



Ballroom Beat

Official Monthly Publication of Piedmont NC USABDA, Chapter 619
Vol. 10, No 5 May 2003 Hubert Barney, Editor (336) 712-8183
Send News and Views to the Editor at PiedmontNCUSABDA@aol.com

We Promote Ballroom Dancing

Your Pres Says

Fellow Dancers,

The summer months bring diversified dance opportunities. In addition to our twice-monthly tea dances, our Charity Ball, our August Showcase, and our September main event Black Tie, there are numerous local dance clubs throughout the Piedmont. Add to that more parties, reunions, receptions, graduations, and weddings – usually with danceable music.

At these “extra” summer events we’ll probably meet those who would love to enjoy our art, too, but aren’t quite sure where to begin. Help them by inviting them to attend beginner dance classes or tell them about an outstanding instructor you know – maybe yours. If they’d like to look around for themselves, direct them to www.ballroom-dancing.org, for a list or call me and I’ll be glad to provide one.

Put sunshine in your smile, warmth in your heart and dance at every opportunity! See you on May 10, 11, and 25 – and hopefully at other times in between!

Marcia Barney



President’s Salute for April

To **Mary Beth and Bob Jordan** (right) for:

- Ø Outstanding leadership efforts in promoting ballroom dancing in their community.
- Ø Superb attitude and effective teamwork in supporting the Charity Ball and other USABDA programs.



Beginner Dance Lessons

Our first Beginner Lesson series was completed on April 22. These Swing lessons introduced a dozen new people to the world of ballroom dancing. Many of these novices were under 18. While Youth Chairs Ellis and Marilee Pardue did not design the program specifically for youth, the results were refreshing.

The second in our Beginner Lesson series is in Salsa. These lessons will also be held at Gold’s Gym on Jonestown Road in Winston-Salem from 8-9 on Tuesday evenings through May and into June. The lessons should be valuable to both new dancers and those of us who need a refresher in Salsa. Call Ellis (760-3404) or contact your President for more information or to register.

Six-week beginner lessons are planned to begin in Greensboro in June.

May Tea Dances

May 11 – Dance For or With Your Mother
At The Grange, Greensboro
Cha Cha Lesson by Tom Patillo at 4:30 PM
Dance 5-7 PM, Bob & Lib Johnson’s Music
Host: Fran Randolph

May 25 – Skateland, Clemmons
Styling Lesson by Wayne and Marie Crowder
Lesson 5:30, Dance 6 –8 to Hubert’s Harmonies
Host needed call Michelle Darnley

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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.

Welcome New Members



Hugh Walker, Crystal Dance Studios, (right) is our first Associate member. Hugh is Program Chair Chattie Byrd's instructor. In addition to teaching dance,

he and wife Sheila are also professional DJs.

Brono Passmore (right) joined us on April 27.

Bob McHone (right) also joined us on April



27. You've heard his voice as a Phantom DJ, now he's one of us!

Henry James (left) took a short hiatus in membership, but now he's back.



Welcome Guests

Please come again!

Bruce and Anne Kardon were with us on April 26. Good to see you again.

Bill Roberts visited us on April 26.

As always, we were delighted to have **Bill and Sheila Reeves** with us on April 26.

A warm welcome to **Lynn Messik** on April 13.

It was good to see **Charlene Compton** again on April 13.

Overcoming Intimidation

If you've been on a dance floor and felt intimidated because your partner or other dancers were "so much better" than you, here's a secret just for you. They, those 'pros' you are admiring, were once in your shoes. They are the admired ones because they persevered in the face of that intimidation. While the right attitude won't make you great, you surely won't be great without one, so take that first step and keep right on dancing!

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, South Fork Community Center, Winston-Salem

September 27 – Black Tie Dinner/Dance, Benton Convention Center, WS

September 28 – Beginners/Newcomers Ball

November 30 – Holiday Premier Promenade

December 14 – Christmas Party

December 28 – Early New Year's Party and Officer Installation, Skateland

Dance Truisms

- Ø I dance when I'm inspired, and I see to it that I'm inspired at 8 every evening.
- Ø Good dancing is not achieved at any one time, but on the installment plan.
- Ø Everything that irritates us about our partner could lead us to an understanding of ourselves.
- Ø Instructors tell you what to do, confidence allows you to do it.
- Ø To dance you must have feet...to dance well you must have heart.
- Ø A sense of humor reduces problems and dance steps to their proper proportion.
- Ø Genius is the ability to put into your feet what is in your mind.
- Ø Dance is not an activity, it's a feeling.
- Ø It takes wisdom to be confused.

Footnotes:

Ø Duncan and Glenda MacKeen have become Platinum Sponsors in our Friends and Sponsors Program.

Ø Corbett Jones (right with Yvette Zannini) has become a Friend in the Program.



Ø Michelle Darnley is the new Refreshments Chair for our fourth Sunday dance at Skateland.

Special Invitations:

Louisiana State DanceSport Championships, May 31, Hosted by the New Orleans USABDA Chapter. Info: fliprann@aol.com or 504-455-2125.

