



# Ballroom Beat

Official Monthly Publication of Piedmont NC USABDA, Chapter 619  
Vol. 10, No 2 February 2003      Hubert Barney, Editor (336) 712-8183  
Send News and Views to the Editor at [PiedmontNCUSABDA@aol.com](mailto:PiedmontNCUSABDA@aol.com)

*We Promote Ballroom Dancing*

## Your Pres Says

Fellow Dancers,

Enclosed in this newsletter is a very important document – our annual questionnaire. The direction, events, resources, and activities of our chapter will be determined by your response. Every question is designed to provide information that will make our events more enjoyable and beneficial to members and future members.



We have an outstanding, enthusiastic Board of Directors who have lots of ideas and plans. Those plans are based on what we think you would like and how we think we could most effectively promote ballroom dancing in Piedmont North Carolina. Please help us make sure we are “on track” while there is still time to steer this wonderful “can do” train.

All replies to the questionnaire will be confidential. Your signature is “for my eyes only,” but is necessary for tracking.

I hope you will consider becoming more involved in our chapter. Promoting ballroom dancing is a virtually limitless opportunity. Your talents and interests would be valuable.

If you want to have more fun and to be a better dancer, then dance! Let’s dance on February 9 & 23 – and every other chance we get!

Marcia Barney



### President’s Salute for January

To **Ellie Dolata** (left) for:

- Ø Contributing an idea to make our dances more enjoyable, then following through to implement the idea.
- Ø Encouraging another member to become more involved in USABDA activities.

## Dance For Life

### Charity Ball Set

On May 10 Piedmont NC USABDA will hold the first of what will hopefully become an annual Charity Ball. All profits from the event will be donated to the American Cancer Society. The event will be a formal dance with a show by a world renowned dance couple, hors d’oeuvres, and music by DJs Rodney & Carolyn Williams.

After extensive investigation, the Benton Convention Center in Winston-Salem was selected as the best site for the event.

Chairs Rockie and Mary Lou Troxler promise that it will be an outstanding evening of dancing for a good cause.

### February Tea Dances

February 9 – *Bring Your Sweetheart!*  
The Grange, Greensboro  
Tango Lesson by Alonzo Bostick @ 4:30 PM  
Dance 5-7 PM, Lib Johnson’s Music  
Hosts: Robert & Karen Fogleman

February 23 – Skateland, Clemmons  
Hustle with Nedko Petrov & Mariyana Vasileva  
Fred Astaire-Winston-Salem  
Lesson 5:30, Dance 6 –8 to Hubert’s Harmonies  
Hosts needed – call Marcia

### Inside

- The Line of Dance
- Questionnaire
- Music Note
- New Members
- Guests
- Dance Truisms



**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*

**Bob and Ruth (below with Joe Heyle) Rauch**, sponsored by Max and Polly Toney, are our newest ballroom dancers. Bob and Ruth are students at Fred Astaire, Winston-Salem.



**Joe (rt.) and Dottie Heyle** took two years off, but they're back with us now.

**Becky White**, a special friend of membership Chair Bob Brown, joined us on January 26.

**David Hill**, a frequent visitor from Fayetteville who is sponsored by Suzanne Nohlgren, has



transferred his membership to our chapter.

**Tim Cannell, (left with May Moss)** a friend from Chapel Hill,

joined us on January 12.

**Betty Wolfe, (far right with Lucy Chambers and Jesse Anderson)** who plans to make up for all the years she wasn't dancing, is sponsored by Lucy Chambers.



*Welcome Guests*

*Please come again!*

We were delighted to have frequent visitors **Grace Moran, Bill and Sheila Reeves** with us on January 26!

**Martha and Jack Bolton** danced with us on January 12 and 26.

**Daria Moore**, a friend of Audrey and Ralph Mawyer, attended on January 12.

**Jeannie Scott** returned on January 26 after too long an absence.

**Sheila Lee**, wife of member Norman Lee, visited on January 12.

**Cynthia (far right comparing dance steps with Karen) and Homer Coker**



attended on January 26 as guests of Robert and Karen Fogleman.

