



# Ballroom Beat

Official Monthly Publication of Piedmont NC USABDA, Chapter 619  
Vol. 9, No 9 September 2002 Marcia Barney, Editor (336) 712-8183  
Send News and Views to the Editor at [PiedmontNCUSABDA@aol.com](mailto:PiedmontNCUSABDA@aol.com)

## Your Pres Says

Members and Dance Friends,

Many of you have made this year a wonderful experience. Now it is time to find some of our most talented and nominate them as our new officers and directors. Don't be reluctant to accept the opportunity to take our chapter to the next level! Put some of that leadership talent that I have observed to work for a great organization.



We have an exciting agenda for the next few months and I hope you will participate. National Ballroom Dance Week Activities, the Black Tie Dinner/Dance, the Showcase of Dancers and our regular Tea Dances are some of the highlights of September. Be sure to invite some potential dancer to take advantage of the Beginner Dance Lessons being offered this month.

The outstanding Instructors for our pre-dance lessons are helping us learn new steps and techniques to make us even better.

Come join the fun! See you on the dance floor on September 8, 21, 22, and 28.

Ellis Pardue

### 2002 Condensed

Tea Dance - Every second Sunday 4:30 – 7:00 PM at the Grange in Greensboro  
Tea Dance – Every fourth Sunday 5:30 – 8:00 PM Skateland, Clemmons  
Sept 16–19 – **Beginner Dance Lessons**  
Sept. 20 – 29 - National Ballroom Dance Week  
September 21 - **Black Tie Dinner and Dance**  
Benton Convention Center, Winston-Salem  
September 22 – Beginners Ball - Skateland  
September 28 – **Showcase of Dancers**  
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

## Give Someone A Reason to Celebrate

September 2002 could be a landmark month for many in Piedmont, NC. For those who have not yet discovered the joys of dancing, they could participate in our Beginner Ballroom Dance Lesson series the week of September 16 – 22. A \$25 ticket would make a very nice birthday or anniversary gift for an associate, friend, or family member. Remember, Ballroom Dancing is a great endeavor for all ages! A Ticket Order Form is in the enclosed brochure.

For those who already dance, help them celebrate by inviting them to our Black Tie Dinner and Dance on September 21. Out-of-town dancers could make a weekend of it and stay for our Beginners Ball (“old hands” are guaranteed a great time, too) on the 22<sup>nd</sup>.

To end our month of celebration, we'll have a Showcase of Dancers on September 28 at South Fork Community Center in Winston-Salem. Some of the winning dancers from the 2002 DanceSport Nationals and the Heritage Classic will be dancing in this event. All of us will get hours of dance time, too, during the evening. **So Celebrate!**

### Spectacular September Tea Dances

**On September 8** –Grange in Greensboro:  
Salsa Lesson – Barry Dalton– 4:30-5:00 PM  
General Dancing: 5:00 – 7:00 PM, Lib's music

**On September 22** – Skateland USA, Clemmons  
Swing with Hugh & Sheila Walker - 5:30–6 PM  
General Dancing – 6:00 – 8:00 PM-**THE floor**  
Beginners Ball Music by Marcia

### Inside

- Beginner Lesson Ticket Order Form
- New Members & Guests
- Demonstrators
- A Dancing Tradition
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**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.



**Dancing With Duncan**  
 by  
 Glenda MacKeen

**"TRADITION...cultural continuity in social attitudes and institutions"...**The Roanoke Valley Cotillion Club exemplifies this definition. Organized in 1939 by several social fraternities of the senior class of Jefferson High School in Roanoke, Virginia, its' original purpose was "a means to stay in touch and to do something...at holidays". Today the Cotillion maintains a limited membership of 200 as originally planned to keep things simple and to provide ample floor space for the dancing enthusiasts.

We joined for the 2002 season which consists of three dinner dances - April and November are formal affairs with a seated dinner and the August event is semi-formal with a buffet. The venue is the Hotel Roanoke's Crystal Ballroom with a wonderful 1000 square foot wooden dance floor flanked by tables of ten. For the first two events of the season music was provided in April by the "D" Roberts Orchestra and in August by the Tommy Miller band. Both provided a wonderful variety of big band sounds that brought everyone out to dance!

From the 5:30 social hour, to dinner at 6:30 and dancing from 7 to 11, it is an elegant dining and dancing experience. Although the original 1939 yearly membership fee of \$10 has increased to \$200/couple for the year, it has been worth the price. The Hotel Roanoke offers special rates for the Saturday night stay as well.

To become a member of the Cotillion Club, a current member must be listed as a sponsor. Further information is available from secretary Gretchen Jirout at [gjirout@aol.com](mailto:gjirout@aol.com).

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

Welcome New Members!

**Robert and Karen Folgeman**, at right, taking a short break from dancing, are from Burlington.  
**Mae Moss**, (below left



with Robert Brown), a nurse from Greensboro and obviously an experienced dancer, also joined us in August.



**Randy and Sue James** (right), friends of the Barneys and the MacKeens, joined on August 25.



Welcome Guests

Please come again!



**Rebecca White, John and Linda Brown, Virita Harper, and Janice Bergman**, visited us on August 11.

USABDA members from other chapters who danced with us

on August 25 were **Jan and Carlie Coats, Jerry Evans, Kevin and Nancy Frank** (above left), and **Kathryn Christie**.

We were delighted to have **Brooks Sink, Tom Moran, Jeannie Scott, Becky White, Marti Worthen, Bill Roberts, Tim Jones, and Edwina Aydemir** (rt.) with us on August 25.