Spring Dance Show: Fred Astaire of Winston-Salem is having a Dance Show on Sunday, May 4 from 2-4 at Ramada Inn in Clemmons. Tickets are \$7.00 in advance or \$10 at the door. For more info call Ellis Pardue at 760-3404.

New Dance Spot: On the first Friday evening of each month a dance is being held at the Grange in Greensboro from 8:00 – 10:30 PM. Cost of admission is \$7. Proceeds to the Grange.

USABDA Nationals National DanceSport Championships registration packet for competitors and spectators is available at www.usabda.org/chapters/mn/dsc.

USABDA Sanctioned Dance Cruise – October 12-19. This cruise will leave Miami and visit Grand Cayman, Jamaica, and Mexico. Costs start at \$1000 per person. “Sanctioned” insures plenty of dancing, dance hosts, and instruction. Call 1-800-591-1868 for more info.

Russia Trip – Leave November 5 for one week in Moscow and one in Rostov-on-Don. Experience dancing in Russian and be hosted by Russian families. Cost of trip from New York City is \$1550. Info: Marilyn Oeln at 303-394-4240 or castleolen@yahoo.com, Jim McCown at social-vp@usabda.org or 360-459-5469.

Check our wonderful web site: www.ballroom-dancing.org for regular dance opportunities.

“Get Involved” Opportunities Available

- ◆ Hosts for our Tea Dances are needed. If you'd like to host at the Grange call Lynette Smitherman at 454-3378. For Skateland Michelle Darnley at 286-0618. *(Above April Grange co-host Joe Dolata dances with March host Franz Brown.)*
- ◆ Members interested in helping with the Black Tie Dinner and Dance. Contact Max Toney at mpollytoney@att.net. Max can't walk yet so he has plenty of time to plan.



Our Dance Preferences

We're consistent in our favorite dances! We chose Rumba as our favorite dance again. Also as usual, Waltz and Cha Cha came in close behind Rumba. After a fair margin of affection, we chose Fox Trot, Tango, and Triple Swing. Bolero, Samba, and Mambo are also quite popular. Quick Step, Viennese Waltz, and Single time Swing aren't far behind. To this point no one said they disliked the dance, but a few indicated a desire to learn more.

Merengue, Jitterbug, Jive, and Hustle got a spattering of “dislikes” and several “would like to know mores.” Shag got a few of each, but elicited little response. Those pretty much balanced between “dislike” and “don't know” with a few fans were Paso Doble, West Coast Swing, Bossa Nova, and Polka. Argentine Tango and the Lindy drew a spattering of each. Line Dances got many dislikes, a “like to know” and a few likes.

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Changing Tempo

Over the past decade a significant change in some of the dance tempos has occurred. For example, in 1992 the recommended tempo for American Rumba was 32 to 36 mpm, for International Rumber it was 27-29 mpm. By 2002 these had slowed noticeably to 29-32 for American; 25-27 for International. The slower end of the range is for the more advanced dancers.

Notes of Appreciation:



∅ To Joe and Ellie (*left with Tim Stinson*) Dolata for hosting our April 13 Tea Dance.

∅ To Edith Laws (*right with*

Homer Mason) for hosting our April 27 Tea Dance.

∅ To DJs, Bob & Lib Johnson on April 13 and Hubert Barney on April 27 for helping our feet move.

∅ To Chattie Byrd for her continued outstanding performance as Program Chair.



∅ To Sasha Tsygankov (*left*) for the outstanding Waltz lesson on April 13.

∅ To Hugh Walker for the fun "Duck" step, useable in Swing or

Shag, on April 27.

∅ To Ellis and Marilee Pardue for taking care of the Beginner Salsa classes.

∅ To Marcia Barney for voice, proofreading and help with the music.

∅ To our superb Web Master John Clark.

∅ To Dot and Homer Mason for taking good care of our Video Library and name tags.

∅ To Jeannie Scott, Dot Mason, Homer Mason and John Dorosk for their helpful music feedback.

∅ To Joe and Yvette Zannini, Edith Laws, Joe and Ellie Dolata, Franzi Brown, Margaret Norton (superb chocolate strawberries), Dot and Homer Mason, Ellis Pardue, Bob & Lib Johnson, Mary Beth Jordan, Britt Hammond, Jim and Ann Astin, Wes and Lynette



Smitherman, John Dorosk, and the Barneys for the tasty Tea Dance treats.

∅ To all members who bring a positive, enthusiastic attitude to our dances and leave with a big smile, a warm glow and tired feet.

Hear Ye, Hear Ye!

New Video coming on May 25: "International Style Standard Waltz Technique" with Victor Veyrasset and Heather Smith. Another of Dance Vision's outstanding videos.

If you forgot to mail your reservation for the May 10 **Charity Ball**, do so *today!*

Celebrate Mother's Day by dancing with or for your Mother. Bring her to the May 11 Tea Dance at the Grange. Adult children would also probably love to see you dance or dance with you.

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