**2003 Calendar**

- Tea Dance and lesson - Every second Sunday 4:30 –7:00 PM at the Grange in Greensboro
- Tea Dance and Lesson – Every fourth (except November) Sunday 5:30 – 8:00 PM, Skateland, Clemmons
- May 10 – *Dance for Life* Charity Ball – Benton Convention Center
- August 23 – Showcase of Dancers, Southfork Community Center, Winston-Salem
- September 27 – Black Tie Dinner/Dance, Benton Convention Center
- September 28 – Beginners/Newcomers Ball
- November 30 – Holiday Premier Promenade, Skateland USA of Clemmons
- December 28 – Early New Year's Party and Officer Installation, Skateland

***Dance Truisms***

- Ø Any sufficiently practiced dance step is indistinguishable from magic.
- Ø Any lead that could possibly be misunderstood has already been misunderstood.
- Ø All moves are made on insufficient practice.
- Ø Dance steps are classified scientifically into three major categories: those that don't work, those that break down, and those that get forgotten.
- Ø The weight of your partner's arm is directly proportional to the number of hours you've been on the dance floor.
- Ø There are two types of dance partner: those who dance and those who don't.
- Ø Some dance partners can do any step – provided it isn't the one you're doing at the moment.
- Ø My dancing has an inadequate past, an insufficient present, but an absolutely perfect future.
- Ø The line of dance is a circular line between two points.

## Music Notes

### **A Lesson to Get Ready and Three to Dance**

Frequently during the pre-dance lesson we learn a new step or refresh the basics of a seldom-danced dance. Then the music starts for the general dancing and the lesson is banished to the recesses of our memory – sometimes never to be heard from again.

In order to help make a more lasting, useable imprint of the lesson, the first number of the first set of general dancing will be the dance just taught. Additionally, at least 2 more dances during the first hour will be the pre-dance lesson dance. For example, if the pre-dance lesson is a Hustle, the first number during general dancing will be a Hustle. Two additional Hustles will be played during the first hour of general dancing.

Practice makes permanent, it's up to us to make it perfect.

*(Are Music Chair Will Parker and wife Gingi going for perfect permanence?)*



## Special Invitations:

**Heritage Classic** February 25 – March 1 – Grove Park Inn, Asheville. One of the top 3 competitions in US. Dinner dances and vendors, too. Info: [www.theheritageclassic.com](http://www.theheritageclassic.com).

**Valentine Party**, Saturday, February 8 at South Fork Community Center in Winston-Salem for ballroom dance students and their friends. Bring a covered dish. Music by Betty Adams.

**Swing Dance Lessons:** Greensboro Ballroom, Saturday Feb. 8, 15, 22 @ 4:30. \$25 per person for 3 one-hour sessions. Terri Walsh 854-1850.

**Beginner Ballroom Dance Seminar:** Greensboro Ballroom, Sunday, Feb. 9, 3-6 PM, \$25, Terri Walsh, Instructor. Info: 854-1850.

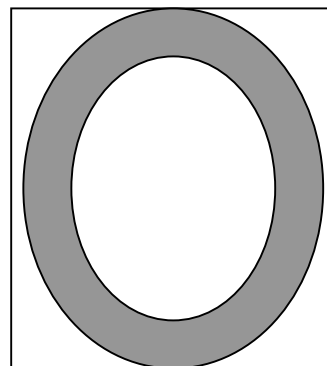
## “Get Involved” Opportunities Available

- ◆ Black Tie Chair Max Toney is ready to start the serious planning for our major September 27 Dinner/Dance. Call Max at 945-4260 if you'd like to help.
- ◆ Hosts for our Tea Dances are needed. If you'd like to host at the Grange call Lynette Smitherman at 454-3378. For Skateland call Marcia at 712-8183.
- ◆ Someone to “take the ball and run with it” on Beginner's Lessons. Call Marcia.

## The Line of Dance

The floor is just big enough to accommodate the dancers. A week later that same floor and the same number of dancers just won't fit. The difference may be due to an understanding of and attention to the line of dance (LOD)

The smooth dances of Waltz, Fox Trot, Tango, Quick Step, and Viennese Waltz are moving dances. Movement should usually be done counterclockwise around the perimeter of the dance floor. In the sketch that would be counterclockwise in the gray area. The more advanced dancers should dance nearer the outside of this lane since they travel faster than the less experienced dancers who would be better suited for the inner side of the lane. For those who wish to “spot



dance” with little or no forward travel, the white center area offers a haven. When those traveling in the line of dance wish to do a stationary step (oversway, for example) they, too, should dance into the center area for that step. They can rejoin the moving lane upon completion of the step. The Latin dances do not require attention to the LOD.

Dancers are a friendly bunch prone to dancing, greeting, and chatting with fellow dancers. Only dancing should be done on the dance floor. The greeting and chatting should be done off the floor or in the refreshment area. Being able to hear the music is necessary to dancing either Latin or Smooth dances. When



the beat has to compete with the chatter, dancing becomes difficult to impossible. Be like Becky White and Homer Mason (*above*) and let your smile do the greeting on the dance floor.

Check our wonderful web site: [www.ballroom-dancing.org](http://www.ballroom-dancing.org) for regular dance opportunities.