Where to Go on September 28

# Showcase of Dancers

South Fork Community Center  
 Winston-Salem, NC 8 – 11:30 PM

## Dance Practice – Part Two

By Marie Crowder

Last month we went over some of the elements essential for a successful dance practice.

Preparedness, stretching, eating before working out, and warming-up are important items for your “practice check list”. Now comes the big item! Knowing ones part. I cannot over emphasize the importance of each partner knowing his or her part. When thinking about ballroom dancing, it is assumed that the man leads and the woman follows. This is true, but this kind of thinking can lead many folks to feel that only the man need know his part, as the woman will be following him. But there is a much better way! If BOTH partners, man and lady, know their parts equally well the couple will be so much stronger for the effort.

The best way to go about doing this is to take each figure within a couple’s routine and break it down. The man doing his actions, noting exactly what he is trying to accomplish, what alignment that he is using, his footwork for the figure, what type of rise and fall that he may be trying to achieve. In the same turn, the lady must first know all of the figures in the routines and be able to execute them by herself. This may seem a little frightening at first, but that fear can be overcome by practice. The lady must know the alignments that the couple is striving to achieve on each figure and she must help the couple reach these alignments. The better that we are able to perform our routines alone, the better we will be able to dance them together.



Some questions that you can ask yourself as you work through this process are:

*What alignment do I start this figure on, and on what alignment does it end?*

This will give you a great sense of direction and you will dance it much more confidently when you truly know where you are going.

*What is my footwork on this figure?*

In other words, how am I using my feet as I maneuver through this figure. Do I start with a heel lead as I come forward? Am I sure that I am up on my toes while doing a chasse? At what point do I lower my heel on that closing step?

*What is the timing of this figure?*

Both partners must make sure that they know the timing of each figure. Much of dance practice should be carried out with no music -- just the sound of two people counting their parts aloud as they go around the room. Again, it is so helpful to do this both together and separately.

Your instructor will be able to assist you with any questions about the figures and the information regarding the proper way to execute them, but the practicing will fall on the couple. The fruit of your practice will be more abundant if both partners know their part!

*Marie and her husband/partner Wayne are current US Amateur Latin Champions. In October they will represent the United States in the World Championships in Italy.*

Check our fabulous web site: [www.ballroom-dancing.org](http://www.ballroom-dancing.org) for regular dance opportunities. You'll also find reservation forms and other jewels of information on the site.



### Dolata's Dangerous Demonstrators

(front) Joe Dolata, Polly Toney, Mac Toney, Dot Mason. (back) Leader Ellie Dolata, Wes Smitherman, Lynette Smitherman, Hubert Barney, Lib Johnson, Bob Johnson, Ellis Pardue, Marilee Pardue, Homer Mason. Absent: Joe and Yvette Zannini (couldn't stop dancing to pose), Al and Ivete Narizzano, and Marcia Barney (on other side of camera). Everybody smiles when they're dancing.

Special Invitations:

Triangle USABDA has special events planned for October and November. On October 26 a semi-formal dance will be held at the Durham Armory. Check [www.ipass.net~bingham/workshop.html](http://www.ipass.net~bingham/workshop.html) for info about the November 9<sup>th</sup> Workshop. More details next month or contact Kyle Ross at [kyle\\_ross@mindspring.com](mailto:kyle_ross@mindspring.com).

Notes of Appreciation:

- ∅ To Tim Saunders (*rt.*) for the enjoyable and valuable Hustle lesson on August 11.
- ∅ To Albert Balla for the enlightening Quick Step lesson on August 25.
- ∅ To Program Chair Chattie Byrd, Columnists Glenda MacKeen and Marie Crowder, DJ/Hostess Lib Johnson, Webmaster John Clark and Mall demonstration organizer Ellie Dolata (with a good deal of assistance from Joe) for doing what you do so well.
- ∅ To Hubert Barney for photos, voice, and everything else needing his special touch.
- ∅ To Jim & Ann Astin, Max & Polly Toney, Mary Beth & Bob Jordon, Dot & Homer Mason, Bob & Lib Johnson, Ellie and Joe Dolata, Ellis and Marilee Pardue, Maril Longinotti, Wes and Lynette Smitherman, Joe and Yvette Zannini and the Barneys for the tasty treats at our Tea Dances.



*Good to see you back, Gene and Donna MacDonald!*

Congratulations to **Jan and Carlie Coats** and **Wayne and Marie Crowder** for their outstanding performances in the DanceSport Nationals in August. Jan and Carlie took two firsts in Bronze International Standard Competition and numerous second and third places in other categories. Wayne and Marie did their usual fabulous job and will carry the United States banner to Italy as a result.

### Hear Ye, Hear Ye!

**Black Tie:** Make your reservations **now** and contact friends you'd like to share your table. Need more forms? Call Homer Mason at 336-288-2852 or get them from our website.

**Showcase of Dancers:** No reservation necessary to attend. Showcase dances can get registration forms from your editor. It is shaping up to be one fabulous event!

**Nominating Committee:** We're looking for a few good officers: Vice President, Secretary, and 3 Directors-at-Large for Piedmont USABDA in 2003. Contact Nominating Committee Chair Hubert Barney (336-659-1804) by September 23 to nominate someone or to volunteer.

**Beginner Dance Lessons:** Use the enclosed flyer to obtain tickets or pass the flyer along to someone who's been saying something like "I sure wish I could dance like you." Or "I wish I could get \_\_\_\_\_ to dance with me."

**New Videos** available on September 22 donated by Ellis and Marilee Pardue: "Dance for the Health of It" and "April Showers" Dance Show.

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