing at Swing 1000" – what a great experience! Located at 1000 Central Avenue in Charlotte, this elegant art deco styled nightclub



transports you back to the 40's and 50's when dancing was an integral part of dining. Your elevated banquette offers a fabulous view of the 1100 square foot wooden dance floor also surrounded by individual tables.

Dining begins at 6:00 and the table is yours for the evening. The menu changes during the year; we had a continental selection on our first visit, the next time an Italian influence and the most recent menu included selections with a New Orleans flair – all delicious and stylishly presented. The price of the a la carte selections ranges from \$25 to \$30 for an entrée. A three-course selection from the menu is \$45 (salad, entrée, dessert), with additional four-course choices for \$55 and five-course for \$65 is a great offering. Superb service accommodates the dancer; we were served between sets so as not to miss a single dance. For a \$10 entry fee per person, you can enjoy the music and dancing without dinner; if dining, there is no entry fee.

The seven-piece band, "Swing Central", includes a vocalist and begins playing the "big band: sound at 8:15 with the first two dinner sets featuring foxtrots with an occasional rumba or cha cha. The last two sets are the "jump" or swing sets with an occasional foxtrot. Acoustics are outstanding and if not dancing you can still enjoy conversation.

Swing 1000 is open Wednesday to Saturday. To encourage dancing in the Charlotte area, complimentary swing lessons are featured on Wednesday evening beginning at 7:30. Take a virtual tour at www.swing1000.com, which also give a history, sample menus and more information about special event services.

Make your reservation at 704-334-4443 soon to enjoy an elegant evening of dining and dancing. It is worth the trip.

Editors note: If you know a place Glenda might like to "check out" for this column, contact her at (336) 765-8528.

I am the master of what I keep to myself and the slave of what I say.

Editorial

Lemonade

The front of our March "Ballroom Beat" read "When life gives you lemons just go dancing." That proved prophetic on March 24 when Piedmont NC USABDA members and friends and a group of pre-pubescent birthday partiers vied for the same arena. Alas, for the first time in the 3 years we've been using Skateland USA for our fourth Sunday dances, we faced a frustrating double booking. We decided to delay the dance for 1½ hour so that the 4 birthday revelers and their 40+ young friends could celebrate. Most of the dancers simply went to a nearby restaurant for an early dinner.

The wonderful surprise of the evening was that 86% of those dancers who came to the dance at our normal time returned at 7 PM for 2 hours of delightful dancing and delicious dessert – or for some the dancing was the dessert.

Alan Berryhill, Studio Arts of Winston-Salem, showed that flexible people never get bent out of shape and cheerfully re-scheduled his Bolero Lesson for May 26.

We seemed to have a heightened spirit of camaraderie and fun from this experience. I'm



proud to be a part of an organization whose members and friends (two of whom are Maril Longinotti and Al Mora shown at left) react so positively to the

hiccups of life and seem to know how to make truly tasty lemonade.

Footnotes

The column devoted to updates about members and friends of our chapter.

Tony Econ, Studio E, has changed his phone number to (336) 407-2634.

Sometimes the wrong picture gets dropped in the right spot. The couple at your right is John and Linda Brown. We'll try to get another picture of Robert and Mary Beth Jordan for your review next month.



Don Wolff has been a member of our Board of Directors for 2 years. In fact, he did such a great job the first year that we elected him to a second term. Don is an idea person who knows how to implement those ideas. Our "Ask Me Roses" were Don's idea. While some are still planning Don simply got the job done. Examples of his quiet contributions are the indirect lighting for our Fourth Sunday Dances as well as the development of our outstanding web site. When a helping hand was need with music or equipment, Don was there. Don (rt. with Margaret Norton) has moved to a farm in Michigan where he plans to retire with his windmills and lakes to enjoy the average 77 inches of snow each year.



Max Toney has been appointed (subject to confirmation by the Board of Directors) to fill the remainder of Don's term as Director-at-Large. Max has the appropriate feet to fill those big shoes left by Don.

National Ballroom Dance Week

National Ballroom Dance Week is September 15-22, 2002. This year we hope to improve the visibility of our art significantly in Piedmont NC during that week. President Pardue has appointed Past President Hubert Barney as Chair of the NBDW Committee.

Initial plans include offering introductory dance lessons during the week with a different dance being taught each night. Local studios in the Piedmont will be invited to take a night and a dance. Our Sunday, September 22 Tea Dance will be a Beginner's Ball.

The experienced dancer (such as Emmy Bagwell and John Dorosk above right), can also enjoy the September 21 Black Tie Dinner and Dance being planned by Homer Mason and his committee.

If you'd like to help with the planning and implementation of this Celebration, contact Hubert at 336-712-8183, or so indicate on your questionnaire.

Special Invitations:



Goodbye to a Friend

Mtn. Empire USABDA will have a **Workshop** on Saturday, April 20 from 2 – 5 PM at Wytheville Community Center. **Wayne and Marie Crowder** will teach Bolero and American Tango. Cost is \$15 per person. Monthly dance that evening at same location. More info: Becky Comer at (276) 783-5402 or e-mail beckycomer@smyth.net.

On April 27th **Foothills USABDA** will sponsor the Stardusters Big Band. Admission is \$6 in advance, \$10 at door. Location: Neill Clark Center. Details: Marvin Leatherman at (828) 464-6835 or marvinray@charter.net or Pat Burns PAT_45@MSN.com or 828-327-9261.

Spanish Nite 2002 sponsored by the Hispanic League of the Piedmont Triad. Adam's Mark Hotel, Winston-Salem. \$45 Dinner/Live Music, Formal. (336) 784-8879 or Pauline@triad.rr.com.

For other ongoing dance opportunities check you "Directory of Dance Services" or www.people-places.com/ballroomdance.

Notes of Appreciation:

- ∅ To Linda Jackson for the beautiful roses on March 24 – a major reason we'll get more Gunter Noris music on April 28!
- ∅ To Tom Patillo (*right with Carol Lavey*) for the fun Swing lesson on March 10.
- ∅ To Dot and Homer Mason for second Sunday hosting and to Marilee Pardue, our friendly receptionist.



- ∅ To Linda Maier for hosting our 4th Sunday Dance.
- ∅ To Call Committee Members Joan Bowden and Gingi Parker for reminding us of the dances.
- ∅ To Lighting Engineer, Photographer, and Proof Reader Hubert Barney for advising, encouraging, and laughing.
- ∅ To Lib Johnson for the second Sunday music at the Grange.
- ∅ To Chattie Byrd for procuring dance instructors.
- ∅ To Ellis & Marilee Pardue, Joe Lira, Joan Hester, Emmy Bagwell, Chattie Byrd, Mary Beth and Bob Jordan, Linda Maier, Maril Longinotti, Lib Johnson, Lucy Chambers, Dot and Homer Mason, and the Barneys for the wonderful refreshments at our tea dances.

The Workshop

If you have not yet registered for Dan Calloway's April 27 Workshop, please do so immediately by sending your check for \$25 to:

Lib Johnson
5612 Bledsoe Drive
Greensboro, NC 27410.

At press time there was one more private lesson available. Call Lib at 336-299-7412 if you'd like to take it.

Your opinion is important. Please return your questionnaire by April 24.

Piedmont NC USABDA
Marcia Barney, Editor
3501 Lakefield Court
Clemmons, NC 27012

Presorted Standard
Non-Profit Org.
US Postage Paid
Permit No. 5
Clemmons NC

Address Correction Requested