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*Notes of Appreciation:*

- Ø To Wes and Lynette Smitherman (rt.) for hosting our January 12 Tea Dance.
- Ø To our two DJs, Lib Johnson on January 12 and Hubert Barney on January 26 helping our feet move and our faces smile.
- Ø To January 12 Receptionist Marilee Pardue.



- Ø To Chattie Byrd (left between Dana & Barry) for her continued outstanding performance as Program Chair.



(above with Chattie) for the delightful Salsa lesson on January 12.

- Ø To Tony Econ for the introductory Viennese Waltz lesson on January 26. Tony reminded us that abroad "Waltz" usually means Viennese Waltz. Our "Waltz" would be "Slow Waltz"
- Ø To Jessie Anderson for lending a hand on January 26.
- Ø To Ellie Dolata and assistants Joe Dolata and Trudy Atkins for our nametags. To

- Homer Mason for agreeing to keep them between dances.
- Ø To Marcia Barney for voice, proofreading and help with the music.
- Ø To Dot and Homer Mason for taking such good care of our Video Library.
- Ø To Jim & Ann Astin, Trudy Atkins, Ellie & Joe Dolata, Bob & Lib Johnson, Homer & Dot Mason, Norman Lee, Margaret Norton, Lynette Smitherman, Cinda Wall, Gingi Parker, and the Barneys Tea Dance treats.
- Ø To our superb Web Master John Clark.
- Ø To all who, on January 26, caused one of our new members to say "What a wonderful, friendly group of people!"

**Hear Ye, Hear Ye!**

Our annual Questionnaire is enclosed. Please complete and return as addressed immediately. Your input is critical, but won't be useable after February 24.

Should there be a question about weather affecting our dances, an e-mail will be sent to all on our distribution list from Marcia at [PiedmontNCUSABDA@aol.com](mailto:PiedmontNCUSABDA@aol.com). If you are not on the e-mail distribution, but would like to be, send your e-mail address to her at [PiedmontNCUSABDA@aol.com](mailto:PiedmontNCUSABDA@aol.com). If you are not a web surfer, call her at 712-8183 for information.

Articles from members are encouraged. Send them to your editor. Truisms, too.

Piedmont NC USABDA Questionnaire 2003



Information request to better serve the needs of members and friends of our Chapter.

The following questions are designed to help your Board of Directors better shape the regular and special dance programs of our Chapter. Your participation is most appreciated.

1. What is the most important factor in determining whether or not you attend USABDA events? Choose 1-5 with 1 being the most important.

<u>Factor</u>	<u>him</u>	<u>her</u>	<u>Factor</u>	<u>him</u>	<u>her</u>
Date _____			Time of Day _____		
Location _____			Facility _____		
Pre-Dance Lesson _____			Music _____		
Instructor @lesson _____			Refreshments _____		
Dance Floor _____			Cost of Admission _____		
Other Attendees _____			Other _____		

2. What USABDA events do you like best? Rank 1 (best), 2, 3, 4, 5 (least). If you think it should be eliminated, put an "x" beside the event. If you haven't attended, put a "?" beside the event.

<u>Event</u>	<u>him</u>	<u>her</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>him</u>	<u>her</u>
Tea Dance @Grange _____			Showcase _____		
Tea Dance @ Skateland _____			Workshop _____		
Black Tie Dinner/Dance _____			Pre-New Years Party _____		
Holiday Premier Promenade _____			Christmas Party _____		

3. What are your favorite dances? Rank 1 (most) to 10 (less) with ties (take several 1's or 2's) allowed. If you don't care for the dance, put an "x". If you don't know the dance, but would like to learn, put a "?".

<u>Dance</u>	<u>him</u>	<u>her</u>	<u>Dance</u>	<u>him</u>	<u>her</u>	<u>Dance</u>	<u>him</u>	<u>her</u>
Rumba _____			Waltz _____			Viennese Waltz _____		
Cha Cha _____			Fox Trot _____			Argentine Tango _____		
Mambo _____			Tango _____			Paso Doble _____		
Samba _____			Quick Step _____			Bolero _____		
Jive _____			Swing-Triple _____			Bossa Nova _____		
Salsa _____			Swing - Single _____			West Coast Swing _____		
Hustle _____			Shag _____			Line Dances _____		
Lindy _____			Jitterbug _____			Polka _____		
Merengue _____			Free Style _____			Other _____		

4. Are you interested in helping with: National Ballroom Dance Week activities? Him \_\_\_\_\_ Her \_\_\_\_\_  
 Black Tie? Him \_\_\_\_\_ Her \_\_\_\_\_ Charity Ball? Him \_\_\_\_\_ Her \_\_\_\_\_ Hosting a Tea Dance? Him \_\_\_\_\_ Her \_\_\_\_\_

5. What do you consider a reasonable – you would attend – price for our Black Tie Dinner/Dance? After order of preference, make 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> choice of which you'd prefer we have.

With DJ \$35 _____ \$40 _____ \$45 _____ \$50 _____	Order of preference him _____ her _____
With Band \$40 _____ \$45 _____ \$50 _____ \$55 _____	Order of preference him _____ her _____
Band and DJ (about 50/50) \$40 _____ \$45 _____ \$50 _____ \$55 _____	Order of preference him _____ her _____

Do you think having a Band would encourage others to attend? Him \_\_\_\_\_ Her \_\_\_\_\_  
 What time would you prefer the Black Tie Dinner/Dance end (11, 11:30, 12)? Him \_\_\_\_\_ Her \_\_\_\_\_

6. Do you attend USABDA dances with a regular dance partner? Him \_\_\_\_\_ Her \_\_\_\_\_  
 Him: If you attend with a regular partner, do you prefer to dance exclusively \_\_\_\_\_, mostly \_\_\_\_\_, 50% \_\_\_\_\_;  
 Less than 50% \_\_\_\_\_ with your partner?  
 Her: If you attend with a regular partner, do you prefer to dance exclusively \_\_\_\_\_; mostly \_\_\_\_\_, 50% \_\_\_\_\_;  
 Less than 50% \_\_\_\_\_ with your partner?

7. Do you read "Ballroom Beat"? Him: all\_\_ some\_\_ none\_\_ Look at pictures\_\_ Favorite part(s)\_\_\_\_  
 Her: all\_\_ some\_\_ none\_\_ Look at pictures\_\_ Favorite part(s)\_\_\_\_

8. What is your level of dance proficiency? Him: Novice\_\_ ; Bronze\_\_ ; Silver\_\_ ; Gold\_\_ ; Am\_\_ Int. \_\_'  
 Her: Novice\_\_ ; Bronze\_\_ ; Silver\_\_ ; Gold\_\_ : Am\_\_ Int.\_\_\_\_

9. Do you take regular dance lessons? Him \_\_\_\_ Her \_\_\_\_ If yes, Instructor(s)/ school(s) \_\_\_\_\_  
 If private lessons: Him: twice weekly\_\_ ; weekly\_\_ ; biweekly\_\_ ; other \_\_\_\_\_  
 Her: twice weekly\_\_ : weekly\_\_ ; biweekly\_\_ ; other \_\_\_\_\_  
 If group lessons: Him: twice weekly\_\_ ; weekly\_\_ ; biweekly\_\_ ; other \_\_\_\_\_  
 Her: twice weekly\_\_ ; weekly\_\_ ; biweekly\_\_ ; other \_\_\_\_\_  
 How often do you dance? Him: daily\_\_ ; 3-5 times/wk. \_\_ ; 1-2 times/week\_\_ ; or \_\_ times/month  
 Her: daily\_\_ ; 3-5 times/wk. \_\_ ; 1-2 times/week\_\_ ; or \_\_ times/month

10. Would you attend a Saturday Workshop by a highly acclaimed Instructor/Coach?: \_\_\_\_\_

<u>Factor</u>	<u>Him</u>	<u>Her</u>	<u>Factor</u>	<u>Him</u>	<u>Her</u>
Max. Price for 2-3 hrs	_____	_____	Afternoon or Morning:	_____	_____
Location (GSO or WS)	_____	_____	Preferred Dances	_____	_____

11. Do you use our Video Library? Him \_\_\_\_ Her \_\_\_\_ (Put approximate number of times after name)

12. What dances would you prefer be taught at our pre-Tea Dance lessons: Him \_\_\_\_\_ :  
 Her: \_\_\_\_\_

13. How could Piedmont NC USABDA better serve you dance needs, or simply what are those needs (and we'll try to find a way to meet them)? \_\_\_\_\_

14. Please rank the following factors about our chapter: Top notch=1, needs improvement=5.

Board performance: Him__ Her__	Dance locations: Him__ Her__
Music @ Grange: Him__ Her__	Music @ Skateland: Him__ Her__
Newsletter: Him__ Her__	Friendliness of Members: Him__ Her__
Special Events: Him__ Her__	Overall Satisfaction: Him__ Her__

*USABDA is a volunteer organization. Our purpose is to promote ballroom dancing in Piedmont NC. Your efforts, at whatever level you choose, to achieve this goal are encouraged and appreciated. Just telling someone else about the potential enjoyment derived from dancing is one way to start.*

*Thanks for your help with this survey!*

Please sign (confidential, but necessary) Him \_\_\_\_\_

Her \_\_\_\_\_

Fold, tape, stamp, and mail to the address indicated by February 22, 2003.



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